

Volume 1----- Issue 7----- February 2024

Grand Z's Message:

I hope everyone has enjoyed the nice weather we have had this week. I had the opportunity to bring greetings on behalf of Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons on the 20th of January to members of WAWA Shrine at their AGM banquet. As May is shortly around the corner we have been working towards the Grand Convocation and Ladies Program and hope to have something put out to the members prior to the next issue.

Visitations:

None in January but I have been working on a meeting with Eagle Lake.

Chapter Focus:

Orient Chapter No. 13, Moosomin

Was one of the original 21 Chapters to form Grand Chapter in 1923. Is one of the few chapters to draw members from two separate blue lodge jurisdictions, as it is the most easterly chapter in Saskatchewan. Many of its members are from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. Currently their Scribe E, Rt Ex Comp Mason Jardine is the sitting Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. Orient has had many members serve the jurisdiction as Super Intendants and appointed positions but there is no record of any serving as Grand 1st Principal.

York Rite Bodies Focus:

Cryptic Rite

The Grand Council of Cryptic Rite Masons of Western Canada, Royal & Select Masters is comprised of 18 Cryptic Rite Councils, scattered from Winnipeg to Vancouver Island.

There are two in Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan No. 6 in Regina and Zophiel Council No. 13 in Saskatoon drawing membership from Royal Arch Chapters in their respective areas.

They present the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master and provides access to the degrees of Super Excellent Master and Royal Ark Mariner four of the most beautiful and fascinating in Freemasonry.

The first two, Royal Master and Select Master, are Cryptic in nature and content. They explain how the Lost Word of the Master Mason degree, rediscovered in the Royal Arch degree, was preserved in the first place – in the crypt or secret vault under Solomon's Temple. They focus on the core material of Ancient Craft Masonry, without Christian or military emphasis, and complete the explanation of our Fraternity's most powerful legend.

The following text explains the popularity of the Cryptic Rite and its appendant degrees, so the Royal Arch Mason in Western Canada. who seeks more light in Masonry – further enlightenment towards Truth – may know his enthusiasm will be welcomed and matched by Companions who wish to share with him something very special.

Excerpt from http://cryptic-rite.ca/

Our 60th Grand Principal M. Ex. Comp. Norman Cook 1982-1983



Norman George Cook was born August 30th, 1924, in Capri, Saskatchewan. Received his grade school education at a rural school in the Pennant district and attended high school in pennant.

In June 1947 moved to Lloydminster where he began an oil field Trucking operation and that Fall married Joyce Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Wilson of Wartime. They have three children, Arlene, Sharon, and John, all married, and four grandsons.

He was a director on the Board of Transport for three years, 1949-1951. An active community person wherever he settled and he was a member of the Lloydminster Lions Club.

Moved to Coleville in Fall of 1952. Was a member of and steward of Coleville United Church, a charter member of Coleville Kinsmen Club, Scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts and received his Gillwell or Wood Badge of Gimli, Manitoba, while in Coleville.

He became greatly involved with square dancing and spent several years as a caller and instructor throughout the area.

In 1962 he and his family moved to Elrose where he and his wife presently reside, owning the local hardware store.

Norman's Hobbies, which could readily be said to include Masonry, are mostly summer orientated, he loves water sports, enjoys golf and the outdoors, and it is an avid traveler.

Masonic history:

Initiated into Masonry in Kerrobert Lodge No. 90, he was raised on June 2nd, 1960. Affiliated with Elrose No. 135 in 1962, he was Worshipful Master in 1971. Was D.D.G.M., District No. 12, Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan A.F.&A.M. in 1973-74.

Exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Victory Chapter No. 28. on May 25th,1970, was First Principal in 1975 and elected to the Grand Line in May of 1977. He was installed as Grand First Principal on May 29th, 1982, at Moose. Jaw.

Norman is a member of and participates in other Masonic related bodies, viz:

- in 1972, he and his daughter Arlene joined Elrose Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star and has been Worthy Patron several times.
- in April 1955, became a member of Saskatoon Preceptory No. 55
- received the Order of the High Priesthood degree in May of 1975.
- is a member of Wawa Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Regina, also member Goose Lake Shrine Club, Kindersley. Was President of latter in 1980, also belongs to their "Horse" Patrol and Past Masters Club.
- Is a member of Hub City Conclave No. 24, Red Cross of Constantine.
- Became a member of Allied Masonic degrees group in May of 1983.

He has been the recipient of several Honorary Life Memberships in Constituent Chapters in the Jurisdiction and in Sister Grand Chapters visited throughout the year.

"Norm" Cook is a dedicated Mason, a firm believer in brotherhood and fellowship and as First Principal, very successfully spread this doctrine during his visits to all Chapters in the Jurisdiction and to Sister Grand Chapters, and like his predecessors, has left his own kind of fraternal impact of Capitular Masonry in Saskatchewan.

Taken from the 1983 Proceedings

Tidbits and Trivia:

Events 1983

- January 1 The metric system of weights and measures is officially adopted by the federal government although Imperial units are still used.
- January 17 Saskatchewan MLA Colin Thatcher resigns as Minister of Energy and Mines after several well-publicised disputes with premier Grant Devine.
- January 21 Joann Thatcher, ex-wife of Saskatchewan MLA Colin Thatcher, is murdered in her Regina home. Colin would later be convicted of the crime.

February 1 - Pay television begins operating in Canada.

February 15 - The Tamarack Review ceases publication.

April 1 - The spending mandate by Premier Bill Bennett's government expires without a sitting of the House or the calling of an election: constitutional interregnum and crisis ensues.



April 5 - Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia Henry Pybus Bell-Irving summons Premier Bennett to Government House. The L-G issues emergency warrants to cover spending until a snap election.

June 2 - Air Canada Flight 797 makes an emergency landing in Cincinnati, Ohio - a fire kills 23 of 41 passengers on board.

June 9 - Bill 101, protecting the French language in Quebec is ruled unconstitutional.

June 11 - Brian Mulroney replaces Joe Clark as leader of Progressive Conservative Party of Canada.

June 17 - Saint John, New Brunswick Princess Diana and Prince Charles start their tour of Canada

June 19 - BC Place in Vancouver opens.

July 23 - Gimli Glider: Air Canada flight 143 makes an emergency landing in Gimli, Manitoba.

October 1 - North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization is established.

November 17 - The Western Grain Transportation Act is passed.

December 23 - Jeanne Sauvé is appointed Canada's first female Governor General.

Full date unknown

Canada agrees to allow testing of American cruise missiles in the west.

The Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, the first nuclear power plant in the Maritimes.

The corrections have been made to the previous issues and are available on the website.

In closing if any chapter has any thing, they would like to submit for the information of the membership please email articles or pictures to Grand Scribe E and I will try to add them to the next issue.