



## Bro Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

By Robert Eugene Juthner

As was the case in 1991, everywhere in the world, when the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's death was remembered in musical circles, and far beyond, so it will be now that we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mozart's birth, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 1756. It behoves us, as Freemasons, to pay tribute to him, not only for his musical genius but also for his sincere devotion to the Craft.

Father Leopold had moved from Augsburg to Salzburg, at age 18, in 1737, then a student of philosophy and law, but by 1743 he had become court violinist and composer, as well as orchestra director. In 1747 he married the 18-year old Anna Maria Pertl, from St. Gilgen in Upper Austria, with whom he had six children. Only one survived: Maria Anna, later nicknamed "Nannerl," who was five years old when the seventh child was born in the Hagenauer house, 9 Getreidegasse, in Salzburg. The boy was christened **Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgang Theophilus** (in Latin **Amadeus**).

In those days, the Archbishops of Salzburg were at the same time Princes of an independent principality and wielded great power. Thus, being employed by Archbishop Leopold Firmian, Leopold Mozart's existence was secure and recognizing the four-year old Wolfgang's talent, he began instructing him, primarily in playing the piano. When the boy was six, the father took him and Nannerl, also a good musician, on their first concert tour to Munich. In the fall of 1762 the next tour took them to Passau, Linz and Vienna, performing successful concerts. It was at the imperial court in Vienna when little Wolfgang, the boy wonder, after a command performance jumped up into the Empress's (Maria Theresa) lap and passionately kissed her.

Grand concert tours through Europe followed in the years 1763 to 1766.



Mozart as a Mason from Kuëss/Scheichelbauer, 200 Jahre Freimaurerei in Österreich (200 Years Freemasonry in Austria), Vienna: O. Kerry, 1959.

Among the many cities where the Mozarts performed were Paris in 1763 to 1764 for five months, followed by fifteen months in London, 1774 to 1775, again playing for the majesties, King George III and Queen Charlotte, and Amsterdam and Den Haag in 1776. Then it was back to Salzburg, with journeys to Vienna, Brünn and Olmütz (1767/68) and three tours to Italy (1769 to 1773). There followed years in the employ of Prince-Archbishop Colloredo — not always a happy relationship — which ended with a near violent break-up in 1781 and Wolfgang's move to Vienna and his work on his now famous operas. It was also there where he met, and married Constance Weber on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1782. In June 1783 their first child was born — it died two months later. The second child was born in September 1784, and baptized Carl Thomas.

### Mozart the Mason

On 14<sup>th</sup> December 1784, probably sponsored by his friend Otto Baron von Gemmingen, Mozart was initiated in the Viennese Lodge *Zur Wohltätigkeit* (Benevolence) which later became Lodge *Zur neugekrönten Hoffnung* (Hope Re-Crowned). He also frequently visited Lodge *Zur wahren Eintracht* (True Concord) where he was passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft, by courtesy, on 7<sup>th</sup> January 1785. He was a zealous attendee of Masonic meetings and it is no wonder that Masonic influence affected his musical creativity. He composed a series of cantatas to accompany the Masonic ritual, among them the following: *Gesellenreise* (Fellowcraft's Journey — KV 468), probably for the passing to the second degree of his father Leopold; *Die Maurerfreude* (Mason's Joy — 1785, KV 471); *Maurerische Trauermusik* (Masonic Funeral Music — 1785, KV 477); *Zur Eröffnung der Loge* (Lodge Opening — KV 483); *Zum Schlusse der Loge* (Lodge Closing — KV 484); *Eine kleine Freimaurerkantate* (Little Freemasons' Cantata — 1791 KV 623). The last mentioned was dated by him 15 November 1791 — shortly before his death.

Most of all, and likely the best known Masonic composition by Mozart is his opera *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute), the libretto of which was written by his friend and Lodge Brother Emanuel Schikaneder (1751–1812) who also sang the role of Papageno at the première 30 September 1791 (Theater auf der Wieden, Vienna). To the uninitiated the plot may seem to be a curious hodgepodge of fairytale, political satire and naïve humor, but the Mason will recognize much of its Masonic symbolism "veiled in allegory." Sarastro, the high priest, and his priests are the representatives of the noblest humanity and champions of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, in opposition to the Queen of Night who personifies

See **Mozart**, page 2.

## Editorial

# Music in Lodge

Recently, this writer listened to a conversation among Brethren who voiced their regret of missing music in Lodge meetings. They also decried the present situation where fewer and fewer musicians appear to be available to fill the office of Lodge Organist. We may certainly hope that before long such talented Brethren will step forward to fill the void. To those who have made themselves available to their Lodge and in several cases to more than one Lodge, belongs our sincere expression of gratitude.

Larger Lodge halls in Alberta are equipped with organs, now most of the electronic type, but also, as in the case

of Calgary's Freemasons' Hall, with a pipe organ. Some other Lodges have a piano, and that is good. Left out in the cold are those that feature neither. But then there is also the situation where the equipment exists but is not put to use. That's where the following musings come in:

Simply put — get an audio system capable of playing tapes or compact discs and play recordings of Masonic hymns and also selections of secular music as it fits the occasion. This writer has enjoyed such musical offerings in quite a few European Lodges, even where organs or pianos were also in evidence, and was suitably impressed.

Such as the standard opening and closing hymns of our Canadian Rite Lodges are easily recorded and solemn

march music which lends itself to perambulations also. In addition, Lodges would profit greatly from professionally recorded works by Masonic composers, such as Jan (Jean) Sibelius and, of course, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Some of his Masonic compositions are listed in the article devoted to him on the front page of this edition. Those listed there, and more, are found in the recording *Mozart—Complete Masonic Music*, Peter Maag conducting the Orchestra of the Vienna Volksoper. (See your audio suppliers).

Yes, Masonic music can contribute much to our ceremonies, solemn degree work as well as adding to the lighter side of our fraternal communications. It's worth considering.

## Mozart, from page 1.

the realm of darkness and superstition. Tamino, a prince, represents the seriously seeking, yet still unenlightened man while his newly found companion, the birdcatcher Papageno is the common individual devoted to material things. It has been written that the Temple of Isis represents Freemasonry, the Queen of Night Empress Maria Theresa (who in spite of her marriage to Emperor Franz I of Germany, a Freemason since 1731, was actively opposed to Freemasonry), her daughter Pamina the Austrian people, and Prince Tamino compared to Maria Theresa's son, Emperor Joseph II who was liberal and sympathetic in his attitude toward the Craft. The conflict between light and darkness, the trials by fire and water, and the ultimate triumph of good over evil, all inherent in Masonic philosophy, and a musical version of such details as the knocks of the degree of initiation (in Europe!) ••• are all so familiar to the Brother Mason.

Much more could be said about Mozart, the man, the composer, the Freemason, and in this brief essay his accomplishments as one of, if not THE, greatest composer have been purposely omitted. Suffice it to say that during



*Unfinished painting of Mozart by his Brother-in-Law, Joseph Lange, Ca. 1798–90 where the composer was to be seated at his keyboard, is considered by Constanze to be the best likeness of her husband*

the last four months of the thirty-five years of his life, while, according to Dr. Peter Davis (in the British journal *Musical Times*, October 1985) suffering from streptococcal infection, Schönlein-Henoch syndrome, renal failure, and treated with phlebotomy, with body and mind disintegrating, he “only” composed the *Magic Flute*, *La Clemenza di Tito*, the Clarinet Concerto,

most of the *Requiem*, and the Masonic Cantata mentioned above, which he conducted before his Brethren only two weeks before his death from terminal broncho-pneumonia and cerebral hemorrhage shortly after midnight on the fifth of December 1791, in his apartment on *Rauhensteingasse* (=Rough Ashlar Street) in the heart of Vienna (diagonally across from the present-day building of the Grand Lodge of Austria).

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2006, we shall remember him.

## Grand Master's Itinerary January

- 1 Saskatchewan No. 92, New Year's Levee; Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton; 10 30 h
- 10 Victoria No. 13, 50-Year Jewel Presentation; Fort Saskatchewan Masonic Hall; 19 30 h
- 11 Tawatinaw No. 71, Burns Supper; Athabasca
- 23 Beacon No. 190, Burns Supper; Red Deer Masonic Hall; 17 00 h
- 28 Especial Communication of Grand Lodge, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Carstairs No. 20, Crossfield Masonic Hall, Confirming the Consecration; 15 00 h

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meridian who are members of  
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THE ALBERTA  
**Freemason**  
Published each month except July and August by  
**The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.**

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**The Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin**  
MWBro Robert E. Juthner (Chairman);  
WBro Garth Cochran; WBro Loren Kline;  
Bro Trevor Morris; — Ex Officio: Grand Master,  
Deputy Grand Master & Grand Secretary  
Annual subscription rate for non-members of the GLA is C\$10.00 plus mailing costs. Republication rights are granted to other Masonic Jurisdictions, but acknowledgement of the source is requested. The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication. Deadline for copy is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month, two months prior to the month of issue.

# Patricia Lodge No. 91 — Centennial Project

In March 2005 Patricia Lodge of Edmonton had formed an Anniversary Committee, chaired by WBro Graham Downey who, as was reported to us, did most of the work, a fact he himself would not mention. Following is his report. — Ed.

As 2005 was both the Centennial year for Masonry in Alberta as well as Alberta's 100<sup>th</sup> year, the Grand Master, MWBro Rod Ponech, suggested Lodges in Alberta should

consider a Centennial Project to mark the occasion. As a result, Patricia Lodge explored various options and decided on building a children's playhouse and donating it to a worthwhile charity in order that they could raise money for their cause.

The Children's Wish Foundation was selected as the charity. This Foundation grants wishes to children with life threatening illnesses. Some children wish to see a celebrity or a grandparent, many select Disneyland and some just a ride on a fire truck. One little girl just wanted to buy her mom a locket. While selling tickets, I met one bright young girl with cancer who went to Florida with her parents to meet a special country-western singer, and both she and her dad said it couldn't have been better. Regardless of the wish, the Foundation does its best to grant it, and to date have granted more than **10,000** wishes.

In order for the project to be cost neutral to the Lodge, we approached Home Depot Canada to see if they would supply the material. They generously donated \$500, and another \$500 were raised from five companies of Patricia Lodge members. The total cost of the materials was \$939.64. As well, AAA-1 Signs donated a large display sign.

Plans for the playhouse were obtained and the members of the Lodge built a beautiful all-cedar playhouse with a porch and even electric lights. RWBro Al Vickery, who is a skilled craftsman, headed the building team and WBro Ray Barnes made his shop and equipment available, and the building was done in June. It was named **Patricia Lodge** and the address was "No. 91."

The Children's Wish Foundation obtained a license from Alberta Gaming to



Patricia Playhouse: (l to r) WBro Ray Barnes; WBro Fred Keeler; WBro Graham Downey; WM Brian Flotten; WBro Terry Lukian; RWBro Al Vickery; WBro Ken Weech.

conduct a raffle on the playhouse which allowed for 2,000 tickets to be sold at \$5.00 each, for a total of \$10,000. Members of Patricia Lodge and volunteers from the Children's Wish Foundation sold tickets during June, July and August. MWBro Doug Troock personally sold 150 tickets and RWBro Clarence Comrie — at the age of 98 years and residing in the Edmonton General Continuing Care Centre — amazingly sold 216 tickets. With the efforts of these Brothers and the Foundation volunteers all two thousand tickets were sold one day prior to the draw.

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005, RWBro Comrie drew the winning ticket at Freemasons' Hall. The winner was Amar Brar at 4403

— 11 Avenue, Edmonton. Ms Brar is a grandmother who whose daughter, son-in-law and two young children live with her. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> we delivered the playhouse to the Brar residence to the delight of everyone, especially the grandchildren.

The project was positive in many ways:

- It fulfilled the wishes of the Grand Master for a Centennial project.
- It gave the members of the Lodge the opportunity to work together on a worthwhile project and to spend time together, to know each other better.

It was cost neutral to the Lodge.

- It exposed Freemasonry and Patricia Lodge to the community as we took the playhouse to different locations.
- The winners received a beautiful playhouse for which they were extremely thankful.
- Finally, and most importantly, it provided **\$10,000** to help grant wishes and brighten the lives of children facing very unfortunate and difficult times.

Graham L. Downey, PM,  
Chair

## Palestine Lodge Celebrated Rare Occasion

Prior to the regular meeting of Palestine Lodge No. 46 in Tofield, held on 18 October 2005, four members of the Lodge were presented with 50-Year Past Master's jewels. They were presented to **WBro Bert Everitt**, Worshipful Master in 1945; **WBro Dan Dodds**, Worshipful Master in 1949; **WBro Thomas Jacobs**, Worshipful Master in 1950; and **RWBro Arnold Swift**, Worshipful Master in 1952. The (belated) presentations were made by MWBro Rex Dawson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. A banquet



attended by many Masons from the area was held in their honour.

Front Row, L-R: WBro Bert Everitt, WBro Dan Dodds, WBro Thomas Jacobs, RWBro Arnold Swift. Back Row, L-R: WBro Al Cain, WM, MWBro Rex Dawson, GM, RWBro Steven Caldwell, DDGM Beaverhills District

# Freemasonry and the Community

What is our sense of community? How does it relate to Freemasonry? Has our sense of community changed? If so, why? When?

Has our sense of Freemasonry changed? Has it changed with society, or is Freemasonry a beacon by which society should change?

A lot of questions! Questions which deserve consideration, or reconsideration at this juncture in our history.

Why? Because, when one reviews the history of Freemasonry, one cannot help but notice the number of well known leaders who have been Masons and who have, in one way or another, influenced the building of the foundations of our present world — at the very least, the foundations of the Western world.

Is it a mere coincidence that many of our past leaders were Freemasons? Did Freemasonry by coincidence shape the minds, views and actions of those leaders? If so, what was it about Freemasonry in particular that influenced them?

We take great pride as Freemasons in reciting famous persons who were once part of our institution. Was it our institution of men that fostered their prevalence, or did the philosophies inherent to Freemasonry influence their actions — or merely reinforce the truth of their actions?

And on reflection, why are these questions most related in the past tense? Why have so few boasted or now boast of any connection to Freemasonry?

And if there has become a disconnect, is a reconnection to Freemasonry in the making?

All of these questions are open for consideration at the Masonic Spring Workshop, 28 to 30 April 2006 at Kananaskis.

As part of the theme *Freemasonry and the Community*, here are some further points for consideration.

In some respects, the definition of “community” (*American Heritage Dictionary*) of SHARING, PARTICIPATION and FELLOWSHIP defines Freemasonry.

But has our definition of ‘community’ changed, and with it, our definition of ‘Freemasonry?’ So it may seem that as our geographic definitions of ‘community’ broaden, growing from the viewpoint(s) of a village to the world, so must our related institutions grow. Or, has Freemasonry always incorporated a ‘world’ view?

As certainly as our viewpoints may have broadened, so have our choices, or the choices that we must make. “The ability to make these choices creates the opportunity for the formation of whole new ‘communities of interest’, bound together by choice rather than geography.” (*Jen Clodius, 1997 Conference on MUDs.*) This in essence, underlines Freemasonry’s predominant patronage of democracy and democratic ideals.

As a community, and in shaping communities in the past, Freemasonry has to have had certain ‘shared interests’ and ‘shared values.’ The greatest distinction between past and present is, perhaps, the emphasis on “shared” interests and “shared” values... not necessarily ‘common’ interests and values.

It would seem that in the past, the most significantly shared “community” interest of Freemasons was in other people, and frequently in people different from themselves. What was valued, then, was simply the right to be heard. There can be no doubt that Freemasonry at times, on subjects of importance, encouraged debate rather than avoiding it. Thus the continual broadening of viewpoints and fostering of great

minds amongst Freemasons. Thus the ability of men, often with opposing allegiances, to share and value each other’s company rather than avoiding it. Thus the best interests of the ‘community’ were able to be served, rather than neglected.

What was valued, at least in our ancient past, was the (informal) agreement to disagree. Thus the fostering of good and at times great leadership within our public as well as private avocations.

Rather than an over reliance on sets of ‘official rules,’ it would seem that Freemasons may have associated within a informal system of shared social values; that is, within a community of behaviours more easily defined as being *not acceptable* — in practice, men who “did the good act, not for [themselves], but for the cause of good” (*General Charge*).

These are assertions we intend to explore at the upcoming **Workshop**, page 5.



## MSW Registration Form

Bro

▲ Title Last Name (please print) First Name Second Name

▲ First name for your Name Tag Area Code Phone No.

▲ Address

Yes  No   
Attended before?

▲ City/Town Prov Postal Code

▲ Lodge Name & No. (One Lodge only) Current Lodge Office

Rank: MM  WM  PM  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Smoking  Smoking  Special requirements: diet, elevator, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

No assurance that room or special requests can be filled after 1 March 2005.

I wish to room with: \_\_\_\_\_

Cards should be received together to ensure request filled.

Double/Triple = \$325;  Single = \$440 ( Spouse \_\_\_\_\_) name

Day use only = \$150 includes Lunch and Banquet

1 Payment; **OR** 3 Installments\*  \$125/100/100 or  \$150/145/145  
\*Include three post-dated cheques dated 1<sup>st</sup> of Feb, Mar, Apr

Cheque  Visa  MasterCard

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature ▲ Today's Date ▲

Mail cheque(s) or credit data for the total of requested registration — or fax or email credit data to:

Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee

1131 Trafford Dr NW, Calgary, AB T2K 2T9

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# Public Awareness Committee To Lay out New Strategy

After a number of years of subdued activity the Grand Lodge Public Awareness Committee has become invigorated and plans to initiate a new strategy for Masonic awareness in Alberta.

The process was begun last year when then Grand Master Rod Ponech stated that the Public Awareness Committee was perhaps the most important Grand Lodge Committee. He took steps to appoint new Brethren to the committee and encouraged it to engage the public about the contributions of Freemasonry and to promote the Craft in a more pro-active manner.

Grand Master Rex Dawson shares the view about the importance of the committee, particularly in the face of declining membership. He has also appointed new members to the committee. He and other Grand Lodge officers intend to take an active part in the activities and planning of the committee.

Recent committee meetings have identified that promotion of the Craft can take various directions and have different goals. The concern is that in either case the delivery of information and the follow-up of any membership interest need to be better structured before any promotion campaign is launched.

The committee felt that the numerous popular interest books on the Craft and the recent movie *The National Treasure* provide an opportunity for the many aspects of Freemasonry to be promoted in Alberta communities in a more visible manner.

In addition, the committee will be looking into ways individual Lodges can promote themselves better in their local areas through various media outlets. It is expected that a new awareness strategy will be developed over the next six

## Workshop, from page 4.

coming Masonic Spring Workshop. To help us, we have invited as our keynote speaker, Mark Tabbert — author of the book *American Freemasons, Three Centuries of Building Communities*.

While Mark Tabbert has devoted his energies to exploring the Masonic connections of his American heritage, the Workshop is encouraging consideration of how our institution as a whole has influenced the growth of the Western world... and may continue to do so, by reconnecting our Masonic past with contributions that Masons can make in the definition of their community(ies) in the future.

Tren Cole, Chair, 2006 Masonic Spring Workshop

### Tentative Agenda Includes

- Freemasonry in the Community and the Development of Modern Society. Mark Tabbert
- Masons in Public Office — Speaker TBA
- Back to the Future: The Way We Were — Again? Mark Toon & Cyril Abbott
- The Internet Community: Masons Worldwide. Stephen Dafoe & Robert Lomas (on line)
- Concordant Bodies Community Programs. Colin Reichle
- Sock It To Me! As One Does, So Can We! Rod Ponech
- Floor Work for Dummies; Officer Training for SW & Sec
- Freemasonry & Society... Where Do We Go From Here. Mark Tabbert

months. The committee looks forward to any suggestions Brethren may have regarding public awareness. Please forward your views to any committee member through the Grand Lodge office.

### 2005/2006 Committee Membership

Will Verboven, Canada Lodge, Chairman  
Fred Bowker, Acacia Lodge  
Steve Kennard, King George Lodge  
Dick Hopkins, Canada Lodge, Ex officio:  
Grand Master Rex Dawson  
Deputy Grand Master Malcolm Berry  
Senior Grand Warden Bob Drury  
Junior Grand Warden John Hart  
Grand Secretary Jerry Kopp

## 100 Years Carstairs Lodge

Carstairs Lodge No. 20, AF&AM GRA will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on **January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006**. It is a wonderful milestone in the life of the Lodge when it will host the Grand Master and his officers for the Re-Consecration ceremony which will begin at **15 00 h = 3:00 PM** in the Crossfield Community Centre located in the Town of Crossfield.

While the Brethren will celebrate in Lodge, the ladies will be enjoying tea and crumpets at McCool's Restaurant, also in Crossfield. At 17 00 h the ladies will join the men at the Community Centre for a social hour, followed by a dinner catered by the members of Starlight Chapter No. 109, OES.

RWBro Vic Ramsbottom has written a book about Carstairs Lodge, the Town of Carstairs and early day pioneers who were involved in the formation of the Lodge. The book will be available for sale and RWBro Ramsbottom will autograph the first edition. Following dinner, he will be discussing his book, *Carstairs Lodge No. 20, GRA — One Hundred Years of Fellowship — 1906 to 2006*.

One hundred years ago, RWBro Robert Scott and other Brethren met in the office of WBro Dr. Laidlaw to form a Masonic Lodge in Carstairs, AB. And now we will be honouring those early day Masons who had the vision to form our Lodge. The Officers and members of Carstairs Lodge would be most pleased if you would join us on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January in honouring the early day Masonic Brethren at our 100-Years of Fellowship celebration.

For further information and tickets for the dinner please contact:

VWBro Roger Anderson, 403-247-3401 or roger.anderson@shaw.ca

WBro Peter Fisher, 403-247-6234 or pandig@telus.net

Bro Clayton Bailey, 403-948-0270 or claycilla@aol.com

## Ducharme, from page 6.

Bus Lines as a driver, which lasted eighteen years. Following his many years of driving the highways of Western Canada, Frank then became an agent for Greyhound Bus Lines and owned and operated the infamous Java Shop Restaurant in Fort Macleod for twenty years, ending with his much earned and long awaited retirement in 2004.

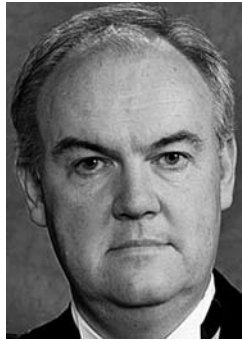
Frank married Luella Davis of Fort Macleod in 1959, and they have been blessed with six children and presently fifteen grandchildren.

Brother Ducharme received the three degrees of Craft Masonry in Alberta Lodge No. 3 in 1979 and served as Worshipful Master of that Lodge in 1987.

# Our DDGMs — concluded

## Beaverhills District

**RWBro Steven S. Caldwell** was born July 10, 1960 in Toronto, ON, but grew up back and forth between Toronto and Scotland. He is married to Marion and the proud father of son Ewan, born in 2005. He is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, Nephrology & Immunology, at the University of Alberta, Examiner in Internal Medicine for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and for the Medical Council of Canada.



Steven Caldwell received a BSc (Hons) from the University of Toronto; an MSc at Queens University, Kingston; and studied Medicine at St. Andrews University and Edinburgh University, graduating "cum honoribus" with the Class Gold Medal in Surgery and Obstetrics. He completed training in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the University of Alberta after arriving in Edmonton in 1991.

He serves his community as a fund raiser and member at large of the Edmonton Chapter of the Kidney Foundation of Canada; organizer for the Kidney Foundation Charity Golf Tournament; member of Winhouse Shelter for Women; and member of the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

Our Brother was initiated, passed and raised in Lodge Kenmuir, Springburn No. 570, SC, in 1989 and served as Chaplain for two years. He affiliated with Commercial Lodge No. 81, GRA, Edmonton, in 1992 and served this Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2001.

In concordant bodies, he holds the 32<sup>o</sup> of the A&ASR, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cdr. Alberta Consistory in 2004; North Star Chapter No. 2, RAM, First Principal in 2004; Grand Junior Sojourner, Grand Chapter RAM of Alberta; Edmonton Preceptory No. 46, KT; Zohar Council No. 4, R&SM; and Al Shamal Temple, AAONMS (Sick and Visiting Committee).

## Dinosaur District

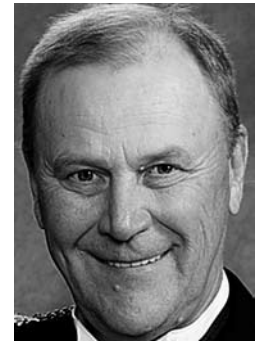
**RWBro James A. Ratchford** was born on September 3, 1956 at Kentville, NS, now residing in Calgary where he works as an accountant. He has been married to Lorna for twenty-three years and they have two daughters, Melissa and Heather. He has volunteered at Colonel Irvine Junior High School, serving as chair for the band parents association. He has also served on the band parents association at Diefenbaker High School. His readiness to serve as a volunteer has also been extended to work with the Girl Guide organization by assisting in maintaining their campsites, driving for cookie sales and performing year end reviews. As well he assists with the Church youth group when needed.



Brother Ratchford received the three degrees of Craft Masonry in Rockyford Lodge No. 123 in 1996 and served that Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2001 and 2004/2005. He is a member of Otuskwan Chapter RAM.

## Palliser District

**RWBro Rudi Brockmann** was born on April 26, 1946 in Consort, AB, but raised in Esther. He married Margaret Galloway in 1973 and they have two sons, Norman, 26, and William, 25. Rudi is a retired farmer and currently owns a farm service truck and does minor repair work from the farm shop.



Rudi Brockmann has been an active member of the local community, a board member of Dry Country Gas Co-op for twenty-five years and chairman for seven years. He served as member of the Community Health Council, Fish and Game, and Ducks Unlimited. He is a Past Chairman of the Esther Community Hall and Esther Sports Club. He moved to Oyen and now is an Oyen Town Councillor and also an Instructor for Firearms Safety.

Brother Brockmann was initiated, passed and raised in 1995 and held the office of Worshipful Master of Oyen-Crocus Lodge No. 82 in 2000–2001. Our Brother is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

## Yellowhead District

**RWBro Neil McMillan** was born May 23, 1960 at Blantyre, Scotland. He is a pipefitter residing in Sherwood Park, AB. He has worked on construction projects throughout Alberta. Neil is married to Joann and they have one son, Tristan.



Neil McMillan has played in Highland pipe bands and has taught the bagpipes to junior bands in the City of Edmonton and to individuals.

Our Brother was initiated, passed and raised in Highlands-Unity Lodge No. 168 in 1989, served the Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1998 and was Grand Piper of the Grand Lodge of Alberta in the years 2000 and 2002. He is also a member of the Scottish degree team in Edmonton. Brother McMillan is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Patience Chapter No. 122, and was Worthy Patron in 2002 and 2004.

## Three Rivers District

**RWBro Frank Ducharme** was born in Glaslyn, SK, on December 23, 1934. Frank moved to Creston, BC, with his parents at the age of three and there attended both primary and secondary school, but at the age of fifteen he chose to leave both school and home and travelled to Alberta in search of employment. He worked a variety of jobs for four years, and then went into commercial truck driving



for eleven years, first with Freightways and later Haliburton Oil Well Cementing, and finally as an independent owner/operator. After this he secured a position with Greyhound  
See **Ducharme**, page 5.