

## Preface

Brethren –

It is my privilege to present this introduction to Volumes VI and VII of the Transactions of A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949, A.F. & A.M.

The Lodge is now in its thirtieth year of existence having been constituted on April 30, 1983. As with any Research Lodge, our purpose is to further enlighten the Brethren with informative and engaging programs. To that end, the Brethren of A. Douglas Smith excel. The internal papers and outside speakers provide us with presentations that are well thought out and documented on a wide array of topics.

This release of the Lodge Transactions on DVD media includes all previous publications of the Transactions and materials gathered since the release of Volume V. You will find some multi-media aspects to this publication. There is the text of the programs that have been presented during the course of Lodge meetings organized by year, with bios about the presenter when available. There are also some video and audio files included on the DVD - formats that we've not previously been able to release in a paper only forum.

Much work goes into the preparation of the Transactions, and I thank all those who took part, from the presentation of papers to the finished Transactions product. Thank you to the Brothers who provided the papers to be presented in Lodge and the many hours of effort that it took each of you to prepare them for the pleasure of the assembled Brethren. Thank you also to the Programs Committee and to the members of the Publications Committee for arranging the programs and preparing this volume of the Transactions.

I would take this opportunity to especially thank Worshipful G. William Miller and Brother J. David King, who spent countless hours making

sure that all papers were in proper form, organizing them in a presentable fashion, and finally producing them into digital form as a finished product. A job well done by all!

One closing thought as I prepare to depart the East of this Lodge: You, the members of A. Douglas Smith, are the caretakers of the body of work that this Lodge produces. Hopefully something you've seen in Lodge or will read in the Transactions will inspire you to action, cause you to research a topic of interest and present a paper of your own to the Lodge. Take the responsibility you bear to heart as you think about preparing your paper for A. Douglas Smith. Approach your research with the vigor and earnestness that will inspire others to action.

This will be to the benefit the Craft in general and to yourself in particular.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Philip B. Brooks



Philip B. Brooks  
Worshipful Master  
A. Douglas Smith Jr. Lodge of Research No.  
1949  
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