Free Tason



Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner

Vol. 70, No. 10

holiday Greeting from the Grand Chaplain

Dear Brethren:

On behalf of the Grand Lodge of Alberta I bring you holiday greetings. While Christmas is a Christian festival, I believe all members of the Craft can find its essential focus helpful.

I have seen many changes in Masonry since I was initiated into the Masonic Lodge in Edgerton, Alberta, twenty-five years ago. One of the most important developments that I have witnessed, and welcomed, is the number of new Masons who come from faith traditions other than Christianity, and the huge contribution they have made to our Brotherhood. It is not unusual to see copies of the Koran, the Talmud, and other spiritual writings on the Altar when I visit Lodges these days. I now count many Jewish and Muslim Brothers among my closest friends. For me, it demonstrates the basic

values of brotherly love, peace and harmony which are so essential to my understanding of what we are about as members of the Craft.

It is the same message that the angels brought to the shepherds on that first Christmas Eve over two thousand



It is hard to believe that we are sending Season's Greetings so soon. With time passing so quickly it is important to take time to tell those around you how much they mean to you and how much you appreciate them. We appreciate your patience when we don't get to the phone in time to take your calls and your understanding when we missed days at work due to renovations to Freemasons' Hall. We, in the Grand Lodge Office, thank you, the members of the Craft, for your assistance and support.

On behalf of myself, Jerry Kopp, Judy Rivers and Sue Woods, we wish you good health and happiness this Christmas Season and may your upcoming year be filled with great success and prosperity.

"Open House"

We are happy to invite you to our Annual Open House on Thursday, December 22nd, 2005 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Please feel free to drop in for some Christmas Cheer and delectable delights. This invitation is extended to you and your guest.



years ago. May you enjoy the blessings of this season and continue to work toward these worthy objectives.

Bro the Rev. Dan Van Alstine, The VW Grand Chaplain

The Puritan Who Stole Christmas

By decree of Oliver Cromwell, Christmas was not celebrated in 1652. Cromwell's Puritan Government objected to the pagan origins of many of the holiday's popular rites. From a strictly religious viewpoint, they were probably right to do so.

No one really knows when Christmas Day was officially placed in late December, but it was probably in the third century. The date was, of course, chosen in Rome, the centre of the only Christian religion of the time. It coincided (the Church of Rome was often pragmatic about such things) with the celebration known as **Saturnalia**, an ancient Roman holiday marked, as several other traditions, by the exchange of gifts and the decoration of a tree specially cut down for the occasion.

The 25th of December also was celebrated as the date of the annual resurrection of the Persian sun god, **Mithras.** Mithras was worshipped by the legion of troops who had subdued the Celts to bring the British Isles under Roman sway. Many Mithraic temples have been unearthed in England, most of them found directly beneath early Christian churches; it was policy for Britain's first great evangelizers to co-opt the real estate, as well as the holidays, of earlier religions.

See The Puritan, page 5.

Editorial

Taking Year-End Stock

Our centennial year is drawing to a close; time to reflect. What have we done in our efforts to pay tribute to one hundred years of work on the rough ashlar? On the Grand Lodge level the focus had been on the 100th Annual Communication held in Medicine Hat, twenty-four years and (not quite) four months after the first Communication had been held there. During those two days, June 10th and 11th, 2005, a few cursory references were made to the Centennial, some commemorative lapel pins were made available, along with place mats showing the likenesses of Alberta's first one hundred Grand Masters — things like that. Aside from that, it was an annual Communication like any other, and nobody can be faulted for that because, after all, conducting the business of the Craft is why it is being held.

Then, the other Grand Lodge function, on the actual date of the formation of Grand Lodge, was on October 12th, 2005, at the Radisson Hotel in Canmore, attended by the delegates from Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon, Manitoba and Saskatchewan at the annual Conference of the Officers of the Four Western [Canadian] jurisdictions, and their ladies, courtesy of Bow River Lodge No. 1 who moved their Charter from Calgary and set up Lodge in the hotel, where they received all the dignitaries and conducted a brief meeting, commemorating the anniversary. They brought along a few guests and, following the closing of Lodge, the men and their ladies listened to WBro Stephen Dafoe (see the masthead below) from Hinton Lodge No. 178 who delivered the keynote speech. And that was it.

Now let us compare with what occurred on the occasion of the half-way mark, our Golden Jubilee, quoting, in part, from the November 1955 Grand Lodge Bulletin:

Our Fiftieth Anniversary... held on

Friday, October 14th... in the Masonic Temple in the City of Edmonton with our Grand Master, MWBro S Carl Heckbert presiding... welcomed the following distinguished visitors: RWBro Field Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, Past Junior Grand Warden, United Grand Lodge of England... [and then follows the impressive array of high-ranking visitors from Ontario, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Montana, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, and Puerto Ricol... His Honour Dr. J.J. Bowlen, Lieutenant Governor, Hon. E. C. Manning, Premier of Alberta, and his Worship Bro. W. Hawrelak, Mayor of Edmonton were also present and received officially by the Grand Master... MWBro Gilbert M. Blackstock, QC, Past Grand Master, gave the address of the afternoon taking as his subject "Fifty Years of Freemasonry of the Grand Lodge of Alberta." ... The evening banquet was held in the Macdonald Hotel, 750 members being present. The guest

speaker [was] MWBro Wm. Douglas, PGM and Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba who traced the history of Freemasonry from the forming of the United Grand Lodge of England to the present time in the Grand Lodge of Alberta. And on and on it goes.

This comparison brings to mind an old adage, in Latin, the hexameter TEM-PORA MUTANTUR ET NOS MUTAMUR IN ILLIS ("times change, and we change with them" — rarely for the better), attributed to Emperor Lothar I (795–855). It also prompts us to question ourselves if we did twice as well celebrating a jubilee in 2005 as our Brethren did in 1955? We do, however, have many unsung heroes on the LODGE LEVEL, Lodges in different locations of our widespread jurisdiction, which have come up with Centennial projects, in many varied forms, most of which are for the good of their respective communities and favourably reflect on those Lodges and Freemasonry in general. It would be of interest to the Craft if someone would compile all of these projects in a list we could publish. Any volunteers?

National Treasure Found in Calgary!

Agroup of Alpha District Masons and their ladies came together to present the showing of National Treasure, the well known Nicholas Cage movie in support of another "National Treasure," the Masonic families of New Orleans who were affected by the devastation of hurricane Katrina.

Many know the story line presented by Disney of how the treasures of King Solomon's Temple were spirited out of Europe to the shores of Colonial America by the Freemasons. Some of the Treasure was found in the hearts of many Masonic families in Calgary at Freemasons' Hall who came for the showing of the movie. On Saturday evening, 16 October 2005, the popular movie was shown in the Red Room to a hearty group of *National* Treasure fans at a fundraiser. For their generosity, the fans were treated to a gi-

ant wide screen presentation in booming stereo sound.

Concession food was sold consisting of a Treasure Trio (2 pop and a bag



of hot buttered popcorn, for a twoonie) and the specialty, a steamer hot dog called the Benjamin Frank, also for a twoonie. The band of Masonic Hunters uncovered the Treasure. The efforts of the moviegoers netted \$721.50; 100 per cent of the proceeds were donated to assist the Masonic families of New Orleans through the Grand Lodge of Alberta. The donation may be considered small, but what is anyone else doing?

Bro Murray Pay, JW (118)

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of

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& Grand Secretary

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Northern Alberta Veterans' Degree Team Visits Scotland



May 17 to June 1, 2005 — The Northern Alberta Veterans' Degree Team made its first international visit. Ten members of the team, accompanied by 33 wives and friends, journeyed to Glasgow, Scotland, where they exemplified the Master Mason Degree in four Scottish Lodges. The host Lodges included Lodge St. John No. 187 in Carluke, Lodge Govandale No. 437 in Glasgow, Lodge St. George No. 333 in Glasgow and Lodge Barnes O'Clyde No. 1018 in Clydebank.

The team, comprised of military and RCMP veterans, entered each Lodge room with military precision, wearing their usual maroon tuxedo jackets, black

trousers and white gloves. The team was formally introduced and each member delivered his lecture with skill and decorum. Members of the host Lodges were very impressed by the Canadian Rite work and the floor work performed in military precision. MWBro Stan Mottershead was the designated Worshipful Master and all in attendance enjoyed his wit, charm and enthusiasm.

Members of the team presented each Right Worshipful Master with a beautifully handcrafted and suitably inscribed commemorative gavel made by team member RWBro Bob Shaw. In return, our Worshipful Master accepted appropriate and meaningful gifts and tokens of appreciation from each of the respective Lodges. It is planned to exhibit these commemorative gifts in a suitable location in Freemasons' Hall in Edmonton.

The Canadian contingent enjoyed a number of sightseeing tours of Glasgow, the Trossachs National Park, Rosslyn Chapel, Edinburgh, the Borders Country in the south, and Ayr on the west coast. A visit to Lodge St. James in Tarbolton, the Lodge of the immortal Robert Burns, was a highlight. The tour would not have been complete without a visit to Kilwinning Lodge No. 0.

Johnny Forrest, a Brother Mason, professional entertainer and our congenial tour director, arranged this trip to Scotland. The Northern Alberta Veterans' Degree Team honoured him by making him an Honorary Member of the team.

The adventurous and enjoyable trip to Scotland by the team was highly successful and team members are already planning for their next team venture somewhere in Canada or abroad.

Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

VWBro Hu Puffer (170)

The Art of Doing Work Well

From a presentation by David Roth (81) at the Masonic Spring Workshop, 30 April 2005.

In the real world, work is valued, even if paradoxically we seem to admire those who do not have to work. In Freemasonry, we honour our heritage of work with the apron, the most visible symbol of our work as operative masons. As speculative Masons, our work is what we often refer to as ritual. But if you look in the front of that little blue book, it is called The Work. The work we do in Lodge is the presentation of the degrees to new candidates. The Work is the story of Masonry. It tells new members who we are, where we come from, our traditions, our modes of recognition and most importantly it teaches us how to be good men and true.

Every culture has its myths, its stories of heroes, the trials and tribulations of the founders and its moral imperatives. It is the stories that are repeated from generation to generation that inform us and make us who we are. As such, we are storytellers — the elders of the community, who are charged with the

responsibility of passing on our culture to our new

members.

A Masonic Lodge has one prime directive: to make Masons. No other entity has that power. Even the Grand Master's prerogative to make a Mason on sight requires the conferring of degrees and a Lodge of Masons to be assembled for that purpose. In order for a Lodge to fulfill its prime directive, it must do other things such as hold regular meetings to conduct the business of the Lodge, elect officers, file reports to Grand Lodge, etc. But all of these other activities are to ensure that a Lodge is in a legal position to make Masons when the occasion arises.

So let us look at that prime function of a Lodge. Since the degrees are set up to make Masons, then the most important work we do is the presentation of *The Work*. The intent is to make such a good and lasting impression on the candidates that they wants to come

back and become those presenting *The Work* to new candidates in the future. That means great memory work, meaningful presentation and well rehearsed floor work.

Memorization requires several key steps.

- Thoroughly read and understand The Work.
- Memorize small amounts at a time, in sequence.
- · Repeat it often.
- Practice it with an audience.
- Read it over again to be sure errors have not developed.

Here are several tricks and techniques that may help.

- Try writing out the work (then destroy it).
- When you start, repeat each phrase at least five times out loud so your mouth and lips get used to forming the sequence of syllables.
- Use visualizations and silly connections to remember obscure phrases.
- Always proceed from the beginning to the end.

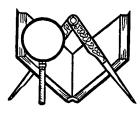
See **Doing Work Well**, page 4

Castles of Steel

Robert K. Massie, Ballantine Books, 2003, 865 pages. Paperback, ISBN 0-345-40878-0

Robert Massie is the author of *Dreadnought*, which discussed the na-

val arms race from the late 1800s to the eve of World War I. Castles of Steel continues the story with the



naval history of World War I. The focus is on the British-German aspects of the conflict. The role of Winston Churchill, Jacky Fisher, David Beatty, John Jellicoe and Prince Louis of Battenberg in preparing the British fleet for the impending conflict, as well as their role once the war had begun, is all discussed in detail. Similarly, the roles of Admirals von Spee, Scheer, Tirpitz and Hipper are also examined. Woodrow Wilson also makes an appearance toward the end of the book.

All of the major engagements are examined in detail. Jutland is well covered, but so are the Yarmouth raids, and so too is Gallipoli. In addition, all of the political manoeuvrings both in London and Berlin are discussed.

Anyone interested in the role of the two major navies in WWI will find this very readable book most enjoyable and enlightening. The detail is well balanced by Massie's writing style.

Loren Kline

Grand Master's Itinerary December

- 1 Exemplar No. 175 Installation, Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton; 19 30 h
- 3 Alpha District Meeting, Bowmont Masonic Hall, Calgary; 11 00 h
- 5 Strathmore No. 53 Wild Game Supper, Masonic Hall, Strathmore; 17 30 h
- 6 Kenilworth No. 29 Moose Supper, Masonic Hall, Red Deer; 17 30 h
- 14 Dominion No. 114 Installation, Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton; 19 30 h
- 22 Grand Lodge of Alberta Open House, Freemasons' Hall, Calgary; 13 30 h

District Meetings

December

3 Alpha District Meeting, Bowmont

Centennial Endowment Fund



From the front page of the *Sturgeon Community Hospital Foundation REVIEW*, Fall 2005.

Jock Fyfe, St. Albert Centennial Ambassador (far left), Victor Nilson, President [sic] of the Balmoral Masonic Lodge (centre) with fellow Lodge members and spouses.

In celebration of Alberta's centennial, the St. Albert Balmoral Masonic Lodge created the Balmoral Masonic Lodge Centennial Endowment Fund. The \$20,000 donation will continue to fund equipment for the new Intensive Care Unit for years to come. The foundation commenced fundraising for the ICU in fall 2004 and with this major gift kicks off the official campaign commencing

September 2005 as the Sturgeon Community Hospital Foundation's Alberta Centennial project.

This is the second major donation from the Balmoral Masonic Lodge. In 2004 they were also instrumental in funding the CT scanner in the Diagnostic Imaging department at the hospital.

The St. Albert Balmoral Lodge was founded in 1962 with over 125 active members. The main purpose of Freemasonry is self-improvement through public speaking and leadership skills. They strive to be better men with a high code of ethics and morals...

Doing Work Well, from page 3

- Do not stop at the same place all the time.
- Visualize links between paragraphs when they don't seem to flow.

Once you have the memory work down, visualize doing the work with the candidate(s). Imagine where he (they) will be standing. Think about what you are presenting and if there are symbols or aspects of the Lodge you can point out to emphasize the work. If you have a chance to move the candidate(s) around (as in the JW's Lecture, Canadian Rite), make sure you first practice it.

Be sincere, maintain eye contact, don't be afraid to smile and put the candidate at ease. Speaking of which, make sure the candidate is comfortable. Watch for signs of fatigue or discomfort. Your attention to his needs is a great demonstration of what the degrees are all about. It is very important to watch over all the details in the presentation of the degrees. If you are successful, the candidates will be impressed and will make an effort to do as well in

their work. When candidates see poor work, they become uncomfortable and can't be blamed if they don't see the necessity of learning their work well. Poor work begets more poor work and unfortunately leads to a lack of interest, poor attendance and demits.

When a Lodge puts degrees on well, everyone benefits. The Lodge officers feel their efforts are worthwhile. Lodge members feel the future of the Lodge is in good hands. Visitors are treated to an evening of excellence and go away with good reports about the Lodge. The candidates are comfortable, relaxed and, if they have done their work well, bask in the glow of praises for work well done. It is an experience they will want to share with friends, membership increases and the Lodge thrives. Thus there are more men on the street that ascribe to the virtues we teach, and the world becomes a better place.

So, the next time you have a piece to do in a degree, see if you can help improve the quality of the work. Everyone will benefit!

Our DDGMs — cont'd

Alpha District

RWBro Garth Border was born in Yorkton, SK, June 11, 1943. He was educated there and attained Queen Scout designation at age 14. He was a member of the Air Cadet Marching band for four years, and of many minor baseball teams, as well as an active participant in curling. He graduated from Yorkton Collegiate Institute in 1962. After one year in Winnipeg he moved to Calgary in 1963 where he joined Royalite Oil



Company for two years, then became involved in the banking business for seven years, when he joined Shell Canada Ltd. in Calgary. In 1973 he transferred to Edmonton, from where he travelled extensively throughout northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories. He returned to Calgary in 1978, where he worked in various management capacities, and retired from Shell in 1994, after 23 years of service. Shortly after he received his real estate agent designation and still continues as a realtor and volunteers at the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank.

Garth has been happily married to Diane for forty years, and they have two sons, both married, and two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Brother Border joined Lodge Renfrew No. 134 in 1984 and was Master of that Lodge in 1994. He is a member of Otuskwan Chapter RAM, currently serving as 1st Principal. He is a member of Cyprus Chapter KT, Zadok Council No. 3 R&SM, and of the three bodies of the A&ASR, Valley of Calgary. Our Brother is a founding member and current vice president of the Tuscan Society and a former chairman of the Heritage Park committee. He joined Al Azhar Temple AAONMS in 1985 and its Arab Patrol, serving as Captain in 1997, and chairman of the Circus committee in 1998 and 1999. He is currently serving in the elected position of Recorder.

Athabasca District

RWBro Samuel Moore was born in Inverness, Scotland, on March 27, 1946, and received his early education in the British Isles. The family moved to Elmira, ON, in 1959 where he completed his high school education. He joined the Canadian Army in 1966 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. He served in a variety of logistics positions in Canada, Europe and the Middle East.



While in North Bay, ON, he met and married his wife Judy, who was an Aerospace Engineer. In 1981 they were both posted to National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa where he was employed first in the Directorate of Recruiting and Selection, and then in the Directorate of Logistics Operations with a responsibility of providing logistics support to Canadian units engaged in United Nations operations. In 1990, after a 14-month tour in the Golan Heights, he returned to Edmonton as a Company Commander in the Canadian Airborne Centre, retiring from the Regular Force in 1996. LCol Moore then served with the Militia in the Loyal Edmonton Regiment and 15 (Edmonton) Service Battalion. He still maintains connections with the military as a contractor in battlefield simulation. The Moores have one son, Liam, who is a member of Galt Lodge No. 257, GRC, and one daughter, Alexandra.

Our Brother was initiated, passed and raised in Griesbach Lodge No. 191 in 1992, was Master of the Lodge in 1997, and has served as Lodge Secretary for three years. He was the Grand Registrar in 2004. RWBro Moore is a member of the three bodies of the A&ASR in the Valley of Edmonton, and has served as Commander in Chief of the Alberta Consistory for 2003–2005.

Continued on next page.

The Puritan, from page 1

And furthermore, Saturnalia and the Mithraic holy days coincided with the early British celebration of the midwinter festival, often referred to as "Yule." Pope Gregory the Great (after whom the glorious Gregorian chant is named) in the year 601 instructed Saint Augustine of Canterbury, his missionary to the Anglo-Saxons, to stake a claim to Yule and to transform it into the celebration of Christmas.

It is more likely that both the Roman and Mithraic origins of the date given to Christmas were unknown to most seventeenth century Englishmen. Nevertheless, many other customs that were celebrated widely throughout the English countryside as well as in the supposedly far more sophisticated cities deeply troubled Cromwell and his staunch Puritan followers.

"Decking the halls" with small branches of greenery — especially in churches — inspired a special abhorrence in the Puritan breast. **Mistletoe** was particularly distained because it had played an essential role in the pagan **fertility rites** later considered a sacrilege. (The historical association still lives today, in a milder form, in the tradition of Christmas kisses stolen beneath the mistletoe.)

Holly was equally problematical to the Puritans. In its elaborate Christian interpretation, the three leaves were seen as a symbol of the Trinity and the plant's natural red colour scheme as emblematic of the death and rebirth of Christ. But **holly** had played an important role in the feast of **Saturnalia** and was renowned throughout pre-Christian Europe for its highly magical powers — powers that supposedly bring good

dreams to the sleeper wise enough to hang a substantial sprig at the head of his bed.

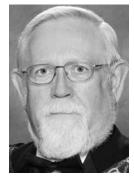
There was much more in an English Christmas to scandalize a Puritan conscience. But between the time of Saint Augustine, in the early seventh century, and that of Cromwell, in the middle of the seventeenth, devout English men and women celebrated Christmas joyfully for more than a thousand years. As is often the case, good habits die hard. The holiday continued to be observed, illegally at first and on a greatly diminished scale even after the Puritans lost power. When the Victorians sought to revitalize it two hundred years after Cromwell, their rediscovery of the celebration struck a resounding chord in the hearts and spirits of the British public.

Hospitaller Order of Saint John White Cross Gazette, Winter 1996/1997

Our DDGMs — cont'd

Calgary-Highwood District

RWBro George Burnham Tapley was born at Fredericton, NB, March 17, 1942. After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Brunswick, he worked as a Distribution Design Engineer for Nova Scotia Light and Power, Halifax, NS. He later received a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario, served as Assistant Professor in the School of Business



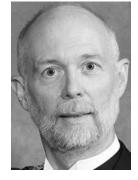
Administration at Dalhousie University and later as The City of Halifax's Organization and Methods Officer.

In 1981 he and his wife Elizabeth moved to Calgary when he joined The City of Calgary as a Corporate Consultant. From 1996–1998 he represented the City as Executive Director for the Calgary Centre for International Training and as the Manager of the Calgary Business Information Centre. He became a member of the City's Web Business Office when that group was formed in 1999, and in 2003 joined the City's Information Technology Support Services group, retiring from the City in January of 2005. He is a life member of the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta.

Our Brother received the three degrees of Craft Masonry in Calgary Lodge No. 23 in 1996, was Worshipful Master of that Lodge in 2001 and 2002, became a charter member of Internet Lodge of Research and its Master in 2005. In appendant bodies he is Past 1st Principal of Golden West Chapter No. 5 RAM, Presiding Preceptor, Cyprus Preceptory KT, member of Zadok Council No. 3, R&SM and Bowhaven Lodge No. 3 Royal Ark Mariners, Grand Senior Sojourner, Grand Chapter of Alberta RAM, and Southern Alberta Tabernacle No. 103, HRAKTP.

Northern Lights District

RWBro Christopher Eric Batty was born in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England on the 6th April 1945. Early in 1965 he immigrated to Canada and started work with the Dominion Glass Foundry in Hamilton. He subsequently worked with the National Cash Register Company (NCR) as a service technician in St. Catherines, ON. In 1970 he enrolled at the School of Engineering, the University of Guelph, ON and in 1974 graduated



with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering, with a concentration in Water Resources.

After graduating Chris moved west to Edmonton, AB. He worked for various engineering organizations including: Alberta Agriculture, Stanley Associates Engineering Ltd., Associated Engineering Ltd. and Genstar Development Company. He obtained his Professional Engineer designation from the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta in May 1976. In 1974, after working on a

housing project in Uranium City, SK, he met Wendy Yonkers, who was working for the contractor. Chris married Wendy on the 5^{th} May 1978.

Chris, while working at Strathcona County, obtained a Master's degree in Civil Engineering, concentrating on Transportation Engineering, from the University of Alberta in November 1993. He also obtained the Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE) designation from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) in November 2001.

Brother Batty followed in his father's footsteps, a member of Bostall Heath Lodge No. 4492 EC, and became a Freemason when he asked Eddie Yonkers and Fred Such to join Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92. He was initiated 23rd October 1975, passed 27th November 1975 and raised 8th January 1976. He served as Worshipful Master in 1982 and as Grand Pursuivant in 2001–2002. Chris believes in the edicts of the Masonic Charges and keeps physically fit by playing squash and running.

Phoenix District

RWBro Richard (Dick) William Francis Hopkins was born in Liverpool, England, on September 7, 1933. He served in the British Armed Forces 1951–1953, in the Special Investigation Branch, Royal Military Police. From 1953 to 1956 he was employed with the Liverpool Police Department and during that time, in 1955, married Audrey. They now have three children, Wayne, Arlene and Brett, and six grandchildren.



Dick immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1956, was a member of the Winnipeg Police Department 1956–1961 and worked in Insurance and Investment Sales, also in Winnipeg, 1961–1964. He was then employed in the New Home Building Industry, as Marketing Manager and Land Development Manager, in Winnipeg, for the next thirty years, retiring in 1994.

Brother Hopkins was initiated, passed and raised in Transcona Lodge No. 123, GRM, in 1973 and served this Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1983. He also was WM of William Douglas Lodge No. 176 in 1990 and 1991 and its Secretary from 1984 to 1996. He also held the office of Secretary for Fidelity Lodge No. 154, GRM and Mount Sinai Lodge No. 156, GRM, both from 1989 to 1996, and Transcona Lodge No. 123, GRM from 1994 to 1996. He then affiliated with Canada Lodge No. 165, GRA, in 1997 and was elected their WM for the 2002/03 term. Bro Hopkins was elected to the Board of General Purposes 2001–2004. He is a charter member of Internet Lodge of Research.

In appendant bodies, our Brother is a member of Transcona Chapter No. 16, RAM GRM, having served as 1st Principal in1974, Grand Principal Sojourner in 1980 and Grand Superintendent of District No, 1 RAM GRM, for 1982–83. He is also a member of King Edward Preceptory No. 24, KT since 1974, and Preceptor in 1991. He holds the 18° of the A&ASR, with membership in Calgary Lodge of Perfection and Delta Chapter Rose Croix (2004).