

2016
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 2016 / A.L. 6016

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A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

Grand Lodge

A.:F.: & A.:M.:
of Nebraska



2016

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.:
of Nebraska

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Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska



2016 Proceedings
of the
One Hundred Fifty-ninth
Annual Communication

Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

2016



John T. Maxell

**Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska
2015-2016**

Masonic History of the 149th Grand Master

John T. Maxell

John T. Maxell petitioned Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha, Nebraska, on December 1994. After being initiated as an Entered Apprentice on January 11, 1995, and passed to the Fellow Craft degree on February 8, 1995, he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on February 23, 1995. Following a progression through the chairs, he was installed as Worshipful Master of Shiloh Lodge in 2001. He became a dual member in Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 on June 1, 2009, and John is a Charter Member of Albert Pike Lodge No. 333.

John served the craft on the Grand Lodge Membership committee from 2003 through 2005, and served as chairman from 2004 thru 2005. Was appointed to the Nebraska Freemasons CHIP Foundation as co-chairman in 2004 and still serves the committee to present day. John was appointed to the Masonic Relief Committee in 2007, serving as chairman from 2007 to 2012, and still serves on the committee.

John was appointed to Grand Lodge in 2005 by M.: W.: Ivan A. Vrtiska as Grand Tyler and has also served as Personal Representative, Grand Senior Steward, and Grand Marshal. John was appointed to the advancing line as Grand Junior Deacon in 2010 by M.: W.: John T. Parsons.

John joined the Scottish Rite Omaha Valley in 1995, became a member of KCCH in 2005, and was elected to Inspector General Honorary 33 degree in August 2011. John was Venerable Master for the Lodge of Perfection in 2007 and is member of the 4th, 8th and 14th degree, and presently serves as General Degree Director. He served as chairman of the Friends' dinner from 2008 thru 2014. He was elected to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite Cathedral Board in 2014.

John joined Tangier Shrine in March 1995 and is member of the Arab Patrol, Racers, and the Legion of Honor where he served as Commander in 2003. He was appointed by Potentate Ralph Joos as Ambassador in 2007 and served through 2014.

Brother Maxell joined Papillion Chapter No. 114 Order of Eastern Star in 2010, the York Rite of McCook, NE in 2005, and the Nebraska Sojourners in 2010.

John is a member of Living Faith United Methodist Church. He served as usher, Sunday school teacher, membership chair from 2005 through 2013, and presently serves as Church Committee chair. John was appointed to the Omaha Home for Boys Board in 2009 and presently serves on the Development Committee as a trustee.

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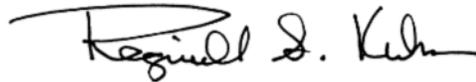
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Certification of Authenticity

Attest:

It is hereby certified that the following is a full, true and complete record of the Proceedings of the One Hundred Fifty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, held at Kearney, Nebraska, February 5-6, 2016, and printed under my direction.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge A.:F.:& A.:M.: of Nebraska this 1st day of September, 2016.



Reginald S. Kuhn
GRAND SECRETARY

2016 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Fifty-ninth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

Most Worshipful John T. Maxell
Grand Master

Grand Lodge Awards Breakfast
Friday, February 5, 2016
8:00 a.m.

The 2015 awards were presented at the Awards Breakfast held Friday morning.

CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CHIP) AWARD

The CHild Identification Program (CHIP) Award recognizes outstanding contributions, monetary or otherwise, in the promotion and assistance with CHIP events. One award is given to a member of the Masonic Family, and the second goes to an individual, company or charitable group that has met the award guidelines. Nominations for the awards are submitted by individual lodges to the CHIP Foundation Board for selection.

The recipient of the award in the Masonic Family category was Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn.

The recipients of the award in the Non-Mason category were Brian Pendley & Tara Krepela of the Dentists at Village Point, nominated by Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn, and Lauri Rogers, MPCC Dental Assistant Instructor, nominated by Custer Lodge No. 148 in Broken Bow.

ROCK MAUL AWARD

The Large Lodge Rock Maul was presented to M.: W.: Byron C. Jenkins by the Omaha Area Past Masters of 1966 to be used as a traveling trophy. It is sixteen pounds in weight

with a bronze head. The Rock Maul has been used for its original purpose in a stone quarry, and has been beautifully refurbished with a square and compass worked into the metal.

The Small Lodge Rock Maul was presented as a gift to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by the family of Past Grand Master Harold Hultman. In recognition of the celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States, and in honor of Grand Master Hultman, W.:B.: Herman O. Hansen, DGC, gold plated the head of a rock maul, engraved the handle with Masonic working tools, and gifted it to M.:W.: Hultman. This Rock Maul is now presented at each Grand Lodge Communication to a small lodge deemed to be the Outstanding Lodge that year.

The Rock Maul Awards are presented by the Grand Master to a large lodge and a small lodge whose works most agree with the programs of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. The lodges selected represent the best all-around lodges in the jurisdiction of Nebraska.

As guidelines to award the Rock Maul, the following are used: officer leadership, attendance, bulletin or newspaper, ritual, enthusiasm, fellowship, temple appearance and condition, secretary reports, and programs other than regular meetings and ritual meetings held throughout the year.

The recipient of the Large Lodge Rock Maul Award was Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln.

The recipient of the Small Lodge Rock Maul Award was Custer Lodge No. 148 in Broken Bow.

GOLD PAN AWARD

The Gold Pan was presented to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 1987 by the Grand Lodge of Alaska on the occasion of the Grand Lodge's sixth anniversary. During Byron Jenkin's term as Grand Master, Nebraska was the first Grand Jurisdiction to grant recognition to the newly-formed Grand Lodge F.: & A.:M.: of Alaska, and this traveling trophy was presented in honor and appreciation of this action.

The trophy, an authentic 12-inch Alaskan gold pan, is mounted on a 20-inch walnut plaque. Brass plates for the recipient lodges surround the gold pan.

The Gold Pan is awarded annually to the Nebraska Lodge showing the greatest improvement or making the most significant contribution to Nebraska Masonry.

The Gold Pan was awarded to Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in Long Pine.

NEBRASKA PILLAR AWARD

The Nebraska Pillar Award recognizes lodges that perform activities that lead to a successful year. Any lodge can earn this award. A plaque is awarded to lodges the first year they qualify and a plate is presented each subsequent year the award is earned. The one lodge earning the award for this year is a previous winner.

The following lodge received the Pillar Award:

Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill

LODGE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Two membership awards are given for the highest percent of positive net growth – counting new members, reinstatements, suspensions and deaths. Each winning lodge received a traveling trophy to display in their lodge for one year.

The winner in the Large Lodge division was Springfield Lodge No. 112 in Springfield.

The winner in the Small Lodge division was Magnolia Lodge No. 220 in Emerson.

MASONIC VETERANS PARTNERSHIP (MVP) AWARDS

The Change for the Troops Program was started in 2010 by M.:W.: John Parsons. In 2014, administration of the program was moved to the Nebraska Masonic Foundation and the name was changed to the Masonic Veterans Partnership. Awards are given in two categories for the program: Total Contributions and Total Per Capita Contributions. The top three lodges in each category receive a sculpture featuring the flag and bald eagle, and the top five lodges in each category receive certificates for their participation in and contribution to the program.

Top Total Contributions

1. Plainview Lodge No. 204
2. Geneva Lodge No. 79
3. Cotner Lodge No. 297
4. Springfield Lodge No. 112
5. Papillion Lodge No. 39

Top Total Per Capita Contributions

1. Plainview Lodge No. 204
2. Saints John Lodge No. 331
3. Geneva Lodge No. 79
4. Franklin Lodge No. 264
5. Seneca Lodge No. 284

GRAND MASTER'S RECRUITMENT AWARD

The Grand Master's Recruitment Award Program recognizes the top petition signers in the jurisdiction of Nebraska. This award is calculated on a point system giving 10 points for every first-line signature and three points for every second-line signature. There were 14 qualified recipients in 2015, with several points ties. All recipients will receive a trowel lapel pin. First and second place recipients also receive a plaque; and the first place winner receives a badge, and his picture is displayed on a plaque in the Grand Lodge Office.

- 1 - Charles J Odorizzi, III, John J Mercer Lodge No. 290
- 2 - James A. Carlton Bellevue Lodge No. 325
- 3 - Patrick D. Gray, Hickman Lodge No. 256
- 4 - John R. Fairlie, Nebraska Lodge No. 1
- 4 - Christopher S. Nigro, George W Lininger Lodge No. 268
- 5 - Steven R. Barchus, Mizpah Lodge No. 302
- 6 - Troy Myers, Cotner Lodge No. 297
- 7 - Roger J. Lipert, East Lincoln Lodge No. 210
- 7 - Aaron R. Taylor, Springfield Lodge No. 112
- 8 - A. Carl Highman, Papillion Lodge No. 39
- 9 - Dale A. Brambila, Hickman Lodge No. 256
- 9 - Larry A. Drews, Mizpah Lodge No. 302
- 9 - Roger A. Mlady, Capitol Lodge No. 3
- 9 - Greg A. Norton, Springfield Lodge No. 112

PLUS CLUB CERTIFICATES

All lodges that achieved a net increase in membership receive a certificate for their accomplishments. The percentage of growth is calculated with new raisings, reinstatements and deaths, and does not include affiliations and demits.

Washington Lodge No. 21
York Lodge No. 56
Frank Welch Lodge No. 75
Corinthian Lodge No. 83
Utica Lodge No. 96
Euclid Lodge No. 97

Springfield Lodge No. 112
Blazing Star Lodge No. 200
Magnolia Lodge No. 220
Hickman Lodge No. 256
George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268
Albert Pike Lodge No. 333

SECRETARY OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Secretary of the Year award is awarded to the Lodge Secretary whom, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge Office staff, has met all of the requirements for lodge secretaries during the year and performed his duties to the highest degree.

The Secretary of the Year for 2015 is Brent Myers, Liberty Lodge No. 300.

LODGE RENOVATION GRANTS

To receive a lodge renovation grant, the lodge must have participated in a new community based fund raising activity which raised \$750.00 of new charitable funds. These charitable funds must have been donated to support either one of our Masonic youth programs, such as CHIP, any of the Masonic Youth groups, Band Camp, or a youth program in the local community. The lodge had to apply for the grant and the \$1,000 must be used by the lodge for renovations and/or improvements to the lodge facility.

Lodge Renovation Grants were given to:

Wayne Lodge No. 120 in Wayne
Highland Lodge No. 194 in Cortland
Camp Clarke Lodge No. 285 in Bridgeport

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Most Worshipful John T. Maxell
Grand Master

First Day – Public Opening
Friday, February 5, 2016

Preceding the formal opening of the Annual Communication, the Grand Lodge of Masons of Nebraska held public opening ceremonies at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska, at 9:15 a.m. Friday, February 5, 2016.

Most Worshipful Joe D. McBride, Past Grand Master, presided.

A request was made by Past Grand Master McBride that all in attendance silence their cell phones unless anyone wanted to make a \$10 donation to the Masonic Veterans Partnership.

The Nebraska Grand Lodge Officers entered in reverse order, followed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master John T. Maxell and his Lady Deb. Past Grand Master McBride led grand honors for Most Worshipful Maxell.

Most Worshipful Maxell presided from the lectern and introduced the Grand Chaplain for the invocation.



Very Worshipful Kevin Lindly, Grand Chaplain, invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Brethren, let us pray. Grand Architect of the Universe, We are grateful to you for bringing us through another year to meet again at this 159th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska. As we face the busy days ahead, we are reminded even more strongly that we need Your help not only in our actions, but also in our attitudes. We pray that personal prejudices will be dispelled and a concern for proper direction for Masonry will prevail. Our prayer is also for the spirit of harmony, understanding and a mutual concern to pervade our discussions and decisions, as well as for the safety of all of our military personnel the world over. May we grow in our sensitivity to the many needs of persons in our determination to assist the Craft to continue to move toward your expectations for it. In Your name we pray, Amen.



Grand Master Maxell asked that all remain standing for the presentation of the colors. The Colors were presented by the Heroes of '76, Joseph Warren Camp, National Sojourners.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited, and the Toast to the Flag was performed by W.:B.: Edward Nolte.



Most Worshipful Maxell welcomed everyone to the 159th Annual Communication and thanked them for attending.



Grand Master Maxell asked all grand officers and representatives from other grand jurisdictions to assemble in the back of the room to prepare for introductions. The Grand Master then asked Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary Reg Kuhn to cover before escorting his Lady Deb to the front with him. He asked Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix and his Lady Nan to join him in front to greet the visitors. M.:W.: Kuhn asked the Grand Marshal to escort to the East the grand officers and representatives visiting from other grand jurisdictions.



Grand Junior Deacon Ron Stites introduced the representatives:

From the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska

- M.:W.: Tommie Blan, Grand Master
- R.:W.: Henry D. Atkinson, Senior Grand Warden
- R.:W.: Freddie L. Clopton, Junior Grand Warden, and his Lady Karen
- M.:W.: Doysa L. Whitaker, Past Grand Master and Grand CCFC
- W.: Russell Hobson, Grand Lecturer Emeritus, and his Lady Anne-Marie

From the Grand Lodge of Iowa

- M.:W.: Arthur Crandon, Grand Master, and his Lady Peggy

From the Grand Lodge of Montana

- R.:W.: Lewis Smith, Deputy Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Nevada

W.: Allan “Skip” Pounds, Grand Representative, and his Lady Sandi

From the Grand Lodge of New Mexico

R.: W.: Ralph Easley, Senior Grand Deacon, and his Lady Tisch

From the Grand Lodge of South Dakota

R.: W.: Mike Rodman, Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.: Yancey Smith, Senior Grand Warden

From the Grand Lodge of Washington

M.: W.: Gale Kenney, Past Grand Master

From the Orient of South Dakota Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction

Jeff Larson, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, and his Lady Susan

M.: W.: Maxell returned to the East and gave grand honors.



Most Worshipful Maxell asked that all representatives of the Youth Groups, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile and Social Order of the Beauceant assemble for introductions.

Grand Master Maxell then asked Most Worshipful Kuhn to cover and returned to the floor with his Lady Deb and Deputy Grand Master Rix and his Lady Nan in preparation to greet the next group of visiting dignitaries. M.: W.: Kuhn asked the Grand Marshal to escort the representatives to the East.

For the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Britt Jorns, Grand Worthy Advisor, and her mother Beth
Betty Garwood, Supreme Inspector

For Nebraska Job’s Daughters

Brittani McElfresh, Grand Bethel Honored Queen
Nikki Pond, Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter
Trudi Thornburg, Grand Guardian
Kevin Thornburg, Associate Grand Guardian

For International Job’s Daughters

Sarah Leeper, Miss International Job’s Daughter, and her mother Angie

M.: W.: Reg Kuhn asked all other officers of Nebraska Job’s Daughters to stand and be recognized.

For Nebraska DeMolay

David Strang, State Master Councilor
Kyle Barchus, State Junior Councilor
Kevin D. Grazier, Executive Officer, and his Lady Elizabeth

For Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Brenda McGuire, Worthy Grand Matron
Delbert Rogers, Worthy Grand Patron, and his Lady Loraine

M.:W.: Reg Kuhn asked all other officers of Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star to stand and be recognized.

For Daughters of the Nile

Jeanne Krenk, Queen, Naphis Temple #66 in Lincoln, and her companion Mark Poston

For the Social Order of the Beauceant

Anita Sohm, Worthy President of Omaha Assembly #91, and her husband Chuck

For Daughters of the Nile

Jeanne Krenk, Queen, Naphis Temple #66 in Lincoln, and her companion Mark Poston

For The Nebraska Masonic Home

Mary Vrbka, Executive Director
Lisa Davis, Foundation Administrative Assistant

For the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children

Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director



Grand Master Maxell returned to the East and thanked the visitors for being present and attending the Public Opening. He then called on Miss Britt Jorns, Grand Worthy Advisor, to bring greetings from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.



Miss Nikki Pond, Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter, was asked to bring greetings from Nebraska Job's Daughters by M.:W.: Maxell.



M.:W.: Maxell invited State Master Councilor David Strang to the podium to bring greetings and present the DeMolay Sponsoring Body of the Year and the DeMolay Mason of the Year awards.

DEMOLAY SPONSORING BODY OF THE YEAR AWARD AND THE MASON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year at Grand Lodge, Nebraska DeMolay has the pleasure of presenting the Mason of the Year Award as selected by the Grand Master. State Master Councilor David Strang introduced the recipient for DeMolay Mason of the Year chosen by the Grand Master:

“This year’s recipient holds a special place in the hearts of the Masonic youth and me personally. He is one of very few people to serve Job’s Daughters, Rainbow and DeMolay. He served as Bethel Guardian, Rainbow Dad and Ambassador, and to give it away, two terms as Executive Officer of Nebraska DeMolay. I met him a long time ago in Alliance and I’m really bad with names, so I always called him Mr. Smiles, because he always smiled. He is currently the Junior Warden of Mizpah Lodge No. 302, and an active member of DeMolay International Supreme Council, and he is active in Shrine and Scottish Rite. On behalf of Nebraska DeMolay, it gives me great pleasure to introduce Mike Stuhr as Mason of the Year.”

State Master Councilor Strang introduced Junior Councilor Kyle Barchus to present the Sponsoring Body of the Year Award.

“We are happy to be able to present a Nebraska DeMolay award of recognition to the sponsoring body of the year. DeMolay would not be possible without the support of our sponsors and members of the Masonic Family. This year’s winner is no stranger to the efforts to assist the young men of DeMolay. The local chapter sponsored by this group simply could not ask for a better relationship. From fund raising, transportation and friendship, this is a true relationship between the chapter members and the members of sponsoring body. Without further ado, Nebraska DeMolay is happy to present the award to Tangier Shrine, 2015 Sponsoring Body of the Year.”



M.:W.: Maxell invited Brenda McGuire, Worthy Grand Matron, and Delbert Rogers, Worthy Grand Patron, to bring greetings from Grand Chapter of Nebraska, Order of the Eastern Star.



Grand Master John called upon Jeanne Krenk, Queen of Naphis Temple No. 66 in Lincoln, to bring greetings on behalf of Daughters of the Nile.



Anita Sohm, Worthy President of Omaha Assembly No. 91, was then invited by Most Worshipful Maxell to bring greetings on behalf of Social Order of the Beauceant.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Charles E. “Ched” House, President, Board of Directors

Grand Master Maxell asked Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, and Most Worshipful Tom Hauder, board member, to bring greetings from the Children’s Home and to present information on fund raising for the new Paden Cottage that will be built on campus in the next few years.

The printed report from the President of the Board is as follows:

1915 – 2015 One Hundred Years at our current Campus!

In 1898 the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star voted \$25.00 to start a home for children of Masons and Star members, and in 1900 a committee was appointed to collect and invest funds. In 1903 the first child was housed at the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, but housing boys and girls of differing ages was hard to work with and the need for a permanent Home site to provide separate housing must be found. A search resulted in Fremont being chosen as the location. Ground was located and purchased by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, with help from Fremont Lodge and Star Chapter. The first Cottage was built in 1914 and the first child housed in 1915. Four more cottages were built and occupied in the first 15 years. The Home was established as a 501 (C), 3 Nonprofit Corporation. It was a huge task for the board members to get accomplished, but they got the job done well. Later they purchased a farm, adjacent to the north, so as to grow and utilize the milk, meat, and food provided by the animals. That, when added to the large vegetable garden that was planted and harvested each year, provided work and training for the 60 plus children on campus.

In 1965 times changed and the Home changed with it. Any children that could meet the homes admission requirements could be admitted. In 1972 Hartman cottage was closed for a 17 year period because of lack of girls for admission, and then a switch to more girls than boys caused Hartman to reopen after a complete renovation including heat, lighting, wiring, and air conditioning added, and Morris cottage was next for complete renovation and changed to be home to girls but done so as a change back to boys would be possible. Complete renovation was next at Veazie and then Truman.

During this period the farm operation ceased, and changed to the 4-H program managed by Ford Delp and establishing the Homes own 4-H club. It has been in operation ever since with lots of changes in the program to keep up with the times – the much better teaching tool than the old farm especially for the girls- and a wonderful program for everyone. We even have Band and Chorus to be proud of.

We have enjoyed another wonderful year of developing and encouraging our student residents as they grow toward adulthood. I speak for the interested proud and hard working members of the Board who performed their duties happily during this year of many challenges. We make an effort to operate within our budget, and put to best use the funds of which are provided by your timely and most welcome donations, gifts and bequests. The lives of the children of our wonderful Home have been greatly enhanced by your continued kindness, thoughtfulness and support, and they will thank you for the rest of their lives.

Our mission says it all: We provide quality care for children in an environment of love, security, and acceptance where they can grow and develop into well-adjusted individuals.

Charles E. “Ched” House
President, Board of Directors

Most Worshipful Hauder thanked Ron for his report and for his hard work at the home. He expressed to the Brethren that the funds provided to the Children’s Home are being put to excellent use, and reminded them how fortunate the Masons of Nebraska are to have such a fine home that is able to help so many children in their time of need.



Most Worshipful Maxell explained a program that is being started to try to develop a relationship with the Boy Scouts, asking lodges to invite the Boy Scouts troops in, charter them and give them support and a place to work. The Grand Lodge is also planning to send a certificate to congratulate all new Eagle Scouts.



Most Worshipful Phil Lorenzen was asked to bring greetings from The Nebraska Masonic Home. M.:W.: Lorenzen congratulated Mary Stapp on her retirement as Executive Director of The Home and introduced Mary Vrbka as the new Executive Director.

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Mary Stapp, Executive Director

M.:W.: John Maxell asked Most Worshipful Phil Lorenzen, a member of The Nebraska Masonic Home Board of Trustees, to come forward to bring the report from the Home.

Most Worshipful Phil congratulated Mary Stapp on her retirement as Executive Director of the Home and introduced Mary Vrbka as the new Executive Director.

The printed report is as follows:

It has been my distinct honor and pleasure to serve as the Executive Director of The Nebraska Masonic Home for 2015. The Nebraska Masonic Home's success would not be what it is today without directing the highest praise and appreciation to every employee who has devoted another year of dedicated service to The Nebraska Masonic Home. The employees strive on a daily basis to maintain the excellent reputation we have proudly held for 112 years. The Masonic Home employees realize what a challenge it is in the competitive health care industry today to maintain our well-known statewide reputation of providing excellent, loving, and dignified care to all eligible Masons and their eligible female relatives.

Every employee remembers with such pride and satisfaction how rewarding the final results were after the State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services came into our facility unannounced on December 17 and 18 of 2014 to do a full facility inspection for The Home's licensure compliance for our Assisted Living and Nursing Care facility areas. I needed to regress and mention this again even though it was a year ago, because it is the solid proof to every employee that their hard work and dedicated service to The Home and its residents was recognized by the most critical eye in the industry. Receiving a deficiency free (perfect score) after a 1 ½ day survey had an incredible impact on our employees, management, and administrative staff. A deficiency free survey is extremely difficult to accomplish. We were told we were one of only two facilities in 2014 that received that rating in the State of Nebraska. I have total confidence that the administrative staff, management team, and each employee will continue to use this as a goal for future surveys.

It had such an impact with the State of Nebraska that Senator Kintner requested a proclamation be passed by the Legislature honoring our accomplishment for receiving a deficiency free survey. The proclamation was then presented to The Nebraska Masonic Home at a special program attended by residents, staff, and representatives from the Nebraska Health Care Association.

The Nebraska Masonic Home reached another very important level of recognition this year. On September 15, 2015, The Nebraska Masonic Home was officially approved as a CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community) by the State of Nebraska. This is the result of many hours of work by John McHenry, Chris Abbott, Mary Vrbka, and me.

We were also assisted during the final steps by Attorney Abbie Widger who submitted documents and worked directly with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. This is an important accomplishment because even though we weren't recognized as a CCRC, we have always provided these levels and categories of services at The Home. It is also a huge monetary savings to The Home to have this CCRC classification with the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Masonic Home continues to be a premiere state-of-the-art Assisted Living/Long Term Care Facility/CCRC. The services The Home provides are all inclusive. There are 29 beautiful independent/assisted living apartments in the 1924 & 1952 Wings. It is with pride that four sizes of apartments are now available to all eligible residents. A 20-bed assisted living center on the 2nd Floor of the Spencer Wing provides a gracious environment for those transitioning through the facility. The nursing care facility located on the 3rd Floor of the Spencer Wing is licensed for 58 beds. Needless to say, the care provided to residents requiring 24-hour care in this area is excellent and delivered with dignity and respect. The Masonic Home's 14-bed private room Alzheimer's/Dementia Special Care Unit continues to be a much-needed area for the protection, safety and peaceful environment so necessary for those residents who will benefit from the Unit's services.

Fortunately, it has been an exceptionally busy year for interested residents and family members to come for tours and admission information for present or future needs for their loved ones.

As many of you know, this is a very personal and emotional time and process for all families and their loved ones. I must tell you . . . this has always been one of my most rewarding responsibilities after I became part of administration. The personal satisfaction after these meetings go well for all parties is remarkable. I must add how proud I always felt when I told families what a beautiful, caring, and dignified environment their loved one will enjoy if he or she comes to The Home to live. And with confidence, I knew every employee here would make my promises to these families and residents come true.

The average census through the year was 90 with a high of 96 in November. The census as of today is 23 men and 67 women for a total of 90 residents. There are 6 couples.

In 2015 we proudly admitted 27 new residents and said goodbye to 20 residents because of death.

A successful year at The Masonic Home greatly depends on the thoughtfulness of our many guests and visitors. Every June we are visited by Narcissus Kensington members of Omaha and treated to a delicious picnic dinner complete with a large selection of food and desserts. Also in July, Home Chapter No. 189 of Plattsmouth served our residents a traditional fried chicken picnic dinner which was delicious.

The Home's employees and residents are so pleased to receive the Grand Chapter of Nebraska Order of Eastern Star and their companions as our special guests at the Home Chapter Picnic. Many Grand Officers travel quite a distance to make the visit and take a guided tour following the picnic. The tour always results in compliments and praise after our guests see our beautiful facility.

The Masonic Home has had its very faithful and regular yearly visits from many Masonic Lodges, Eastern Star Chapters, Shrine Groups, Jobs Bethels, Rainbow Assemblies, and other individuals who have made The Masonic Home a place they favor greatly. Our residents appreciate every visitor immensely including the 4-H animals when the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children visits.

The Masonic Home is grateful that the Masonic family is so loyal to The Home and our residents. Many Masonic groups return to The Home yearly to hold monthly meetings and then stay to share a meal with our residents. A special plus was that most of these groups brought their ladies with them so our residents were treated to even more special visitors. We enjoy showing our facility to our visitors. Our employees appreciate the well deserved compliments our residents make as they visit with our guests. There is no better testimonial for our guests than to hear compliments from the residents that live here at The Home.

Through the years the tradition of the Boon Memorial Food Truck has changed, but the generosity and hard work of Richard Schlaman of Ashlar Lodge who chairs this fund raiser continues to be dedicated. Donations are mostly received from Masonic Lodges in the Central Nebraska area as well as an Eastern Star Chapter or Shrine Group. The lump sum of these funds raised is directly sent to The Home where the Dietary Manager then selects the groceries most needed for our residents' meals. The Boon Memorial Food Truck tradition is very much appreciated by the residents, employees, and Board of Trustees.

The Christmas season this year opened with a joyful band concert comprised of the youth from the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children. What an impressive performance it was. Congratulations to Band Director, Bob Olsen, for having the vision to bring another joy to these young peoples' lives. The youth enjoyed an evening meal with the residents following their performance. A special thank you to Ron Giesselmann and his staff for his continuous interest in The Masonic Home. Our residents and employees thoroughly enjoy their visits.

The Tangier Shrine Chanters performed their beautiful Christmas concert in the 2nd Floor Dining Room for a large attendance of residents on December 8. It is such a pleasure to serve these gentlemen a delicious evening meal prior to their excellent performance.

A special thank you to the Masters and Wardens Club of the Omaha Metro area for their holiday generosity to our residents. We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication by Dan Wellendorf, Chairman, of this annual holiday project. This monetary donation enables us to buy something special and needed for our regular-way residents. Thank you to the Masters and Wardens for helping make the Christmas season at The Nebraska Masonic Home a success.

On behalf of the residents, employees, and Board of Trustees a very special thank you is extended to Grand Master, John Maxell; the Grand Lodge officers; Grand Lodge office staff; Worthy Grand Matron, Brenda McGuire; Worthy Grand Patron Delbert Rogers; and the Eastern Star Grand Family. Thank you so much for your support during 2015. Both Grand families have shown their commitment to The Nebraska Masonic Home in so many ways through the years with annual visits, individual acts of kindness, or monetary donations. Each act of support is truly appreciated. The Masonic Home looks forward to an ongoing relationship of respect, friendship, and support with both grand Families.

There are not enough words to express my deep gratitude to the dedicated Administrative Staff and the hard working department supervisors for their impressive professionalism and team work, as well as, their devotion to the residents, The Masonic Home, and to each other. They should all be so proud of the positive example they have made for all the employees. I am so proud to have been a part of such a conscientious and devoted team.

I extend to Mary Vrbka my heartfelt congratulations on her promotion to the position of Executive Director. I wish you the very best as you carry The Masonic Home's excellent reputation into another successful year.

My deep appreciation is extended to The Masonic Home employees for their loyal commitment and continued devotion to ensuring our residents receive the excellent care they deserve. Every employee strives to maintain our reputation in the health care industry by working as a team with one purpose in mind . . . providing a loving and dignified environment for each resident that has trusted us with their care. Thank you all for selecting The Masonic Home as your employer.

A special thank you to The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation Director, Jo Peters, and her Administrative Assistant, Lisa Davis. Your commitment and hard work for The Masonic Home is appreciated by everyone. It is obvious how much you both care about the residents and the future of The Home.

During my entire 42 years here at The Home and especially my last 18 years in Administration, I have always been grateful that so many dedicated gentlemen were selected through the years as Board of Trustee members. The Home is the success it is today because of the Board members' hard work, individual areas of expertise and your endless dedication and commitment to The Masonic Home residents and employees.

Today I want to personally thank each one of you for the support you have given me the last 18 years. From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for respecting me and trusting me to be a leader for the Masons of Nebraska's most precious commodity – The Nebraska Masonic Home. Thank you for allowing me to grow professionally and personally. I always knew each of you were only a phone call away to offer me your support.

It is with great pride that I retire knowing that together we have all brought The Masonic Home to the highest level of excellence and attractiveness we could ever imagine. Everyone should be very proud of their hard work and know you made all the right decisions to have the result be the beautiful Masonic Home we have today.

This concludes my final annual report.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary C. Stapp, Executive Director



M.:W.: Maxell called attention to the lists of Emick, Grand Lodge Youth Committee, and Houghton Scholarships printed in the program, indicating Masonic funds were well invested in these young scholars in 2015.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Maxell then asked Kevin Lindly, Grand Chaplain, to present the Necrology Report.

NECROLOGY

Kevin R. Lindly, Grand Chaplain

Every year during Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, we take time to remember our brethren who have passed through the final veil of life to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler ever returns.

A reading from 2 Corinthians 5:1 –

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

From Matthew 25:21 –

His Lord said unto him, Well done, thy good and faithful servant. Though has been faithful over a few things. I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

And so it has come to pass, 347 Brother Master Masons, having completed all the designs laid down by the Master on their Trestle Board of life, have answered the summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven and Earth and have entered into the Grand Lodge above over which the Supreme Architect of the Universe prevails.

On April 14, 2015, Past Grand Master Donald Pohlman laid down his working tools and went home to receive his reward. Most Worshipful Donald served in 1993 as the 127th Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska.

Although our beloved brethren have passed through the portals of eternity, their memory will forever remain to inspire all who mourn their passing to live life as they did, respected, and to depart this life, regretted. As one by one the autumn leaves fade in the forest deep, so one by one in each of us must come the touch of sleep, as one by one the roses burst forth into the morning light, so one by one our souls awake again beyond the night. Soft and safe be the earthly bed of our brothers. May our Heavenly Father protect them and enfold them in His arms with love. Until we meet again, dear friends and brothers, until then farewell.

Brethren and ladies, let us pray:

All Mighty God, ruler of Heaven and earth, we come unto Thee during this time of remembering our brethren who have slipped their earthly bonds and have come home to be counted among Your angels. Thou who dost mark the sparrow's fall and number even the hairs on our head, look with infinite compassion on our weakness and during this time of remembrance, give us the strength which You alone can impart. Standing by the open portals of this house appointed for all the living, we pray for light—for light to illuminate the dark path which our brothers have trod, for light to drive away all the shadows of mortality and reveal to our anxious souls those serene heights of joy and beauty, whither, we trust, our brothers have ascended.

May all find rest and comfort in Thee, and, relying upon Thine infinite love, wait in patient hope for death to be swallowed up in victory. In Your Holy name we pray, Amen.

[The Powerpoint showing the names of all departed brothers was shown for those in attendance.]

Soft and safe be the earthly bed of our Brothers; may our Heavenly Father protect them and enfold them in His arms with love. Until we meet again, dear friends and Brothers, Until then - - - Farewell!

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin R. Lindly, 148
Grand Chaplain

M.: W.: Maxell thanked V.: W.: Lindly for his moving tribute to the departed Brethren.

GRAND ORATION

James A. Carlton, Grand Orator

Today is a special day for me. I have been given the opportunity to serve as the Grand Orator for the last three years, and now come to the end of that service. My first two Grand Orations were directed towards a grand theme, if you will. Today I want to speak to three separate topics that are important to me as a Nebraska Mason.

First, I want to share my thoughts about cornerstone ceremonies. The Grand Lodge conducted many cornerstone ceremonies this past year. As you can guess, each ceremony takes quite a bit of preparation by the Grand Lodge officers and, many times, a bit of driving to bring the team together. Some would say, why go to all this effort to put on a half hour presentation that possibly only a handful of people will observe.

We go to this effort because it is a part of our history and the duty of Masons. I can't think of many other occasions which provide such insight into an organization. For instance, a parade gives an organization a chance to march in uniform and hold up a sign, or possibly have a 20 second narrative read about them. But a cornerstone ceremony allows Masonry to be seen in public, with brethren wearing our regalia, including our mysterious aprons and top hat. We then accomplish a ceremony filled with ritual that displays in rather arcane fashion the symbology of using the tools of architecture to ensure the proper erection of a building. The ritual provides an insight into the beauty and gravity of the proceedings of Masonry, and I hope on occasion inspires an observer to become interested in becoming a member. The oration during the ceremony addresses the symbolism of the occasion, and also speaks to the history of the occasion – why the building was built, what it does for the community, and what led to the decision to build it. I know, from personally seeing the reaction, that we instill a sense of public pride in the community when we recognize their accomplishments. Then we enjoy the visibility that comes with having the cornerstone permanently placed on the building to mark our association with the event. All these benefits and no downside – I definitely believe in the value of cornerstone layings, and encourage you to look for opportunities in your communities to schedule them.

I would next like to share some thoughts about the Grand Lodge's College of Ritual proficiency classes. Two years ago I attended a presentation at Annual Communication that proposed an organized approach to achieving individual proficiency in the ritual. If no one signed up, the program would have been dead on arrival. Imagine the surprise when over 30 people from around the state signed up at the conclusion of the presentation. Two classes had to be formed to meet the demand – one in Lincoln, and one in Omaha. Each class met once a month and brethren proved up on the assignment from the past month. Each assignment was a manageable chunk, such as the questions and answers, or a second section lecture.

I signed up for the class because I had learned a large portion of the ritual, but was always “too busy” to find a custodian to work with me to finish learning the remainder. The agenda looked like the perfect answer to getting that done within one year. It turned out that a number of the students joined for that same reason. We lost a few brethren from the class during the year, but the rest formed an unusual bond, a sense of pride and satisfaction at achieving something really major in our Masonic lives. I really enjoyed the sessions towards the end of the year, and joined with all the brothers in graduating with distinction, which required us to give a new lecture during a live degree in lodge.

So during the course of one year, Nebraska realized 20 new proficient brethren. What an achievement! The Grand Lodge continued the class in 2015, and expanded it geographically to the west and north. I am proud to say we will award proficiency certificates to another 20 brethren at this Annual Communication. Brethren, I encourage all of you who want to become proficient to consider signing up for the course this year and getting started this month. I really think you will enjoy it, and I know your lodge will benefit greatly when you share your knowledge with them.

Last, I want to talk about our youth groups. I had what I refer to as a God moment in my life in 1994, but I didn't know it until years later. The Worshipful Master of my lodge said my duty as Senior Warden was to get involved with the Rainbow Assembly that met there. I went to a meeting, and then an advisory board meeting, and learned that the Assembly was struggling with membership and, unfortunately, had a very small board that was divided in purpose. With some attention from the lodge the Assembly grew, and even had a Grand Worthy Advisor named a couple years later.

I enjoyed my involvement with Rainbow, and began attending Grand Assembly. I was amazed at the marches, the poise of the girls, and the quality of the ritual. Annual communications are a thrilling experience that every Mason should take the time to observe. Later I was asked to join the Masonic Youth Foundation as a director. This got me involved with DeMolay and Job's Daughters across the state. I had the wonderful opportunity to be a part of the planning for the first youth conference, a session which was so successful we have continued it every three years for the past 15 years. The unity we have in Nebraska among the various Masonic bodies has made the conferences possible, and has put Nebraska on the map, with surrounding states sending youth and adults to our conference to enjoy the nationally known speakers, and the service projects. I think most adults in attendance get as energized as the youth do.

I also have had the opportunity for several years to serve on the Grand Lodge Youth Committee. In that role I participate in the selection process for the Grand Lodge scholarships. One of the required parts of each application is an essay on what that individual's youth group has meant to them. Again and again I read how shy, introverted young boys and girls have evolved into confident, outgoing leaders of their peers by learning the lessons of the ritual, speaking in public, conducting meetings, and performing service projects. I acknowledge that our youth groups will not solve the membership problems of our organizations, because of the numbers are too small. But I also know that we are providing life-molding experiences that create adults who will be responsible, contributing members of tomorrow's society. That alone makes our mission commendable.

The youth groups and the youth conference receive healthy financial support from individual Masons, and our various Masonic bodies, and I salute you for that. But even more important than that is the presence of we adults at a youth group meeting. By being there you might answer simple questions about what Masonry is all about, or help in

decision-making, or just listen to a personal problem. You might do nothing but watch, but you will be noticed, and you will be appreciated. I also know that if you haven't before, and now think you want to give up a few hours to attend a meeting, it may become a God moment in your life, and may forever redirect your Masonic journey. Very small risk, and very big reward...I hope you will give it a try.

Thank you for your time.

Most Worshipful John thanked Worshipful Brother Carlton for his oration.



M.:W.: Maxell again thanked the Heroes of '76, Joseph Warren Camp, National Sojourners for serving as the color guard; Gary Jones for serving as photographer throughout the session; and Paul Rutherford for his dedicated service as audio specialist for so many years aimed to preserve and document the proceedings of this Annual Communication.

Most Worshipful John then asked everyone to remain seated as the Grand Lodge Officers retired. The room would then be purged in preparation for the tyled Formal Session to begin in five minutes. A current dues card would be required for admittance to the Formal Session, and Deputy Grand Custodians were asked to assist at the door.

2016 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Fifty-ninth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

Most Worshipful John T. Maxell
Grand Master

First Day – Formal Opening Session
Friday, February 5, 2016

Prior to the Public Opening, a tyled Lodge of Master Masons was opened by Brothers of Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha and Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 in Plattsmouth.

The Grand Lodge Officers assumed their stations. Deputy Grand Master Dennis E. Rix accepted the gavel from the Master of Shiloh Lodge No. 327. Deputy Grand Master Rix led grand honors. He then presented the gavel to Grand Master John T. Maxell.

M.:W.: Grand Master Maxell welcomed everyone and reminded them that they are in a tyled lodge, urging them to conduct themselves as Master Masons, and to please turn off cell phones and other electronic means of communication. Grand Master Maxell instructed the Deacons that if they hear a cell phone to confiscate it and bring it up front, to be returned to the owner after the meeting.

The Grand Master then requested that the Grand Secretary ascertain if there was a quorum present.

M.:W.: Grand Secretary Reg Kuhn declared a quorum present for the transaction of business.

V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Kevin R. Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Brethren, Let us Pray. Eternal spirit, giver of all life Whose essence is love, as we continue the journey of life, we ask for your blessed presence. Guide us into Your eternal plan. May we learn to love more graciously and more specifically. Bless our country, our Order, all of our officers and Masons everywhere. May our symbols of morality help us to turn away from the siren songs of our day. May we be steadfast in our Faith. We thank You for our families and bless every one of them. We thank You for Masonry and that we are part of Your work through the Craft. In Your name we pray, Amen.”

The Grand Master then declared the 159th Annual Communication duly opened for the transaction of business and asked that the Grand Marshal proclaim the Annual Communication open in ample form.

M.:W.: Maxell thanked the members of Shiloh Lodge No. 327 and Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 for opening of lodge.



Grand Master Maxell announced, “As we have done in the past, we are going to re-obligate ourselves as Master Masons. This will help to remind us of what our duties are now and for all time.” He asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix to the altar to be re-obligated in the Master Mason’s Degree. Brethren were asked to fall in as they were able to in proper form, with their right hand resting on the shoulder of the brother in front of them and join him in the re-obligation, which was administered by Most Worshipful Grand Custodian Scott Krieger.

M.:W.: Krieger administered the obligation to R.:W.: Rix. The Grand Master thanked the Brethren for their participation.



Grand Master Maxell appointed M.:W.: Dean Skokan as Parliamentarian for the 159th Annual Communication.



R.:W.: Grand Secretary Reginald S. Kuhn brought the report of the Committee on Business and Rules, and then moved for its adoption.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND RULES

Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19

The business of an Annual Communication shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Part I of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska, as amended. The order of business shall be as shown in the printed program for the Communication, or as may be revised by the Grand Master to expedite the business and procedure of the Grand Lodge. The committee further recommends:

1. The Grand Master shall appoint a brother to serve as Parliamentarian of the Annual Communication. The Parliamentarian need not be a member of the Jurisprudence Committee. It shall be the duty of the Parliamentarian to advise and consult the Grand Master regarding procedures.
2. Committee Reports shall be given by the Chairman or designated member from the East unless otherwise directed by the Grand Master.

3. Amendments which have been brought to the floor for ballot: One of the signers of an amendment shall state the position of the signers prior to the ballot.
4. Officers speaking on any motion, resolution, committee report or other matter may speak from the East. Members of the Grand Lodge may then speak from the main floor at a microphone near the altar or as directed by the officer presiding. Time permitting, other brothers may speak to the issue. Prior to speaking, each brother shall be recognized by the officer presiding and shall state his name and lodge before addressing the Grand Lodge.
5. No brother shall speak more than twice on any motion, resolution, committee report or other matter unless special permission is granted by the officer presiding. Members shall be recognized to speak in the order they rise unless the officer presiding shall otherwise direct. If more than one brother rises at approximately the same time, the officer presiding shall direct the order of speaking.
6. Time limits on speaking shall not be imposed unless the officer presiding shall announce time limits in order to expedite the business of the Annual Communication. Upon announcement, the officer presiding shall enforce the stated limits.
7. When the Grand Lodge is passing upon the decision and formal recommendations of the Grand Master, the Grand Master shall first announce his position. The Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee will announce the position of the committee. Discussion will then be permitted with the Grand Master permitted to speak. Members of the Grand Lodge shall then be permitted to speak to the issue. Time permitting, other brothers may speak after which a vote will be taken.
8. When the voting method is not prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws, it shall be by the usual sign of a Mason while voting. The Grand Master, or other officer presiding, may prescribe voting by secret ballot or other method at his discretion.
9. Questions of procedure not provided for in the Constitution, Bylaws, or these rules, shall be determined by the Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary moved for adoption, and the motion was seconded and passed.



M.:W.: Maxell asked all Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to retire with the Grand Marshal to form a procession to be received by the Grand Lodge.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

John E. Lorenzen, Chairman

W.:B.: Jack Lorenzen referred the brethren to the Report of the Finance Committee and the proposed budget for 2016 in the Annual Communication book, and announced that the Finance Committee met in 2015 to conduct its assigned duties as prescribed in Section 1-318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. The committee found all records to be in order, and he was pleased to report that it was not necessary to utilize any of the investment funds in order to meet the budget. He recognized the staff and officers of the Grand Lodge for doing a diligent job of properly and wisely utilizing the assets of the Grand Lodge. He indicated that the books were independently audited by a certified public accountant. The Finance Committee found satisfactory documentation for expenditures within the books and records of the Grand Lodge Office and was able to conduct its work in a complete and timely manner.

RECEPTION OF THE PAST GRAND MASTERS

M.: W.: Maxell raised the lodge and asked the Deputy Grand Master to cover to allow him to greet the Past Grand Masters as they were brought to the East.

Don E. Rasmussen	1998
Dwight E. Smith	1999
James F. Brown, Jr.....	2000
Philip A. Lorenzen.....	2001
Michael E. Jones	2002
Ivan A. Vrtiska.....	2005
Scott J. Krieger, Sr.....	2006
Dean Skokan.....	2007
Reginald S. Kuhn.....	2008
Russell G. Reno	2009
John T. Parsons.....	2010
Bruce A. Baker	2011
Rex J. Moats	2012
Thomas L. Hauder	2013
Joe D. McBride.....	2014

M.: W.: Maxell returned to the podium and led the grand honors.



M.: W.: Maxell asked all officers and distinguished guests of Nebraska appendant bodies, to retire with the Grand Marshal to form in procession to be received by the Grand Lodge.

REPORT OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Gene F. Wehrbein, Chairman

The Youth Committee’s focus is embodied in their name and its members are committed to nurture and support our Masonic youth in their organizations through our various activities.

This year the Youth Committee received eight scholarship applications from all three Youth Organizations, which allowed us to give all four \$1,000.00 scholarships. The following received scholarships: Jane Louise Hardin - Job’s, Ariel Lee Moats - Rainbow, Keegan Dean Miller - DeMolay and Sarah Ann Leeper - Grand Master’s Scholarship. The Committee felt that all the applicants were very well qualified. It is important that we continue to spread the word to our youth that these monies are available to them and encourage them to apply.

The 6th Tri-Annual Masonic Youth Leadership Conference will be held in Kearney, Nebraska on September 23-24, 2017 at the Holiday Inn. Plans are being finalized on the program and speakers. We thank everyone for their support in allowing us to put on this Conference. Those who have attended (adults and youth) have said it has been outstanding. Please help us spread the word about the upcoming Conference and encourage our young people to attend.

The Silent Auction was again held in conjunction with Grand Lodge and over \$2900.00 was raised. This was divided among the three Youth Groups – DeMolay, Job’s, and Rainbow. The Youth Groups are very appreciative to receive this money. Thank you to everyone who supported this project.

Our sincere thanks to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for their continued commitment and support to our Nebraska youth. It is with gratitude that we thank everyone who so faithfully supports our youth organizations, our young people and adult sponsors through your generous monetary donations, your time and your talents.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene F. Wehrbein, Chairman, 6
Tim Birdsall, 210
Bruce J. Bugbee, 65
James A. Carlton, 325
Greg E. Mason, 297
Dennis L. Smith, 15
Ex-Officio: State Master Councilor, DeMolay
Grand Bethel Honored Queen, Job’s
Miss Nebraska Job’s Daughters, Job’s
Grand Worthy Advisor, Rainbow

W.:B.: Wehrbein referenced the location of the report. He mentioned the Silent Auction that is being held in conjunction with the 2016 Annual Communication, encouraged everyone to bid generously and thanked those who donated items to the auction. The money is to be divided among the three Nebraska Youth Groups – DeMolay, Job’s and Rainbow.

Brother Wehrbein asked everyone to add September 23 & 24, 2017 to their calendar for the 6th Triennial Masonic Youth leadership Conference to be held in Kearney. He thanked Grand Lodge for their support and stated that without the support of the brothers, the conference could not happen.

The committee members were mentioned by name and thanked for their assistance and support.

Brother Wehrbein then moved for the adoption of the report of the Youth Committee as printed. The motion was seconded and carried.



Grand Master Maxell asked Most Worshipful Brother Tommie Blan, Grand Master, to bring greetings on behalf of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

**INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS FROM NEBRASKA YORK RITE,
SCOTTISH RITE AND SHRINE**

M.:W.: Maxell asked the Deputy Grand Master to cover to allow him to greet the visitors as they were brought to the East.

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of Nebraska, Southern Jurisdiction
Charles V. Sederstrom Sovereign Grand Inspector General
Bruce Wood..... General Secretary, Valley of Lincoln

York Rite Sovereign College of North America

Robert L. Williams Grand Governor in Nebraska

Grand York Rite of Nebraska

Donald E. Rife Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; and
Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Council, Cryptic Masons
Steven R. Barchus..... Grand Master, Grand Council, Cryptic Masons
Edward Nolte..... Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Nebraska

Charles Marchand, Jr. Potentate, Tangier Shrine
Ron Nielsen Potentate, Tehama Shrine
Keith Plummer..... Potentate, Sesostris Shrine

National Sojourners, Inc.

Edward Nolte National 2nd Vice President
Carl Diamond National Assistant Chief of Staff, Heroes of '76
Charles A. Folsom Past National President/Past National Commander, Heroes of '76
Ronald D. Stites..... Regional Representative for Iowa & Nebraska

All other officers of the appendant bodies were asked to stand and be recognized following their individual leaders.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Maxell announced the appointment of the Deputy Grand Custodians as tellers for this session, with W.:B.: Ron Grass as Chairman.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.:B.: Maxell asked M.:W.:B.: Dwight Smith to come forward to give the preliminary report of the Jurisprudence Committee. M.:W.: Smith read the report:

The Jurisprudence Committee met on Thursday, February 4, 2016 in its annual meeting with four members present and all of the Grand Lodge Officers. A motion was made, seconded and adopted that Grand Master Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were approved as to form and may be submitted to be balloted upon at this annual session. With regard to the member Resolution, the committee determined, by a motion made, seconded and adopted, that Resolution No. 1 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this annual session. The final report will be presented on Saturday morning.

Respectfully submitted,
Dwight Smith, 205, Chairman
Steven Mattoon, 75
John M. McHenry, 19
Les Seiler, 317 & 331
Dean Skokan, 15

M.:W.: Smith asked that the actions of the Jurisprudence Committee be approved subject to the report to be given on Saturday, February 6. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

Recommendation No. 1

Amend the third paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** and amend **Section 2-606 – FEES, MINIMUM RETURN** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS -

Third paragraph:

Each Lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge on or before the 10th day of April for each initiation during the preceding calendar year an initiation fee in the sum of ~~Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00)~~ ***Sixty Dollars (\$60.00)***.

Sec. 2-606 – FEES, MINIMUM RETURN – The minimum fees of the three degrees shall be ~~*Eight-five* Forty~~ Dollars divided as follows: ~~*\$65.00* \$20.00~~ for the degree of an Entered Apprentice Mason, \$10.00 for the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason and \$10.00 for the degree of Master Mason;...

M.:W.:B.: John Maxell asked Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of Grand Master’s Recommendation. R.:W.:B.: Rix gave the general instructions, announcing to the delegates that they would attempt to ballot upon the recommendations by a show of hands. If the results were inconclusive, a written ballot would be taken.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Maxell moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1 was seconded. No discussion was held on the matter. R.:W.:B.: Rix called for the question and the recommendation was voted on by a show of hands. Recommendation No. 1 failed to receive the required two-thirds vote.

Grand Master Maxell returned to the East.



Grand Master Maxell then asked Chuck Sederstrom, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of Nebraska, Southern Jurisdiction, to bring greetings on behalf of the Nebraska appendant bodies.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

M.:W.:B.: John Maxell asked Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of Grand Master’s Recommendation.

Recommendation No. 2

Amend the first sentence of the fifth paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Fifth paragraph:

If the amount due the Grand Lodge is not received by April 10, the Grand Lodge Office Committee shall add as a penalty ~~One Cent (\$.01)~~ **Ten Cents (\$.10)** per day for each member on the rolls as shown in the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to all lodges that neglect to send in their returns complete to the Grand Lodge as provided by Section 2-310, and pay their dues and assessments to the Grand Lodge.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.: W.: B.: Maxell moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 2. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 2 was seconded. No discussion was held on the matter. R.: W.: B.: Rix called for the question and the recommendation was voted on by a show of hands. Recommendation No. 2 passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

Grand Master Maxell returned to the East.



Most Worshipful Maxell asked Past Grand Master Gale Kenney to approach the East to bring greetings on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

Philip A. Lorenzen, Chairman

Most Worshipful Phil Lorenzen made the following comments regarding the report:

“The report of the Committee on Nebraska Work appears on page 44 of the Annual Communication book. Just to comment, Steve Green and Roger Deininger, the members of the committee, and I are just delighted with the performance of the ritual teams and the emphasis on that. That is so important to delivery in this Fraternity, so thank you for doing that. Just an update too, we are working on corrections to the cipher for the errors that are in the book.

The printed report is as follows:

It bears repeating that the yet unchanging charge of the Committee on Nebraska Work involves support of the Grand Master and current Grand Lodge Officers including direct assistance to the Grand Custodian in his efforts of oversight to see that the ritual is precise, well presented, and that it does not fall victim to unwarranted change just for the sake of change or with a goal of streamlining the work to make it easier to join and advance with little effort.

While we all know vividly that Freemasonry is not a substitute for one's obligations to religion, Freemasonry can be a strong partner of religion and each Mason's church affiliation. Every Mason at his initiation into the fraternity professes a belief in God and the fact that he, as a new initiate, places his trust in God. Yet too often some of us seem to drift away from that important professing of our belief in and trust of God. As we as a nation and other nations seem to focus on political correctness, we as Freemasons, I am not speaking on behalf of the Committee, but as a personal posture, believe that while we make it a key point to not to discuss religious differences or political differences in our lodges, we appear to have perhaps written the book on being tolerant of others and respectful of one another's opinions. Masonic membership and our obligations, it might logically follow, place Freemasons in a position to share that understanding with those around us by example and by our communications with those we refer to as the profane.

A quick glance at the changing moral posture of so many persons today and a seeming unwillingness to accept responsibility and searching to find the easiest path in

life—which is not necessarily the best path for society, may well be in fact a call to Freemasons to step-up more than ever to provide a positive influence on our neighbor, our community, our country and the World. The content and message of Masonic ritual is in fact timeless. We may have created electronic devices which work miracles, but the basis of each person’s heart and soul; and his concern and love for his brother remains unchanged – we cannot improve on God’s creation – but we are each aided by Masonry to follow the will of the Great Architect of the Universe in the manner in which we conduct our lives.

Visiting and witnessing ritual in many of Nebraska’s subordinate lodges finds that the ritual in too great a number of lodges would seem to benefit from encouragement from the Grand Lodge as to stepping up to a new level of proficiency. THE GREAT NEWS IS THAT OF RENEWED INTEREST AND CHAMPIONING OF QUALITY RITUAL. Current emphasis on the ritual through the two recent programs of (1) ritual competition and (2) the emphasis and encouragement of more Nebraska Masons becoming proficient by a formalized and well- managed study program. Congratulations to the Grand Lodge Officers for creating and continuing those programs and congratulations to all who are participating. Not only does success feel good, but enables one to continue to better understand the deep meaning of our ritual.

Quality of work is a matter of pride – if your lodge does not feel comfortable in the ritual, there are many brothers in other lodges who are willing to help, not in a condescending manner but quietly and graciously. The Grand Custodian and Deputy Grand Custodians are always ready to suggest names of others in your area to help in the ritual. Your Committee appreciates the efforts of the Grand Custodian and his Deputies, and of officers and members of subordinate lodges willing to take the time to learn the ritual, including lectures; and to deliver them with feeling and understanding, enabling the new candidate to better appreciate the beauty and profound content of the Masonic degrees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Philip A. Lorenzen, 10, 327, 1, 21 & 331, Chairman
Roger A. Deininger, 317 & 331
Steven A. Green, 54

M.:W.:B.: Phil Lorenzen moved for the adoption of the printed report. With no discussion, the motion was seconded and carried.

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Michael E. Jones, President

Most Worshipful Mike Jones made the following comments regarding the report:

“Most Worshipful, Distinguished East, Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren all, the report for the Nebraska Masonic Foundation is found on page 47. It has been a stellar year for the Masonic Foundation with the introduction of our new and remodeled and now functional library and museum. We invite you to come and visit at your leisure. The Nebraska Masonic Heritage Committee has been very busy and they continue to have efforts to finalize all of our policies and procedures for the use of the artifacts and the contents of the library. You’ll see in your packet, here comes the appeal, if you’ll look in your packet, you’re going to find a description of a way you can support the Nebraska Masonic Foundation Museum and Library project at different levels. All those that are directors of the Foundation, please stand. They’ll be glad to help you if you’ve

lost this document; please find a way to support it. The minimum entry level is \$20. I think you can afford that and we encourage all of you to do so. We have some interesting artifacts in that museum. I'm not going to tell you what they are, but some go back thousands of years BC. So please come and visit, support it financially and we appreciate it."

The printed report is as follows:

This past year found the Nebraska Masonic Foundation concentrating efforts to advance the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library. Early in the year meetings were held to outline and formalize a financial support system specifically for the museum and library. The final plan is illustrated by the levels of donations and subsequent privilege associated with each level. The levels created are shown at the end of this report.

We are now asking for positive responses to this fund raising effort. Some initial conversations have been conducted with potential major donors. It is important to note that all contributions are tax deductible.

On Saturday, September 5, 2015, the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library was re-dedicated. We were very pleased with the attendance. Visitors toured the facility, examined the displays, including a unique exhibit featuring Prince Hall Masonry, and conversed with the docents, officers and other Masonic officials. In addition to the formal ribbon cutting, we hosted a reporter from the Lincoln Journal Star. Great press coverage also followed as the Omaha World Herald presented an extensive article regarding the George Lininger collection.

The Masonic Heritage Committee, composed of Chairman Chris Carter, Devin Charles, Micah Evans, Carl Diamond, Christopher Nigro, and Michala Bader have been diligently developing policies and procedures which will govern the access to and use of the resources of museum and library. It needs to be emphasized how much thought, research and detail the Heritage Committee put into crafting the final version. I invite all brothers to applaud their efforts and personally thank them when presented the opportunity.

A second component of the fund raising is for the general operation and advancement of the Foundation. This effort is still in development and is intended to evaluate opportunities that lead to positive outcomes for all components of our Masonic family. The challenge presented is "Can an approach be developed that reduces the competition for funds within our various Masonic organizations and yet offer benefits to all?" This will remain a topic for the upcoming year.

Overall, there was more activity in the Nebraska Masonic Foundation this past year. It appears we have successfully begun to achieve the goals of increased use and visibility of the museum and library and expanding the museum and library as set forth at the 2015 annual meeting.

Now that the museum and library project has been realized, we need to press harder in fund raising. Today, I invite each of you to participate with your gift to either the museum and library project or to the general fund. Have a conversation with any of the Foundation officers or board members.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael E. Jones, PGM
President

Museum & Research Library Donor Levels

DONOR

Donor - \$20 (Donors will receive the Museum & Library commemorative coin)

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS

Friend - \$25 per year

Partner - \$50 per year (Partners will be listed on a diagram in the museum designating a 6-inch square of floor space in their name)

Contributors of the following Friends of the Museum levels receive a certificate, commemorative coin, mention in the Nebraska Mason and discounts on future merchandise:

Fellow - \$100 to \$499 per year

Patron - \$500 to \$999 per year

NAMING RIGHTS/SPONSORSHIPS

Contributors of the following sponsorship levels also receive a certificate, commemorative coin, mention in the Nebraska Mason and discounts on future merchandise, as well as the naming rights listed below:

Sponsor - \$1,000 to \$2,499 (Naming rights for a display or book shelf for a ten-year period)

Benefactor - \$2,500 to \$4,999 (Permanent naming rights for a book case)

Master - \$5,000+ (Permanent naming rights for a display case)

Archive Room Naming Rights - \$50,000 (Permanent naming rights for the archive room)

Museum & Library Naming Rights - \$250,000 (Permanent naming rights for the Museum & Library)

COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION INCLUDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

REPORT OF THE MASONIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE

A committee of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation

Christopher M. Carter, Chairman

The Masonic Heritage Committee had a busy year as we continued our focus on building infrastructure to establish a nationally accredited museum and research library. In preparation for the grand opening of the Masonic Museum and Research Library, we completed the general clean-up of the space by shelving all of the books, placing shelving in the artifact room, and preparing an exhibit to celebrate the 25th anniversary of “full and unconditional recognition” of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

The Masonic Heritage Committee joined the Mountain Plains Museum Association, as well as the Masonic Library & Museums Association. Through the help of Sally Sinor, former director of the Louisiana Masonic Library & Museum, policies and procedures for the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library will be submitted to the Nebraska Foundation board for their review and approval.

Future exhibits are in the planning stages and include: a possible partnership with Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supplies to display original correspondence between

Albert Pike and Robert Macoy; and an exhibit on American Indian ritual and its Masonic similarities.

The committee had a busy year and we have much to do as we move forward into the future. A dedicated website, an online digitized library and on-going fundraising campaigns are all “in process” as we prepare for the future.

The committee would like to thank the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Nebraska, the Nebraska Masons, Sally Sinor, and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln for their continued support and assistance throughout 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher M. Carter, Chairman, 268 & 281
Devin D. Charles, 201
Carl J. Diamond, 326 & 334
Micah I. Evans, 281, 268 & 333
David N. Silver, 11
Michala Stricklin, Ad Hoc

REPORT OF THE MASONIC VETERANS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
A committee of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation
Anthony T. “A.J.” Johnson, Chairman

On behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge I would like again this year to thank all of the Brothers from the Lodges, the youth groups and especially the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star for their most generous contribution to the Masonic Veteran’s Partnership (MVP).

As our second full year as the MVP, we made significant progress in purchasing another van in a total collection that ended with the MVP account totaling \$10,622, falling just short of what we require to assist in purchasing another vehicle for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in Nebraska. The program is 501(c)3 qualified, operating as part of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation and I highly encourage your donations in the upcoming year as there are two other programs we can support besides purchasing a vehicle that can help homeless Veterans and provide them an opportunity to get back on their feet.

We started the first part of 2015 with a little over \$6200 and added approximately \$4400 to that and, as chairman, I greatly appreciate your generosity. Although there was at least one article in the Nebraska Mason and the Grand Lodge Officers were talking the program up throughout the year, we probably need to advertise this program beyond Masons and into the general public.

I am looking forward to making our vehicle purchase goal in 2016 for the DAV with additional money to provide to the other two Veterans programs for the homeless Veterans that come through the VA hospital in Omaha and clinics in Lincoln and Grand Island.

Lastly, I would again like to thank my fellow committee members. With this I conclude my report for the Masonic Veteran's Partnership Program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anthony Johnson, Chairman, 268, 334 & 464IL
John E. Lorenzen, 10, 314 & 331
William H. Nelson, 256
John T. Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 331 & 284PA
Gary S. Unger, 112



Grand Master Maxell announced that the afternoon workshops would be held following lunch in the lodge room and would feature the Fellow Craft Degree being performed by Lancaster Lodge No. 54, the winning lodge of the Ritual Competition held in 2015. Following the ritual, R.:W.: Rick Myers presented a workshop on estate planning for the Masonic Family.

Other announcements were also made regarding the various afternoon meetings, vendors present, and instructions for evening banquets, silent auction, and hospitality areas.



The Grand Lodge was called from Labor to Refreshment, to reconvene Saturday, February 6, 2016 at 8:30 am.

2016 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Fifty-ninth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

Most Worshipful John T. Maxell
Grand Master

Membership Banquet
Friday, February 5, 2016
7:00 p.m.

After dinner, Grand Master Maxell asked all Bronze Jordan Medal holders and 50-plus year members to stand and be recognized for their years of service to the fraternity.

MASONIC CHARITIES GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS

M.:W.:B.: Maxell invited Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Mary Vrbka, Executive Director of The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, and Most Worshipful Mike Jones, President of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation, to come forward to receive checks representing the proceeds of the 14th Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. Each was presented a check in the amount of \$3,428.58. A total of \$10,285.75 was raised at the Grand Master's Masonic Charities Golf Tournament.

HUMANITARIAN AWARD PRESENTATION

Most Worshipful John Maxell presented the Grand Master's Humanitarian Award to Brother David Portwood of Geneva Lodge No. 79.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Grand Master Maxell presented Masonic Achievement Awards to Delmar Jones of Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 in Kearney and Russell Hobson of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of

Nebraska, and a Non-Mason Achievement Award to Betty Garwood of the Rainbow for Girls.



Most Worshipful John Maxell then introduced the featured entertainer for the evening, Jolly Demis.



Following the entertainment, Grand Master John Maxell and Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix each received a pie in the face from the winner of the fundraiser held to support Miss International Job's Daughter Sarah Leeper's travel fund.



The Silent Auction was closed twenty minutes following the banquet.

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One Hundred Fifty-ninth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

Most Worshipful John T. Maxell
Grand Master

Morning Session
Saturday, February 6, 2016

R.:W.: Dennis Rix, Deputy Grand Master, called the 159th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska from Refreshment to Labor at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 6, 2016.

V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Kevin R. Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Grand Architect of the Universe, help us to see that life is good, that whatever the last moment was, the present moment is new. Make us aware that by Your mercy You first clear away the rubble of our lives so that we can proceed with the labors of our Craft unhindered by that which can cause us to stumble and fall on our commitment. We ask Your blessing upon this meeting and give You thanks for the principles of Freemasonry which bind us brother to brother in fellowship, brotherly love and service. We ask that You provide safety for all the military personnel wherever deployed the world over. In Your Name we pray, Amen.”



Most Worshipful Grand Master Maxell announced the appointment of the Deputy Grand Custodians as tellers for this session, with W.:B.: Ron Grass as Chairman.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

M.:W.:B.: John Maxell asked Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of Grand Master's Recommendation.

Recommendation No. 3

Amend **Section 2-406 – MEMBERS OF EXTINGUISHED SUBORDINATE LODGES** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-406 – MEMBERS OF EXTINGUISHED SUBORDINATE LODGES – A brother who was a member in good standing of a subordinate lodge at the time such lodge became extinct, ~~and remains unaffiliated, shall, for one year after such lodge ceases to exist,~~ shall remain in good standing *and automatically become a member of the existing lodge geographically closest to the lodge that became extinct*, and shall have the same rights and privileges as members of a regular lodge, including the rights of membership, affiliation, visiting, avouchment, relief, demission, appeal, trial, and burial. But should he fail to pay his dues as provided by Section 2-601, ~~and affiliate within such year, and to pay dues as required by the lodge to which he has become a member by the provisions hereof, such brother is subject to suspension as otherwise provided in these bylaws. he shall be notified by letter sent to his last known address by the Grand Lodge Office at least thirty days before the next ensuing Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause to the Grievances Committee, if any he may have, why he has not paid his dues and affiliated with a recognized lodge of Masons.~~

~~When any such member shall refuse or neglect to answer a notice to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues and affiliating as above provided, his delinquency may be communicated to the Grand Lodge at any subsequent Annual Communication thereof, which facts, together with the Grand Lodge records showing his indebtedness, or his failure to affiliate, shall be deemed ample proof of the delinquency. If the brother be present, he shall be entitled to make such plea as he may deem proper, after which he shall retire, and upon such evidence and any other evidence which is submitted and received, a vote may be taken upon a motion to suspend the delinquent member indefinitely or to reinstate under such terms and conditions as the Grand Lodge may there direct.~~

Amend the seventh paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** – by deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the deleted language stricken:

Seventh paragraph:

All settlements shall be made in accordance with the account of the Grand Lodge Office Committee, which shall base the same upon the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge. ~~Unaffiliated brethren formerly belonging to lodges now extinct shall affiliate with a recognized lodge of Masons within one year of the date their lodge became extinct, and if no affiliation is received by the Grand Lodge, said brethren shall be considered suspended for non-payment of dues.~~

Amend **Section 2-1302 – CERTIFICATE REQUIRED** – by deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-1302 – CERTIFICATE REQUIRED – A subordinate lodge cannot consider a petition for affiliation unless accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing, as hereinafter provided, or demit or its equivalent, ~~provided that when the petitioner has lost his demit or Certificate of Good Standing which has been issued him from a lodge which has become extinct, he may make application to the Grand Secretary and upon proper showing receive from him a duplicate demit which certificate shall accompany the petition for affiliation.~~ A petitioner who presents with his petition a Certificate of Good Standing from a subordinate lodge of this jurisdiction or one authorized by law of another Grand Jurisdiction shall not become a member of the lodge petitioned until he is elected and his demit or its equivalent has been obtained by said lodge.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Maxell moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 3. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 3 was seconded.

R.:W.:B.: Rix gave the general instructions, announcing to the delegates that they would attempt to ballot upon the recommendations by a show of hands. If the results were inconclusive, a written ballot would be taken.

After discussion was held on the matter, R.:W.:B.: Rix called for the question and the recommendation was voted on by a show of hands. Recommendation No. 3 passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

Recommendation No. 4

Amend **Section 2-604 – DUES CARDS – HOW PREPARED** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-604 – DUES CARDS – HOW PREPARED – There shall be two forms of receipt for dues adopted in this Grand Jurisdiction, including one for members with less than 50 years of good standing as a Master Mason, and one for members with 50 or more years of good standing as a Master Mason. The receipts for dues, adopted for use in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall contain all the information contained in the forms of receipt found in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 2014, 2016, printed on cards of convenient size to fit in the ordinary card case. Said receipts shall be computer generated in the office of the Grand Lodge and furnished to each subordinate lodge without charge to the lodge.

If Recommendation No. 4 passes, the dues cards will be updated in the following manner, adding a different card design for those with 50 or more years of good standing as a Master Mason, and this text will be inserted into the Proceedings for 2016:

The text contained in the following forms of receipts for dues is adopted for the use of all subordinate lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, and the use of any other form after January 1, 2016, is prohibited; all receipts for dues must be procured through the office of the Grand Secretary.

For members with less than 50 years of good time as a Master Mason:

(face text)

Nebraska	Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Master	It is hereby certified that Brother
Mason	(Member #) _____
	Whose signature appears below, is a Master Mason In
	_____ Lodge No. _____
	A.:F.: & A.:M.: Located at _____,
	Nebraska.
	and has paid dues to December 31, 20 _____
	Date _____, 20 _____
	_____ Signature of Brother to Whom Issued

(back text)

<p>This is to certify, under the facsimile of the signature of the Grand Secretary and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, A.:F.: & A.:M.:, that:</p>	
<p>The lodge to which this receipt was issued is a lawful lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, working under and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, the facsimile of whose seal appears hereon. This form is the only legal receipt for dues that can be issued in the Grand Jurisdiction of Nebraska, and is not valid unless it bears the signature on the front of the brother to whom it is issued.</p>	
<p>_____ Grand Secretary</p>	

For members with 50 or more years of good time as a Master Mason:

(face text)

Nebraska	Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
50+ Year	It is hereby certified that Brother
Master	(Member #) _____
Mason	Whose signature appears below, is a Master Mason In
	_____ Lodge No. _____
	A.:F.: & A.:M.: Located at _____,
	Nebraska.
	and has paid dues to December 31, 20 _____
	Date _____, 20 _____
	_____ Signature of Brother to Whom Issued

(back text)

This is to certify, under the facsimile of the signature of the Grand Secretary and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, A.:F.: & A.:M.:, that:

The lodge to which this receipt was issued is a lawful lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, working under and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, the facsimile of whose seal appears hereon. This form is the only legal receipt for dues that can be issued in the Grand Jurisdiction of Nebraska, and is not valid unless it bears the signature on the front of the brother to whom it is issued.



Grand Secretary

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Maxell moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 4. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 4 was seconded.

After discussion was held on the matter, R.:W.:B.: Rix called for the question and the recommendation was voted on by a show of hands. Recommendation No. 4 passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

Recommendation No. 5

Amend the first, second, and third paragraphs of **Section 1-202 – GRAND CUSTODIAN** – by deleting certain language so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 1-202 – GRAND CUSTODIAN – The Grand Custodian shall attend all communications of the Grand Lodge, and under the direction and control of the Grand Master shall have the entire charge and supervision of the work, lectures, and ritual of this jurisdiction, and it is made his duty to enforce the thorough teaching and practice of said work, ritual and lectures, and immediately to report to the Grand Master any violation of this requirement and if it shall come to his knowledge that any subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction shall ignore, refuse, or fail to practice, in every respect, such uniform and established work as taught by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same to the Grand Master, who may arrest the charter of said subordinate lodge, and shall hold the same until such time as it shall comply with the requirements of the Grand Master aforesaid, or until the next communication of the Grand Lodge. The work of the Grand Custodian in conducting schools of instruction or otherwise shall not be interrupted ~~by calls upon him for Masonic funerals or other meetings or work,~~ except under urgent circumstances which, in the opinion of the Grand Master, shall be sufficient to justify such interruption. He shall make a full and detailed report to the Grand Lodge of his official visits and acts and shall receive as compensation for his services such salary as set by the Grand Lodge, payable monthly, together with all necessary expenses in and about such work.

The Grand Master, may appoint ~~not more than 40~~ Deputy Grand Custodians to assist the Grand Custodian in supervising the work, lectures, and ritual, and who shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master, ~~receiving the sum of fifteen dollars per day while conducting Schools of Instruction, which shall be paid by warrants drawn in the regular manner.~~ Any Deputy Grand Custodian *or Apprentice* who is absent from the annual Custodian school for three consecutive years will automatically lose his commission at the close of the third consecutive school, unless good cause can be shown to the Grand Master.

The Grand Master may, at his discretion, name as Deputy Grand Custodian Emeriti such number, ~~not exceeding three in one year,~~ of brethren as he may deem proper who have served as Deputy Grand Custodians, in this Grand Lodge.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Maxell moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 5. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 5 was seconded.

After discussion was held on the matter, R.:W.:B.: Rix called for the question and the recommendation was voted on by a show of hands. Recommendation No. 5 passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

Grand Master returned to the East.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – OPENING OF BALLOT

Grand Master Maxell directed the delegates to cast their ballots for the election of the offices of Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master-Elect, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, and Grand Secretary, stating the voting delegates must choose only one of the voting options. Delegates may either write in a name on the line provided on each ballot, or use the check box at the top of the ballot to advance the officers. If both methods were filled in, the ballot would be declared spoiled. He directed that the ballots be deposited in the locked ballot box in the back of the room and the ballot would remain open for approximately one hour. After that time, the ballot would be declared closed and the Tellers instructed to count the votes received for each office, to be reported later in the day.



Most Worshipful Maxell asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort Deputy Grand Master Lewis Smith of the Grand Lodge of Montana to the podium to bring greetings.

FINAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

John E. Lorenzen, Chairman

The 2015 Committee on Finance met during the past year to conduct its assigned duties as proscribed in Section 1–318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Following the close of each calendar year, the books and records of the Grand Lodge are audited by an independent certified public accountant.

Actual revenue and expenses, compared to budgeted, for 2014 are as follows:

	Actual	Budgeted
Revenue	547,179	533,742
Expenses	512,570	576,214
Net Difference	34,609	(42472)

After other activities affecting cash flow, such as cash on hand on January 1, prepaid Annual Communication and Annual Returns, prepaid expenses, and purchases of inventory assets, \$52472 in cash was on hand in the general fund on December 31, 2015, and an investment draw for operating expenses was not necessary. The results of the fiscal year show that the Grand Lodge Officers and staff have been good stewards of the funds of the Grand Lodge operating budget during 2015. An investment draw was not necessary in part due to most Grand Lodge Officers not claiming expense reimbursements for travel; incidental expenses for Annual Communication being held under budget; and the office staff keeping budget items for operating expenses, equipment, printing, supplies, computer and general expenses under budget.

The Committee on Finance found satisfactory documentation for expenditures within the books and records of the Grand Lodge Office and was able to conduct its work in a complete and timely manner.

Respectfully submitted,
 John E. Lorenzen, 10 & 314, Chairman
 Michael A. Buchardt, 52 & 256
 Jack G. Frahm, 204
 Joel L. Jelkin, 15
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19 & 317
 Rick E. Nelson, 317
 Steven S. Nichols, 102
 Charles V. Sederstrom, III, 290, 333

Account	2016 Budget
Lodge Income	
4100.000 Membership Dues	263146.00
4100.000 Membership Dues - from Perp	9000.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home	10121.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home - from Perp	381.50
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home	25302.50
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home - from Perp	1648.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington	15181.50
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington - from Perp	402.50
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason	5060.50
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason - from Perp	267.50
4175.000 GL Admin Fee - from Perp	1400.00
4200.000 Initiation Fees	4500.00
4210.000 Reinstatement Fees	1000.00

4640.000 CHIP Assessment	16308.00
4670.000 Youth Assessment	16308.00
4300.000 Surety Bond Premium	2061.00
4350.000 Liability Ins Premium	26656.00
Subtotal - Lodge Income	\$398744.00
Sales Income	
4400.000 Donations for Supplies	9000.00
4620.400 Sale of GM Banquet Tickets	4375.00
4620.600 Sale of Memb. Banquet Tickets	11375.00
4625.400 Sale of PGM Ladies Lunch	315.00
4625.500 Sale of Secretaries Luncheon Tickets	1000.00
4625.600 Sale of Men's Luncheon Tickets	3200.00
4625.700 Sale of Ladies Luncheon Tickets	2100.00
4625.800 Sale of Veteran FM Luncheon Tickets	300.00
4631.400 Sales of Men's Sat. Ed. Breakfast Tickets	2400.00
4632.400 Sales of Ladies Saturday Brunch Tickets	0.00
4633.400 Sale of Red Cross Breakfast Tickets	480.00
4634.400 Sale of Installation Banquet Tickets	2250.00
4633.500 AC Registration Fee	3000.00
4875.000 Miscellaneous Income	1500.00
4910.000 Interest - General Fund	300.00
Subtotal-Sales Income	\$41,595.00
Program Income	
4450.725 Band Clinic Registration	68750.00
4460.725 Band Clinic Supplies	5000.00
4900.000 GL Education Programs	0.00
4465.000 GM Program Income	0.00
Subtotal-Program Income	\$73,750.00
Participatory Income	
4500.000 SR Feasibility Study Reimb Loan Pmt	3911.31
4600.000 Rental Income	3600.00
4650.000 NE Masonic Home-Admin	5000.00
4641.000 CHIP Foundation Admin Fee	14100.00
4655.000 NE Masonic Home-Paper	5000.00
4660.000 OES & Fremont -Paper	5000.00
Subtotal-Participatory Income	\$36,611.31
TOTAL REVENUE	\$550,700.31
Annual Communication	

5104.400 Guest Room Rental	1500.00
5110.400 Grand Master's Banquet	7482.50
5111.400 Entertainment - Grand Master's Banquet	600.00
5130.400 Membership Banquet	9124.50
5131.400 Entertainment - Membership Banquet	3000.00
5150.400 Ladies Program	300.00
5170.400 Misc Incidental Expense	6000.00
5172.400 Grand Lodge Officer Breakfast	0.00
5174.400 Mens' Lunch	3126.40
5175.400 Ladies Lunch	2019.00
5175.410 Platinum FM Lunch	293.10
5176.400 PGM Ladies Lunch	311.70
5177.400 Secretaries Lunch	977.00
5178.400 Men's Saturday Education Breakfast	2254.50
5179.400 Ladies Saturday Brunch	0.00
5180.400 Red Cross Breakfast	450.90
5181.400 Installation Reception	4312.50
5440.400 Printing & Copying - Ann. Comm.	2500.00
5120.400 Proceedings	3500.00
Subtotal-Annual Communication	\$47,752.10
Installation	
5170.425 Misc. Installation	2000.00
5220.425 Meals	1000.00
5440.425 Printing & Copying - Installation	350.00
Subtotal-Installation	\$3,350.00
Travel & Related	
5210.000 Auto Allowance	1000.00
5210.100 In-State Travel-Grand Master	5000.00
5210.150 In-State Travel-Dep Gr Master	2000.00
5210.200 In-State Travel-Gr Secretary	950.00
5210.250 In-State Travel-Gr Custodian	650.00
5210.350 In-State Travel-Other Officers	5000.00
5210.300 Auto Allow- DGC's	600.00
5220.000 Meals-GL Office Staff	150.00
5220.100 Meals-Grand Master	1000.00
5220.150 Meals-Dep Gr Master	400.00
5230.300 Motels-DGC	200.00
5235.150 Retreat-Dep Gr Master	1500.00
5240.100 Conf & Conv -Gr Master	3000.00
5240.150 Conf & Conv-Dep GM	1500.00
5240.200 Conf & Conv-Gr Secretary	1000.00
5240.350 Conf & Conv-Other Officer	3000.00

5240.500 Conference of Grand Masters/Grand Secretaries	9229.24
5240.550 Midwest Conference	7400.00
5240.600 Rocky Mountain Conference	6250.00
5240.700 Shrine Membership Seminar	1000.00
5250.300 Per Diem-DGC's	400.00
5260.300 School of Instruction	1200.00
Subtotal-Travel & Related	\$52,429.24
Occupancy & Related	
5410.000 Utilities	10700.00
5412.000 Trash Removal	300.00
5413.000 Grounds Maintenance	4000.00
5414.000 Building Maintenance	6415.00
5415.000 Telephone	5000.00
5420.000 Equipment Maintenance	8550.00
5425.000 Equipment Rental	3800.00
5430.000 Equipment Purchase	5000.00
5435.000 Postage	5500.00
5440.000 Printing & Copying	2000.00
5440.250 Printing & Copying-GC	100.00
5445.000 Office Supplies	4500.00
5450.000 Office Maintenance	1100.00
5455.000 Computer Supplies	4000.00
5460.000 Computer Repair & Maint	3000.00
5465.000 Computer Software Sup	2000.00
5470.000 Dues & Subscriptions	1000.00
5475.000 NE Mason Pub Exp	29200.00
5480.000 Bank Service Charge-Unrestricted	25.00
5481.000 Credit Card Fees	800.00
5485.000 Professional Fees - Accting Audit	5000.00
5490.000 Corporate/Legal Fees - Sect'y of State, etc.	50.00
5500.000 Lodge Supplies-Printed	5000.00
5505.000 Lodge Supplies-Other	2000.00
5505.250 Supplies Lodges-GC	200.00
5510.000 Supplies Lodges-Pins	1000.00
5515.000 Lodge Ofcrs Directory Printing	1500.00
5525.000 GL Jewels, Aprons & Collars	6825.00
Subtotal-Occupancy & Related	\$118,565.00
Insurance & Administrative	
5600.000 Workers Compensation	760.00
5605.000 Group Ins for GL Employees	18594.78
5610.000 Surety Bond	2097.00
5620.000 Directors & Officers Ins	3657.00

5625.000 Liability Insurance	33623.00
5635.000 Office Contents & Equipment	3671.00
5650.000 Other Admin Exp-General	4500.00
Subtotal-Insurance & Admin	\$66,902.78
Committees and Programs	
5650.450 Masonic Education	100.00
5240.450 Conv & Conf Education	1500.00
5650.600 Trial Commissions	500.00
5220.650 Gr Lodge Office Comm-Meals	150.00
5650.700 Public Relations Committee	1500.00
5650.710 Grand Marshal Exp - Office Expenses	100.00
5650.720 Band Camp Expenses	73750.00
5650.750 Youth Committee	2500.00
5875.750 Youth Scholarships Awards	4000.00
5650.800 Membership committee	50.00
5650.900 Awards Committee - Awards & Misc	500.00
5650.930 Lodge Facilities Matching Fund	0.00
5650.950 Lodge Leadership Committee	1500.00
5650.960 GW Memorial Committee	0.00
5650.970 All Committee Strategic Planning Exp	200.00
5650.980 Internet and Computer Committee	2500.00
5800.000 GL Education Programs	500.00
5801.000 GM Program Expense	750.00
Subtotal-Committees	\$90,100.00
Contributions	
5820.000 Masonic Service Assoc Dues/Hosp	3200.00
5830.000 Other Masonic Promotion - Cornerstones	1000.00
5835.000 Assoc of Masonic Boards of Relief	150.00
Subtotal-Contributions	\$4,350.00
Salaries & Related	
6561.000 Salary-GL Office Staff	107334.47
6560.000 Performance Incentive	2400.00
6562.100 FICA-Employer Share	8394.69
6562.200 Unemploy Tax-Fed	150.00
6562.300 Unemploy Tax-State	150.00
6560.000 Payroll Expenses-Other	150.00
6570.000 Employer's Share Sep/IRA	3220.03
6681.000 Grand Custodian Contract Amt	6000.00
6680.000 Contract Labor	1000.00
6580.000 GL Office Staff-Training	500.00
Subtotal-Salaries & Related	\$129,299.19

<i>Pass Through</i>	
5704.000 Fremont Home Dues	10502.50
5705.000 NE Masonic Home Dues	26950.50
5706.000 Geo Washington Mem Dues	15584.00
5650.100 CHIP Expense	16308.00
5810.000 NE DeMolay Donation	5436.00
5811.000 Job's Daughters Donation	5436.00
5812.000 Rainbow Donation	5436.00
Subtotal-Pass Through	\$69,345.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$582,093.31
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES (Net Loss)	(\$31,393.00)
<i>Investment Income</i>	
4700.000 Int & Div FNB (2.417% of investment balance of \$1,298,689 on 11/30/2015)	\$31,393.00
Subtotal-Investment Income	\$31,393.00
ADJ. BALANCE WITH INVEST. INCOME	\$0.00

W.:B.: Jack Lorenzen moved for the adoption of the report of the Finance Committee. With no discussion, the motion was seconded and carried favorably.

VOTING ON RESOLUTION NO. 1

Grand Master Maxell asked Deputy Grand Master Rix to cover to preside over the voting on the Resolution.

The following resolution was presented at the 158th Annual Communication in February 2015:

Resolution No. 1

This proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Nebraska, specifically, **Chapter IV, Section 2-408, Chapter VI Section 2-601 and 2-602**; is respectively offered for consideration by the Brethren and the Grand Lodge.

Paragraph 6 of Chapter IV, Section 2-408 currently reads as follows:

“Each of the lodges to which a plural member belongs, if located in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall pay to the Grand Lodge, such per capita tax, dues or contributions on such member as are now or shall hereafter be required by this Grand Lodge from its regular members.”

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

“Each of the lodges to which a plural member belongs, if located in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall pay to the Grand Lodge, such dues or contributions on such member as are now or shall hereafter be required by this Grand Lodge from its regular members. ***Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the per capita tax shall only be charged by a plural member’s parent lodge for plural members of lodges located greater than 50 miles apart in this Grand Jurisdiction. In exceptional cases, for good cause shown, the Grand Master may waive the distance requirement of 50 miles provided above.***”

Paragraph 3 of Chapter IV, Section 2-408 currently reads as follows:

“It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the lodge, upon the selection of a brother for plural membership, to promptly report the fact to the lodge in which he maintains his parent membership. The Secretary of the lodge having plural members, shall keep a record of all such members, and shall make annual report to the Grand Secretary, listing the names of all such members, together with the name of the parent lodge and Grand Jurisdiction thereof. Such plural membership...”

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

“It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the lodge, upon the selection of a brother for plural membership, to promptly report the fact to the lodge in which he maintains his parent membership. The Secretary of the lodge having plural members, shall keep a record of all such members, and shall make annual report to the Grand Secretary ***using forms provided by the Grand Lodge Office***, listing the names of all such members, together with the name of the parent lodge and Grand Jurisdiction thereof, ***together with the names of any plural members exempted from payment of per capita as provided under this section.*** Such plural membership...”

If the resolution is approved for Chapter IV, Section 2-408, then Chapter VI Section 2-601 and 2-602 must also be amended to be consistent.

Paragraph 1 of Chapter VI, Section 2-601 currently reads as follows:

Chartered subordinate lodges shall have discretionary power to assess annual dues and special assessments upon its members who are Master Masons in good standing. Such dues and assessments shall be uniform on such members. The amount of the annual dues payable to each subordinate lodge by members must be designated in the bylaws in one of two ways: (1) lodge dues plus Grand Lodge per capita and assessments, or (2) a total amount that includes lodge dues and Grand Lodge per capita and assessments. Special assessments may be made in installments.....

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

Chartered subordinate lodges shall have discretionary power to assess annual dues and special assessments upon its members who are Master Masons in good standing. Such dues and assessments shall be uniform on such members. The amount of the annual dues payable to each subordinate lodge by members must be designated in the bylaws in one of two ways: (1) lodge dues plus Grand Lodge per capita (***unless such per capita is for a plural member excluded from assessment as provided in Section 2-408***) and assessments, or (2) a total amount that includes lodge dues and Grand Lodge per capita, ***unless excluded for a plural member under Section 2-408*** and assessments. Special assessments may be made in installments.....

Second sentence of Paragraph 3 of Chapter VI, Section 2-601 currently reads as follows:

In addition, each lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of Twenty-four Dollars as a per capita tax commencing on the 1st day of January 2011.....

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

In addition, each lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of Twenty-four Dollars as a per capita tax *unless excluded for plural members as provided in Section 2-408*, commencing on the 1st day of January ~~2011~~ **2016**. *Plural members excluded from the per capita tax as provided in Section 2-408 shall be reported annually to the Grand Lodge by the Lodge Secretary using forms provided by the Grand Lodge Office.....*

First sentence of Paragraph 1 of Chapter VI, Section 2-602 currently reads as follows:

Each subordinate lodge shall be liable for Grand Lodge dues upon all its members in good standing on the last day of the Masonic year, which would be December 31st.....

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

Each subordinate lodge shall be liable for Grand Lodge dues, *except for any per capita excluded in Section 2-408 for a plural member*, upon all its members in good standing on the last day of the Masonic year, which would be December 31st.....

Rationale: Many lodges in the rural sections of Nebraska are struggling to remain viable with shrinking populations and membership. It is therefore common that masons become plural members to aid and assist their brethren in neighboring lodges. In many cases, neighboring lodges in the western 2/3rds of the state are more than 50 miles apart. The cost of travel between lodges by those brothers with plural membership can be significant; therefore, making them pay per capita tax for each lodge in which they are a member is an added financial burden and disincentive.

R.:W.:B.: Rix asked one or more of the signers of Resolution No. 1 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. Worshipful Brother James Jones, a signer on Resolution No. 1, gave his rationale for proposing the Resolution, and moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 1. The motion was seconded.

After discussion, R.:W.:B.: Rix called for the question and the ballot was voted on by a show of hands. The motion failed to receive the required two-thirds majority vote.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

M.:W.:B.: John Maxell added the following supplemental comments to his Address before moving for its approval:

“Probably the biggest thing for me being Grand Master was learning to be a good servant and how thankful I am to have been the Grand Master. I talked about it at the beginning of the year what my motto was going to be and it was about Brotherly Love, and I saw that this year, brothers.

I had the opportunity to visit lodges and saw that love. I visited the lodge in Superior. I have to tell you, when I went down there, they had a golf outing and they invited me down there. I had been to Superior a few years ago and helped

them with a CHIP event and I always thought that was a strong lodge. When I got down there, they told me that they had been close to closing. But they had this tragedy that happened in their lodge. They lost their roof and the insurance money wasn't enough to cover that roof. So they decided, 'Let's get together. We'll buy the material, and we'll fix the roof.' What happened is every brother showed up, and they had enough money to paint the inside of their lodge and do other repairs. They had such a great time doing it that they decided to do other things. So they had bed races up and down the street to raise money; they had the whole community out there and they pushed beds up and down the street. They had limited it just to adults and the kids complained so much that they let the kids do it. They had such a great fundraiser that they decided to do a golf outing. So I went out and attended the golf outing thinking I hadn't played golf in a long time. They said, 'No, Grand Master, we just want you to help setup and take care of it.' I said, 'I can do that!' And then I saw another amazing thing. They had done such great work in that town that when they went to pay their bill, the guy who owned the golf course turned around and gave the money back to them. Thank you, brothers, because that's what we're talking about. We're talking about brotherly love, getting together, doing things and helping our community and helping each other.

I had the opportunity to go to Wood River and do an area meeting and I got one of the most touching gifts when I was out there. A member walked up to me and he gave me a one pound jar of honey and it had their name on it. That was the greatest gift I got all along. I got honey, you know, talk about love, the taste of honey, that was great! You probably saw the picture, I put it out on the blog. But I had those things happen to me all year long. I saw brotherly love that I didn't know existed. I tell you, we need to keep doing that and we need to get our brothers back into lodge and let them recognize that brotherly love. I asked, 'Bring a Brother Back' in September. I hope you guys do that on your own because if you get the guys back there, they see what we're doing, they see that friendship. Almost everybody puts on their ballot of why they joined is fellowship. We need to get them back in there. You can't have fellowship at home watching TV. You gotta get them into the lodge.

One of the things that I wanted to happen at the end of the year is to have an Annual Communication that was fun and enjoyable, that your wives would have fun coming here and that even though you weren't a voting delegate that you would show up and have a good time. I think we did that, haven't we brothers? Have we had a good time so far? (applause)

A couple of other things that I wanted to see happen this year, we put a budget together. Every Grand Master does this. I am proud to say that we were under budget. I'm also proud to tell you that we didn't touch the endowment this year, and that's only the second time that's ever happened in Grand Lodge. (applause) And that isn't because of me, that's because of your Grand Lodge officers. They eat a lot of their expense, guys. Everybody thinks it's a free ride when you get on this. I'll tell you, it is not and you need to pat the guys coming up the line that they continue to do that and be responsible. I thank my officers for being responsible. (applause)

When you're Grand Master, once in a while you get lucky and something falls in your lap that makes your year really special. That happened to me this year. We celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Recognition between us and Prince Hall.

We were the first, although Connecticut likes to argue that they were, but we have full recognition and I remind them every time I run into a brother from Connecticut. That is very special and I hope that relationship keeps going for another 25 years, and I believe it will.

We started off the year with a little controversy introducing the new petition, but I thought was important. We got the feedback that you couldn't print it off and it was too cumbersome, but I think in years to come, brothers, you will realize that's going to be a great tool, that you'll be able to fit a mentor with them and you'll know that the brother coming in is a friend more than a brother first, and that's important. Because if he's your friend, he'll be a great brother.

Again, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve you, and God Bless."

The printed Address of the Grand Master:

Brethren:

PREFACE

This address is presented in compliance with Article X, Section 2 as found in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, and is written for the 159th Annual Communication. Additionally, I have submitted my Grand Master's recommendations, which I feel are necessary for the good of Nebraska Masonry, to the Jurisprudence Committee as required by Sec. 1-307 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws. Included in this report are the official acts of the Grand Master during this past year, along with the previously mentioned recommendations.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First I want to thank the Nebraska Masonic Brethren for their support over this last year and allowing me to serve you. It has been an honor and humbling experience to be your Grand Master, and to meet so many great men, ladies and young people. At the beginning of the year, I prayed to God to give me the wisdom and passion to lead our fraternity and He blessed me by having so many special people enter my life this year.

I want to thank my family and Debi for allowing me to be Grand Lodge office over the past eleven years. Without that strong base of love and support of my family, it would not have been a journey as richly fulfilling and rewarding as it has.

To the Grand Lodge office staff

To the Grand Lodge staff that is unbelievably professional and became like family over the last couple years, a special thank you for all the advice, guidance and taking care of all the small details. As every Past Grand Master knows, their year was considerably more successful and all the more special because of the work that is done in our Grand Lodge office.

One of the things I will miss as the Grand Master will be working with Michelle and Debbie.

To the Grand Lodge Officers

I had the pleasure of working with some outstanding individuals this year, dedicated to improving and growing Nebraska Freemasonry. Their decision making and planning can be traced back to the long-term strategic planning done three years ago. That these

men have embraced these plans and consistently sought to fulfill those goals says a lot about their character and love they have for the Craft.

On leaving a leadership position, every good leader seeks to ensure that his successors are prepared to take over. I have tried to engage the line officers in the decision-making process during the year by asking each officer to express his opinions and freely give input into all decisions made during the past Masonic year.

To the Craft

To my Brethren in the Craft wherever dispersed across this jurisdiction and the world, I offer my humble and heartfelt thanks for allowing me to serve as the Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska for the year of 2015-2016. We as Masons look at undertaking new projects in hope of generating new excitement in our well-established Fraternity. Nebraska Lodges have embraced new programs such as Bring a Brother to Lodge, Rush Night, and the 2nd Annual Leadership Conference. This demonstrates that Nebraska Masons are truly a progressive institution, looking forward to growing, moving forward, and implementing new ideas.

YOUTH GROUPS

I was particularly honored to be invited to join and participate with the Nebraska Youth Groups, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Jobs Daughters International, and DeMolay International. I am particularly optimistic about the future of leadership in our country, state and the Masonic bodies seeing the quality of leadership in these organizations. We are blessed to have so many gifted young people in youth groups. It has been a particular honor to welcome Miss International Job Daughter Sarah Leeper from Nebraska, who set a high standard of leadership and has displayed her strong faith in her walk with the Lord. She has been a great example of how we should all live our life.

Two years ago, the Freemasons of Nebraska overwhelmingly voted to support the youth groups financially. The money voted through our dues will now be distributed to the youth groups through the Nebraska Masonic Youth Foundation. The Foundation will not limit nor reject any unreasonable request which will strengthen the youth groups. It is our firm conviction that by helping the youth groups, we will ultimately help ourselves through young adults who are engaged in their communities, who are prepared to be leaders, and who will speak positively of Masons and our warm support for their mission.

MASONIC ALL-STAR MARCHING BAND

In 1995, Grand Master Jerry L Rittenburg had a vision of providing Nebraska high school students involved in band an opportunity to travel to Lincoln and attend a five-day band camp. There, they would get to march in a Shrine parade and play at half-time at the Shrine Bowl football game. This was 21 years ago, and as I watched practices, the parade, and the performance of the 2015 Masonic Band, I like to think how proud Most Worshipful Rittenburg and his family would be at how the band camp has grown. This year, Nebraska's Masons, Eastern Star Chapters, appendant bodies and individual donors provided 247 campers from 83 different schools with rooms, meals and entertainment, while instructing them in the art of marching and mastering the musical pieces. The band camp is supported by Blue Lodges and Star Chapters from across Nebraska with 64 chaperones, band directors and band assistants this year.

The Grand Lodge Masonic Band Committee works hard each year to improve the camp for the kids and the community, and the move to Kearney has brought great

opportunities for the camp. The young adults participated in a free concert and ice cream social in the park on Friday evening. The citizens of Kearney got to see first-hand the hard work the participants put into their practice as well as the good work Masons do for all communities in Nebraska through our sponsorship of kids.

CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CHIP)

The Nebraska Masonic CHIP Program continues to be a cornerstone program for Nebraska Masons. It allows the Masons to promote child safety in our communities. We provide a safety net for children and peace of mind for their guardians with a record of a child's vital statistics. I thank the hundreds of Masons and volunteers who have donated countless hours to set up, promote, and work CHIP events across the state.

We had 22 CHIP events in 2015, served 1,922 kids, with the support of 525 volunteers. We had three CHIP events that were three highly visible and kept Masons in front of community: the Nebraska State Fair, Westroad Safety Expo (Omaha) and Methodist Children Hospital Safety Day. Again, thank you for all those of you in involved CHIP program in 2015.

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME AND THE MASONIC EASTERN-STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

The Nebraska Masons are very blessed to have two wonderful Masonic homes in the state, one for the care of children, our future, and one for the care of the elderly, our legacy.

Mary Stapp, Executive Director of The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, retired on December 31, 2015 after 18 years in that position and a 42-year career at The Home. Mary's stellar leadership has helped guide The Home to its current position as one of the leading elderly care facilities in the state. Her caring and ever positive presence will be missed; however, The Home will be in good hands with Mary Vrbka as the new Executive Director.

The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont celebrated its 100-year Centennial Celebration on August 8, 2015. The celebration highlighted current and past residents and an announcement was made to kick off a fund raising campaign for the building of a new cottage on the campus. We are fortunate to have an excellent and forward thinking leader in Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Children's Home.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

The dedication of the Nebraska Masonic committee members is the heartbeat of Masonry, helping our fraternity stay on course for future growth and success. This year, the Grand Lodge Officers' challenge was to raise the bar on its work and goals. The committees were required to set the 2015 goals in writing, and committees were required to meet twice at a Grand Lodge All Committee meeting.

I thank the Committees for their communication and for keeping the Grand Master informed of the process and the work they were doing to reach their goals. Communication is – and always will be – the most important asset between the committees, Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge office staff.

The Grand Lodge Leadership hosted the 2nd Annual Leadership Conference, with keynote speaker Matt Nelson, Grand Standard Bearer from the Grand Lodge of Utah.

The Awards Committee worked on developing a new award and separating the Rock Maul and Gold Pan Awards, which have some overlapping criteria.

The Education Committee had the goal to pre-write all 2016 articles for the Nebraska Mason magazine, and To Light, revise the education website, and investigate means to deliver educational materials to Lodges on-demand, quickly and economically.

The Masonic Relief Committee completed all goals set by the Grand Master.

The Membership Committee is working to develop a Masonic Club for university-age men, and to form a Masonic Club in Lincoln.

The Masonic Veterans Partnership Committee continued to promote and advertise the fundraiser for the van for Veterans Home.

The Grand Lodge added a new committee partnering with the Boy Scouts, to build a long-term relationship with the Scouts and help local Blue Lodges sponsor a Boy Scout pack or Troop.

The Endowment Committee was also formed in 2015 with the purpose of overseeing the Grand Lodge building and keeping it in sound shape, making improvements as needed. The Endowment Committee raised \$30,000 from pledges and brick sales, which allowed the committee to do landscaping, have a wall built in the back lot, fix lighting, and repair the roof.

GRAND MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Name Tags

I asked all of the Lodges to purchase name tags for the members. The purpose was to help a newly raised Mason know the members and not feel like an outsider. Being able to address members by name relieves the anxiety of new Masons when approaching a member in conversation. He will become engaged in the Lodge and be less likely to be just another statistic on the suspension list at the end of the year.

One Goal – One Lodge

Each Lodge was asked to set one new goal and outline the steps they would take to reach those goals. The worksheet sent to the Lodges was to be filled out and returned to Grand Lodge, with the idea that the entire Lodge would adopt a project and united the membership in working together.

Lodge Grant Program

A Lodge must participate in **new** community-based fundraising activities which raise \$750.00 of **new** charitable funds. These charitable funds must then be donated to support either one of our Masonic Youth programs, CHIP, Youth Groups, the Band Camp, or a youth program in their community. It is imperative that these be **new** funds from a **new** fundraising activity for a **new** project. If the Lodge completes the fundraiser, they could apply for Grand Lodge funds which could be applied to projects such as maintenance or repairs on their Lodge buildings.

Bring a Brother to Lodge

Bring a Brother to Lodge is a program to be used at the September business meeting where Lodge officers and regular attendees would invite a Brother who had not attended in a while and reintroduce him to his Lodge and to Masonry. The Lodges were asked to make the Lodge meeting particularly special through a nice dinner, program, and a short meeting.

Rush Night

Rush Night is a program where the Grand Lodge officers visited several Blue Lodges and hosted a Membership night and dinner for prospective Masons. After the dinner, attendees were invited to the Lodge room where an Indiana membership video was shown, and participated in a Q&A session to inform potential candidates about the Masonic fraternity.

Grand Master's Trip

The first Grand Master trip to Key West, Florida was a planned trip where Masons and their ladies could enjoy 5 days of fun in fellowship, sun and fun.

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY GRAND OPENING

The grand opening of the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library was held on Saturday, September 5, 2015, welcoming more than 100 Masons from around Nebraska, their guests, and the public. The grand opening and dedication included an exhibit to celebrate the 25th anniversary of "full and unconditional recognition" between the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and the A.F.& A.M. Grand Lodge. In attendance was M.W. Tommy Blan, Jr., Grand Master of Masons for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge; John T. Maxell, Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska; current and former line officers from both Grand Lodges; members of Prince Hall Eastern Star; the Nebraska Foundation Committee; and visiting brethren. One brother, Devin Charles, came from as far as Gering, Nebraska to videotape the event. Challenge coins, minted to celebrate the event, are available for \$20 as a fundraiser to support the conservation, restoration, and archiving of over 2,000 books and Masonic-related artifacts.

VISITATIONS**February**

- 4-8 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Kearney
- 5 Scottish Rite Board Meeting, Omaha
- 5 CHIP Board Meeting
- 14-18 Conference of Grand Masters, Vancouver, BC
- 21 Installation of Grand Lodge Officers, Omaha
- 25 Master Mason Degree, Wayne
- 28 150th Ceremonial, Hastings Lodge No. 50, Hastings
- 11 Funeral for Bob Beckenhaver, Member of Shiloh Lodge No. 327
- 28 Masters and Wardens Meeting, Omaha
- 28 Meeting with Social Committee, Omaha
- 28 Washington Degree, Hastings Lodge No. 50, Hastings
- 11 Sweetheart Dinner, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
- 9 Masters Degree, Cotner Lodge No. 297, Lincoln
- 10 Masters Degree, Omaha Lodge No. 288, Omaha

March

- 7 School of Instruction, Papillion
- 9 Scottish Rite Board Meeting, Omaha
- 11 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 12 Tangier Business Meeting, Omaha
- 13 CHIP Board Meeting
- 13 Scottish Rite Wine Tasting, Omaha
- 14 Grand Lodge All Committee Meeting, Fremont
- 14 25th Anniversary of Recognition Celebration with Prince Hall, Omaha

- 15 Sesostris Shrine Circus, Lincoln
- 16 Past Master Dinner, Plattsmouth
- 18 Bellevue Lodge No. 325 Famous Dave's Dinner, Bellevue
- 20-21 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Kansas
- 24 Table Lodge, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274, Walthill
- 27-28 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Minnesota

April

- 1 Business Meeting, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
- 4 Cornerstone, Omadi Lodge No. 5, South Sioux City
- 6 Business Meeting, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Plattsmouth
- 8 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 8 Masters Degree for Kyle Barchus, Mizpah Lodge No. 302, Omaha
- 9 Nebraska Masonic Foundation, Meeting, Grand Lodge Office, Lincoln
- 10 CHIP Board Meeting
- 11 Business Meeting, Burwell Lodge No. 200, Burwell
- 11 Sesostris Shrine Potentate's Ball, Lincoln
- 13 Scottish Rite Board Meeting, Omaha
- 15 Omaha Masonic Unity Meeting
- 15 Business Meeting, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 16 Ethic on Trail, Scottish Rite, Omaha
- 17 Scottish Rite Reunion 8th Degree, Lincoln
- 18 One-Day Degree Conferral, Omaha
- 20 Friendship Dinner, Custer Lodge No. 148, Broken Bow
- 24 York Rite Dinner, Kearney
- 25 CHIP Event, Westroads Safety Expo, Omaha
- 28 Masonic Endowment Fund Meeting, Lincoln
- 29 Honor Night, Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha
- 30 Scottish Rite Reunion, Omaha

May

- 1-2 Scottish Spring Reunion, Omaha
- 8 Tangier Shrine Ceremonial, Omaha
- 11 Scottish Rite Board Meeting, Omaha
- 12 OES Grand Chapter, Kearney
- 13 Grand Master Lunch with Offutt Masonic Club
- 15 CHIP Board Meeting
- 15 Advancing Line Officers Meeting, Lincoln
- 16 Grand Master's Breakfast, Lincoln
- 16 Scottish Rite Celebrating the Craft
- 18 Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection Meeting, Omaha
- 20 Business Meeting, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 20 Omaha Scottish Rite Spring Outing, Omaha
- 20 Omaha Giving Grand Master Gets Dunked, Omaha
- 20-21 Centennial Lodge Flag Project, Westlawn Hillcrest Cemetery, Omaha
- 30 One-Day Degree Conferral, South Sioux City

June

- 1-6 Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp, Kearney
- 2 Shrine Bowl Hospital Trip, Chicago
- 2-6 National Sojourners Omaha
- 6 Shrine Bowl Football Game, Kearney

- 10 Reward Night, Zion Lodge No. 234, Hyannis
- 12 CHIP Board Meeting
- 13 Rainbow Grand Assembly, Crete
- 14 Bronze Jordan Medal Presentation, Nemaha Valley Lodge No. 4, Brownville
- 18-20 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of South Dakota
- 27 Rededication of the Lodge, Omaha Lodge No. 288, Omaha
- 28 Steak Fry and 50-Year Pin Presentation, Pawnee Lodge No. 23, Pawnee City

July

- 1 Entered Apprentice Degree, Fremont Lodge No. 15, Fremont
- 1 Gold Jordan Medal Presentation, Capitol Lodge No. 3, Omaha
- 8 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 9-13 Imperial Shrine Session, Houston
- 11 Breakfast with the Grand Master, Superior
- 14 Steak Fry, North Bend Lodge No. 119, North Bend
- 15 Omaha Unity Meeting
- 17 Annual Communication, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Omaha
- 18 DeMolay Conclave
- 23 Blue Lodge Friendship Dinner
- 24-25 Grand Lodge Retreat, Nebraska City
- 27 ShiOma Picnic, Omaha
- 30 Scottish Rite Century Club Dinner, Omaha

August

- 1 Omaha Home for Boys Reunion
- 1 Corn Feed, Centennial Lodge No. 326, Omaha
- 2 70-Year Pin Presentation, Pawnee Lodge No. 23, Pawnee City
- 3 Business Meeting, John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290, Omaha
- 5 Meeting with the Boy Scouts, Omaha
- 6 Meeting with the Grand Lodge Membership Committee, Omaha
- 8 Centennial Celebration, Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont
- 9-10 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Wyoming
- 11 Business Meeting, Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth
- 13 Business Meeting, Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman
- 14 CHIP Board Meeting
- 15 Omaha Masters and Wardens Meeting, Papillion
- 17 Scottish Rite Members Picnic, Omaha
- 19 Business Meeting, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 22-26 Biennial Scottish Rite Session, Washington DC
- 27 Advancing Line Officers Meeting
- 28 Membership Rush Night across Nebraska, Grand Master attended at Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201, Gering

September

- September was "Bring a Brother to Lodge month"
- 2 Past Master Dinner, Bellevue Lodge No. 325, Bellevue
- 3 Daniel Carter Beard Boy Scouting Awards Presentation (2), Bee Hive Lodge No. 184, Omaha
- 4 Advancing Line Officers Meeting
- 5 Nebraska Masonic Foundation Museum & Research Library Grand Opening, Lincoln
- 9 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont

- 9 Cornerstone, Bridgeport
- 9 Business Meeting, Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman
- 10 Tangier Shrine Business Meeting
- 12 Masonic Leadership Conference, Omaha
- 13 Spaghetti Feed, Tangier Shrine Center
- 13 Cornerstone, Weeping Water School
- 14 Masonic Charities Golf Tournament, North Bend
- 16 Northeast Nebraska Masons Banquet
- 17 Scottish Rite Honors Dinner, Omaha
- 18-19 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Iowa
- 19 Cornerstone, Long Pine
- 23 Scottish Rite Fall Outing, Omaha
- 26 Grand Lodge All Committee Meeting, Lincoln
- 27 The Nebraska Masonic Home Caring Club Dinner, Plattsmouth
- 28 Aksarben Chapter #277 Fund Raiser, Omaha, presented donation to Sarah Leeper, Miss International Job's Daughter, from the Grand Lodge for travel

October

- 2 Visit from the Supreme Queen of the Nile
- 2 Cornerstone, Fremont Hospital
- 3 Tangier Shrine Potentate's Ball
- 5 50 & 60-Year Pins Presentation, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Plattsmouth
- 6 Business Meeting, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
- 9 Scottish Rite Friends' Dinner, Omaha
- 9 Cornerstone, Grand Island
- 13 The Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting, Plattsmouth
- 14 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 14 Advancing Line Officers Meeting, Lincoln
- 15 Oyster Feed & Area Meeting, Cement Lodge No. 211, Wood River
- 15 Area Meeting, Platte Valley No. 32, North Platte
- 16 Cornerstone, Sidney
- 17 Tehama Shrine Potentate's Ball
- 23 Scottish Rite KCCH Investiture, Lincoln
- 24 Scottish Rite 33rd Degree Conferral
- 29 Area Meeting, Liberty Lodge No. 300, Lincoln

November

- 6 Tangier Shrine Ceremonial, Omaha
- 6 Scottish Rite 8th degree, Lincoln
- 7 Coffee on the Square, Papillion
- 7 Custodians School of Instruction, Hastings
- 8-11 Grand Master's Trip, Key West, FL
- 12 Business Meeting, Tangier Shrine Center
- 13 CHIP Board Meeting
- 14 Scottish Rite KSA Meeting, Omaha
- 18 Business Meeting, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 19-21 Scottish Rite Reunion, Omaha
- 21 Masters and Wardens Meeting, Omaha
- 24 Advancing Line Officers Meeting, Omaha

December

- 1 Legion of Honor Christmas Party
- 5 Coffee on The Square, Papillion
- 5 Reception for Miss International Job's Daughter Sarah Leeper
- 5 Tangier Shrine Ceremonial, Omaha
- 9 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 10 Business Meeting, Tangier Shrine Center
- 11 CHIP Board Meeting
- 11 Scottish Rite Christmas Banquet, Lincoln
- 14 Scottish Rite Board Meeting, Omaha
- 14 Business Meeting, George W Lininger Lodge No. 268, Omaha
- 15 Holiday Party, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
- 16 Business Meeting, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 18 Lunch with Grand Lodge Office Staff, Lincoln
- 19 Plattsmouth Lodge Christmas Observance, Plattsmouth
- 21 Scottish Rite Awards Banquet, Omaha
- 22 Masters Degree, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha

January

- 2 Installation of Officers, Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Omaha
- 3 Installation of Officers, Springfield Lodge No. 112, Springfield
- 3 Installation of Officers, Omaha Lodge No. 288, Omaha
- 6 Business Meeting, Miloma Lodge No. 328, Omaha
- 8 Tangier Shrine Installation, Omaha
- 9 Installation of Officers, Mizpah Lodge No. 302, Omaha
- 9 Installation of Officers, Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
- 9 Retirement Party for Curt Edic, Omaha
- 10 Funeral for Tom Begley, Omaha
- 12 The Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting, Plattsmouth
- 13 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting, Fremont
- 13 Installation of Officers and 150-year Anniversary Celebration, Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha
- 14 Installation of Officers, Lincoln Lodge No. 19 and Liberty Lodge No. 300, Lincoln
- 16 Installation of Officers, Florence Lodge No. 281, Omaha
- 16 Installation of Officers, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Plattsmouth
- 17 Installation of Officers, Waterloo Lodge No. 102, Elkhorn
- 18 Installation of Scottish Rite Officers, Omaha
- 19 Installation of Officers, George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268, Omaha
- 20 Installation of Officers, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 20 Unity Meeting, Tangier Shrine Center, Omaha
- 21 Grand Lodge Office Committee Meeting, Lincoln
- 23 Robert Burns Dinner, Scottish Rite, Lincoln
- 24 Installation of Officers, John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290, Omaha
- 26 Installation of Officers, Centennial Lodge No. 326, Omaha
- 30 Installation of Officers, College View Lodge No. 320, Lincoln

February

- 4-6 Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Kearney

NECROLOGY

As of this date, it has been reported that 354 of the Brethren in our subordinate lodges went to their eternal home in 2015. Our Very Worshipful Grand Chaplain Kevin Lindly will conduct a memorial service during our Annual Communication which will pay fitting tribute to these brethren.

This past year we lost Most Worshipful Brother Donald L. Pohlman, Past Grand Master. Most Worshipful Pohlman was the 127th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. His journey on this earth ended and holy rest began on April 14, 2015. He was a member of Northern Light Lodge No. 41 in Stanton, Nebraska, and Sun City Lodge No. 72 in Sun City, Arizona. We will be forever grateful for his service and commitment to Masonry and to our Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge also lost a friend and dedicated Mason, Bill G. Gekas. Brother Bill served as one of the photographers for the Grand Lodge of Nebraska at Annual Communication and other special events for many years. His absence at this Annual Communication will be noticed, and his service to the Grand Lodge and his gentle kindness will be greatly missed.

CORNERSTONES

One of the exciting programs in Nebraska, which provides great public exposure for Masonry, is the tradition of setting cornerstones for qualifying buildings. I am pleased to report the following five Cornerstone ceremonies were held:

South Sioux City – April 4 – New Addition to Lodge Building, 124 E 19th St, South Sioux City

Host Lodge: Omadi Lodge No. 5

Master: Vandle A. Phillips

Omaha – June 27– Rededication of Lodge Building, 4905 S 131st St, Omaha

Host Lodge: Omaha Lodge No. 288

Master: Wesley K. Stingley

Geneva – July 4 – Geneva Historic Auditorium

Host Lodge: Geneva Lodge No. 79

Master: Albert A. Wise

Bridgeport – September 9 – Bridgeport Public School

Host Lodge: Camp Clarke Lodge No. 285

Master: Justin R. VanPatten

Weeping Water – September 13 – Weeping Water School

Host Lodge: Euclid Lodge No. 97

Master: Patrick G. Cunningham

Long Pine – September 19 – Long Pine Fire Hall & 130th Anniversary of the Lodge

Host Lodge: Long Pine Lodge No. 136

Master: Stanley L. Weidner

Fremont – October 2 – Fremont Area Medical Center

Host Lodge: Fremont Lodge No. 15

Master: Jimmy R. Peterson

Grand Island – October 9 – Nebraska Building, Nebraska State Fairgrounds
Host Lodge: Ashlar Lodge No. 33
Master: Benjamin J. Miller

Sidney – October 16 – Sidney Hospital
Host Lodge: Frank Welch Lodge No. 75
Master: Corey L. Bergstrom

GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation No. 1

This recommendation would increase the amount of the initiation fee paid to the Grand Lodge for each candidate.

Amend the first sentence of the third paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** and amend **Section 2-606 – FEES, MINIMUM RETURN** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS -

Third paragraph:

Each Lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge on or before the 10th day of April for each initiation during the preceding calendar year an initiation fee in the sum of ~~Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00)~~ ***Sixty Dollars (\$60.00)***.

Sec. 2-606 – FEES, MINIMUM RETURN – The minimum fees of the three degrees shall be ***Eight-five*** ~~Forty~~ Dollars divided as follows: ***\$65.00*** ~~\$20.00~~ for the degree of an Entered Apprentice Mason, \$10.00 for the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason and \$10.00 for the degree of Master Mason;...

Recommendation No. 2

This recommendation would increase the penalty paid by the lodges for late annual return payments.

Amend the first sentence of the fifth paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Third paragraph:

If the amount due the Grand Lodge is not received by April 10, the Grand Lodge Office Committee shall add as a penalty ~~One Cent (\$.01)~~ ***Ten Cents (\$.10)*** per day for each member on the rolls as shown in the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to all lodges that neglect to send in their returns complete to the Grand Lodge as provided by Section 2-310, and pay their dues and assessments to the Grand Lodge.

Recommendation No. 3

This recommendation would change the affiliation of members of an extinct lodge.

Amend **Section 2-406 – MEMBERS OF EXTINCT SUBORDINATE LODGES** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-406 – MEMBERS OF EXTINCT SUBORDINATE LODGES – A brother who was a member in good standing of a subordinate lodge at the time such lodge became extinct, ~~and remains unaffiliated, shall, for one year after such lodge ceases to exist,~~ shall remain in good standing ***and automatically become a member of the existing lodge geographically closest to the lodge that became extinct,*** and shall have the same rights and privileges as members of a regular lodge, including the rights of membership, affiliation, visiting, avouchment, relief, demission, appeal, trial, and burial. But should he fail to pay his dues as provided by Section 2-601, ~~and affiliate within such year,~~ ***and to pay dues as required by the lodge to which he has become a member by the provisions hereof, such brother is subject to suspension as otherwise provided in these bylaws.*** ~~he shall be notified by letter sent to his last known address by the Grand Lodge Office at least thirty days before the next ensuing Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause to the Grievances Committee, if any he may have, why he has not paid his dues and affiliated with a recognized lodge of Masons.~~

~~When any such member shall refuse or neglect to answer a notice to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non payment of dues and affiliating as above provided, his delinquency may be communicated to the Grand Lodge at any subsequent Annual Communication thereof, which facts, together with the Grand Lodge records showing his indebtedness, or his failure to affiliate, shall be deemed ample proof of the delinquency. If the brother be present, he shall be entitled to make such plea as he may deem proper, after which he shall retire, and upon such evidence and any other evidence which is submitted and received, a vote may be taken upon a motion to suspend the delinquent member indefinitely or to reinstate under such terms and conditions as the Grand Lodge may there direct.~~

Amend the seventh paragraph of **Section 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS** – by deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the deleted language stricken:

Seventh paragraph:

All settlements shall be made in accordance with the account of the Grand Lodge Office Committee, which shall base the same upon the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge. ~~Unaffiliated brethren formerly belonging to lodges now extinct shall affiliate with a recognized lodge of Masons within one year of the date their lodge became extinct, and if no affiliation is received by the Grand Lodge, said brethren shall be considered suspended for non payment of dues.~~

Amend **Section 2-1302 – CERTIFICATE REQUIRED** – by deleting certain language , so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-1302 – CERTIFICATE REQUIRED – A subordinate lodge cannot consider a petition for affiliation unless accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing, as hereinafter provided, or demit or its equivalent, ~~provided that when the petitioner has lost his demit or Certificate of Good Standing which has been issued him from a lodge which has become extinct, he may make application to the Grand Secretary and upon proper showing receive from him a duplicate demit which certificate shall accompany the petition for affiliation.~~ A petitioner who presents with his petition a Certificate of Good

Standing from a subordinate lodge of this jurisdiction or one authorized by law of another Grand Jurisdiction shall not become a member of the lodge petitioned until he is elected and his demit or its equivalent has been obtained by said lodge.

Recommendation No. 4

This recommendation would allow an update to the membership dues cards.

Amend **Section 2-604 – DUES CARDS – HOW PREPARED** – by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-604 – DUES CARDS - HOW PREPARED – There shall be two forms of receipt for dues adopted in this Grand Jurisdiction, including one for members with less than 50 years of good standing as a Master Mason, and one for members with 50 or more years of good standing as a Master Mason. The receipts for dues, adopted for use in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall contain all the information contained in the forms of receipt found in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for ~~2014~~, **2016**, printed on cards of convenient size to fit in the ordinary card case. Said receipts shall be computer generated in the office of the Grand Lodge and furnished to each subordinate lodge without charge to the lodge.

If Recommendation No. 4 passes, the dues cards will be updated in the following manner, adding a different card design for those with 50 or more years of good standing as a Master Mason, and this text will be inserted into the Proceedings for 2016:

The text contained in the following forms of receipts for dues is adopted for the use of all subordinate lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, and the use of any other form after January 1, 2016, is prohibited; all receipts for dues must be procured through the office of the Grand Secretary.

For members with less than 50 years of good time as a Master Mason:

(face text)

Nebraska	Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Master	It is hereby certified that Brother
Mason	(Member #) _____
	Whose signature appears below, is a Master Mason In
	_____ Lodge No. _____
	A.:F.: & A.:M.: Located at _____,
	_____, Nebraska.
	and has paid dues to December 31, 20 _____
	Date _____, 20 _____

	Signature of Brother to Whom Issued

(back text)

This is to certify, under the facsimile of the signature of the Grand Secretary and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, A.:F.: & A.:M.:, that:

The lodge to which this receipt was issued is a lawful lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, working under and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, the facsimile of whose seal appears hereon. This form is the only legal receipt for dues that can be issued in the Grand Jurisdiction of Nebraska, and is not valid unless it bears the signature on the front of the brother to whom it is issued.



Grand Secretary

For members with 50 or more years of good time as a Master Mason:

(face text)

Nebraska	Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
50+ Year	It is hereby certified that Brother
Master	(Member #) _____
Mason	Whose signature appears below, is a Master Mason In
	_____ Lodge No. _____
	A.:F.: & A.:M.: Located at
	_____, Nebraska.
	and has paid dues to December 31, 20 _____
	Date _____, 20 _____
	_____ Signature of Brother to Whom Issued

(back text)

This is to certify, under the facsimile of the signature of the Grand Secretary and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, A.:F.: & A.:M.:, that:

The lodge to which this receipt was issued is a lawful lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, working under and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, the facsimile of whose seal appears hereon. This form is the only legal receipt for dues that can be issued in the Grand Jurisdiction of Nebraska, and is not valid unless it bears the signature on the front of the brother to whom it is issued.



Grand Secretary

Recommendation No. 5

This recommendation would remove the limit on the number of Deputy Grand Custodians that could be appointed.

Amend the first, second, and third paragraphs of **Section 1-202 – GRAND CUSTODIAN** – by deleting certain language so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 1-202 – GRAND CUSTODIAN – The Grand Custodian shall attend all communications of the Grand Lodge, and under the direction and control of the Grand Master shall have the entire charge and supervision of the work, lectures, and ritual of this jurisdiction, and it is made his duty to enforce the thorough teaching and practice of said work, ritual and lectures, and immediately to report to the Grand Master any violation of this requirement and if it shall come to his knowledge that any subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction shall ignore, refuse, or fail to practice, in every respect, such uniform and established work as taught by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same to the Grand Master, who may arrest the charter of said subordinate lodge, and shall hold the same until such time as it shall comply with the requirements of the Grand Master aforesaid, or until the next communication of the Grand Lodge. The work of the Grand Custodian in conducting schools of instruction or otherwise shall not be interrupted ~~by calls upon him for Masonic funerals or other meetings or work~~, except under urgent circumstances which, in the opinion of the Grand Master, shall be sufficient to justify such interruption. He shall make a full and detailed report to the Grand Lodge of his official visits and acts and shall receive as compensation for his services such salary as set by the Grand Lodge, payable monthly, together with all necessary expenses in and about such work.

The Grand Master, may appoint ~~not more than 40~~ Deputy Grand Custodians to assist the Grand Custodian in supervising the work, lectures, and ritual, and who shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master, ~~receiving the sum of fifteen dollars per day while conducting Schools of Instruction, which shall be paid by warrants drawn in the regular manner.~~ Any Deputy Grand Custodian *or Apprentice* who is absent from the annual Custodian school for three consecutive years will automatically lose his commission at the close of the third consecutive school, unless good cause can be shown to the Grand Master.

The Grand Master may, at his discretion, name as Deputy Grand Custodian Emeriti such number, ~~not exceeding three in one year~~, of brethren as he may deem proper who have served as Deputy Grand Custodians, in this Grand Lodge.

LODGE BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED

The following amendments to lodge bylaws were approved during the past year:

On February 21, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Hastings Lodge No. 50 to increase the annual dues.

On February 21, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Magnolia Lodge No. 220 in Emerson to change the time of the regular communication.

On March 7, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Wayne Lodge No. 120 in Wayne to change the date of the regular communication.

On March 7, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Euclid Lodge No. 97 in Weeping Water to increase the annual dues.

On March 13, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Crete Lodge No. 37 in Crete to increase the annual dues.

On June 26, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Guide Rock Lodge No. 128 in Guide Rock to change the location of the regular communication.

On July 17, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in Lincoln to change the provisions relative to annual dues to be inclusive of all Grand Lodge assessments.

On August 5, 2015, I approved a complete revision of the bylaws of Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha. Said revision was reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee prior to approval by the Grand Master.

On September 10, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 in Omaha to increase the annual dues.

On September 10, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 in Omaha to change the location of the regular communication and to add a provision to change the date of the regular communication in the event of holiday, inclement weather, natural disaster or the funeral of a Brother.

On September 10, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 in Omaha to remove reference to the lodge building maintenance fund from the bylaws.

On September 10, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 in Omaha to remove reference to payment for services received by the Tyler.

On October 27, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha to increase the annual dues.

On November 6, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Mount Moriah Lodge No. 57 in Syracuse to move the location of the regular communication.

On November 6, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Newman Grove Lodge No. 305 in Newman Grove to increase the annual dues.

On November 6, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Florence Lodge No. 281 in Omaha to change the time of the regular communication, increase initiation fee, add reference to a portion of the fees being allocated to the Florence Lodge No. 281 Foundation, and to change duties of the Junior Warden relative to meals planned for meetings.

On November 24, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn to increase the annual dues.

On December 9, 2015, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Ogalalla Lodge No. 159 in Ogalalla to change the time of the regular communication.

On January 12, 2016, I approved a complete revision of the bylaws of Mizpah Lodge No. 302 in Omaha. Said revision was reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee prior to approval by the Grand Master.

On January 12, 2016, I approved a complete revision of the bylaws of Mizpah Lodge No. 302 in Omaha. Said revision was reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee prior to approval by the Grand Master.

On January 28, 2016, I approved a complete revision of the bylaws of Franklin Lodge No. 264 in Franklin. Said revision was reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee prior to approval by the Grand Master.

LODGE CONSOLIDATIONS AND EXTINCTION

As the population shrinks in some of the small communities, we continue to see more and more consolidations.

I approved the following consolidations:

Mitchell Lodge No. 263, Mitchell, merged with Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201, Gering, effective March 3, 2015.

Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman, merged with Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City, effective November 11, 2015.

On December 9, 2014, after consultation and personal discussions with the brethren of Monument Lodge No. 293 in Arapahoe, Nebraska, their lodge went dark. It was their decision to voluntarily fail to meet the provisions of Section 2-514; and after careful consideration, the Grand Master determined that the charter should be forfeited, and said charter was surrendered to the Grand Lodge as a result thereof.

With the approval of this Grand Master's address and in accordance with Section 2-406 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, the members that remain unaffiliated at this time will be automatically suspended for nonpayment of dues.

APPROVAL OF ONE-DAY CONFERRALS

As provided by Section 2-1202, I approved the requests of the following lodges to confer the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees on more than one candidate at a time on the indicated date. Same lodges were allowed to accept and agree to requests for courtesy degrees for the approved multiple candidate conferrals from other lodges in their area.

Date of Conferral	Host Lodge	Location of Conferral	No. of Candidates
April 18, 2015	Shiloh Lodge No. 327	Omaha	7
May 30, 2015	Omadi Lodge No. 5	South Sioux City	9
October 10, 2015	George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268	Omaha	Cancelled

These approvals were granted subject to the following conditions:

During the conferral of each degree, each candidate will:

- a. Be received in each degree in the prescribed manner;
- b. Be caused to attend prayer and be asked the proper question in the Entered Apprentice Degree;
- c. Receive the obligation in each degree while positioned behind the Altar; and
- d. Receive instruction on the Working Tools, all lectures and the charge of each degree.

In addition, the following conditions will apply:

- a. The number of candidates for any one-day conferral will be limited to not more than fifteen (15);
- b. The number of candidates who may attend the one-day conferral from any one lodge is limited to three (3);
- c. A public records criminal history check will be obtained on each candidate by the Grand Lodge Office, a copy of which will be provided to the investigating committee at the home lodge of the candidate. The fee for such public records criminal history check shall be paid by the candidate. The fee for the public records criminal history check shall be determined annually by the Grand Master and set out on the List of Candidates described in paragraph (d) below;
- d. A minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the degrees, the enclosed List of Candidates form must be submitted to the Grand Lodge Office, along with the fee stated thereon to cover the public records criminal history check for all listed candidates;
- e. The top line signer of each candidate's petition or the candidate's assigned mentor must be present at all degree work. Each candidate must have a different top line signer or assigned mentor present at the degrees.
- f. Prior to the degree work being started, a count will be made to ensure that each candidate has a unique mentor. If the candidate does not have a unique mentor, then they cannot proceed with the degree work. It is the responsibility of the Host Lodge to ensure this requirement for mentors is followed.
- g. Each candidate will be instructed using the Standard Proficiency Manual for each degree, and will be required to pass a proficiency examination before proceeding to the next degree;
- h. Conferral of each degree will be witnessed by a member of the Committee on Work, a Deputy Grand Custodian or a Grand Lodge Officer;
- i. Each candidate will be instructed that he must sign the Bylaws of his Lodge within thirty days of his conferral;
- j. Each candidate will be instructed that he must return to his home lodge and prove to the Master that he has completed all of the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manuals within the time period allowed in Section 2-402 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, and receive his diploma;
- k. Each candidate will be instructed that he must wait thirty (30) days to apply for membership in any Nebraska Masonic appendant body, and that the requirements of paragraphs (h) and (i) above must be completed prior to any application being made.
- l. The attached checklist for the roles of the conferral will be completed prior to commencement of the degrees. Said list will be returned to the Grand Lodge Office at least one week prior to the conferral; and
- m. The secretary of the host lodge will forward to the Grand Lodge Office immediately following the conferral the completed copy of the List of Candidates form with signatures of those who completed the work. Said form shall be certified by the supervising Member of the Committee on Work, Deputy Grand Custodian or Grand Lodge Officer as to the attendance of the first line petition signer for each candidate and completion of the work. The secretary of the host lodge will also notify the secretaries of lodges for whom courtesy work was given of the names of those candidates who completed the work.

PERMISSIONS, DISPENSATIONS AND ORDERS

The following permissions and dispensations were granted and approved by the Grand Master during the past year:

On February 10, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Plainview Lodge No. 204 in Plainview to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On February 12, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Laurel Lodge No. 248 in Laurel to elect their 2015 officers out of time.

On February 12, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-704 and 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to Bartley Lodge No. 228 in Bartley to obtain a list of members of the extinct Monument Lodge No. 293 in Arapahoe for the purpose of inviting them to use their open demit to transfer to Bartley Lodge.

On February 16, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to install their 2015 Tyler out of time.

On February 16, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Bennett Lodge No. 94 in Lincoln to install their 2015 Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward and Tyler out of time.

On February 16, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit York Lodge No. 56 in York to install their 2015 Secretary, Treasurer and Junior Steward out of time.

On February 16, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 in Plattsmouth to install their 2015 Senior Warden out of time.

On February 18, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha to move their charter on February 21, 2015, to the Omaha Scottish Rite building for the purpose of opening lodge for the Installation of the 2015 Grand Lodge Officers.

On February 19, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter on March 24, 2015, to the Walthill fire hall for the purpose of holding a table lodge.

On February 23, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-704 and 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to the Nebraska Masonic Youth Foundation to obtain a list of 2015 Masters and Secretaries of all subordinate lodges for the purpose of sending a mailing for planning and fundraising for the 2017 Masonic Youth Leadership Conference.

On March 3, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On March 9, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-704 and 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln to send a flyer to Lincoln area lodges inviting them to a spaghetti dinner.

On March 23, 2015, I denied the request of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn to hold a poker tournament as a lodge fundraiser.

On March 23, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Highland Lodge No. 294 in Cortland to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On April 13, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Golden Fleece Lodge No. 205 in Chappell to install their 2015 Officers out of time.

On April 20, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Keystone Lodge No. 62 in Phillips to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On April 21, 2015, I waived the provision required in paragraph (l) of the dispensation letter granted for the one-day conferral on April 18, 2015, removing the 30-day waiting period for a candidate of the conferral to petition an appendant body.

On April 21, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Robert W. Furnas Lodge No. 265 in Scottsbluff to obtain a list of names and contact information for members of lodges in western Nebraska for the purpose of sending information about circus ticket sales.

On April 22, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite to obtain a list of names and contact information for members raised within the past two years for the purpose of identifying lodge mentors for the new members.

On May 1, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to Superior Lodge No. 121 in Superior to send information to all subordinate lodges for the purpose of inviting them to the lodge golf tournament.

On May 5, 2015, I waived the provision required in paragraph (b) of the dispensation letter granted for the one-day conferral on May 30, 2015, removing the restriction of three members per lodge for the one-day conferral.

On May 11, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Fidelity Lodge No. 51 in David City to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On May 13, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 in North Platte to move their charter on June 9, 2015, to Brother Walter Johnson's ranch for the purpose of holding the regular communication in an outdoor setting.

On May 27, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Preservation Foundation of the Masonic Temple at 1635 L Street in Lincoln to obtain a list of names and contact information for members of the four lodges that meet in the Temple for the purpose of sending a fundraising letter.

On June 8, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On May 28, 2015, I waived the provision required in paragraph (l) of the dispensation letter granted for the one-day conferral on May 30, 2015, removing the 30-day waiting period for a candidate of the conferral to petition an appendant body.

On June 29, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont to obtain a list of names and contact information for Nebraska members for the purpose of sending a fundraising letter.

On July 1, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to Ashlar Lodge No. 33 in Grand Island to sponsor the annual Robert W. Boon Thanksgiving Memorial Food Truck to benefit The Nebraska Masonic Home, and to send a letter to Nebraska Lodges requesting contributions for the same.

On July 14, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-905, I denied the request of Centennial Lodge No. 326 in Omaha to ballot on a petition received less than 28 days prior.

On July 30, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Tangier Shrine in Omaha obtain a list of names and contact information for members living in certain zip codes for the purpose of sending a membership invitation letter.

On August 25, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln to move their charter on September 24, 2015, to a field in Raymond, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding a pasture lodge.

On August 25, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57 in Syracuse to move their charter until January 31, 2016, to the Syracuse Senior Center due to the sale of their lodge building. The lodge will be required to submit a bylaws amendment to permanently change the lodge location in their bylaws on or before January 31, 2016, to move their charter after a permanent location has been determined.

On August 28, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-704 and 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln to send a flyer to Lincoln area lodges inviting them to a soup supper.

On September 1, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to move their charter on October 7, 2015, to Lebanon Lodge No. 323 in Columbus for the purpose of holding a regular communication to allow their Bronze Jordan medal holding to attend.

On September 1, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to Sarah Leeper, Miss International Job's Daughter allowing the Grand Lodge to send a fundraising letter to all subordinate lodges on her behalf.

On September 25, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Masters and Wardens Club of Greater Omaha to obtain a list of all Nebraska lodge Secretaries for the purpose of sending a letter regarding funding for the annual Christmas parties at The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.

On October 12, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the George Washington Masonic Memorial to obtain a list of Nebraska members and addresses for the purpose of sending the Memorial newsletter "Light."

On October 12, 2015, pursuant to Section 2-612 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, I granted dispensation to the Masonic Service Association allowing the Grand Lodge to send a disaster relief appeal to all subordinate lodges relative to the fund established for lodges affected by the flooding in South Carolina.

On October 15, 2015, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Shiloh Lodge N. 327 in Omaha to move their charter on January 9, 2016, to the Omaha Scottish Rite building for the purpose of holding an installation of officers, and on February 4-6, 2016, to the Younes Conference Center in Kearney for the purpose of opening a lodge of Master Masons for the Annual Communication.

On November 5, 2015, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 in Lincoln to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On November 30, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Bennett Lodge No. 94 in Lincoln to elect their 2016 Officers out of time.

On December 5, 2015, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Tehama Shrine in Hastings obtain a list of names and contact information for members of lodges in certain zip codes for the purpose of sending a membership invitation letter.

On December 9, 2015, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Florence Lodge No. 281 in Omaha to elect their 2016 Junior Warden out of time.

On January 5, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Fremont Lodge No. 15 in Fremont to install their 2016 Senior Deacon and Tyler out of time.

On January 5, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha to install their 2016 Junior Steward, Senior Steward, Chaplain, Marshal and Tyler out of time.

On January 5, 2016, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Alliance Lodge No. 183 in Alliance to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On January 8, 2016, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Miloma Lodge No. 328 in Omaha to move their charter on January 10, 2016, to the Omaha Scottish Rite, for the purpose of holding the installation of officers.

On January 13, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Cedar River Lodge No. 89 in Fullerton to install their 2016 Senior Warden, Secretary and Treasurer out of time.

On January 14, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Wayne Lodge No. 120 in Wayne to install their 2016 Junior Warden, Treasurer, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Junior Deacon and Chaplain out of time.

On January 14, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to install their 2016 Chaplain, Senior Steward and Marshal out of time.

On January 18, 2016, I granted dispensation pursuant to the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) and waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Centennial Lodge No. 326 in Omaha to elect and install their 2016 Secretary out of time.

On January 19, 2016, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Sesostri Shrine in Lincoln to obtain a list of names and mailing information for members of lodges within the counties of Lancaster, Gage, Platte and Madison for the purpose of sending to non-Shriners a letter of invitation to the Shrine Arch program being held at Annual Communication.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 in Lincoln to install their 2016 Secretary and Treasurer out of time.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Omadi Lodge No. 5 in South Sioux City to install their 2016 Senior Steward and Tyler out of time.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Lincoln to install their 2016 Senior Steward and Junior Steward out of time.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Papillion Lodge No. 39 in Papillion to install their 2016 Junior Deacon, Marshal and Tyler out of time.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn to install their 2016 Senior Deacon out of time.

On January 19, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Victory Lodge No. 310 in Valley to install their 2016 Junior Steward and Marshal out of time.

On January 20, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Franklin Lodge No. 264 in Franklin to install their 2016 Senior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Tyler out of time.

On January 29, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln to install their 2016 Junior and Senior Stewards out of time.

On January 29, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Florence Lodge No. 281 in Omaha to install their 2016 Senior Steward out of time.

On January 29, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 in Omaha to install their 2016 Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Senior Steward out of time.

On January 29, 2016, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Oakland Lodge No. 91 in Oakland to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On February 1, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Blazing Star Lodge No. 200 in Burwell to install their 2016 Officers out of time.

On February 1, 2016, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Wallace Lodge No. 279 in Wallace to install their 2016 Officers out of time.

REINSTATEMENTS

The following brethren were reinstated during the past year, showing the names of the reinstated brethren, his lodge, and the date each was reinstated to membership. As Grand Master, I did not want to sign my name to reinstate any brother to the craft unless I knew something about him and the circumstances which led to his suspension. To do otherwise would have been disregarding the obligation I have to preserve the high morals and integrity of the craft. Therefore, prior to approving any of the following for reinstatement, a criminal history public records verification was performed.

- February 21, 2015Norman L. Slama Hickman Lodge No. 256
- March 13, 2015Frankie A. Oxendine Covert Lodge No. 11
- April 9, 2015Michael C. Risney Covert Lodge No. 11
- May 15, 2015Donald A. Randolph Florence Lodge No. 281
- May 15, 2015Steven J. Groesser Euclid Lodge No. 97
- June 10, 2015Austin Scroggin..... Thistle Lodge No. 61

June 26, 2015	Scott J. Knudsen.....	Miloma Lodge No. 328
July 17, 2015.....	Dennis L. Swigart	Arcana Lodge No. 195
July 17, 2015.....	Mark K. Lammers	Ogalalla Lodge No. 159
August 27, 2015.....	Douglas W. Ellis	Diamond Lodge No. 291
August 27, 2015.....	Michael C. Larkins.....	Hickman Lodge No. 256
August 27, 2015.....	Don E. McCosh.....	Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201
September 10, 2015	Richard D. Mai.....	Centennial Lodge No. 326
October 5, 2015	Robert W. Clancy, Sr.	Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6
November 3, 2015	Joseph R. Evans, Jr.	Nebraska Lodge No. 1
December 9, 2015	Jonathan E. Sloan.....	Lincoln Lodge No. 19
January 12, 2016.....	Dennis J. Zolck	Washington Lodge No. 21
January 15, 2016.....	Mark A. Wiltse.....	Wayne Lodge No. 120

TRIAL COMMISSIONS

Pursuant to the authority delineated in Section 1-103 of the Bylaws, a Trial Commission was appointed in the matter of a criminal offense by a member of Liberty Lodge No. 300. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and sentenced to a definite suspension of one year. An appeal is pending in the matter.

I would like to thank the members of the appointed Trial Commissions for their service to the fraternity in these matters.

WAIVERS OF JURISDICTION

The following waivers of jurisdiction were granted:

May 18, 2015	Sam Nickel - St. John's Lodge No. 1, South Dakota
May 6, 2015.....	James A. Wever - St. Ararat Lodge No. 44, Maryland
June 29, 2015	Brian C. Phillips - Cobia Lodge No. 631, Iowa

YEAR IN REVIEW

Wow, what a year! As I was preparing for the 2015 year and what I hoped to accomplish, my goals were to develop a core of programs which would bring a brother back to his Lodge. There is an old Masonic chestnut: *Why did the Masons cross the road? Because that's the way we've always done it.* What kept occurring to me in the planning process was that Nebraska Masons have to have to understand that we need to look at not *what* we do, but *why* we do it. We cannot simply accept that we do things because we have always done it that way.

Additionally, Freemasonry is based on Brotherly Love. Every program, every event that I plan I seek to encompass the theme of Brotherly Love and how "good and pleasant it is when Brothers meet together in unity."

As I reflect on the year, I can truly say I have been overwhelmed by that Brotherly Love I have seen in the Lodges I have visited, and that has been poured on Grand Lodge Officers as they visit Brethren throughout the state.

Thank you and God Bless!
Respectfully submitted,

John T. Maxell
Grand Master

Grand Master Maxell made a motion that the printed address of the Grand Master be consolidated with the supplemental address of the Grand Master and, in its entirety, be referred to the appropriate committees for their consideration and action, and published in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. The motion was seconded, and, with no discussion, carried.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Delmar A. Jones, Chairman

The Credentials Committee is pleased to report the following for this the 159th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska.

We have in attendance all Grand Lodge Officers, 17 Past Grand Masters, 13 Deputy Grand Custodians and 56 Non-delegate Masons. At the time of this report, there are the following Masters, Wardens and Secretaries registered: There are 62 Worshipful Masters in person and 18 by proxy; there are 38 Senior Wardens in person and 28 by proxy; there are 38 Junior Wardens in person and 20 by proxy and 52 Secretaries in person and 26 by proxy.

Again this year we are recognizing the Lodges that have all four delegate officers in attendance in person. They are Lodges 1, 19, 39, 46, 54, 136, 148, 250, 256, 281, 302, 310, 325, and 332. They will receive a Certificate to display in their lodge. We thank them for their attendance.

There are no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries registered from the following lodges: 14, 44, 53, 55, 61, 62, 73, 78, 82, 89, 91, 95, 97, 126, 128, 134, 158, 180, 192, 200, 201, 204, 221, 222, 228, 234, 248, 251, 279, 291, and 324. There have been no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries registered for two years from the following Lodges: 14, 53, 73, 82, 89, 95, 97, 128, 192, 248, and 291 And for three years from the following lodges: 14, 73, 95, 192 and 248.

We are pleased to have dignitaries present from the following jurisdiction: Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Grand Lodges of Iowa, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, South Dakota, Washington, as well as representatives from the South Dakota Scottish Rite.

We are also pleased to have in attendance representatives from the following Masonic organizations: Order of the Eastern Star, Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, DeMolay, York Rite, Red Cross of Constantine, Scottish Rite, Tehama, Tangier, Sesostriis and Abu Bekr Shrine Temples, National Sojourners, Daughters of the Nile, Social Order of the Beauceant, The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.

Other attendance items that may be of interest are: There were 195 at the Grand Master's Banquet Thursday evening; there were 296 at the Public opening Friday morning; and 292 at the Membership Banquet Friday Night.

It has indeed been a pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Credentials Committee this year for you Most Worshipful John T. Maxell. I want to personally thank the other brothers on the Committee who spend many hours at the registration table to help make this an enjoyable Grand Lodge Communication. They are Frank Dougherty (who was unable to attend this year), Mike Hoagland, Karl Rasmussen and Gordon Brown, and we

sure miss our Brother Phil Edwards. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to his family.

I also extend a huge thank you to Michelle and Debbie at the Grand Lodge Office who work so hard to make this Grand Lodge Session run smoothly. With possible additions or corrections due to late registrations, I move for the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Delmar Jones, 65 & 46, Chairman
Gordon L. Brown, 146
Frank S. Dougherty, 297
Philip O. Edwards, 326
Robert M. Hoagland, 46 & 146
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15

The motion was seconded and carried favorably. M.:W.:B.: Maxell thanked Delmar and the Credentials Committee for the work they do at Annual Communication each year.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE

Alvin O. Benemerito, Chairman

Grand Master Maxell invited W.:B.: Alvin Benemerito, Chairman of the Masonic Relief Committee, to the podium to present the report from the Grand Lodge Office Committee.

The Masonic Relief Committee was able to attend to its function once this year.

Enough relevant information was received by the committee regarding the request of a brother from Blue River Lodge No. 30. After a day of deliberation, the committee gave unanimous approval to assist the said brother in need. It is to note that during the application process the brother had two job applications pending. I thank the committee for their immediate action to this request.

The Masonic Relief Committee would like to thank the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted
Alvin O. Benemerito, Chairman, 136 & 331
Steven R. Barchus, 302, 333
David M. Long, 290
Troy Myers, 297
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15
John T. Maxell, Ad Hoc, 327, 6, 333

W.:B.: Benemerito moved for the approval of the report. The motion was seconded and favorably carried.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Master Maxell asked R.: W.:B.: Dennis E. Rix for his Address in anticipation of serving as Grand Master in 2017.

Deputy Grand Master Dennis Rix addressed the brethren, thanking them for their confidence in him to serve as Grand Master and summarized the programs planned for 2016, including the Masonic Passport and Big Brother programs, as well as the 1st Section Master Mason Ritual contest.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – CLOSE OF BALLOT

Grand Master Maxell declared the ballot for Election of Officers closed. He presented the key for the ballot box to W.:B.: Ron Grass and directed the tellers to collect and count the ballots.

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA FREEMASONS CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM FOUNDATION

Stephen Kennedy, President

M.:W.:B.: Maxell asked Stephen Kennedy, President of the Nebraska Freemasons CHIP Foundation, to come forward to present the report.

Worshipful Brother Kennedy referenced the printed report and mentioned that the Masons have been supporting CHIP for eleven years. He added that nearly 41,000 children have gone through the program within that time. He said that he is proud that CHIP is such a great program for all of the Nebraska Masons to hang their hats on and they should all be proud that we can provide such a wonderful service for families, and that it provides great exposure for Masonry in the communities. He mentioned that the CHIP board is trying to put together an instructional video that would show the proper way to organize and setup a CHIP event, and that the board is looking for help from knowledgeable Masons who may be able to assist with that.

The printed report is as follows:

I once again wish to thank everyone who helps to make NE CHIP a success. It is the efforts of all of the volunteers at each of these events that make NE CHIP possible. This is our 11th year and we have reached 41,526 kits. That's 41,526 children ID's processed and given to parents in the last 11 years. Fellowship and service are a major part of the cornerstone of Masonry. Working together to plan, fund, and complete these events brings Lodges and their communities closer together. Appendant bodies such as Eastern Star, Job's Daughters, Rainbow, and DeMolay provide much support to this cause. At these events we see the interaction among the volunteers and the families of the children come together in a warm and caring fashion. Please consider helping at an event so you can also observe the fun and fellowship of helping others.

We continue to upgrade older laptops and older peripheral equipment as needed and as funds allow. The cost of each kit has risen, but our support staff is diligent in finding cost effective sources for our supplies. This year we once again purchased laptops directly from a supplier and obtained better quality equipment. With this method we purchase the software separately, but this does allow us to tailor the equipment to what is more durable and fits our purpose. The equipment used and the process of completing a child's ID kit has evolved over the years. We continue to look at ways to make ours the most complete ID kit that parents can receive.

NE CHIP board meetings are held on the second Friday of the month. We meet at the Grand Lodge office in Lincoln or via teleconference. Anyone wishing to attend or participate on the teleconference is welcome. Please contact Michelle at Grand Lodge for meeting locations and times.

Those members who desire to make a gift to the NE CHIP program may do so by contacting the Grand Lodge office. Nebraska CHIP is a 501(c)3 foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Kennedy, President

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary

It is a privilege to present this report as Grand Secretary. I appreciate the continuing opportunity to serve our Fraternity and to labor with each one of you.

After several years of staff transition, the Grand Lodge has been reaping the benefits of a complete staff. These benefits come in many forms, but it is always gratifying when Grand Secretaries from other jurisdictions compliment me on the professionalism and helpful attitude of our office staff. Our Records Administrative Secretary, Debbie Galli, has been with us for over a year and is a pleasure to work with. Debbie works closely with our lodge secretaries, and is often the first person who welcomes visitors to our office. Michelle Fulmer continues her outstanding service as our Business Manager. The Grand Lodge is extremely blessed to have Michelle as an integral part of the Grand Lodge team. She possesses amazing abilities to coordinate the many and varied activities of the Grand Lodge.

We continue to expand the use of the Grand Lodge office building. After extensive work this summer, the Masonic Heritage Committee opened our Masonic Library and Research Museum. With the additional space provided in our new location, more of our historical and literary collection is now displayed and accessible. Through the generous contributions provided by members to the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund, the retaining wall at the west end of our property was repaired and landscaped. This project greatly improved the appearance of our property in the neighborhood.

I am very pleased to report that the membership records of every past Nebraska Mason have now been entered on an accessible computer data base. Carol Schroeder, our former administrative secretary, started this project when she worked at the Grand Lodge and continued to assist with data entry after her retirement. This was a monumental undertaking and we are grateful for Carol's commitment to seeing this project to completion. These records are also available to the lodge secretaries through the database web interface for their own lodge.

In addition to lodge visitations and Grand Lodge related meetings throughout the state, I attended many of the cornerstone ceremonies this past year. I attended the Conference of Grand Secretaries held in Vancouver, British Columbia and the Midwest Conference of Grand Lodges in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I also continued to serve on several Grand Lodge committees in my position as Grand Secretary.

My report would not be complete without thanking each lodge secretary for your service. Your work is essential for your lodge and, while often taken for granted, is appreciated. The Grand Lodge particularly recognizes the diligence of lodge secretaries who timely file their reports and participate in Grand Lodge. Those secretaries who file the required

reports during the year and attend Grand Lodge earn a Certificate of Achievement. Pending their attendance at the Secretaries Workshop, those secretaries receiving this award for 2015 are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| David A. Wetrosky, Western Star Lodge 2 | Howard R. Fairbairn, Blazing Star Lodge 200 |
| Jay H. Speck, Plattsmouth Lodge 6 | Olin D. Boone, Hickman Lodge 256 |
| Robert L. Ferguson, Falls City Lodge 9 | Ted B. Miller, Robert W. Furnas Lodge 265 |
| Dennis L. Smith, Fremont Lodge 15 | Kent L. Neumann, Olive Branch Lodge 274 |
| Charles A. Burk, Lincoln Lodge 19 | Dale A. Jenkins, Oshkosh Lodge 286 |
| A. Carl Highman, Papillion Lodge 39 | Ralph J. Riemann, Cotner Lodge 297 |
| Ronald L. Furse, Aurora Lodge 68 | Brent Myers, Liberty Lodge 300 |
| Daniel G. Aspegren, Geneva Lodge 79 | Craig R. Crawford, Mizpah Lodge 302 |
| David G. Otte, North Bend Lodge 119 | James A. Carlton, Bellevue Lodge 325 |
| Alvin O. Benemerito, Long Pine Lodge 136 | Philip O. Edwards, Centennial Lodge 326 |
| Bruce G. Raddatz, Jachin Lodge 146 | Matthew W. Vandergriff, Shiloh Lodge 327 |

I also report the following statistical information:

Membership longevity awards presented in 2015

50-year	143	60-year	93	70-year	6
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2015 Membership Activity (preliminary)

Membership 1/1/2015.....	10,899	
Number of Lodges	135	
Entered Apprentices.....	234	Demits
Fellow Crafts	200	Deceased
Master Masons.....	204	Suspensions
Affiliations	37	Withdrew
Duals	27	Termination of duals.....
Reinstatements.....	64	Consolidated.....
Consolidated	81	Other.....
Other	2	Total Loss
Total Gain	415	Membership 12/31/2015.....
		10,438

I continue to be honored and humbled by this opportunity to serve our Fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,
M.: W. : Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM, 134 & 19
Grand Secretary

Grand Secretary Reg Kuhn moved for the adoption of the printed report of the Grand Secretary, along with the adoption of the 2015 Proceedings as printed. The motion was seconded and carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE ARTIFICER AWARD

The Nebraska Grand Lodge introduced the new Artificer Award in 2014 as part of the jurisdiction’s ongoing commitment to membership engagement and getting new members involved in their respective blue lodges.

It is the goal of this award to get newly raised members involved in the lodge and give them a well-rounded exposure to the different things that this fraternity does, from charity work, to the visits of the Grand Lodge Officers, to helping to support a lodge function, just to name a few.

A newly raised member of a lodge should be given the opportunity to pursue the Artificer Award starting the night he has been raised or shortly thereafter by a communication from the Master or Lodge Secretary. From that starting point the newly raised Master Mason has fourteen months to accomplish the list of fifteen requirements to achieve the award. Members that complete the requirements will receive a certificate and custom designed lapel pin for their accomplishments.

Grand Master Maxell asked Kevin Lindly, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Awards Committee, to approach the East to present an Artificer Award to Brother Theodore W. Love of Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Nebraska City and John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha for successfully completing all of the requirements.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC ALL-STAR BAND COMMITTEE

K. Roger Dill, Chairman

Most Worshipful Maxell asked Chairman Roger Dill to approach the podium to bring the report from the Masonic All-Star Marching Band Committee.

Worshipful Brother Dill made the following remarks before referencing the printed report:

“Thank you, Most Worshipful. I am Roger Dill and I am very privileged to be the Chairman of the Band Camp. The Band Camp keeps growing and keeps getting bigger. Because of that, we need more help, and I am going to get into that in just a minute. But I keep hearing all of these accolades about Michelle. Tremendous accolades about she does this, she does that. I’ve asked her for years to find me a shirt without the hump in the front and she can’t do it!

Anyway, I want to talk to you a little bit about the band camp. The report is on page 37 of the booklet and you can read that. The Band Camp is growing. It’s getting bigger every year and that does mean that we need more help. I am so thankful for the Grand Lodge men and the Past Grand Masters, all who have come to the Band Camp, and for the most part, I think they’ve enjoyed the Band Camp experience. Our new Grand Master drives a trailer out there every year so that we can have all of the instruments stored and safe. The instrument crew even has their own shirts, and they’re doing their own thing out there. We are also getting new shirts for the chaperones this year so that we can keep up with them.

The chaperones are the biggest thing that we’re short of. We need help in the evening with people who will start their work at 7:00 in the evening and go through the activities that we have planned for the students. On Tuesday night we take news release pictures; the chaperones help with that, and then you have to listen to the band do their first practice. That’s not always good. We have a lot of people who come that say ‘look how great I am.’ The trumpets are too loud and the drums say ‘I can play louder than you can.’ But then you see it on Friday night when they do a concert, and that’s three days. The transformation is just amazing with what you hear out of these students. So that’s the Tuesday activity. Also on Tuesday night, you have a floor that you’re in charge of and you have a meeting to make sure we haven’t lost a student, and you go over what they’re going to do the next day. So it’s a very important job that somebody has to let these students know ‘This is what’s going to happen tomorrow, this is what you need to do to prepare, be sure you have the right shoes to go marching in, and things like that,’ so it’s an important position. Then

you also get to knock on their door at 6:00 o'clock in the morning and wake them up, and we don't just say 'Are you up?' We make them open the door so that we know they're up. Then you have breakfast and then you have the day to yourself. You can do whatever you want to do. Most of them sleep a little bit, go have lunch, take a nap in the afternoon and whatever.

On Wednesday, night, oh no, you have to go with them and watch a movie. We ask you to maybe help pass out a little bit of popcorn. That's a tough duty. And then you have another meeting that night to go over what they're going to do on Thursday. Thursday night, heaven forbid, you have to go to a dance with them. Again, we're asking you to do an awful lot. You don't have to dance, but you're there to help support those students. Then another meeting Thursday night. This past year, Most Worshipful John showed up Thursday. He went to the dance, he took care of a floor and a meeting, he woke them up the next morning, and then I think he took a nap. But just the fact that the Grand Master took the time out of his extremely busy schedule to come and spend a day with the students, it just boggles my mind how you people do this. It really does. It just amazes me that you will take that time.

I'm very passionate about Masonic Marching Band, but know that these other people have that same passion. So Thursday night, we're dancing. Friday night, now you have to go listen to their concert that they worked on and how good they sound now, and then you have to go to the bowling alley and spend a couple of hours at the bowling alley. Tough duty, I can tell you that. It's really hard. But we need people to do that. We go back to the dorms then and you help them with their checkout packet, go over what they have to do for Saturday, which is do a parade and a pre-game and half-time show and you get them prepared. We are really looking for people who will come on at 7:00 o'clock in the evening and help these kids.

We have people who come on at 7:00 in the morning and help them until 7:00 o'clock at night. We feed you and we have a place for you to sleep. It doesn't cost you a dime to be out there. And we can use help all week, we can use help one night, like Most Worshipful did. I don't think you did it Friday night did you because you had so much to do on Saturday? (Grand Master Maxell: 'No, I helped Friday and then just stayed up all day Saturday. That's why you saw pictures of me sleeping when I could.') Holy cow, what a crazy guy. Anyway, if you would like to help and we would love to have your help, let Michelle know. We have forms to fill out that show when you help. If you stay all week, we can give you a backpack, we can give you a new shirt, and we do a lot of things for you. Really, think about it; think about coming out and spending time with some of the best kids in the state. They're super kids; we have so few problems, but just having an adult there really makes a difference. So I thank you very much for your time and thank you, sir, and for everything that you people have done."

The printed report is as follows:

They came, they practiced, they relaxed, they performed, they went home, and the 21st annual Nebraska Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp was over for another year. It hardly seems possible that the camp goes that quickly but it does. This was our third year at Kearney and it just keeps getting better. Michelle and the band camp committee continue to hone and refine the camp in an effort to make it a better experience for the students. This year we added an ice-cream social to our Friday night concert in the park.

The ice cream is for the audience to enjoy after the students have performed. We also added a small card with a star and thank you for the armed service members who attend the concert. They were passed out as the band played Salute to America’s Finest which plays each of the service songs. As the veterans stood for their respective song, the band assistants handed each one a card and thanked them for their service to our Country. This brought tears to many of the veterans...and chaperones.

Our numbers were up to 247 students from 86 different high schools this year and are likely to continue upward. Almost every high school student who attends and is eligible to return wants to come back. These students are recommended by their band directors as some of their best players and it shows by the sound that the band produces. The size of the band is a new experience for almost everyone and the excitement you see on their faces as they hear the sound is amazing. We get some students from small high schools who have never marched before and they end up being good marchers and very excited about taking what they have learned back to their own high schools. This is a tribute to our directors and the chaperones that make this camp very enjoyable for all. The students attend for free. Their way is paid for by scholarships provided by Masonic Lodges throughout the state, Eastern Star Chapters, Shrine, Scottish Rite and York Rite organizations, individual members and other donors.

I would like to thank the DeMolay, Job’s Daughters and Rainbow Girls for donating the water bottles for the band camp. This is a great way to introduce these wonderful organizations to the students, as their logos are on the bottles.

Go to the Grand Lodge website and take a look at what we do. The band camp does as much as any other activity in promoting Masonry and Masonic values not only to the students but also the parents, friends and relatives of the students.

As chairman of this committee, I would like to thank the committee members, the staff of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge Officers, the band directors and the chaperones and band assistants for their hard work in making this a week of enjoyment for everyone. We are always in need of chaperones so if you would like to take a week, a day or an hour and help with the camp let us know. We guarantee a good time.

Respectfully submitted
K. Roger Dill, Chairman, 310
Bruce A. Baker, 317
William H. Cummins, 54
Donald G. Havekost, 132 & 72
Dennis E. Rix, 15 & 334
E. Thomas Spunaugle, 198 & 38
Jennie Danner
Jan Thoman
Kathy Worrell

W.:B.: Roger Dill moved for the adoption of the printed report of the Masonic All-Star Band Committee. The motion was seconded and carried favorably.

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE COMMITTEE
Bruce A. Baker, Chairman

M.:W.: Maxell invited M.:W.: Bruce A. Baker, Past Grand Master, to the podium to present the report from the Grand Lodge Office Committee. Past Grand Master Baker made note the members that make up the committee, indicating that they met several

times throughout the year via phone and one meeting at the Grand Lodge office. M.W. Baker also noted that he met with the lodge secretaries the day before on behalf of the committee regarding trying to collect lodge dues via credit card and that it is an ongoing process. It is also contained in the printed report. The committee is aware of the desire for that and he echoed what has been said many times throughout the meeting that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska has an excellent office staff and they make the committee's job very easy in that respect.

The printed report is as follows:

Per section 1-361 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Nebraska, the Grand Lodge Office Committee is charged with overseeing the efficient operation of the Grand Lodge office, employees, assets and supplies required to serve the Lodges that make up the Nebraska Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge Office Committee met several times during 2015 via phone & email, and once formally. The following report highlights the actions taken by this committee.

The mileage reimbursement rate for eligible Grand Lodge official travel remains at \$0.40 per mile for the 2016 Masonic year.

The Committee reviewed the list of "Grand Lodge fixed assets" and noted the addition of a Bose speaker system to be used for Band Camp, and the iPad that were discussed and approved at the 2014 meeting. Given the age and predicted life expectancy of the current server & desk top computers, coupled with the fact that money had been allocated in the 2015 budget for the purchase, it was agreed to purchase new computers before the end of the year.

The budget for the Grand Lodge Office Committee was established at \$150.00 for 2016.

The insurance package for the two full time employees was reviewed and approved. It should be noted that the estimate for the 2016 healthcare coverage which renews on February 01, with BC/BS is anticipated to be \$150.00 to \$175.00 less per month. The current monthly premiums are as follows:

Healthcare with BC/BS	\$1,522.33
Dental with Metlife	\$114.32
Life with United States Life	\$ 51.90

The Grand Lodge office staff consists of 2 full time employees (Michelle & Debbie) and 1 part time employee (Carol). A new employee evaluation process was implemented this year; the Committee reviewed the evaluations, and the responsibilities of the employees to determine compensation commensurate with their experience and responsibilities.

The Office Manager's goals set and completed for 2015 were reviewed, and additional goals discussed and set for 2016.

The Committee established the CHIP administrative fee at \$1175.00 per month. This amount is based on Michelle's CHIP salary and the percentage of office space, utilities and Grand Lodge resources used by the CHIP program.

The establishment of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund , which is intended to provide financial support for the maintenance, repair and improvement of the Grand Lodge Office building. The directors of the Foundation are the Grand Lodge Office

Committee Chairman, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge Office Manager, and two Brothers appointed by the Grand Master.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Nebraska Masonic Heritage Committee, Chairman Christopher Carter, and Michelle Fulmer for a job very well done with the Grand Lodge Library & Museum this past year.

Efforts to determine if establishing a procedure allowing the Grand Lodge Office to collect Lodge annual dues via credit card is feasible continues. Discussed having a member of the Grand Lodge Office Committee speak at the Secretaries Workshop to discuss how & who should be contacted if they ever have concerns or issues.

In conclusion, the Grand Lodge Office Committee acknowledges and appreciates the efficient and professional demeanor displayed by the Grand Lodge Office staff in the performance of their daily duties. Every Nebraska Mason can be proud of the Grand Lodge Office building and staff; you are encouraged to stop by for a visit when in Lincoln as you are always welcome.

Respectively submitted,
Bruce A. Baker, Chairman, 317 & 334
Wayne A. Andreasen, 204
Christopher M. Carter, 268 & 281
Rex J. Moats, PGM, 290, 102 & 334
Howard R. Fairbairn, 134 & 200
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM, 134 & 19

M.:W.:B.: Baker moved for the approval of the report. The motion was seconded and favorably carried.

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

M.:W.:B.: Scott Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian

Grand Master Maxell asked Most Worshipful Scott Krieger, Grand Custodian, to present his report.

The printed report is as follows:

For the year 2015, we had 45 of the 131 lodges in Nebraska fully certified; 31 lodges are certified in open and close only. The fully certified lodges are as follows:

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	58
Omadi	5	S Sioux City	66
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	92
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	61
Covert	11	Omaha	46
Fremont	15	Fremont	85
Lincoln	19	Lincoln	81
Washington	21	Blair	27
Tekamah	31	Tekamah	62
Platte Valley	32	North Platte	64
Papillion	39	Papillion	9
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	70
Hastings	50	Hastings	92
Lancaster	54	Lincoln	94
Wahoo	59	Wahoo	91

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Keystone	62	Phillips	60
Osceola	65	Osceola	13
Hooper	72	Hooper	91
Albion	78	Albion	25
Geneva	79	Geneva	40
Utica	96	Utica	87
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	85
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	65
North Bend	119	North Bend	57
Jachin	146	Holdrege	58
Custer	148	Broken Bow	72
East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	82
Wood Lake	221	Wood Lake	61
Landmark	222	Herman	63
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	38

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
North Star	227	Lincoln	83
Comet	229	Ceresco	63
Hickman	256	Lincoln	28
GW Lininger	268	Omaha	2
Olive Branch	274	Walthill	7
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	84
Cotner	297	Lincoln	74
Liberty	300	Lincoln	67

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Mizpah	302	Omaha	66
Victory	310	Valley	66
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	92
Mid-West	317	Hastings	68
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	4
Shiloh	327	Omaha	51
Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	8

We have 82 brethren eternally certified in the grand jurisdiction of Nebraska. I commend them for their hard work and dedication. In addition to those eternally certified, we have 38 brothers who recertified in all three degrees in 2015.

In addition to the above, we have 23 brethren who certified in all three degrees for the first time in 2015; 11 brethren who are newly certified in the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees; and 13 brethren who are newly certified in the Entered Apprentice degree. Most of these brothers are certifying through the Proficiency Classes that the Grand Lodge started offering in 2014. I want to thank them for all the hard work they put into learning the work correctly. I encourage interested brothers to look into certifying in the 2016 Proficiency Class.

The following brethren are served as Deputy Grand Custodians for the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 2015:

- | | |
|--|---|
| District 1 - Roy L. Smith, Plattsmouth | District 21 - Wayne E. Beatty, Stromsburg |
| District 2 - Charles J. Odorizzi, Omaha | District 24 - Delmar A. Jones, Kearney |
| District 3 - Anthony T. Johnson, Bellevue | District 25 - Philip E. Darby, Jr., Elwood |
| District 4 - Brian K. Sandall, Blair | District 26 - Arthur J. Ferguson, Wood Lake |
| District 5 - Ronald D. Grass, Tekamah | District 27 - Bill Lichtenberger, Callaway |
| District 6 - Open | District 28 - Open |
| District 8 - John C. Sierks, Brownville | District 29 - Leslie A. Evert, Gordon |
| District 9 - Edward W. Nolte, Papillion | District 30 - Richard H. Cooper, Morrill |
| District 10 - Steven A. Green, Lincoln | District 31 - Open |
| District 11 - Suman Vallabhbbhai, Lincoln | District 32 - Roger L. Shillington, Max |
| District 15 - Randall L. Hart, Tekamah | District 33 - Kent D. Priest, North Platte |
| District 16 - Open | District 34 - Frank Veverka, Fremont |
| District 17 - Roger A. Deininger, Hastings | District 35 - John L. Brommer, Omaha |
| District 18 - Patrick D. Barger, Lincoln | District 36 - Carl C. Plants, Lincoln |
| District 19 - Dean Papenhagen, Hastings | District 37 - Albert A. Wise, Geneva |

I also want to thank each of the Deputy Grand Custodians Emeritus for all the time and effort they have put in to Masonry in this grand jurisdiction. I certainly hope we can continue to call on you for help in the future.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Glenn W. Binder | Richard L. Mauch | Augustine S. Scolaro |
| Michael G. Birnstihl | Ralph E. McNulty | Eugene Sibley |
| Arthur S. Dye | Harold C. Mueksch | James R. Taylor |
| Kenneth G. Fleming | Harold W. Noble | |
| Richard W. Linnemeyer | Vincent L. Rosenberger | |

The Annual Custodian School was held this year in Hastings on November 7, 2015. We should continue to extend to all interested brethren an invitation to attend the Annual Custodian School.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott J. Krieger Sr., PGM, 317, 332, & 32

M.:W.: Grand Custodian Scott Krieger moved for the acceptance of the printed report. The motion was approved and the report of the Grand Custodian was adopted by vote of the Masons assembled.



Right Worshipful Rick Myers announced that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska received the bid to host the 2017 Conference of Grand Masters between February 18 to the 22 at the LaVista Conference Center in Omaha. He indicated that the conference is attended by every jurisdiction in the United States and Canada, as well as several from around the world and a lot of appendant bodies. Right Worshipful Myers said that hosting all of those people and doing it right will require numerous volunteers to show Nebraska at its best and asked everyone to put the dates on their calendar to help with the conference.

PRESENTATION OF THE JAMES L. "SONNY" EATMON TRAVELING GAVEL

The Traveling Gavel was presented as a gift to the Grand Lodge by the Family of Past Grand Master James L. "Sonny" Eatmon, (GM 1992) in 2005. M.:W.:B.: Eatmon entered into that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens on August 28, 1999. W.:B.: John Ferguson handcrafted this beautiful wood gavel and case in honor of his father-in-law. The gavel or wood maul work was commissioned as the James L. "Sonny" Eatmon Traveling Gavel on February 3, 2006.

Symbolic of the operative craft working as Masons in the construction of Ancient Monumental Edifices and the intricate detail of ornamentation, it is appropriate that this gavel or wood maul work in our lodges to demonstrate leadership and concern to the fine details of fellowship among our speculative craft and thus encourage visitations among our lodges and brethren.

This gavel will depart Annual Communication each year with the Lodge of the New Grand Master. It will be the responsibility of at least four brethren, of which at least two must be officers of that lodge, to visit another lodge within 30 days and to carry and deposit the gavel to the visited lodge. That lodge will then hold the same obligation of visiting and depositing the gavel in another lodge within 30 days.

The gavel was presented to R.:W.: Dennis E. Rix and Fremont Lodge No. 15.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED REPORTS

M.:W.:B.: Maxell read a list of reports of committees not verbally received and entertained a motion that the following reports, as printed and distributed to the delegates, be accepted without reading, and printed in the proceedings:

- Fraternal Relations
- Masonic Education
- George Washington Masonic Memorial
- Public Relations
- Lodge Leadership
- Membership

Grievances
 Awards
 Internet and Computer Technology
 East Grand Master's Masonic Charities Activity Committee
 Necrology – Report received during Public Opening

Most Worshipful Reg Kuhn, Grand Secretary, made a motion that the report of the Grievances Committee found on page 30 of the Annual Communication booklet be postponed until the 160th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The motion was seconded. Most Worshipful Kuhn explained that, as they are aware, the Grand Lodge sometimes has trial commissions. The facts of those trial commissions are never discussed. During the past year there was a trial commission from a lodge, a decision was rendered, and that decision was appealed to the Grievances Committee. It has subsequently been determined that proper notice was not given to all parties during the appeal process, so to enable the incoming Grand Master to rectify that situation, he asked the Grand Lodge to postpone consideration of the Grievances Committee report for the current year for consideration at next year's Annual Communication. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the remaining committee reports to be approved as printed:

Fraternal Relations
 Masonic Education
 George Washington Masonic Memorial
 Public Relations
 Lodge Leadership
 Membership
 Awards
 Internet and Computer Technology
 East Grand Master's Masonic Charities Activity Committee
 Necrology – Report received during Public Opening

There was a second from the floor and the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Lawrence J. Zwart, Chairman

The Fraternal Relations Committee lost a dedicated chairman in 2015. Worshipful Brother Larry Zwart passed away on September 3, 2015, following a hard fought battle with cancer. Due to Larry's death, the Fraternal Relations committee is not prepared to provide recommendations for recognitions for this year. We commend Larry for his numerous years on the committee. He will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,
 Lawrence J. Zwart, Chairman, 11
 Byron L. Hust, 198
 Scott J. Krieger, Sr. 33, 317, 332
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333
 Cullen F. Pilker, 39
 Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM, 134 &
 19

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman

The 2016 Grand Lodge Education Committee consists of Adam Thayer, Denny Brydl, Donald Kavalec, Larry Jacobsen, Jim Stull, Mike Webb, Jonathan Paz, and Tom Hauder. These Brethren work very hard to support the many projects of the committee. The committee is constantly on the lookout for more Brethren with the same desire to assist in bringing Masonic Education to the Masons of Nebraska. More support is needed from the Western and Northern parts of Nebraska. Experience is not necessary, everyone else started with limited knowledge in Masonry and only the desire to learn. Please contact us if you are interested in serving on this committee

In 2015, as in the past, the Masonic Education Committee began the year with the Grand Lodge Masonic Education Breakfast. A professional Masonic Education program is presented by the talented members of the committee. Masons from all over Nebraska have the opportunity to attend this presentation and go home with more knowledge about the Fraternity. In addition, the committee makes book reading recommendations that enable the Masons of Nebraska to expand their Masonic knowledge. The partnership with Macoy is instrumental in the success of this venture.

The Masonic Education Symposium was held in March. This was a professional program that allowed the attendees to walk away with Masonic history, philosophy, information, etc., about the fraternity and to present Masonic Education to their Lodge. In addition, a game of Masonic Jeopardy was presented. The committee members enjoyed this, as much as the attending Brethren.

The number of members attending and technology available has alerted the committee that change is required. The committee will be working on a new means of passing this on to the Masons of Nebraska in 2016, which will fit their schedule and thereby increase participation.

The section of the Nebraska Mason called "To Light" is a product of the Nebraska Grand Lodge Education Committee. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the committee, Masonic Education is delivered to the mailboxes of all Nebraska Masons. Jonathan Paz has taken over the duty of providing the lead article of the section. The Nebraska Mason provides an effective and inexpensive delivery method with four issues a year. Starting in the December 2015 edition of the Nebraska Mason, "To Light" has a new format. The new format ties to the Nebraska Masonic website allowing more information to be distributed and gives the committee more flexibility of delivering Masonic Education to the Nebraska Mason.

The Nebraska Masonic Education Lodge (St Johns Lodge #331) continues to draw both attendees and presenters. Members of this Lodge share a desire to pursue more light in Masonry. Dues are rather inexpensive and there are only two meetings a year. The meetings include papers presented by members and, of course, no Masonic gathering would be complete without a meal. Any member of the committee will be happy to give Masons more information and instruction on how to join.

Thanks to the members of the committee and other volunteers who gave their time and efforts. The committee thanks the lodges, and valleys who volunteer to support the committee in this task.

Respectfully submitted,
 Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman, 287, 317, 332 & 331
 Thomas L. Hauder, 332 & 54
 W. Larry Jacobsen, 327 & 331
 Donald R. Kavalec, 11 & 333
 Jonathan L. Paz, Ad Hoc, 39
 Adam M. Thayer, 54 & 38
 James M. Stull, Ad Hoc, 96, 38, 54 & 332
 Michael J. Webb, Ad Hoc, 46

REPORT OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

M.:W.: Russell G. Reno, Chairman

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial made strides in 2015 to restore the building to its original state with the intent to continue to shore up the structure following the one-two punch of an earthquake and hurricane in 2011.

Last year, the pyramid atop the Memorial was restored after nearly a year of work. The clean, bright and restored stonework and louvers of the pyramid are now as they were when the Memorial was dedicated in 1932 and provide a foreshadowing of what the Memorial will be when the restoration is complete. The pyramid emphasizes the original concept of the Memorial as a lighthouse or beacon spreading the light of Freemasonry to the four corners of the world.

Each year on Washington's birthday – February 22nd – the Memorial Association honors his memory at a Gala Birthday Celebration. In 2015, a wreath-laying ceremony was held at Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon.

Following, the George Washington Symposium was held with the theme "Liberty's Alliance: Washington, Lafayette and Europeans' Support of American Independence."

The evening celebrants enjoyed a concert by The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic featuring patriotic, Masonic, and classical music. A gala banquet featured toasts to Washington. The final event for the evening was the presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award to Dr. Stuart Leibiger, who made the presentation, "Washington and Lafayette: Father and Son of the Revolution."

The George Washington Memorial Society was created to raise awareness of and support for the Memorial. There are now 138 members who made an initial contribution of \$1,000 and pledged \$250 annually. Charter Membership is open to any Mason. Members receive a unique patent of membership and a high-quality medal and lapel pin and their name on a permanent plaque. Application is available on the Memorial's website at: www.gwmemorial.org.

The Dedicatory Tree Program was conceived to beautify the Memorial grounds, reduce erosion and run-off, provide a habitat for birds and wildlife and to establish a tree canopy. To date, 657 trees have been installed in memory or recognition of Masons and organizations.

Light, a publication of the Memorial, is available online and 145,000 copies are sent across the United States.

The Memorial's website at www.gwmemorial.org and its Facebook and Twitter sites continue to be improved and updated to reflect the changes, programs, projects and events at the Memorial and the activities of the Memorial Association.

Interior and exterior repairs, restorations, improvements and upgrades to the building and grounds continued in 2015. A major project was the restoration and painting and the installation of LED lighting in the South Lodge Room. The restoration of the North Lodge, which suffered significant damage from the earthquake, was completed. A large section of the north wall was removed and rebuilt as the interior wall had become separated from the structural concrete wall. The restoration and repair of the northeast and southeast stairwells also was accomplished. Other completed projects were the installation of handicap ramps throughout the building making the Memorial entirely handicapped accessible.

Several large exterior cornerstones were cut out and reinstalled as they had moved out of alignment. All exterior mortar joints were cut out and re-mortared and lead weather cap was installed on all the joints. With completion of the pyramid, the scaffolding has been moved to the exterior section of the tower from the seventh to the ninth levels.

One goal of the Memorial is to have all Grand Lodges support their Memorial with a \$1 per member annual contribution. Twenty-six Grand Lodges contribute \$1 per member and Nebraska is the only Grand Lodge to pay \$1.50 per member. One Grand Lodge also pays \$15 per initiate, one gives \$10 per initiate, 18 contribute \$5 per initiate, another contributes \$3 per initiate. An annual per member contribution is the fairest and the best way for all the Grand Lodges and thus all the Freemasons of America to support and ensure the continuation of their Memorial.

Not one cent of public funds has ever been nor will ever be received by the Memorial Association. The Memorial belongs to the Freemasons of the United States and was conceived to honor the memory, character and legacy of Brother George Washington, our first and greatest President and our foremost Freemason.

The Memorial provides many opportunities to support its work, including:

- Regular Membership in the Society is available for a \$500 donation and an annual \$250 donation.
- A new Perpetual Remembrance program makes it easier to remember the Memorial in your will, revocable living trust, or other trust documents by providing support to make a planned gift. For more information, send an email to: seyer@gwmemorial.org or call 703-400-4950.
- Also, see the Memorial's website for levels recognition of contributions beginning at \$100. All donations over your lifetime are cumulative as each donation counts toward a higher recognition and reward. Go to www.gwmemorial.org for more information.

Our thanks are extended to the following for making donations in 2015: Cotner No. 297, M.:W.: Bro. Reg Kuhn, Bro. Leonard Steiner, Bro. James Karnegis, Bro. Dara Richter, Bro. William Nelson, Bro. Ed Morava, Bro. Vincent Murphy, W.: Bro. Dennis Brydl, Bro. Tod Voss and M.:W.: Bro. Russ Reno.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell G. Reno, 297, 183, 332, 54 & 331, Chairman

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Micah I. Evans, Chairman

Thanks to the efforts of M.W. Russ Reno, the Public Relations Committee helped get substantial press coverage from the Lincoln and Omaha media relating to the opening of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska Museum and Research Library in September, 2015. Additionally, Masons were recognized with media coverage for cornerstone dedications at the Fremont Health Center and the Nebraska Building at the Grand Island Nebraska State Fairgrounds. In October, an article in the Omaha World-Herald called attention to the legacy of M.W. George Lininger, whose art collection was the foundation of the Joslyn Art Museum.

In spite of these media successes, the committee had a few setbacks with several knowledgeable members stepping back from the committee. Several new members have joined the committee in 2015, bringing considerable professional experience. Our goal is to reinvigorate the Public Relations Committee's mission and reach several milestones in the coming year.

The committee has several goals in 2016:

1. Develop a social media policy for the use and benefit of Nebraska Lodges. In light of controversial events in other Grand Lodge jurisdictions, a policy will essentially instruct members to "govern themselves accordingly" in public posts, which may inflame opinions without accomplishing anything or reflect poorly on Freemasonry and Freemasons in Nebraska.
2. Encourage Lodges to establish a social media – Facebook or Twitter – page. An educational forum can be held around the state to help Lodges who may not know how to establish a page or keep it up-to-date.
3. Create inexpensive, short videos of welcome, news, congratulations, or other topics. These videos may be uploaded at no cost to hosting sites like vimeo or YouTube, and sent to the membership or potential members through the Lodge Secretaries. Because the production is inexpensive, the videos may be replaced or updated as necessary.
4. Encourage Lodges to reach out to media about incoming officers' installations, CHIP events, year pin presentations, scholarships or other news. The Public Relations committee recommends that appropriate criteria be developed, awarding points toward the Grand Lodge Gold Pan or Rock Maul awards.
5. Expand the Grand Lodge of Nebraska's subscription to e-mails, which can be sent at minimal cost (based on the number of e-mails in the database). The onus of subscribing is on the members themselves, rather than Grand Lodge, in the interest of time and work. Monthly e-mails can be sent with information, news, updates and inform members of events in a timely manner.

- 6. A monthly Grand Lodge trivia contest via an e-newsletter or social media pages would help generate interest and attention in Grand Lodge videos, e-newsletters, or social media pages. Such questions might include “What year was John Mercer Grand Master?” or “Name three Lodges named after people in Nebraska.”

These goals are modest in nature but may have a large impact across Nebraska. The committee believes they are achievable, and we anticipate reporting favorably on the status by the next Annual Communication.

Respectively submitted
 Micah I. Evans, 281, 268 & 333
 Brett R. Bennett, 6
 Edward W. Bennett, 61
 Brent R. Elder, 227
 John A. Hardy, 102

REPORT OF THE LODGE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

John R. Fairlie, Chairman

The Lodge Leadership Committee met this year at the All Committee Meeting in Fremont and at the Masonic Leadership Conference in Omaha.

We hosted the Masonic Leadership Conference at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Omaha where guest speaker Matt Nelson, Grand Standard Bearer for the Grand Lodge of Utah, gave a presentation covering topics from his book Lodge Leadership, A 5 Step Guide to Masonic Reform. A comprehensive Q&A session followed the presentation and good discussion was held throughout. Planning for next year’s Masonic Leadership Conference has already started, please contact the committee if you any have presentation ideas, requests for specific topics, or guest speakers.

The Committee worked with a few lodges throughout the state this year as they were identified by the Grand Lodge Officers as experiencing difficulty, and considering consolidation or closing. The Committee continues to feels it can be more productive in helping Lodges by identifying those Lodges beginning to face difficulties and consult with them while their problems are still manageable and have the potential to be resolved.

As Chairman of this Committee, I am pleased with the Committee members’ dedication and their willingness to accept the duties of the Committee. Finally, the Leadership Committee is recruiting new members in order to enhance our effectiveness and extend our reach to those Lodges in need.

Respectfully submitted,
 John R. Fairlie, 1, Chairman
 Olin D. Boone, 256
 Jason E. Knupp, 1
 Dan J. Nonneman, 317
 Eric D. VanSky, 325
 Curtis E. Wolbert, Ad Hoc, 320

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman

The membership committee explored the idea of creating a holding lodge for members of lodges that surrendered their charter. Several conversations were held and it was decided to not pursue this idea.

We are working on reinstating a Masonic club at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. A letter was published in the Nebraska Mason asking for names of relatives who attend the university. No names were received. This was disappointing and is making this effort harder to accomplish. This process also uncovered a previous effort for starting a club at the university. We are trying to learn why the previous effort faltered and incorporate the information into this effort.

We are working on creating a survey for lodges to gauge areas of need or what role the membership committee can play in assisting lodges increase membership in Nebraska. New programs developed without input from the membership will gather dust and not increase membership.

We are also starting to review the current membership handbook that is published on the website to see what needs to be updated.

This year we did not complete our goals, but the committee will continue to work on the above items.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman, 302, 268 & 331
 John L. Millington, 54 & 332
 Christopher S. Nigro, 268 & 331
 Zachery A. Sinsheimer, 302
 James M. Sklenar, 112
 William S. Blocker, Ad Hoc, 119
 John J. Wonder, Ad Hoc, 290

REPORT OF THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kevin R. Lindly, Chairman

The Awards Committee considered many applications for awards in 2015 and approved the awarding of fourteen (14) Masonic Individual Achievement Awards. The committee congratulates the recipients and would like to encourage more submissions by all lodges in 2016.

The committee conversed via e-mail and phone during January to review the applications for the major awards. We were pleased by the quality of the submissions, but are again concerned with the small number of submissions received for all awards.

The Gold Pan award had four (4) submissions, the same number submitted in 2015. The Rock Maul had none (9) submissions compared to eleven (11) in 2015. There were six (6) submissions for the Nebraska Pillar / Grand Master's Leadership awards compared to ten (10) in 2015.

There were 2 presentations of the Artificer Award this year.

The Committee strongly urges all lodges to compete for all the awards as a means of developing an interest in your lodges and communities.

The Committee would like to thank Most Worshipful Grand Master John Maxell and the Grand Lodge Officers for their support during the past year. We especially want to thank Michelle and Debbie in the Grand Lodge Office for their assistance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin R. Lindly, Chairman, 148, 200 & 331
Bradley M. Dutton, 183
Barry L. Frerichs, 136
F. Graham House, 54, 332
Kevin O. Scheele, 96, 54

REPORT OF THE INTERNET AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Tarl W. Carpenter, Chairman

The rollout of the new web site for the Grand Lodge in January 2015 went smoothly. Minor changes to the site continue to be made as issues arise. The Grand Lodge also continues to expand its presence online by providing online registration for many events, as well as the maintaining the Grand Master’s blog and the Grand Lodge of Nebraska Facebook page. The current server and desktop computer equipment at the Grand Lodge was purchased in March 2010. The server is showing signs of age, and with updates in software and requirements for hardware to run the necessary software, new replacement equipment was purchased at the end of 2015. That equipment will be configured and installed at the Grand Lodge in the first quarter of 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Tarl W. Carpenter, 62, Chairman
Thomas L. Hauder, 331 & 332
Jonathan L. Paz, 39

REPORT OF THE EAST GRAND MASTER’S MASONIC CHARITIES ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

Donald I. Peterson and Danforth D. Loring, Co-Chairs

The Grand Master’s Golf tournament was held at the North Bend Golf course on Monday, September 14, 2015. Sixty-three golfers enjoyed a beautiful day of golf with perfect weather. The men of the North Bend Lodge were assisted by brethren of area lodges. The profit of this year’s tournament was \$10,285.75 - \$3,428.58 will be given to each of the three charities: The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont, and the Nebraska Masonic Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald I. Peterson, 119, Co-Chair
Danforth D. Loring, 268, 333, Co-Chair
Karl R. Adamson, 31
Richard E. Gilmore, 268
Del F. Hartung, 15
Peter G. Larson, 11
Dale G. Lueders, 300, 220
Daniel J. Wellendorf, 11, 2268
Beverly Donham, OES
Dee Schuetz, OES

REPORT OF THE BOY SCOUTS OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Anthony T. (AJ) Johnson, Chairman

On behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, I am privileged to make the first annual report of the Masons Supporting Scouting initiative. We started this Committee at Most Worshipful Brother John Maxell's request at the first of his year to revive a program we had initiated during Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder's year that lost traction at the Mid America Council.

We started with establishing a new committee. I would like to thank the committee members, W.B. Jim Wolfe, W.B. Paul Rutherford, and Brother George McMullen, for their assistance and support. We have established continued contact with the Mid America Council and are currently working contact with the other two Boy Scout councils that are part of the great state of Nebraska.

The purpose of the program is, 1) to bring scouting and Masons together in Nebraska, 2) to provide support for scouting and opportunities for Lodges and other Masonic bodies to support scouting, 3) to have a conduit to work through, and 4) to provide those Lodges and other bodies something that may be the spark to make them more active in their communities and provide a service to the community.

The committee is aware that some Lodges already support scouting and we are working to get all of their information to use as lessons learned and to develop a checklist and program to make the process of supporting scouting or a troop easier. We have also been working on developing scouting needs from especially the Mid America Council and the other two councils to be able to match them up with potential Lodges or Masonic bodies that could potentially provide support.

The progress this year has been baby steps to ensure an enduring program that will be in place for many years to come. The first solid item accomplished was to create a Letter of Congratulation from the Grand Master to all Eagle Scouts in the state. We have already started receiving names in early December and have established a process to get the other names of new Eagle Scouts for the future.

In the upcoming year of 2016 we plan to have a continuity book established to determine how to run the program now and in the future. We also hope to accomplish the contact with the other two councils and to establish the matching of scouting needs with Lodges and other Masonic bodies. This concludes the report of the Masons Supporting Scouting Committee for the 2015 year.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony T. (AJ) Johnson, Chairman, 268
George L. McMullin, 268
Paul D. Rutherford, 327, 333
James O. Wolfe, 326, 268

REPORT OF PENDING RESOLUTIONS

R.:W.:B.: Grand Secretary Reginald S. Kuhn announced that he received three resolutions to amend the Bylaws. Amendments to the Bylaws, if found to be in proper form, will be read and laid over until the session next year.

Resolution No. 1

Amend **ARTICLE II - MEMBERS** and **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS** of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge A.: F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language italicized and the deleted language struck out:

**ARTICLE II.
MEMBERS**

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Historian, Grand Custodian, Grand Marshal, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Senior Steward, Grand Junior Steward, Grand Tyler, and if appointed, *Grand Master's Personal Representative (up to three)*, and Grand Musician. With such other officers as it may from time to time create; together with the Masters and Wardens and Secretaries or the proxies, duly constituted, of the chartered subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction; and such past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters as are members of subordinate lodges.

**ARTICLE V.
OFFICERS**

The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be styled and take rank as follows:

- The Most Worshipful Grand Master
- The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
- The Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden
- The Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden
- The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
- The Very Worshipful Grand Chaplain
- The Worshipful Grand Orator
- The Worshipful Grand Historian
- The Worshipful Grand Custodian
- The Worshipful Grand Marshal
- The Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon
- The Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon
- The Worshipful Grand Senior Steward
- The Worshipful Grand Junior Steward
- The Grand Tyler

The Office of Grand Master's Personal Representative (up to three) may be appointed, if desired.

The Office of Grand Musician may be appointed, if desired.

Rationale: Grand Master's Personal Representatives make it possible for the Grand Master to fulfill obligations at times that he would otherwise be unable to due to schedule and geographic limitations. This amendment would not require the appointment of a Grand Representative, but leaves the decision up to the Grand Master.

Resolution No. 2

This proposed amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, specifically, **Section 1-101 (Annual Communications)** is respectfully offered for the consideration by the Brethren and the Grand Lodge.

Section 1-101 currently reads:

Sec. 1-101 -ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS - The stated Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held at such place as shall be designated by the newly elected Grand Senior Warden for his probable term as Grand Master with the approval of the Grand Lodge, ~~beginning on the first Friday of February~~, at such hour as the Grand Master may designate. A Master Mason's Lodge shall first be opened. If representatives of the constitutional number of seven subordinate lodges be found present, the Grand Lodge shall be declared open for the transaction of business, and the Grand Master shall announce all necessary appointments and fill vacancies in the standing committees.

So that when amended it will read as follows:

Sec. 1-101 -ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS - The stated Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held at such place as shall be designated by the newly elected Grand Senior Warden for his probable term as Grand Master with the approval of the Grand Lodge, ***beginning on any Friday in September following Labor Day commencing in 2019***, at such hour as the Grand Master may designate. A Master Mason's Lodge shall first be opened. If representatives of the constitutional number of seven subordinate lodges be found present, the Grand Lodge shall be declared open for the transaction of business, and the Grand Master shall announce all necessary appointments and fill vacancies in the standing committees.

Rationale: Grand Lodge has been held in February since 1988. On multiple occasions there has been inclement weather which impacts the ability of our members and guests to attend our Grand Lodge. By moving Grand Lodge to any Friday in September following Labor Day removes the inclement weather as a barrier to attending Grand Lodge.

Resolution No. 3

This proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Nebraska, specifically, **Article II of the Constitution** as it addresses who is considered a voting member of the Grand Lodge.

Article II currently reads as follows:

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplin, Grand Historian, Grand Custodian, Grand Marshal, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Senior Steward, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Tyler, and if appointed Grand Musician, with such other officers as it may time to time create; together with the Masters and Wardens and Secretaries or their proxy, duly constituted, of the chartered subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction; provided however, no member shall hold more than two proxies for any and all subordinate lodges of which he is a member, and such Past Grand masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters as are members of subordinate lodges.

So that when amended, it will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplin, Grand Historian, Grand Custodian, Grand Marshal, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Senior Steward, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Tyler, and if appointed Grand Musician, with such other officers as it may time to time create; together with the Masters and Wardens and Secretaries or their proxy, duly constituted, of the chartered subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction; provided however, no member shall hold more than two proxies for any and

all subordinate lodges of which he is a member, and such Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters as are members of subordinate lodges. ***Past Masters of subordinate lodges shall also be considered members of the Grand Lodge when they are present at Grand Lodge as long as they have not missed the preceding two year's Grand Lodge sessions. Past Masters considered members of Grand Lodge will not be authorized to designate a proxy.***

Rationale: The amendment if approved would have multiple purposes. First, it will allow those individuals that have served the craft in their subordinate lodges to have a voice during grand lodge regardless of whether they have a proxy. Second, this amendment should encourage members to attend the annual communication. Currently numerous other Grand Jurisdictions have similar rules in place.

FINAL REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.: Dwight Smith, Chairman

Most Worshipful Smith summarized and read parts of the following report:

The meeting of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Nebraska was called to order on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. by M.:W.: Brother Dwight E. Smith, Chairman. The following members were present: Most Worshipful Brothers Steven F. Mattoon, Dean Skokan, Les Seiler and the following Grand Lodge Officers: M.:W.: John T. Maxell, Grand Master; R.:W.: Dennis E. Rix, Deputy Grand Master; R.:W.: Richard D. Myers, Grand Senior Warden; R.:W.: Patrick D. Barger, Grand Junior Warden; M.:W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary; V.:W.: Kevin R. Lindly, Grand Chaplain; W.: James A. Carlton, Grand Orator; W.: Dennis H. Brydl, Grand Historian; M.:W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian; W.: Donald E. Rife, Grand Marshall, W.: Robert W. Moninger, Grand Senior Deacon; W.: Ronald Stites, Grand Junior Deacon; W.: Stephen C. Kennedy, Grand Senior Steward; W.: Jay Jones, Grand Junior Steward; W.: Paul D. Rutherford, Grand Tyler; W.: Brothers Alex Straatmann, John Fairlie and John Ferguson, Personal Representatives of the Grand Master, as well as Past Grand Masters: M.:W.: Thomas L. Hauder; and M.:W.: Joe D. McBride.

The following were elected to service as officers of the Jurisprudence Committee for the ensuing year: M.:W.:B.: Dwight E. Smith, Chairman and M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan, Secretary.

The Minutes and Report of the Committee from February 5, 2015 were reviewed and approved.

Pursuant to Section 1-304 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, the Jurisprudence Committee is to review all Resolutions delivered to the Grand Secretary, including a request for Bylaw revisions and determine within 45 days of delivery whether the Resolutions are in proper form. Section 1-304 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge provides that at least 15 days prior to the opening of the session of the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Jurisprudence shall meet and submit to the Grand Master an agenda and report. The entire Jurisprudence Committee met on January 19, 2016 and submitted to the Grand Master an agenda and report.

The Committee considered the Grand Masters Recommendations for amendments to the Grand Lodge Bylaws, and the following action was taken:

On motion by M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan and seconded by M.:W.:B.: Les Seiler, Recommendations One, Two, Three, Four and Five were approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

With regard to the Member Resolution, the Committee determined as follows: On motion by M.:W.:B.: Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.:B.: Steven F. Mattoon, Resolution One was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

With regard to the Amendments to Lodge Bylaws that approved by the Grand Master, the committee found that all such approvals were proper.

With regard to the Permissions, Dispensations and Actions of the Grand Master, the Committee found as follows:

On motion by M.:W.:B.: Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan, the other Permissions, Dispensations and Orders were approved.

On motion by M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan, seconded by M.:W.:B.: Les Seiler, the Permissions, Dispensations and Orders contained in the Supplemental Address were approved.

R.W. Richard D. Myers, Grand Senior Warden, presented a request that he had previously sent to the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee requesting a ruling as to the appointment of a member of the Jurisprudence Committee in 2017. His request contains two issues: Whether Section 1-302 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, which provides that each member of a standing committee, including the Jurisprudence Committee, shall serve for a period of one year, with no committee member to serve more than five consecutive years, conflicts with Section 1-307 of the Grand Lodge By-laws, which provides that members of the Jurisprudence Committee shall be appointed to a term of five years; and whether members of the Jurisprudence Committee can serve multiple five year terms consecutively.

On consideration of the request for a ruling on the matter, the Jurisprudence Committee finds as follows: Subsection (a) provides "Except as provided by these Bylaws, all standing committees shall consist of five members and shall be appointed by the Grand Master within ten days after his installation." This subsection makes an exception of a provision in the Bylaws which governs appointment and members of a standing committee; therefore Section 1-307 governs the appointment and members of the Jurisprudence Committee.

The first paragraph of Section 1-307 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws provides in part as follows: "The Jurisprudence Committee shall consist of five Past Grand Masters. The chairman of the committee shall be chosen by its members to serve for a one year term. The Grand Master shall annually appoint one member to the committee to serve a term of five years, and members may be reappointed to serve additional terms." This provision allows for appointment of members to multiple five year terms, including consecutive terms.

On motion by M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan and seconded by M.:W.:B.: Steven F. Mattoon, the finding and ruling of the Jurisprudence Committee was approved and should be included in the report of the Jurisprudence Committee.

The Committee then proceeded to pass a motion commending John T. Maxell on his very successful year as Grand Master and commended him and his officers for their year of service to the Fraternity.

The Committee on Jurisprudence stands willing, ready and able to aid and assist your Grand Master and all of the elected Grand Lodge Officers to advise and assist them in any way we can with reference to the laws of our Grand Lodge's grand jurisdiction and to aid all of our officers in the execution of the duties of their office.

At this time I would like to thank the other members of the Committee. On behalf the committee, I thank Michelle and Debbie in the Grand Lodge Office for all their help.

Codification of the Law:

1. Pursuant to approval of Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2, The fifth paragraph of Section 2-601 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

If the amount due the Grand Lodge is not received by April 10, the Grand Lodge Office Committee shall add as a penalty Ten Cents (\$.10) per day for each member on the rolls as shown in the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to all lodges that neglect to send in their returns complete to the Grand Lodge as provided by Section 2-310, and pay their dues and assessments to the Grand Lodge.

2. Pursuant to approval of Grand Master's Recommendation No. 3, Sections 2-406, 2-601 and 2-1302 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-406 – MEMBERS OF EXTINGUISHED SUBORDINATE LODGES – A brother who was a member in good standing of a subordinate lodge at the time such lodge became extinct, shall remain in good standing and automatically become a member of the existing lodge geographically closest to the lodge that became extinct, and shall have the same rights and privileges as members of a regular lodge, including the rights of membership, affiliation, visiting, avouchment, relief, demission, appeal, trial, and burial. But should he fail to pay his dues as provided by Section 2-601 and to pay dues as required by the lodge to which he has become a member by the provisions hereof, such brother is subject to suspension as otherwise provided in these bylaws.

The seventh paragraph of Section 2-601 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

All settlements shall be made in accordance with the account of the Grand Lodge Office Committee, which shall base the same upon the table as printed in the preceding year's proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2-1302 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-1302 – CERTIFICATE REQUIRED – A subordinate lodge cannot consider a petition for affiliation unless accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing, as hereinafter provided, or demit or its equivalent. A petitioner who presents with his petition a Certificate of Good Standing from a subordinate lodge of this jurisdiction or one authorized by law of another Grand Jurisdiction shall not become a member of the lodge petitioned until he is elected and his demit or its equivalent has been obtained by said lodge.

- 3. Pursuant to approval of Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 4, Section 2-604 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-604 – DUES CARDS - HOW PREPARED – There shall be two forms of receipt for dues adopted in this Grand Jurisdiction, including one for members with less than 50 years of good standing as a Master Mason, and one for members with 50 or more years of good standing as a Master Mason. The receipts for dues, adopted for use in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall contain all the information contained in the forms of receipt found in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 2016, printed on cards of convenient size to fit in the ordinary card case. Said receipts shall be computer generated in the office of the Grand Lodge and furnished to each subordinate lodge without charge to the lodge.

- 4. Pursuant to approval of Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 5, Section 1-202 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1-202 – GRAND CUSTODIAN – The Grand Custodian shall attend all communications of the Grand Lodge, and under the direction and control of the Grand Master shall have the entire charge and supervision of the work, lectures, and ritual of this jurisdiction, and it is made his duty to enforce the thorough teaching and practice of said work, ritual and lectures, and immediately to report to the Grand Master any violation of this requirement and if it shall come to his knowledge that any subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction shall ignore, refuse, or fail to practice, in every respect, such uniform and established work as taught by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same to the Grand Master, who may arrest the charter of said subordinate lodge, and shall hold the same until such time as it shall comply with the requirements of the Grand Master aforesaid, or until the next communication of the Grand Lodge. The work of the Grand Custodian in conducting schools of instruction or otherwise shall not be interrupted, except under urgent circumstances which, in the opinion of the Grand Master, shall be sufficient to justify such interruption. He shall make a full and detailed report to the Grand Lodge of his official visits and acts and shall receive as compensation for his services such salary as set by the Grand Lodge, payable monthly, together with all necessary expenses in and about such work.

The Grand Master, may appoint Deputy Grand Custodians to assist the Grand Custodian in supervising the work, lectures, and ritual, and who shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master. Any Deputy Grand Custodian or Apprentice who is absent from the annual Custodian school for three consecutive years will automatically lose his commission at the close of the third consecutive school, unless good cause can be shown to the Grand Master.

The Grand Master may, at his discretion, name as Deputy Grand Custodian Emeriti such number of brethren as he may deem proper who have served as Deputy Grand Custodians, in this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally,
 Dwight E. Smith, 205, Chairman
 Steven F. Mattoon, 75
 John M. McHenry, 19
 Les Seiler, 317
 Dean Skokan, 15

M.:W.:B.: Dwight Smith moved for the adoption of the report of the Jurisprudence Committee. The motion was seconded and carried.



Worshipful Brother Anthony J. (AJ) Johnson, hospital representative for the Masonic Service Association, presented Most Worshipful John Maxell with a framed certificate of appreciation from the Masonic Service Association for support received from the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 2015.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REPORT OF BALLOT

The Chairman of Tellers, W.:B.: Ron Grass presented the report of the balloting for the Grand Lodge Officers. The election was deemed proper. The following individuals received a majority of votes for the offices indicated:

- Deputy Grand Master/
- Grand Master-Elect.....R.:W.: Richard D. Myers
- Grand Senior WardenR.:W.: Patrick D. Barger
- Grand Junior Warden..... R.:W.: Robert W. Moninger
- Grand SecretaryM.:W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM

The Grand Master then elicited acceptance from each of the newly-elected officers and congratulated them on their election.



Grand Master Maxell asked R.:W.: Dennis Rix to approach the lectern and announce the slate of appointed officers for the 2015-2016 term, when he will serve as Grand Master.

- John B. Ferguson, Grand Chaplain
- John R. Fairlie, Grand Orator
- Dennis H. Brydl, Grand Historian
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM, Grand Custodian
- Kevin R. Lindly, Grand Marshal
- Ronald D. Stites, Grand Senior Deacon
- James A. Carlton, Grand Junior Deacon
- David A. Wetrosky, Grand Senior Steward
- John L. Millington, Grand Junior Steward
- Robert C. King, Grand Tyler

R.:W.: Rix made the following special appointment:

Alexander F. Straatmann, Personal Representative of the Grand Master

Right Worshipful Rix announced that the installation of officers would take place that afternoon at 4:00 pm in the lodge room. A reception for those who had pre-registered would be held following the installation.

A motion was made for the approval of the aforementioned appointed officers for 2016-2017. The motion was seconded and, with no discussion, motion carried.



Right Worshipful Rick Myers, was invited to the podium and announced that, as approved at the 158th Annual Communication in 2015, the 161st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Center in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2018.

Grand Master Maxell asked R.:W.: Patrick D. Barger to approach the microphone where Brother Barger moved for approval to hold the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2019. The motion was seconded and carried.

PRESENTATION OF DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS, APPRENTICES AND EMERITI

The Deputy Grand Custodians, Apprentices and Emeriti present were organized and brought to the East for individual introduction. The Deputy Grand Master covered while the Grand Master greeted the Deputy Grand Custodians.

Grand Master Maxell thanked the Deputy Grand Custodians for their work in the lodges.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GRAND LODGE COLLEGE OF RITUAL INDIVIDUAL PROFICIENCY GRADUATES AND DIPLOMA PRESENTATIONS

Right Worshipful Barger explained that the purpose of the proficiency classes is to increase the number of brothers who are fully proficiency in the work in the state of Nebraska. The classes meet once a month, with a goal of being certified individually proficient within one year.

Right Worshipful Barger then presented diplomas for the following brothers who completed the requirements for individual proficiency.

Mark L. Carley, Frank Welch Lodge No. 75, Sidney
 Herbert C. Coulter, Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair
 Bradley M. Dutton, Alliance Lodge No. 183, Alliance
 John B. Ferguson, James L. Eatmon Lodge No. 294, Kimball
 Kenneth D. Foland, Frank Welch Lodge No. 75, Sidney
 James D. Karell, Alliance Lodge No. 183, Alliance
 Thomas J. Lagerstrom, Liberty Lodge No. 300, Lincoln
 Tyler S. Loontjer, Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Omaha
 John L. Millington, Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln
 Kent R. Millington, Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln
 Kent L. Neumann, Olive Branch Lodge No. 297, Walthill
 Robert L. Schapp, Jr., Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Omaha
 M.: W.: Dwight E. Smith, Golden Fleece Lodge No. 205, Chappell
 Joel W. Zilmer, Alliance Lodge No. 183, Alliance
 Kyle J. Peterson, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274, Walthill

The following individual was recognized for completing the Lecture Series Classes for the Fellow Craft Middle Chamber Lecture:

Rick B. Porter, Jr., Lebanon Lodge No. 323, Columbus

**PRESENTATION OF THE PAST GRAND MASTER'S APRON
AND PAST GRAND MASTER'S JEWEL**

Past Grand Master John T. Parsons made the formal presentation of the Past Grand Master's Apron and Jewel to M.:W.:B.: John T. Maxell.



Right Worshipful Dennis E. Rix, Deputy Grand Master, approached the East and made the following motion:

“I move for approval of all actions taken by the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers in the state of Nebraska for the Masonic Year 2015-2016.”

The motion was seconded, and with no discussion, the motion was approved.



V.:W.:B.: Grand Chaplain Kevin R. Lindly led the delegation in a closing prayer.

“Brethren let us pray. Heavenly Father, as the sun has now set in the West, our labor is finished, our tools are put away for another day and we leave our posts in the East, the West and South, and bound together by the fraternal ties of our Grand Lodge, we are once again prepared for service. Grant safe travels to all as they go home from this 159th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska. May we be guided and strengthened for our duties by Your power. In Your glorious Name we pray, Amen.”

Following the prayer, M.:W.: Grand Master Maxell thanked the brethren for their participation in the Annual Communication.

By virtue in the power and authority in him vested as Grand Master, John T. Maxell then declared the 159th Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska closed in ample form.

Following the close of the Grand Lodge, the Lodge of Master Masons was closed by members of Shiloh Lodge No. 327 and Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6.

Organization

of

Grand Lodge

A.:F.: & A.:M.:
of Nebraska



Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

M.: W.: John T. Maxell	GRAND MASTER
R.: W.: Dennis E. Rix	Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.: Richard D. Myers	Grand Senior Warden
R.: W.: Patrick D. Barger	Grand Junior Warden
M.: W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM	Grand Secretary
V.: W.: Kevin R. Lindly	Grand Chaplain
W.: James A. Carlton	Grand Orator
W.: Dennis H. Brydl	Grand Historian
M.: W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM	Grand Custodian
W.: Donald E. Rife	Grand Marshal
W.: Robert W. Moninger	Grand Senior Deacon
W.: Ronald D. Stites	Grand Junior Deacon
W.: Steven C. Kennedy	Grand Senior Steward
W.: James J. Jones	Grand Junior Steward
W.: Paul D. Rutherford	Grand Tyler

SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

W.: John R. Fairlie	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.: John B. Ferguson	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.: Alexander F. Straatmann	Personal Representative of the Grand Master

Past Grand Masters

Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge

A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska

DONALD R. SWANSON, 54	(109th)	1974
1615 S. 44th St., Lincoln 68506-1121, 402-489-1615		
CHARLES W. AMIDON, 281, 327	(120th)	1986
1706 Hillside Dr., Omaha 68114-1621, 402-391-2657		
PAUL R. EVELAND, 119	(122nd)	1988
1848 County Road 14 Blvd., Ames 68621-2123, 402-721-3298		
THOMAS W. TYE, 46	(123rd)	1989
4225 S. Westcotta Dr., Green Valley, AZ 85614-5624, 520-648-5416		
JOHN M. McHENRY, 19	(124th)	1990
PO Box 82426, Lincoln 68501-2426, 402-476-2200		
JAMES N. DeMOSS, 325	(125th)	1991
7100 Holmes Park Rd Apt 119, Lincoln, NE 68506, 402-489-7589		
DONALD L. POHLMAN, 41	(127th)	1993
12918 W. Skyview Dr., Sun City West, AZ 85375, 623-977-7386		
STEVEN F. MATTOON, 75	(128th)	1994
PO Box 316, Sidney 69162-0316, 308-254-5595		
V. KAYE RAMSEY, 290 & 317	(130th)	1996
14522 Patrick Ave., Omaha 68116-4130, 402-498-2821		

KENNETH G. FLEMING, 75..... (131st)1997
14205 Constitution Cir., Apt. 22, Bellevue 68123-6861, 402-408-6337

DON E. RASMUSSEN, 82, 135..... (132nd)1998
1327 W. 16th St., Hastings 68901-2907, 402-463-3864

DWIGHT E. SMITH, 205 (133rd).....1999
16950 Road 16, Chappell 69129-6830, 308-874-3268

JAMES F. BROWN, JR., 54 (134th).....2000
6710 Rexford Dr., Lincoln, NE 68506-1532, 402-483-1727

PHILIP A. LORENZEN, 10, 327, 1 (135th)2001
13448 Burdette Street, Omaha 68164-4016, 402-493-3701

MICHAEL E. JONES, 51, 173 (136th).....2002
PO Box 229, David City 68632-0229, 402-367-3342

KENNETH D. BEEBE, 119..... (137th).....2003
1291 Old Lincoln Hwy, North Bend 68649-2011, 402-652-3380

LES SEILER, 317 (138th)2004
848 N. 6th Ave., Hastings 68901-4117, 402-462-9396

IVAN A. VRTISKA, 327..... (139th).....2005
1516 N. 170th Cir., Omaha 68118-2843, 402-397-7669

SCOTT J. KRIEGER, SR., 317, 332, 33 (140th)2006
1231 Pershing Rd., Hastings 68901-2836, 402-463-4602

DEAN SKOKAN, 15 (141st)2007
404 E. Ridge Dr., Hooper 68031-3000, 402-654-2514

REGINALD S. KUHN, 134, 19, 332..... (142nd)2008
2627 Park Ave., Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-438-4220

RUSSELL G. RENO, 183, 297, 332, 54 (143rd).....2009
4710 Larkwood Rd., Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-420-1270

JOHN T. PARSONS, 268..... (144th).....2010
1512 Beechwood Ave., Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565

BRUCE A. BAKER, 317 (145th)2011
2510 S. Deer Trl., Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396

REX J. MOATS, 290, 102 (146th).....2012
2510 S. Deer Trl., Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396

THOMAS L. HAUDER, 332 (147th).....2013
7718 Phares Dr., Lincoln 68516, 402-304-0137

JOE D. McBRIDE, 224 (148th)2014
87212 State Highway 7, Ainsworth 69210, 402-387-1214

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

(Per Section 1-301 of Grand Lodge Bylaws)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence (§1-307: 5 Past Grand Masters - 5 year term)

Chm. Dwight E. Smith, 205, 16950 Road 16, Chappell 69129-6830, 308-874-4484 (c), dwight174@gmail.com
 Steven F. Mattoon, 75, 1736 Dorwart Dr, Sidney 69162-0316, 308-249-0761 (c), smattoon@charter.net
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Fraternal Relations (§1-308)

Chm. Lawrence J. Zwart, 11, 7835 Fort St, Omaha 68134-2347, 402-312-7835 (c), lzwart@gmail.com
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 John B. Ferguson, 294, 511 S Webster St, Kimball 69145, 308-235-5404 (c), ferguson4563@embarqmail.com
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-438-4220,
rsk@mattsonrickets.com

Masonic Relief (§1-309)

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 Troy Myers, 297, 421 W Gourley St, Lincoln 68521-5306, 402-770-0704 (c), troy_myers32@hotmail.com
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-727-4108, karliv@neb.rr.com

Masonic Education (§1-310)

Chm. Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-423-6982,
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 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 402-212-7861 (c),
omahaprogrammer@gmail.com
 Adam M. Thayer, 54, 38, 2920 S 72nd St Apt 87, Lincoln 68506-3681, 402-314-6310 (c),
adam.thayer@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Members:

James M. Stull, 332, 54, 38, 96, PO Box 173, Staplehurst 68439, 402-641-1502 (c), stullj98@yahoo.com
 Michael J. Webb, 46, 4816 E Ave, Kearney 68847-8362, 308-293-7989, robmorrisno46@gmail.com

Awards Committee (§1-311)

Chm. Kevin R. Lindly, 148, 200, 819 S 10th Ave, Broken Bow 68822, 308-880-1081 (c), kevin.lindly@bbps.org
 Bradley M. Dutton, 183, 802 Missouri Ave, Alliance 69301-3043, 308-762-8388, dutton.art@hotmail.com
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 Kevin O. Scheele, 96, 54, 1935 Washington St, Lincoln 68502-2557, 402-366-8648 (c),
kevinscheele@hotmail.com

Nebraska Work (§1-312: 3 members - 3 year term)

Chm. Philip A. Lorenzen, 10, 327, 1, 21, 333, 13448 Burdette St, Omaha 68164-4016, 402-493-3701,
palorenzen@outlook.com
 Roger A. Deininger, 317, 1319 W 11th, Hastings 68901-3702, 402-462-8146, r.dein@yahoo.com
 Steven A. Green, 54, 332, 2635 S 12th St, Lincoln 68502-3515, 402-477-9055, bearlyflyin@windstream.net

Grievances (§1-313)

Chm. Don C. Bortorff, 79, PO Box 404, Sutton 68979-0404, 402-773-4698, bortorfflaw@windstream.net
 Robert D. Kinsey, 297, 6611 Leesburg St, Lincoln 68516-5416, 402-430-6628, rkinsey@krbkla.com
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 Robert J. Parker, 317, 1304 Country Club Dr, Hastings 68901-2400, 402-461-3170
 Jay H. Speck, 6, 606 Chicago Ave, Plattsmouth 68048-2061, 402-296-4355, jsbnc@charter.net

Finance (§1-314: 8 members)

Chm. John E. Lorenzen, 10, 314, 3941 Eagle Ridge Rd #108, Lincoln 68516-7046, 402-488-2603,
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 Micheal A. Buchardt, 52, 256, 6945 N 98th St, Lincoln 68507-9741, 402-466-2180, *mike.buchardt@ubt.com*
 Jack G. Frahm, 204, 86419 533 Ave, Plainview 68769-2518, 402-582-4888, *jpgraham@plvwtelco.net*
 Joel L. Jelkin, 15, 124 E 6th St, Fremont 68025-5030, 402-721-4751 (w), *joel.jelkin@edwardjones.com*
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19, 317, 3647 S 77th St, Lincoln 68506-4706, 402-489-7515, *aloudon@baylorevnen.com*
 Rick E. Nelson, 271, 317, 2565 S Smokey Hill Rd, Hastings 68901-7441, 402-462-4001,
renelson@windstream.net
 Steven S. Nichols, 102, 3817 N 206th St, Elkhorn 68022-7016, 402-630-0366, *snichols@primecominc.com*
 Charles V. Sederstrom, III, 290, 333, 3510 N 252nd St, Waterloo 68069-5612, 402-510-5854,
chuck@finance1.us

Credentials (§1-315)

Chm. Delmar A. Jones, 65, 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-237-9234, *jonesdelmar@ymail.com*
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 Philip O. Edwards, 326, 14830 Holmes St, Omaha 68137-1312, 402-895-3781, *podaedwards@cox.net*
 Robert M. Hoagland, 46, 146, 2701 Grand Ave Trlr 66, Kearney 68847-0201, 308-240-5626 (c),
hoagland@citlink.net
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-727-4108, *karliv@neb.rr.com*
 Gordon L. Brown, 146, 1106 E 30th Dr, Kearney 68847-3839, 308-224-4913 (c), *brown9667@msn.com*

Grand Lodge Office (§1-316)

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 Rex J. Moats, 290, 102, 131 S 202nd St, Elkhorn 68022-4896, 402-871-1060 (c), *rexmoats@aol.com*
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-438-4220,
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Public Relations (§1-317)

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 Edward W. Bennett, 61, 2341 Andrea Plc, Lincoln 68512-9415, 308-325-0426 (c),
eduardubennett@gmail.com
 Brent R. Elder, 227, 815 Grant St, Beatrice 68310-3030, 402-462-5353, *thecallofthunder@gmail.com*
 Micah I. Evans, 281, 268, 333, 1109 S 33rd St, Omaha 68105-2009, 402-547-9755 (c), *mevans0424@cox.net*

Lodge Leadership Committee (§1-318)

Chm. John R. Fairlie, 1, 333, 4710 Valley St, Omaha 68106-4052, 402-350-6164 (c), *ryanfairlie@yahoo.com*
 Olin D. Boone, 256, 6101 S Richland Cir, Lincoln 68516-1971, 402-486-3801, *oboone@windstream.net*
 Jason E. Knupp, 36, 1, 4974 S 167th Ave, Omaha 68135-1377, 402-431-2357 (c), *jason.knupp@gmail.com*
 Dan J. Nonneman, 317, 2780 S Meadow Ln, Hastings 68901-7490, 402-984-5140 (c),
dannonneman@charter.net
 Eric D. Van Sky, 325, 119 Longwood Dr, Papillion 68133-, 402-881-5210, *eric.vansky@yahoo.com*

Ad-hoc Member:

Zachery A. Sinsheimer, 302, 6105 Ellison Ave, Omaha 68104-1628, 402-639-2089, *sinbar@gmail.com*
 Curtis E. Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860, *cewolbert@windstream.net*

Membership (§1-319)

Chm. Jeffrey M. Coleman, 302, 268, 2327 Hanscom Blvd, Omaha 68105-3143, 402-290-7243 (c),
jcmasonic@gmail.com
 John L. Millington, 54, 332, PO Box 185, Raymond 68428, 402-560-8311 (c), *jmillington@windstream.net*
 Christopher S. Nigro, 268, 2111 S 146th Cir, Omaha 68144-2116, 402-763-7625 (c), *cnigro@yahoo.com*
 Zachery A. Sinsheimer, 302, 6105 Ellison Ave, Omaha 68104-1628, 402-639-2089, *sinbar@gmail.com*
 James M. Sklenar, 112, PO Box 27, Treynor 51575-0027, 402-960-7282 (c), *jsklenar@ci.omaha.ne.us*

Ad-hoc Member:

William S. Blocker, 38, 119, PO Box 15, North Bend 68649-0015, 406-218-8937, *blocker.will@gmail.com*
 John J. Wonder, 290, 6014 1/2 Maple St, Omaha 68104-4104, 402-551-2608, *jhuundr@cox.net*

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

May be appointed at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master or at the direction of the Grand Lodge.

Masonic All-Star Band

- Chm. K. Roger Dill, 310, 710 S East St, Valley 68064-9724, 402-359-4440, krogerdill@yahoo.com
 Bruce A. Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396 (c), bsbaker74@charter.net
 William H. Cummins, 54, 5120 S Windlesham Ct, Lincoln 68516-1689, 402-525-8287 (c),
bcummins@windstream.net
 Jennie Danner, 1501 Superior Street Apt #5, Lincoln 68521-, 402-261-9168, jmusic@hotmai.com
 Donald G. Havekost, 132, 72, 829 County Road 19 Blvd, Hooper 68031, 402-654-2133, coma@midlands.net
 Dennis E. Rix, 15, 310, 1860 Phelps Ave, Fremont 68025-4425, 402-721-3076, therix@aol.com
 E. Thomas Spunaugle, 198, 38, 232 Lindell Ave, Seward 68434-2236, 402-643-9827, tbspun@gmail.com
 Jan Thoman, 1320 N 55th St, Lincoln 68504, 402-464-8802, jandarby@aol.com
 Kathy Worrell, PO Box 145, Ainsworth 69210-0145, 402-387-2858, rkworrell@threeriver.net

Internet and Computer Technology Committee

- Chm. Tarl W. Carpenter, 62, PO Box 205, Cortland 68331-0205, 308-646-0540, goldshadow@gmail.com
 Thomas L. Hauder, 332, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-421-7436, tomshop1@me.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Jamesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 402-212-7861 (c),
omahaprogrammer@gmail.com

Youth

- Chm. Gene F. Wehrbein, 6, 8817 Church Rd, Louisville 68037-3813, 402-298-8192, gwehrbein@jagwireless.net
 Tim Birdsall, 210, 749 Sunnyslope Rd, Lincoln 68505, 402-489-3860, kmtbirdsall@windstream.net
 Bruce J. Bugbee, 65, PO Box 24, Taylor 68879-0024, 402-366-2762, kjbjbugbee@hotmail.com
 James A. Carlton, 325, 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarlton1945@gmail.com
 Greg E. Mason, 297, 415 Laramie Trl, Lincoln 68521-3230, 402-770-5898 (c), gregemason@gmail.com
 Dennis L. Smith, 15, 350 E 23rd St, Fremont 68025-2302, 402-721-2741, dennysmith@q.com
Ex-Officio: State Master Councilor of DeMolay; Grand Bethel Honored Queen of Job's Daughters; Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter Job's Daughters; Grand Worthy Advisor of Rainbow

George Washington Masonic Memorial Association

- Chm. Russell G. Reno, 297, 183, 332, 54, 4710 Larkwood Rd, Lincoln 68516, 402-420-1270, negm2009@hotmail.com

East Grand Master's Masonic Charities Activity Committee

- Co-Chr Donald I. Peterson, 119, 740 Locust St, North Bend 68649, 402-652-8257, donchrspeterson@gmail.com
 Co-Chr Danforth D. Loring, 268, 333, 9410 Chicago St, Omaha 68114-3868, 402-391-4471, danforth@cox.net
 Karl R. Adamson, 31, 1506 O St, Tekamah 68061-1046, 402-307-0007, lionkarl@hutel.net
 Beverly Donham, 1901 S 61st Ave, Omaha 68106-2132, 402-558-9032, mbdonham@cox.net
 Richard E. Gilmore, 268, 2426 S 84th St, Omaha 68124-2229, 402-953-7302, rgilmore2426@gmail.com
 Del F. Hartung, 15, 1820 E 19th, Fremont 68025-3251, 402-721-8501, delhartung@aol.com
 Peter G. Larson, 11, 4508 N 192nd Cir, Elkhorn 68022-5237, 402-498-8392, nuAme@cox.net
 Dale G. Lueders, 300, 220, 8350 Katrina Ln, Lincoln 68512-9420, 402-430-4710, dglueders@aol.com
 Dee Schuetz, 209 Avian Circle South, Bellevue 68005-6703, 402-504-4570, deeschuetz01@gmail.com
 Daniel J. Wellendorf, 112, 268, 333, PO Box 27987, Omaha 68127, 402-658-3611 (c), bsclumber1@aol.com

Boy Scouts Outreach

- Chm. Zachery A. Sinsheimer, 302, 6105 Ellison Ave, Omaha 68104-1628, 402-639-2089, sinbar@gmail.com
 Anthony T. Johnson, 464, 268, 334, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147, 402-232-5306 (w), tjark@cox.net
 George L. McMullin, 268, 2903 Redwing Circle, Bellevue 68123-0196, 402-294-1337, mcmullins1@cox.net
 Paul D. Rutherford, 327, 333, 7804 Terry Dr, LaVista 68128, 402-681-5646 (c), prutherford@lundco.com
James O. Wolfe, 326, 16552 Washington St, Omaha 68135-5337

COMMITTEES OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP) (previously Change for the Troops)

- Chm. Anthony T. Johnson, 268,334,464, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-291-8603, tjark@cox.net
 John E. Lorenzen, 331,10,314, 7447 Whitestone Dr, Lincoln 68506-1772, 402-488-2603,
jack@qualitywaterservices.com
 William H. Nelson, 256, 4221 Bingham Ln, Lincoln 68516, 402-420-1555, william.h.nelson48.ctr@mail.mil
 John T. Parsons, 331,268,284,6,333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133, 402-339-7565, parsoni1@q.com
 Gary S. Unger, 112, 909 Leprechaun Ln, Papillion 68046-6129, 402-895-6321, woofie79@hotmail.com

Nebraska Masonic Heritage Committee

Chm. Christopher M. Carter, 268,281, 8226 N 47th St, Omaha 68152-1921, 402-556-0312, majekcarter@mac.com
Devin D. Charles, 201, 635 3rd St, Gering, 69341-3810, 308-765-0342, devincharles@charter.net
Carl J. Diamond, 326,334, 11677 Douglas St, Omaha 68154-3128, 402-691-8207, carldiamondrn@cox.net
Micah I. Evans, 281,268,333, 1109 S 33rd St, Omaha 68105-2009, 402-547-9755, mevans0424@cox.net
Christopher S. Nigro, 268,331, 2111 S 146th Cir, Omaha 68144, 402-763-7625, cnigro@yahoo.com
David N. Silver, 5612 N 115th Ave Cir, Omaha, 68164-0123, 402-660-9382 (c), isellre4u@gmail.com
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Adam M Thayer, 54, 38, 2920 S 72nd St Apt 87, Lincoln 68506-3681, 402-314-6310 (c),
adam.thayer@gmail.com

GRAND CUSTODIAN

W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr.
1231 Pershing Road
Hastings, Nebraska 68901-2836

**DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS
AND THEIR DISTRICTS**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>
District #1 – Roy L Smith , 6, 12200 24th St, Plattsmouth 68048-7802, 402-298-8570 roy@soyro.com	1989
Western Star #2, Nebraska City; Plattsmouth #6, Plattsmouth; Mt Moriah #57, Syracuse; Euclid #97, Weeping Water; Springfield #112, Springfield	
District #2 – Charles J Odorizzi , 290 & 281, 3538 N 54th St, Omaha 68104, 402-201-3938 (c) hypnos@ix.netcom.com.....	2014
Capitol #3, Omaha; Covert #11, Omaha; Florence #281, Omaha; John J. Mercer #290, Omaha; Mizpah #302, Omaha	
District #3 – Anthony T Johnson , 268 & 334, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147, 402-232-5306 (w) tjark@cox.net	2014
Bee Hive #184, Omaha; George W. Lininger #268, Omaha; Centennial #326, Omaha; Shiloh #327, Omaha; Miloma #328, Omaha; Albert Pike #333, Omaha	
District #4 – Brian K Sandall , 21 & 310, 1063 N 17th Ave, Blair 68008-1234, 402-426-4890 bsandall@abnebraska.com	2010
Washington #21, Blair; Tekamah #31, Tekamah; Oakland #91, Oakland; Landmark #222, Herman; George Armstrong #241, Craig	
District #5 – Ronald D Grass , 31 & 331, 420 N 13th St, Tekamah 68061-1506, 402-374-2689 ronaldgrass@yahoo.com	1990
Omadi #5, So. Sioux City; Northern Light #41, Stanton; Magnolia #220, Emerson; Olive Branch #274, Walthill	
District #6 – To be Appointed	
Corinthian #83, Wakefield; Wayne #120, Wayne; Laurel #248, Laurel	
District #8 – John C Sierks , 4, 64708 730 Rd, Brownville 68321-6007, 402-825-6061	1969
Nemaha Valley #4, Falls City #9, Falls City; Brownville; Peru #14, Peru; Pawnee #23, Pawnee City	
District #9 – Edward W Nolte , 39, 333 & 334, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133, 402-592-0184 ewn@centurylink.net.....	2009
Wahoo #59, Wahoo; Waterloo #102, Elkhorn; Comet #229, Ceresco; Victory #310, Valley	
District #10 – Steven A. Green , 54, 2635 S. 12th St., Lincoln 68502, 402-477-9055 bearlyflyin@windstream.net.....	1988
Lincoln #19, Lincoln; Blue River #30, Milford; Lancaster #54, Lincoln; East Lincoln #210, Lincoln; Hickman #256, Lincoln; Cotner #297, Lincoln	

DISTRICT & NAME	APPOINTED
District #11 – Suman Vallabhbai , 314, 6200 Eureka Dr, Lincoln 68516-3467, 402-420-7616 sgvalla@windstream.net.....	2004
Beatrice #26, Beatrice; Oliver #38, Seward; Highland #194, Cortland; George Washington #250, Lincoln; Union #287, Palmyra; Craftsmen #314, Lincoln	
District #15 – Randall L Hart , 222 & 31, 412 S 12th St, Tekamah 68061-1444, 402-870-0348 (c) randy.hart@hunte.net	2008
Mosaic #55, Norfolk; Albion #78, Albion; Cedar River #89, Fullerton; Newman Grove #305, Newman Grove	
District #16 – To be Appointed	
Garfield #95, O'Neill; Plainview #204, Plainview; Wausa #251, Wausa; Diamond #291, Orchard	
District #17 – Roger A Deininger , 317, 1319 W 11th, Hastings 68901-3702, 402-462-8146 r.dein@yahoo.com.....	1998
Ashlar #33, Grand Island; Lone Tree #36, Central City; Keystone #62, Phillips; Aurora #68, Aurora; Cement #211, Wood River; Friendship #239, Chapman; Cairo #324, Cairo	
District #18 – Patrick D Barger , 54, 332 & 5, 2800 Manse Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-770-2830 (c) patrick.barger@gmail.com	2014
Harvard #44, Harvard; Charity #53, Red Cloud; Guide Rock #128, Guide Rock; Franklin #264, Franklin;	
District #19 – Dean Papenhagen , 50, 2904 Lakeview Cv, Hastings 68901-2510, 402-462-8540 dean.papenhagen@chiefind.com	2003
Hastings #50, Hastings; St. Paul #82, St. Paul; Mid-West #317, Hastings	
District #21 – Wayne E Beatty , 126, 12429 P Rd, Stromsburg 68666-5060, 402-764-3950 judysbells@gmail.com	1984
Fidelity #51, David City; York #56, York; Utica #96, Utica; Stromsburg #126, Stromsburg; Solar #134, Clarks; Lebanon #323, Columbus	
District #24 – Delmar A Jones , 65 & 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-237-9234 jonesdelmar@ymail.com.....	1992
Rob Morris #46, Kearney; Osceola #65, Osceola; Jachin #146, Holdrege	
District #25 – Philip E Darby , 61, 10 N Point Dr 13, Elwood 68937-9804, 308-325-0435 (c) darbyek@msn.com	2006
Thistle #61, Lexington; McCook #135, McCook; Bartley #228, Bartley; Monument #293, Arapahoe	
District #26 – Arthur J Ferguson , 221, PO Box 776, Wood Lake 69221, 402-967-3361	1979
Long Pine #136, Long Pine; Minnekadusa #192, Valentine; Wood Lake #221, Wood Lake; Silver Cord #224, Ainsworth	
District #27 – Bill Lichtenberger , 207 & 148, PO Box 235, Callaway 68825-0235, 308-836-4492 billich@gpcom.net.....	2003
Porter #106, Loup City; Custer #148, Broken Bow; Blazing Star #200, Burwell; Parian #207, Callaway	

DISTRICT & NAME	APPOINTED
District #28 – To Be Appointed	
Alliance #183, Alliance; Zion #234, Hyannis; Robert W. Furnas #265, Scottsbluff; Camp Clarke #285, Bridgeport	
District #29 – Leslie A Evert , 195, 508 N Ash St, Gordon 69343-1348, 308-282-0214 levart@gpcom.net.....	1985
Samaritan #158, Chadron; Arcana #195, Gordon	
District #30 – Richard H. Cooper , 201, 706 E Webster #16, Morrill 69358, 308-247-2238	1996
Scotts Bluff #201, Gering; Mitchell #263, Mitchell	
District #31 – To Be Appointed	
Frank Welch #75, Sidney; Golden Fleece #205, Chappell; Oshkosh #286, Oshkosh; James L. Eatmon #294, Kimball	
District #32 – Roger L Shillington , 180, 71562 Avenue 343, Max 69037-4411, 308-423-2547 rns@bwtelcom.net	1976
Robert Burns #173, Stratton; Justice #180, Benkelman; Purity #198, Imperial	
District #33 – Kent D Priest , 32, 820 Hackberry Rd, North Platte 69101-6811, 308-534-5459 kjavathome@charter.net.....	2014
Platte Valley #32, North Platte; Ogalalla #159, Ogalalla; Wallace #279, Wallace; Seneca #284, Thedford	
District #34 – Frank Veverka , 15 & 331, 1525 E 5th St, Fremont 68025-5342, 402-721-9529 vev571@q.com	2005
Fremont #15, Fremont; Acacia #34, Schuyler; Hiram #52, Arlington; Hooper #72, Hooper; North Bend #119, North Bend; Scribner #132, Scribner	
District #35 – John L Brommer , 1 & 302, 16451 Madison St, Omaha 68135-6353, 402-972-1573 totalscapelandscaping@gmail.com	2014
Nebraska #1, Omaha; Solomon #10, Fort Calhoun; Papillion #39, Papillion; Omaha #288, Omaha; Bellevue #325, Bellevue	
District #36 – Carl C Plants , 54, 6124 NW 6th St, Lincoln 68521-3701, 402-477-9464 cplants@inebraska.com.....	2001
Crete #37, Crete; Blue Valley #64, Wilber; Bennett #94, Lincoln; North Star #227, Lincoln; Liberty #300, Lincoln; College View #320, Lincoln; Tabula Rasa #332, Lincoln	
District #37 – Albert A. Wise , 79, 824 H St, Geneva 68361-2025, 402-759-3869 aw05040@windstream.net	1992
Fairbury #35, Fairbury; Hebron #43, Hebron; Friend #73, Friend; Geneva #79, Geneva; Superior #121, Superior; Lily #154, Davenport	

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS EMERITUS

- Glenn W Binder, 23 62120 Highway 8, Pawnee City 68420-3102
- Michael G Birnstihl, 314 5811 Dobsons Rd, Lincoln 68516-3721
- Arthur S Dye, 317 910 N Jefferson Ave, Hastings 68901, *rettdyes@windstream.net*
- Kenneth G Fleming, 75 1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth 68048, *kgfleming@hotmail.com*
- Scott J Krieger, Sr., 317, 332, 33 1231 Pershing Rd, Hastings 68901
- Richard W Linnemeyer, 135 1103 W 2nd St, McCook 69001-2514
- Richard L Mauch, 224 PO Box 10, Bassett 68714-0010, *rlmauch@huntel.net*
- Ralph E McNulty, 61 2300 Ave O Ste 123, Cozad 69130
- Harold C Mueksch, 132, 72 1615 E Military Ave Apt 101, Fremont 68025-5408
- Harold W Noble, 325 2504 Sidney St, Bellevue 68005-4020
- Vincent L Rosenberger, 183 1016 E 6th St, Alliance 69301-3600
- Augustine S Scolaro, 3 801 5th St N, Bellevue 68005-4303
- Eugene C Sibley, 314.1320 Silver Ridge Rd, Lincoln 68510-5131, *gsibley01@earthlink.net*
- James R Taylor, 327 711 N 92nd Ct Apt 307, Omaha 68114-2661, *ijtaylor36@cox.net*
- Grand Custodian Emeritus

APPRENTICE DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS

- Patrick S Andrew, 4 (8) 1202 8th St, Auburn 68305-1116, 402-297-8478
trickflyguy@hotmail.com
- Bruce A Baker, 317 (17) 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396 (c)
bsbaker74@charter.net
- Jerry J Caha, 229 (9) 120 W Beech Street, Ceresco 68017-0353, 402-665-2275
gjcaha@yahoo.com
- James A Carlton, 325 (18) 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-690-2202 (c)
jcarlton1945@gmail.com
- Robert M Hoagland, 46 & 146 (24) 2701 Grand Ave Trlr 66, Kearney 68847, 308-240-5626 (c)
hoagland@citlink.net
- F Graham House, 54 & 332 (18) 3332 S St, Lincoln 68503-3241, 402-617-5577 (c)
ghouse3@gmail.com
- Stephen C Kennedy, 4 (8) 73086 646 Ave, Brownville 68321-6025, 402-274-7521 (c)
kennedyorchard@gmail.com
- David A Kipp, 281 (2) 2565 Mary St, Omaha 68112-3215, 402-346-0832
david.kipp@yahoo.com
- Ernest G Lehmkuhler, 32 (33) 9301 Canal Rd, North Platte 69101-9478, 308-532-2889
ardis.lehmkuhler@yahoo.com
- Kevin R Lindly, 148 & 200 (27) 819 S 10th Ave, Broken Bow 68822, 308-880-1081 (c)
kevin.lindly@bbps.org
- Tyler S Loontjer, 1 (35) 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147-1225, 402-660-6415 (c)
tyler.s.loontjer@gmail.com
- Donald E Loos, 265 (28) 2665 Monument Valley Dr, Gering 69341-1517, 308-632-6761
deacloos@embarqmail.com
- Kent R Millington, 54 & 38 (10) 14400 N 1st St, Raymond 68428, 402-560-2553 (c)
kmillington60@yahoo.com
- John L Millington, 54 & 332 (10) PO Box 185, Raymond 68428-0185, 402-560-8311 (c)
jmillington@windstream.net
- Charles Monter, 62 (17) 420 12th St, Aurora 68818-2703, 402-694-2002
charles.monter@gmail.com
- Brent Myers, 300 (18) 901 Rosewood Dr, Lincoln 68510-4242, 402-770-0901 (c)
bmyers@prconline.com
- David C Norton, 302 (18) 2811 Angie Dr, Bellevue 68005, 402-658-6951 (c)
dnorton97@cox.net
- Jonathan L Paz, 39, 268 & 331 (9) 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046, 402-212-7861 (c)
omahaprogrammer@gmail.com
- Darrell D Schuler, 285 (28) 7526 Road 74, Bridgeport 69336-9409, 308-279-0592
butch@schulerredangus.com

Adam M Thayer, 54 & 38 (18).....3110 S 72nd St Apt 142, Lincoln 68506, 402-314-6310 (c)
adam.thayer@gmail.com
Donald L Veskrna, 59 (9)..... 756 N Walnut St, Wahoo 68066-1671, 402-443-5036

(Number in parenthesis denotes for which District they are acting as Apprentice)

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Membership Dec. 31, 2014	Raisings	Affiliations	Dual or Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	TOTAL GAIN	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdrew	Termination of Dual	Other Causes	TOTAL LOSS	TOTAL NET LOSS/GAIN	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015
1 - Nebraska	7	3	7	3	141	8	0	0	3	0	0	11	2	8	16	0	1	0	27	-16	125
2 - Western Star	2	0	2	0	124	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	1	0	5	-2	122
3 - Capitol	1	1	0	3	91	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	0	0	0	5	-2	89
4 - Nemaha Valley	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	45
5 - Omadi	0	0	0	0	121	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	6	6	0	1	0	14	-12	109
6 - Plattsmouth	5	1	5	0	288	8	1	0	2	0	0	11	0	3	7	0	0	0	10	1	289
9 - Falls City	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	34
10 - Solomon	2	1	1	1	74	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	74
11 - Covert	2	1	3	1	395	3	0	0	6	0	0	9	2	12	15	1	0	0	30	-21	374
14 - Peru	0	1	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	-3	25
15 - Fremont	2	1	4	1	183	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	1	14	6	0	0	0	21	-17	166
19 - Lincoln	1	0	1	0	131	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	5	2	0	0	0	8	-5	126
21 - Washington	1	0	1	0	58	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	59
23 - Pawnee	0	0	0	0	116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	113
26 - Beatrice	2	0	2	0	161	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-1	160
30 - Blue River	1	1	0	0	29	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	29
31 - Tekamah	0	1	0	1	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	-8	102
32 - Platte Valley	5	1	3	0	195	3	0	1	1	0	0	5	2	14	7	0	0	0	23	-18	177
33 - Ashlar	1	2	1	0	119	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	9	0	0	0	13	-10	109
34 - Acacia	0	0	0	0	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	55
35 - Fairbury	0	1	0	0	47	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	8	0	0	0	11	-10	37
36 - Lone Tree	0	2	0	1	22	0	0	0	0	16	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	15	37
37 - Crete	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	46
38 - Oliver	0	0	0	1	36	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-3	33
39 - Papillion	3	2	3	2	174	5	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	7	0	1	0	0	8	-2	172
41 - Northern Light	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	7	-7	39
43 - Hebron	0	0	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	40
44 - Harvard	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
46 - Rob Morris	3	2	2	2	183	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	1	0	0	0	6	-4	179
50 - Hastings	4	2	3	1	123	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	9	0	0	0	11	-7	116
51 - Fidelity	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	-4	43
52 - Hiram	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	-4	31
53 - Charity	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	15
54 - Lancaster	1	2	0	1	273	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	12	-12	261
55 - Mosaic	0	1	0	1	76	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	-2	74
56 - York	0	1	1	0	72	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	73
57 - Mt Moriah	0	0	1	1	40	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	40
59 - Wahoo	1	0	1	0	64	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	63
61 - Thistle	0	0	0	1	124	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	6	5	0	0	0	11	-10	114
62 - Keystone	0	1	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	29
64 - Blue Valley	0	0	2	0	49	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-1	48
65 - Osceola	2	2	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	77
68 - Aurora	1	2	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	-2	26
72 - Hooper	2	0	2	0	42	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	41
73 - Friend	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	42
75 - Frank Welch	8	0	8	0	102	8	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	111
78 - Albion	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	33
79 - Geneva	2	0	2	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	6	-6	106
82 - St Paul	2	2	0	0	30	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-4	26

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Membership Dec. 31, 2014	Raisings	Affiliations	Dual or Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	TOTAL GAIN	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdrew	Termination of Dual	Other Causes	TOTAL LOSS	TOTAL NET LOSS/GAIN	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015
83 - Corinthian	0	1	0	0	37	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	38
89 - Cedar River	0	2	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	14
91 - Oakland	0	0	0	1	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	44
94 - Bennett	1	1	1	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	6	-6	25
95 - Garfield	0	1	0	0	50	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	-4	46
96 - Utica	3	1	1	0	21	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	22
97 - Euclid	2	0	2	0	77	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	79
102 - Waterloo	0	0	0	0	89	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-2	87
106 - Porter	1	0	1	0	44	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	-3	41
112 - Springfield	18	1	16	0	292	17	3	0	0	0	0	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	18	310
119 - North Bend	0	0	0	0	95	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	-3	92
120 - Wayne	2	1	1	0	86	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	-2	84
121 - Superior	0	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	-6	52
126 - Stromsburg	0	0	0	0	67	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	66
128 - Guide Rock	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	21
132 - Scribner	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
134 - Solar	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	28
135 - McCook	1	0	1	2	123	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	3	0	0	0	8	-5	118
136 - Long Pine	1	1	0	0	33	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	32
146 - Jachin	1	2	0	0	88	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	6	3	0	0	0	9	-6	82
148 - Custer	3	0	2	1	83	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	4	-3	80
154 - Lily	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	16
158 - Samaritan	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	-6	60
159 - Ogalalla	0	1	1	0	64	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	-4	60
173 - Robert Burns	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	20
180 - Justice	0	0	0	1	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
183 - Alliance	4	1	4	0	125	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	3	0	1	0	9	-5	120
184 - Bee Hive	3	0	3	0	113	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	7	0	1	0	11	-8	105
192 - Minnekadusa	0	1	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	-3	34
194 - Highland	1	2	0	0	36	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	-2	34
195 - Arcana	0	1	0	1	67	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	-4	63
198 - Purity	0	0	1	0	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	35
200 - Blazing Star	1	0	1	0	45	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	47
201 - Scotts Bluff	0	0	0	1	54	0	0	0	1	65	0	66	1	3	2	0	0	0	6	60	114
204 - Plainview	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	5	-3	39
205 - Golden Fleece	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	37
207 - Parian	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	16
210 - East Lincoln	4	2	3	2	192	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	5	6	0	1	0	13	-9	183
211 - Cement	0	0	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-2	39
220 - Magnolia	8	0	9	0	46	9	0	4	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	59
221 - Wood Lake	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60
222 - Landmark	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	-2	29
224 - Silver Cord	1	1	1	0	57	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-2	55
227 - North Star	1	0	1	2	110	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	-2	108
228 - Bartley	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	44
229 - Comet	0	0	0	0	98	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	96
234 - Zion	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	33
239 - Friendship	0	1	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	17	-17	0
241 - G Armstrong	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	12

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	Membership Dec. 31, 2014	Raisings	Affiliations	Dual or Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	TOTAL GAIN	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdrew	Termination of Dual	Other Causes	TOTAL LOSS	TOTAL NET LOSS/GAIN	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2015	
248 - Laurel	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	23	
250 - G Washington	2	3	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	43	
251 - Wausa	2	1	2	0	70	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	1	0	0	0	7	-5	65	
256 - Hickman	9	2	10	1	190	10	3	1	6	0	0	20	0	3	5	0	0	0	8	12	202	
263 - Mitchell	0	1	0	0	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	65	67	-67	0	
264 - Franklin	0	1	1	1	53	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	5	-4	49	
265 - R W Furnas	3	2	3	0	77	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	8	0	0	0	11	-6	71	
268 - G W Lininger	12	1	10	0	226	10	2	3	1	0	0	16	1	5	2	1	0	0	9	7	233	
274 - Olive Branch	0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	4	3	0	1	0	8	-6	55	
279 - Wallace	0	1	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	1	8	-8	27
281 - Florence	12	6	9	0	112	8	1	1	1	0	0	11	1	6	5	0	0	0	12	-1	111	
284 - Seneca	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	22	
285 - Camp Clarke	0	0	0	0	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	64	
286 - Oshkosh	1	0	1	0	26	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	28	
287 - Union	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	27	
288 - Omaha	5	0	5	0	54	5	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	1	11	0	1	0	13	-5	49	
290 - John J Mercer	4	0	4	1	339	4	0	1	7	0	0	12	3	21	25	0	0	0	49	-37	302	
291 - Diamond	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	29	
293 - Monument	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	-5	22	
294 - James Eatmon	0	2	1	0	46	1	1	0	2	0	0	4	1	3	4	0	0	0	8	-4	42	
297 - Cotner	8	1	6	3	183	7	1	1	0	0	0	9	3	6	8	0	0	0	17	-8	175	
300 - Liberty	4	9	2	2	186	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	15	1	3	0	22	-19	167	
302 - Mizpah	14	0	17	1	257	13	4	0	1	0	1	19	1	10	12	0	1	0	24	-5	252	
305 - Newman Grove	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	23	
310 - Victory	1	0	0	2	65	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	5	0	0	0	9	-8	57	
314 - Craftsmen	3	2	4	0	165	3	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	4	21	0	0	0	25	-21	144	
317 - Mid-West	3	5	1	3	140	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	7	7	0	0	0	14	-13	127	
320 - College View	1	0	1	0	60	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	60	
323 - Lebanon	1	0	1	0	94	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	2	0	0	0	10	-9	85	
324 - Cairo	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	13	
325 - Bellevue	6	4	7	0	201	4	2	0	3	0	0	9	2	7	7	0	1	0	17	-8	193	
326 - Centennial	3	0	5	0	86	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	5	3	0	0	0	8	-3	83	
327 - Shiloh	1	1	0	0	131	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	3	0	0	0	8	-8	123	
328 - Miloma	6	0	6	0	158	6	0	0	2	0	0	8	0	6	8	0	2	0	16	-8	150	
332 - Tabula Rasa	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	17	17	
333 - Albert Pike	4	0	4	0	25	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	29	
TOTALS	222	97	204	46	10899	207	37	28	63	81	2	418	43	390	348	4	23	82	890	-470	10427	

**Historical Records
and Information**

of

Grand Lodge

**A.:F.: & A.:M.:
of Nebraska**



**Kearney, Nebraska
February 5-6, 2016**

PAST GRAND MASTERS

YEAR	SERVED	NAME	LODGE	IF DECEASED, DATE OF DEATH
1st	1857-58-59	Robert C. Jordan	3	Jan. 9, 1899
2nd	1860-61-62	George Armstrong	3	Nov. 12, 1896
3rd	1863-64	Daniel H. Wheeler	6	Nov. 27, 1912
4th	1865-66	Robert W. Furnas	4	June 1, 1905
5th	1867-68	Orsamus H. Irish	5	Jan. 27, 1883
6th	1869-70	Harry P. Deuel	11	Nov. 23, 1914
7th	1871-72	William E. Hill	2	Dec. 29, 1917
8th	1873	Martin Dunham	3	Feb. 18, 1915
9th	1874	Frank Welch	27	Sept. 4, 1878
10th	1875	Alfred G. Hastings	19	July 10, 1894
11th	1876	George H. Thummel	33	Feb. 5, 1932
12th	1877	George W. Lininger	3	June 8, 1907
13th	1878	Edward K. Valentine	27	April 11, 1916
14th	1879	Rolland H. Oakley	19	Feb. 2, 1904
15th	1880	James A. Tulleys	53	Jan. 21, 1901
16th	1881	James R. Cain, Sr.	9	Nov. 29, 1920
17th	1882	Edwin F. Warren	2	July 9, 1923
18th	1883	Samuel W. Hayes	55	Nov. 15, 1913
19th	1884	John Jay Wemple	50	May 28, 1943
20th	1885	Manoah B. Reese	59	Sept. 28, 1917
21st	1886	Charles K. Coutant	11	Aug. 23, 1910
22nd	1887	Milton J. Hull	67	Sept. 18, 1923
23rd	1888	George B. France	56	Aug. 16, 1914
24th	1889	John J. Mercer	4	Feb. 25, 1915
25th	1890	Robert E. French	46	Feb. 16, 1927
26th	1891	Bradner D. Slaughter	89	May 8, 1909
27th	1892	Samuel P. Davidson	17	Dec. 8, 1928
28th	1893	James P.A. Black	76	Nov. 12, 1918
29th	1894	John A. Ehrhardt	41	Nov. 1, 1925
30th	1895	Henry H. Wilson	19	June 28, 1941
31st	1896	Charles J. Phelps	34	Aug. 24, 1915
32nd	1897	John B. Dinsmore	49	Oct. 6, 1915
33rd	1898	Frank H. O. Young	207	Dec. 24, 1917
34th	1899	William W. Keysor	25	Aug. 17, 1922
35th	1900	Albert W. Crites	158	Aug. 23, 1915
36th	1901	Robert E. Evans	5	July 8, 1925
37th	1902	Nathaniel M. Ayers	93	Nov. 19, 1913
38th	1903	Frank E. Bullard	32	Jan. 31, 1933
39th	1904	Charles E. Burnham	166	May 29, 1933
40th	1905	Melville R. Hopewell	31	May 2, 1911
41st	1906	Zuingle M. Baird	155	Dec. 17, 1916
42nd	1907	Ornan J. King	54	Dec. 26, 1927
43rd	1908	William A. DeBord	3	May 17, 1916
44th	1909	Michael Dowling	119	May 5, 1921
45th	1910	Harry A. Cheney	100	June 27, 1948
46th	1911	Henry Gibbons	46	Aug. 22, 1923
47th	1912	James R. Cain, Jr.	105	Sept. 3, 1950

48th.....	1913.....	Alpha Morgan.....	148.....	April 17, 1924
49th.....	1914.....	Thomas M. Davis.....	93.....	Aug. 12, 1919
50th.....	1915.....	Samuel S. Whiting.....	54.....	Aug. 11, 1931
51st.....	1916.....	Andrew H. Viele.....	55.....	May 9, 1941
52nd.....	1917.....	Frederic L. Temple.....	61.....	Aug. 13, 1944
53rd.....	1918.....	Ambrose C. Epperson.....	139.....	Mar. 16, 1944
54th.....	1919.....	John J. Tooley.....	258.....	June 30, 1934
55th.....	1920.....	Joseph B. Fradenburg.....	3.....	June 14, 1950
56th.....	1921.....	Lewis E. Smith.....	136.....	July 10, 1965
57th.....	1922.....	Edward M. Wellman.....	1.....	Aug. 31, 1922
58th.....	1923.....	Charles A. Chappell.....	127.....	Nov. 21, 1971
59th.....	1924.....	Robert R. Dickson.....	95.....	June 18, 1941
60th.....	1925.....	John Wright.....	19.....	Oct. 29, 1936
61st.....	1926.....	Edwin D. Crites.....	158.....	Nov. 7, 1953
62nd.....	1927.....	Albert R. Davis.....	120.....	Mar. 7, 1929
63rd.....	1928.....	Frank H. Woodland.....	25.....	Oct. 23, 1940
64th.....	1929.....	Ira C. Freet.....	56.....	Oct. 13, 1944
65th.....	1930.....	Orville A. Andrews.....	19.....	Oct. 16, 1936
66th.....	1931.....	John R. Tapster.....	119.....	Mar. 21, 1954
67th.....	1932.....	Edwin B. Johnston.....	33.....	Feb. 11, 1933
68th.....	1933.....	Ralph O. Canaday.....	50.....	Oct. 7, 1970
69th.....	1933.....	Archie M. Smith.....	203.....	May 8, 1950
70th.....	1934.....	Virgil R. Johnson.....	26.....	Aug. 7, 1956
71st.....	1935.....	William C. Ramsey.....	268.....	May 19, 1938
72nd.....	1936.....	Chancellor A. Phillips.....	150.....	Sept. 12, 1968
73rd.....	1937.....	William A. Robertson.....	6.....	July 3, 1944
74th.....	1938.....	Walter R. Raেকে.....	36.....	April 6, 1960
75th.....	1939.....	William J. Breckenridge.....	317.....	Nov. 16, 1951
76th.....	1940.....	Earl J. Lee.....	15.....	Dec. 15, 1963
77th.....	1941.....	Edward F. Carter.....	201.....	Dec. 21, 1981
78th.....	1942.....	George A. Kurk.....	54.....	May 4, 1977
79th.....	1943.....	William B. Wanner.....	9.....	June 13, 1975
80th.....	1944-45.....	William C. Schaper.....	148.....	Feb. 12, 1977
81st.....	1946.....	Benjamin F. Eyre.....	1.....	Aug. 12, 1993
82nd.....	1947.....	Edward Huwaldt.....	318.....	Feb. 14, 1977
83rd.....	1948.....	Elmer E. Magee.....	227.....	Mar. 19, 1975
Honorary.....	1949.....	Roscoe Pound.....	54.....	June 30, 1964
84th.....	1949.....	Ernest S. Schiefelbein.....	59.....	April 20, 1959
85th.....	1950.....	John S. Hedelund.....	268.....	Jan. 30, 1962
86th.....	1951.....	Thomas J. Aron, Sr.....	37.....	Dec. 22, 1993
87th.....	1952.....	Edward M. Knight.....	183.....	Mar. 3, 1983
88th.....	1953.....	Fay Smith.....	198.....	Oct. 2, 1968
89th.....	1954.....	Charles F. Adams.....	68.....	April 17, 1980
90th.....	1955.....	Herbert T. White.....	11.....	Oct. 12, 1975
91st.....	1956.....	Merle M. Hale.....	54.....	Feb. 23, 1988
92nd.....	1957.....	Roy I. Babbitt.....	295.....	Feb. 13, 1971
93rd.....	1958.....	John E. Beaver.....	253.....	Sept. 20, 1965
94th.....	1959.....	Joseph C. Tye.....	46.....	Feb. 14, 1989
95th.....	1960.....	John F. Futcher.....	302.....	July 11, 1984
96th.....	1961.....	Herbert A. Ronin.....	210.....	Nov. 4, 1997
97th.....	1962.....	Ernest O. Van Wey.....	32.....	July 16, 2005
98th.....	1963.....	Ralph M. Carhart.....	120.....	Nov. 10, 1965
99th.....	1964.....	Harry A. Spencer.....	184, 227.....	Aug. 9, 2007

100th.....	1965.....	Louis V. Sylvester.....	281.....	Dec. 4, 1997
101st.....	1966.....	Lewis R. Ricketts.....	19.....	July 14, 1990
Honorary.....	1966.....	Carl R. Greisen.....	32.....	June 28, 1995
102nd.....	1967.....	John A. Bottorf.....	49.....	Feb. 21, 1984
103rd.....	1968.....	Norris W. Lallman.....	72.....	Mar. 1, 1984
104th.....	1969.....	Hugh W. Eisenhart.....	228.....	June 16, 1995
105th.....	1970.....	John H. Brown.....	1.....	Feb. 2, 1978
106th.....	1971.....	Russell L. Fickes.....	33.....	April 18, 1989
107th.....	1972.....	Howard J. Hunter.....	59.....	May 6, 1975
108th.....	1973.....	Frank J. Mattoon.....	75.....	July 4, 1997
109th.....	1974.....	Donald R. Swanson.....	54.....	Jan. 27, 2016
110th.....	1975.....	Harold Hultman.....	39.....	April 3, 2005
111th.....	1976.....	T. Leo Stines.....	36, 323.....	Feb. 26, 1994
112th.....	1977.....	Alfred B. Saum.....	46.....	Oct. 11, 1980
113th.....	1978.....	Jack H. Hendrix.....	174.....	Nov. 25, 2006
114th.....	1979.....	Warren D. Lichty, Jr.....	314.....	May 23, 2012
115th.....	1980.....	Byron C. Jenkins.....	325.....	Sept. 12, 2000
116th.....	1981.....	Harold C. Wurdeman.....	323.....	June 21, 1985
117th.....	1982.....	Paul R. Pierce.....	50.....	July 31, 1999
118th.....	1983.....	Bevin B. Bump.....	158.....	Dec. 30, 2010
119th.....	1984-85.....	Robert A. Metcalf.....	210.....	Nov. 22, 2002
120th.....	1986.....	Charles W. Amidon.....	281, 327	
121st.....	1987.....	Wayne G. Lueningborg.....	32, 39.....	May 12, 2008
122nd.....	1988.....	Paul R. Eveland.....	119	
123rd.....	1989.....	Thomas W. Tye.....	46	
124th.....	1990.....	John M. McHenry.....	19	
125th.....	1991.....	James N. DeMoss.....	325	
126th.....	1992.....	James L. "Sonny" Eatmon.....	294.....	Aug. 28, 1999
127th.....	1993.....	Donald L. Pohlman.....	41.....	April 14, 2015
128th.....	1994.....	Steven F. Mattoon.....	75	
129th.....	1995.....	Jerry L. Rittenburg.....	210, 64.....	Jan. 26, 2007
130th.....	1996.....	V. Kaye Ramsey.....	290, 317	
131st.....	1997.....	Kenneth G. Fleming.....	75	
132nd.....	1998.....	Don E. Rasmussen.....	82, 135	
133rd.....	1999.....	Dwight E. Smith.....	205	
134th.....	2000.....	James F. Brown, Jr.....	54	
135th.....	2001.....	Philip A. Lorenzen.....	10, 327, 1	
136th.....	2002.....	Michael E. Jones.....	51, 173	
137th.....	2003.....	Kenneth D. Beebe.....	119	
138th.....	2004.....	Les Seiler.....	317	
139th.....	2005.....	Ivan A. Vrtiska.....	327	
140th.....	2006.....	Scott J. Krieger, Sr.....	317, 332, 33	
141st.....	2007.....	Dean Skokan.....	15	
142nd.....	2008.....	Reginald S. Kuhn.....	134, 19, 332	
143rd.....	2009.....	Russell G. Reno.....	183, 297, 332	
144th.....	2010.....	John T. Parsons.....	268	
145th.....	2011.....	Bruce A. Baker.....	317	
146th.....	2012.....	Rex J. Moats.....	290, 102	
147th.....	2013.....	Thomas L. Hauder.....	332	
148 th	2014.....	Joe D. McBride.....	224	

PAST GRAND SECRETARIES

- George Armstrong September 23, 1857 To June 2, 1858
- Robert W. Furnas June 2, 1858 To June 4, 1862
- Robert C. Jordan June 4, 1862 To June 24, 1863
- Stephen D. Bangs June 24, 1863 To June 24, 1865
- J. Newton Wise June 24, 1865 To October 27, 1869
- Robert W. Furnas October 27, 1869 To June 21, 1872
- William R. Bowen June 21, 1872 To May 6, 1899
- Francis E. White June 9, 1899 To June 11, 1925
- Lewis E. Smith June 11, 1925 To June 6, 1946
- Carl R. Greisen June 7, 1946 To June 6, 1968
- Robert W. Cook June 6, 1968 To April 5, 1969
- Norris W. Lallman June 4, 1969 To June 13, 1981
- Ralph W. Gerry June 13, 1981 To June 15, 1985
- Paul R. Pierce June 15, 1985 To December 6, 1986
- Edward M. Cummings December 6, 1986 To May 1987
- Albert T. Reddish May 1987 To September 1989
- Don E. Rasmussen September 1989 To November 1992
- Virgil L. Tubach November 1992 to August 1995
- Reginald S. Kuhn August 1995 to October 2003
- Bruce A. Watkins October 2003 to February 2012
- Deceased

PAST GRAND CUSTODIANS

- Lee P. Gillette, 2 1882-1883, 1887-1894
- Benjamin F. Rawalt, 84 1884-1887
- James A. Tulleys, 53 1894-1900
- Robert E. French, 46 1901-1927
- Lute M. Savage, 3 1927-1948
- Raymond C. Cook, 6 1948-1965
- Robert W. Cook, 33 1965-1967
- Ralph W. Gerry, 281 1968-1981
- Mannie O. Hansen, 1 1981-1984
- T. Leo Stines, 36 1984-1985
- Jerry L. Rittenburg, 210 & 64 1985-1990
- Augustine S. Scolaro, 3 1990-2000
- Gerald D. Verbeek, 15 2000-2009
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr. 2009-2012
- Bruce A. Watkins 2012-2014
- Emeritus

GRAND LECTURERS

George Armstrong, 3	1858, 1859, 1866
Lee P. Gillette, 2	1860, 1861, 1881
Sylvester S. Redfield, 2	1862
E.C. Adams, 6	1863
Henry Brown, 2	1864
William E. Hill, 2	1865, 1866, 1868, 1874 to 1877
Byron Reed, 3	1867
Charles T. Whitmore, 11	1869 to 1871
Charles F. Catlin, 11	1871 (Acting)
George H. Thummel, 33	1872, 1873
Hiram C. Rider, 37	1877 to 1880

**The Roll of Deputy Grand Custodians
And Date of Appointment**

The first reference providing for an "Assistant Custodian" was made in 1869. In 1870, the Committee on Work recommended the establishment of five districts and the appointment of an equal number of brethren. These, together with the Grand Lecturer, were to constitute a "Board of Custodians" to serve for five years. From that time until now, there have been appointed assistant custodians. It is the purpose here to list all that have, at any time, served the Grand Lodge. They are listed in terms of first appointment. The number following each name represents the lodge of which each was, or is, a member.

Daniel H. Wheeler, 6	1870
John Reed, 2	1871
Robert W. Furnas, 4	1871
D. F. Powell, 3	1871
A. Atkinson, 3	1871
H. O. Hanna, 9	1872
Milton E. Pinney, 2	1873
William B. Wharton, 12	1875
Edward K. Valentine, 27	1875
Newton R. Persinger, 36	1876
David K. Hume, 3	1876
Hiram C. Rider, 37	1876
Frederick N. Dick, 32	1876
George W. Lininger, 3	1877
L. S. Moe, 15	1877
Roland H. Oakley, 19	1877
James R. Cain, 9	1877
Albert K. Marsh, 49	1877
Jess T. Davis, 21	1877
Charles H. Willard, 21	1878
Samuel W. Hayes, 55	1879
Marshall Smith, 2	1879
James McNaughton, 4	1879
Joseph H. McConnel, 32	1879
Edward F. Thorp, 2	1879
George W. Mowrey, 50	1880
Charles A. Holmes, 17	1880

Note: From 1880 until 1910, there were no recorded appointments of brethren to serve as assistants to the Grand Custodian. In 1910, Brother Robert E. French did hold special meetings to examine and instruct brethren who were willing to become "assistant" in the work. Thirteen brethren were nominated and approved for appointment as assistants. After 1917, these brethren were generally referred to as "assistant custodians." In 1925, the designation was "Deputy Custodian." The following brethren appeared in the records as "Assistant Custodians," or, at times, as "Deputy Custodians."

- John J. Mercer, 31910
- Samuel S. Whiting, 54.....1910
- Walter W. Wells, 192.....1910
- Ensign J. Rix, 55.....1910
- James D. Phillips, 93.....1910
- Frederick L. Wolff, 135.....1910
- Ernest H. James, 11910
- Fred A. Howe, 1191910
- Robert B. Walker, 1701912
- Frank W. Farrand, 361913
- Ira C. Freet, 561913
- Benjamin Wood, 210.....1913
- Edward M. Wellman, 1.....1913
- Charles A. Eyre, 268.....1913
- Robert A. Armstrong, 321913
- Levi Pringle, 276.....1913
- Earl M. Bolen, 130.....1914
- Frank L. Haycock, 2071914
- George A. Stevens, 158.....1914
- Harry M. Jones, 461916
- Levi D. Phipps, 311916
- Alfred G. Hunt, 33.....1916
- Harry L. F. Proffitt, 501916
- Barclay M. Hickman, 381916
- Orville A. Andrews, 501917
- Andrew H. Viele, 55.....1917
- Maro C. Shipherd, 151920
- Jesse Lowther, 2191920
- Franklin C. Tym, 25.....1920
- Lute M. Savage, 3.....1920
- Frank M. Johnson, 1881920
- Lamont L. Stephens, 1061922
- Frances S. Robey, 191922
- John B. Lichtenwallner, 275.....1923
- Harry R. Belville, 146.....1923
- George R. Patterson, 1361923
- William J. Birkoffer, 249.....1923
- D. Horace Schall, 307.....1923
- Stanley P. Bostwick, 3.....1924
- William D. Edson, 53.....1926
- Francis B. Rodwell, 224.....1926
- Edwin H. Gerhart, 305.....1926
- William McCormack, 268.....1926
- Harry L. Mantor, 3061927
- John R. Easley, 491927
- L. Donald Huston, 651928
- Elmer Surber, 951928

• John M. Bennett, 19	1928
• Earl Barnett, 146	1929
• Jonathan Frye, 1	1929
• Ernest R. Reynolds, 124	1930
• Osborne P. Simon, 174	1930
• Doc L. Redfern, 300	1930
• Austin F. Whitmire, 306	1931
• Henning C. Johnson, 171	1930
• Carroll C. Raymer, 164	1932
• Ward B. Schrack, 46	1933
• Byron S. Peterson, 25	1933
• Raymond C. Cook, 6	1933
• Ray B. Bottorf, 33	1933
• Wallace E. Linn, 1	1934
• Jesse P. Entriiken, 295	1934
• Harrold D. Weddel, 208	1937
• Cecil C. Gates, 227	1938
• Fred G. Christensen, 33	1938
• Ross Van Sickle, 184	1938
• S. William Beck, 43	1940
• Stanley B. Fryar, 139	1940
• Roy S. Planck, 15	1940
• Buren P. Wells, 315	1940
• Clarence G. McNamee, 55	1941
• F. Ray Dilts, 83	1942
• Ernest C. Purdy, 195	1942
• Lewis E. Baker, 135	1943
• Howard E. Bradstreet, 261	1943
• George S. Schwab, 49	1946
• Louis V. Sylvester, 281	1946
• Irving S. Johnson, 148	1946
• LaVerne A. Walker, 55	1946
• Ernest E. James, 1	1946
• Frank A. Anderson, 17	1949
• Robert W. Cook, 33	1949
• Paul D. Fleming, 293	1949
• Charles M. Frederick, 136	1949
• Sylvester Shumard, 227	1949
• Ralph M. Carhart, 120	1950
• Morris V. Balcom, 46	1950
• William F. Flicklinger, 56	1951
• Forest A. Lape, 183	1951
• Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314	1954
• Harold M. Wilkerson, 54	1954
• Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9	1955
• Clifford D. Webster, 75	1956
• Matthias E. Mael, 173	1956
• Frank H. Smith, 301	1957
• Ward V. Whitaker, 310	1957
• Richard L. Ely, 128	1957
• Asa J. Farnham, 106	1958
• Robert B. Conrad, 125	1958
• Winston C. Swanson, 120	1958
• Lyle A. Van Arsdol, 210	1959
• Edmund D. Shaw, 195	1959

- Harry N. Ahl, 1121959
- Alfred R. Kenover, 1481960
- Lloyd I. Edwards, 1101960
- T. Leo Stines, 36, 3231960
- Erwin J. Imig, 381960
- Sebert A. Stover, 2811960
- Stanley E. Brunton, 2221961
- Glenn W. Binder, 231961
- Richard L. Wait, 191962
- Gordon Chard, 2401962
- Harold A. Tilton, 2911962
- Stuart A. Johnson, 1771964
- Arthur S. Dye, 3171964
- W. Upton Dawson, 1351964
- Donald R. Davis, 1641964
- Ralph I. Berry, 2561965
- Carl A. Johnson, 1831965
- Robert W. Boon, 331965
- Augustus W. Clark, 331965
- Alton S. Mote, 1831965
- Ralph W. Gerry, 281, 3021965
- Arnold F. Mains, 151965
- Nelson W. Rittenburg, 2101965
- Harold J. Oehlerking, 1591966
- Gwynne L. Neubauer, 2581966
- Ward L. McGlashan, 1801966
- Curtis J. Griess, 491966
- Walter Brown, 11967
- John C. Nelson, 2501967
- Mervin E. Ransom, Sr., 651967
- Donald A. Kyckelhahn, 2101967
- Howard G. Whitmore, 811967
- Frank R. Harris, 771967
- Gerald V. Inslee, 1581968
- John C. Sierks, 41969
- Paul D. Jacobsen, 1481969
- David O. Kipling, 2811970
- Herman O. Hansen, 31970
- D. Wayne Erickson, 1461970
- Walter S. Cork, 751970
- Richard L. Mauch, 224, 1361971
- O. Wayne Thompson, 2011971
- John A. Brandt, 261971
- Dale E. Kube, 551971
- Robert E. Kyes, 361972
- Mannie O. Hansen, 11973
- Richard O. Cowles, 1741975
- Jens P. Nielsen, 1211975
- Ralph E. McNulty, 611975
- Don L. McCoy, 111975
- Everett K. Dappen, 2651975
- Alfred V. Peltzer, 1481975
- Roger L. Shillington, 1801976
- James E. Cornish, 311976
- Ben D. Fussell, 791976
- Victor D. Hunt, 621976

• Lynn Doty, 251	1977
• Marvin R. Weber, 204	1977
• W. Dale Page, 15.....	1977
• Harry L. Saum, 308.....	1979
• DeVern A. Engberg, 26.....	1979
• Michael L. Peterson, 227, 37.....	1979
• Albert W. Watsek, 23	1979
• Douglas A. Thomas, 183.....	1979
• Arthur J. Ferguson, 221.....	1979
• Leslie G. Weber, 204.....	1979
• Kenneth G. Fleming, 75	1980
• Augustine S. Scolaro, 3	1981
• David E. Menck, 15	1982
• Vincent Rosenberger, 183	1982
• Justin F. Fauss, 55	1982
• Augustus W. Clark, 33	1982
• Wayne E. Beatty, 126.....	1982
• Kenneth G. Fleming, 75	1984
• Eugene C. Sibley, 314.....	1984
• Leslie Evert, 195.....	1985
• William Fogle, 135.....	1985
• Roscoe Malick, 297	1985
• R. Winton Wilson, 199.....	1985
• Robert E. Kyes, 36.....	1985
• W. Dale Page, 15.....	1985
• Gordon E. Richards, 75	1986
• Harold Noble, 325.....	1987
• Deon D. Eberly, 314.....	1988
• Steven A. Green, 54.....	1988
• Steven K. Jones, 265, 263	1988
• Lloyd Vrtiska, 23	1988
• Robert M. Littrell, 77	1989
• Roy L. Smith, 6	1989
• Daniel E. Spearow, 26	1989
• LeRoy Crye, 328.....	1990
• Ronald D. Grass, 31.....	1990
• Scott J. Krieger, Sr., 317	1990
• Richard W. Linnemeyer, 135	1990
• Keith B. Leibhart, 148.....	1990
• Gordon L. Carley, 75	1990
• Gerald D. Verbeek, 15	1990
• Herbert M. Chambers, Sr., 288	1991
• Delmar Jones, 46, 65	1992
• Don L. Jelinek, 54.....	1992
• Albert Wise, 79	1992
• Halsey D. Phillips, 325.....	1993
• John M. Weidner, Sr., 75, 33	1993
• Rodney L. Samp, 159.....	1994
• Robert L. Carter, 314	1995
• Richard H. Cooper, 263	1996
• Thomas R. Reed, 5.....	1996
• Monte K. Olmstead, 290.....	1997
• Michael G. Birnstihl, 314.....	1997
• Roger A. Deininger, 317	1998
• Kenneth G. Fleming, 75	1998

- Bruce A. Watkins, 300.....1999
- Jack D. Nichols, 265, 285.....2000
- Harold C. Mueksch, 132, 72.....2000
- Carl C. Plants, 542001
- Joseph D. Chrisman, 2792002
- Ashley H. Story, 314, 146.....2002
- James R. Taylor, 327.....2002
- Dean Papenhagen, 50.....2003
- R. William Lichtenberger, 207, 148.....2003
- Gordon L. Carley, 752003
- Suman Vallabhbbhai, 314.....2004
- Daniel L. Scarborough, 79.....2005
- Frank Veverka, 15.....2005
- Glenn R. Mulholland, 32, 2842005
- Philip E. Darby, Jr., 612006
- Randall L. Hart, 22, 312008
- W. Keith Neisler, 1, 3022009
- Edward W. Nolte, 392009
- Brian K. Sandall, 21.....2010
- Patrick D. Barger, 54, 332, 52014
- Anthony T. Johnson, 268, 3342014
- Kent D. Priest, 322014
- Dean Papenhagen, 50.....2014
- Charles J. Odorizzi, III.....2014
- John L. Brommer, 1.....2014
- Alvin O. Benemerito, 136.....2016
- Corey L. Bergstrom, 752016
- James A. Carlton, 3252016
- Bradley M. Dutton, 183.....2016
- John B. Ferguson, 294.....2016
- Tyler S. Loontjer, 1.....2016
- John L. Millington, 54, 3322016
- Kent R. Millington, 54, 38.....2016
- Brent Myers, 300, 3322016
- Kent L. Neumann, 274, 52016
- Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268.....2016
- Michael E. Tomasiewicz, 302.....2016
- Joel W. Zilmer, 183.....2016
- Deceased

**Grand Lodge of Nebraska
ROCK MAUL AWARD**

Presented at each Grand Lodge Communication to a lodge deemed to be the most outstanding lodge that year by the Grand Master (award is dated year presented, for work in previous year).

	1981	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	1982	Shiloh Lodge	No. 327	Omaha
	1983	Culbertson Lodge	No. 174	Culbertson
	1984	Scotts Bluff Lodge	No. 201	Gering
	1984	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
	1985	Comet Lodge	No. 229	Ceresco
	1985	Hickman Lodge	No. 256	Hickman
	1986	Springfield Lodge	No. 112	Springfield
	1987	Platte Valley Lodge	No. 32	North Platte
	1989	Lancaster Lodge	No. 54	Lincoln
	1990	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	1991	Corinthian Lodge	No. 83	Wakefield
	1992	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
	1993	Bartley Lodge	No. 228	Bartley
	1994	North Star Lodge	No. 227	Lincoln
	1995	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
	1997	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
	1998	Craftsmen Lodge	No. 314	Lincoln
	1999	Hastings Lodge	No. 50	Hastings
	2000	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
	2001	Papillion Lodge	No. 39	Papillion
	2002	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	2003	Osceola Lodge	No. 65	Osceola
	2004	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
	2005	Liberty Lodge	No. 300	Lincoln
	2006	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
	2007	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Large	2008	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2008	Hooper Lodge	No. 72	Hooper
Large	2009	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
Small	2009	Omadi Lodge	No. 5	South Sioux City
Large	2010	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2010	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2011	Lancaster Lodge	No. 54	Lincoln
Small	2011	Franklin Lodge	No. 264	Franklin
Large	2012	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2012	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2013	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2013	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
Large	2014	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2014	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2015	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2015	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2016	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2016	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow

**Grand Lodge of Nebraska
GOLD PAN AWARD**

Presented at each Grand Lodge Communication to a lodge deemed to have made the greatest contribution or most improvement towards Masonry that year by the Grand Master.

1987	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
1989	Hickman Lodge	No. 256	Lincoln
1990	Crescent Lodge	No. 143	Primrose
1991	Mosaic Lodge	No. 55	Norfolk
1992	Frank Welch Lodge	No. 75	Sidney
1993	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
1994	Hooper Lodge	No. 72	Hooper
1995	Wood Lake Lodge	No. 221	Wood Lake
1996	Frank Welch Lodge	No. 75	Sidney
1997	Beatrice Lodge	No. 26	Beatrice
1998	Mid-West Lodge	No. 317	Hastings
1999	Robert W. Furnas	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2000	Beatrice Lodge	No. 26	Beatrice
2001	Wallace Lodge	No. 279	Wallace
2002	Blue Valley Lodge	No. 64	Wilber
2003	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
2004	Camp Clarke Lodge	No. 285	Bridgeport
2005	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2006	Hastings Lodge	No. 50	Hastings
2007	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill
2008	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2009	Robert W. Furnas Lodge	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2010	Robert W. Furnas Lodge	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2011	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
2012	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
2013	Not Awarded		
2014	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2015	Centennial Lodge	No. 326	Omaha
2016	Long Pine Lodge	No. 136	Long Pine

**Grand Lodge of Nebraska
GRAND MASTER'S HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

Presented during the year to not more than two honorees.

This award is presented to publicly honor an individual who has been an outstanding citizen, as well as an outstanding Mason. It is necessary that he has been a Master Mason for thirty years, and has been active in at least three of five designated activities in his community.

1989	Henry Rood	Wahoo No. 59	Wahoo
1989	Thomas Lutey	Kimball No. 294	Kimball
1990	W. Neil Colerick	Alliance No. 183	Alliance
1990	James Fegley	Omadi No. 5	South Sioux City
1991	Lloyd I. Edwards	Pomegranate No. 110	Ashland
1991	Wayne H. Hardy	Custer No. 148	Broken Bow
1992	Ralph E. Jones	Robert Burns No. 173	Stratton
1993	Christian F. Dahmke	Charity No. 51	David City
1994	Walter E. Truex	Mosaic No. 55	Norfolk
1994	Elsworth L. Abbott	Falls City No. 9	Falls City
1995	Harry A. Spencer	North Star No. 227	Lincoln
1996	Ben D. Fussell	Geneva No. 79	Geneva
1997	Ralph Townsend	Scotts Bluff No. 201	Gering
1997	Willard Rouze	Purity No. 198	Imperial
1998	Lowell C. Johnson	North Bend No. 119	North Bend
1998	Marvin M. Fink	Hastings No. 50	Hastings
1999	Dale E. Olson	Oakland No. 91	Oakland
1999	Norris L. Rusmisell	Rob Morris No. 46	Kearney
2000	Richard Brasel	John J. Mercer No. 290	Omaha
2000	Charles Spohr	Euclid No. 97	Weeping Water
2001	John Dick	Fremont No. 15	Fremont
2001	Loral Johnson	Purity No. 198	Imperial
2002	Robert A. Merchant	Wayne No. 120	Wayne
2002	Arthur S. Dye	Mid-West No. 317	Hastings
2003	Floyd P. Vrtiska	Table Rock No. 108	Table Rock
2003	Warren K. Urbom	Craftsmen No. 314	Lincoln
2004	Harold J. Daub, Jr.	Nebraska No. 1	Omaha
2004	Richard L. Ely	Guide Rock No. 128	Guide Rock
2005	Roger R. Wehrbein	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2005	Marvin H. Kraus	Friend No. 73	Friend
2008	V.K. "Tony" Vrana	Oliver No. 38	Seward
2008	Sanford H. "Sam" Nelson	East Lincoln No. 210	Lincoln
2009	G. Charles Thone	Lincoln No. 19	Lincoln
2010	Wesley H. Turtscher	Papillion No. 39	Papillion
2010	Delbert D. Weber	George W. Lininger No. 268	Omaha
2012	Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr.	Mizpah No. 302	Omaha
2012	Jay H. Speck	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2013	Charles E. "Chad" House	Hiram No. 52	Arlington
2014	Gene F. Wehrbein	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2015	David A. Portwood	Geneva No. 79	Geneva

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE	TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
Nebraska	No 1 Omaha	Douglas	February 1855	Oct. 3,1855 •1
Western Star	No 2 Nebraska City	Otoe	May 10,1855	May 28,1856 •2
Capitol	No 3 Omaha	Douglas	January 9,1857	June 3,1857 •3
• Formed Grand Lodge of Nebraska September 23, 1857 • Chartered by ¹ Illinois, ² Missouri, ³ Iowa				
Nemaha Valley	No 4 Brownville	Nemaha	December 15,1857	June 2,1858
Omadi	No 5 So. Sioux City	Dakota	January 18,1858	June 2,1858
Plattsmouth	No 6 Plattsmouth	Cass	January 18,1858	June 2,1858
Falls City	No 9 Falls City	Richardson	October 4,1864	June 23,1865
Solomon	No 10 Fort Calhoun	Washington	August 15,1865	June 22,1866
Covert	No 11 Omaha	Douglas	July 24,1865	June 22,1866
Peru	No 14 Peru	Nemaha	May 23,1867	June 19,1867
Fremont	No 15 Fremont	Dodge	July 3,1866	June 20,1867
Lincoln	No 19 Lincoln	Lancaster	May 4,1868	June 25,1868
Washington	No 21 Blair	Washington	February 24,1868	June 25,1868
Pawnee	No 23 Pawnee City	Pawnee	January 4,1869	Oct. 28,1869
Beatrice	No 26 Beatrice	Gage	March 23,1870	June 22,1870
Blue River	No 30 Milford	Seward	April 25,1870	June 23,1870
Tekamah	No 31 Tekamah	Burt	August 19,1869	June 23,1870
Platte Valley	No 32 North Platte	Lincoln	January 15,1870	June 23,1870
Ashlar	No 33 Grand Island	Hall	August 11,1870	June 22,1871
Acacia	No 34 Schuyler	Colfax	July 18,1870	June 19,1872
Fairbury	No 35 Fairbury	Jefferson	June 30,1871	June 19,1872
Lone Tree	No 36 Central City	Merrick	August 9,1871	June 19,1872
Crete	No 37 Crete	Saline	January 8,1872	June 19,1872
Oliver	No 38 Seward	Seward	July 25,1871	June 18,1873
Papillion	No 39 Papillion	Sarpy	November 18,1872	June 18,1873
Northern Light	No 41 Stanton	Stanton	January 20,1873	June 18,1873
Hebron	No 43 Hebron	Thayer	March 10,1873	June 18,1873
Harvard	No 44 Harvard	Clay	March 25,1873	June 18,1873
Rob Morris	No 46 Kearney	Buffalo	February 21,1873	June 26,1874
Hastings	No 50 Hastings	Adams	January 3,1874	June 26,1874
Fidelity	No 51 David City	Butler	January 18,1874	June 26,1874
Hiram	No 52 Arlington	Washington	February 26,1874	June 26,1874
Charity	No 53 Red Cloud	Webster	March 2,1874	June 26,1874
Lancaster	No 54 Lincoln	Lancaster	April 20,1874	June 26,1874
Mosaic	No 55 Norfolk	Madison	October 1,1874	June 23,1875
York	No 56 York	York	October 1,1874	June 23,1875
Mt. Moriah	No 57 Syracuse	Otoe	November 7,1874	June 23,1875
Wahoo	No 59 Wahoo	Saunders	January 20,1875	June 23,1875
Thistle	No 61 Lexington	Dawson	May 8,1875	June 21,1876
Keystone	No 62 Phillips	Hamilton	January 1,1876	June 21,1876
Blue Valley	No 64 Wilber	Saline	October 6,1876	June 20,1877
Osceola	No 65 Osceola	Polk	November 23,1876	June 20,1877
Aurora	No 68 Aurora	Hamilton	February 10,1876	June 19,1878
Hooper	No 72 Hooper	Dodge	March 19,1878	June 25,1879
Friend	No 73 Friend	Saline	May 4,1878	June 25,1879
Frank Welch	No 75 Sidney	Cheyenne	December 26,1878	June 25,1879
Albion	No 78 Albion	Boone	August 1,1879	June 23,1880
Geneva	No 79 Geneva	Fillmore	November 24,1879	June 23,1880
St. Paul	No 82 St. Paul	Howard	April 15,1880	June 22,1881
Corinthian	No 83 Wakefield	Dixon	April 22,1880	June 22,1881
Cedar River	No 89 Fullerton	Nance	January 19,1882	June 20,1882
Oakland	No 91 Oakland	Burt	February 7,1882	June 19,1883
Bennett	No 94 Lincoln	Lancaster	May 5,1882	June 19,1883

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE	TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED	
Garfield	No 95	O'Neill	Holt.....	June 28,1882	June 19,1883
Utica	No 96	Utica	Seward	July 14,1882	June 19,1883
Euclid	No 97	Weeping Water.....	Cass	July 21,1882	June 19,1883
Waterloo	No 102	Elkhorn	Douglas	September 7,1882	June 19,1883
Porter	No 106	Loup City	Sherman.....	December 9,1882	June 19,1883
Springfield	No 112	Springfield.....	Sarpy.....	March 30,1883	June 19,1883
North Bend	No 119	North Bend	Dodge.....	September 5,1883	June 24,1884
Wayne	No 120	Wayne	Wayne	September 26,1883	June 24,1884
Superior	No 121	Superior	Nuckolls.....	November 22,1883	June 24,1884
Stromsburg	No 126	Stromsburg	Polk	January 16,1884	June 24,1884
Guide Rock	No 128	Guide Rock.....	Webster.....	January 28,1884	June 24,1884
Scribner	No 132	Scribner	Dodge.....	July 9,1884	June 24,1885
Solar	No 134	Clarks	Merrick	August 8,1884	June 24,1885
McCook	No 135	McCook	Red Willow	October 6,1884	June 24,1885
Long Pine	No 136	Long Pine	Brown	October 6,1884	June 24,1885
Jachin	No 146	Holdrege	Phelps	July 13,1885	June 17,1886
Custer	No 148	Broken Bow	Custer.....	August 10,1885	June 17,1886
Lily	No 154	Davenport.....	Thayer.....	November 28,1885	June 17,1886
Samaritan	No 158	Chadron	Dawes	March 17,1886	June 16,1887
Ogallala	No 159	Ogallala	Keith	August 14,1886	June 16,1887
Robert Burns	No 173	Stratton	Hitchcock.....	November 15,1887	June 21,1888
Justice	No 180	Benkelman.....	Dundy	October 8,1888	June 20,1889
Alliance	No 183	Alliance	Box Butte.....	January 18,1889	June 20,1889
Bee Hive	No 184	Omaha	Douglas	January 22,1889	June 20,1889
Minnekadusa	No 192	Valentine.....	Cherry	August 15,1889	June 20,1890
Highland	No 194	Cortland	Gage	September 21,1889	June 20,1890
Arcana	No 195	Gordon.....	Sheridan.....	October 17,1889	June 20,1890
Purity	No 198	Imperial.....	Chase.....	December 24,1889	June 20,1890
Blazing Star	No 200	Burwell	Garfield.....	August 5,1890	June 18,1891
Scotts Bluff	No 201	Gering.....	Scotts Bluff	August 8,1890	June 18,1891
Plainview	No 204	Plainview	Pierce.....	September 1,1890	June 18,1891
Golden Fleece	No 205	Chappell	Deuel.....	September 2,1890	June 18,1891
Parian	No 207	Callaway	Custer.....	January 31,1891	June 18,1891
East Lincoln	No 210	Lincoln	Lancaster	November 5,1891	June 16,1892
Cement	No 211	Wood River.....	Hall	November 27,1891	June 16,1892
Magnolia	No 220	Emerson	Dixon	January 21,1893	June 15,1893
Wood Lake	No 221	Wood Lake	Cherry	September 22,1892	June 21,1894
Landmark	No 222	Herman	Washington	March 1,1893	June 21,1894
Silver Cord	No 224	Ainsworth.....	Brown	October 17,1893	June 21,1894
North Star	No 227	Lincoln	Lancaster	July 28,1894	June 13,1895
Bartley	No 228	Bartley	Red Willow	November 23,1894	June 13,1895
Comet	No 229	Ceresco	Saunders	December 5,1894	June 13,1895
Zion	No 234	Hyannis.....	Grant	July 19,1895	June 10,1896
Geo. Armstrong	No 241	Craig	Burt.....	August 1,1895	June 17,1897
Laurel	No 248	Laurel.....	Cedar	February 12,1900	June 7,1900
Geo. Washington	No 250	Lincoln	Lancaster	June 20,1900	June 6,1901
Wausa	No 251	Wausa	Knox	November 18,1900	June 6,1901
Hickman	No 256	Lincoln	Lancaster	December 7,1903	June 9,1904
Franklin	No 264	Franklin	Franklin	June 11,1907	June 10,1908
Robert W. Furnas	No 265	Scottsbluff	Scotts Bluff	June 21,1907	June 10,1908
Geo. W. Lininger	No 268	Omaha	Douglas	February 26,1908	June 10,1908
Olive Branch	No 274	Walthill	Thurston.....	September 20,1909	June 8,1910
Wallace	No 279	Wallace	Lincoln.....	February 25,1911	June 4,1912
Florence	No 281	Omaha	Douglas	January 17,1913	June 4,1913
Seneca	No 284	Theford	Thomas	September 29,1913	June 9,1914

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED		CHARTERED	
Camp Clarke	No 285	Bridgeport	Morrill	October	16,1913	June	9,1914
Oshkosh	No 286	Oshkosh	Garden	November	25,1913	June	9,1914
Union	No 287	Palmyra	Otoe	December	15,1913	June	8,1915
Omaha	No 288	Omaha	Douglas	March	24,1914	June	8,1915
John J. Mercer	No 290	Omaha	Douglas	November	21,1914	June	8,1915
Diamond	No 291	Orchard	Antelope	November	23,1914	June	8,1915
Kimball	No 294	Kimball	Kimball	June	10,1915	June	7,1916
Cotner	No 297	Lincoln	Lancaster	June	15,1917	June	5,1918
Liberty	No 300	Lincoln	Lancaster	January	10,1918	June	5,1918
Mizpah	No 302	Omaha	Douglas	November	12,1918	June	4,1919
Newman Grove	No 305	Newman Grove	Madison	January	14,1920	June	9,1920
Victory	No 310	Valley	Douglas	December	27,1920	June	8,1921
Craftsmen	No 314	Lincoln	Lancaster	March	22,1922	June	5,1923
Mid-West	No 317	Hastings	Adams	January	8,1925	June	10,1925
College View	No 320	Lincoln	Lancaster	July	1,1927	June	6,1928
Lebanon	No 323	Columbus	Platte	November	14,1928	June	5,1929
Cairo	No 324	Cairo	Hall	January	16,1936	June	1937
Bellevue	No 325	Bellevue	Sarpy	March	5,1955	June	8,1955
Centennial	No 326	Omaha	Douglas	November	26,1955	June	6,1956
Shiloh	No 327	Omaha	Douglas	September	3,1965	June	10,1966
Miloma	No 328	Omaha	Douglas	January	19,1972	June	28,1972
Saints John Educ.	No 331			December	27, 2000	February	2, 2002
Tabula Rasa	No 332	Lincoln	Lancaster	July	24, 2006	February	3, 2007
Albert Pike	No 333	Omaha	Douglas	October	28, 2013	February	8, 2014
Renaissance	No 334	Elkhorn	Douglas	October	28, 2013	February	8, 2014

CONSOLIDATED LODGES

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Joppa No. 76, Bloomington	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	October 18, 1934
Parallel No. 152, Liberty	Barneston No. 165, Barneston	January 2, 1940
Tyre No. 85, Blue Springs	Wymore No. 104, Wymore	July 7, 1941
Bradshaw No. 255, Bradshaw	Hampton No. 245, Hampton	May 21, 1942
Level No. 196, Stockville	Cambridge No. 150, Cambridge	June 4, 1942
Riverside No. 269, Belgrade	Cedar River No. 89, Fullerton	June 5, 1942
Juniata No. 42, Juniata,	Kenesaw No. 144, Kenesaw	July 15, 1942
Palmer No. 315, Palmer	St. Paul No. 82, St. Paul	October 6, 1942
Elk Creek No. 90, Elk	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	November 11, 1944
Riverton No. 63, Riverton	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	May 16, 1945
Hildreth No. 252, Hildreth	Grace No. 226, Wilcox	October 11, 1945
Hubbell No. 92, Hubbell	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	February 8, 1946
Incense No. 182, Ohiowa	Jewell No. 149, Tobias	April 22, 1947
Bee No. 259, Bee	Oliver No. 38, Seward	June 13, 1947
Tuscan No. 130, Surprise	Composite No. 81, Rising City	February 9, 1963
Delta No. 230, St. Edward	Albion No. 78, Albion	January 1, 1965
Jewel No. 149, Tobias	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	September 9, 1966
Valley No. 157, Wilsonville	Beaver City No. 93, Beaver City	March 8, 1966
Ruskin No. 304, Ruskin	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	September 23, 1966
Morning Star No. 197, Gresham	Stromsburg No. 126, Stromsburg	December 9, 1967
Cornerstone No. 247, Osmond	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	December 12, 1967
Kenesaw No. 144, Kenesaw	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	January 13, 1968
Blue Hill No. 129, Blue Hill	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	February 9, 1968
Pioneer No. 322, Lyman	Oasis No. 271, Morrill	April 10, 1969
Compass & Square No. 212, Sumner	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	April 20, 1969
Hope No. 29, Nemaha	Nemaha Valley No. 4, Brownville	September 9, 1969
Elm Creek No. 133, Elm Creek	James A. Tulleys No. 267, Overton	March 17, 1970
Naphthali No. 206, Diller	Fairbury No. 35, Fairbury	March 23, 1970
Alexandria No. 74, Alexandria	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	September 10, 1970
Pythagoras No. 156, Ewing	Diamond No. 291, Orchard	December 4, 1970
Grace No. 226, Wilcox	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	May 11, 1971
Wolbach No. 292, Wolbach	St. Paul No. 82, St. Paul	December 23, 1971
Tyrian No. 243, Oak	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	June 9, 1972
Mystic Tie No. 166, Tilden	Trowel No. 71, Neligh	June 12, 1972
Roman Eagle No. 203, Pender	Bancroft No. 145, Bancroft	April 20, 1973
Amethyst No. 190, Stapleton	Cable No. 225, Arnold	April 20, 1973
Prudence No. 179, Beaver Crossing	Utica No. 96, Utica	April 20, 1973
Fairfield No. 84, Fairfield	Clay Center No. 139, Clay Center	January 24, 1974
Ramah No. 275, Bertrand	Elwood No. 167, Elwood	February 14, 1974
Sterling No. 70, Sterling	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 20, 1974
Mt. Hermon No. 231, Cook	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 15, 1974
Winnebago No. 309, Winnebago	Olive Branch No. 274, Walthill	December 3, 1974
Temple No. 175, Filley	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 26, 1975
Beemer No. 253, Beemer	Wisner No. 114, Wisner	June 17, 1975
Signet No. 193, Leigh	Northern Light No. 41, Stanton	February 20, 1976
Plumblin No. 214, Adams	Beatrice No. 26, Beatrice	October 1, 1976
Cubit No. 237, Douglas	Union No. 287, Palmyra	December 13, 1977
Bancroft No. 145, Bancroft	Olive Branch No. 274, Walthill	December 17, 1978
Litchfield No. 278, Litchfield	Mason City No. 170, Mason City	July 1, 1979

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Hartington No. 155, Hartington	Relief No. 219, Coleridge	August 10, 1979
Creighton No. 100, Creighton	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	May 17, 1980
Star No. 88, Decatur	Pilot No. 240, Lyons	January 22, 1981
Gladstone No. 176, Ansley	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	November 4, 1981
Eminence No. 223, Giltner	Keystone No. 62, Phillips	October 26, 1981
Antelope No. 276, Elgin	Trowel No. 71, Neligh	January 1, 1982
Bladen No. 319, Bladen	Charity No. 53, Red Cloud	May 6, 1982
Oak Leaf No. 312, Lynch	Ornan No. 261, Spencer	April 22, 1983
Crofton No. 273, Crofton	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	April 17, 1984
Harlan No. 116, Alma	Melrose No. 60, Orleans	April 17, 1984
Hardy No. 117, Hardy	Superior No. 121, Superior	April 17, 1984
Merna No. 171, Merna	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	April 17, 1984
Lee P. Gillette No. 272, Dunbar	Western Star No. 2, Nebraska City	January 18, 1985
Occidental No. 215, Cedar Bluffs	Fremont No. 15, Fremont	March 28, 1985
Siloam No. 147, Stuart	Atkinson No. 164, Atkinson	November 20, 1985
Ponca No. 101, Ponca	Alpha No. 316, South Siou	City, June 1986
Boaz No. 185, Danbury	McCook No. 135, McCook	September 16, 1986
Curtis No. 168, Curtis	McCook No. 135, McCook	February 15, 1986
Clay Center No. 139, Clay Center	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	March 5, 1986
Unity No. 163, Greenwood	Pomegranate No. 110, Ashland	December 30, 1986
Gothenburg No. 249, Gothenburg	Platte Valley No. 32, North Platte	January 14, 1987
Granite No. 189, Gibbon	Cement No. 211, Wood River	April 1987
Amity No. 169, Rushville	Hay Springs No. 177, Hay Springs	May 1987
Golden Sheaf No. 202, Randolph	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	December 31, 1987
Faith No. 181, Crawford	Sioux No. 277, Harrison	December 1987
Potter No. 313, Potter	Frank Welch No. 75, Sidney	October 1988
Western No. 140, Western	DeWitt No. 111, DeWitt	December 1988
Zeredetha No. 160, Reynolds	Fairbury No. 35, Fairbury	December 1988
Right Angle No. 303, Omaha	Papillion No. 39, Papillion	December 31, 1988
Trowel No. 71, Neligh	Diamond No. 291, Orchard	January 1990
Alpha No. 316, South Sioux City	Omadi No. 5, South Sioux City	March 1, 1990
Shelton No. 99, Shelton	Cement No. 211, Wood River	April 27, 1990
Nehawka No. 246, Nehawka	Western Star No. 2, Nebraska City	June 20, 1990
Anselmo No. 258, Anselmo	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	August 28, 1990
Globe No. 113, Madison	Mosaic No. 55, Norfolk	August 28, 1990
Harmony No. 321, Dalton	Frank Welch No. 75, Sidney	November 28, 1990
Silver No. 266, Silver	Osceola No. 65, Osceola	April 25, 1991
Cable No. 225, Arnold	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	May 17, 1991
Grand Island No. 318, Grand Island	Ashlar No. 33, Grand Island	August 9, 1991
Orient No. 13, Rulo/Falls City	Falls City No. 9, Falls City	August 21, 1991
Rawalt No. 138, Oxford	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	October 9, 1991
Beaver City No. 93, Beaver City	Monument No. 293, Arapahoe	January 30, 1992
Meridian No. 188, Cozad	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	February 20, 1992
Hampton No. 245, Hampton	Aurora No. 68, Aurora	February 21, 1992
Crystal No. 191, Scotia	Ord No. 103, Ord	March 10, 1992
Edgar No. 67, Edgar	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	March 10, 1992
Gavel No. 199, Carleton	Lily No. 154, Davenport	March 23, 1992
Cambridge No. 150, Cambridge	Bartley No. 228, Bartley	April 20, 1992
Mt. Zion No. 161, Shelby	Composite No. 81, Rising City	November 11, 1992
Endeavor No. 262, Indianola	Bartley No. 228, Bartley	December 3, 1992
Fraternity No. 235, Winside	Wayne No. 120, Wayne	April 28, 1993

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
John S. Bowen No. 23, Kennard	Washington No. 21, Blair	May 4, 1993
Minatare No. 295, Minatare	Scotts Bluff No. 201, Gering	January 24, 1994
Pilot No. 240, Lyons	Tekamah No. 31, Tekamah	June 6, 1994
Bayard No. 301, Bayard	Camp Clarke No. 285, Bridgeport	September 12, 1994
Upright No. 137, Burchard	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	September 6, 1995
Golden Rod No. 306, Lodgepole	Golden Fleece No. 205, Chappell	December 6, 1995
Bassett No. 254, Bassett	Silver Cord No. 224, Ainsworth	December 29, 1995
Chester No. 298, Chester	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	February 24, 1997
Ornan No. 261, Spencer	Garfield No. 95, O'Neill	February 27, 1997
Stella No. 105, Stella	Humboldt No. 40, Humboldt	April 7, 1997
Melrose No. 60, Orleans	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	July 21, 1997
St. Johns No. 25, Omaha	John J. Mercer No. 290, Omaha	March 6, 1998
Fairmont No. 48, Fairmont	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	May 14, 1998
Ionic No. 87, Niobrara	Bloomfield No. 218, Bloomfield	November 11, 1998
Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	December 23, 1998
Sutherland No. 299, Sutherland	Platte Valley No. 32, North Platte	February 15, 1999
Gilead No. 233, Butte	Atkinson No. 164, Atkinson	March 17, 1999
Mt. Nebo No. 125, Genoa	Cedar River No. 89, Fullerton	April 7, 1999
Auburn No. 124, Auburn	Nemaha Valley No. 4, Brownville	June 23, 1999
Sioux No. 277, Harrison	Mitchell No. 263, Mitchell	December 2, 1999
James A. Tulleys No. 267, Overton	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	June 26, 2001
Perkins No. 308, Grant	Ogallala No. 159, Ogallala	December 19, 2001
Republican No. 98, Republican City	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	December 31, 2001
Mason City No. 170, Mason City	Porter No. 106, Loup City	July 16, 2004
Relief No. 219, Coleridge	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	October 29, 2004
Oasis No. 271, Morrill	Mitchell No. 263, Mitchell	December 1, 2004
Crescent No. 143, Primrose	Albion No. 78, Albion	September 27, 2005
Table Rock No. 108, Table Rock	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	June 26, 2006
Culbertson No. 174, Culbertson	McCook No. 135, McCook	January 19, 2007
Palisade No. 216, Palisade	McCook No. 135, McCook	January 19, 2007
Lotus No. 289, Ravenna	Porter No. 106, Loup City	October 10, 2007
Polk No. 311, Polk	Solar No. 134, Clarks	December 14, 2007
Humboldt No. 40, Humboldt	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	December 27, 2007
Evening Star No. 49, Sutton	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	August 8, 2008
Bloomfield No. 218, Bloomfield	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	October 17, 2008
DeWitt No. 111, DeWitt	Blue Valley No. 64, Wilber	March 13, 2009
Composite No. 81, Rising	Fidelity No. 51, David City	February 26, 2010
Trestle Board No. 162, Brock	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	February 26, 2010
Hay Springs No. 177, Hay Springs	Arcana Lodge No. 195, Gordon	May 27, 2011
Canopy Lodge No. 209, Elmwood	Euclid Lodge No. 97, Weeping Water	June 7, 2011
Golden Rule Lodge No. 236, Allen	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wakefield	July 21, 2011
Pomegranate Lodge No. 110, Ashland	Comet Lodge No. 229, Ceresco	November 1, 2011
Wymore Lodge No. 104, Wymore	Beatrice Lodge No. 26, Beatrice	February 20, 2012
Nelson Lodge No. 77, Nelson	Superior Lodge No. 121, Superior	April 27, 2012
Ord Lodge No. 103, Ord	Blazing Star Lodge No. 200, Burwell	November 2, 2012
Wisner Lodge No. 114, Wisner	Northern Light Lodge No. 41, Stanton	February 25, 2013
Atkinson Lodge No. 164, Atkinson	Garfield Lodge No. 95, O'Neill	March 11, 2013
Jordan Lodge No. 27, West Point	Oakland Lodge No. 91, Oakland	September 27, 2013
Elwood Lodge No. 167, Elwood	Thistle Lodge No. 61, Lexington	January 3, 2014
Mitchell Lodge No. 263, Mitchell	Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201, Gering	March 3, 2015
Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	November 11, 2015

**LODGES ORGANIZED IN TERRITORIES
OTHER THAN NEBRASKA**

Summit No. 7	Parkville, Colorado - Instituted May 6, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Rocky Mountain No. 8	Gold Hill, Colorado - Instituted May 21, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Central City, U.:D.:	Central City, Colorado - Instituted 1860 or 1861.
Bannack City, U.:D.:	Bannack City, Idaho - Instituted April 1863 or June 21, 1863.
Monitor Lodge, U.:D.:	United States Army - Instituted July 30, 1863. Became extinct prior to 1867.
Idaho Lodge, U.:D.:	Nevada City, Idaho - Instituted November 17, 1863. Became extinct June 23, 1864.
Wyoming Lodge No. 28	South Pass City, Wyoming - Instituted November 24, 1869. Chartered June 23, 1870. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Wyoming, December 15, 1874
Swisher Lodge U.:D.:	Kabul, Afghanistan – Instituted September 12, 2005 Kabul, Afghanistan – Instituted December 1, 2011

EXTINCT LODGES

NAME AND LOCATION	DATE OF BECOMING EXTINCT
Decatur No. 7 – Decatur.....	June 18, 1873
Columbus No. 8 – Columbus.....	June 25, 1868
Nebraska City No. 12 – Nebraska City.....	March 10, 1903
Eureka No. 16 – Arago.....	December 23, 1875
Ashland No. 18 – Ashland.....	August 17, 1881
Rock Bluff No. 20 – Rock Bluff.....	July 16, 1884
Macoy No. 22 – Plattsmouth.....	December 31, 1877
Lafayette No. 24 – Lafayette Pct. (later Grant).....	March 27, 1877
Palmyra No. 45 – Palmyra.....	November 20, 1901
Salem No. 47 – Salem.....	June 18, 1891
Lebanon No. 58 – Columbus.....	June 6, 1928
Livingstone No. 66 – Firth.....	June 5, 1907
Fortitude No. 69 – Ulysses.....	June 14, 1887
Waco No. 80 – Waco.....	January 31, 1885
Doniphan No. 86 – Doniphan.....	May 12, 1966
Steele City No. 107 – Steele City.....	August 13, 1902
Arapahoe No. 109 – Arapahoe.....	June 8, 1904
Brainard No. 115 – Brainard.....	September 5, 1903
Doric No. 118 – Dorchester.....	June 4, 1930
Jasper No. 122 – Odell.....	April 24, 1901
Indianola No. 123 – Indianola.....	June 8, 1904
Minden No. 127 – Minden.....	October 27, 2003
Ark & Anchor No. 131 – Ainsworth.....	September 2, 1890
Summit No. 141 – Johnson.....	February 5, 1900
Anchor No. 142 – North Loup.....	June 5, 1901
Square No. 151 – Valparaiso.....	October 9, 1962
Evergreen No. 153 – Pierce.....	September, 1989
Barneston No. 165 – Barneston.....	June 12, 2013
Grafton No. 172 – Grafton.....	December 31, 1948
Hesperia No. 178 – Shickley.....	September 9, 1905
Plumb No. 186 – Grant.....	November 15, 1897
Israel No. 187 – Ulysses.....	December 18, 1956
Gauge No. 208 – Arcadia.....	May 29, 1965
Square & Compass No. 213 – Miller.....	June 6, 1918
Wauneta No. 217 – Wauneta.....	December 31, 1991
Ithmar No. 238 – Crab Orchard.....	February 9, 1903
Orion No. 242 – Ravenna.....	July 6, 1904
Sincerity No. 244 – Battle Creek.....	June 6, 1928
Holbrook No. 257 – Holbrook.....	June 11, 1959
Springview No. 260 – Springview.....	August 6, 1920
Huntley No. 270 – Huntley.....	June 7, 1939
Swastika No. 280 – Sargent.....	December 31, 1988
Mullen No. 282 – Mullen.....	December 17, 1998
Exeter No. 283 – Exeter.....	December 16, 1952
Monument No. 293 – Arapahoe.....	December 9, 2014
Cowles No. 296 – Cowles.....	December 31, 1946
William E. Hill No. 307 – Otoe.....	December 15, 1964
Roscoe Pound Lodge of Research No. 329 – Lincoln.....	September 10, 1993
St. John the Baptist Lodge of Research No. 330 – Geneva.....	June 3, 1998

MASONIC CALENDAR

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONS commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it ANNO LUCIS (A.:L.:) "in the year of light."

A.:A.:S.: RITE, same as Ancient Craft except the Jewish Chronology is used, ANNO MUNDI (A.:M.:) "in the year of the world."

ROYAL ARCH MASONS date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, ANNO INVENTIONIS (A.:I.:) "in the year of the discovery."

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS date from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed, ANNO DEPOSITIONIS (A.:Dep.:) "in the year of the deposit."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR commence their era with the organization of their Order, ANNO ORDINIS (AO) "in the year of the Order."

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD dates from the year of the Blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchizedek, ANNO BENEFACTO (A.:Beo.:) "in the year of the Blessing."

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

ANCIENT CRAFT	Add 4000 to the common era.	Thus, 2004 and 4000 = 6004.
A.:A.:S.: RITE	Add 3760 to the common era.	Thus, 2004 and 3760 = 5764. After September add another year.
ROYAL ARCH	Add 530 to the common era.	Thus, 2004 and 530 = 2534.
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS		Add 1000 to the common era. Thus, 2004 and 1000 = 3004.
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR		From the Christian era take 1118. Thus, 1118 from 2004 = 886.
ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD		To the Christian era, add 1913, the year of the blessing, B.C. Thus, 2004 and 1913 = 3917.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES** Denotes proxy*

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Nebraska #1	Mark K Westadt	Tyler S Loontjer	William B Kimme	John R Fairlie
Western Star #2	Edward L Reed	Donald E Sullivan*	Joseph S Musumeci	David A Wetrosky
Capitol #3	Christopher V Edwards*	Frederick R Yates*	John R Herbolzheimer	Kenneth F Clayton
Nemaha Valley #4	Stephen C Kennedy			
Omadi #5	Wayne Benson*			Chris T Knudsen*
Plattsmouth #6	Robert W Ford	Charles J Marsh*	Casey S VanHelten	Jay H Speck
Falls City #9				Robert L Ferguson
Solomon #10	Bradley A Larsen	Todd Lewis*	Rick L Burmeister*	Philip A Lorenzen
Covert #11	L Ryan Barwick*	Phillip A Ricker		David N Silver
Peru #14				
Fremont #15	Grady A Wells	Mitch L Smith	Jimmy R Peterson	
Lincoln #19	Kent W Folsom	John P Sabby	John R L Bloom	Charles A Burk
Washington #21	Paul A Kult*			Brian K Sandall*
Pawnee #23	Edward D Raper	Larry L Bradbury*		Gary H Bedea*
Beatrice #26	Christopher N Dunker			Jason M MacKichan
Blue River #30	Dennis Reichenberg	Douglas R Rosekrans*		Paul J Rezac*
Tekamah #31	Ronald D Grass	James A Ball*		Charles T Goll*
Platte Valley #32	John R Steele	Joshua M Gartrell*	Stewart J Clow	Robert I Peal
Ashlar #33	Benjamin J Miller			
Acacia #34				Dennis D Coufal
Fairbury #35				
Lone Tree #36		Raymond W Williams		
Crete #37	James A Clark*	Rick W Wienke*		Jerry F Bespalec
Oliver #38	Kent R Millington		Adam M Thayer	
Papillion #39	Geoffrey A Talmon	Glenn R Lewis	Robert R Lewis	A Carl Highman
Northern Light #41	Robert E Chilcoat			Robert E Schellpeper
Hebron #43	Everett G Roop			
Harvard #44				
Rob Morris #46	Adam C Grazier	Kevin T Johnson		Delmar A Jones
Hastings #50		Carl E Groenewold*		Michael L Small*
Fidelity #51				Lawrence C Griffiths*
Hiram #52	Micheal A Buchardt	David Cook*		Sydney R Clausen*
Charity #53				
Lancaster #54	James M Stull	Adam M Thayer	Kory L Johnson	Russell G Reno
Mosaic #55				
York #56		Fred O Wyant	Fran L Crowe	Ronald L Winquest*
Mt Moriah #57	W Jeff Walker		Michael D Njus	
Wahoo #59	R Michael Lawver			Dean A Biggerstaff*
Thistle #61				
Keystone #62				
Blue Valley #64	Kenneth Smisek		Jerry M Studt	Ronald A Cerveny
Osceola #65	James M Winslow			Mervin E Ransom*
Aurora #68	Denton W Goertzen*			Ronald L Furse
Hooper #72	Kevin R Larson*			
Friend #73				
Frank Welch #75	Mark L Carley			William A Sowell
Albion #78				

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Geneva #79		Thomas J Ortgies*	Nathan R Jacobson*	
St Paul #82				
Corinthian #83	Bradley A Jones*		Terry L Henschke*	Robert A Jones
Cedar River #89				
Oakland #91				
Bennett #94	Rick E Harris*	Frederick E Liebers	Richard D Harris	Douglas B Johnson
Garfield #95				
Utica #96	Mitchell J Vavra*	Robert O Rhodes	Fred O Wyant	Kevin O Scheele
Euclid #97				
Waterloo #102	Dick L Parcher	Elliott T Bottorf	Kraig A Prange	Brad D Petersen*
Porter #106				Kenneth A Bills
Springfield #112	Jeremy Myers*		Paul R Mason*	
North Bend #119	Edward P Gray		Dennis Bostow	
Wayne #120		Frank G Teach*		Michael S Cavenee
Superior #121	Jason P Jensen	Justin D Keeling	William R Sauce*	A Gary Keeling
Stromsburg #126				
Guide Rock #128				
Scribner #132	David H Otteman*			Donald G Havekost
Solar #134				
McCook #135	Adam J Wolford*			
Long Pine #136	Stanley L Weidner	Philip A Brown	Jeremiah J Schartz	Alvin O Benemerito
Jachin #146	John D Konzack	Michael J Kruback*	Adam F Bruning	Bruce G Raddatz
Custer #148	Douglas P Sadler	Russell C Simmons	Leonard V Lindly	Kevin R Lindly
Lily # 154				
Samaritan #158				
Ogalalla #159	Philip J Armstrong*	Bernard A Beckius	Charles N Frates*	
Robert Burns #173			Donald E Rife	Lyndell Whipps*
Justice #180				
Alliance #183	Jock H Faris	Michael Douglas Fritzler	James D Karell	Eugene Gatti*
Bee Hive #184	Steven J Cisney*	Bradley A Waite	David Workman	Derick L Loberg
Minnekadusa #192				
Highland #194	Cody C Carlow	Justin W Grusing	Alex G Olson*	Frederich E DeVries
Arcana #195	George Meng	Michael N Russell*	Richard C Borie	James O Smith*
Purity #198			Thomas W Elder	Byron L Hust
Blazing Star #200				
Scotts Bluff #201				
Plainview #204				
Golden Fleece #205	Douglas A Criswell*			Dwight E Smith
Parian #207				Howard K Chessmore*
East Lincoln #210	W Scott Dodge	Blake W Berkley	Joel D Green	Thomas M Michaelson*
Cement #211				Dewey R Heminger
Magnolia #220		Mark L Jahde*		
Wood Lake #221				
Landmark #222				
Silver Cord #224	Joe D McBride	Wilber C Saner*	Michael E Hitchcock	Evan C Evans*
North Star #227			Harry A Storz	Steven B Wetzel*

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES** Denotes proxy*

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Bartley #228				
Comet #229			Jack M Johnson*	Charles W Leypoldt*
Zion #234				
Geo. Armstrong #241	T Richard Eriksen			Keith A Eriksen*
Laurel #248				
George Washington #250	Andrew C Martin	Eric J Bachenberg	H John Kirby	Mark W Poston
Wausa #251				
Hickman #256	John D Irons	Johnny J Martin	Patrick D Gray	Olin D Boone
Franklin #264		Robert G Money*		Jerrell F Gerdes
Robert W Furnas #265	Kenneth W Greenman	Paul Callenius	Ed Morava*	Dennis D Dubry
George W Lininger #268	Mitchel J Inman	David E Meinzer*	Matthew C Briggs*	James R Corsaro*
Olive Branch #274	Jon S Cerny	Kyle J Peterson	John S Kruse*	Kent L Neumann
Wallace #279				
Florence #281	John Warnhoff	Jeremiah M Conner	Brandon K Breiby	Merl R Core
Seneca #284	Richard W Jameson	Chauncey J Linn*	Ralph H Eatinger*	James J Jones
Camp Clarke #285	Justin R VanPatten	Brenton E VanPatten	William Newkirk*	Edwin O Harms*
Oshkosh #286		Donald C Fischer*		Dale A Jenkins
Union #287	Galen L Crawford*			
Omaha #288	Willie J Williams*			Wesley K Stingley*
John J Mercer #290	Jeffrey S Alexander	Rex M Ekleberry		Jonathan D White
Diamond #291				
James L Eatmon #294	Kevin L Sherman*	Kevin S Wynne*	John C Barrett	
Cotner #297	Robert J Sanford	David E Zigler	Mark L Rossignol	Ralph J Riemann*
Liberty #300	Mark J Turner	Thomas J Lagerstrom	Dennis J Hecht*	Brent Myers
Mizpah #302	Benjamin R Zaayer	Michael E Tomasiewicz	Michael W Stuhr	Craig R Crawford
Newman Grove #305				Raymond J Herbert
Victory #310	Robert C King	Brian L Weber	Carroll G Peacock	K Roger Dill
Craftsmen #314	Mark C Peterson	Bruce L Trautwein	Keith A Simonsen*	James P Heinke*
Mid-West #317	Roger A Deininger		Bruce A Baker	Dan J Nonneman
College View #320	Douglas B Johnson	Thomas O Anderson		Curtis E Wolbert
Lebanon #323		Nick A Norris*	Kim L Severyn*	Rick B Porter
Cairo #324				
Bellevue #325	Stewart H Cottrell	John A Sheffield	Myron M Bell	James A Carlton
Centennial #326	Carl G Lewis	J Dave Heck*	Eugene A Holman*	
Shiloh #327	Robert L Schapp	Lawrence J Ruh*	Bryan G Dring*	Matthew W Vandergriff
Miloma #328	Adam J Bailey	Mark T Bush*	Donald L Hawkins	Gregory E Bush
Tabula Rasa #332	John L Millington	F Graham House	Brent Myers	Dennis H Brydl
Albert Pike #333	Thomas K Brummett	Steven R Barchus	Charles V Sederstrom*	Micah I Evans

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets
December 31, 2015

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - UNRESTRICTED - U.S. GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		61,221	61,221
BONDS			
TRANSPORTATION, INDUSTRIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	48,625
Bunge Ltd. Fin. Corp., 8.500%, 6-15-2019	50,000	51,695	57,869
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	50,841
GTE Corp., 6.840%, 4-15-2018	50,000	54,285	54,932
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	49,513
Kia Tencor Corp., 4.650%, 11-1-2024	50,000	50,886	50,307
Qualcomm Inc., 3.450%, 5-20-2025	50,000	47,000	47,959
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,247	47,940
Southwest Aircls Co., 5.750%, 12-15-2016	50,000	40,000	51,968
US West Communications, Inc., 7.125%, 11-15-2043	50,000	51,000	47,475
Total transportation, industrial and miscellaneous bonds	450,000	448,440	480,496
TOTAL BONDS	500,000	497,785	507,429

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
1,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc.	4,266	15,660
300	Berkshire Hathaway Inc.CIB	19,634	39,612
200	Boeing Co.	9,192	28,918
750	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	25,839	23,647
225	Cato Corp.	5,397	8,285
1,312	Cemex S A B De C V Sponsor ADR New	6,832	7,308
800	Chicago Bridge&Iron Co.	25,298	31,192
300	Compass Minerals Internationa lInc.	23,624	22,581
300	Conoco Phillips Com.	8,990	14,007
1,600	Constellium	35,286	12,320
1,250	Costamare Inc.	21,518	13,025
300	Disney Walt Co. Com.	6,007	31,524
800	Discovery Communications Inc.	24,825	20,176
250	Dominion Resources Inc.	9,472	16,910
275	Hershey Co.	23,330	24,549
2,000	Investors Real Estate Trust	20,400	13,900
250	Johnson&JohnsonCom.	16,035	25,680
150	Kansas City Southern	2,125	11,200
900	Leucadia National Corp.	38,150	15,651
425	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	4,759	22,053
550	Lkq Corp Com	16,103	16,297
200	McDonalds Corp. Com.	18,001	23,628
700	Microsoft Corp. Com.	17,584	38,836
900	Pfizer Inc.	15,512	29,052
400	Plum Creek Timber Co.	11,882	19,088
75	Precision Castparts Corp.	15,667	17,401
675	St Joe Company	15,503	12,494
1,300	Symetra Finl Corp. Com.	23,435	41,301
300	Texas Pacific Land Trust	8,896	39,276
550	Verizon Communications Inc. Com.	26,261	25,421
225	Vulcan Materials Co.	9,250	21,368
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		509,073	682,360

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Temporarily Restricted and
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
December 31, 2015

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - RESTRICTED U.S.			
GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		72,042	72,042
BONDS			
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES			
U.S. Treasury Notes, 7.250%, 5-15-2016	25,000	28,117	25,612
Independence Kans Indl Dev Rev, 8.11%, 6-15-2020	50,000	52,165	50,082
Kansas City MO Spl Oblig Impt Bds, 4.55%, 8-1-2022	50,000	51,091	55,324
Total government securities	125,000	131,373	131,018
CORPORATE BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	48,625
Altera Corp., 4.100%, 11-15-2023	25,000	24,383	26,033
Anglogold Ashanti Hldgs., 5.125%, 8-1-2022	50,000	50,933	39,750
Bunge Ltd Fin Corp., 8.500%, 6-15-2019	25,000	25,848	28,935
CA Inc., 4.500%, 8-15-2023	50,000	51,169	50,589
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	50,841
Halliburton Co., 6.750%, 2-1-2027	25,000	24,325	29,399
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	49,513
Kia Tencor Corp., 4.650%, 11-1-2024	50,000	50,886	50,308
Kohls Corp., 4.000%, 11-1-2021	25,000	25,080	25,660
Pitney Bowes Inc., 5.250%, 1-15-2037	50,000	51,000	50,495
Qualcomm Inc., 3.450%, 5-20-2025	50,000	47,000	47,958
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,246	47,940
Southwest Airls Co., 5.750%, 12-15-2016	25,000	20,000	25,984
Suncor Energy Inc., 6.100%, 6-1-2018	50,000	43,799	53,778
Target Corp., 5.375%, 5-01-2017	50,000	49,112	52,785
US West Communications Inc., 7.125%, 11-15-2043	25,000	25,500	23,738
Zurich Reins Centre Hldgs., 7.125%, 10-12-2023	50,000	54,510	58,705
Total corporate bonds	750,000	746,463	761,036
TOTAL BONDS	875,000	877,836	892,054

COMMON STOCKS

Shares	Description	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
2,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc.	8,532	31,320
500	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Cl B	31,842	66,020
450	Boeing Co.	20,683	65,066
1,325	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	45,696	41,777
475	Cato Corp.	11,393	17,490
2,368	Cemex S A B De C V Sponsor ADR New	12,303	13,190
1,400	Chicago Bridge & Iron	26,757	54,586
500	Compass Minerals International Inc.	38,742	37,635
550	ConocoPhillips Com.	20,275	25,679
2,800	Constellium	62,494	21,560
2,075	Costamare Inc.	35,721	21,621
1,400	Discovery Communications Inc.	43,443	35,308
700	Disney Walt Co Com.	19,990	73,556
650	Dominion Resources Inc.	24,627	43,966
475	Hershey Co.	40,297	42,403
3,000	Investors Real Estate Trust	30,600	20,850
475	Johnson & Johnson Com.	30,447	48,792
300	Kansas City Southern	4,250	22,401
1,000	Leucadia National Corp.	38,322	17,390
825	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	9,222	42,809
1,000	Lkq Corp.	29,277	29,630
400	McDonalds Corp Com.	36,002	47,256
1,400	Microsoft Corp. Com.	36,149	77,672
2,000	Pfizer Inc.	49,974	64,560
600	Plum Creek Timber Co.	17,824	28,632
150	Precision Castparts Corp.	31,333	34,802
1,100	St. Joe Company	24,078	20,361
2,400	Symetra Finl Corp.	43,137	76,248
525	Texas Pacific Land Trust	15,452	68,733
1,050	Verizon Communications Inc. Com.	50,121	48,531
375	Vulcan Materials Co.	15,393	35,614
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		904,376	1,275,458

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The Next
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
of the
GRAND LODGE
A.:F.: & A.:M.:
OF
NEBRASKA

Will Be Held

FEBRUARY 3 & 4, 2017
at the
YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

**PROPOSED LIST OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS
2015 – 2016**

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