

## Totten Commemorative Issue

After the sudden and unexpected death of Jim Totten on March 9, 2008, we announced in the May 2008 issue that a special commemorative issue of **CRUX with MAYHEM** would appear in Jim's honour. We now have the pleasure of presenting this issue to our readers, for which the members of the editorial board have made special efforts.

This issue has also drawn upon many in Jim's community, including various colleagues at Thompson Rivers University (TRU). The obituary prepared by Bruce Shawyer and Robert Woodrow (that appeared in the May 2008 *CMS Notes*) has been adapted with the assistance of Lynne Totten for publication here. It is preceded by a picture of Jim in his office.

After serving for five years as a Problems Editor for **CRUX**, Jim became Editor-in-Chief of **CRUX with MAYHEM** in 2003 and ran the journal until he began handing over the reins just months before his death last year. He also had an enormous influence in his home province of British Columbia in spreading his love of mathematics through his outreach activities. It is no surprise, then, that this special issue has a distinctive regional emphasis. A piece about Jim's activities and influence follows this editorial, which readers may wish to correlate with the article by Clint Lee on the British Columbia Secondary School Mathematics Contest and Jim's inspiring role in its development. *Skoliad* 118 in this issue features a contest selected by John Ciriani, a founder of the Cariboo contest that Jim helped to develop. The **Mayhem** section has a special *Problem of the Month* taken from one of the contests.

The **Mayhem** section also has a full-length article by that master of mathematical recreations, Ross Honsberger, who inspired Jim's interest in problem solving while he and Jim were office neighbours at the University of Waterloo. An article by Michel Bataille on the geometry of bicentric quadrilaterals graces the articles section, followed by further recreations in Awani Kumar's article on knight's tours on the surface of a cube.

Serendipitously, we found it fitting to reprint a book review written by Jim himself in the book reviews section. Also in the book reviews is an amusing anecdote of Andy Liu related to Jim.

From our readers' submissions we have compiled 26 special problems dedicated to Jim's memory including 10 in **Mayhem** and 16 in **CRUX**, a dozen of which make a special section and four others that open the usual **CRUX** complement. Our solutions section is particularly rich this time around with some hefty problems settled by **CRUX** readers.

For those wishing to learn more about Jim we announce here that the proceedings of the May 2009 conference *Sharing Mathematics: A Tribute to Jim Totten* will be published later this year.