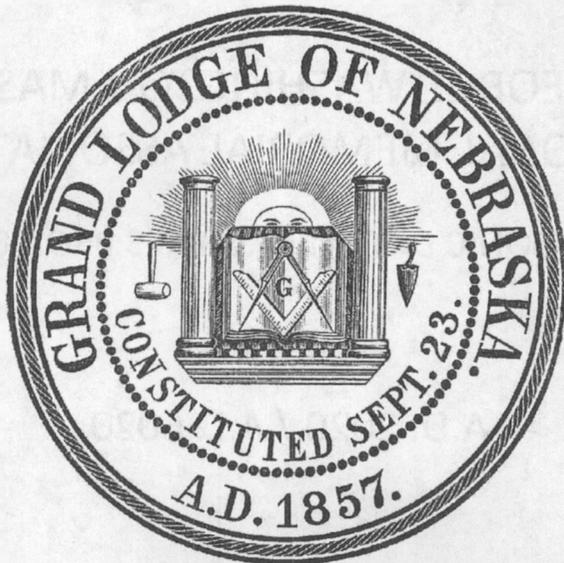


2018
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 2018 / A.L. 6018

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**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION**

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A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

Grand Lodge

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



2018

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



2018 Proceedings
of the
One Hundred Sixty-first
Annual Communication

Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

2018



Richard D. Myers

**Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska
2017-2018**

Masonic History of the 151st Grand Master

Richard D. Myers

Richard D. Myers was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Waterloo Lodge No. 102, Elkhorn, Nebraska, on May 19, 1987. He passed through the chairs and served as Master in 1994. He affiliated with North Bend Lodge No. 119 in 2010, and has been a member of Renaissance Lodge No. 334 in Elkhorn since its inception in 2013.

Rick joined the Scottish Rite in the Omaha Valley in 1989, and was named a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 2009. He served in the officer line in the Chapter of Rose Croix, culminating in his service as Venerable Master in 2010. He serves as degree director of the 8th degree. Rick was coroneted as a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason on August 22, 2017.

Rick joined the three Tekamah York Rite bodies and received the degrees in Royal Arch, Cryptic Masons and Commandery, holding membership therein since 1991.

The Grand Master joined Tangier Shriners in 1989, serving as Samsar (Membership Director) for several years in the 1990s. He has been a long-time member of the Fremont Shrine Club, serving as its President in 2001. Rick is a member of Tangier's Motor B (motorcycle) unit, and the North Bend Shrine Club.

Rick was initiated into Omaha Court #19, Royal Order of Jesters, in 1993, passing through the officer chairs, culminating in service as its Director in 2008.

Rick was initiated as a member of Omaha Court #19, National Sojourners, Inc. on May 29, 2013, and was honored to become a member in 2016 of Joseph Warren Camp, Heroes of 76, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 15, 2015.

Grand Master Myers serves on the Planning Committee of the 2017 Conference of Grand Masters in North America, held in LaVista, Nebraska in 2017.

Marsha Myers convinced her husband to become a member of the Masonic family, and as the result, Rick was initiated into Luna Chapter #69, Elkhorn, Nebraska in 1987, and Rick served as Worthy Patron in 1988 when Marsha was Worthy Matron of that Chapter.

For approximately 22 years, Rick has enjoyed being a member of the Green Fez Club in Omaha, Nebraska, a social club of twenty-five Freemasons and twenty-five members of the Knights of Columbus.

The 151st Grand Master was appointed Grand Junior Deacon by Grand Master Rex J. Moats in 2012; Grand Senior Deacon in 2013 by Grand Master Thomas L. Hauder; elected Grand Junior Warden in 2014 under the direction of Grand Master Joe D. McBride; elected Grand Senior Warden in 2015 under the direction of Grand Master John T. Maxell, and elected in 2015 as Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master-Elect under the direction of Most Worshipful Dennis E. Rix. Rick was installed as the 151st Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska February 4, 2017 at Younes Convention Center, Kearney, Nebraska.

Table of Contents

Preface

Richard D. Myers, 2017 Grand Master	ii
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Proceedings

Certification of Authenticity	vii
Record of Proceedings	1
Grand Lodge Awards Breakfast	1
Child Identification Program Awards	1
Masonic Veterans Partnership Awards	2
Plus Club Certificates	2
Grand Master's Recruitment Award	2
Lodge Membership Awards	3
Nebraska Pillar Award	3
Lodge Vitality Award	3
Secretary of the Year Award	3
DeMolay Mason of the Year and Sponsoring Body of the Year Awards	4
Grand Master's Leadership Award	4
Artificer Award	4
Rock Maul Award	5
Gold Pan Award	5

Public Opening

Introduction of Officers of Visiting Jurisdictions	8
Introduction of Representatives from Youth Groups, OES, and Social Order of the Beauceant	8
Introduction of Representatives of The Nebraska Masonic Home	8
Introduction of Representatives of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children	8
Greetings from Order of the Eastern Star on behalf of Appendant Bodies	9
Greetings from The Nebraska Masonic Home on behalf of Masonic Charities	9
Report of The Nebraska Masonic Home	10
Masonic Veterans Partnership	12
Necrology	12
Grand Oration	13
Formal Opening Session – Friday	19
Master Mason Re-obligation	20
Preliminary Report of the Jurisprudence Committee	20
Report of the Committee on Business and Rules	21
Election of Officers – Opening of Ballot	22
Reception of Past Grand Masters of Nebraska	22
Preliminary Report of the Finance Committee	23
Introductions of Officers from Nebraska York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine	24
Election of Officers – Close of Ballot	25
Address of the Grand Master	25
Announcement of Appointed Officers for 2018-2019	50
Election of Officers – Report of Ballot	52
Membership Banquet – Friday	53
Masonic Charities Golf Tournament Proceeds	53
Humanitarian Award Presentation	53
Morning Session – Saturday	54
Presentation by Masonic Service Association	54

Deputy Grand Master’s Address	55
Voting on Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 1	58
Voting on Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 2	59
Voting on Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 3	60
Voting on Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 4	63
Final Report of the Finance Committee	65
Report of the Credentials Committee	70
Report of the Grand Secretary.....	72
Report of the Grand Custodian.....	74
Approval of Printed Reports	77
Report of the Fraternal Relations Committee	77
Report of the Masonic Relief Committee	78
Report of the Masonic Education Committee.....	79
Report of the Awards Committee	30
Report of the Committee on Nebraska Work	81
Report of the Grievances Committee.....	82
Report of the Grand Lodge Office Committee	82
Report of the Public Relations Committee	84
Report of the Lodge Leadership Committee.....	85
Report of the Membership Committee	86
Report of the Masonic All-Star Marching Band Committee	86
Report of the Internet and Computer Technology Committee.....	87
Report of the Youth Committee	88
Report of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Committee	89
Report of the East Grand Master’s Masonic Charities Activity Committee... 90	
Report of the Boy Scouts Outreach Committee.....	90
Reports of Home and Foundations not Previously Received	91
Report of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.....	91
Report of the Nebraska Freemasons Child ID Program Foundation	92
Report of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation	93
Report of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation	94
Committee Reports of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation.....	102
Report of the Masonic Heritage Committee	102
Report of the Masonic Veteran Partnership Committee	102
Ratification of Actions of Grand Lodge Officers.....	103
Report of Pending Resolutions.....	103
Final Report of the Jurisprudence Committee.....	106
Presentation of James L. “Sonny” Eatmon Traveling Gavel.....	111
Presentation of Past Grand Master’s Apron and Jewel	111

Organization of the Grand Lodge

2017 Grand Lodge Officers	114
Past Grand Masters/Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge, Living	114
Grand Lodge Committees	116
Nebraska Masonic Foundation Committees	119
Deputy Grand Custodians & Their Districts.....	120
Deputy Grand Custodians Emeriti	125
Deputy Grand Custodian Apprentices	126
Membership Activity Record.....	127

Historical Records and Information

Roll of Past Grand Masters, All.....	131
Roll of Past Grand Secretaries	134
Roll of Past Grand Custodians	134

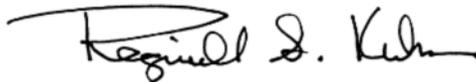
Grand Lecturers	135
Roll of Deputy Grand Custodians & Date of Appointment	135
Rock Maul Award.....	141
Gold Pan Award	142
Grand Master's Humanitarian Award	143
Existing Lodges	144
Consolidated Lodges	146
Lodges Organized in Territories Other Than Nebraska	149
Extinct Lodges	150
Masonic Calendar	151
Rules for Masonic Dates.....	151
Representatives of Lodges	152
Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets.....	155
Supplemental Schedule of Restricted Net Assets	157
Index.....	159

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 Sixty-first 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 2-3, 2018, 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, 2018.



Reginald S. Kuhn
GRAND SECRETARY

2018 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-first
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

Most Worshipful Richard D. Myers
Grand Master

Grand Lodge Awards Breakfast
Friday, February 2, 2018
7:30 a.m.

The 2017 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 recipient of the award in the non-Mason category was Manchester Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization, nominated by Waterloo Lodge No. 102.

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. George W Lininger Lodge No. 268
2. Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6
3. Seneca Lodge No. 284
4. Geneva Lodge No. 79
5. Centennial Lodge No. 326

Top Total Per Capita Contributions

1. Plainview Lodge No. 204
2. Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
3. Geneva Lodge No. 79
4. Seneca Lodge No. 284
5. Centennial Lodge No. 326

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.

- Blue River Lodge No. 30
- Blue Valley Lodge No. 64
- Waterloo Lodge No. 102
- Ogallala Lodge No. 159
- Alliance Lodge No. 183
- Magnolia Lodge No. 220

- Omaha Lodge No. 288
- Victory Lodge No. 310
- Bellevue Lodge No. 325
- Centennial Lodge No. 326
- Shiloh Lodge No. 327
- Albert Pike Lodge No. 333

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 11 qualified recipients in 2017, 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 - K. Roger Dill, Victory Lodge No. 310
- 2 - Adam M. Thayer, Lancaster Lodge No. 54
- 3 - John R. Herbolsheimer, Capitol Lodge No. 3
- 4 - Dillon R. Hadcock, Springfield Lodge No. 112
- 4 - Grady A. Wells, Fremont Lodge No. 15
- 4 - Roger A. Mlady, Capitol Lodge No. 3
- 4 - Scott J.M. Abraham, Corinthian Lodge No. 83
- 5 - James L. Weber, Jr., Rob Morris Lodge No. 46
- 5 - Peter B. Kruse, Cotner Lodge No. 297
- 6 - Wayne E. Vian, Ashlar Lodge No. 33
- 7 - Jonathan D. White, John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290

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 Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue.

The winner in the Small Lodge division was Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 in Omaha.

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 following lodges received the Pillar Award:

George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha
Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill
Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln
Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue

LODGE VITALITY AWARD

The newly created Lodge Vitality Award recognizes lodges that complete a short list of requirements during the course of the year that can help a lodge stay active. The four criteria are: Raise one candidate, participate in a Grand Lodge program, hold two activities outside of stated meetings, and certify the lodge proficient in opening and closing the degrees.

The following lodges received the first Lodge Vitality Awards:

Capitol Lodge No. 3
Rob Morris Lodge No. 46
Waterloo Lodge No. 102
George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268
Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
Liberty Lodge No. 300
Victory Lodge No. 310
Shiloh Lodge No. 327

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 2017 is Gary S. Unger of Springfield Lodge No. 112 in Springfield.

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

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 Kyle Barchus introduced the recipient for DeMolay Mason of the Year chosen by the Grand Master:

“This year’s DeMolay Mason of the Year has had a huge devotion to the youth organizations over the last 9 years. He has served as Chapter Dad of Lewis M. Keene Chapter in Fremont as well as Associate Guardian of Bethel #15 also in Fremont.

He holds a position on the state staff of Nebraska DeMolay for the past 4 years as well as a deputy member of the international supreme council, order of DeMolay. He is also now a member of the Masonic youth foundation.

Most of his free time is spent either helping the lodge or working with the youth. Even more of his time is spent with the youth of his local school district by being a part of the school board and helping at local sporting events. He has been a mentor and teacher to many of the youth in Fremont and a great father figure to those around the state. I am pleased to present this year’s award to Grady A. Wells of Fremont Lodge No. 15.”

State Master Councilor Barchus introduced State Senior Councilor Jacob Leeper to present the Sponsoring Body of the Year Award.

“This sponsoring body is vital to the local chapter’s success. They are actively involved in the chapter activities and fundraising. They are providing significant monetary support, which is very important. They provide a friendly hand and a smile as they interact with DeMolay members. We could not be more proud of these Masons. Would the Potentate of the Tangier Shrine come forward to accept the award? Thank you for all you do for DeMolay.”

GRAND MASTER’S LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Grand Master’s Leadership Award includes three awards. The first is the Grand Master’s Leadership Award, which aims to encourage Masters to plan and implement activities that will result in a successful year for their lodge and members. Any number of Masters can earn this award.

The following 2017 Masters earned the Grand Master’s Leadership Award:

Jon C. Cerny, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274

S. Hal Cottrell, Bellevue Lodge No. 325

From among the recipients, Hal Cottrell received the award with distinction by also achieving the 3% membership gain and was selected as the Master of the Year.

ARTIFICER AWARD

The Artificer Award is presented to Brothers who have completed the requirements of the program, the goal of which is to get our newly raised members involved in the lodge and give them a well-rounded exposure to the different things that this fraternity does, from local lodge workings, our charitable works, the visits of the Grand Lodge

Officers, to helping to support a lodge functions, etc. Each recipient receives a certificate and lapel pin.

The following newly raised Brother received the award in 2017:

Bobby Lingerfelt of Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue

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 Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue.

The recipient of the Small Lodge Rock Maul Award was Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill.

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 Centennial Lodge No. 326 in Omaha.

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Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

Most Worshipful Richard D. Myers
Grand Master

First Day – Public Opening
Friday, February 2, 2018

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 8:30 a.m. Friday, February 2, 2018.

Most Worshipful Dennis E. Rix, Past Grand Master, presided.

A request was made by Past Grand Master Rix that all in attendance silence their cell phones.

The Nebraska Grand Lodge Officers entered in reverse order, followed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Rick Myers and his Lady Marsha. Past Grand Master Rix led grand honors for Most Worshipful Myers.

Right Worshipful Patrick Barger, Deputy Grand Master, took over for M.: W.: Rix and presided from the lectern to introduce the Grand Chaplain for the invocation.



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

“Grand Master of the Universe, we are grateful to you for bringing us through another year to meet again at this 161st 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 the proper direction for Masonry will prevail. Our prayer also is for the spirit of harmony, understanding and mutual concern to pervade our discussions and decisions, as well as for the safety of all our military personnel the world over. May we grow in our sensibility of the many needs of persons and in our determination to assist the Craft to continue to move toward your expectations for it. In Your Name we pray, Amen.”



Deputy Grand Master Barger asked that all remain standing for the presentation of the colors. The Colors were presented by the Heroes of ’76, Joseph Warren Camp.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and the poem *The Ragged Old Flag* was performed by Brother Edward Nolte.



Right Worshipful Barger invited Most Worshipful Rick Myers to cover at the podium. He thanked the Sojourners for the presentation of the colors. He greeted everyone, welcomed them to the 161st Annual Communication, and thanked them for attending.



Grand Master Myers asked the Grand Senior Deacon to please escort Henry Atkinson, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, to the East, where he was given grand honors and asked to bring greetings from his grand jurisdiction.

“Greetings. Good morning, all. I bring you greetings from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska and the Prince Hall Masons. On behalf of them, I greet you. Most Worshipful Rick, it’s been a very good opportunity this year in working along with you, and celebrating. I also want to personally say thank you. I thank you and Marsha very much for the condolences during the loss of my mother in October. Our family will forever be grateful. With that being said, I want to present you with a token of our appreciation of a coin. This here is from the Midwest Regional Prince Hall Grand Lodges, and it’s a limited edition. I want to present this to you because it means a lot.”

Most Worshipful Myers thanked him for the gift and invited Grand Master Atkinson to join him to be seated in the East.



Grand Master Myers asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort the visiting dignitaries from other grand jurisdictions to the East, facing west. The Grand Master then asked Deputy Grand Master Patrick to join him on the floor to greet the guests, and requested that M.W. Brother Dean Skokan please cover at the podium.



Grand Marshal James Ferguson introduced the representatives:

From the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska

R.: W.: Terry Underwood, Grand Secretary, and his Lady Trish
W.: Freddie L. Clopton, District Deputy Grand Master
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 Colorado

M.: W.: Phillip Moss, Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Iowa

M.: W.: Toby Williams, Grand Master
M.: W.: Craig Davis, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary
M.: W.: Bryce Hildreth, Past Grand Master and Grand Master General Convent, KYCH
R.: W.: Terry Osborne, Past Junior Grand Warden

From the Grand Lodge of Montana

R.: W.: Lewie Fletcher, Senior Grand Warden

From the Grand Lodge of Nevada

W.: Skip Pounds, Grand Representative of Nebraska in Nevada, and his Lady Sandi

From the Grand Lodge of South Dakota

M.: W.: Yancey Smith, Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Washington

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

From the Grand Lodge of Wyoming

R.: W.: Kenneth Badget, Deputy Grand Master, and his Lady Diane

From the Masonic Service Association of North America

M.: W.: Simon LaPlace, Executive Secretary and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and his Lady Deborah

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



Most Worshipful Rick recognized the leaders of the Nebraska Masonic Youth Groups, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile and Social Order of the Beauceant, as well as the representatives of The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children. He read their names and asked that they stand to be recognized at their seat as their names were called.

For the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Joy Hartranft, Grand Worthy Advisor
Betty Garwood, Supreme Patriotism and Supreme Inspector in Nebraska

For Nebraska Job’s Daughters

Meghann McCurdy, Grand Bethel Honored Queen
Kiley Simmons, Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter
Kristin Sanford, Miss Nebraska Congeniality
Jill Melvin, Grand Guardian
Paul Kenyon, Associate Grand Guardian

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

For Nebraska DeMolay

Kyle Barchus, State Master Councilor
Jacob Leeper, State Senior Councilor
Kevin D. Grazier, Executive Officer

For Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Anita Sohm, Worthy Grand Matron, and her husband Chuck
Jim Taylor, Worthy Grand Patron, and his Lady Isobel

Deputy Grand Master Rick Myers asked all other officers of Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star to stand and be recognized.

For the Social Order of the Beauceant

Brenda McGuire, Worthy President of North Platte Assembly #177

For The Nebraska Masonic Home

Mary Stockton, Executive Director
Steven R. Barchus, Foundation Executive Director
Lisa Davis, Foundation Administrative Assistant

For the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children

Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director



M.: W.: Myers noted that written greetings from each of the appendant bodies have been included in the Annual Communication book. He then invited Anita Sohm, Worthy Grand Matron, and Jim Taylor, Worthy Grand Patron, to bring greetings on behalf of all of the Nebraska appendant bodies.



Grand Master Myers invited Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Phil Lorenzen, President of the Board of Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home, to the podium to bring greetings on behalf of the Masonic Charities. He also summarized information about The Home and events of the past year and referenced the printed report of the Executive Director as follows:

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Mary Stockton, Executive Director

2017 has been a very full year at The Nebraska Masonic Home. In June, The Home experienced severe storm damage caused by tornado-like winds. Due to complete and/or partial damage to our trees, 28 trees were eventually removed from the property. Several were 100 years old and older. This was a devastating loss for The Home. Thankfully, there was no damage to the building or any equipment.

Due to previous issues with sink holes the employee parking lot was completely removed, the ground below excavated and replaced, and the parking lot was provided with proper drainage and a concrete surface. While this work was being done it caused a parking crunch along Avenue D.

Other concrete work done involved The Home's front steps and porch. When the surface concrete of the steps and porch was removed, it was discovered that there was corrosion to the walls around the steps. This required that each individual stone in the walls be removed, cleaned and reset. New drainage was also added during this remodel to prevent issues of this nature in the future. Improved lighting was also added at step level for safety reasons. The lamp posts and hand rails on the porch were sand blasted and powder coated as well.

New doors were ordered for the main entrance on the south (the front porch) in the 1952 Wing and the entrance on the north in the 1924 Wing. They are beautiful handmade mahogany doors that have a hand-carved square and compass on the outside of the door. There was a delay in these doors arriving due to the summer hurricane and flooding in Florida, where the company is located. We can't wait to have this project completed soon.

When the front porch and door projects are complete the front entrance to The Home will have a fresh new appearance.

With the number of Masons declining in Nebraska, this presents a challenge with the admission of new residents to The Home. In 2006, the admission eligibility rules were changed and expanded to allow more female relatives of a Mason entrance into The Home. The eligibility includes the following female relatives of an eligible Mason; wives, widows, sisters, daughters, granddaughters, and grandmothers. The percentage of women to men has always been higher in long term care. This helped to get more ladies into the facility that were not previously eligible.

However, the resident census is down from 2016; because, unfortunately, we lost many of our long-time residents that had been with us 10-15 years. They had enjoyed many years both at The Home and in life. The end of year census is 64 residents which include 32 Regular-way and 32 Pay-basis residents. There are 3 couples and 7 residents pay an additional fee for a private room in the 24-hour nursing care center.

The staffing for nurses and certified nursing assistants for our nursing care facility has been a challenge this year. Like many other facilities, The Home has had to hire temporary agency staff to be sure all shifts are adequately staffed. This has not lessened the standard of care that we provide to our residents. As was predicted several years ago, the number of individuals entering the healthcare/nursing care arena has decreased while our older population has increased and will continue to do so with the baby boomers coming of age. Unfortunately, this situation will continue to be an issue in the future.

The residents really look forward to the delicious picnic dinners hosted by Narcissus Chapter #269 and Home Chapter #189 of Plattsmouth each summer. The delicious food and the fellowship that follows are enjoyed by all. Their commitment to continue these traditions is greatly appreciated.

Each year we are faithfully visited by Masonic Lodges, Shrine Units, Eastern Star Chapters, Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters and the many other individuals dedicated to making visits to our residents throughout the year. We thank everyone for including The Home and our residents in your day.

Many Masonic groups have chosen The Home as their place to gather for one of their monthly meetings. It is wonderful having so many new faces come through our doors to learn more about The Masonic Home.

The annual Boon Memorial Food Truck continues to be a greatly-appreciated tradition. Special thanks go to Richard Schlaman from Ashlar Lodge No. 33 for his continued devotion to coordinating this worthy project. A special thank you to the lodges and other Masonic bodies for their annual commitment of giving to benefit The Home's residents.

We are always excited to start off the holiday season with the Tangier Shrine Chanters. Their jolly antics and wonderful voices bring good cheer to our residents as they perform their annual Christmas concert.

Special thanks are extended to the Masters and Wardens Club of the Greater Omaha Metro area for their generosity. They provide the funds for the residents to each have a special gift at Christmas as well as many daily issues of the Omaha World Herald. A special thank you to Dan Wellendorf for all his hard work and dedication to chairing this heartfelt project.

The residents enjoyed being entertained before Christmas by The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Band. The children hold a special place in our hearts as they share their talents and time performing for us each holiday season.

To Grand Master Richard Myers, the Grand Lodge officers, and the Grand Lodge staff a very special thank you for your continued support and commitment to The Nebraska Masonic Home. A special thank you is also given to Worthy Grand Matron Anita Sohm and Worthy Grand Patron Jim Taylor and the Eastern Star Grand Family. Both Grand families and the subordinate lodges and chapters have been very supportive of The Home and our residents with monetary donations, visits, and the many other ways you remember the residents throughout the year.

I want to express my deep appreciation to the Administrative Staff and Department Supervisors for their continued teamwork and commitment to our residents and The Home. I am truly blessed to have such a fine team. All our employees strive to provide the high quality of care that our residents deserve. Without their hard work, dedication and concern for our residents, The Home would not be where it is today. I commend every employee for his or her loyalty and continuing commitment.

A sincere thank you to Jo Peters, the previous Foundation Director for her 8 years of service to The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation. I am excited to have Steven Barchus as the new Foundation Director and look forward to the new year and the changes he has planned.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to be able to work with such a fine collection of gentlemen that make up The Nebraska Masonic Home Board of Trustees. The support and guidance you have given to me are immeasurable and reassuring in carrying out the mission of The Nebraska Masonic Home. On behalf of the residents and employees, I thank you for your dedication and commitment to the betterment of The Home.

This concludes my annual report.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Stockton, Executive Director

MASONIC VETERANS PARTNERSHIP

Grand Master Rick asked AJ Johnson, Chairman of the Masonic Veterans Partnership Committee for the Nebraska Masonic Foundation, to rise. M.:W.: Rick commended him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Grand Lodge, the Nebraska Masonic Foundation and for the veterans in Nebraska. He noted that it was mostly through Brother Johnson's initiative and the generous contributions of Nebraska Masons and the Eastern Star, that we were able, in the last year, to provide another van to transport veterans to the VA hospital to take care of their needs. He went on to say that the Masonic Veterans Partnership is an ongoing partnership and it will change its focus based on the ongoing needs of the veterans, as assessed by that committee. He again thanked AJ, the lodges and organizations that that have contributed generously, and stated that he, AJ and the rest of the Grand Lodge Officers hope that they will continue their contributions into the foreseeable future.



M.:W.: Myers 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 2017.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Myers asked Kevin Lindly, Grand Chaplain Pro-tem, to present the Necrology Report.

NECROLOGY

Kevin Lindly, Grand Chaplain Pro-tem

M.W. Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Distinguished Guests, Brethren, Ladies and friends all:

Every year during the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska we take time to fondly recall the memories and lives of our Brother Master Masons who have laid down their working tools and have entered into the Celestial Lodge Above over which the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides.

A reading from the book of John 14:1-7: "Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house, there are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas sayeth unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man can come unto the Father, but by me."

And so it has come to pass that 317 Brother Master Masons have passed before us in that ceaseless procession that will continue until the end of time from which no traveler ever returns. Let our hearts and memories give us pleasure and allow us to recall their merits and accomplishments, that we may continue to hold them dear in our hearts.

On April 8, 2017, long time Nebraska Grand Lodge Administrative Secretary Carol Schroeder passed away. Carol served the Grand Lodge from 1992 until her retirement in

2013. Carol then completed the data entry of all of the hand written membership cards from the past years from 2013 until 2016.

On December 8, 2017, Deputy Grand Custodian Albert Wise passed away. Albert had faithfully served District 12 in this capacity since 1992.

Until we meet again, dear friends and brethren. Until then, farewell. Ladies and brethren, let us pray:

“All Mighty God, ruler of Heaven and earth, we thank you for this time of remembering our 317 brethren who have gone before us to reside in the glory that is your Kingdom. We beseech Thine infinite goodness to give us grace to life in Thy fear and to love and to die in Thy favor, that both these, our brothers, and we may be found acceptable in Thy sight and receive that blessing which Thy well deserved Son shall pronounce to all that love and fear Thee, saying ‘*Come ye blessed of my Father. Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.*’ Dear Lord, we acknowledge Thy great goodness in these finished lives. Thy children desire to thank Thee for the friends and the brethren whom Thou has now called from our earthly fellowship, and we rejoice in a hope that is big with immortality. In Your Holy Name we pray, Amen.”

[The Powerpoint showing the names of all departed brothers was then shown.]

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin R. Lindly, 148, 200
Grand Chaplain Pro-tem

M.:W.: Myers thanked V.:W.: Lindly for his moving tribute to the departed Brethren, and also for readily agreeing to be the Grand Chaplain Pro-tem for the session.

GRAND ORATION

Ronald D. Grass, Grand Orator

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, delegates and visitors, greetings. Today I would like to explore Masonry’s role in the creation of our great country.

As Masons we enjoy Masonry’s heritage of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. They are ours—because Masons in the past, by acts of fortitude, prudence, and wisdom, have made us secure, in the enjoyment of the inalienable rights of man—the right of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

There were days in the not too far distant past, when Masons could only meet and commune together as Brothers upon high hills or in low dales, under no other cover than that of the blue vaulted sky. Yet the Supreme Architect of the Universe protected them there, because their mission was to establish on earth the Great Purpose for which man was created, namely, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.

It has been said that government existed at least 5000 years before it was learned ‘That Man is supreme over Governmental Institutions, rather than Governmental Institutions over Man.’ The discovery of that truth was an onward step towards the recognition of men as equals, and the judgment of that truth in the heart of man at once imposed upon him new duties. From that time on, he owed it to himself to be free, and he owed it to his country to seek to give her freedom. When this continent was discovered, the union of church and state was subordinating the inalienable rights of men

to institutions of government, and because of that subordination, the Great Purpose of Life was being thwarted, growth and development retarded. Thinking men questioned the so-called divine right of kings to decide what should be learned, believed, and enjoyed by mankind.

And it would seem that the Great Architect of the Universe found it necessary to provide an opportunity for man's evolution and growth, outside of, and beyond the jurisdiction of the governmental institutions of the old world, and darkness was rolled backward, and there was revealed unto the light, that glorious portion of the handiwork of God—the western hemisphere, and it provided the opportunity for men to open their minds and communicate with each other and with God.

The new world presented to those who were content with what they possessed under the institutions of the old, nothing of value or of interest, but to those who sought her rugged shores to gain for themselves and posterity, the right and opportunity to believe the truth, to seek the truth, to worship the truth, as their instincts and natures directed, it gave a boundless field of opportunity.

Thus, the oppressed, those who desired to grow, to gain light, and to build in the hearts and souls of men, as they believed and saw fit, were the first to come to the land destined to be known as "The Land of the Free, and the home of the Brave."

The pilgrims laid the cornerstone in the northeast corner of this republic, and the building of a temple for Liberty, Equality, Justice, and Fraternity, was from that time on, in the course of construction by many builders. The early settlers were "rough ashlars" so to speak. They brought with them their best ideas of liberty and equality, and yet their religions were no wider than their creeds. They agreed with everyone whose religions believed that their particular creed was right. To others, they gave no religious toleration. They burned so-called witches, persecuted the Quakers, and drove Roger Williams and his followers into exile. They believed in the Brotherhood of Man, only when the particular brother believed in their particular creed, and the right of each individual to present his belief, his tithe, so to speak, to his Creator, was wrong, unless it came through the channel of a particular creed.

Nowhere else did greater difference, less unity of belief in religion and government exist than in the thirteen original colonies, during the first century and a half of their existence and it would seem beyond the power and influence of any institution to harmonize and produce a common Brotherhood and unity of purpose out of colonists so varied and divergent in thought and belief.

But God is an Architect—a Builder. "He works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform."

That institution which had taught men, upon high hills and in low dales, that God's purpose for life was the establishment of the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man—rose to its principles and looking forward for greater life and light, leaped the waters of the ocean, and began its work of harmonizing differences, and uniting the purpose of colonists to the end that man might enjoy his inalienable rights, by enjoying Masonry's heritage of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

When Masonry entered the colonies in 1731, books were scarce; wisdom was conveyed to the human mind by thought, words, and symbols—the latter of which were more attractive to the mind than words spoken; more suggestive and pregnant with truth,

and perhaps more lasting and steadfast to the heart and intellect, than what is now inculcated from the written page.

It taught all the good inculcated by the Holy Bible, yet it did not require that man possess any of the creeds of religion. It confirmed the believer—persuaded and endeavored to convince the wavering, and attacked the stronghold of the infidel.

From a political and governmental point of view, it taught “The sovereignty of man over himself, and that sovereignty over one’s self, is Liberty; and when a number of such sovereignties unite, real government of the people begins, and that the identity of concession which each such sovereignty makes to all, is Equality, and that the common right, the protection of all, and the protection of each by all, is Fraternity.

In 1734, St. John’s Lodge of Philadelphia numbered among its votaries the leading citizens of the day—leaders in the arts, sciences, physics, and jurisprudence. Masonry grew and waxed strong, had a permanent foothold in Virginia, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York and the Carolinas, and when the first Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, in 1774, he who was chosen president of that assembly, and who guided its deliberations with courage and judgment, was none other than Peyton Randolph, Grand Master of Masons of Virginia.

When the Declaration of Independence was adopted, he who first signed it was the proscribed of tyrants, the sworn enemy of kings, and who said as he signed his name to the great pledge of American Liberty and Independence, “We must now hang together or we will hang separately.” Such was the utterance of John Hancock, a Master Mason.

And when we read the language of that immortal document wherein it says, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;” there is presented to the minds of Masons, evidence tending to prove the correctness of those authorities which claim that fifty-two of the fifty-six signers of that document were Master Masons.

Masonry shirked no duty during the revolution. On the night of the 18th of April, 1775, when 8000 British soldiers were secretly dispatched from Boston to arrest John Hancock and Samuel Adams at Lexington, a courageous heart walked the banks of the Charlestown River, patiently stroking his nervous steed, while he watched the tower of the Old North Church because it was understood by him that if the British left by land, one light, or if by sea, two lights were to be hung in the belfry of the old church steeple, and as the second light dispelled the surrounding darkness, that patriot mounted his steed, and from then until morning spread the news throughout every Middlesex village and farm, for the country boys to be up and to arms; such was the act of courage and fortitude of a Master Mason, he whose fame has been heralded throughout the land by the poet Longfellow, and the name of Paul Revere, a Master Mason and who afterwards became Grand Master of Massachusetts, is known to every schoolboy throughout this great republic.

Again on June 17, 1775, on the battlefield of Bunker Hill he whose arm was one of the first to bear the banner that first dipped its crimson folds in the blood of the foes of American freedom was none other than he, who upon the heights of Charlestown, offered up himself, a sacrifice for his country. Though commissioned as a Major General, he

fought as a volunteer, and died in the cause of liberty. Such a one was no other than Joseph Warren, Grand Master of Masons of Massachusetts.

Wherever Washington commanded, Masonry had her influence—wherever Putnam led the way, Masonry was with him, and so it was with Gates, Sullivan, Lincoln, Lee, and Schuyler.

Then it was that liberty's cause was Masonry's cause, and that devotion to that cause was not limited to Masonic hearts who lived in the thirteen colonies, is learned when we learn of the heroic deeds performed by DeKalb and Pulaski, Masons from Germany and Poland. And then again we follow the life and actions of Lafayette, he who left the land of his fathers, and the wealth that he had inherited, and in the darkest and most perilous hour of our Revolutionary fortunes, sought our standard and fought for her cause until victory was achieved, and then returned to shake the rotten, crumbling thrones of Europe with notes of freedom.

Lafayette was a Mason who loved America, and in 1793, George Washington, the President of this republic, after his second election to that exalted position, deemed it in keeping with his dignity to wear with Masonic honors, the Masonic scarf and apron presented to him by Madame Lafayette, while he laid the cornerstone of the capitol of this great republic.

George Washington became a Master Mason during his early twenties, and the teachings of Masonry, no doubt, influenced and helped to mold him in that self-control, that mastership over self, whereby he was able to be master at all times of himself and likewise of every situation in which he was placed, during that memorable struggle for years against almost insurmountable odds; and the faith of Masonry, no doubt, prompted him when want and starvation were threatening his noble army of patriots during the terrible winter at Valley Forge, and when it seemed that when the strength and wisdom of man had failed, to retire into the timber on the old Colonel Potts' farm, and there upon bended knees upon the snow, seek strength through the power of prayer from that inexhaustible Supply above.

When it became necessary to plead the cause of Liberty for the colonies in the nations of Europe, it was Brother Benjamin Franklin who had been a Master Mason since the time that Washington was born, and was a philosopher of the first order. It was he who was selected to advocate America's cause, and who labored day and night to place our dear land in the holy temple of Liberty, and to establish for her the principles of self-government.

Masonry was present when the Constitution of the United States was adopted, and made her principles the political creed of a nation George Washington presided and who shall say it was not Masonry's voice which prompted Benjamin Franklin, when after days of deliberation he suggested that each session should be opened with prayer to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for strength and wisdom to guide and direct their work in building a form of government which would afford an opportunity for the enjoyment of liberty, both in matters governmental and in matters of belief?

The adoption of our Constitution opened the eyes of political rulers to the startling fact that autocratic power was the foe to human progress; that the exercise of despotic rule through the assistance of ecclesiastical teaching was repugnant to that religious sentiment based upon the Universal Brotherhood of Man.

The principles of our government liberated human thought, and removed the shackles from the minds and consciences of men; it has obliterated all castes, except the caste of goodness, virtue, and righteousness; and while it prohibited titles of nobility, it prepared the soil for the development of that nobility of manhood, which earthly potentates can neither give nor take away.

Then for the first time came the enunciation of liberty in the form of organic law, voluntarily adopted by a sovereign people; under it no law shall be passed respecting the establishment of religion, nor the prohibition of the free exercise thereof, and when the first President of this republic was inaugurated in the city of New York, it was entirely fitting, proper, and right, that the Bible upon which Washington took the oath of office, should be taken from the altar of a Masonic lodge, and that Robert R. Livingston, then Grand Master of the state of New York should administer to the first President of this republic, his oath of office.

And then again when the Constitution of this republic must needs be interpreted, in order that the purposes for which it was created might be attained, and that government of the people which accorded to man, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, should be construed by one who was an expert concerning Masonic literature, its principles and its precepts, that duty and responsibility fell to no less a person than John Marshall, the Father of American Jurisprudence, who was master of a Masonic lodge for forty years of his natural life.

Thus, we conclude and express the belief that the Masonic life and learning of the founders of this republic and the framers of its Constitution, were potent in giving form and vitality to the Immortal doctrines of Masonry, unconsciously though it might be, and if so the more to the credit of Masonic virtues as it thereby becomes a testimonial to all their pervading influence and power; a signal illustration of the fact that Masonic principles and virtues cannot be confined within the walls of the lodge room, or within the pale of the brotherhood.

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren, each of us is a votary of an Institution engaged upon an immortal mission; then hold high the banner of Masonry, let it permeate every nook and corner of the earth, and carry forward its aim to unite men of every country, sect, and opinion into one band or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist except that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree.

Though edited for brevity, this oration was written and originally delivered by W. B. Albert W. Jeffries at the Grand Lodge session in Nebraska in 1909.

I want to thank Most Worshipful Grand Master Rick Myers for the opportunity to serve as Grand Orator. It has been an honor and privilege to serve with the Grand Lodge officers this year.

Most Worshipful Myers thanked Worshipful Brother Grass for his oration.



Grand Master Myers reminded everyone that they were seated in an open session of the Grand Lodge. Waterloo Lodge No. 102 and North Bend Lodge No. 119 opened a tyled session of the Grand Lodge earlier that morning and their charters were on display, as well as an open Bible. He asked that everyone respect the tradition in Masonry that we

do not cross between the open Bible and the altar as they leave the room and are entering or leaving sessions during the Annual Communication.



M.:W.: Rick Myers introduced and thanked Mike Berger for serving as photographer throughout the session, as well as Paul Rutherford for his dedicated service as audio specialist to record, preserve and document the proceedings of this Annual Communication.

Most Worshipful Rick then asked everyone to remain seated as the Grand Lodge Officers retired. He noted that there were two breakout sessions available prior to the formal opening. They are entitled 1) Recruiting Techniques – How I Ask Someone to Become a Mason, to be conducted by the Membership Committee, and 2) Ideas to Try at your Lodge to Increase Interest and Participation. He urged the brethren to attend one or both of the sessions.

Following those breakout sessions, the room would be purged in preparation for the tyled Formal Session to begin at 10:30 am.

A current dues card would be required for admittance to the Formal Session, and Deputy Grand Custodians were asked to assist at the door.

2018 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-first
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

Most Worshipful Richard D. Myers
Grand Master

First Day – Formal Opening Session
Friday, February 2, 2018

Prior to the Public Opening, a tyled Lodge of Master Masons was opened by Brothers of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn and North Bend Lodge No. 119 in North Bend.

The Grand Lodge Officers assumed their stations. Deputy Grand Master Patrick Barger accepted the gavel from the Lodge Master. Deputy Grand Master Barger led grand honors. He then presented the gavel to Grand Master Rick Myers.

Grand Master Myers asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort M.:W.: Henry Atkinson, Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, to join him and be seated in the East for the session.

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

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

M.:W.: Myers declared the 161st Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful, The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska duly open for the transaction of business, and asked that the Grand Marshal proclaim the Annual Communication open in ample form.

M.:W.: Grand Master Myers 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.

V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Pro-tem Kevin Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity.

“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 in your eternal plan. May we learn to live 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. To all military personnel wherever dispersed the world over, provide safety. In Your Name we pray, Amen.”

M.:W.: Rick thanked the members of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 and North Bend Lodge No. 119 for opening of lodge.

Grand Master Myers pointed out that the gavel being utilized for the session is the gavel that began with M.:W.: Charlie Amidon in 1986 and passed down every year since.



The Grand Master 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 conduct him 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 M.:W.: Myers. The Grand Master thanked the Brethren for their participation.

Grand Master Myers recovered in the East and suggested to the brethren that they perform the re-obligation exercise in their own lodges at least once a year to remind the members of their obligation.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.:B.: Myers 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 1, 2018 in its annual meeting with the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and most of the Grand Lodge officers, along with four members of the Jurisprudence committee, and several Past Grand Masters. The minutes of the prior year’s report were approved. The committee considered the Grand Master’s Recommendations for amendments to the Grand Lodge Bylaws and the following action was taken: A motion was made, seconded and adopted that Grand Master Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 were approved as to form and may be submitted to be balloted upon at this annual session. The final report will be presented on Saturday morning.

Respectfully submitted,
Dwight Smith, 286, 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 2. The motion was made, seconded and approved.



M.: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, Grand Secretary

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.



Grand Master Myers appointed M.:W.: Dean Skokan as Parliamentarian for the 161st Annual Communication.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Myers announced the appointment of the Deputy Grand Custodians as tellers for this session, with W.:B.: David Wetrosky as Chairman.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – OPENING OF BALLOT

Grand Master Myers 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.



The Grand Master stated that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska would be contracting with a new insurance provider for the Grand Lodge and lodge liability coverage. The new provider would be Thompkins Masonic Insurance Program, and as a result, the lodges should see a significant savings in premiums. He went on to state that the liability policy covers the lodges for the business of the lodge, which includes most activities held at the lodge, as well as off-site. Some activities such as parades, sporting events, and activities with animals are not covered and will require an insurance rider. If a lodge does not own the building, such as a temple craft association, the owner of building must also carry their own liability insurance. Invoices for this insurance would be mailed to the lodges later in the spring.



M.:W.: Myers asked all Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska to retire with the Grand Senior Deacon to be escorted to the East, facing west.

RECEPTION OF THE PAST GRAND MASTERS

M.:W.: Myers 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.

Steven F. Mattoon	1994
Kenneth G. Fleming	1997

Don E. Rasmussen 1998
 Dwight E. Smith 1999
 James F. Brown, Jr. 2000
 Philip A. Lorenzen 2001
 Michael E. Jones 2002
 Kenneth D. Beebe 2003
 Les Seiler 2004
 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
 Thomas L. Hauder 2013
 Joe D. McBride 2014
 John T. Maxell 2015
 Dennis E. Rix 2016
 Doysa L. Whitaker Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Grand Master Myers returned to the podium and led the grand honors. He then recited a speech first given by Past Grand Master Albert R. Davis in 1929, noting that the Past Grand Master’s Jewel that he would receive on Saturday was one worn by M.: W.:. Davis.

“Your station in the Grand Lodge indicates that the Brethren of your respective Lodges first elected you to rule and govern your respective Lodges; later this Grand Lodge at different times has selected each of you to rule and guide the veterans of Freemasonry in Nebraska. For more than half a century, your advice, worthy and good, has been given the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction. You and those among you from the pioneer days of this commonwealth have assisted in framing and promoting the high destiny of our Ancient and Honorable Order.

The present Grand Master at this time desires to acknowledge to the Brethren that your splendid presence, your advice, timely and good, given to me during the past year, has assisted to a very great extent in whatever may have been accomplished during the Masonic year.

May the Grand Architect of the Universe, in his mercy, grant unto each of you to be with us on many Annual Communications, that your advice, timely and good, as it has been in the past, remain to assist the brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction.”

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 2018 in the Annual Communication book, and announced that the Finance Committee met on November 21, 2017 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. Brother Lorenzen announced that, sadly, the Finance Committee experienced the passing of W.:B.: Steven S. Nichols, who was a member of the committee since 2009. Even in the later stages of his illness, W.:B.: Nichols was a dedicated and contributing member of the committee.

Worshipful Brother Lorenzen indicated that the investments of the Grand Lodge performed very well in 2017. Further, 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. He stated that anyone with question about the proposed 2018 budget should feel free to speak with him about it prior to the vote that would take place during the Saturday session.

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

Most Worshipful Myers recognized the leaders of the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine Centers and representatives from the National Sojourners and the Red Cross of Constantine. He read their names and asked that they stand to be recognized at their seat as their names were called.

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of Nebraska, Southern Jurisdiction

- Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr. Sovereign Grand Inspector General
- M.: W.: John T. Maxell..... General Secretary, Valley of Omaha
- Gene Gatti..... General Secretary, Valley of Alliance
- John Ferguson..... Personal Representative, Valley of Alliance
- M.: W.: Dean Skokan..... Orient Representative

Grand York Rite of Nebraska

- Donald E. Rife Grand Master, Grand Council, Cryptic Masons
- Frank L. Borden, Jr... Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

Grand York Rite of Iowa

- Kyle Peterson..... Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

From the Red Cross of Constantine

- M.: W.: James F. Brown, Jr. Intendant General

Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Nebraska

- David C. Norton Potentate, Tangier Shrine
- Casey H. Nuss Potentate, Tehama Shrine
- Ole Friesen..... Potentate, Sesostris Shrine

Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Iowa

- David Krogh Past Potentate, Abu Bekr Shrine

National Sojourners, Inc.

- Col. Edward Nolte, USAF Retired National President-Elect
- Major Charles A. Folsom, USMC Retired Past National President, and
Past National Commander, Heroes of '76

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

Grand Master Rick Myers thanked all of the representatives for their attendance and dedication to the Craft. Brother Chuck Sederstrom, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Nebraska Scottish Rite was asked to bring greetings on behalf of the Nebraska appendant bodies.

“Most Worshipful Grand Masters, all Grand Lodge officers and Brethren: It gives me a great deal of pleasure, on behalf of all of the appendant bodies, to bring greetings. We’d also like to take this opportunity, based upon the recommendation of several of the other fellows who are here in the appendant bodies, to take a moment and once again thank the Grand Lodge officers for a wonderful job this year. Please join me in thanking them. [applause]

One last thing I would like to say before stepping down is that over forty years I have known the Grand Master, from the time that he was working in the county court in Omaha, Nebraska through his law school days and in many years of practice. And I can tell you through observing him over this entire period of time he has improved with age. [laughter]”



Grand Master Myers announced that the afternoon workshops would be held following lunch, beginning at 1:15 pm in the lodge room, and would be moderated by the Grand Master. Everyone was invited to attend the round table discussion, but only delegates would be allowed to speak and ask questions with regard to how the Grand Lodge could assist the lodges.

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – CLOSE OF BALLOT

Grand Master Myers asked if all those who were entitled to vote had done so. He then declared the ballot for Election of Officers closed. The tellers were directed to collect the ballot box and count the ballots.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

M.: W.: B.: Rick Myers read select portions of his printed address before moving for its approval:

Brethren:

You have honored me by allowing me to serve freemasonry in Nebraska during this 161st year. The entire year has been filled with special occasions and wonderful experiences. I hope I have served the craft well, but that of course is not for me to judge.

As the year started, it was my hope to spark some of our weaker lodges to greater activity, and to bring some new ideas to constituent lodges. A series of activities, including “Time with the Ladies” in March and the Grand Master’s Road Trip in June, were designed to get more Masons involved with the social activities of the brotherhood. I attended all the outdoor lodge meetings and degrees I heard of, to encourage more of that kind of activity. I planned a shooting event, but found very little interest in

participation by the membership. We had a successful golf tournament in September, with excellent participation.

During the Annual Communication, we abandoned typical entertainment at banquets to replace with events aimed at showing constituent lodges two events a lodge can become involved in (visitations to other lodges, and holding a local lodge of military tribute). We created two breakout sessions (ways to successfully ask a man to join us, and great ideas for your lodge to get out of the boring meeting rut) to give your lodge some thoughtful ideas to improve participation and interest.

All of these events were scheduled because it has seemed to me that many, if not most, of our lodges are losing relevance and interest among our members. Few want to attend boring stated meetings and few lodges have much more to offer their members than boring lodge meetings. I am convinced that our declining membership is due, in large part, to the failure of our lodges to offer activities and events of interest to their members. We have, to a large extent, become stagnant, or if we are adding members, simply a method to gain applicants for appendant bodies. The few lodges that have taken the energy and leadership to assure that they offer mentorship, family activities, Masonic education, attention to ritual, and special events of interest, are the ones that seem to retain their members and in some cases, grow their membership!

During this year, we have suffered consolidation of a half dozen lodges, and a decreasing membership due to death, demits and of course suspensions for non-payment of dues (translation—I don't care to belong to you anymore). Only time will tell if our constituent lodges will continue to exist in places other than Omaha and Lincoln and a few other communities. It has been my effort to encourage our lodges to try to be attractive and to actually plan recruiting efforts. I hope that lodges will take up those challenges.

I tried to assemble a corps of Grand Lodge officers from every geographic part of Nebraska. I succeeded, I believe, in gaining the service of seventeen of the most able and caring men in our fraternity. The 2017 Grand Lodge officers have provided Nebraska Freemasonry with their time, dedication and talent to an extent not often experienced. Our officers acted as liaisons with appendant bodies, assisted with long range strategic planning, visited numerous lodges in all corners of the state, participated in cornerstones, building and lodge dedications, and traveled to assist in degree work in lodges as well as the Scottish Rite and York Rite bodies. Two Past Grand Masters, MW Reg Kuhn and MW Scott Krieger, have continued to labor on our behalf as Grand Lodge Officers during the past year. This year's officers have traveled far and wide on your behalf, accompanying me on days and nights they otherwise would have enjoyed with their loved ones and families. I cannot here express my pride and gratitude in a sufficient way. I can only ask you to assist me in thanking the 2017 Grand Lodge officers for their time and efforts on behalf of our fraternity.

As has been the custom for several years, we had another successful Masonic All-Star Marching Band experience, and we are grateful to the many Masons and family members who joined Michelle Fulmer to make this event a continuing success story for Nebraska.

Our Nebraska CHIP Program (I wish we would rename this so that people didn't think we do surgery on their kids to implant devices in their necks) continues to make a difference for many families and to put our best image forward in our communities. I only wish more towns had lodges that would sponsor local events!

Our crown jewels, the Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children, are led by dedicated and talented executives and staffs. We are justifiably proud of the financial strength and operations of these two institutions. I hope more of the families of Nebraska's Masons learn of their eligibility and the benefits of our Plattsmouth Home. Tell your families please!

Dozens of Nebraska Masons again volunteered to serve as committee members. Hours of diligent work by these great people result in great financial planning, a strong relief effort, management of our employees and structures, membership efforts, leadership training, out-reach to Boy Scouts, registration at Annual Communication, operation of all our day-to-day management issues. Jurisprudence provided me with wise counsel and always available guidance. Without these helpful and dedicated Masons, we just couldn't succeed. THANKS to each of you who served on committees this past year.

Men who have previously served as Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska have NEVER interfered, but always been responsive to my requests for counsel and advice. They are such talented and wonderful Masons.

Presenting the Gold Jordan Medal, numerous Bronze Jordan Medals, and dozens of 50-60- and 70-year pins allowed me to meet some of the men who have created the wonderful image of Masonry in our state that has attracted good men to join us for 150 years.

Most of you who have regular contact with our office will readily attest to the talent and dedication of Michelle and Debbie. We are blessed with the best office staff in my knowledge. They cheerfully respond professionally to every challenge facing our administration. I am personally grateful for the opportunity to work with these competent women. Thanks to you both!

And finally, on a personal note. I cannot thank my wife, Marsha, sufficiently for her ready acceptance of my proposal to enter upon this six-year journey in the Advancing Line. At every step of the way, she has been my confidant, my advisor, and my supporter. I am truly pleased. After all, she is the one who first asked me to become a Master Mason, and for the last thirty years she has continued to encourage and assist me.

Brethren, thank you so much for trusting me to lead this fraternity for a year. I pledge to my successors and to each of you my continued efforts, beginning after a long vacation!

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Myers
Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska 2017-18

VISITATIONS

February

- 7 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 8 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth
- 12 Sesostriis Shrine Dinner – Lincoln
- 14 North Bend 119 – North Bend

- 16-21 Conference of Grand Masters – Omaha
- 22 National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 23 Tangier Shrine Membership Dinner – Omaha
- 25 Omaha Area Masters & Wardens – Omaha
- 27 Renaissance Lodge No. 334 – Elkhorn
- 28 Lincoln Lodge No. 19 – Lincoln

March

- 1 Mizpah Lodge No. 302 – Omaha
- 3-4 Masonic Event with the Ladies – Omaha
- 6 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 7 Omaha Lodge No. 288 – Omaha
- 8 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting – Fremont
Shiloh Lodge No. 327 – Omaha
- 9 Tangier Shrine Meeting – Omaha
- 13 Area Meeting, Nebraska Lodge No. 1 – Omaha
- 14 Area Meeting, Geneva Lodge No. 79 – Geneva
- 15 Area Meeting, Acacia Lodge No. 34 – Schuyler
- 16 Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 – Walthill
- 19 Sat-ra Temple Daughters of the Nile Installation – Omaha
- 20 Area Meeting, Utica Lodge No. 96 – Utica
- 22 National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 23 Area Meeting, Liberty Lodge No. 300 – Lincoln
- 25 All Committee Meeting – Fremont
Tangier Potentate's Ball – Omaha
- 29 Area Meeting, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 – Walthill
- 31 Area Meeting, Long Pine Lodge No. 136 – Long Pine

April

- 1 One-day Conferral, Miloma Lodge No. 328 – Omaha
- 2 Naamah Temple Daughters of the Nile Installation – Hastings
- 3 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 4 Centennial Lodge No. 326 – Omaha
- 6-8 Grand York Rite – Kearney
- 10 Custer Lodge No. 148 Awards Night – Broken Bow
- 12 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth
- 12 Covert Lodge No. 11 Awards Night – Omaha
- 18 George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 – Omaha
- 22 Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 – Omaha
- 24 Job's Daughters Tekamah Chapter – Tekamah
- 26 National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 27-29 Scottish Rite Reunion – Omaha
- 30 Shiloh Lodge No. 327 Breakfast – Omaha

May

- 1 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 2 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 5 Scottish Rite Reunion – Lincoln
- 9 Grand Chapter OES – Kearney
- 11 National Sojourners Chapter 52 – Lincoln
- 14 John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 Breakfast – Omaha
- 16 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth

- 20 Cornerstone, North Bend Park Pavilion – North Bend
- 21 Reception with Grand Chapter OES – Omaha
- 24 Flags on Graves with Centennial Lodge No. 326 – Omaha
National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 30 50-year Pin Presentation for Lancaster Lodge No. 54 – Bellevue

June

- 1 East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 – Lincoln
- 2-3 Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp – Kearney
- 3 Shrine Bowl Football Game
- 5 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 6 Geneva Lodge No. 79 – Geneva
- 7 North Star Lodge No. 227 – Lincoln
- 10 Rainbow Grand Assembly – Crete
- 11 Franklin Lodge No. 264 – Franklin
- 13 Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 Picnic – North Platte
- 14 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth
- 15 Grand Bethel Job’s Daughters – York
- 17 East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 – Lincoln
- 19 Old Mission Lodge No. 153 – Prairie Village, Kansas
- 23 Nebraska Masonic Home Seminar – Plattsmouth
- 25-July 1 Grand Master’s Road Trip:
Fremont 15 – Fremont; Washington 21, Blair; Tekamah 31, Tekamah; Olive Branch 274, Walthill; Mosaic 55, Norfolk; Plainview 204, Plainview; Corinthian 83, Wayne; Long Pine 136, Long Pine; Silver Cord 224, Ainsworth; Custer 4, Broken Bow; Parian 207, Callaway; Alliance 183, Alliance; Camp Clarke 285, Bridgeport; Scottsbluff 201, Gering; Bartley 228, Bartley; Blazing Star 200; Cotner 297, Lincoln; Craftsmen 314, Lincoln; Hastings 50, Hastings; Midwest 317, Hastings; Hebron 43, Hebron; Jachin 146, Holdrege; James L. Eatmon, Kimball; Ogallala 159, Ogallala; Pawnee City 23, Pawnee City; Rob Morris 46, Kearney; Seneca 284, Thedford; Zion 234, Hyannis; Superior 121, Superior; and Western Star 2, Nebraska City.

July

- 3 Cornerstone, Community Center Keystone Lodge No. 62 – Phillips
- 5 College View Lodge No. 320 – Lincoln
- 6 Hickman Lodge No. 256 – Lincoln
- 8-13 Imperial Shrine Session – Tampa
- 15 DeMolay Conclave – Fremont
- 19 Newman Grove Lodge No. 305 Picnic – Newman Grove
- 21 Prince Hall Grand Lodge Annual Communication – Omaha
- 22 Cotner Lodge No. 297 Rededication – Lincoln
- 26 National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 28 Cornerstone, Stuhr Museum Ashlar Lodge No. 33 – Grand Island
- 31 Renaissance Lodge No. 334 – Elkhorn

August

- 1 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 5 Mid-West Lodge No. 317 and Hastings Lodge No. 50 Degrees – Hastings
Ashlar Lodge No. 33 Lodge Rededication – Grand Island
- 7 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 8 Centennial Lodge No. 326 – Omaha

- 9 Union Lodge No. 287 – Palmyra
- 14 Beatrice Lodge No. 26 – Beatrice
- 16 Joseph Warren Camp, Heroes of 76 – Omaha
- 20-23 Scottish Rite Biennial Session – Washington, D.C.
- 26 Cornerstone, Methodist Church, Bellevue Lodge No. 325 – Bellevue
- 27 CHIP Event, Nebraska State Fair – Grand Island
- 28 Friend Lodge No. 73 – Friend
- 31 Renaissance Lodge No. 334 – Elkhorn

September

- 1 Prince Hall Grand Lodge Degree – Omaha
- 6 Bellevue Lodge No. 325 Awards – Bellevue
- 7 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 9 Stradler’s Masonic Camping Club Convention – Fremont
- 10 Tangier Motor B Ride to Clay Center
- 11 Masonic Charities Golf Tournament – North Bend
- 13 Seneca Lodge No. 284 and Zion Lodge No. 234 Outdoor Lodge – Arthur
- 14 Lincoln Masters & Wardens Meeting, Cotner Lodge No. 297 – Lincoln
- 16 East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Lincoln
- 17 Area Meeting, Nebraska Lodge No. 1 – Omaha
- 21 Lily Lodge No. 154 – Davenport
- 22-23 Triennial Masonic Youth Leadership Conference – Kearney
- 27 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 CHIP Event--Elkhorn
- 30 One-Day Conferral – Omaha

October

- 1 Shiloh Lodge No. 327 Breakfast – Omaha
- Prince Hall Grand Lodge Recognition Celebration – Omaha
- 2 Area Meeting, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 – Plattsmouth
- 3 Fremont Lodge No. 15 – Fremont
- 4 Northeast Nebraska Masons Awards, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 – Walthill
- 7 One-day Conferral, Ashlar Lodge No. 33 – Hastings
- 10 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth
- 11 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting – Fremont
- 12 Area Meeting, Utica Lodge No. 96 – Utica
- 13 Scottish Rite Foundation Event – Omaha
- 14 School of Instruction, Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 – Kearney
- Alliance Lodge No. 183 – Alliance
- 17 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 – Lincoln
- 18 Mizpah Lodge No. 302 – Omaha
- 24 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 26 North Bend Lodge No. 119 – North Bend
- 27 Scottish Rite KCCCH Investiture – Lincoln
- 28 Scottish Rite 33 Degree Investiture – Omaha
- 31 York Lodge No. 56 – York

November

- 1 Miloma Lodge No. 328 – Omaha
- 2 Scottish Rite Reunion – Omaha
- 3 Bronze Jordan Medal for McCook Lodge No. 135 – Omaha
- 5 North Bend Lodge No. 119 – North Bend
- 6 Naphis Temple, Daughters of the Nile – Lincoln

- 7 Naamah Temple, Daughters of the Nile – Hastings
- 8 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting– Fremont
- 9 Fremont Lodge No. 15 – Fremont
- 10 Scottish Rite Reunion – Alliance
- 11 Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 – Kearney
- 15 Cornerstone, Grand Island Airport, Ashlar Lodge No. 33 – Grand Island
- 19 Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 Breakfast – Lincoln
Rainbow Grand Cross Ceremony – Elkhorn
- 20 Scottish Rite Omaha Valley – Omaha
- 29 Renaissance Lodge No. 334 – Elkhorn
- 30 Western Star Lodge No. 2 – Nebraska City

December

- 3 DeMolay Installation, Keene Chapter – Fremont
- 4 Tangier Motor B – Omaha
- 5 Wahoo Lodge No. 59 – Wahoo
- 6 Central City Lodge No. 36 – Central City
- 9 Cornerstone, Newport Fire Hall, Long Pine Lodge No. 136 – Newport
- 12 Shiloh Lodge No. 327 – Omaha
- 13 Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children Board Meeting – Fremont
- 14 Tangier Shrine – Omaha
- 16 Job’s Daughters Bethel 18 – Omaha
- 17 Prince Hall Grand Lodge Celebration – Omaha
- 18 Scottish Rite – Omaha
- 19 School of Instruction – Lincoln
- 20 National Sojourners Chapter 19 – Omaha
- 21 St Paul Lodge No. 82 – St Paul
- 27 Renaissance Lodge No. 334 – Elkhorn

January

- 2 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 – Elkhorn
- 5 Installation, Tangier Shrine – Omaha
- 6 Installation of Officers, Fremont Lodge No. 15 – Fremont
- 7 Installation of Officers, North Bend Lodge No. 119 – North Bend
- 9 Nebraska Masonic Home Board Meeting – Plattsmouth
- 11 Installation of Officers, Lincoln Lodge No. 19 and Liberty Lodge No. 300 – Lincoln
- 13 Cornerstone, Schuyler Library, Acacia Lodge No. 34 – Schuyler
- 15 Installation, Omaha Valley Scottish Rite – Omaha
- 16 Installation of Officers, George W. Lininger No. 268 – Omaha
- 19 Installation of Officers, Centennial Lodge No. 326 – Omaha
- 20 Installation of Officers, Covert Lodge No. 11 – Omaha
- 21 Installation of Officers, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 - Omaha
- 31-Feb 3 Annual Communication

LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

The following lodges celebrated anniversaries of their charter date this year. Many of these lodges marked this event with celebrations and other activities:

125 Years: East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Lincoln and Cement Lodge No. 211, Wood River

NECROLOGY

In 2017, 316 of the Brethren in our subordinate lodges went to their eternal home. Our Very Worshipful Grand Chaplain will conduct a memorial service during our Annual Communication which will pay fitting tribute to these brethren.

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 nine Cornerstone or Rededication ceremonies were held:

North Bend – May 20 – North Bend Park Pavilion
Host Lodge: North Bend Lodge No. 119
Master: Tom M. Mullally

Kimball – June 28 – Rededication of Building of James L. Eatmon Lodge No. 294
Host Lodge: James L. Eatmon Lodge No. 294
Master: Kevin S. Wynne

Phillips – July 3– Phillips Event Center
Host Lodge: Keystone Lodge No. 62
Master: William H. Schuster

Lincoln – July 22 – Rededication of Building of Cotner Lodge No. 297
Host Lodge: Cotner Lodge No. 297
Master: Peter B. Kruse

Grand Island – July 28 – Rededication of Cornerstone at Stuhr Museum
Host Lodge: Ashlar Lodge No. 33
Master: Wesley A. Harris

Grand Island – August 5 – Building of Ashlar Lodge No. 33
Host Lodge: Ashlar Lodge No. 33
Master: Wesley A. Harris

Bellevue – August 26 – St. James Methodist Church West
Host Lodge: Bellevue Lodge No. 325
Master: S. Hal Cottrell

Grand Island – November 15 – New Grand Island Airport Addition
Host Lodge: Ashlar Lodge No. 33
Master: Wesley A. Harris

Newport – December 9 – Newport Fire Hall
Host Lodge: Long Pine Lodge No. 136
Master: Philip A. Brown

Schuyler – January 13 – Public Library
Host Lodge: Acacia Lodge No. 34
Master: Donald D. Eckstein

GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation No. 1

Amend **Section 3-912 – PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT** of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding and deleting such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 3-912 – PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT – Whenever a brother, suspended for non-payment of dues, is reinstated under Sec. 3-910 or 3-911, per capita tax shall be remitted to the Grand Lodge as follows:

(a) For reinstatement within 3 years of the date of suspension, per capita tax for each year of suspension shall be remitted ***at the time of*** ~~with~~ the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

(b) For reinstatement after 3 years from the date of suspension, per capita tax for the year of suspension only shall be remitted ***at the time of*** ~~with~~ the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

Recommendation No. 2

Amend **Section 1-404 – ALLOCATION OF FUNDS** by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 1-404 – ALLOCATION OF FUNDS – ~~Commencing January 1, 2014, the~~ ***The*** per capita tax shall be divided as follows:

To the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children	
<i>January 2018 and 2019</i>	\$ 1.00
<i>Commencing in January 2020</i>	<i>1.50</i>
To the George Washington Masonic Memorial	1.50
To the Nebraska Masonic Home	2.50
To the Masonic Education Newsletter	.50
To the General Fund	
January 2012	22.00
January 2013	23.00
January 2014	24.00
January 2015	25.00
January 2016 <i>2018 and 2019</i>	26.00
<i>January 2020</i>	<i>27.00</i>
<i>January 2021</i>	<i>28.00</i>
<i>January 2022</i>	<i>29.00</i>
<i>January 2023</i>	<i>30.00</i>
<i>January 2024</i>	<i>31.00</i>

The Initiation Fee shall be allocated to the General Fund.

If Recommendation No. 2 passes, the following Section must also be amended in the following ways to change references to the allocation of funds and to maintain consistency within the Bylaws.

Amend the third 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 bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 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). In addition, each Lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of ***Thirty-one dollars and fifty cents (\$31.50)*** ~~Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00)~~ as a per

capita tax. ~~commencing on the 1st day of January 2011.~~ The per capita tax *allocated to the Grand Lodge* shall increase at a rate of ***\$1.00 per year for the next five (5) years, commencing on the first day of January, 2020.*** ~~\$3.00 for the first year commencing on the first day of January, 2012, and one dollar per year for the next four years.~~ The said per capita tax shall accrue as follows: ~~2011 - \$24.00, 2012 - \$27.00, 2013 - \$28.00, 2014 - \$29.50, 2015 - \$30.50, 2016~~ ***2018 and 2019 - \$31.50, 2020 - \$33.00, 2021 - \$34.00, 2022 - \$35.00, 2023 - \$36.00, 2024 - \$37.00.*** The Grand Lodge shall distribute the per capita tax as provided in Section 1-404 of this code. Before any subordinate lodge shall be consolidated with another lodge, the per capita tax for the year preceding the year of consolidation shall be determined and paid. In addition to the per capita tax as currently provided, commencing on January 1, 2016, each subordinate lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge an assessment of \$3.00 per member, said assessment to be distributed as follows: \$1.50 to support the CHild Identification Program, \$.50 to support Nebraska Job's Daughters, \$.50 to support the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Nebraska, and \$.50 to support Nebraska DeMolay. Said assessment shall be due and payable in the same manner as the Grand Lodge per capita tax. The funds from this assessment shall be separate from the Grand Lodge per capita tax and shall be used for no other purpose than provided above. Upon application from a subordinate lodge that has remitted a member's dues pursuant to Section 2-603, the Grand Master may authorize the Grand Lodge to remit the Grand Lodge per capita and special assessments on behalf of said member.

Recommendation No. 3

Amend the following Sections of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding and deleting such language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Amend the first paragraph of **Section 1-302 – STANDING COMMITTEES** to read as follows:

Sec. 1-302 – STANDING COMMITTEES – The Standing Committees shall be the following: Jurisprudence, *Judge Advocate*, Fraternal Relations, Masonic Relief, Masonic Education, Awards, Nebraska Work, Grievances, Finance, Credentials, Grand Lodge Office, Public Relations, Membership and Lodge Leadership.

Amend **Sec 1-304 – TRIAL COMMISSIONS** to read as follows:

Sec 1-304 – TRIAL COMMISSIONS – The Grand Master shall appoint from time to time such committees for the purpose of conducting Masonic trials as in his judgment shall be deemed advisable. Each committee shall consist of not less than three or more than five disinterested Master Masons *who are in good standing in Nebraska constituent lodges.* Said committee shall be styled "Trial Commission." The Grand Master shall designate the Chairman of such Commission. Three members shall constitute a quorum, and ~~a Master Mason appointed by the Commission shall act one of the members of such Commission shall be appointed by the Commission to act as its~~ Secretary, and in his absence, the Trial Commission may designate some other Master Mason to so act. A majority of such Trial Commission sitting at a trial shall decide all questions before it.

Amend the **first paragraph of Sec. 1-306 – MEETINGS** to read as follows:

Sec. 1-306 – MEETINGS – The Standing Committees, *other than Judge Advocate*, shall meet at least twice annually. Any committee may be convened at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Amend **Sec. 1-313 – GRIEVANCES** – to read as follows:

Sec. 1-313 – GRIEVANCES – The Grievance Committee shall examine and report on all matters of *appeals of trials had by trial commissions*, and appeals and grievances brought before the Grand Lodge. ~~Their~~ *The Grievances Committee report to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master following its examination* shall consist solely of a recommendation. No fact involved in the controversy shall be reported or stated in the record. A brief abstract ~~of~~ *or* memorandum thereof in each case may be made but the same shall not be published, recorded, or used except for reference. *See Sections 3-802 through 3-805 as to the consideration of appeals. See Sec 3-709 as to the effect of conviction when appealed.*

Adopt a new **Sec. 1-320 – JUDGE ADVOCATE** to appear following Section 1-319 of the Bylaws, which new section shall read as follows:

Sec 1-320 – JUDGE ADVOCATE – The Judge Advocate Committee, which shall consist of three or more members appointed by the Grand Master, ideally lawyers licensed to practice in Nebraska, shall, if requested by the Master or Junior Warden of the constituent lodge preferring charges, review charges received from such constituent lodge, and revise the same as appropriate to succinctly state violations of one or more provisions provided for by Sec 3-102 of these Bylaws. The Committee shall then communicate such revised charges to the Junior Warden and Master of the constituent lodge for further proceedings consistent with Sec 3-206 of these Bylaws. At the request of such Junior Warden or Master, a member of the Judge Advocate Committee shall prepare, file and bring on to trial, such charges. The Chairman and other members of the Judge Advocate Committee shall be appointed for terms of three years by the Grand Master, with the initial terms staggered to provide for one new member to be appointed each year. Members of the Committee, including the Chairman, may serve up to six years as members of such committee, if reappointed.

Amend **Sec. 3-303 – ACCEPTANCE** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-303 – ACCEPTANCE – When charges shall be presented and read as ~~above~~ provided by these Bylaws, the Master shall decide whether the charges shall be accepted, and the accused brother placed on trial; when so accepted the charges shall be entered by the Secretary on the minutes of that communication, and may not be withdrawn except for cause shown, and with the consent of two-thirds of the members of the lodge present. If a trial be decided upon, *after review and possible revision of the charges by the Judge Advocate*, the procedure shall be as follows: the Secretary of the lodge shall deliver to the Grand Master the charges and specifications, and all other papers relating to the case, together with a certified copy of the charges and specifications and of such parts of the minutes of the lodge as relate in any way to the case, the name, address, residence and name, number and location of the lodge of which the accused is a member. Whereupon the Grand Master shall appoint (or refer the case to) a trial commission as herein contemplated (~~see Section 1-301~~) *by these Bylaws* and shall notify the Master and Secretary of the lodge before which said charges are pending of the names and addresses of the members of said commission and shall notify each member of the commission as to his appointment and the purpose for which is appointed and direct him to proceed at the earliest opportunity to dispose of said charges in the manner herein outlined.

Amend **Sec. 3-206 – CHARGES, BY WHOM PREFERRED** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-206 – CHARGES, BY WHOM PREFERRED – Any Master Mason, a member of a lodge in good standing may prefer charges, in writing, over his signature against an offending brother, but *it* is the special duty of the Junior Warden, in the

absence of other accusers, to prepare and file charges against such offending brother, ***with the possible assistance of the Judge Advocate as specified in Sec 1-320, supra***, and to take the necessary steps to bring ~~all such~~ Masonic offenders to trial. If any Junior Warden, who has been directed to prepare, file and bring on to trial any charge against an alleged offender, shall fail, neglect or refuse to do so promptly, the ~~Worshipful Master of the such~~ lodge must ~~appoint some other qualified member~~ ***request the Judge Advocate to do so***. Charges must not be preferred against a candidate who has been elected, but has received no degrees; objection is then the proper course.

Amend Sec. 3-502 – **WHO MAY ATTEND** – to read as follows:

Sec. 3-502 – WHO MAY ATTEND – No visitor shall be admitted, except ***members of the trial commission, Judge Advocate***, ~~as a witness~~ witnesses, ***stenographer***, or counsel, or except the Master, ~~or any Warden~~ ***Officers or other*** members of the lodge in which the charges were preferred, or members of the lodge of which the accused is a member.

Amend Sec. 3-503 – **RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS** to read as follows:

Sec 3-503 – RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS – The testimony must be ***digitally recorded or*** reduced to writing by the Secretary ~~or the acting Secretary~~ of the ***trial commission*** ~~and be signed by the witness~~, and for this purpose a stenographer may be employed ***by the trial commission at the expense of the party requesting a written transcript. The Secretary is responsible for accurately recording or obtaining an accurate written transcription of the proceedings. Such recording or written transcription shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary with the entire record as provided in Sec 3-510*** and his certificate as to the correctness of his taking and transcription of the evidence shall be appended thereto. ~~and if the stenographer is a Master Mason in good standing, such certificate may be appended in lieu of the signature of the witness; provided, that the Secretary or acting Secretary shall be present at all meetings of the commission, and keep a full record of all proceedings thereof, and the Secretary or any stenographer employed, shall receive such compensation as the trial commission shall determine.~~

Amend Sec. 3-505 – **EFFECT OF PLEADING GUILTY** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-505 – EFFECT OF PLEADING GUILTY OR CONVICTION IN COURT – In case an accused brother shall plead guilty, ***or be found guilty in a court of competent jurisdiction on a matter related to the charges being tried by the trial commission***, such plea ***or finding of guilt*** may be accepted as evidence, and shall render the taking of further proof unnecessary and the commission shall proceed to decide the degrees of punishment. The commission may, notwithstanding such admission and confession of guilt, ***or guilty verdict***, investigate the facts and take testimony, if any is ~~available~~ ***offered*** which may tend ~~either~~ to mitigate or aggravate the offense charged.

Delete Sec. 3-605 – **RECORD ADMISSIBLE** in its entirety.

Sec. 3-605 – (Not used) RECORD ADMISSIBLE – ~~The record of the offender's trial and conviction on a similar charge in a court of law is admissible and prima facie evidence of guilt.~~

Recommendation No. 4

Amend the following Sections of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding and deleting such language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Amend **Section 2-302 – PROFICIENCY BEFORE ELECTION** to read as follows:

Sec. 2-302 – PROFICIENCY BEFORE ELECTION – No person shall be elected or appointed to any office who has not complied with Section 2-402 of the law, *as it was required at the time that they were raised as a Master Mason.*

Amend **Section 2-402 – PROFICIENCY** to read as follows:

Sec. 2-402 – PROFICIENCY – All those hereinafter initiated, passed, and raised, shall become proficient in each degree, and shall give proof thereof by examination in open lodge. Such examination shall consist of:

1. Completion of a study of the Standard Proficiency Manual following each degree received.

2. Verification by the Worshipful Master that the candidate has expressed knowledge of the material in the manual by answering, in his own words, the questions listed for the degree in which he is being examined.

3. Successful *and competent verbal* completion by the candidate of *a thorough* ~~an~~ examination *from memory* in open lodge, consisting of answering *all* questions from the *respective* First Section Lectures *following each* of the *three* degrees *of Ancient Craft Masonry and prior to eligibility as a candidate for a succeeding Blue Lodge degree, and following the Third Degree before eligibility to be declared proficient as a Master Mason.* ~~as follows:~~

~~E.A. Degree— Starting with the words, “Give me a sign” and ending with giving of the “word.”~~

~~F.C. Degree— Starting with the words, “Have you any signs ...” and continuing to the end of the lecture.~~

~~M.M. Degree— Starting with the words, “Have you any signs...” and continuing to the end of the lecture.~~

No other Proficiency Examination shall be recognized in this Grand Jurisdiction, ~~except that a subordinate lodge may petition the Committee on Work to permit additional proficiency pursuant to 2-402(a).~~ After such examination, the Master may declare the brother proficient. Such declaration and the recording of the proficiency of the brother shall be made in the degree in which the examination is made, providing no objection is raised; if objection is made and it becomes necessary to put the question to a vote the ballot shall be determined in a lodge of Master Masons. Whereupon the Master shall put the question; “The candidate has satisfactorily answered the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manual and has completed the required examination in open lodge; is the brother proficient?” and this question shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present.

When a candidate for advancement fails to pass a satisfactory examination, the Master may direct him to become proficient and again present himself for examination.

Examination of all those hereinafter raised to the degree of Master Mason shall be had not later than ninety days following the conferring of said degree, but the lodge may for good cause shown extend the time, but not for more than six months after the degree is conferred; provided, that the Grand Master may extend the time for good cause shown. When a Master Mason has complied with the provisions of this section, a diploma shall be issued by the subordinate lodge of which he is a member, on the form prescribed by Grand Lodge.

An unaffiliated Master Mason in good standing in the Fraternity is entitled to be instructed and examined in any lodge as to his proficiency in the degree of a Master Mason, and upon being found proficient, this fact should be certified to the lodge electing him to membership.

~~When a candidate is initiated, passed and raised in a single day, he shall return to the Lodge with which his petition was filed and prove to the Master that he has completed all the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manuals within the time period allowed in this section, before he may receive his diploma as prescribed above.~~

Provided, that in exceptional cases, for good cause shown, the Grand Master may waive the provisions of this section.

Delete Section 2-402(a) – ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS in its entirety:

~~2-402(a) – ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS – A subordinate lodge may petition the Committee on Work to allow additional proficiency requirements of candidates in that lodge, provided:~~

~~1. The petition must contain the specific additional proficiency requirements proposed.~~

~~2. The petition must set out a plan to mentor candidates on the additional proficiency, by a member of the lodge who has previously completed the requirements of Section 2-402, and contain the agreement of at least three members of the lodge who have previously completed the requirements of Section 2-402 to mentor candidates.~~

~~3. A proposed petition to allow additional proficiency requirements must be presented to the lodge at a regular meeting and laid over for one month before voting. The proposed petition must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the lodge to be submitted to the Committee on Work.~~

~~4. These requirements for additional proficiency will apply to all candidates in the lodge.~~

~~A denial of a petition by the Committee on Work may be appealed by the Lodge to the Grand Master. The decision of the Grand Master shall be final.~~

LODGE BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED

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

On March 19, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Fremont Lodge No. 15 in Fremont to increase the degree fees.

On June 2, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha to increase the annual dues, and to change language from a set total dues amount to an amount of lodge dues plus the Grand Lodge per capita tax and member assessments.

On July 17, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 in Lincoln to delete Article 5, Section 4 of the bylaws, removing a provision stating that all Past Masters of the lodge are members of the investigating committee.

On August 14, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Fremont Lodge No. 15 in Fremont to increase the annual dues.

On August 27, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Robert W. Furnas Lodge No. 265 in Scottsbluff to delete provisions relative to restrictions placed on the holding and uses of a charitable investment fund maintained by the lodge.

On October 27, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of North Star Lodge No. 227 in Lincoln to increase the initiation fee and to add a provision stating that the per capita amount for members attaining 60-years of membership shall be remitted by the lodge to the Grand Lodge.

On October 27, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Utica Lodge No. 95 in Utica to combine the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

On December 11, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Victory Lodge No. 310 in Valley to increase the degree fees.

On December 11, 2017, I approved an amendment to Article V, Section 4 of the bylaws of Victory Lodge No. 310 in Valley to increase the dues for “each Master Mason in good standing (unless exempt under the law)” beginning 2019.

On December 11, 2017, I approved an amendment to Article V, Section 4 the bylaws of Victory Lodge No. 310 in Valley to add a paragraph to set the dues for “each Master Mason in good standing who is a dual member of the lodge or a member with 50 years or more of service to the lodge” at a reduced amount than beginning 2019.

On December 11, 2017, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Victory Lodge No. 310 in Valley to change the time of their regular communication.

On January 24, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Superior Lodge No. 121 in Superior to increase the degree fees.

LODGE CONSOLIDATIONS

As the population shrinks in some of the small communities, we will see more and more consolidations. This is not a reflection on the Brethren in the small lodges or their desire to stay open, but as the population decreases, fewer prospects for Masonry are available in the community.

I approved the following consolidations:

Hiram Lodge No. 52, Arlington, merged with Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair, effective September 15, 2017.

Purity Lodge No. 198, Imperial, merged with Ogalalla Lodge No. 158, Ogalalla, effective September 23, 2017.

Mount Moriah Lodge No. 57, Syracuse, merged with Union Lodge No. 287, Palmyra, effective December 15, 2017.

Cement Lodge No. 211, Wood River, merged with Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island, effective January 9, 2018.

Bennett Lodge No. 94, Lincoln, merged with College View Lodge No. 320, Lincoln, effective January 9, 2018.

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 1, 2017	Miloma Lodge No. 328	Omaha	11
September 30, 2017	Albert Pike Lodge No. 333	Omaha	6
October 7, 2017	Ashlar Lodge No. 333	Grand Island	10

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 not limited;
- c. A public records criminal history check will be obtained on each candidate by the Grand Lodge Office. 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 ten (10) days prior to the commencement of the degrees (September 13, 2017), 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. Grand Lodge Officers will be available to assist. Mentors are expected to be capable of instructing the candidates as applicable.
- 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, 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 exhibit proficiency in the Master Mason degree, and to 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 (i) and (j) 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 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 9, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to install their 2017 Chaplain, Junior Steward and Marshal out of time.

On February 14, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Fremont Shrine Club to obtain a list of names and contact information for members living in select Fremont area zip codes for the purpose of sending them an invitation to join Tangier Shrine and the Fremont Shrine Club.

On February 14, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to representatives of the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite to attend Omaha-area blue lodge meetings during 2017 Masonic year for the purpose of speaking about the benefits of becoming a member of the Scottish Rite.

On February 14, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Heirloom Bible Publishers to obtain a list of names and contact information for Secretaries of all subordinate lodges for the purpose of sending the quarterly newsletter.

On February 16, 2017, 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 March 7, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to Waterloo Wear to contact lodges and officers with whom contact has previously been established to discuss their use of a sales program as fundraisers for the lodges.

On March 14, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to the Florence Lodge No. 281 Foundation to send an informational flyer regarding a photography contest fundraiser to Nebraska subordinate lodges.

On March 14, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Sesostris Shrine in Lincoln to obtain a list of names and contact information for Masters and Secretaries of lodges within their jurisdiction for the purpose of letting them know about upcoming Shrine events.

On March 15, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and Section 2-312 to permit Zion Lodge No. 234 in Hyannis to elect and install their 2017 Secretary out of time.

On March 28, 2017, 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 April 7, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in Long Pine to move their charter on April 18, 2017, to Minnekadusa Lodge No. 192 in Valentine for the purpose of showing Minnekadusa Lodge how to open and close, and to encourage members from the area to attend.

On April 10, 2017, 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 April 10, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Cement Lodge No. 211 in Wood River to move their charter on April 20, 2017, to Ashlar Lodge No. 33 in Grand Island for the purpose of holding the regular communication in Grand Island to assist with degree work.

On April 18, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Frank Welch Lodge No. 75 in Sidney to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On April 20, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 in Omaha to move their charter on April 22, 2017, to Mizpah Lodge No. 302 in Omaha for the purpose of conferring degrees.

On April 27, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Florence Lodge No. 281 in Omaha to move their charter on June 5, 2017, to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for the purpose of holding the regular communication to allow residents to attend the meeting.

On April 28, 2017, 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 13, 2017, to Walt Johnson Ranch at 16600 N. Johnston Road in North Platte for the purpose of holding an annual outdoor meeting and picnic.

On April 28, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Hickman Lodge No. 256 in Lincoln to move their charter on June 10, 2017, to 1801 N. 112th St in Lincoln for the purpose of conferring a Master Mason degree in an outdoor setting. Should inclement weather occur, I granted dispensation to allow the move on June 17, 2017.

On May 5, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to move their charter on May 11, 2017 to Stromsburg Lodge

No. 126 for the purpose of holding the regular communication while the lodge building is being repaired.

On May 9, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Geneva Lodge No. 79 in Geneva to move their charter on June 6, 2017, to a location 1.25 miles east and 1.5 miles north of Geneva for the purpose of holding an outdoor meeting.

On May 10, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha to move their charter on June 6, 2017, to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for the purpose of holding the regular communication at The Home to allow residents to attend the meeting.

On May 11, 2017, 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 May 22, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-601, upon application from the lodge, I authorized the remission of per capita for a member of Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha.

On May 22, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to York Rite to obtain a list of members for the purpose of inviting them to join York Rite.

On June 5, 2017, 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 June 5, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to move their charter on July 6, 2017, to 901 Rosewood Drive in Lincoln for the purpose of holding an outdoor meeting and BBQ.

On June 5, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to move their charter on August 3, 2017, to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for the purpose of holding the regular communication at the Home, including having dinner with the residents, touring the facility, and conducting a Masonic education program.

On June 5, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Master of Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to obtain a list of the names and contact information for the Masters and Wardens of the Lincoln lodges for the purpose of sending them information aimed at re-establishing the Masters and Wardens club in Lincoln.

On June 5, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to move their charter on June 8, 2017, to Stromsburg Lodge No. 126 for the purpose of holding the regular communication while the lodge building is being repaired.

On June 5, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and Section 2-312 to permit Jachin Lodge No. 146 in Holdrege to elect and install their 2017 Senior Warden out of time.

On June 6, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Capitol Lodge No. 3 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On June 14, 2017, 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 June 14, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Nebraska Lodge No. 1 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On June 19, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Mid-West Lodge No. 317 in Hastings to move their charter on August 5, 2017, to Wrights Cabin 1.3 miles south on Adams Central Road from the intersection of Highway 6 and Adams Central Road for the purpose of holding an outdoor lodge.

On July 4, 2017, I granted permission to a member of Nebraska Lodge No. 1 to approach the lodge with the possibility of constituting a Grotto in Nebraska, noting that any contact with other lodges or members would require prior additional permission.

On July 6, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter on August 17, 2017, to the Shelter House at Beck Park in Decatur for the purpose of holding an outdoor communication.

On July 7, 2016, 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 11, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Springfield Lodge No. 112 in Springfield to move their charter on June 20, 2017 to June 28, 2017 or until power is restored, to Omaha Scottish Rite building for the purpose of holding meetings of the lodge due to a power outage at the lodge building in Springfield.

On July 17, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha to move their charter on August 21, 2017, to 65147 Co Rd 716 in Falls City for the purpose of holding a once in a lifetime Solar Eclipse Lodge.

On July 19, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn to move their charter on October 3, 2017, to 4343 N 52nd Street in Omaha for the purpose of holding the regular communication at the Omaha Home for Boys.

On August 4, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to move their charter on August 10, 2017, to Stromsburg Lodge No. 126 for the purpose of holding the regular communication while the Osceola Lodge building is being repaired.

On August 8, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha to move their charter on August 8, 2017, to the Omaha Scottish Rite building for the purpose of holding the regular communication of the lodge while construction is being done on the Omaha Lodge No. 288 building.

On August 9, 2017, 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 August 17, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to move their charter on September 6, 2017, to

The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for the purpose of holding the regular communication at the Home to allow residents to attend the meeting.

On August 17, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to move their charter on October 4, 2017, to Lebanon Lodge No. 323 in Columbus for the purpose of holding the regular communication in Columbus to that the Bronze Jordan Medal holder of College View may attend the meeting.

On August 26, 2017, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Sesostris Shrine in Lincoln to obtain a list of names and contact information for members of lodges within their jurisdiction that have been raised in the last three years for the purpose of inviting them to join the Shrine.

On August 28, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Nebraska Lodge No. 1 in Omaha to move their charter on September 1, 2017, to the Cooper Farm picnic pavilion at the Omaha Home for Boys for the purpose of holding a joint degree with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

On August 31, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln to move their charter on September 11, 2017, to 23215 Havelock Avenue in Lincoln for the purpose of conducting a pasture lodge.

On August 31, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Papillion Lodge No. 39 in Papillion to move their charter on September 12, 2017, to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for the purpose of holding the regular communication at the Home to allow residents to attend the meeting.

On September 7, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to move their charter on September 14, 2017, to Stromsburg Lodge No. 126 for the purpose of holding the regular business meeting while the Osceola lodge building is being repaired.

On September 14, 2017, 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 September 15, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-207, upon request from the lodge, I loaned the cancelled charters of John S. Bowen Lodge No. 232 in Kennard and Hiram Lodge No. 52 in Arlington to Washington Lodge No. 21 in Blair for historical purposes and display.

On September 18, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Hickman Lodge No. 256 in Lincoln to move their charter on October 14, 2017, to 1801 N 112th Street in Lincoln for the purpose of holding an outdoor degree.

On September 26, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Oshkosh Lodge No. 286 in Oshkosh to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On October 3, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On October 24, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-207, upon request from the lodge, I loaned the cancelled charter of Purity Lodge No. 198 in Imperial to Ogallala Lodge No. 159 in Ogallala for historical purposes and display.

On November 2, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-207, upon request from the lodge, I loaned the cancelled charters of Amethyst Lodge No. 190 in Stapleton, Gladstone Lodge No. 176 in Ansley, Merna Lodge No. 171 in Merna, Anselmo Lodge No. 258 in Anselmo, Cable Lodge No. 225 in Arnold and Swastika Lodge No. 280 in Sargent to Custer Lodge No. 148 in Broken Bow for historical purposes and display.

On November 3, 2017, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On November 20, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Seneca Lodge No. 284 in Thedford to move their charter on January 10, 2018, to Zion Lodge No. 234 in Hyannis for the purpose of holding a joint installation of officers.

On November 30, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Friend Lodge No. 73 in Friend to elect their 2018 officers out of time.

On November 30, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Miloma Lodge No. 328 in Omaha to move their charter on January 13, 2018, to Papillion Lodge No. 39 for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On December 4, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit McCook Lodge No. 135 in McCook to elect their 2018 Junior Warden out of time.

On December 7, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Hickman Lodge No. 256 in Lincoln to move their charter on January 14, 2018, to the Lincoln Valley Scottish Rite for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On December 8, 2017, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Zion Lodge No. 234 in Hyannis to elect their Treasurer out of time.

On December 12, 2017, for good cause shown, I waived all but \$50 of the penalty assessed to Wahoo Lodge No. 59 pursuant to Section 2-601.

On December 13, 2017, I approved a request from Shiloh Lodge No. 327 to form a nonprofit corporation called the Shiloh Charities Foundation and to request exemption from the IRS for the same.

On December 15, 2017, pursuant to Section 2-207, upon request from the lodge, I loaned the cancelled charter of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57 in Syracuse to Union Lodge No. 287 in Palmyra for historical purposes and display.

On December 19, 2017, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter on January 6, 2018, to South Sioux City for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On January 3, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Superior Lodge No. 121 in Superior to elect their 2018 Master out of time.

On January 8, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha to move their charter on January 20, 2018, to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On January 9, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to install their 2018 Treasurer, Chaplain, Marshal and Tyler out of time.

On January 9, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue to install their 2018 Junior Warden and Senior Deacon out of time.

On January 10, 2018, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Highland Lodge No. 194 in Cortland to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On January 11, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 in Lincoln to install their 2018 Junior Deacon and Senior Deacon out of time.

On January 16, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Lincoln to install their 2018 Chaplain out of time.

On January 16, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn to install their 2018 Marshal out of time.

On January 18, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Sesostri Shrine in Lincoln to obtain a list of names and contact information for members of lodges within their jurisdiction that have been raised since September 1, 2017 for the purpose of inviting them to join the Shrine.

On January 19, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter for their regular communication in February, March and April to the United Methodist Church in Rosalie, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding the regular meetings in an alternate location due to the unsafe condition of the lodge building.

On January 21, 2018, pursuant to Section 2-207, upon request from the lodge, I loaned the cancelled charter Cement Lodge No. 211 in Wood River to Ashlar Lodge No. 33 in Grand Island for historical purposes and display.

On January 25, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn and North Bend Lodge No. 119 in North Bend to move their charters on February 2-3, 2018, to the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, for the purpose of opening a lodge of Master Masons for the annual communication.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Renaissance Lodge No. 334 in Elkhorn to install their 2018 officers out of time.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Papillion Lodge No. 39 in Papillion to install their 2018 Junior Steward out of time.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Custer Lodge No. 148 in Broken Bow to install their 2018 Secretary/Treasurer out of time.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Blazing Star Lodge No. 200 in Burwell to install their 2018 Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Junior Steward, Marshal and Tyler out of time.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Centennial Lodge No. 326 in Omaha to install their 2018 Chaplain and Tyler out of time.

On January 28, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 in Omaha to install their 2018 Senior Steward and Junior Steward 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:

- March 19, 2017..... Justin W. Henry College View Lodge No. 320
- March 19, 2017..... Gary L. Abraham..... Shiloh Lodge No. 327
- April 7, 2017..... Brian W. Schamber Centennial Lodge No. 326
- April 19, 2017..... Gene D. Gana Hickman Lodge No. 256
- April 19, 2017..... Robert R. Tallman Florence Lodge No. 281
- April 19, 2017..... Ben F. Ore Mid-West Lodge No. 317
- May 5, 2017..... James H. Miller Liberty Lodge No. 300
- June 2, 2017..... Harley T. Riley Lone Tree Lodge No. 36
- June 2, 2017..... Dominic Inzodda Craftsmen Lodge No. 314
- June 2, 2017..... Timothy W. Schamber..... Centennial Lodge No. 326
- July 17, 2017 William H. Murray Robert W. Furnas Lodge No. 265
- July 17, 2017 Stan J. Wirth Beatrice Lodge No. 26
- July 22, 2017 Michael J. Kosalka Papillion Lodge No. 39
- August 14, 2017..... William W. Sohl Mosaic Lodge No. 55
- August 27, 2017..... Mark A. St. John..... McCook Lodge No. 135
- August 27, 2017..... Frank D.L. Dunn Florence Lodge No. 281
- September 11, 2017 John C. Hansen..... Lincoln Lodge No. 19
- September 11, 2017 Bruce A. Cornwell..... Springfield Lodge No. 112
- September 22, 2017 Justin M. Lofgren Papillion Lodge No. 39
- October 4, 2017 Michael J. Kerrigan Comet Lodge No. 229
- October 13, 2017 Steven E. McCoy, Sr. Cotner Lodge No. 297
- October 27, 2017 Walter D. Garretson..... Omadi Lodge No. 5
- November 28, 2017 Rodney S. Sederstrom Springfield Lodge No. 112
- January 15, 2018..... Kent C. Engdahl Waterloo Lodge No. 102
- January 15, 2018..... Michael S. Wellensiek..... Lancaster Lodge No. 54
- January 15, 2018..... James R. Buckwalter Lancaster Lodge No. 54
- January 24, 2018..... John A. Sehrt Springfield Lodge No. 112

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 Omaha Lodge No. 288 in Omaha. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on May 5, 2017.

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 Blue

River Lodge No. 30 in Milford. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on August 24, 2017.

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 Springfield Lodge No. 112 in Springfield. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on August 23, 2017.

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 Covert Lodge No. 11 in Omaha. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on November 29, 2017.

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:

- February 6, 2017.....Devon Palmer, Atwood Lodge No. 164, Kansas
- June 16, 2017..... Andrew Wallace, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Iowa
- June 16, 2017.....Stephan James, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Iowa
- June 16, 2017..... David Healy, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Iowa

Grand Master Myers 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.



To fill time before the report of the results of the officer elections, Most Worshipful Myers invited those in attendance to address the assemblage to discuss topics of interest to them or ask questions of the Grand Lodge.

Skip Pounds, a member of Mid-West Lodge No. 317 and Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska near Nevada:

“Some 60 years ago, I learned the proficiency and questions and answers, but did not learn Masonry. Having been a member in Nevada, we are required to do the entire proficiency. One benefit of that as a coach is I get to teach Masonry to a Brother. And I think it’s important that we gain Masonic knowledge because when I became a Mason, I was asked two questions, “Whence came you?” and “What came thee here to do?” And the answer is I came to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry, not just sit there on the sidelines. To improve myself, I must understand what it means to be a Mason. Therefore, when I coach, I have to teach that new Brother what it means to be a Mason. Many of us became Masons and considered it to be an event. No, Masonry is a journey, not knowing where our lives may take us. Many of you have had the opportunity, as have I, to become involved in other Masonic activities or even to visit other grand jurisdictions or, as I did, attend a foreign jurisdiction. But I have learned in each of those experiences more about being a Mason. And remembering that, Masonry is not within the four walls of a lodge, but in the world as a whole. I, personally, it is my choice, I walk on the level with the

world, living my life like a plumb and meeting and acting upon the square. That, to me, is the last journey I have taken. And only by being taught how to be a Mason can I live as a Mason. Worshipful Master and Grand Lodge members and delegates, I thank you for your patience.”



Grand Master Myers asked R.:W.: Patrick Barger to approach the lectern and announce the slate of appointed officers for the 2018-2019 term, when he will serve as Grand Master.

Charles J. Odorizzi, III, Grand Chaplain
Kevin H. Scheele, Grand Orator
Russell G. Reno, Grand Historian
Scott J. Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian
John R. Fairlie, Grand Marshal
Alexander F. Straatmann, Grand Senior Deacon
John L. Millington, Grand Junior Deacon
Robert C. King, Grand Senior Steward
David C. Norton, Grand Junior Steward
Tyler S. Loontjer, Grand Tyler
F. Graham House, Grand Musician
John R. Herbolsheimer, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
Michael E. Tomasiewicz, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
David A. Wetrosky, Personal Representative of the Grand Master

A motion was made for the approval of the aforementioned appointed officers for 2018-2019. The motion was seconded and, with no discussion, motion carried.

Right Worshipful Barger 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.



M.: W.: Joe McBride, Past Grand Master, commented from the altar:

“If everybody would open your books, and go to the back of it. I’d like to make a little plug here for several of our organizations. If you’ll notice on page 77, I’m asking for money for all of these by the way, so get out your billfolds as best as you can and give what your abilities may allow. On page 77, our Nebraska Child Identification Program donation form. That’s a great program. Please give freely. The next page, 79, Nebraska Masonic Museum and Research Library, a great program that we have going within our own Grand Lodge building in Lincoln. We’ve had multiple people spending lots and lots of hours of their own free donation time. They need also some money to be able to continue this program. We’re putting together a world class Masonic museum down there. We have great books and great artifacts that need catalogued, put out on display and preserved. So please, if you can possibly, donate to this great program, individually and as a lodge. And our Masonic Endowment Fund is a great program. It helps improve our building and our property and maintains the heritage that we have in Nebraska. We haven’t owned a great building for a long time. We now do and it needs some improvements, it needs help, as does any brick and mortar building. So please, if you can, get out your wallets, give of

your heart and help to maintain these programs that we have going within Nebraska.

I would just like to take a second to congratulate M.:W.: Rick on a wonderful year. Thank you for your service.”



Grand Master Myers invited Grand Master Yancey Smith of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, to bring greetings:

“Most Worshipful Grand Master, yes, you can tell I’m from South Dakota by the green coats. That is part of our code and constitution. That is the official uniform of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. Most Worshipful, Thank you so much for the courtesies you have extended to me. I’ve enjoyed the times that our paths have crossed during this year as our terms overlap by some nine or ten months. I would like to bring the warmest fraternal greetings from the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, but more importantly to make a plug for the Midwest Conference of Masonic Education which will be held in Rapid City on April 20-22, 2018. The Grand Lodge of Nebraska is a member of that organization. As I understand, it is the only education conference in the United States. Our keynote speaker will be M.:W.: Brother Mark Tabbert from the George Washington National Masonic Memorial. We have a great program lined up and we are still finalizing details. You can go to mygrandlodge.org, which is the Grand Lodge of South Dakota web site, for registration information.”

Grand Master Myers asked about the upcoming Conference of Grand Masters that will also take place in South Dakota. To which M.:W.: Smith responded:

“Thank you, yes, not two weeks from now, but a year and two weeks from now, the Grand Lodge of South Dakota will be playing host to the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America. Most of you, I’m sure, are well familiar with that event, as you hosted it two weeks after you [M.:W.: Rick Myers] were installed, Most Worshipful. It will be held in Rapid City and we will be making the plug in Indianapolis in a few weeks for you to attend. It’s always the same weekend. I think it’s the 16-20 of February, 2019. We promise to have 70 degree weather in Rapid City for that just as you did last year for the event in Omaha. If you’ve not had an opportunity to attend, it’s a lot of fun. It’s not a tyled session, so you do not need to even be a Mason to attend, although I’m not sure why you would want to if you weren’t. But it’s a lot of fun, a great time, and we are excited to have Masons from around the world in Rapid City.”

Most Worshipful Myers asked if they could use some volunteer help.

“Absolutely! You don’t have to be a member of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. If you want to come north and help us out, we would love to have your help. We are probably going to still be contacting Michelle and one of your van drivers last year and others to pick your brains as we move into the final stages of planning this event. Absolutely, we’d love to have all of the volunteer help we can get.”

Grand Master Myers thanked Grand Master Smith for being at the session and for the ongoing and continuing relationship we have with our brethren in South Dakota.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REPORT OF BALLOT

The Chairman of Tellers, W.:B.: David Wetrosky 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.: Robert W. Moninger
- Grand Senior Warden R.: W.: Ronald D. Stites
- Grand Junior Warden..... R.: W.: James A. Carlton
- 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 Myers asked R.:W.: Ronald D. Stites to approach the microphone where R.:W.: Brother Stites moved for approval to hold the 164th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2021. The motion was seconded and carried.



Right Worshipful Bob Moninger, was invited to the podium and announced that, as approved at the 160th Annual Communication in 2017, the 163rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Center in Kearney, Nebraska from February 6-8, 2020.



The Grand Lodge was called from Labor to Refreshment, to reconvene Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 8:30 am.



V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Pro-tem Kevin Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity, in preparation for the noon meals:

“All Mighty God, Our Heavenly Father, we pause in these months to express our thanks for the bounty of nourishment that has been prepared for us at this time in this place. May we be strengthened by your divine grace for the tasks before us, and may we be assured of the value of that which we have done. In Your Name we pray, Amen.”

2018 Proceedings
of the
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Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-first
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

Most Worshipful Richard D. Myers
Grand Master

Membership Banquet
Friday, February 2, 2018
7:00 p.m.

V.: W.: Grand Chaplain Pro-tem Kevin Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity.

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

MASONIC CHARITIES GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS

Grand Master Rick Myers invited Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Mary Stockton, 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 16th Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. Each was presented a check in the amount of \$5,257.96. A total of \$15,773.89 was raised at the Grand Master's Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. The Grand Master thanked the Masonic Charities Golf Tournament Committee and volunteers who have continued to make it a successful endeavor for the charities.

HUMANITARIAN AWARD PRESENTATION

Most Worshipful Rick Myers presented the Grand Master's Humanitarian Award to Most Worshipful Brother Kenneth D. Beebe of North Bend Lodge No. 119. (M.: W.: Rick previously presented a Humanitarian Award to W.: B.: Gene Geise of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 on September 7, 2017.)



Most Worshipful Rick Myers then introduced Doug Lewis and Dennis Bostow for a presentation of the Grand Master's Road Trip Experience.

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Most Worshipful Richard D. Myers
Grand Master

Morning Session
Saturday, February 3, 2018

V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Pro-tem Kevin Lindly invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Grand Architect and Builder of the Universe, help us to see that life is good, that whenever the last moment was, the present moment is now. 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 in 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 You to provide safety for all the military personnel wherever deployed the world over. Amen.”

R.:W.: Patrick Barger, Deputy Grand Master, called the 161st 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 3, 2018.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.



Deputy Grand Master Barger invited M.:W.: Simon LaPlace, Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of

Connecticut to approach the East to bring greetings. M.:W.: LaPlace also presented Grand Master Myers with a framed certificate of appreciation from the Masonic Service Association for support received from the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 2017.



Most Worshipful Myers thanked everyone who participated in and purchased items at the silent auction to benefit the youth groups, and reminded them to please pay for and collect their items following the close of the session. He announced that a total of \$3,145 was pledged, which will be split equally among the Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Myers announced the appointment of the Deputy Grand Custodians as Tellers for this session, with W.:B.: David Wetrosky as Chairman, with Michael E. Tomaszewicz, Charlie Odorizzi and M.:W.: Scott Krieger as assistants. The Grand Master stated that if any of the delegates needed to leave prior to the voting taking place that they could see the Grand Custodian, who would ask to see their credentials and accept their ballots on the proposals.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Master Myers asked R.:W.:B.: Patrick Barger for his Address in anticipation of serving as Grand Master in 2018.

Deputy Grand Master Barger addressed the brethren:

“Each year, the Deputy Grand Master stands up here and lets you know what’s on the table for the upcoming Masonic year. In keeping with that tradition here at Annual Communication, I am going to take just a few minutes to do that. My theme for 2018 is simply entitled this: *Horizon from Heritage*. I coined that phrase because I believe that’s where the future lies – in the past. I seek your help in returning to the principles that, until the last 30 years or so, sustained for centuries. This fraternity as always embraced learning lessons from the past. It seems that when we depart from that we falter. In spite of these proud traditions, our membership continues to decline at about 3% per year. Do the math, in 25 years we won’t be here. We have to do something. I’m convinced, like many of you that I have spoken with over the years, that making Masons as quick and easy as we can is not the answer. Statistics show that all we have done is make it quick and easy for them to disappear.

We’re going to begin 2018 by redefining what Masonry *is*. That is not to be confused with what Masonry *does*. For many years, we have avoided having to really think about the answer to that question by giving a safe response when someone asks us. I’ve often heard people say ‘Masonry means different things to different people.’ Sure, that’s true about a lot of aspects of Masonry. But Masonry is one thing to all of us. Masonry is the world’s oldest fraternity of gentlemen, founded on the code of ethics of the stone masons who built King Solomon’s temple. It’s as simple as that. Anyone would be hard pressed to say that Masonry, in its most foundational form, isn’t exactly that. Look around you, everything we do is based on the builders of King Solomon’s temple. Masonry’s leadership structure, our lodge room arrangements, our aprons, our jewels, our titles, our symbols, our terminology, and our philosophies are all based on the

legend of Hiram Abiff. That's what Masonry *is*. Remember, don't confuse that with what Masonry *does*.

So let's back up a minute and let me ask you, why do you need to know a concise description of what Masonry *is*? Because you'll need to know the answer to that question because you'll be asked, and how you answer will determine how new prospects, your family, your friends, and everyone, views our fraternity. If you fumble with a vague answer, you'll lose them. If you say 'We have picnics and charity work,' they'll wonder why they need to join Masonry just to do that. They'll be looking for what sets us apart from the crowd, why we're different from the Elks, the Moose or the Rotary, or the United Way or Jerry's kids. Picnics and charity are not what Masonry *is*. They are some of the things that Masonry *does*. You can add what Masonry *does* later, if the person is interested and asks more questions. And he should be if you describe Masonry as something intriguing, interesting, definitely unique and found nowhere else, and no one else has the legend of Hiram Abiff.

Everything we need to know about how to be a Mason is contained within the legend of Hiram Abiff. Everything we need to teach our new Masons can also be found there – charity, brotherhood, community service – look for all of those things in the candidate's first introduction to the tenets of Masonry in the Entered Apprentice degree, and it builds from there. That's what Masonry *is*. How it does that can be found at our multiple benevolent efforts, our diverse group activities and our expansive civic involvement. Each lodge *does* those things a little differently, but every lodge is exactly the same in its fundamental foundation in the legend of Hiram Abiff. When you remove it from the description and meaning of Masonry, you might as well be describing any number of a vast number of organizations that do charitable work, offer fellowship or practice fun activities.

This fraternity was built on the backs of men who joined Masonry *for* Masonry. Where can you find that best proscribed? In the legend of Hiram Abiff. That is our Heritage, my Brothers. For 2018, we'll be working toward Masonry's Horizon through that Heritage, and we're going to do that in three different ways.

First, the **Reception, Responsibility and Renewal initiative**. I call it **R³**. One of the biggest challenges impeding the growth of lodges is not only identifying and enrolling quality members, but most importantly, providing them background to better understand and become personally invested in our fraternity. The **R³ Program**, run exclusively by our Grand Lodge officers, prepares not only new members, but inactive members and local officers to lead their lodge with proven, successful strategies.

The second major program we are bringing to you in 2018 is the Lodge Leadership Seminar. I firmly believe that leadership is a responsibility, not a reward. In keeping with this in my overall disparagement of title seekers who just want to be somebody's boss, we've created a brand new curriculum designed to develop our leaders for 21st century Masonry. One of our obligations as Grand Lodge officers is to ensure future Blue Lodge leaders get the experience, training and education they need to lead their lodges to success. This program, headed up by Most Worshipful Brother Russ Reno, is going to be statewide and traveling, and will be exclusively taught by a cadre of Past Grand

Masters who bring their vast knowledge of Masonry leadership to our next generation of Masters and Wardens.

The third major enterprise coming your way this year is a statewide pool of advisors that you can call upon for any kind of Grand Lodge assistance. This pool greatly expands our existing limited process and is called Deputy Grand Custodians At Large. I envisioned this initiative as a critical waypoint in Nebraska Masonry's journey. I personally feel that with only 34% of our lodges certified to conduct degrees – only 34% can conduct degrees – that Nebraska Masonry is losing its identity. When no one else remains who can tell our story, Masonry will cease to exist. The vast majority of new Masons tell us they want to learn the teachings of Masonry. They also want to be part of conveying it to other new Masons. They are not here for coffee or donuts or beer drinking, which they can do anywhere else. The vast majority of new Masons who become suspended say that petitioned us looking for Masonic enlightenment, but found no one was interested in teaching it to them. So they left.

To counter this, for the first time in Nebraska's history, we are creating a pool of Deputy Grand Custodians at large. Because we've nearly lost sight of our Masonic identity, people interested in becoming Deputy Grand Custodians are few and very far between. This is a never-ending, vicious circle when no one is encouraged to learn the legend of Hiram Abiff, therefore few ever become a Deputy Grand Custodian, resulting in many lodges having no one to help them learn enough to become certified to conduct our degrees. And this is why 66% of our lodges cannot conduct degrees. In fact, overall, the quality of ritual has declined since I became a Mason in 1983. Those aren't my words. They came from M.: W.: Reg Kuhn in his own Deputy Grand Master Address in 2008. Do you think it's gotten any better in the decade that has passed since then? You know it hasn't.

Until now, Deputy Grand Custodians were required to live near the lodges they mentored and if no one in the area became certified individually proficient, that area had no Deputy Grand Custodian, and those lodges' ability to conduct degrees dissolved. Under this new program, people from all over the state will be allowed to become a Deputy Grand Custodian if they are willing to travel occasionally to those areas without one. I feel the most Deputies we have in the pool, the fewer times one of them has to travel from one end of the state to certify or work with a lodge. But our newest individually proficient Masons say they will, because that's why they came to Masonry, to live and to teach the legend of Hiram Abiff. And that equates to fewer lodges having to go without being able to live it too. In addition, we're going to be expanding the Deputy Grand Custodian's role beyond ritual assistance. They will now be your local point of contact for everything you need for major Grand Lodge programs.

So to sum things up, I want to declare that Masonry is not a group of guys drinking coffee and eating cold sandwiches once a month. Masonry is a legend depicting a life-long journey. There's the journey each of us made in the first section of each degree. There's the journey up the flight of winding stairs into the Middle Chamber. And, most importantly, there is the ultimate journey each of us made in our role as Hiram Abiff. Everything else we do in this fraternity can be found in the time-honored tale of that journey and we have an obligation to live that legend and I firmly believe we are up to the task of living it. But for our new Masons to live it alongside us, someone must teach it to them.

I am convinced that the tenets of our fraternity are as relevant today as they were 160 years ago when our pioneer forefathers constituted this Grand Lodge. I am further convinced that there is a generation of men looking for exactly what we were chartered to offer. We are at an irreplaceable moment in our history when we must begin again to live the legend that exemplifies those ideals that make us Freemasons. Masonry is the world’s oldest fraternity of gentlemen, founded on the code of ethics of the stone masons who built King Solomon’s temple. *Horizon from Heritage.*

I am humbled by your confidence in me and I am ready for this journey. I ask each of you to be ready to join me. Thank you.

This afternoon at 4 o’clock we will have our installation and I hope you will attend that. Dinner follows. I am told that the hospitality room follows dinner; it better. I have remained celibate and dry this weekend. I will end that vigil later tonight.

The 161st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge Most Worshipful Ancient and Accepted Freemasons of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Center right here in Kearney on February 1-3, 2018. Please stop by and see Michelle to volunteer to serve at the Conference of Grand Masters.

Gentlemen, it is my high honor to look forward to my installation and to being with you during the ensuing year.”

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

M.:W.:B.: Rick Myers asked Deputy Grand Master Patrick Barger to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of the Grand Master’s Recommendations.

Recommendation No. 1

Amend **Section 3-912 – PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT** of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding and deleting such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 3-912 – PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT – Whenever a brother, suspended for non-payment of dues, is reinstated under Sec. 3-910 or 3-911, per capita tax shall be remitted to the Grand Lodge as follows:

(a) For reinstatement within 3 years of the date of suspension, per capita tax for each year of suspension shall be remitted ***at the time of*** ~~with~~ the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

(b) For reinstatement after 3 years from the date of suspension, per capita tax for the year of suspension only shall be remitted ***at the time of*** ~~with~~ the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Myers moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1 was seconded.

R.:W.:B.: Barger gave the general instructions, announcing to the delegates that a written ballot would be cast.

There being no discussion, R.:W.:B.: Barger called for the question and the written ballot was collected and counted by the Tellers. After counting by the Tellers, it was announced that Recommendation No. 1 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

Recommendation No. 2

Amend **Section 1-404 – ALLOCATION OF FUNDS** by adding and deleting certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 1-404 – ALLOCATION OF FUNDS – ~~Commencing January 1, 2014, the~~ *The* per capita tax shall be divided as follows:

To the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children	
<i>January 2018 and 2019</i>	\$ 1.00
<i>Commencing in January 2020</i>	<i>1.50</i>
To the George Washington Masonic Memorial	1.50
To the Nebraska Masonic Home	2.50
To the Masonic Education Newsletter	.50
To the General Fund	
January 2012	22.00
January 2013	23.00
January 2014	24.00
January 2015	25.00
January 2016 <i>2018 and 2019</i>	26.00
<i>January 2020</i>	<i>27.00</i>
<i>January 2021</i>	<i>28.00</i>
<i>January 2022</i>	<i>29.00</i>
<i>January 2023</i>	<i>30.00</i>
<i>January 2024</i>	<i>31.00</i>

The Initiation Fee shall be allocated to the General Fund.

If Recommendation No. 2 passes, the following Section must also be amended in the following ways to change references to the allocation of funds and to maintain consistency within the Bylaws.

Amend the third 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 bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 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). In addition, each Lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of *Thirty-one dollars and fifty cents (\$31.50)* ~~Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00)~~ as a per capita tax. ~~commencing on the 1st day of January 2011.~~ The per capita tax *allocated to the Grand Lodge* shall increase at a rate of *\$1.00 per year for the next five (5) years,*

commencing on the first day of January, 2020. ~~\$3.00 for the first year commencing on the first day of January, 2012, and one dollar per year for the next four years.~~ The said per capita tax shall accrue as follows: ~~2011 – \$24.00, 2012 – \$27.00, 2013 – \$28.00, 2014 – \$29.50, 2015 – \$30.50, 2016~~ **2018 and 2019 - \$31.50, 2020 - \$33.00, 2021 - \$34.00, 2022 - \$35.00, 2023 - \$36.00, 2024 - \$37.00.** The Grand Lodge shall distribute the per capita tax as provided in Section 1-404 of this code. Before any subordinate lodge shall be consolidated with another lodge, the per capita tax for the year preceding the year of consolidation shall be determined and paid. In addition to the per capita tax as currently provided, commencing on January 1, 2016, each subordinate lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge an assessment of \$3.00 per member, said assessment to be distributed as follows: \$1.50 to support the CHild Identification Program, \$.50 to support Nebraska Job's Daughters, \$.50 to support the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Nebraska, and \$.50 to support Nebraska DeMolay. Said assessment shall be due and payable in the same manner as the Grand Lodge per capita tax. The funds from this assessment shall be separate from the Grand Lodge per capita tax and shall be used for no other purpose than provided above. Upon application from a subordinate lodge that has remitted a member's dues pursuant to Section 2-603, the Grand Master may authorize the Grand Lodge to remit the Grand Lodge per capita and special assessments on behalf of said member.

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Myers moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 2. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 2 was seconded.

After discussion was held on the matter, R.:W.:B.: Barger called for the question and the written ballot was collected and counted by the Tellers. After counting by the tellers, it was announced that Recommendation No. 2 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

Recommendation No. 3

Amend the first paragraph of **Section 1-302 – STANDING COMMITTEES** to read as follows:

Sec. 1-302 – STANDING COMMITTEES – The Standing Committees shall be the following: Jurisprudence, *Judge Advocate*, Fraternal Relations, Masonic Relief, Masonic Education, Awards, Nebraska Work, Grievances, Finance, Credentials, Grand Lodge Office, Public Relations, Membership and Lodge Leadership.

Amend **Sec 1-304 – TRIAL COMMISSIONS** to read as follows:

Sec 1-304 – TRIAL COMMISSIONS – The Grand Master shall appoint from time to time such committees for the purpose of conducting Masonic trials as in his judgment shall be deemed advisable. Each committee shall consist of not less than three or more than five disinterested Master Masons *who are in good standing in Nebraska constituent lodges*. Said committee shall be styled "Trial Commission." The Grand Master shall designate the Chairman of such Commission. Three members shall constitute a quorum, and ~~a Master Mason appointed by the Commission shall act one of the members of such Commission shall be appointed by the Commission to act~~ as its

Secretary, and in his absence, the Trial Commission may designate some other Master Mason to so act. A majority of such Trial Commission sitting at a trial shall decide all questions before it.

Amend the **first paragraph of Sec. 1-306 – MEETINGS** to read as follows:

Sec. 1-306 – MEETINGS – The Standing Committees, *other than Judge Advocate*, shall meet at least twice annually. Any committee may be convened at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Amend **Sec. 1-313 – GRIEVANCES** – to read as follows:

Sec. 1-313 – GRIEVANCES – The Grievance Committee shall examine and report on all matters of *appeals of trials had by trial commissions*, and appeals and grievances brought before the Grand Lodge. ~~Their~~ *The Grievances Committee report to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master following its examination* shall consist solely of a recommendation. No fact involved in the controversy shall be reported or stated in the record. A brief abstract ~~of~~ *or* memorandum thereof in each case may be made but the same shall not be published, recorded, or used except for reference. *See Sections 3-802 through 3-805 as to the consideration of appeals. See Sec 3-709 as to the effect of conviction when appealed.*

Adopt a new **Sec. 1-320 – JUDGE ADVOCATE** to appear following Section 1-319 of the Bylaws, which new section shall read as follows:

Sec 1-320 – JUDGE ADVOCATE – The Judge Advocate Committee, which shall consist of three or more members appointed by the Grand Master, ideally lawyers licensed to practice in Nebraska, shall, if requested by the Master or Junior Warden of the constituent lodge preferring charges, review charges received from such constituent lodge, and revise the same as appropriate to succinctly state violations of one or more provisions provided for by Sec 3-102 of these Bylaws. The Committee shall then communicate such revised charges to the Junior Warden and Master of the constituent lodge for further proceedings consistent with Sec 3-206 of these Bylaws. At the request of such Junior Warden or Master, a member of the Judge Advocate Committee shall prepare, file and bring on to trial, such charges. The Chairman and other members of the Judge Advocate Committee shall be appointed for terms of three years by the Grand Master, with the initial terms staggered to provide for one new member to be appointed each year. Members of the Committee, including the Chairman, may serve up to six years as members of such committee, if reappointed.

Amend **Sec. 3-303 – ACCEPTANCE** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-303 – ACCEPTANCE – When charges shall be presented and read as ~~above~~ provided by these Bylaws, the Master shall decide whether the charges shall be accepted, and the accused brother placed on trial; when so accepted the charges shall be entered by the Secretary on the minutes of that communication, and may not be withdrawn except for cause shown, and with the consent of two-thirds of the members of the lodge present. If a trial be decided upon, *after review and possible revision of the charges by the Judge Advocate*, the procedure shall be as follows: the Secretary of the lodge shall deliver to the Grand Master the charges and specifications, and all other papers relating to the case, together with a certified copy of the charges and specifications and of such parts of the minutes of the lodge as relate in any way to the case, the name, address, residence and name, number and location of the lodge of which the accused is a member. Whereupon the Grand Master shall appoint (or refer the case to) a trial commission as herein

contemplated (~~see Section 1-301~~) **by these Bylaws** and shall notify the Master and Secretary of the lodge before which said charges are pending of the names and addresses of the members of said commission and shall notify each member of the commission as to his appointment and the purpose for which is appointed and direct him to proceed at the earliest opportunity to dispose of said charges in the manner herein outlined.

Amend **Sec. 3-206 – CHARGES, BY WHOM PREFERRED** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-206 – CHARGES, BY WHOM PREFERRED – Any Master Mason, a member of a lodge in good standing may prefer charges, in writing, over his signature against an offending brother, but *it* is the special duty of the Junior Warden, in the absence of other accusers, to prepare and file charges against such offending brother, ***with the possible assistance of the Judge Advocate as specified in Sec 1-320, supra,*** and to take the necessary steps to bring ~~all~~ ***such*** Masonic offenders to trial. If any Junior Warden, who has been directed to prepare, file and bring on to trial any charge against an alleged offender, shall fail, neglect or refuse to do so promptly, the ~~Worshipful~~ Master of ~~the~~ ***such*** lodge must ~~appoint some other qualified member~~ ***request the Judge Advocate to do so.*** Charges must not be preferred against a candidate who has been elected, but has received no degrees; objection is then the proper course.

Amend **Sec. 3-502 – WHO MAY ATTEND** – to read as follows:

Sec. 3-502 – WHO MAY ATTEND – No visitor shall be admitted, except ***members of the trial commission, Judge Advocate,*** ~~as a witness~~ ***witnesses, stenographer,*** or counsel, or except the Master, ~~or any Warden~~ ***Officers or other*** members of the lodge in which the charges were preferred, or members of the lodge of which the accused is a member.

Amend **Sec. 3-503 – RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS** to read as follows:

Sec 3-503 – RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS – The testimony must be ***digitally recorded or*** reduced to writing by the Secretary ~~or the acting Secretary~~ of the ***trial commission and be signed by the witness,*** and for this purpose a stenographer may be employed ***by the trial commission at the expense of the party requesting a written transcript. The Secretary is responsible for accurately recording or obtaining an accurate written transcription of the proceedings. Such recording or written transcription shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary with the entire record as provided in Sec 3-510*** and his certificate as to the correctness of his taking and transcription of the evidence shall be appended thereto. ~~and if the stenographer is a Master Mason in good standing, such certificate may be appended in lieu of the signature of the witness; provided, that the Secretary or acting Secretary shall be present at all meetings of the commission, and keep a full record of all proceedings thereof, and the Secretary or any stenographer employed, shall receive such compensation as the trial commission shall determine.~~

Amend **Sec. 3-505 – EFFECT OF PLEADING GUILTY** to read as follows:

Sec. 3-505 – EFFECT OF PLEADING GUILTY OR CONVICTION IN COURT – In case an accused brother shall plead guilty, ***or be found guilty in a court of competent jurisdiction on a matter related to the charges being tried by the trial commission,*** such plea ***or finding of guilt*** may be accepted as evidence, and shall render the taking of further proof unnecessary and the commission shall proceed to decide the degrees of punishment. The commission may, notwithstanding such admission and

confession of guilt, *or guilty verdict*, investigate the facts and take testimony, if any is available *offered* which may tend either to mitigate or aggravate the offense charged.

Delete **Sec. 3-605 – RECORD ADMISSIBLE** in its entirety.

~~**Sec. 3-605 – (Not used) RECORD ADMISSIBLE** – The record of the offender's trial and conviction on a similar charge in a court of law is admissible and prima facie evidence of guilt.~~

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

R.:W.:B.: Barger gave the general instructions, announcing to the delegates that a written ballot would be cast.

After discussion was held, R.:W.:B.: Barger called for the question and the written ballot was collected and counted by the Tellers. After counting by the Tellers, it was announced that Recommendation No. 3 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

Recommendation No. 4

Amend **Section 2-302 – PROFICIENCY BEFORE ELECTION** to read as follows:

Sec. 2-302 – PROFICIENCY BEFORE ELECTION – No person shall be elected or appointed to any office who has not complied with Section 2-402 of the law, *as it was required at the time that they were raised as a Master Mason.*

Amend **Section 2-402 – PROFICIENCY** to read as follows:

Sec. 2-402 – PROFICIENCY – All those hereinafter initiated, passed, and raised, shall become proficient in each degree, and shall give proof thereof by examination in open lodge. Such examination shall consist of:

1. Completion of a study of the Standard Proficiency Manual following each degree received.
2. Verification by the Worshipful Master that the candidate has expressed knowledge of the material in the manual by answering, in his own words, the questions listed for the degree in which he is being examined.
3. Successful *and competent verbal* completion by the candidate of *a thorough* ~~an~~ examination *from memory* in open lodge, consisting of answering *all* questions from the *respective* First Section Lectures *following each* of the *three* degrees *of Ancient Craft Masonry and prior to eligibility as a candidate for a succeeding Blue Lodge degree, and following the Third Degree before eligibility to be declared proficient as a Master Mason.* as follows:

~~E.A. Degree – Starting with the words, “Give me a sign” and ending with giving of the “word.”~~

~~F.C. Degree — Starting with the words, “Have you any signs ...” and continuing to the end of the lecture.~~

~~M.M. Degree — Starting with the words, “Have you any signs...” and continuing to the end of the lecture.~~

No other Proficiency Examination shall be recognized in this Grand Jurisdiction, ~~except that a subordinate lodge may petition the Committee on Work to permit additional proficiency pursuant to 2-402(a).~~ After such examination, the Master may declare the brother proficient. Such declaration and the recording of the proficiency of the brother shall be made in the degree in which the examination is made, providing no objection is raised; if objection is made and it becomes necessary to put the question to a vote the ballot shall be determined in a lodge of Master Masons. Whereupon the Master shall put the question; “The candidate has satisfactorily answered the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manual and has completed the required examination in open lodge; is the brother proficient?” and this question shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present.

When a candidate for advancement fails to pass a satisfactory examination, the Master may direct him to become proficient and again present himself for examination.

Examination of all those hereinafter raised to the degree of Master Mason shall be had not later than ninety days following the conferring of said degree, but the lodge may for good cause shown extend the time, but not for more than six months after the degree is conferred; provided, that the Grand Master may extend the time for good cause shown. When a Master Mason has complied with the provisions of this section, a diploma shall be issued by the subordinate lodge of which he is a member, on the form prescribed by Grand Lodge.

An unaffiliated Master Mason in good standing in the Fraternity is entitled to be instructed and examined in any lodge as to his proficiency in the degree of a Master Mason, and upon being found proficient, this fact should be certified to the lodge electing him to membership.

~~— When a candidate is initiated, passed and raised in a single day, he shall return to the Lodge with which his petition was filed and prove to the Master that he has completed all the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manuals within the time period allowed in this section, before he may receive his diploma as prescribed above.~~

Provided, that in exceptional cases, for good cause shown, the Grand Master may waive the provisions of this section.

Delete **Section 2-402(a) – ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS** in its entirety:

~~**2-402(a) – ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS** — A subordinate lodge may petition the Committee on Work to allow additional proficiency requirements of candidates in that lodge, provided:~~

~~— 1. The petition must contain the specific additional proficiency requirements proposed.~~

~~— 2. The petition must set out a plan to mentor candidates on the additional proficiency, by a member of the lodge who has previously completed the requirements of~~

~~Section 2 402, and contain the agreement of at least three members of the lodge who have previously completed the requirements of Section 2 402 to mentor candidates.~~

~~— 3. A proposed petition to allow additional proficiency requirements must be presented to the lodge at a regular meeting and laid over for one month before voting. The proposed petition must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the lodge to be submitted to the Committee on Work.~~

~~— 4. These requirements for additional proficiency will apply to all candidates in the lodge.~~

~~— A denial of a petition by the Committee on Work may be appealed by the Lodge to the Grand Master. The decision of the Grand Master shall be final.~~

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

R.: W.: B.: Barger gave the general instructions, announcing to the delegates that a written ballot would be cast.

After discussion was held, R.: W.: B.: Barger called for the question and the written ballot was collected and counted by the Tellers. After counting by the Tellers, it was announced that Recommendation No. 4 failed to pass with the required two-thirds majority vote.

Following the ballot on Recommendation No. 4, Grand Master Myers returned to the East.

FINAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

John E. Lorenzen, Chairman

The 2017 Committee on Finance met during the past year to conduct its assigned duties as outlined in Section 1–318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. At a meeting held on November 21, 2017, the Committee approved the following budget for 2018 to be proposed for approval by the delegates at the Annual Communication in February 2018.

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 2017 are as follows:

	Actual	Budgeted
Revenue	619,191	\$580,124
Expenses	563,486	614,719
Net Difference	55,705	(34,595)

After other activities affecting cash flow, such as cash on hand on January 1, prepaid Annual Communication and Conference of Grand Masters Registrations, prepaid expenses, and purchases of inventory assets, 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 2017. An investment draw was not necessary in part due to income derived from hosting

the Conference of Grand Masters; 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.

Sadly, the Finance Committee lost one of its members in 2017. Brother Steve Nichols, a member of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn, served on the committee for eight years. In April of 2017, Steve passed away due to a long-term illness. Brother Nichols was a dedicated member of the committee; even when he could not participate in person, he would review the financials and budget and contribute valued input. His contributions will be missed.

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, 256
 Jack G. Frahm, 204
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19, 317
 Rick E. Nelson, 317
 Steven S. Nichols, 102
 Charles V. Sederstrom, III, 290, 333
 Stuart W. Sprick, 10

Account	2018 Budget
Lodge Income	
4100.000 Membership Dues	242,996.00
4100.000 Membership Dues - from Perp	13,000.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home	9,346.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home - from Perp	459.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home	23,365.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home - from Perp	1,797.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington	14,019.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington - from Perp	527.50
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason	4,673.00
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason - from Perp	304.00
4175.000 GL Admin Fee - from Perp	1,500.00
4200.000 Initiation Fees	3,900.00
4210.000 Reinstatement Fees	1,000.00
4640.000 CHIP Assessment	15,157.50
4670.000 Youth Assessment	15,157.50
4300.000 Surety Bond Premium	2,390.00
4350.000 Liability Ins Premium	13,300.00
Subtotal - Lodge Income	\$362,891.50

Sales Income	
4400.000 Donations for Supplies	7,500.00
4625.000 Annual Communication Meals Income	22,890.00
4633.500 AC Registration Fee	4,000.00
4335.400 Sale of Installation Reception Tickets	2,200.00
4875.000 Miscellaneous Income	2,000.00
4910.000 Interest - General Fund	300.00
Subtotal-Sales Income	\$38,890.00
Program Income	
4450.725 Band Clinic Registration	75,625.00
4460.725 Band Clinic Supplies	5,800.00
4900.000 GL Education Programs	0.00
4465.000 GM Program Income	1,500.00
Subtotal-Program Income	\$82,925.00
Participatory Income	
4500.000 SR Feasibility Study Reimb Loan Pmt	3,880.88
4600.000 Rental Income	9,000.00
4650.000 NE Masonic Home-Admin	5,000.00
4641.000 CHIP Foundation Admin Fee	14,400.00
4655.000 NE Masonic Home-Paper	5,000.00
4660.000 OES & Fremont -Paper	5,000.00
Subtotal-Participatory Income	\$42,280.88
TOTAL REVENUE	\$580,123.59
Annual Communication	
5100.000 Annual Communication Meals Expense	22,922.20
5104.400 Guest Room Rental	2,500.00
5111.400 Entertainment - Grand Master's Banquet	0.00
5131.400 Entertainment - Membership Banquet	670.00
5150.400 Ladies Program	1,500.00
5170.400 Misc Incidental Expense	6,000.00
5440.400 Printing & Copying - Ann. Comm.	2,500.00
5120.400 Proceedings	3,500.00
Subtotal-Annual Communication	\$39,592.20
Installation	
5170.425 Misc. Installation	4,500.00
5220.425 Installation Meals	3,519.00
5440.425 Printing & Copying - Installation	200.00
Subtotal-Installation	\$8,219.00

Travel & Related	
5210.000 Auto Allowance	1,000.00
5210.100 In-State Travel-Grand Master	5,000.00
5210.150 In-State Travel-Dep Gr Master	2,000.00
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	5,000.00
5210.300 Auto Allow-DGC's	400.00
5220.000 Meals-GL Office Staff	150.00
5220.100 Meals-Grand Master	1,000.00
5220.150 Meals-Dep Gr Master	400.00
5230.300 Motels-DGC	0.00
5235.150 Retreat-Dep Gr Master	2,000.00
5240.100 Conf & Conv -Gr Master	1,000.00
5240.150 Conf & Conv-Dep GM	1,500.00
5240.200 Conf & Conv-Gr Secretary	1,000.00
5240.350 Conf & Conv-Other Officer	6,000.00
5240.500 Conference of Grand Masters/Grand Secretaries	5,970.00
5240.550 Midwest Conference	6,600.00
5240.600 Rocky Mountain Conference	2,300.00
5240.700 Shrine Membership Seminar	1,000.00
5260.300 School of Instruction	1,000.00
Subtotal-Travel & Related	\$44,920.00
Occupancy & Related	
5410.000 Utilities	10,450.00
5412.000 Trash Removal	500.00
5413.000 Grounds Maintenance	3,785.00
5414.000 Building Maintenance	10,775.00
5415.000 Telephone	5,000.00
5420.000 Equipment Lease & Maintenance	14,400.00
5430.000 Equipment Purchase	4,000.00
5435.000 Postage	5,000.00
5440.000 Printing & Copying	750.00
5440.250 Printing & Copying-GC	100.00
5445.000 Office Supplies	4,000.00
5450.000 Office Maintenance	1,000.00
5455.000 Computer Supplies	3,000.00
5460.000 Computer Repair & Maint	2,000.00
5465.000 Computer Software Sup	5,394.95
5470.000 Dues & Subscriptions	1,100.00
5475.000 NE Mason Pub Exp	26,425.00
5480.000 Bank Service Charge-Unrestricted	25.00

5481.000 Credit Card Fees	1,000.00
5485.000 Professional Fees - Accting Audit	5,200.00
5490.000 Corporate/Legal Fees - Sect'y of State, etc.	0.00
5500.000 Lodge Supplies-Printed	4,000.00
5505.000 Lodge Supplies-Other	2,500.00
5505.250 Supplies Lodges-GC	200.00
5510.000 Supplies Lodges-Pins	700.00
5515.000 Lodge Ofcrs Directory Printing	2,000.00
5525.000 GL Jewels, Aprons & Collars	2,700.00
Subtotal-Occupancy & Related	\$116,004.95
Insurance & Administrative	
5600.000 Workers Compensation	548.00
5605.000 Group Ins for GL Employees	24,180.48
5610.000 Surety Bond	2,390.00
5620.000 Directors & Officers Ins	3,318.00
5625.000 Liability Insurance	14,814.00
5635.000 Office Contents & Equipment	4,527.00
5650.000 Other Admin Exp-General	6,000.00
Subtotal-Insurance & Admin	\$55,777.48
Committees and Programs	
5650.450 Masonic Education	500.00
5240.450 Conv & Conf Education	1,000.00
5650.600 Trial Commissions	500.00
5220.650 Gr Lodge Office Comm-Meals	150.00
5650.700 Public Relations Committee	1,500.00
5650.710 Grand Marshal Exp - Office Expenses	100.00
5650.720 Band Camp Expenses	79,425.00
5650.750 Youth Committee	2,500.00
5875.750 Youth Scholarships Awards	4,000.00
5650.800 Membership committee	50.00
5650.900 Awards Committee - Awards & Misc	550.00
5650.950 Lodge Leadership Committee	250.00
5650.970 All Committee Meetings	200.00
5650.980 Internet and Computer Committee	500.00
5800.000 GL Education Programs	500.00
5801.000 GM Program Expense	4,000.00
Subtotal-Committees	\$95,725.00
Contributions	
5820.000 Masonic Service Assoc Dues/Hosp	3,200.00
5830.000 Other Masonic Promotion - Cornerstones	1,000.00
5835.000 Assn of Masonic Brds of Relief	130.00
Subtotal-Contributions	\$4,330.00

Salaries & Related	
6561.000 Salary-GL Office Staff	106,612.17
6560.000 Performance Incentive	2,400.00
6562.100 FICA-Employer Share	8,339.43
6562.200 Unemploy Tax-Fed	150.00
6562.300 Unemploy Tax-State	150.00
6560.000 Payroll Expenses-Other	100.00
6570.000 Employer's Share Sep/IRA	3,198.37
6681.000 Grand Custodian Contract Amt	6,000.00
6680.000 Contract Labor	1,000.00
6580.000 GL Office Staff-Training	500.00
Subtotal-Salaries & Related	\$128,449.97
Pass Through	
5704.000 Fremont Home Dues	9,805.00
5705.000 NE Masonic Home Dues	25,162.00
5706.000 Geo Washington Mem Dues	14,546.50
5650.100 CHIP Expense	15,157.50
5810.000 NE DeMolay Donation	5,052.50
5811.000 Job's Daughters Donation	5,052.50
5812.000 Rainbow Donation	5,052.50
Subtotal-Pass Through	\$79,828.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$572,847.10
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES (Net Loss)	-\$45,859.72
Investment Income	
4700.000 Int & Div FNB (2.976% of investment balance of \$1,540,840 on 11/30/2017)	
Subtotal-Investment Income	\$45,859.72
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.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Delmar A. Jones, Chairman

The Credentials Committee is pleased to report the following for this the 161st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska.

We have in attendance all Grand Lodge Officers with the exception of the Grand Chaplain, 20 Past Grand Masters, 17 Deputy Grand Custodians and 51 Non-delegate Masons.

At the time of this report, there are the following Masters, Wardens and Secretaries registered: There are 59 Worshipful Masters in person and 22 by proxy; there are 37 Senior Wardens in person and 26 by proxy; there are 32 Junior Wardens in person and 25 by proxy and 58 Secretaries in person and 23 by proxy.

Again this year we are recognizing the Lodges that have all four delegate officers in attendance in person. They are Lodges 1, 2, 19, 39, 54, 136, 146, 256, 268, 274, 290, 310, 314, and 325. 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: 35, 44, 53, 62, 73, 83, 97, 128, 132, 158, 180, 207, 228, 241, 248, 279, 291, and 324. There have been no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries registered for two years from the following Lodges: 53, 62, 73, 97, 128, 180, 207, 248, and 324; and for three years from lodges 73, and 248.

We are pleased to have dignitaries present from the following grand jurisdictions: Prince Hall Masons of Nebraska, Grand Lodges of Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Montana, Nevada, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming.

We are also pleased to have in attendance representatives from the following Masonic related organizations: 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, The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.

Other attendance items that may be of interest are: There were 221 at the Grand Master's Banquet Thursday evening, there were 298 at the Public opening Friday morning and 245 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 Rick Myers. 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, Mike Hoagland, Karl Rasmussen and Grady Wells, as well as Bill Short.

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
Robert M. Hoagland, 46 & 146
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15

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

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary

It is a privilege to present my report as Grand Secretary.

As is always the case, the past year saw the Grand Lodge office busy with both continuing and new projects.

In February, we hosted the Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries of North America at the LaVista Conference Center. We were blessed with spectacular weather and the conference was a resounding success. We received many positive comments from those who attended. The Grand Lodge could not have undertaken this conference without the help of many volunteers from the entire Nebraska Masonic family and the hours of work provided by the Grand Lodge office staff. It was a privilege to see Nebraska hospitality and Masonic unity in action.

Our office building continues to provide a great home to the Grand Lodge and the Nebraska Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. This year saw updates to the security system, improved signage in front of the building, and enhanced wi-fi and related computer access in the building. We also began work to install a flag pole in front of the building. I encourage every Nebraska Mason to visit the office when you are in Lincoln. I know you will find it a fitting home for Nebraska Masonry.

We continued to work to improve our local Lodge interface software program. This program allows Lodge secretaries to directly enter and report degree work, address changes, and related member information into our membership data base. The program is designed so that information only has to be entered once to generate many of the required secretary and Grand Lodge reports. We continue to explore ways to make the job of the local Lodge secretary as efficient as possible. At this year's Lodge Secretaries Workshop, we will be presenting ways for Lodges to collect Lodge dues online.

The Nebraska Masonic Museum continues to see improvements in the exhibition of our collection of historical materials. Work was completed in the inventory and indexing of all of our books and publications. While work such as this is somewhat "behind the scenes," it will be greatly appreciated by users of the museum.

We continue to benefit from the excellent work of Michelle Fulmer and Debbie Galli. In addition to their work on the conference in February, they were actively involved with the Masonic All-Star Band Camp; Nebraska CHIP, and the Nebraska Masonic Youth Leadership Conference held in Kearney last fall. The Grand Lodge of Nebraska is fortunate to have these talented and dedicated professionals as part of our team. During the Grand Lodge Session, please take a moment to express your appreciation to both Debbie and Michelle.

In addition to Lodge visitations and Grand Lodge-related meetings, I attended several cornerstone ceremonies this past year. I attended the Midwest Conference of Grand Lodges in Topeka, Kansas, and was pleased to represent the Grand Master at several events. I also continue to serve on several Grand Lodge committees in my position as Grand Secretary.

This year we were saddened by the passing of a long time member of the Nebraska Grand Lodge office family, Carol Schroeder. Carol worked in our office from 1992 to 2013 and provided direct support to our Lodge secretaries. Her dedication to the Grand Lodge continued after her retirement, as she completed the entry of every Nebraska Mason’s membership records into our database.

My report would not be complete without thanking each Lodge secretary for your work. Your service is essential to the wellbeing of your Lodge and, while often taken for granted, is appreciated. The Grand Lodge annually recognizes those Lodge secretaries who timely file their reports and participate in Grand Lodge. The secretaries receiving this Certificate of Achievement for 2017 are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mark K. Westadt, Nebraska Lodge No. 1 | Steven B. Wetzel, North Star Lodge No. 227 |
| David A. Wetrosky, Western Star Lodge No. 2 | Olin D. Boone, Hickman Lodge No. 256 |
| Robert L. Herbolsheimer, Capitol Lodge No. 3 | Dennis D. Dubry, Robert W. Furnas Lodge No. 265 |
| Jay H. Speck, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 | Dwight E. Smith, Oshkosh Lodge No. 286 |
| Robert L. Ferguson, Falls City Lodge No. 9 | Ralph J. Riemann, Cotner Lodge No. 297 |
| A. Carl Highman, Papillion Lodge No. 39 | Brent Myers, Liberty Lodge No. 300 |
| Mervin E. Ransom Jr., Osceola Lodge No. 65 | Craig R. Crawford, Mizpah Lodge No. 302 |
| Ronald L. Furse, Aurora Lodge No. 68 | K. Roger Dill, Victory Lodge No. 310 |
| Daniel G. Aspegren, Geneva Lodge No. 79 | Dan J. Nonneman, Mid-West Lodge No. 317 |
| Gary S. Unger, Springfield Lodge No. 112 | Rick B. Porter, Jr., Lebanon Lodge No. 323 |
| A. Gary Keeling, Superior Lodge No. 121 | Loren L. Loibl, Centennial Lodge No. 326 |
| Dick L. Hemmingsen, Plainview Lodge No. 204 | Matthew W. Vandergriff, Shiloh Lodge No. 327 |
| Thomas M. Michaelson, East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 | Micah I. Evans, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333 |

I also report the following statistical information:

Membership longevity awards presented in 2017

50-year 101 60-year..... 94 70-year30

2017 Membership Activity (preliminary)

Number of Lodges.....	123		
Membership 1/1/2017	10,105		
Entered Apprentices	189		
Fellow Crafts	191		
Master Masons	180	Demits	36
Affiliations	31	Deceased.....	353
Duals	27	Suspensions.....	361
Reinstatements	75	Withdrew	2
Consolidated	86	Termination of duals	14
Other.....	1	Consolidated	86
Total Gain	400	Other	2
		Total Loss.....	854

Membership 12/31/2017	9,651
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I continue to be honored 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 2017 Proceedings as printed, including the reports contained therein. The motion was seconded and carried.

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

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

It has been a great pleasure to serve as Grand Custodian for the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska again this year. It is always rewarding to work with the Grand Lodge Officers, the Deputy Grand Custodians and most especially the officers of the subordinate lodges within this Grand jurisdiction.

The lodges within the state of Nebraska have a large number of very dedicated and hard-working masons, they continue to work diligently to improve the quality of ritual work performed within our jurisdiction. I want to personally thank each and every one of you for putting your time and effort into making Masonry better in Nebraska. Our ritual work is the one thing that separates us from all other organizations and if not done well we will be no different than any service club.

I also want to thank the Committee on Nebraska Work for their dedication to keeping the Nebraska Work true. We cannot have wholesale changes in the ritual work of Masonry or we will lose the ground work of this great organization. Most Worshipful Philip A. Lorenzen, Worshipful Brother Roger A. Deininger, and Worshipful Brother Steve Green, please keep up the good work as the Committee on Nebraska Work.

Brethren, we all can see the results of making Masonry easier for our new members over the last twenty or thirty years. It has had a devastating negative effect. Our Grand jurisdiction could not even put enough brethren together to hold a Second Section Master's Degree competition this year. We must work toward the reinstatement of the question and answers used years ago for a proficiency examination in all the lodges. We find that by lowering the bar for the new candidates we have lowered the field of brethren who are willing to work in the lodges and if we continue on this course we will most certainly die.

For the year 2017, we had 45 of the 123 lodges in Nebraska currently fully certified, and 30 lodges certified in open and close only. The lodges are as follows. The lodges marked with an asterisk denote those lodges certified in open and close only.

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Nebraska	1	Omaha	*
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	60
Capitol	3	Omaha	*
Omadi	5	S Sioux City	68
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	94
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	63
Covert	11	Omaha	48
Fremont	15	Fremont	87
Lincoln	19	Lincoln	83
Washington	21	Blair	29
Blue River	30	Milford	*
Tekamah	31	Tekamah	*

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Platte Valley	32	North Platte	66
Ashlar	33	Grand Island	*
Papillion	39	Papillion	11
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	72
Hastings	50	Hastings	94
Lancaster	54	Lincoln	96
Mosaic	55	Norfolk	*
York	56	York	Initial
Wahoo	59	Wahoo	93
Thistle	61	Lexington	*
Keystone	62	Phillips	62
Blue Valley	64	Wilber	*

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Osceola	65	Osceola	15
Aurora	68	Aurora	*
Hooper	72	Hooper	93
Frank Welch	75	Sidney	67
Albion	78	Albion	*
Geneva	79	Geneva	42
St Paul	82	St Paul	*
Corinthian	83	Wayne	*
Oakland	91	Oakland	*
Utica	96	Utica	89
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	86
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	67
Springfield	112	Springfield	*
North Bend	119	North Bend	59
Long Pine	136	Long Pine	*
Jachin	146	Holdrege	60
Ogalalla	159	Ogallala	*
Alliance	183	Alliance	73
Scotts Bluff	201	Gering	Initial
East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	84
Cement	211	Wood River	*
Landmark	222	Herman	*
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	Initial
North Star	227	Lincoln	85
Comet	229	Ceresco	65
Zion	234	Hyannis	*

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Geo Washington	250	Lincoln	*
Hickman	256	Lincoln	30
Franklin	264	Franklin	*
Robert W Furnas	265	Scottsbluff	*
Geo W Lininger	268	Omaha	Initial
Olive Branch	274	Walthill	9
Florence	281	Omaha	*
Camp Clarke	285	Bridgeport	*
Union	287	Palmyra	*
Omaha	288	Omaha	*
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	86
James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	*
Cotner	297	Lincoln	76
Liberty	300	Lincoln	69
Mizpah	302	Omaha	68
Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	*
Victory	310	Valley	68
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	94
Mid-West	317	Hastings	70
College View	320	Lincoln	*
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	6
Centennial	326	Omaha	*
Shiloh	327	Omaha	53
Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	10
Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	9

We have 32 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 59 brothers who recertified in all three degrees in the past year, as well as 15 members who certified in early 2017 for the first time that were listed in my report in February 2017. We have 4 brethren who are newly certified in our Grand jurisdiction for the year. I would like to thank all of them for the hard work they put into learning the work correctly.

The following brethren are serving as Deputy Grand Custodians for the Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

- District 1 – David A. Wetrosky, Nebraska City
- District 2 - Charles J Odorizzi III, Omaha
- District 3 - Anthony T Johnson, Bellevue
- District 4 - Brian K Sandall, Blair
- District 5 - Michael E Tomasiwicz, Tekamah
- District 6 - Kent L Neumann, Bancroft
- District 7 - John L Brommer, Omaha
- District 8 - John C Sierks, Brownville
- District 9 - Jonathan L Paz, Papillion
- District 10 - Steven A Green, Lincoln
- District 11 - Suman Vallabhahai, Lincoln
- District 13 - Carl C Plants, Lincoln
- District 14 - John L Millington, Raymond
- District 15 - Randall L Hart, Tekamah
- District 16 - Alvin O Benemerito, Long Pine

- District 17 - Roger A Deininger, Hastings
- District 18 - Patrick D Barger, Lincoln
- District 19 - Dean Papenhagen, Hastings
- District 20 - Kent R Millington, Raymond
- District 21 - Wayne E Beatty, Stromsburg
- District 22 - Tyler S Looontjer, Bellevue
- District 23 - James A Carlton, Bellevue
- District 24 - Delmar A Jones, Kearney
- District 26 - Arthur J Ferguson, Wood Lake
- District 28 - Bradley M Dutton, Alliance
- District 29 - Leslie A Evert, Gordon
- District 29 - Joel W Zilmer, Alliance
- District 30 - Richard H Cooper, Morrill
- District 30 - John B Ferguson, Kimball
- District 31 - Corey L Bergstrom, Sidney

District 32 - Roger L Shillington, Max
District 33 - Kent D Priest, North Platte

District 34 - Brent Myers, Lincoln
District 35 - Edward W Nolte, Papillion

I would like to thank each and every one of them for their service to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and to Masonry in general. Without brethren like these, Masonry would cease to be the organization it has been for the last three hundred years. I certainly owe them all a huge debt of gratitude for all the hours and miles they give to Nebraska Masonry. I hope all of the brethren will make an effort to thank each and every one of them for all that they do.

Sadly, Albert Wise, who faithfully served the Grand Lodge as a Deputy Grand Custodian since 1992, passed to that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens in December 2017. Albert’s presence will be missed in northeastern Nebraska and beyond.

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.

Michael G Birnstihl	Ralph E McNulty	Eugene C Sibley
Arthur S Dye	Harold C Mueksch	James R Taylor
Kenneth G Fleming	Harold W Noble	
Richard L Mauch	Augustine S Scolaro	

The annual Custodian School was held this year in Kearney at Rob Morris Lodge on October 14th, 2017. We continue to have a mediocre turnout at the school but need to stress that all Deputy Grand Custodians should plan to attend. I believe we should continue to extend to all interested brethren an invitation to attend the annual custodian school. I firmly believe that the more interested brethren we get involved, the better the school.

My thanks to Rob Morris Lodge and all of the brethren who have made it possible for us to hold our annual Custodian School at the Kearney Masonic Center. A special thank you must go to W.:Brothers Delmar Jones and Ron Nielsen for all their help with the school. I know I speak for all the brethren in saying that we certainly appreciate your hospitality.

The following were in attendance at the annual Custodian School this year: M.: W.: Rick Myers, R.: W.: Patrick Barger, W.: B.: Delmar Jones, W.: B.: Brent Myers, W.: B.: Mark Turner, W.: B.: Kevin Johnson, W.: B.: Tyler Loontjer, W.: B.: Jeff Merriman, W.: B.: John Herbolsheimer, W.: B.: Kent Neumann, W.: B.: Carl Plants, W.: B.: James Michaelson, W.: B.: Brad Dutton, W.: B.: Randy Hart, W.: B.: Jonathan Paz, W.: B.: John Brommer, W.: B.: Charlie Odorizzi, W.: B.: Kent Priest, W.: B.: John Ferguson, W.: B.: Dean Papenhagen, W.: B.: Jim Carlton, W.: B.: Alex Straatmann, W.: B.: Tom Lagerstrom, W.: B.: Frank Veverka, W.: B.: Ron Nielson, W.: B.: Richard Cooper, W.: B.: Robert Hoagland, and W.: B.: John Dimon.

I would like to take a moment to thank Most Worshipful Brother Rick Myers and the Grand Lodge Officers for their support and contributions this year. They put in countless hours for Masonry and I for one certainly appreciate all their work.

It has been an enjoyable experience serving the Grand Lodge of Nebraska as your Grand Custodian; I certainly hope the Deputy Grand Custodians and the Lodge officers will continue to work diligently to maintain the quality of work within Nebraska Lodges.

Without a continued effort on the part of all involved this magnificent work, which has been handed down for the last 300 years, will be lost.

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

M.: W.: Scott Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian, was unavailable at the time, therefore, the Right Worshipful Patrick Barger, Deputy Grand Master, moved for the adoption of the report of the Grand Custodian, as printed. The motion was approved and the report of the Grand Custodian was adopted by vote of the Masons assembled.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED REPORTS

Most Worshipful Rick Myers read the list of the reports of committees not verbally received. A motion was made that the reports of committees not verbally received, as printed and distributed to the delegates, be accepted without reading, and printed in the proceedings. The reports to be approved as printed are:

- Fraternal Relations
- Masonic Relief
- Masonic Education
- Awards
- Nebraska Work
- Grievances
- Grand Lodge Office
- Public Relations
- Lodge Leadership
- Membership
- Masonic Band
- Internet and Computer Technology
- Youth
- George Washington Masonic Memorial Association
- East Grand Master's Activities Committee
- Boy Scouts Outreach
- Necrology – This report was received, but will be adopted here

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

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

John T. Parsons, Chairman

There was a bit more activity in 2017 than in past years for the Fraternal Relations committee. We have received requests for recognition from the Grand Lodge of the State of Baja California (Mexico), and several Grand Lodges in Brazil, including The Grand Orients of Santa Catarina, Parana, Mato Grosso, and Rio Grande de Sol. We have also received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Bulgaria. The Grand Lodge of Nebraska previously recognized this grand jurisdiction, however, recognition was suspended in 2013 due to some irregular practices. All these Grand Lodges have been recommended for recognition by the Conference of Grand Masters of North America and we endorse their decision. We therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska extend recognition to those six Grand Lodges as well.

The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland issued a joint statement recently regarding two Grand Lodges operating within Mali. After considering

documentation from both Grand Lodges and extensive inquiries, they have determined that the National Grand Lodge of Mali, formed in 1999, with current Grand Master Boubacar Keita, is the Grand Lodge recognized by them. Records show that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska recognized that Grand Lodge in 2001, but to avoid any confusion we recommend that we confirm that recognition.

We have also received communication from the Grand Lodge of Florida recommending that no U.S. Grand Lodges recognize the Grand Lodge of Cuba. Since we have received no requests from Cuba and there is no action required on our part, but we do concur with Florida. There also appears to be a tiff between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and New York, and Scotland has pulled recognition from New York. This appears to be similar to a dispute some years ago between the Grand Lodges of England and Minnesota, but this dispute has no effect on us.

Finally, the Fraternal Relations committee recommends recognition of all Prince Hall Affiliated Grand Lodges recognized by the respective Grand Lodge in each of their states.

Respectfully submitted,
 John T. Parsons, PGM, Chairman, 268, 6, 333
 John B. Ferguson, 294
 Byron L. Hust, 159
 Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM, 317, 332, 33
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333
 Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM, 134, 19

REPORT OF THE MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE

Troy Myers, Chairman

Fund Raising

1. **Relief Committee Patron Jewel:** At the 160th Annual Grand Lodge Communication W.:B.: Alvin Benemerito introduced the Masonic Relief Patron Jewel. 2017 was the inaugural year for the Patron Jewel initiative, which will see a new Patron Jewel released every two years.

To date the Inaugural Patron Jewel has had enough sales to recoup out initial costs, and begin turning a small profit. We will be promoting the Patron Jewel at the 2018 Grand Lodge Communication, and will be introducing the next in the series at the 2019 Grand Lodge Communication.

To date this has raised \$5,000, and will continue to grow as the inaugural jewel remain on sale until supplies are exhausted, and as each new jewel comes available every two years.

2. **UNL Football Concessions:** In April, volunteers manned concession stands #13 & #90, fulfilling our 2016 Season obligations. Earnings from the concession stand where \$3,640, which were paid out in late 2016. \$100+ dollars of tip money was turned into Grand Lodge for the MVP program.

The UNL Football Concession stands were not picked up for the 2017 Season. The initial aspiration had been to recruit brothers from across the state to road trip into Lincoln to enjoy the Game Day experience and volunteer at the stands. Reality was that one Lodge supplied 70% of the labor, with 30% of that coming

from one family. Many Grand Lodge officers, including M.:W.: Dennis Rix and his Lady came down to volunteer, but not enough rank and file members displayed interest.

3. Summary: As the Masonic Relief Patron Jewel continues to gain momentum we are anticipating that it will produce more revenue than the manpower intensive UNL concession stands.

Relief Requests

Two Masonic Relief Applications were submitted in 2017, one of which was approved and the other is still in the process of information gathering and decision making.

Respectfully submitted,
 Troy Myers, Chairman, 297
 Steven R. Barchus, 302, 333
 Alvin O. Benemerito, 136
 David M. Long, 290
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman

How often do you read the To Light! Section in the Nebraska Mason? What type of articles would you like to see in the To Light! Section? Do you follow any online Masonic education resources such as blogs, podcasts, etc.? These were a few of the questions on a survey that the Grand Lodge Education Committee sent to Nebraska Masons. This survey was sent out to capture the desires of Nebraska Masons about the current offerings of the Education Committee. Using the responses, the Education committee is considering new ways to deliver Masonic education to Nebraska Masons.

Is Freemasonry still relevant enough to 2017's young men? This was the topic of the first Masonic Education Essay contest. Although the number of entries were few, the quality was high. The winners had their essays printed in the Nebraska Mason and posted on the Nebraska Masonic Education website. We hope to get bigger and better prizes and more entries in the 2018 contest.

The Grand Lodge Masonic Education website (www.nebraskamasoniceducation.com) continues to be a great source of Masonic education available to Nebraska Masons. After the redesign in 2016, we continue to add more information.

The revision of the "To Light" section in the quarterly Nebraska Grand Lodge journal sent to all Masons in Nebraska has been a success. This section is tied to the Nebraska Grand Lodge Education website. A short summary of the article appears in the journal as a teaser, with the full article made available on the website. The website also contains an archives of previous "To Light" sections. This allows for more content using the same space and increases the variety of articles.

The Masonic Education Breakfast presented at the Annual Communication continues to be successful. A high quality education presentation is presented on the last day of the annual communication and continues to bring in high attendance. The book recommendations continue to be popular. The Committee has partnered with Macoy Publishing and they have expanded their offering of titles to include books from Lewis Publishing in the UK.

A monthly “To Light Minute” education presentation continues to be sent to the subordinate Lodges secretaries and Worshipful Masters to be read in the monthly business meeting. The theme is “So What,” to make the members attending the monthly business meeting think about the information presented. It concludes with a set of questions for discussion following the meeting. A teaser for the next month’s presentation is added to raise interest in the articles.

More Nebraska Masons are needed to assist in this work. If you want to participate with articles, whether they be a longer article for the Nebraska Mason or a 10-minute presentation to be sent out as a Masonic minute, your help would be greatly appreciated. Contact any of the members of the committee to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman, 287, 314, 332
Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, 332
W. Larry Jacobsen, 327
Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268
Adam M. Thayer, 54, 38
Ad Hoc Members:
Bobby W. Lingerfelt, 325
Dan J. Nonneman, 317
James M. Stull, 54, 38, 96
Michael J. Webb, 46

REPORT OF THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kevin H. Scheele, Chairman

The Awards Committee has been busy reviewing some of the awards available this year in conjunction with making selections for each of the annual awards. We have been discussing changes for the Individual Masonic Achievement Award and have crafted a new application that will be available in 2018. This application will allow the Awards Committee to better recognize Brethren by dividing the award into two categories: Service and Achievement. Both of these awards may be bestowed With Distinction in exemplary instances at the discretion of the Grand Master.

We have also reviewed and revised the Artificer Award application to clarify some requirements for new Brothers in their pursuit of further light in Masonry. As a result, we hope to encourage more newly raised Master Masons to rise to the challenge of earning the Artificer Award. We did see a slight increase in applications and recipients for the Artificer Award this year. Also this year, a new Lodge Vitality Award was created at the request of Grand Master Myers and was made available to the craft mid-year.

The Awards Committee continues to encourage all lodges to apply for the awards available through the Grand Lodge. When you apply as a lodge, it can help to increase the engagement of membership while working together completing requirements—that is truly where we all can win. We are here to serve the craft and are always happy to answer questions or help in any way we can with the award applications.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kevin H Scheele, Chairman, 96, 54
 Barry L. Frerichs, 136
 F. Graham House, 54, 332
 Richard W. Jameson, 284
 Bryan L. Regier, 234

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

Philip A. Lorenzen, Chairman

One year ago our Committee Report noted that in 2016 there were three key continuing highlights for Nebraska Freemasonry. Those key highlights are repeated below. In 2017 a very important added element or highlight has gained attention. It is a key focus of Most Worshipful Rick Myers, and the advancing line officers, as he concludes his year as Grand Master. The Committee feels strongly assured that this added current focus is not just optics – rather it must remain magnified in every Mason’s mind and heart. Ideally it should take on visionary attributes in the minds of the Grand Lodge Officers and each and every Mason.

THAT VISION AND FOCAL POINT IS MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP!!!

More on that in a moment; the lead in is simply the topic of the Committee on Nebraska Work of last year; in short the three 2016 highlights repeated here include:

“First, the renewed interest in individual proficiency. Grand Lodge leadership is to be commended for encouraging and providing the structure, format, and discipline to enroll Nebraska Masons in a formal process for attaining proficiency. Working in a group setting instills competition in reaching a pinnacle not just in memorization but in presentation, self-esteem, and comfort of delivery. While the self-satisfaction it provides is remarkable, perhaps the greater value gained is that of delivery of Masonry to not just the new candidate, but all lodge attendees. Ritual well delivered such that its lessons are fully understood, not just words parroted back, is a powerful force.

“Second is the recruitment, commissioning and assigning of Deputy Custodians. M.: W.: Scott Krieger sets the pace and our Nebraska Deputies rise to the challenge and responsibilities assigned to them. Attainment of Proficiency of each subordinate Lodge in opening/closing and in degree work is of key importance in each lodge’s comfort, attitude and its level of activity and growth. The role of each subordinate lodge in its community is important and it begins with (a) one’s own self-esteem, (b) the self-esteem of the lodge itself, and (c) comfort in encouraging membership and sharing with each new petitioner the basic lessons and obligations which each and every Mason holds so firmly and seeks to follow.

“Third is that of the witness that each Mason should strive to in carrying out the obligations and principals of Freemasonry in his daily life, in his communion with God, and in his obligations to his family, his country, his neighbor and himself. Not just as Masons but as well-governed individuals illustrates the best way to understand who we are and what we should demand and expect of ourselves in our day-to-day conduct.”

Grand Lodge Officers, with emphasis on the Grand Custodian, the Deputy Grand Custodians and their apprentices are a prime point of contact with each lodge under their charge. They set the bar, they show the way, they demonstrate the fact that we each can learn, can memorize, and can find personal satisfaction in presenting our ritual and floor

work. Most importantly, Grand Lodge Officers demonstrate commitment and establish the pace for Deputy Grand Custodians and their apprentices.

Unfortunately we see a disconnect – too many of us as Masons feel pride and comfort in our membership, perhaps even selfishness, in what we have learned (and many even apply the lessons we have learned in lodge to daily life and personal conduct) . But we carry the matter of secret work too far. Masonry is to be shared, to bring understanding and brotherhood to everyone we meet. Rather, too many of us tend to keep Masonry itself as a secret. We too often are not willing to talk about Freemasonry, the value it has brought to us individually, to our families and to our lives.

Masonic Work or ritual is useful only if lived, breathed and shared. Everyone is busy, but one of the best things we can do is work to assure that Freemasonry continues. So the Committee recommends that each of us use the tool of our amazing, profound, insightful ritual to work to enhance the lives of those around us by staying active, by reaching out and recruiting, to bring in new petitions and afford those around you and me the opportunity to experience Freemasonry and the added dimension it can bring to one’s life.

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 our degrees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Philip A. Lorenzen, PGM, Chairman, 10, 327,
1, 21, 333
Roger A. Deininger, 317
Steven A. Green, 54, 332

REPORT OF THE GRIEVANCES COMMITTEE

Don C. Bottorf, Chairman

The Grievances Committee had no matter of appeals or grievances for examination, report or recommendation submitted to it for the 2017 year of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted,
Don C. Bottorf, Chairman, 79
Robert D. Kinsey, 297
Edward W. Nolte 39, 333
Robert J. Parker, 317
Jay H. Speck, 6

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE COMMITTEE

Bruce A. Baker, Chairman

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 Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge Office Committee met several times during 2017 via phone, email, and twice 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 2018 Masonic year.

The Committee reviewed the list of the “Grand Lodge fixed assets” and noted that the copy machine previously listed had been replaced by a new leased machine approved by the committee during the year. It was noted again this year that new color printers that are completely compatible with new computers would need to be purchased in the not too distant future; the office staff suggested that they could make do with the current equipment for the time being.

The Grand Lodge Office Committee budget will remain at \$150.00 for 2018.

The Grand Lodge office staff consists of two full time employees (Michelle & Debbie). The employee evaluation process implemented in 2015 was utilized again in 2017; the Committee reviewed the evaluations, and responsibilities of the employees to determine compensation commensurate with their experience and responsibilities. As noted last year, the Committee revisited the compensation package of the employee affected by the halting of the “overtime” law midyear and made the appropriate adjustment. The insurance package for the two full time employees was reviewed and approved; the switch to a new dental/vision plan provided by United Concordia Insurance which increases coverage at a slightly reduced premium was approved. It should be noted that with the uncertainty of the insurance industry it was recommended and approved that 20% additional be budgeted for health care coverage. Subsequently, when received, the renewal showed a 28% increase. Approval for the additional \$1500 per year was given by the Grand Lodge Office committee, as well as the Finance Committee.

The CHIP administrative fee will remain at \$1200 per month for 2018. This amount is based on Michelle’s CHIP salary and the percentage of the office space, utilities and Grand Lodge resources utilized by the CHIP program.

The Office Manager’s goals set and completed for 2017 were reviewed, and additional and continuing goals discussed and set for 2018.

The Committee considered and updated the Office Policies document to bring it in line with federal regulations.

The air conditioning unit for the OES Grand Chapter office required replacement; the cost was split between the Grand Lodge & OES Grand Chapter. The safety entry access control was replaced with an upgraded digital unit that can be controlled and viewed by all employees of the Grand Lodge and the OES Grand Chapter; the cost was split between the Grand Lodge and the OES Grand Chapter. The rent for the OES Grand Chapter office will remain the same for 2018.

The Committee approved the purchase and installation of a 20-foot lighted flag pole, and the purchase of the necessary flags. The Grand Master granted permission for the solicitation of the Nebraska Lodges to help fund the project. Additionally, the Committee approved the purchase of four storage cabinets at the Office Manager’s request.

The Committee was informed of a structural deficiency discovered during the installation of the entry access system, along with ongoing concerns with the roof and north facing windows. These issues will be evaluated and prioritized in 2018 for correction/repair/replacement as required.

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; as always, you are encouraged to stop by for a visit when in Lincoln. You are always welcome!

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

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Micah I. Evans, Chairman

In 2017, the Public Relations Committee drafted a Social Media Policy. The policy shown following this report was approved by the Grand Master and submitted to all subordinate lodges via the monthly lodge email in December. By approval of this report by the delegates, the social media policy will be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

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

Grand Lodge of Nebraska A.F. & A.M. Social Media Guidelines for Nebraska Freemasons

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska recognizes that many Lodges and Freemasons are actively using social media, and the number of Lodges and Masons utilizing social media continues to grow. Brethren have never before been so connected by Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, and many other social media networks. These have proven to be of great value in connecting Brethren across Masonic jurisdictions, building relationships and friendships, and promoting events and activities.

As Freemasons, we must remember that our individual postings not only reflect our own character and values, but intentionally or unintentionally reflect on Freemasons as a whole. Any online post, regardless of the ability to determine the privacy of the posting, can easily be seen and shared, and there is no such thing in this digital world as a truly private post.

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska recognizes the value of social media to our fraternity and in no way seeks to limit or control its use among Freemasons. The Grand Lodge of Nebraska, however, urges Nebraska Masons to view themselves as ambassadors for Freemasonry in their use of social media.

Therefore, these guidelines are presented to Freemasons as best practices in their use of social media:

- A Mason should conduct himself as he would in front of the general public, with courtesy and respect for others

- A Mason should be aware that all posts are a permanent record; therefore his conduct may influence the public with a positive or negative opinion about him personally and about the organization(s) to which he may belong.
- A Mason should never use disparaging comments, profanity, etc. while posting; including, but not limited to graphic video and audio recordings.
- A Mason should be mindful about posting “ritual,” including signs, tokens, or words (recall the obligation of the first degree).
- While debate and constructive disagreement is encouraged, Masons should be supportive of Masonic organizations and members, promoting upcoming events, discussion of past events, video sharing, and discussion of fellowship and promotion of Masonic bodies.
- A Mason should not use social media to obtain personal advantage in promoting political, religious, or business activities by targeting other Masons.
- There should never be discussion in regards to an application, background, or investigation of an applicant, nor should there be discussion in regards to the ballot of a candidate.
- A Mason should not identify any Mason as a member of the Fraternity unless consent has been given or he has previously identified himself as a Mason.
- There should never be discussion related to the business of a Lodge and what is discussed behind tyled doors.
- Information about social activities must comply with regulations already in place for them.
- A Mason should not use social media to conduct official lodge business or to contact another Grand Jurisdiction or one of its constituent lodges for the same
- A Mason should remember his obligation and advise fellow brethren if something they have posted is improper within the framework of Grand Lodge of Nebraska Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.
- If for some reason the social media account is no longer used, it should be taken down. Old and outdated sites give a negative impression to people who find the page.

Your actions as a Mason on social media websites should promote the highest standards of morality and integrity. You should always be mindful of the penalties as described in the Constitution and Bylaws relating to trial, suspension, or expulsion for any un-Masonic behavior. Posting a comment related to Freemasonry or a disparaging comment about a social or political stance can easily be misconstrued by readers that your stance is representative of the body of Freemasonry.

REPORT OF THE LODGE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Robert L. Schapp, Chairman

The Lodge Leadership has changed direction since the Grand Master’s recommendation was approved at the last Annual Communication, and the committee is no longer responsible for consulting with lodges considering consolidation or extinction. We have been reviewing leadership resources currently on the Grand Lodge website and working toward editing, consolidating, augmenting and reorganizing them to be more useful and accessible. It is also our intent to provide a Leadership Seminar or Conference during the coming year, although the exact time and format must still be determined. We appreciate the support and patience of the Grand Lodge, Subordinate Lodges and the Brethren during this process.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert L. Schapp, Chairman, 327
Olin D. Boone, 256
James J. Jones, 284
Richard J. Ray, 119
Eric D. VanSky, 325
Ad Hoc Members:
Curtis E. Wolbert, 320
Matthew P. Walch, 1

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman

The committee published a few articles on membership topics in the Nebraska Mason. We also stated that there are items on the Grand Lodge website related to membership, such as the elevator speech.

The committee did attend some of the meetings held by Grand Lodge asking for feedback on Grand Lodge activities and other topics. We kept track of a couple of membership items that came up concerning the petition process and helping lodges with recruitment.

The main accomplishment was working on a long term strategy for revitalizing area lodges. This effort has been slow and is still being discussed by the Grand Lodge Officers.

The results of last year's survey were reviewed by our newer committee members. We are also assisting with one of the Friday morning discussions at Annual Communication.

The main topic we have heard from new members and those who drop membership is they don't always feel welcome and are not sure what they are supposed to be getting out of membership. We need to improve our fraternal side which is talking to new brethren about their life and asking what they would like to do within the lodge. If you don't see a brother in lodge for a few meetings, reach out and ask why? Also, when we discuss Masonry and sign a petition we need to ensure we are providing what we told them during the joining process.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman, 302, 268
Mark L. Carley, 75
S. Hal Cottrell, 325
Daniel J. Marr, 39
Joel W. Zilmer, 183

REPORT OF THE MASONIC ALL-STAR BAND COMMITTEE

K. Roger Dill, Chairman

Big, Big, Big. That was the size of the 23rd Annual Masonic All-Star Marching Band. 273 students from 91 different high schools in Nebraska attended our camp. They practiced several hours each day from Tuesday to Friday to prepare for their concert on Friday night, the parade on Saturday morning and their half-time performance Saturday afternoon. All of these students are recommended by band directors throughout the state

and we get some of the best of the best. That is what makes this camp one of the premiere band camps in Nebraska.

Our band directors were Dan Sodomka from Aurora High School and Brad Weber and Dr. Dave Bohnert from Wayne State University. The drum majors were, Lauren Milbourn, a music major at UNO, Anna Sake, band director from Palmer High School and Chris Weddel, band director from Yutan High School. The band directors work with the students all week getting them ready for the performances and then the drum majors take over for the shows. We also have several Junior and Senior Band Assistants who help the students by being on the field during the week and getting the students in the right place at the right time. We can't get along without them. They are the worker bees of our camp.

This camp could not happen without the wonderful volunteers who chaperone the students. We had 65 individuals who gave up their time to keep an eye on the students and get them ready for the next activity on their schedule. This number is down a little from the previous year and as our band continues to grow in size; our need for chaperones also grows. I hope that you will consider being a chaperone because without chaperones we cannot have the camp. The cost of being a chaperone is your time. Your rooms and meals are all paid for. The reward of seeing the students come together to produce an outstanding show is priceless. As someone once said, "Try it, you'll like it."

The Masonic 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, drum majors, band assistants and the chaperones for their hard work in making this a week of enjoyment for everyone.

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

REPORT OF THE INTERNET AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Thomas L. Hauder, Chairman

It has been a quiet year for IT support issues in 2017. We did replace an older desktop unit that had failed and this will again allow the office staff remote access to the database. With the addition of the Eastern Star office on second floor, it was necessary to place a new wireless access point on second floor.

With changes in the software industry, costs have increased slightly as companies begin moving to online subscription software for items such as Adobe and Microsoft. However, the Grand Lodge office staff and the Internet and Computer Technology

Committee remain vigilant in looking for ways to keep costs down, while maintaining a secure and efficient system.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, 332, 54
James S. Bowen, 314
Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268

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 which allowed us to give three \$1,000 scholarships. These scholarships were awarded to: William Castner – Ft Sidney Chapter, Sidney, Sarah Yocom – Bethel #30, Cozad, and the Grand Master's Scholarship to Thomas Kokjer – Ft Sidney Chapter, Sidney. We continue to work diligently to spread the word to our youth that these monies are available to them and encourage them to apply.

The 6th Triennial Masonic Youth Leadership Conference, "To Infinity and Beyond," was held in Kearney, Nebraska on September 23 and 24, 2017 at the Holiday Inn. It was a success with 240 attending. Guest Speakers included: Josh Shipp, a former at-risk foster kid turned teen advocate and Amanda Hammett speaking on overcoming unmeasurable challenges in her life. Matt Markey, comedy hypnotist, entertained the audience as he took participants from the audience to experience the sensations of his hypnotic states. "Gone to the Dogs" focused on sharing information from Domestic-Pups and Nan Rix and her therapy dog about the importance of these dogs as servants, therapists and security providers. The next Conference has been scheduled for September 26-27, 2020 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. We encourage you to help promote this event to our youth.

The Silent Auction held in conjunction with the 2017 Annual Communications raised over \$3,515. This was divided among the three Youth Groups – DeMolay, Job's, and Rainbow. 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, and with your time and talents.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene F. Wehrbein, 6, Chairman
Tim Birdsall, 210
Bruce J. Bugbee, 65
James A. Carlton, 325, 332
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

REPORT OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Russell G. Reno, Chairman

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial continues its significant restoration of the building, especially the wall behind the mural in Memorial Hall of Washington laying the Capitol's cornerstone. Significant progress has been made on the terra cotta interior wall and repairing the mural. The \$750,000 cost to remove and repair the painting is made possible due to donations from around the country.

While Nebraska brothers have provided few donations, it's noteworthy that Bro. Tod William Voss, Mosaic No. 55, is a member of the George Washington Memorial Society. Other levels of donations from Nebraska include New Century in honor of Mrs. Mike McCann by Deanna Sporhase, and Cotner Lodge No. 297 has achieved New Century status after years of annual donations. Platinum level by M.:W.: Reg Kuhn, M.:W.: Russ Reno and Bro. James Karnegis. Gold level by M.:W.: Ken Beebe, Bro. Leonard Steiner of Pawnee Lodge No. 23, and Bro. Vincent Murphy of McCook Lodge No. 135. W.Bro. James Heinke of Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 and W.Bro. Thomas Lagerstrom of Liberty Lodge No. 300 are at the Silver level of donations.

The Memorial offers a new monthly giving option. Your monthly pledge will allow you to reach the various levels of recognition at a pace of your own choosing – either one, two, three, four or five years. For example, a pledge of only \$25 a month for less than three and one-half years will yield a \$1,000 donation.

The Memorial continues to raise funds for The Landmark Century Campaign, which will help not only the mural situation but also the Memorial's long-term viability. This program will fund its first major restoration after 85 years of use since construction was completed. The \$6.5 million project includes:

- **The Memorial's exterior.** Work will proceed on restoration of the exterior of the fifth through seventh floors.
- **The Memorial's interior.** Restoration of the large murals in Memorial Hall of George Washington's involvement in major Masonic events, including the laying of the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.
- **The Memorial's grounds.** The long-planned granite cladding will be added to the pylons in front of the Memorial. Also, a new direct sidewalk through the plaza will be constructed, which will better connect the Memorial to the city of Alexandria to increase tourism and greater awareness of the program and its program.

The Memorial belongs to the Freemasons of the United States and not one cent of public funds has ever been nor will ever be received by the Memorial Association. The good news is that we're not trying to build this magnificent edifice as our fore-brothers did 100 years ago. Our task is merely to maintain it, which comes in at a much lower cost to perpetuate our fraternity's respect for the character and legacy of Brother George Washington, our first and greatest President and our nation's foremost Freemason.

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

**REPORT OF THE EAST GRAND MASTER'S MASONIC CHARITIES
ACTIVITY COMMITTEE**

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

The 16th Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament was held at the North Bend Golf course on Monday, September 11, 2017. Ninety-seven golfers enjoyed a beautiful day of golf. The men of the North Bend Lodge were assisted by brethren of area lodges. The profit of this year's tournament was \$15,773.89 - \$5,257.96 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. The committee would like to thank North Bend Lodge No. 119 for their assistance with the tournament each year. Without their help, it would not be possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald I. Peterson, Co-Chair, 119
Danforth D. Loring, Co-Chair, 268, 333
Karl R. Adamson, 31
Richard E. Gilmore, 268
Peter G. Larson, 11
Dale G. Lueders, 300, 220
Daniel J. Wellendorf, 112, 268, 333
Beverly Donham, PGM, OES
Dee Schuetz, PGM, OES

REPORT OF THE BOY SCOUTS OUTREACH COMMITTEE

George L. McMullin, II, Chairman

On behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, I am privileged to make the third annual report of the Masons Supporting Scouting initiative. This Committee is the revival of a program initiated by Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder that lost traction. Most Worshipful Brother John Maxell requested at the first of his year to revive this program and he tasked W.:B.: AJ Johnson to ensure its continued viability.

The committee, besides myself, consists of W.:B.: Jim Wolfe, W.:B.: Paul Rutherford, W.:B.: AJ Johnson and Brother Dave Workman. I would like to thank them for their assistance and support. The committee continues to be active and seeks participation from interested brethren.

There are three primary purposes of this program. First, to bring scouting and Masons together in Nebraska; second, to provide a conduit through which Lodges (and other Masonic bodies) and scouts can support each other; and lastly, to provide those Lodges and other bodies something to spark increased activity and provide added service opportunities in their community.

The Committee continues to work to establish regular contact with the four Boy Scout councils that serve the great state of Nebraska: Mid-America, Cornhusker, Overland Trails, and Longs Peak Councils. We have established regular contact with Mid-America Council, improved contact with Cornhusker and Overland Trails Councils, and are making headway with Longs Peak Council.

This year we again successfully worked with Mid-America Council to identify Cub Scout Packs in need of chartering partners. Besides Packs in West Omaha and Bellevue that are now chartered to Masonic Lodges, we have worked with Packs in Plattsmouth and Papillion on potential relationships. We continue to work on developing scouting

needs within the Mid-America Council and hope to expand to the other three councils to be able to match them up with potential Lodges or Masonic bodies within the state that could potentially provide support.

The committee has solidified the program to provide a Letter of Congratulations from the Grand Master to all new Eagle Scouts within Mid-America Council and continue the effort with the other three councils to expand the program to all new Eagle Scouts in the state of Nebraska. The committee initiated to process for Nebraska recognition by the National Association of Masonic Scouters and is promoting recognition of Masonic Scouters with the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award.

In 2018 we will continue our efforts on an improved continuity book to outline the current program, facilitate consistent processes, and continue to expand it in the future. We also hope to improve contacts with the other three councils and to expand the matching of scouting needs with Lodges and other Masonic bodies. This concludes the report of the Masons Supporting Scouting Committee for the 2017 year.

Respectfully submitted,
George L. McMullin II, 268, Chairman
Anthony T. (AJ) Johnson, 268
Paul D. Rutherford, 327, 333
James O. Wolfe, 326, 268
David Workman, 184



The following reports of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children and various Masonic Foundations are provided for information.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Ronald Giesselmann, Executive Director

Great things happen every day at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children. This report highlights a few of the great things that happened in 2017.

Other than a few days that we were waiting for new children to move in, the Children's Home kept a population of 24.

It's a proud day when we see three high school graduates from the Children's Home. One graduate is studying to be a carpenter; the second joined the workforce; and the third is studying to be a game warden. All three seem content and comfortable with their decision.

4-H is still the king of extracurricular activities, but children are urged to participate in other activities – along with 4-H. Four held part-time jobs; 2 participated in an off-campus internship; 7 participated in school athletics; and 8 participated in the school choir. A notable extracurricular school activity achievement was Alondra breaking the high school powerlifting record for her weight class.

Minus a couple of bad decisions, good behavior was prominent in the classroom. Seven students earned Teacher's Choice Awards for displaying good behavior in the classroom. Four students also earned all A's.

Grand Chapter, Masonic Campers, community service clubs, and the Masonic Home were a few of the numerous performances by the Children's Home Band.

The Children's Home's Rawhide Wrangler 4-H Club earned 624 awards. They also volunteered 144 hours in the community. Donations to the 4-H Fund and the Purple Ribbon Club are greatly appreciated, because 4-H projects and activities make-up a large chunk of our annual budget. The 4 H Club's annual Chili Feed helped raise funds for the 4-H Club, and Achievement Day celebrated a productive 4-H season.

My thanks, again, to the Masons and Eastern Star members that sponsor traditional holidays and birthdays for the children. Donors were particularly generous during the Christmas season. My only regret during Christmas was not taping the children opening their Christmas gifts.

At the end of the day, the children are treated to a little down time in the Recreation Center. The Grand Master's Golf Tournament funds the Grand Lodge Game Room. The feature purchase for the year was a renovated King Tut pinball machine. There was a glitch while purchasing a second pinball machine. Number 2 pinball machine will have to wait until early 2018. Movies can be watched in the Star Movie Theater on weekends.

We are the same, but different. 2017 entailed a few adjustments to parts of the Children's Home that were not broken, but needed polished or expanded. A repurposed office building was officially renamed the Technology Center; the Business Highway 30 entrance got a facelift; and a new residence for girls, Paden Cottage, will be ready for occupancy January 3, 2018.

Between tours, 4-H events, community events, Masonic-Eastern Star events, and a few curious citizens, the Children's Home had over 2,000 visitors in 2017.

I would like to thank the membership for their support, the Children's Home's Board of Directors for making great decisions, and the Children's Home's staff for their patience with the children and families that they work with. It is my honor and privilege to work and live at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director, 119

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA FREEMASONS CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM FOUNDATION

Stephen C. Kennedy, President

Once again I want to say, "Thank you," to all of the volunteers that make NeCHIP happen. It is the efforts of all of the volunteers at each of these events that make NeCHIP possible. This is our 13th year and we have reached 44,577 kits. That's 44,577 children ID's processed and given to parents in the last 13 years. This year there were 17 events held with 1179 kits completed. Lodges that held events include; Shiloh 327, Long Pine 136, Frank Welch 75, Wahoo 102, Waterloo 102, Robert W. Furnas 265, York 56, St. Paul 82, Victory 310, Cotner 297, Fremont 15, Jachin 146, Alliance 183, Mid-West 317, along with two events sponsored by NeCHIP and one by Adams Bank & Trust. We had much fun at the State Fair in Grand Island again this year, and if you haven't volunteered, I really encourage it. I also want to be sure to thank all the volunteers from outside our Masonic groups. We continue to have many dental personnel, local EMT's, nurses, school officials and teachers, and law enforcement personnel helping at events and helping to promote these events. I would also be remiss if I didn't give a hearty thanks to all of the appendant bodies which help us with events and to raise funds for the program; OES, Job's Daughters, Rainbow, DeMolay, and others 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. We are transitioning to thumb drives instead of the CDs. As we update computers, we are running into the higher cost of buying them with DVD/CD burners; also saving the data to a thumb drive is faster. As we move to this we are analyzing our costs, and without a sponsor for these devices, we will most likely have to increase the kit cost in the near future.

In 2017, we asked each applicant Lodge to record the actual list of volunteers so that a record of helping by individuals can be kept at the NeCHIP office. This database is being used for recognition pins to be given to those that help at multiple events. When a volunteer reaches 5, 10, or more events we will present a lapel pin with the number of their event services milestones reached. I hope to see many of our Brothers and Sisters wearing these pins.

NeCHIP 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 NeCHIP program may do so by contacting the Grand Lodge office. Nebraska CHIP is a 501 (c) 3 foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen C. Kennedy, President, 4

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION

Paul D. Rutherford, President

The 2017 annual meeting of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund (NMEF) was held at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney on February 2, 2017. The following officers and directors were ratified for the ensuing Masonic year: Paul Rutherford, President; Michelle Fulmer, Secretary; M.:W.: Reg Kuhn, Treasurer; M.:W.: Bruce Baker, Director; Brian Zahm, Director; R.:W.: Patrick D. Barger, Director; and Jack Lorenzen, Director.

During 2017, installation of the brick fundraising wall at the Grand Lodge Office was completed and fundraising is a continued effort. Two levels of giving are offered - \$250 & \$500 – which are differentiated by the color of brick used. Three lines of engraving, up to 18 characters per line are available. Since inception through December 31, 2017, \$14,750 has been donated through this program. For more information or to purchase a brick, call the Grand Lodge office or purchase online at www.glne.org using the link in the banner on the top of the page.

An investment fund has been opened with TD Ameritrade and \$49,000 of the funds in the checking account have been transferred to that account.

I would like to thank the Officers and Directors of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund for their willingness to serve and the time and effort they have put forth this past year. On their behalf, I would also like to sincerely thank all those Brethren and Lodges who have contributed to the fund which will ensure that Masonry in

Nebraska continues to have a positive public image by maintaining your Grand Lodge office.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul D. Rutherford, 327, 333, President

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Michael E. Jones, President

In 2017, the Nebraska Masonic Foundation concentrated efforts to inventory all books held in the Nebraska Masonic Research Library. Members of Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 volunteered for that project and completed the inventory in December. A report on the findings of that inventory can be found following this report. The Foundation would like to thank the members of Tabula Rasa for their dedication and hard work in completing that task as assigned.

Another goal set out at the 2017 annual meeting of the Foundation was to transfer the investment funds to a different company to focus on a better return. The investments previously held at DA Davidson were transferred to an account at Vanguard in November.

The Foundation remains committed to fundraising efforts established in 2016 for the museum and library. I invite each of you to participate with your gift to either the museum and library project or to the general fund of the Foundation. Have a conversation with any of the Foundation officers or board members.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael E. Jones, PGM, President, 173, 51

Report of Outcome of the Tabula Rasa No. 332 Inventory Project

Executive Summary

During the February 2017 meeting of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation, Tabula Rasa Lodge #332 in Lincoln, NE volunteered to make an inventory of the books on the shelves in the Foundation Library at the Grand Lodge of Nebraska building in Lincoln, NE. The books have set untouched since the move in 2013 and are not in a useful order or being correctly archived. The purpose of the project was to provide the Foundation with a baseline inventory of books and their location in the library. This project was finished in December 2017 and this report will cover the process, outcome and suggestions for moving forward.

Quick Statistics on the Library

- There are 3,270 items on the shelves in the Library
- The oldest is from 1767.
- The newest is 2017.
- The majority of the books are from the 19th century.
- Many books are unrelated to Masonry such as novels from the 19th century, various history, and science and anthropology books.
- Several books are non-English.
- Appendant bodies are well represented in the mix.
- Many items have multiple copies.

Process

The first step in the project was to determine the type of information that should be gathered about each book. MW Tom Hauder has been volunteering at the Germans from Russia Museum and the International Quilt Study Center and Museum in Lincoln, which gave him access to several PhD. level archivists that were willing to help with input on the inventory process and some experience in museum processes.

With information gathered from the professional archivists, a spreadsheet was created that had categories for the following data:

- Title
- Author
- Publish Date
- Publisher
- ISBN
- Edition
- Type (Softcover, Hardcover, Magazine, other)
- Physical location
- Category (Based on an established Masonic categorization method)

Use of a spreadsheet in this stage of the project allowed the working group to have multiple workers collecting data with the final data being a merge of all the different spreadsheets.

Each bookcase was then labeled with a letter and each shelf a number. For example bookcase A, shelf 3 yields a code of A3 for the location field on the spreadsheet. Markers were created to help keep track of where on each shelf the worker was at. Each bookshelf also had an inventory sheet that tracked who inventoried each shelf and the start and finish date. This will be used to assist in scrubbing the data in future stages of the project.

The working group met on Sunday afternoons for 2 ½ hours as often as all were available and some group members also worked solo at various times during the week. Each session generated a spreadsheet that was submitted to the group leader and several backups were made to preserve data integrity.

The actual book inventory process was simple but labor intensive:

1. Each person chose a bookcase and a shelf to start with and filled out the inventory record.
2. The worker would take some number of books off of the shelf, place a marker for reference and take the books back to their workstation.
3. Each book was carefully investigated for the information needed to fill out the spreadsheet.
4. The books were returned to their original shelf and the next stack removed.
5. When a shelf was finished, the worker signed and dated the inventory sheet and then painter's tape was placed across the shelf as a second method to the inventory sheet to indicate that it had been inventoried.
6. After each work session, each worker submitted their spreadsheet for backup and storage.

Outcome

The result of this yearlong process is a master spreadsheet with the information detailed in the Process section of this report. There are multiple copies of this work in 4

different backup locations. The book list is also available online at: www.librarything.com/catalog/TLH7718 in a public database.

Grand Lodge office staff have been asked to not place or remove any books from the shelves at this time or allow use of the library. This will keep the books in a known location and allow a re-shelving in the next phase into a more cogent order that will be useful for research. Any new books received are being stockpiled for inclusion to the collection after the current collection is sorted.

Comments

The Craft has a wonderful treasure in the variety and importance of the books that are in the Library collection. A majority of books are from the 19th century, which can give a researcher a whole new outlook on many Masonic topics. In fact, the hardest part of the project was not being sidetracked by a particularly interesting book during the inventory process.

However, due to years of neglect and incorrect storage and handling, many of the items are in very poor condition with some items probably being beyond recovery. Some of the books have deteriorated to the point that their covers and pages crumble to dust when handled.

There is also a fair amount of non-Masonic books; for example, the Library has a numbered limited edition of the works of Alexander Dumas. In the suggestions section of this report, it is suggested that these sorts of books be weeded out to save shelf space and sold to provide money to support the restoration and archival efforts of the Library. The same process would be used for books, which have multiple copies.

There are also books showing signs of book mold, which will need to be isolated and dealt with so that they do not infect other volumes.

Future Tasks

The following sections outline what are perceived to be the major tasks that will need to be completed to have a working Library / Museum, information on possible choices for a database and a working budget for the coming year.

Common Tasks for Library / Museum

General Issues:

- Regular cleaning of the Museum and Library.
- Environmental control issues.
- Insurance.
- Controlling access to the Museum and Library.
- Computer/software upgrade to host database.
- Cost of online presence.
- Yearly budget for restoration, scanning acquisition and upkeep.

Tasks Remaining for the Library

1. Appoint and authorize a Librarian to make decisions and implement the remaining steps
2. Establish a first-year budget with the Librarian submitting a budget for approval in subsequent years to the Foundation Board

3. Re-shelf books project. End goal: Standard library collection arrangement and tracking.
 - a. Create new category and call number system
 - b. Proofread the current Xcel sheet during the re-shelving and update categories and build a new spreadsheet to match the new system
 - c. Set aside non-Masonic books
 - d. Set aside high value or rare books
 - e. Identify books that need restoration
 - f. Identify and quarantine books showing mold
4. Create a visible designation for each bookcase
5. Research and recommend a database to develop or purchase for use in the Library to identify books and their locations
 - a. Upload spreadsheet to new database
 - b. Create processes to keep database updated and backed up
6. Establish the value of the collection
7. Establish processes to:
 - a. Use the library so that research is completed onsite (e.g., no book removal except for recently published books and easily available books)
 - b. Addition and deletion of books
 - c. Regular acquisition schedule
 - d. Guidelines for accepting books from Lodges or elsewhere
8. Make books available to the brethren
 - a. Online presence
 - b. Education articles
 - c. Grand Lodge monthly email
 - d. On-site research only
 - e. Research assistance
 - f. Share inventory with other Grand Jurisdictions

Tasks Remaining for the Museum

1. Inventory all physical items
 - a. Create item categories
 - i. Photographs
 - ii. Lodge furniture
 - iii. Masonic housewares
 - iv. Regalia
 - b. Create a location and tagging system
 - c. Inventory and organize storage room
2. Create a spreadsheet with all items and locations. Input to database when available.
3. Establish the value of items
4. Identify items that need special storage or display for preservation or high value.
5. Identify items that need special storage or display
6. Identify and properly store older and higher-value items in archival, secure and quality storage
7. Establish processes for:
 - a. Using the Museum
 - b. Adding items to the Museum (and database)
 - c. Removing items from the Museum

- d. Accepting items from Lodges or brothers
- e. Acquisition of important Masonic items
- f. Rotation of items on display
- 8. Make items available to the fraternity
 - a. Online presence
 - b. Education articles
 - c. Grand Lodge monthly email
 - d. On-site viewing of items only
 - e. Research assistance

Category Update Suggestions

Current Category	New Categories
General Masonic Works	General - Masonic
General Works – Others	General - Others
History and Philosophy	History, Masonic
	History, General
	Philosophy, Masonic
	Philosophy, General
Paraphernalia	Paraphernalia
Jurisprudence	Jurisprudence
Charity and Education	Charity
	Education
Art and Architecture	Art and Architecture
Literature and Music	Literature
	Music
Societies admitting only Masons	Appendant Bodies
	Other Fraternal Organizations
Women in Masonry	Women in Masonry
Negro Freemasonry	Prince Hall Freemasonry
N/A	Ritual Work and Monitorial Work
N/A	Anthropology
N/A	Annual Communications, Nebraska
N/A	Annual Communications, Other Jurisdictions
N/A	Foreign Language Books
N/A	Lodge Minute Books & Lodge Finance Books
N/A	Washington

Library / Museum Database Software

The choice of a database package for the items in the Library / Museum is an important one as once set up, it is generally very labor intensive to switch software packages. There is also the issue of the UX for users of the library / museum i.e. finding objects or books needs to be easy and intuitive.

There are two basic methods for creating a database for this situation, custom software and packed services (SaaS), each with their strengths and weaknesses:

1. Create a custom database using a general-purpose database software
 - a. Strengths
 - i. Complete customization for the specific situation
 - ii. Can make changes at any time
 - iii. Import of current spreadsheet
 - iv. Locally hosted
 - v. Control backup
 - vi. Easy control over usage
 - vii. Ease of maintenance
 - viii. Lower cost of start up
 - b. Weaknesses
 - i. Development time
 - ii. Changes rely on someone familiar with the underlying software or an outside resource
 - iii. Continuity in working knowledge
 - iv. Locally hosted
 - v. Getting the database online safely is more complicated than packaged services
 - vi. Mobile app development
2. Packaged Services (SaaS; Software as a Service)
 - a. Strengths
 - i. Quick startup
 - ii. Import of current spreadsheet
 - iii. Can be cloud based or local hosted or both
 - iv. Ease of backup
 - v. Ease of making available online safely
 - vi. Professionally designed UX / UI
 - vii. Included mobile app
 - viii. If cloud based, no computer equipment to invest in and maintain
 - b. Weaknesses
 - i. Ongoing cost (subscription)
 - ii. Little or no customization
 - iii. Lack of control of data storage
 - iv. Backup issues
 - v. Risk of underlying software vendor going out of business
 - vi. Learning curve for curator

In the arena of general database software that could be used to write a custom database for the library, FileMaker Pro is the gold standard in the software industry for locally hosted databases, ease of design and implementation and cost effectiveness. AWS and Microsoft both offer cloud based database services as well, however, they are quite advanced and would require the hiring of professional programmers to create the database required.

FileMaker Pro has a drag and drop interface making development quicker and possible for non-professionals. To put the database online is a bit more difficult and would involve monthly cost for hosting in the FileMaker cloud service.

While this method gives the Foundation the greatest amount of flexibility and control, it would also involve a longer development cycle.

In the SaaS arena, software specifically for Library / Museum use are confined to a small amount of vendors.

The gold standard in this area is Past Perfect. This software package has the distinct advantage of being the most widely used library / museum software in the U.S. It has been available for many years and therefore is quite stable. It has modules for books, physical objects, photos, paper and more. While much of the design is fixed, there is some customization available in UI. They also have a very robust technical support department. This software involves both an initial cost to purchase and is hosted locally and an ongoing cost if an online presence is desired. The Grand Lodge of Kansas has adopted this software for their library / museum operation. This is also the software package used by UNL in the Library Science program.

The learning curve for the administrator is a bit steep but not impossible and the UI allows for simple interaction on the part of the users.

Alexandria is a completely cloud based solution for libraries. The Grand Lodge of Iowa has adopted this software for their library operation. This a total SaaS offering, which means there are recurring monthly costs but has the advantage of no physical equipment or local installation is required as with FileMaker or Past Perfect. The UI is very simple to use and the search engine is fast.

The disadvantage here is that Alexandria is only capable of cataloging books and other printed material so a separate database would have to be created for the physical objects of the museum.

Another option is to use a semi-free service called LibraryThing. This is a cloud based, public database service intended for personal libraries with a paid service for non-profits. There is a free mobile app available for both iPhone and Android operating systems.

This database is built around the idea of a community of booklovers and so any database created is available for the entire world to see. It accepts spreadsheet uploads and an example of what the Foundation Library would look like can be found at: www.librarything.com/catalog/TLH7718. The interface at this level is very busy and a bit confusing. There is also the issue of backups, control over the data and if the underlying vendors business model.

This vendor does offer a paid version of the database with a greatly simplified UI that essentially allows simple and advanced searches based on key words. An example of the Foundation database in this service can be found here: <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/TLH7718>. Cost for this service for the Foundation would be \$11/mo. for the first 10,000 books.

This is little to no customization allowed on either the LibraryThing or Tiny Cat interfaces. And like the Alexandria service, this database is only to be used for books. A separate database would need to be created for the physical objects of the museum.

The solution that solves the most number of challenges is definitely the Past Perfect software, as it would allow one common interface to be used for all the types of items that the Foundation owns. It does; however, it comes with a recurring cost that although

not great will require expenditure to support. It provides the most flexible platform and professional UI / UX to present to the Craft.

In the end analysis, for the greatest usability, cost effectiveness and future proofing, it is recommended that the Foundation invest in the Past Perfect software solution.

Proposed Budget for 2018

Following the list of tasks previously outlined, it will be necessary to expend Foundation funds on both database software and on miscellaneous archivist materials such as acid free storage boxes, acid free paper, labels and so on.

Having the software in place when re-shelving the books would eliminate a large portion of potential duplicate labor and cut time from the estimated time line for the library to be up and running. Having the archive materials would allow the identification and correct storage of items, as they are being re-shelved.

The budget below is an educated guess on 2018 expenses. The expenses have been broken up into one-time and recurring expenses. All recurring costs are for a 12-month period. (Prices subject to change; prices accessed 1/3/18.)

Library Budget			
Item Descriptions	Purchase Cost	Ongoing Cost	Notes
Cleaning Services	\$0.00	\$840.00	per year
Restoration Services		\$1,500.00	per year
Data Backup (Cloud based)		\$150.00	per year /Dropbox 2TB
Data Backup (Local)	\$379.00		per year /ioSafe Fireproof/waterproof 4TB drive
Collections Software			
PastPerfect	\$870.00		http://www.museumsoftware.com/pponline.html
Multimedia upgrade	\$385.00		
Online option	\$285.00	\$450.00	per year for first 10K items
Support 1 year	\$345.00	\$440.00	per year
Startup Costs	\$1,885.00	\$3,880.00	per year /Varies based on restoration/archiving needs
Total Startup	\$5,765.00		

Museum physical objects will share the common Past Perfect database and so no incremental cost is expected. There may be some incremental cost for archive materials for the objects but this cannot be determined until the time of inventory.

Costs will vary from year to year based on the kind and amount of objects and books that would need archive protection and/or restoration. Of course, changes in vendor costs will occur as well and are outside of the control of the Foundation.

COMMITTEES OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION:

REPORT OF THE MASONIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE

A committee of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation

Christopher M. Carter, Chairman

The Heritage Committee focused on collecting and reviewing donated items to the Museum and Research Library and maintaining and updating the Facebook page. In 2017, we accepted the sword of PGM Robert French, the family bible of Past Grand Master George W. Lininger (generously donated by George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 and currently undergoing restoration), and several York Rite items as well. Prior to their consolidation, items from Mount Moriah Lodge No. 57 in Syracuse were donated to the Museum. The items include an old projector and slides, two swords, including one that is possibly of the civil war era, and other miscellaneous items. Our Nebraska Masonic Museum and Research Library Facebook page reached over 15,000 people in the United States in 2017. The most popular topics on the Facebook page were: an excerpt from "Native American Masonry," a link to the Omaha World Herald article about George Lininger from 2015, an excerpt from "The Builders," a link to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska website and an excerpt from the Supreme Court of Nebraska explaining why Freemasonry is not a religion. Over 1,189 comments were left as visitors engaged in conversation and debate.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher M. Carter, Chairman, 268 & 281
Carl J. Diamond, 326 & 334
Micah I. Evans, 281, 268 & 333
Christopher S. Nigro, 268
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 first like to thank you all for your generosity in supporting this program. This has included all the Brothers from the Lodges, the youth groups and the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star for their generous contribution to the Masonic Veteran's Partnership (MVP).

This was our fourth year as the MVP and again we accomplished our goal of purchasing another van/Ford Flex for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in Nebraska. It arrived in June of this year and M.:W.: Rick Myers and R.:W.: Ron Stites both attended with me to officially present the keys to the DAV for the all-wheel drive Flex. It was also publicized on the local news and a Nebraska Mason article and blog were also accomplished. Even paying for the Flex (\$17,500) we finished 2016 with \$2,926 in the MVP coffers and all the Masonic family has done a great job in helping to rebuild the fund. As this report is written with donations and money collected at the Annual Communication, we have \$8,567. This year we have basically collected \$5,641

which is great for a rebuilding and I still encourage you all to continue supporting this great effort.

I would like to remind all that the program is a 501c3 program. In the upcoming years, there are at least two other programs we can support at the VA Hospital besides purchasing a vehicle that can help homeless Veterans to provide them an opportunity to get back on their feet. We have also looked at other venues that support Veterans and as Chairman I am open to recommendations from the membership of other organizations or groups that support Veterans to investigate. I greatly appreciate your generosity and consideration to help those who have served their country.

I appreciate the Grand Lodge Officers who mentioned the program throughout the year. There are still thoughts and work being coordinated to advertise this program beyond Masons in conjunction with the DAV and get it more into the mind of the general public.

Lastly, I would again like to thank my fellow committee members, Most Worshipful Brother John Parsons and Worshipful Brother Gary Unger. With this I conclude my report for the Masonic Veteran's Partnership Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony T. (AJ) Johnson, Chairman, 268
John E. Lorenzen, 10, 314
William H. Nelson, 256
John T. Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 284PA, 331
Gary S. Unger, 112

RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Right Worshipful Patrick Barger 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 2017-2018."

The motion was seconded, and with no discussion, the motion was approved.

REPORT OF PENDING RESOLUTIONS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Secretary Reginald S. Kuhn announced that he received two resolutions to amend the Constitution and one to amend the Bylaws. Amendments to the Bylaws, if found to be in proper form and confirmed to be signed by five registered delegates, will be read and laid over until the session next year. Amendments to the Constitution, if found to be in proper form and confirmed to be signed by five delegates, will be presented to the lodges during the year for approval or rejection of whether or not the proposal should be placed upon the ballot before the delegates of the Annual Communication in 2019.

Resolution No. 1

We the under signed Brothers do humbly request that Bylaw **Chapter 3-102(g)** be amended to include The Grottoes of North America.

Making application to, or joining any lodge, society, or institution that provide as a condition precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, or shall have taken the degrees of Entered Apprentice Mason, Fellow Craft Mason, and Master Mason,

provided that this inhibition shall not apply to York or Scottish Rite bodies, the Order of Eastern Star, the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, National Federated Craft, Allied Masonic Degrees, the National Sojourners, the Past Grand Masters Association, the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, High Twelve International, Inc., Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatus, **Grottoes of North America**, or to organizations which do not require the taking of any obligation and which do not have any secret ritual or ceremony. The above described organizations, societies, or institutions are commonly referred to as, and are hereby defined as, appendant bodies or appendant Masonic bodies.

Rationale: It is our sincere belief that the Brothers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska be able to choose for themselves as to whether they wish to enjoy the good fellowship that the Grotto offers. Along with the sympathy provided through the philanthropic endeavors of its Humanitarian Foundation to children with special care dentistry need.

Resolution No. 2

Amend **ARTICLE II – MEMBERS** and **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS** of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding and deleting such language, so that such Articles, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

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 Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon**, Grand Orator, Grand Historian, Grand Custodian, Grand Marshal, ~~Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon~~, Grand Senior Steward, Grand Junior Steward, Grand Tyler, Grand Master's Personal Representative(s), limited to a maximum of three appointed at the discretion of the Grand Master, and if appointed, Grand Musician, with such other officers as it may from time to time create; together with the Masters and Wardens or their proxy, duly constituted, of the chartered subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction; provided, that 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~~ **constituent** 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 Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon
The Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon
 The Very Worshipful Grand Chaplain
 The Worshipful Grand Orator

The Worshipful Grand Historian
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(s), limited to a maximum of three appointed, if desired.

The office of Grand Musician may also be appointed, if desired.

Rationale: The only change here is to change the ORDER of rank of the appointed Deacons, to recognize the long standing tradition that the Deacons are included in the advancing line, and typically stand for elective office immediately following service as Grand Senior Deacon.

Resolution No. 3

Amend the **Preamble of the Constitution** of the Grand Lodge by adding and deleting such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

Whereas, every Grand Lodge possesses the inherent power to form a Constitution as the fundamental law of its Masonic action, and to enact such Bylaws, from time to time, as it may deem necessary for its own government, and to make such rules and prescribe such regulations for the admission of its subordinate lodges as will ensure the prosperity thereof, and promote the general good of Masonry and, whereas, every Grand Lodge is the true representative of all the Fraternity in communication therewith, and is in that behalf an absolute and independent body with supreme legislative authority: Provided, always, That the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity be held inviolate: Therefore, upon these principles, which have never been disputed, the Grand Lodge of Nebraska does hereby ordain, establish and promulgate the following Constitution and Bylaws for its future government, and does make and prescribe the following rules and regulations for the government of the *chartered* subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, *which subordinate lodges shall hereafter in both the Constitution and Bylaws be referred to as constituent lodges.*

Amend each and every reference in the Constitution, following the Preamble, and in the Bylaws, to "subordinate lodge" or "subordinate lodges," to become "constituent lodge" or "constituent lodges,"

Rationale: Without any intent to disrupt the process of creation of lodges under the authority and auspices of the Grand Lodge, nor to change the authority of the Grand Lodge over its chartered lodges, this change is made to recognize the close relationship of the Grand Lodge to the various chartered lodges to which its members belong, and the voting power of the delegates from such lodges, when assembled at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

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.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska was called to order on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 10:00 am by M.:W.: Brother Dwight E. Smith, Chairman. The following members were present: Most Worshipful Brothers Steven F. Mattoon, Dean Skokan and Les Seiler. Also present were the following Grand Lodge Officers: M.:W.: Rick Myers, Grand Master, R.:W.: Patrick D. Barger, Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Robert W. Moninger, Grand Senior Warden, R.:W.: Ronald D. Stites, Grand Junior Warden, M.:W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary, M.:W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian, W.:B.: John B. Ferguson, Grand Marshall, W.:B.: James A. Carlton, Grand Senior Deacon, W.:B.: Alexander F. Straatmann, Grand Junior Deacon, W.:B.: John L. Millington, Grand Senior Steward, W.:B.: Charles J. Odorizzi, III, Grand Junior Steward, W.:B.: Alvin Benemerito, Personal Representative, well as Past Grand Masters M.:W.: Dennis E. Rix, M.:W.: John T. Maxell, M.:W.: Thomas L. Hauder, and M.:W.: John T. Parsons.

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

The Minutes and Report of the Committee from February 2, 2017 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 11, 2018 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.: Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.: Dean Skokan, Recommendation One was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.: Dean Skokan, Recommendation Two was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by M.:W.: Steven F. Mattoon and seconded by M.:W.: Les Seiler, Recommendation Three was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by M.:W.: Dean Skokan and seconded by M.:W.: Steven F. Mattoon, Recommendation Four 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 December 12, 2017, the Grand Master waived all but \$50.00 of the penalty assessed to Wahoo Lodge No. 59 pursuant to Section 2-601 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws. The Grand Master did not have the authority to take this action, but the waiver remains in effect.

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

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

The Committee then proceeded to pass a motion commending Rick Myers 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 of the committee, I thank Michelle and Debbie in the Grand Lodge Office for all their help.

Codification of the Law:

- 1. As a result of approval of Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 1, Section 3-912 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3-912 – PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT – Whenever a brother, suspended for non-payment of dues, is reinstated under Sec. 3-910 or 3-911, per capita tax shall be remitted to the Grand Lodge as follows:

(a) For reinstatement within 3 years of the date of suspension, per capita tax for each year of suspension shall be remitted at the time of the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

(b) For reinstatement after 3 years from the date of suspension, per capita tax for the year of suspension only shall be remitted at the time of the Monthly Activity Report on which the reinstatement is reported.

- 2. As a result of approval of Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 2, Sections 1-404 and Section 2-601 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1-404 – ALLOCATION OF FUNDS – The per capita tax shall be divided as follows:

To the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children	
January 2018 and 2019	\$ 1.00
Commencing in January 2020	1.50
To the George Washington Masonic Memorial	1.50
To the Nebraska Masonic Home	2.50

To the Masonic Education Newsletter	.50
To the General Fund	
January 2018 and 2019	26.00
January 2020	27.00
January 2021	28.00
January 2022	29.00
January 2023	30.00
January 2024	31.00

The Initiation Fee shall be allocated to the General Fund.

Sec. 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). In addition, each Lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of Thirty-one dollars and fifty cents (\$31.50) as a per capita tax. The per capita tax allocated to the Grand Lodge shall increase at a rate of \$1.00 per year for the next five (5) years, commencing on the first day of January, 2020. The said per capita tax shall accrue as follows: 2018 and 2019 - \$31.50, 2020 - \$33.00, 2021 - \$34.00, 2022 - \$35.00, 2023 - \$36.00, 2024 - \$37.00. The Grand Lodge shall distribute the per capita tax as provided in Section 1-404 of this code. Before any subordinate lodge shall be consolidated with another lodge, the per capita tax for the year preceding the year of consolidation shall be determined and paid. In addition to the per capita tax as currently provided, commencing on January 1, 2016, each subordinate lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge an assessment of \$3.00 per member, said assessment to be distributed as follows: \$1.50 to support the CHild Identification Program, \$.50 to support Nebraska Job's Daughters, \$.50 to support the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Nebraska, and \$.50 to support Nebraska DeMolay. Said assessment shall be due and payable in the same manner as the Grand Lodge per capita tax. The funds from this assessment shall be separate from the Grand Lodge per capita tax and shall be used for no other purpose than provided above. Upon application from a subordinate lodge that has remitted a member's dues pursuant to Section 2-603, the Grand Master may authorize the Grand Lodge to remit the Grand Lodge per capita and special assessments on behalf of said member.

3. As a result of approval of Grand Master's Recommendation No. 3, Sections 1-302; 1-304; 1-306; 1-313; 3-303; 3-206; 3-502; 3-503; 3-505; deleting Section 3-605 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws and adding New Section 1-320 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, so that the affected Grand Lodge Bylaws are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1-302 – STANDING COMMITTEES – The Standing Committees shall be the following: Jurisprudence, *Judge Advocate*, Fraternal Relations, Masonic Relief, Masonic Education, Awards, Nebraska Work, Grievances, Finance, Credentials, Grand Lodge Office, Public Relations, Membership and Lodge Leadership.

Sec 1-304 – TRIAL COMMISSIONS – The Grand Master shall appoint from time to time such committees for the purpose of conducting Masonic trials as in his judgment shall be deemed advisable. Each committee shall consist of not less than three or more than five disinterested Master Masons who are in good standing in

Nebraska constituent lodges. Said committee shall be styled "Trial Commission." The Grand Master shall designate the Chairman of such Commission. Three members shall constitute a quorum, and one of the members of such Commission shall be appointed by the Commission to act as its Secretary, and in his absence, the Trial Commission may designate some other Master Mason to so act. A majority of such Trial Commission sitting at a trial shall decide all questions before it.

Sec. 1-306 – MEETINGS – The Standing Committees, other than Judge Advocate, shall meet at least twice annually. Any committee may be convened at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Sec. 1-313 – GRIEVANCES – The Grievance Committee shall examine and report on all matters of appeals of trials had by trial commissions, and appeals and grievances brought before the Grand Lodge. The Grievances Committee report to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master following its examination shall consist solely of a recommendation. No fact involved in the controversy shall be reported or stated in the record. A brief abstract or memorandum thereof in each case may be made but the same shall not be published, recorded, or used except for reference. See Sections 3-802 through 3-805 as to the consideration of appeals. See Section 3-709 as to the effect of conviction when appealed.

Sec 1-320 – JUDGE ADVOCATE – The Judge Advocate Committee, which shall consist of three or more members appointed by the Grand Master, ideally lawyers licensed to practice in Nebraska, shall, if requested by the Master or Junior Warden of the constituent lodge preferring charges, review charges received from such constituent lodge, and revise the same as appropriate to succinctly state violations of one or more provisions provided for by Sec 3-102 of these Bylaws. The Committee shall then communicate such revised charges to the Junior Warden and Master of the constituent lodge for further proceedings consistent with Sec 3-206 of these Bylaws. At the request of such Junior Warden or Master, a member of the Judge Advocate Committee shall prepare, file and bring on to trial, such charges. The Chairman and other members of the Judge Advocate Committee shall be appointed for terms of three years by the Grand Master, with the initial terms staggered to provide for one new member to be appointed each year. Members of the Committee, including the Chairman, may serve up to six years as members of such committee, if reappointed.

Sec. 3-303 – ACCEPTANCE – When charges shall be presented and read as provided by these Bylaws, the Master shall decide whether the charges shall be accepted, and the accused brother placed on trial; when so accepted the charges shall be entered by the Secretary on the minutes of that communication, and may not be withdrawn except for cause shown, and with the consent of two-thirds of the members of the lodge present. If a trial be decided upon, after review and possible revision of the charges by the Judge Advocate, the procedure shall be as follows: the Secretary of the lodge shall deliver to the Grand Master the charges and specifications, and all other papers relating to the case, together with a certified copy of the charges and specifications and of such parts of the minutes of the lodge as relate in any way to the case, the name, address, residence and name, number and location of the lodge of which the accused is a member. Whereupon the Grand Master shall appoint (or refer the case to) a trial commission as herein contemplated by these Bylaws and shall notify the Master and Secretary of the lodge before which said charges are pending of the names and addresses of the members of said commission and shall notify each member of the commission as to his appointment

and the purpose for which is appointed and direct him to proceed at the earliest opportunity to dispose of said charges in the manner herein outlined.

Sec. 3-206 – CHARGES, BY WHOM PREFERRED – Any Master Mason, a member of a lodge in good standing may prefer charges, in writing, over his signature against an offending brother, but it is the special duty of the Junior Warden, in the absence of other accusers, to prepare and file charges against such offending brother, with the possible assistance of the Judge Advocate as specified in Sec 1-320, supra, and to take the necessary steps to bring such Masonic offenders to trial. If any Junior Warden, who has been directed to prepare, file and bring on to trial any charge against an alleged offender, shall fail, neglect or refuse to do so promptly, the Master of such lodge must request the Judge Advocate to do so. Charges must not be preferred against a candidate who has been elected, but has received no degrees; objection is then the proper course.

Sec. 3-502 – WHO MAY ATTEND – No visitor shall be admitted, except members of the trial commission, Judge Advocate, witnesses, stenographer, or counsel, or except the Master, Officers or other members of the lodge in which the charges were preferred, or members of the lodge of which the accused is a member.

Sec 3-503 – RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS – The testimony must be digitally recorded or reduced to writing by the Secretary of the trial commission and for this purpose a stenographer may be employed by the trial commission at the expense of the party requesting a written transcript. The Secretary is responsible for accurately recording or obtaining an accurate written transcription of the proceedings. Such recording or written transcription shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary with the entire record as provided in Sec 3-510 and his certificate as to the correctness of his taking and transcription of the evidence shall be appended thereto.

Sec. 3-505 – EFFECT OF PLEADING GUILTY OR CONVICTION IN COURT – In case an accused brother shall plead guilty, or be found guilty in a court of competent jurisdiction on a matter related to the charges being tried by the trial commission, such plea or finding of guilt may be accepted as evidence, and shall render the taking of further proof unnecessary and the commission shall proceed to decide the degrees of punishment. The commission may, notwithstanding such admission and confession of guilt, or guilty verdict, investigate the facts and take testimony, if any is offered which may tend to mitigate or aggravate the offense charged.

Sec. 3-605 – (Not used)

Respectfully submitted,
Dwight E. Smith, PGM, 286, Chairman
Steven F. Mattoon, PGM, 75
John M. McHenry, PGM, 19
Les Seiler, PGM, 317
Dean Skokan, PGM, 15, 268, 333

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

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 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.: Patrick Barger and Tabula Rasa Lodge No 332.

PRESENTATION OF THE PAST GRAND MASTER’S APRON AND PAST GRAND MASTER’S JEWEL

Grand Master Myers asked Deputy Grand Master Barger to cover. Most Worshipful Reg Kuhn requested to speak, and then asked the Grand Senior Deacon to conduct the following Past Grand Masters to the East facing west: Dwight Smith and Les Seiler. The Past Grand Master’s apron was passed to the Past Grand Masters in Most Worshipful Myers’ Masonic lineage that were present: Most Worshipful Brothers Dwight Smith, Les Seiler, and Reginald Kuhn. Past Grand Masters Thomas Tye, Steven Mattoon and Rex Moats were unable to attend. M.:W.: Reg Kuhn thanked Grand Master made the formal presentation of the Past Grand Master’s Apron to M.:W.:B.: Rick Myers. The jewel was passed along in the same manner and also presented to M.:W.: Rick Myers by M.:W.: Reg Kuhn, after which M.:W.: Kuhn directed the brethren in giving Grand Master Myers the grand honors.



M.:W.: Rick Myers returned to the East. Worshipful Brother David Krogh approached the altar and was granted permission to address the brethren.

“Most Worshipful, I know that you shaved over an hour off of the agenda by consolidating all of the reports. I would just like to highlight the work of the Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp. With what Michelle does, Chairman Roger Dill, Past Grand Master Dennis Rix, Past Grand Master Bruce Baker, they got less sleep and worked harder than a roady on a Metallica tour. The work that they do and the support that comes from all of the lodges, we had over 273 participants this year, and I cannot tell you a better way to show what Masonry is to the rest of the community than to have those high school kids from all over the state of Nebraska participate. As a father of two that have been in it for the last couple of years, I cannot tell you about what great work that does for the image of Masonry, and for even getting you to sit in a little red truck Most Worshipful, it was an absolute wonderful weekend. So thank you to

all of the brethren and everyone that supports that, and commend and thank Michelle in all that hard work, and the committee for all of their hard work.”

Following W.:B.: Krogh’s remarks, Grand Master Rick thanked him, and stated:

“Well, two comments, riding in the little red truck was kind of fun. As an active Shriner, I enjoyed that. It was almost as much fun as riding in that gigantic Chevrolet that belongs to Most Worshipful Brother Bruce. But I must tell you that over the years as I visited the Masonic Band Camp, I’ve noticed that Most Worshipful Brother Dennis and his instrument team, they wear pink shirts and they all think they have the biggest instruments in the state. But they do good work. And it is obviously one of the ways we put one of our best faces out in the public and do our best youth work in the state. So thank you all for that. I think we should applaud the entire list of people that Illustrious Sir David listed as helping in a most excellent adventure, including Roger Dill. Roger informed me earlier that he also is one of those people who, based upon actuarial tables, will probably only serve this committee for another 40 to 42 years...and well served it will be.”



M.: W.: Rick Myers returned to the East and thanked V.: W.:B.: Kevin Lindly for accepting the duties of Grand Chaplain Pro-tem for the session and asked him to lead the delegation in a closing prayer.

“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 the 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 161st Annual communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of 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.”



By virtue in the power and authority in him vested as Grand Master, Richard D. Myers then declared the 161st 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 Grand Master declared the lodge of Master Masons opened by North Bend Lodge No. 119 and Waterloo Lodge No. 102 closed in ample form.

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



Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

M.: W.:	Richard D. Myers.....	GRAND MASTER
R.: W.:	Patrick D. Barger.....	Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.:	Robert W. Moninger.....	Grand Senior Warden
R.: W.:	Ronald D. Stites.....	Grand Junior Warden
M.: W.:	Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM.....	Grand Secretary
V.: W.:	Corey L. Bergstrom.....	Grand Chaplain
W.:	Ronald D. Grass.....	Grand Orator
W.:	James J. Jones.....	Grand Historian
M.: W.:	Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM.....	Grand Custodian
W.:	John B. Ferguson.....	Grand Marshal
W.:	James A. Carlton.....	Grand Senior Deacon
W.:	Alexander F. Straatmann.....	Grand Junior Deacon
W.:	John L. Millington.....	Grand Senior Steward
W.:	Charles J. Odorizzi, III.....	Grand Junior Steward
W.:	Karl H. Rasmussen.....	Grand Tyler
W.:	Tyler S. Loontjer.....	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	Anthony T. Johnson.....	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	Alvin O. Benemerito.....	Personal Representative of the Grand Master

Past Grand Masters

Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge

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

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		
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, 286.....	(133rd).....	1999
16950 Road 16, Chappell 69129-6830, 308-874-3268		

JAMES F. BROWN, JR., 54..... (134th).....2000
 PO Box 2089, Red Lodge, MT, 59068-2089, 402-430-0410

PHILIP A. LORENZEN, 10, 327, 1, 21, 333 (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, 268, 333 (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, 6, 333, 284PA, 331.. (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
 131 S 202nd St., Elkhorn 68022-4896, 402-871-1060

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

JOHN T. MAXELL, 327, 6, 333 (149th)2015
 15205 Drexel St., Omaha 68137-3862, 402-740-7664

DENNIS E. RIX, 15, 310..... (150th)2016
 1860 Phelps Ave., Fremont 68025-4425, 402-721-3076

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, 286, 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
 John M. McHenry, 19, PO Box 82426, Lincoln 68501-2426, 402-476-2200, jmchenry@mchenrylaw.com
 Les R. Seiler, 317, 848 N 6th Ave, Hastings 68901-4117, 402-462-9396, lseiler@leg.ne.gov
 Dean F. Skokan, 15, 268, 333, 334, 404 E Ridge Dr, Hooper 68031-3000, 402-654-2514,
deans@omni-tech.net

Fraternal Relations (§1-308)

Chm. John T. Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 284PA, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565,
parsoni1@q.com
 John B. Ferguson, 294, 511 S Webster St, Kimball 69145-1447, 308-235-4563,
ferguson4563@embarqmail.com
 Byron L. Hust, 195, 1711 Broadway, Imperial 69033-3032, 308-882-1699(c), aghust@chase3000.com
 Scott J. Krieger, 317, 332, 33, 1231 Pershing Rd, Hastings 68901-2836, 402-469-7002(c), sjk1323@msn.com
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-592-0184, ewn@cox.net
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134,19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-438-4220, rsk@mattsonrickets.com

Masonic Relief (§1-309)

Chm. Troy Myers, 297, 421 W Gourley St, Lincoln 68521-5306, 402-770-0704(c), troy_myers32@hotmail.com
 Steven R. Barchus, 302, 333, 1521 S 94th St, Omaha 68124-1105, 402-203-3067(c), barchuss@aol.com
 Alvin O. Benemerito, 136, PO Box 38, Long Pine 69217, 402-760-0979(c), secretary@longpinelodge.org
 David M. Long, 290, 2028 N 65th Ave, Omaha 68104-4704, 402-905-2526(c), fraterdavid@cox.net
 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, 402-423-6982, db22849@windstream.net
 Thomas L. Hauder, 332, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516, 402-421-7436, tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 W. Larry Jacobsen, 327, 5149 S 77th Ave, Ralston 68127, 402-339-1309, larryjacobsen1218@msn.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046, 402-212-7861(c), omahaprogrammer@gmail.com
 Adam M. Thayer, 54, 38, 333 S 44th St, Lincoln 68510, 402-314-6310(c), adam.thayer@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Members:

Bobby W. Lingerfelt, 325, 4208 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-502-3114, 1927LA@gmail.com
 Dan J. Nonneman, 317, 2780 S Meadow Ln, Hastings 68901-7490, 402-984-5140(c),
dannonneman@charter.net
 James M. Stull, 54, 38, 96, PO Box 173, Staplehurst 68439, 402-641-1502(c), stullj98@yahoo.com
 Michael J. Webb, 46, 3214 10th Ave, Kearney 68845-3331, 308-293-7989, mike6802@hotmail.com

Awards Committee (§1-311)

Chm. Kevin O. Scheele, 96, 54, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648(c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com
 Barry L. Frerichs, 136, PO Box 501, Bassett 68714-0501, 402-684-2400, bearfrerichs@gmail.com
 F. Graham House, 54, 332, 3245 S 28th St, Lincoln 68502-5108, 402-617-5577(c), hhouse3@gmail.com
 Richard W. Jameson, 284, 39263 Golf Course Ln, Theford 69166-6326, 308-539-5004(c),
rich@sandhilloil.com
 Bryan L. Regier, 234, PO Box 294, Hyannis 69350-0294, 308-458-9234, godspanman@yahoo.com

Nebraska Work (§1-312: 3 members - 3 year term)

Chm. Philip A. Lorenzen, 10, 327, 1, 21, 333, PO Box 308, Fort Calhoun 68023-0308, 402-677-9682(c), palorenzen@outlook.com
 Roger A. Deininger, 317, 1115 Oswego Ave, Hastings 68901-3643, 402-984-5030(c), 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. Bottorf, 79, PO Box 404, Sutton 68979-0404, 402-773-4698, bottorflaw@windstream.net
 Robert D. Kinsey, 297, 6611 Leesburg St, Lincoln 68516-5416, 402-430-6628, rkinsey@krbkaw.com
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-592-0184, ewn@cox.net
 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, 402-610-1006(c), jack@qualitywaterservices.com
 Micheal A. Buchardt, 256, 6945 N 98th St, Lincoln 68507-9741, 402-466-2180(c), mike.buchardt@ubt.com
 Jack G. Frahm, 204, 86419 533 Ave, Plainview 68769-2518, 402-582-4888, jgfrahm@plvwtelco.net
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19, 317, 3647 S 77th St, Lincoln 68506-4706, 402-489-7515, aloudon@baylorevenn.com
 Rick E. Nelson, 317, 2711A, 2565 S Smokey Hill Rd, Hastings 68901, 402-462-4001, rick.nelson@raymondjames.com
 Steven S. Nichols, 102, 3817 N 206th St, Elkhorn 68022-7016, 402-630-0366(c), snichols@primecominc.com
 Charles V. Sederstrom, 290, 333, 3510 N 252nd St, Waterloo 68069-5612, 402-510-5854(c), chuck@finance1.us
 Stuart W. Sprick, 10, 1610 Lincoln St, Fort Calhoun 68023-5360, 402-468-5744, stuzmail@juno.com

Credentials (§1-315)

- Chm. Delmar A. Jones, 65, 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-237-9234, jonesdelmar@ymail.com
 Gordon L. Brown, 146, 1106 E 30th Dr, Kearney 68847-3839, 308-224-4913(c)
 Frank S. Dougherty, 297, 3510 N 73rd, Lincoln 68507, 402-464-5045, mofsdough@inebraska.com
 Robert M. Hoagland, 46, 146, 2701 Grand Ave Trlr 66, Kearney 68847, 308-240-5626(c), hoagland@citlink.net
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15, 274, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-727-4108, karliv@neb.rr.com
 Grady A. Wells, 15, 1651 Parkview Dr, Fremont 68025-4485, 402-720-5808(c), mrgadywells@gmail.com
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-438-4220, rsk@mattsonrickets.com

Grand Lodge Office (§1-316)

- Chm. Bruce A. Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396(c), bsbaker74@charter.net
 Wayne A. Andreasen, 204, 410 Ridgeway Dr, Norfolk 68701-3240, 402-379-1371, wayne@andreasen.us
 Christopher M. Carter, 268, 281, 206 S 19th St Apt 310, Omaha 68102, 402-670-2658(c), majekcarter@mac.com
 Howard R. Fairbairn, 134, 200, PO Box 332, Burwell 68823-0332, 308-214-0912(c), calamuscon@nctc.net
 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, rsk@mattsonrickets.com

Public Relations (§1-317)

- Chm. Micah I. Evans, 281, 268, 333, 1109 S 33rd St, Omaha 68105, 402-342-1300(w), mevans0424@cox.net
 Edward W. Bennett, 61, 2341 Andrea Plc, Lincoln 68512-9415, 308-325-0426(c), edwardwbennett@gmail.com
 Brett R. Bennett, 6, 1219 James St, Plattsmouth 68048-2432, 402-296-6224, chiefs0652@charter.net
 Brent R. Elder, 227, 815 Grant St, Beatrice 68310-3030, 402-462-5353, thecalloffthunder@gmail.com
 John A. Hardy, 102, 16333 Ohio St, Omaha 68116-2551, 402-639-8558(c), john@go2teamhardy.com
 James R. Corsaro, 268, 101 N 39th St, Omaha 68131-2306, 402-639-0409(c), rob.corsaro@gmail.com

Lodge Leadership Committee (§1-318)

- Chm. Robert L. Schapp, 327, 5109 S 194th St, Omaha 68135-3568, 314-799-5300(c), RLS80@aol.com
 Olin D. Boone, 256, 6101 S Richland Cir, Lincoln 68516-1971, 402-486-3801, oboone@windstream.net
 James J. Jones, 284, 39401 Highway 2, Theford 69166-6514, 308-539-5800(c), jayjjones53@gmail.com
 Richard J. Ray, 119, 1110 Main St, North Bend 68649-4527, 402-719-4785(c), r-ray@walnutradio.com
 Eric D. VanSky, 325, 119 Longwood Dr, Papillion 68133-, 402-881-5210, eric.vansky@yahoo.com

Ad-hoc Members:

- Matthew P. Walch, 1, 17810 Karen St, Omaha 68135-3642, 402-214-7090(c), mattwalch99@gmail.com
 Curtis E. Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860(c), cewolbert@windstream.net

Membership (§1-319)

- Chm. Jeffrey M. Coleman, 302, 268, 2327 Hanscom Blvd, Omaha 68105, 402-290-7243(c), jcmasonic@gmail.com
 Mark L. Carley, 75, PO Box 235, Dalton 69131-0235, 308-377-2739(c), mjajj@daltontel.net
 Stewart H. Cottrell, 325, 2312 Jackson St, Bellevue 68005-5136, 402-980-2131(c), blugrashal@aol.com
 Daniel J. Marr, 39, 7705 S 70th Street Cir, LaVista 68128-3005, 402-517-1861, danmarr@outlook.com
 Joel W. Zilmer, 183, 688 Hampton, Alliance 69301-2248, 308-762-5169, jzilmer@bbc.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, 9620 S 30th St, Lincoln 68516-6065, 402-525-8287(c), bcummins@windstream.net
 Jennie Danner, 1501 Superior Street Apt #5, Lincoln 68521-, 402-261-9168, jmusice@hotmail.com
 Donald G. Havekost, 132, 72, 829 County Road 19 Blvd, Hooper 68031-2121, 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, 195, 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. Thomas L. Hauder, 332, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516, 402-421-7436, tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 James S. Bowen, 314, 8934 Lammle Cir, Lincoln 68526-9554, 402-202-6597, james@gonines.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046, 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
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 James A. Carlton, 325, 332, 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, 812 Norwood Dr, Lincoln 68512-2114, 402-720-3900, dlsa3263@twc.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, donchrissett@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(c), lionkarl@hutel.net
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 Peter G. Larson, 11, 4508 N 192nd Cir, Elkhorn 68022-5237, 402-498-8392, nu4me@cox.net
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bsclumber1@aol.com

Boy Scouts Outreach

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tjark@cox.net
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prutherford@lundco.com
 James O. Wolfe, 326, 268, 16552 Washington St, Omaha 68135-5337, 402-895-3271, jjwolfe@gmail.com
 David Workman, 184, 4877 S 143rd St, Omaha 68137-1550, 402-891-1651, dgworkmanjr@gmail.com

COMMITTEES OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP)

Chm. Anthony T. Johnson, 268, 464CO, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-232-5306(w), tjark@cox.net
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jack@qualitywaterservices.com
William H. Nelson, 256, 9417 Wishing Well Dr, Lincoln 68516, 402-420-1555, william.h.nelson48.ctr@mail.mil
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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, 206 S 19th St Apt 310, Omaha 68102, 402-670-2658(c), majekcarter@mac.com
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David N. Silver, 11, 120VA, 5612 N 115th Ave Cir, Omaha 68164-0123, 402-660-9382(c), isellre4u@gmail.com

GRAND CUSTODIAN

W. Scott J. Krieger, Sr.
1231 Pershing Road
Hastings, Nebraska 68901-2836

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS AND THEIR DISTRICTS

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
District #1 – David A. Wetrosky , 2, 331 Pinewood Dr, Nebraska City 68410, 402-873-5437 dwetrosky@neb.rr.com, Appt. 2017						
	Western Star	2	Nebraska City	2017	60	
	Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	2017	94	
	Mt Moriah	57	Syracuse	2016		Yes
	Euclid	97	Weeping Water	2017	86	
	Union	287	Palmyra	2017		Yes
District #2 - Charles J Odorizzi , 290 & 281, 3538 N 54th St, Omaha 68104, 402-201-3938 (c), hynpos@ix.netcom.com, Appt. 2014						
	Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	2017	63	
	Florence	281	Omaha	2017		Yes
	John J Mercer	290	Omaha	2017	86	
District #3 - Anthony T Johnson , 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147, 402-232-5306(w), tjark@cox.net, Appt. 2014						
	Bee Hive	184	Omaha	2017		Yes
	George W Lininger	268	Omaha	2017	Initial	
	Albert Pike	333	Omaha	2017		Yes
District #4 - Brian K Sandall , 21 & 310, 1063 N 17th Ave, Blair 68008, 402-426-4890, bsandall@abbnebraska.com, Appt. 2010						
	Washington	21	Blair	2017	29	
	Tekamah	31	Tekamah	2017		Yes
	Oakland	91	Oakland	2017		Yes
	Landmark	222	Herman	2017		Yes
	George Armstrong	241	Craig			
District #5 - Michael E. Tomaszewicz , 302, 1404 P St., Tekamah 68061, 402-838-9977 (c), Miketdgc@outlook.com, Appt. 2016						
	Omadi	5	South Sioux City	2017	68	
	Magnolia	220	Emerson	2015		Yes
	Olive Branch	274	Walthill	2017	9	
District #6 - Kent L. Neumann , 274, 5, 110 Washington St, Bancroft 68004, 712-223-2232, kent.neumann@ne.usda.gov, Appt. 2016						
	Northern Light	41	Stanton	2016		Yes
	Corinthian	83	Wayne	2017		Yes
	Laurel	248	Laurel	2015		Yes

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
District #7 - John L Brommer, 1 & 302, 16451 Madison St, Omaha 68135, 402-972-1573, totalscapelandscaping@gmail.com, Appt. 2014						
	Nebraska	1	Omaha	2017		Yes
	Covert	11	Omaha	2017	48	
	Centennial	326	Omaha	2017		Yes
District #8 - John C Sierks, 4, 64708 730 Rd, Brownville 68321, 402-825-6061, Appt. 1969						
	Nemaha Valley	4	Brownville	2010	52	
	Falls City	9	Falls City			
	Peru	14	Peru			
	Pawnee	23	Pawnee City			
District #9 - Jonathan L Paz, 39 & 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046, 402-212-7861 (c), omahaprogrammer@gmail.com, Appt. 2016						
	Wahoo	59	Wahoo	2017	93	
	Comet	229	Ceresco	2017	65	
	Victory	310	Valley	2017	68	
District #10 - Steven A Green, 54 & 332, 2635 S 12th St, Lincoln 68502, 402-477-9055, bearyflyin@windstream.net, Appt. 1988						
	Lincoln	19	Lincoln	2017	83	
	Lancaster	54	Lincoln	2017	96	
	Liberty	300	Lincoln	2017	69	
	Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	2017	10	
District #11 - Suman Vallabhbhai, 314, 6200 Eureka Dr, Lincoln 68516, 402-420-7616, sqvalla@windstream.net, Appt. 2004						
	Bennett	94	Lincoln	2015		Yes
	Hickman	256	Lincoln	2017	30	
	Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	2017	94	
	College View	320	Lincoln	2017		Yes
District #12 - Albert A Wise, 79, 824 H St, Geneva 68361, 402-759-3869, aw05040@windstream.net, Appt. 1992						
	Fairbury	35	Fairbury			
	Hebron	43	Hebron			
	Friend	73	Friend			
	Geneva	79	Geneva	2017	42	
	Superior	121	Superior	2016	Initial	
	Lily	154	Davenport			

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
District #13 - Carl C Plants, 54, 6124 NW 6th St, Lincoln 68521, 402-477-9464, cplants@inebraska.com, Appt. 2001						
	East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	2017	84	
	North Star	227	Lincoln	2017	85	
	George Washington	250	Lincoln	2017		Yes
	Cotner	297	Lincoln	2017	76	
District #14 - John L Millington, 54 & 332, 6141 S 93rd St, Lincoln 68526, 402-560-8311 (c), jmillington357@allophone.com, Appt. 2016						
	Beatrice	26	Beatrice	2009	81	
	Blue Valley	64	Wilber	2017		Yes
	Highland	194	Cortland	2016		Yes
District #15 - Randall L Hart, 31 & 222, 412 S 12th St, Tekamah 68061, 402-870-0348 (c), randy.hart@huntel.net, Appt. 2008						
	Mosaic	55	Norfolk	2017		Yes
	Albion	78	Albion	2017	26	
	Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	2017		Yes
District #16 - Alvin O. Benemerito, 136, PO Box 38, Long Pine 69217, 402-760-0979 (c), alvin@benemerito.net, Appt. 2016						
	Garfield	95	O'Neill			
	Plainview	204	Plainview			
	Wausa	251	Wausa	2016		Yes
	Diamond	291	Orchard			
District #17 - Roger A Deininger, 317, 1319 W 11th, Hastings 68901, 402-462-8146, r.dein@yahoo.com, Appt. 1998						
	Ashlar	33	Grand Island	2017		Yes
	Lone Tree	36	Central City	2016		Yes
	Keystone	62	Phillips	2017	62	
	Aurora	68	Aurora	2017		Yes
	Cement	211	Wood River	2017		Yes
	Cairo	324	Cairo	2010		Yes
District #18 - Patrick D Barger, 54, 332 & 5, 2800 Manse Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-770-2830 (c), patrick.barger@gmail.com, Appt. 2014						
	Harvard	44	Harvard	2012		Yes
	Charity	53	Red Cloud			
	Guide Rock	128	Guide Rock	2013	60	
	Franklin	264	Franklin	2017		Yes

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
District #19 - Dean Papenhagen , 50, 2904 Lakeview Cv, Hastings 68901, 402-462-8540, dean.papenhagen@chiefind.com, Appt. 2014						
	Hastings	50	Hastings	2017	94	
	St Paul	82	St Paul	2017		Yes
	Mid-West	317	Hastings	2017	70	
District #20 - Kent R Millington , 54 & 38, 14400 North 1st St, Raymond 68428, 402-560-2553 (c), kmillington60@yahoo.com, Appt. 2016						
	Blue River	30	Milford	2017		Yes
	Crete	37	Crete	2014		Yes
	Oliver	38	Seward	2011		Yes
District #21 - Wayne E Beatty , 126, 12429 P Rd, Stromsburg 68666, 402-764-3950, judysbells@gmail.com, Appt. 1984						
	Fidelity	51	David City	2010		Yes
	York	56	York	2017	Initial	
	Utica	96	Utica	2017	89	
	Stromsburg	126	Stromsburg	2011		Yes
	Solar	134	Clarks	2010		Yes
	Lebanon	323	Columbus	2010		Yes
District #22 - Tyler S Loontjer , 1, 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147, 402-660-6415 (c), tyler.s.loontjer@gmail.com, Appt. 2016						
	Capitol	3	Omaha	2017		Yes
	Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	2017	67	
	Shiloh	327	Omaha	2017	53	
District #23 - James A Carlton , 325, 332, 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarlton1945@gmail.com, Appt. 2016						
	Springfield	112	Springfield	2017		Yes
	Mizpah	302	Omaha	2017	68	
	Bellevue	325	Bellevue	2017	6	
District #24 - Delmar A Jones , 65 & 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848, 308-237-9234, jonesdelmar@ymail.com, Appt. 1992						
	Rob Morris	46	Kearney	2017	72	
	Osceola	65	Osceola	2017	15	
	Jachin	146	Holdrege	2017	60	
District #25 - To be Determined						
	Thistle	61	Lexington	2007	30	
	McCook	135	McCook	2011	66	
	Bartley	228	Bartley	2008		Yes

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
District #26 - Arthur J Ferguson, 221, PO Box 776, Wood Lake 69221, 402-967-3361, Appt. 1979						
	Long Pine	136	Long Pine	2017	Initial	
	Minnekadusa	192	Valentine			
	Wood Lake	221	Wood Lake	2016	62	
	Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	2017	Initial	
District #27 – To be Determined						
	Porter	106	Loup City			
	Custer	148	Broken Bow	2015	72	
	Blazing Star	200	Burwell			
	Parian	207	Callaway			
District #28 - Bradley M. Dutton, 183, 802 Missouri Ave, Alliance 69301, 308-762-8388, dutton.art@hotmail.com, Appt. 2016						
	Alliance	183	Alliance	2017	73	
	Zion	234	Hyannis	2017		Yes
	Camp Clarke	285	Bridgeport	2017		Yes
District #29 – Leslie A Evert, 195, 508 N Ash St, Gordon 69343, 308-282-0214, levert@gpcom.net, Appt. 1985 & Joel W. Zilmer, 183, 688 Hampton, Alliance 69301, 308-762-5169, jzilmer@bbc.net, Appt. 2016						
	Samaritan	158	Chadron	2012		Yes
	Arcana	195	Gordon	2016	Initial	
District #30 - Richard H Cooper, 201, 706 E Webster #16, Morrill 69358, 308-247-2238, Appt. 1996 & John B. Ferguson, 294, 511 S Webster St, Kimball 69145, 308-235-4563, ferguson4563@embarqmail.com, Appt. 2016						
	Scotts Bluff	201	Gering	2017	Initial	
	Robert W Furnas	265	Scottsbluff	2017		Yes
	James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	2017		Yes
District #31 - Corey L. Bergstrom, 75, 2618 Road 109, Sidney 69162, 308-250-0132 (c), corey.bergstrom@cabelas.com, Appt. 2016						
	Frank Welch	75	Sidney	2017	67	
	Oshkosh	286	Oshkosh			
District #32 - Roger L Shillington, 180, 71562 Avenue 343, Max 69037, 308-423-2547, rns@bwtelcom.net, Appt. 1976						
	Robert Burns	173	Stratton			
	Justice	180	Benkelman	2013	63	
	Purity	198	Imperial			
District #33 - Kent D Priest, 32, 820 Hackberry Rd, North Platte 69101, 308-534-5459, kjapathome@charter.net, Appt. 2014						
	Platte Valley	32	North Platte	2017	66	
	Ogallala	159	Ogallala	2017		Yes
	Wallace	279	Wallace	2012		Yes

DGC	Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open/Close Only
	Seneca	284	Theford			
District #34 - Brent Myers , 300, 332, 901 Rosewood Dr, Lincoln 68510, 402-770-0901 (c), bmyers@prconline.com, Appt. 2016						
	Fremont	15	Fremont	2017	87	
	Acacia	34	Schuyler	2015		Yes
	Hiram	52	Arlington	2016		Yes
	Hooper	72	Hooper	2017	93	
	North Bend	119	North Bend	2017	59	
	Scribner	132	Scribner	2015		Yes
District #35 - Edward W Nolte , 39 & 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133, 402-592-0184, ewn@centurylink.net, Appt. 2009						
	Papillion	39	Papillion	2017	11	
	Omaha	288	Omaha	2017		Yes
	Miloma	328	Omaha	2016		Yes

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS EMERITI

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 Ralph E McNulty, 61 412 E 8th St, Cozad 69130-1919
 Harold C Mueksch, 132 & 72..... 1615 E Military Ave #101, Fremont 68025, 402-664-3438
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 Augustine S Scolaro, 3 801 5th St N, Bellevue 68005-4303
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gsibley01@earthlink.net
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jmichaelson20@yahoo.com
- Mark L Miller, 302 & 288 (7)..... 7746 Charles St, Omaha 68114, 402-390-2586
mmiller82kz@gmail.com
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- David C Norton, 302 (18)..... 2811 Angie Dr, Bellevue 68005, 402-658-6951
dnorton97@cox.net
- Kyle J Peterson, 274, 5 (6)..... 1699 F Ave, Dakota City 68731, 402-251-8398
ktklpete@siouxlan.net
- Gregory L Prososki, 229, 54 (18)..... 21040 NW 70th St, Agnew 68428, 402-525-9243
cometlodge229@gmail.com
- Kevin H Scheele, 96, 54 (20)..... 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460, 402-366-8648
kevinscheele@hotmail.com
- Darrell D Schuler, 285 (28)..... 7526 Road 74, Bridgeport 69336, 308-279-0592
butch@schulerredangus.com
- Adam M Thayer, 54 & 38 (18)..... 3110 S 72nd St Apt 142, Lincoln 68506, 402-314-6310
adam.thayer@gmail.com
- Mark J Turner, 300 (34).....5131 Myrtle St, Lincoln 68506, 402-405-9510
markt@me.com
- Donald L Veskna, 59 (35)..... 756 N Walnut St, Wahoo 68066, 308-279-0592
- David A Wetrosky, 2 (1)..... 331 Pinewood Dr, Nebraska City 68410, 402-873-5437
dwetrosky@oppd.com

(Number in parenthesis denotes for which District they are acting as Apprentice)

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Membership Dec. 31, 2016	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, 2017
1 - Nebraska	5	3	1	2	127	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3	8	0	0	0	12	-8	119
2 - Western Star	0	1	1	1	119	1	7	0	0	0	0	8	0	4	5	0	0	0	9	-1	118
3 - Capitol	8	1	7	4	91	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	1	2	11	0	0	0	14	-9	82
4 - Nemaha Valley	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
5 - Omadi	1	0	2	0	108	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	6	2	0	0	0	8	-5	103
6 - Plattsmouth	3	0	2	0	281	2	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	6	5	1	1	0	14	-10	271
9 - Falls City	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
10 - Solomon	0	0	0	0	74	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	72
11 - Covert	3	1	3	2	367	3	1	0	5	0	0	9	0	10	20	0	0	0	30	-21	346
14 - Peru	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24
15 - Fremont	4	0	5	1	166	5	0	0	1	0	0	6	1	6	9	0	0	0	16	-10	156
19 - Lincoln	10	1	6	0	122	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	6	5	0	0	0	11	-2	120
21 - Washington	2	0	1	0	67	1	0	0	0	32	0	33	3	4	4	0	0	0	11	22	89
23 - Pawnee	0	0	1	0	112	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	3	0	0	0	9	-7	105
26 - Beatrice	1	0	1	0	143	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-2	141
30 - Blue River	3	0	4	0	28	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	28
31 - Tekamah	0	1	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-5	95
32 - Platte Valley	1	1	1	0	168	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	8	3	0	0	0	12	-9	159
33 - Ashlar	6	2	6	0	98	5	0	2	1	0	0	8	0	5	3	0	0	0	8	0	98
34 - Acacia	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	-3	46
35 - Fairbury	2	0	2	0	40	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	40
36 - Lone Tree	1	0	1	0	49	1	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	3	4	0	0	0	7	-3	46
37 - Crete	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-2	43
38 - Oliver	0	0	0	1	30	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	31
39 - Papillion	1	4	1	1	168	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	2	7	4	0	0	0	13	-10	158
41 - Northern Light	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	35
43 - Hebron	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	-4	34
44 - Harvard	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	9
46 - Rob Morris	0	2	1	1	177	2	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	-2	175
50 - Hastings	4	4	2	0	101	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	0	1	0	6	-3	98
51 - Fidelity	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	-3	39
52 - Hiram	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	32	-32	0
53 - Charity	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	12
54 - Lancaster	2	2	0	0	254	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	-6	248
55 - Mosaic	1	1	1	1	66	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	6	0	0	0	0	7	-6	60
56 - York	0	1	0	0	74	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	0	1	0	7	-6	68
57 - Mt Moriah	0	0	0	1	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	3	1	0	0	24	38	-38	0
59 - Wahoo	1	0	1	0	58	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	56
61 - Thistle	0	0	0	1	109	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	7	12	0	0	0	19	-17	92
62 - Keystone	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
64 - Blue Valley	2	0	1	0	48	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	50
65 - Osceola	0	2	0	0	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	74
68 - Aurora	0	2	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1	25
72 - Hooper	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	35
73 - Friend	0	0	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	-3	41
75 - Frank Welch	0	0	0	0	98	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	1	2	6	0	0	0	9	-6	92
78 - Albion	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	-3	28
79 - Geneva	0	1	1	0	102	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	3	0	0	0	11	-10	92
82 - St Paul	0	1	1	0	24	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	23

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Membership Dec. 31, 2016	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, 2017
83 - Corinthian	6	0	5	0	118	5	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	3	8	0	1	0	12	-4	114
91 - Oakland	0	0	0	1	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	-3	38
94 - Bennett	0	1	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	23
95 - Garfield	0	1	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	43
96 - Utica	0	1	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	19
97 - Euclid	1	0	1	0	78	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	5	-4	74
102 - Waterloo	10	1	12	0	85	10	0	1	0	0	0	11	0	5	2	0	0	0	7	4	89
106 - Porter	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	-2	37
112 - Springfield	17	2	13	0	324	12	2	3	6	0	1	23	0	10	17	0	0	1	28	-5	319
119 - North Bend	2	0	2	0	90	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	-1	89
121 - Superior	1	1	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	-6	44
126 - Stromsburg	0	0	0	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	7	-7	56
128 - Guide Rock	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	18
132 - Scribner	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
134 - Solar	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	25
135 - McCook	0	0	0	0	112	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-2	110
136 - Long Pine	0	0	1	0	34	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	36
146 - Jachin	0	1	0	0	77	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	2	0	0	0	7	-6	71
148 - Custer	1	0	1	0	79	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	6	-5	74
154 - Lily	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	14
158 - Samaritan	0	0	1	0	59	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-4	55
159 - Ogalalla	1	0	1	0	57	1	0	0	1	30	0	32	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	30	87
173 - Robert Burns	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	18
180 - Justice	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	-4	22
183 - Alliance	4	0	4	0	116	4	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	1	0	4	1	117
184 - Bee Hive	1	0	1	0	100	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-2	98
192 - Minnekadusa	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	32
194 - Highland	1	2	1	0	31	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	29
195 - Arcana	0	1	1	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	7	-7	56
198 - Purity	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	30	-30	0
200 - Blazing Star	0	0	0	0	47	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-4	43
201 - Scotts Bluff	1	0	1	1	112	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	0	2	10	0	0	0	12	-8	104
204 - Plainview	0	0	0	0	39	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	4	-1	38
207 - Parian	1	0	1	0	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	15
210 - East Lincoln	2	0	3	2	180	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	10	5	0	0	0	15	-13	167
211 - Cement	1	0	1	0	37	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	0	1	0	8	-7	30
220 - Magnolia	2	0	2	0	59	2	0	3	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	63
221 - Wood Lake	0	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	56
222 - Landmark	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	26
224 - Silver Cord	1	1	1	0	55	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	4	-3	52
227 - North Star	1	0	3	3	104	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	3	7	0	0	0	10	-6	98
228 - Bartley	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	39
229 - Comet	0	0	0	0	94	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	6	3	0	0	0	9	-8	86
234 - Zion	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
241 - G Armstrong	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
248 - Laurel	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	21
250 - G Washington	0	3	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	42
251 - Wausa	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	-3	57
256 - Hickman	9	2	9	0	202	9	1	0	6	0	0	16	0	4	25	0	0	0	29	-13	189

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017	Membership Dec. 31, 2016	Raisings	Affiliations	Dual or Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	TOTAL GAIN	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdraw	Termination of Dual	Other Causes	TOTAL LOSS	TOTAL NET LOSS/GAIN	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2017
264 - Franklin	0	0	0	1	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	-3	49
265 - R W Furnas	0	1	0	1	72	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	6	2	0	2	0	11	-9	63
268 - G W Lininger	2	1	3	1	232	3	1	1	0	0	0	5	0	7	12	0	0	0	19	-14	218
274 - Olive Branch	1	0	1	0	57	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	-3	54
279 - Wallace	0	1	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	-2	27
281 - Florence	2	4	3	0	103	3	0	0	2	0	0	5	1	4	13	1	0	0	19	-14	89
284 - Seneca	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	20
285 - Camp Clarke	0	0	0	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	62
286 - Oshkosh	2	0	2	0	65	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-1	64
287 - Union	0	0	0	1	26	0	0	0	0	24	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	50
288 - Omaha	6	0	6	0	48	6	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	1	3	0	1	1	6	1	49
290 - John J Mercer	5	0	5	1	299	5	0	1	1	0	0	7	0	16	8	0	0	0	24	-17	282
291 - Diamond	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
294 - James Eatmon	1	2	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	39
297 - Cotner	6	1	6	4	172	3	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	1	10	0	0	0	11	-6	166
300 - Liberty	1	4	1	1	146	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	1	3	16	0	0	0	20	-14	132
302 - Mizpah	5	1	7	0	247	7	1	0	3	0	0	11	0	9	12	0	0	0	21	-10	237
305 - Newman Grove	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
310 - Victory	7	1	10	5	56	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	59
314 - Craftsmen	4	2	4	0	133	4	1	1	2	0	0	8	0	8	2	0	0	0	10	-2	131
317 - Mid-West	0	2	2	2	123	1	0	1	2	0	0	4	0	6	4	0	0	0	10	-6	117
320 - College View	0	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-2	54
323 - Lebanon	1	0	1	1	83	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	6	-4	79
324 - Cairo	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	8
325 - Bellevue	8	2	7	0	196	10	2	0	0	0	0	12	1	3	1	0	1	0	6	6	202
326 - Centennial	4	0	4	0	77	4	1	0	3	0	0	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	5	82
327 - Shiloh	9	1	9	0	119	9	1	0	1	0	0	11	0	2	7	0	0	0	9	2	121
328 - Miloma	5	0	5	0	144	5	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	1	21	0	0	0	22	-14	130
332 - Tabula Rasa	0	2	0	0	15	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	-2	13
333 - Albert Pike	4	0	4	0	30	4	0	1	0	0	0	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	33
TOTALS	197	73	198	42	10106	185	34	26	76	86	1	407	37	370	358	2	14	88	869	-462	9644

**Historical Records
and Information**

of

Grand Lodge

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



**Kearney, Nebraska
February 2-3, 2018**

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. Raecke.....	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. Bortorf.....	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. Luenenborg.....	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.....	Jun. 25, 2016
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.....	286.....	
134th.....	2000.....	James F. Brown, Jr.....	54.....	
135th.....	2001.....	Philip A. Lorenzen.....	10, 327, 1, 21, 333	
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, 268, 333	
142nd.....	2008.....	Reginald S. Kuhn.....	134, 19	
143rd.....	2009.....	Russell G. Reno.....	54, 183, 297, 332	
144th.....	2010.....	John T. Parsons.....	268, 6, 333, 284PA, 331	
145th.....	2011.....	Bruce A. Baker.....	317.....	
146th.....	2012.....	Rex J. Moats.....	290, 102	
147th.....	2013.....	Thomas L. Hauder.....	332.....	
148th.....	2014.....	Joe D. McBride.....	224.....	
149th.....	2015.....	John T. Maxell.....	327, 6, 333	
150 th	2016.....	Dennis E. Rix.....	15, 310	

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, 3..... 1910
- 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, 1..... 1910
- Fred A. Howe, 119..... 1910
- Robert B. Walker, 170..... 1912
- Frank W. Farrand, 36..... 1913
- Ira C. Freet, 56..... 1913
- Benjamin Wood, 210..... 1913
- Edward M. Wellman, 1..... 1913
- Charles A. Eyre, 268..... 1913
- Robert A. Armstrong, 32..... 1913
- Levi Pringle, 276..... 1913
- Earl M. Bolen, 130..... 1914
- Frank L. Haycock, 207..... 1914
- George A. Stevens, 158..... 1914
- Harry M. Jones, 46..... 1916
- Levi D. Phipps, 31..... 1916
- Alfred G. Hunt, 33..... 1916
- Harry L. F. Proffitt, 50..... 1916
- Barclay M. Hickman, 38..... 1916
- Orville A. Andrews, 50..... 1917
- Andrew H. Viele, 55..... 1917
- Maro C. Shipherd, 15..... 1920
- Jesse Lowther, 219..... 1920
- Franklin C. Tym, 25..... 1920
- Lute M. Savage, 3..... 1920
- Frank M. Johnson, 188..... 1920
- Lamont L. Stephens, 106..... 1922
- Frances S. Robey, 19..... 1922
- John B. Lichtenwallner, 275..... 1923
- Harry R. Belville, 146..... 1923
- George R. Patterson, 136..... 1923
- 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, 306..... 1927
- John R. Easley, 49..... 1927
- L. Donald Huston, 65..... 1928
- Elmer Surber, 95..... 1928
- 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. Mauel, 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, 112 1959

- Alfred R. Kenover, 148..... 1960
- Lloyd I. Edwards, 110..... 1960
- T. Leo Stines, 36, 323..... 1960
- Erwin J. Imig, 38..... 1960
- Sebert A. Stover, 281..... 1960
- Stanley E. Brunton, 222..... 1961
- Glenn W. Binder, 23..... 1961
- Richard L. Wait, 19..... 1962
- Gordon Chard, 240..... 1962
- Harold A. Tilton, 291..... 1962
- Stuart A. Johnson, 177..... 1964
- Arthur S. Dye, 317..... 1964
- W. Upton Dawson, 135..... 1964
- Donald R. Davis, 164..... 1964
- Ralph I. Berry, 256..... 1965
- Carl A. Johnson, 183..... 1965
- Robert W. Boon, 33..... 1965
- Augustus W. Clark, 33..... 1965
- Alton S. Mote, 183..... 1965
- Ralph W. Gerry, 281, 302..... 1965
- Arnold F. Mains, 15..... 1965
- Nelson W. Rittenburg, 210..... 1965
- Harold J. Oehlerking, 159..... 1966
- Gwynne L. Neubauer, 258..... 1966
- Ward L. McGlashan, 180..... 1966
- Curtis J. Griess, 49..... 1966
- Walter Brown, 1..... 1967
- John C. Nelson, 250..... 1967
- Mervin E. Ransom, Sr., 65..... 1967
- Donald A. Kyckelhahn, 210..... 1967
- Howard G. Whitmore, 81..... 1967
- Frank R. Harris, 77..... 1967
- Gerald V. Inslee, 158..... 1968
- John C. Sierks, 4..... 1969
- Paul D. Jacobsen, 148..... 1969
- David O. Kipling, 281..... 1970
- Herman O. Hansen, 3..... 1970
- D. Wayne Erickson, 146..... 1970
- Walter S. Cork, 75..... 1970
- Richard L. Mauch, 224, 136..... 1971
- O. Wayne Thompson, 201..... 1971
- John A. Brandt, 26..... 1971
- Dale E. Kube, 55..... 1971
- Robert E. Kyes, 36..... 1972
- Mannie O. Hansen, 1..... 1973
- Richard O. Cowles, 174..... 1975
- Jens P. Nielsen, 121..... 1975
- Ralph E. McNulty, 61..... 1975
- Don L. McCoy, 11..... 1975
- Everett K. Dappen, 265..... 1975
- Alfred V. Peltzer, 148..... 1975
- Roger L. Shillington, 180..... 1976
- James E. Cornish, 31..... 1976
- Ben D. Fussell, 79..... 1976
- Victor D. Hunt, 62..... 1976
- 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. Faus, 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, 54 2001
- Joseph D. Chrisman, 279 2002
- Ashley H. Story, 314, 146 2002
- James R. Taylor, 327 2002
- Dean Papenhagen, 50 2003
- R. William Lichtenberger, 207, 148 2003
- Gordon L. Carley, 75 2003
- Suman Vallabhbhai, 314 2004
- Daniel L. Scarborough, 79 2005
- Frank Veverka, 15 2005
- Glenn R. Mulholland, 32, 284 2005
- Philip E. Darby, Jr., 61 2006
- Randall L. Hart, 22, 31 2008
- W. Keith Neisler, 1, 302 2009
- Edward W. Nolte, 39 2009
- Brian K. Sandall, 21 2010
- Patrick D. Barger, 54, 332, 5 2014
- Anthony T. Johnson, 268 2014
- Kent D. Priest, 32 2014
- Dean Papenhagen, 50 2014
- Charles J. Odorizzi, III 2014
- John L. Brommer, 1 2014
- Alvin O. Benemerito, 136 2016
- Corey L. Bergstrom, 75 2016
- James A. Carlton, 325 2016
- Bradley M. Dutton, 183 2016
- John B. Ferguson, 294 2016
- Tyler S. Loontjer, 1 2016
- John L. Millington, 54, 332 2016
- Kent R. Millington, 54, 38 2016
- Brent Myers, 300, 332 2016
- Kent L. Neumann, 274, 5 2016
- Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268 2016
- Michael E. Tomasiewicz, 302 2016
- Joel W. Zilmer, 183 2016
- David A. Wetrosky, 2 2017
- Mark L Carley, 75 2018
- Dennis H Brydl, 287, 314, 332 2018
- John E Dimon, 290 2018
- Scott E Emmett, 136, 200 2018
- Stephen C Kennedy, 4 2018
- Kevin H Scheele, 96, 54 2018

- 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	Omaha 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
Large	2017	Liberty Lodge	No. 300	Lincoln
Small	2017	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill
Large	2018	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Omaha
Small	2018	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill

**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
2017	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
2018	Centennial Lodge	No. 326	Omaha

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	Fidelity 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. Rusmisse	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. "Ched" House	Hiram No. 52	Arlington
2014	Gene F. Wehrbein	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2015	David A. "Doc" Portwood	Geneva No. 79	Geneva
2016	Larry D. Ludvigsen	Fremont No. 15	Fremont
2017	Gene A. Geise	Waterloo No. 102	Elkhorn
2017	Kenneth D. Beebe	North Bend No. 119	North Bend

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 ¹Illinois, ²Missouri, ³Iowa

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
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
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
Oakland	No 91	Oakland	Burt	February	7,1882	June	19,1883
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

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
Springfield	No 112	Springfield.....	Sarpy.....	March 30,1883	June 19,1883
North Bend	No 119	North Bend.....	Dodge.....	September 5,1883	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
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
Parian	No 207	Callaway.....	Custer.....	January 31,1891	June 18,1891
East Lincoln	No 210	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	November 5,1891	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. Liningner	No 268	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	February 26,1908	June 10,1908
Olive Branch	No 274	Walhill.....	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
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

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
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

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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
Plumbline 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
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	Orman 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 Sioux City	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

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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
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	Ogalalla No. 159, Ogalalla	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

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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
Wayne Lodge No. 120, Wayne	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wakefield	June 9, 2016
Cedar River Lodge No. 89, Fullerton	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	October 7, 2016
Golden Fleece Lodge No. 205, Chappell	Oshkosh Lodge No. 286, Oshkosh	November 17, 2016
Hiram Lodge No. 52, Arlington	Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair	September 15, 2017
Purity Lodge No. 198, Imperial	Ogalalla Lodge No. 159, Ogalalla	September 23, 2017
Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57, Syracuse	Union Lodge No. 287, Palmyra	December 15, 2017
Bennett Lodge No. 94, Lincoln	College View Lodge No. 320, Lincoln	January 9, 2018
Cement Lodge No. 211, Wood River	Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island	January 9, 2018

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

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Nebraska #1	William B Kimme	Bartholomew J Randolph	David H Ramsay	Mark K Westadt
Western Star #2	Joseph S Musumeci	David A Wetrosky	Edward L Reed	John R Grant
Capitol #3	Timothy J Peters*	R Kevin Throckmorton*	Lane Raub*	John R Herbolsheimer
Nemaha Valley #4	Michael R Andrew*		Mark A Caspers*	Stephen C Kennedy
Omadi #5	Randall J Walsh*	Wayne Benson*	Michael E Newcomb*	Chris T Knudsen*
Plattsmouth #6	Casey S Van Helten	Heath T Davenport*	Michael D Carroll*	Jay H Speck
Falls City #9				Robert L Ferguson
Solomon #10	Bradley A Larsen*		Rick L Burmeister*	Philip A Lorenzen
Covert #11	Bernard F Hauber	Donald L Mastny*	Edgar R Flores	David N Silver*
Peru #14	Carl O Stevenson*		Edward D Raper	
Fremont #15	Dennis E Rix	Mitch L Smith*		Larry F Jirsak*
Lincoln #19	Charles R Clark	William W Folsom	Corey C Spreeman	Bruce T Anderson
Washington #21	Max A Wilkins*	Chase D Chapman*		
Pawnee #23			Edward D Raper	Gary H Bedea*
Beatrice #26	Scott A Knispel		Clayton E Wells*	Jason M MacKichan
Blue River #30	Douglas R Rosekrans*			William J Lauber*
Tekamah #31	Ronald D Grass	Donald M Neary*		
Platte Valley #32	Joshua M Gartrell	Lyndell L St Clair*	Erin S Pelland*	Larry E Linstrom
Ashlar #33		Jonathan H Yocom		Dewey R Heminger
Acacia #34			John W Sayer*	Craig H Jacobus
Fairbury #35				
Lone Tree #36			John F Jefferson*	Raymond W Williams
Crete #37				Jerry F Bepalec
Oliver #38	James M Stull			Ben F Hughes*
Papillion #39	Robert R Lewis	Daniel J Marr	Adam J Cejka	A Carl Highman
Northern Light #41	Robert E Chilcoat	Gary D Benson	Donald C Schmidt*	Robert E Schellpeper*
Hebron #43	Douglas L Modlin	Ronnie E Cazee*		
Harvard #44	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Rob Morris #46	John M Hoggatt	Timothy E Lowe	Steen F Kandle*	Delmar A Jones
Hastings #50			Richard L Williams	Michael L Small*
Fidelity #51				Lawrence C Griffiths*
Charity #53				
Lancaster #54	Kory L Johnson	John L Millington	Matthew R Zier	Russell G Reno
Mosaic #55	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
York #56	Kevin E Leapley*	Fred O Wyant*	Fran L Crowe	
Wahoo #59	Jared A Ketner			
Thistle #61	Kent J Fischer*	Vance M Bricker*		Philip E Darby
Keystone #62				
Blue Valley #64				Ronald A Cerveny
Osceola #65				Mervin E Ransom*
Aurora #68	Wayne R Brehm	John W Lowe		Ronald L Furse
Hooper #72	Kevin R Larson*	Andrew Huntzman*	John M Ramsay	
Friend #73				
Frank Welch #75	Nickolas J Makris	Jeffrey L Makris	Chaz M Persino*	Mark L Carley
Albion #78		Charles L Sweet		
Geneva #79	Kevin R Bonin	Victor E Smith*		Daniel G Aspegren
St Paul #82			Gary A Rasmussen	Wesley E Stevens

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

** Denotes proxy*

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Corinthian #83				
Oakland #91	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Garfield #95	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Utica #96	Mitchell J Vavra*	Robert O Rhodes		Kevin H Scheele
Euclid #97				
Waterloo #102	Kraig A Prange	Roger D Moore	Richard J Sherburne	
Porter #106	Lanny R Kizer			Kenneth A Bills
Springfield #112	Glenn A Trembley	David L Larsen	Brett A Drake*	Gary S Unger
North Bend #119	Dennis Bostow			
Superior #121	Jason P Jensen	William R Sauce	James W Keifer	A Gary Keeling*
Stromsburg #126	Marlon R Buzek			Timm O Waller*
Guide Rock #128				
Scribner #132				
Solar #134	James A Beck*			
McCook #135	Kenneth E Keslin*			Steve G Lyne
Long Pine #136	Scott E Emmett	Jeremiah J Schartz	Garrett C Weidner	Alvin O Benemerito
Jachin #146	John D Konzack	Adam F Bruning	Lon C Clark	Bruce G Raddatz
Custer #148	Russell C Simmons	Robert Rose*	Harley R Mohlman*	Kevin R Lindly
Lily #154	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Samaritan #158				
Ogalalla #159	Bernard A Beckius	David L Yost*	Charles N Frates*	Richard H Roberts
Robert Burns #173			Donald E Rife*	Lyndell Whipps
Justice #180	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Alliance #183	Michael D Fritzier	Jock H Faris	Joel W Zilmer*	Eugene Gatti
Bee Hive #184	David Workman	David G Workman	Thomas G Jones	Derick L Loberg*
Minnekadusa #192				Stephen L Isom*
Highland #194	Justin W Grusing		Cody C Carlow	Frederich E DeVries*
Arcana #195	George Meng	Clyde L Lefler*	Michael N Russell*	
Blazing Star #200				Howard R Fairbairn
Scotts Bluff #201	David M Thomas*	Ed Morava		Kelly M Sandberg*
Plainview #204	Gale R Retzlaff			Dick L Hemmingsen*
Parian #207				
East Lincoln #210	Joel D Green	Jeffrey L Buhrman	Adam S Holle*	Thomas M Michaelson
Magnolia #220	Mark L Jahde*	Alan D Doht*		
Wood Lake #221	John C Gross			
Landmark #222	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Silver Cord #224	Wilber C Saner	Terry R Foxworthy	Lucas E Hitchcock	
North Star #227	Harry A Storz	Daniel R Chesnut*	Paul G Carpenter*	
Bartley #228				
Comet #229	Jerry J Caha*			
Zion #234		Devon D Walker*		Bryan L Regier
Geo. Armstrong #241				
Laurel #248				
Geo. Washington #250	Andrew C Martin*	Keith W Chambers		Daniel E Brunsen
Wausa #251	Lowell C Erickson			
Hickman #256	Steven A Busboom	Patrick D Gray	Anthony D Canada	Olin D Boone
Franklin #264	Michael D Ingram	Robert G Money*		Jerrell F Gerdes

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Rbt. W Furnas #265	Ed Morava	Frank R Wooden*	James E McMillon*	Dennis D Dubry
Geo. W Lininger #268	Matthew C Briggs	Andrew J Muska	Donald A Leu	Mitchel J Inman
Olive Branch #274	Kyle J Peterson	Grady A Wells	Richard G Leitschuck	Kent L Neumann
Wallace #279				
Florence #281	Brandon K Breiby			Joseph P Charbonneau
Seneca #284	Chauncey J Linn*			James J Jones
Camp Clarke #285	Brenton E VanPatten	Darren R Emerick	Justin R VanPatten	Edwin O Harms*
Oshkosh #286	Dale A Jenkins*			Dwight E Smith
Union #287		Dennis H Brydl		
Omaha #288	Larry Crowell	Brian C Wigger*		Wesley K Stingley*
John J Mercer #290	Brian Briggs	John E Dimon	Michael C Barnes	Jonathan D White
Diamond #291				
James L Eatmon #294	Kevin S Wynne	John C Barrett*	E Josh Gillming*	Robert H Maurer*
Cotner #297	Mark L Rossignol	Dennis Robertson	William E Short	Ralph J Riemann*
Liberty #300	Thomas J Lagerstrom	Lance M Neeman	Dennis J Hecht*	Brent Myers
Mizpah #302	Michael W Stuhr	Jeffrey M Coleman	Thomas A Gibbs*	Craig R Crawford
Newman Grove #305				Raymond J Herbert
Victory #310	Brian L Weber	Carroll G Peacock	Dennis E Rix	K Roger Dill
Craftsmen #314	Keith A Simonsen	Myron L Coleman	Dillon A Dawson	Byrl A Shear
Mid-West #317	Robert E Summers*			Dan J Nonneman
College View #320	Curtis E Wolbert*		Byron VanPatten	Douglas B Johnson
Lebanon #323	Kim L Severyn			Rick B Porter*
Cairo #324	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Bellevue #325	Myron M Bell, Sr	Myron M Bell, Jr	Ryan P L Brulinski	S Hal Cottrell
Centennial #326	Eugene A Holman	Daren W Kizlin	Brian W Schamber*	Loren L Loibl
Shiloh #327	Bryan G Dring*	David L Mrsny*		Matthew W Vandergriff*
Miloma #328	Donald L Hawkins	Dustin R Johnson	Mark Huss*	Matthew B Schell
Tabula Rasa #332	F Graham House	Mark K Clinton*	Thomas L Hauder	John L Millington
Albert Pike #333	Charles V Sederstrom	Donald R Kavalec*	Matthew O Johnson	Micah I Evans

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets
December 31, 2017

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - UNRESTRICTED -			
U.S. GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		<u>16,319</u>	<u>16,319</u>
BONDS			
TRANSPORTATION, INDUSTRIAL, AND			
MISCELLANEOUS BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	53,050
Bunge Ltd. Fin. Corp., 8.500%, 6-15-2019	50,000	51,695	54,164
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	52,602
GTE Corp., 6.840%, 4-15-2018	50,000	54,285	50,678
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	53,206
Kia Tencor Corp., 4.650%, 11-1-2024	50,000	50,886	54,235
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	50,331
Qvc Inc., 4.375%, 3-15-2023	50,000	50,763	51,272
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	49,703
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,247	51,238
US West Communications, Inc., 7.125%, 11/15/2043	<u>50,000</u>	<u>51,000</u>	<u>46,310</u>
Total transportation, industrial, and miscellaneous bonds	<u>550,000</u>	<u>562,498</u>	<u>566,789</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>550,000</u>	<u>562,498</u>	<u>566,789</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
1,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc.	4,266	31,200
300	Anheuser Busch	30,830	33,468
300	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Cl B	19,634	59,466
150	Boeing Co.	6,894	44,237
850	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	29,060	37,009
225	Cato Corp.	5,397	3,582
300	Compass Minerals International Inc.	23,624	21,675
300	ConocoPhillips Com.	8,990	16,467
1,100	Constellium	20,925	12,264
1,250	Costamare Inc.	21,518	7,212
975	Crimson Wine Group LTD Com.	8,892	10,403
350	Disney Walt Co. Com.	10,542	37,629
800	Discovery Communications Inc.	24,825	16,936
250	Dominion Resources Inc.	9,472	20,265
360	Gallagher Arthur J & Co. Com.	15,143	22,781
1,000	Gildan Activewear Inc. Com.	27,535	32,300
350	Gilead Sciences Inc. Com.	29,948	25,074
300	Hershey Co.	26,025	34,053
2,000	Investors Real Estate Trust	20,400	11,360
250	Johnson & Johnson Com.	16,035	34,930
150	Kansas City Southern	2,125	15,783
900	Leucadia National Corp.	38,150	23,841
300	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	3,360	27,474
550	Lkq Corp Com	16,103	22,368
200	McDonalds Corp. Com.	18,001	34,424
500	Microsoft Corp. Com.	12,560	42,770
700	Opus Bank Irvine California Com.	22,922	19,110
1,200	Orion Engineered Carbons Com.	26,210	30,720
900	Pfizer Inc.	15,512	32,598
675	St. Joe Company	15,503	12,184
225	Texas Pacific Land Trust	6,556	100,491
450	Verizon Communications Inc. Com.	21,449	23,818
150	Vulcan Materials Co.	6,166	19,256
350	Wal Mart Stores Inc. Com.	22,633	34,563
640	Weyerhaeuser Co. Com.	<u>11,882</u>	<u>22,566</u>
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>599,087</u>	<u>974,277</u>

Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Temporarily Restricted and
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
December 31, 2017

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - RESTRICTED U.S.			
GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		<u>296,735</u>	<u>296,735</u>
BONDS			
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES			
Kansas City MO Spl Oblig Impt Bds, 4.55%, 8-1-2022	<u>50,000</u>	<u>51,092</u>	<u>53,906</u>
CORPORATE BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	53,050
Altera Corp., 4.100%, 11-15-2023	25,000	24,383	26,873
Anglogold Ashanti Hldgs., 5.125%, 8-1-2022	50,000	50,933	52,229
Bunge Ltd Fin Corp., 8.500%, 6-15-2019	25,000	25,848	27,082
CA Inc., 4.500%, 8-15-2023	50,000	51,169	52,249
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	52,601
Halliburton Co., 6.750%, 2-1-2027	25,000	24,325	29,502
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	53,206
Kia Tencor Corp., 4.650%, 11-1-2024	50,000	50,886	54,235
Kohls Corp., 4.000%, 11-1-2021	25,000	25,080	25,717
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	50,331
Qvc Inc., 4.850%, 4-1-2024	50,000	51,108	52,543
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,246	51,238
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	49,703
US West Communications Inc., 7.125%, 11-15-2043	25,000	25,500	23,155
Zurich Reins Centre Hldgs., 7.125%, 10-12-2023	<u>50,000</u>	<u>54,510</u>	<u>58,422</u>
Total corporate bonds	<u>675,000</u>	<u>687,610</u>	<u>712,136</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>725,000</u>	<u>738,702</u>	<u>766,042</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
2,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc.	8,532	62,400
575	Anheuser Busch	59,080	64,147
500	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Cl B	31,842	99,110
300	Boeing Co.	13,789	88,473
1,550	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	52,973	67,487
475	Cato Corp.	11,393	7,562
500	Compass Minerals International Inc.	38,742	36,125
550	ConocoPhillips Com.	20,275	30,189
2,300	Constellium	48,372	25,645
2,075	Costamare Inc.	35,721	11,973
1,600	Crimson Wine Group LTD Com.	14,654	17,072
1,400	Discovery Communications Inc.	43,443	29,638
700	Disney Walt Co Com.	19,990	75,257
650	Dominion Resources Inc.	24,627	52,689
600	Gallagher Arthur J & Co. Com.	25,344	37,968
1,800	Gildan Activewear Inc. Com.	49,563	58,140
600	Gilead Sciences Inc. Com.	51,600	42,984
525	Hershey Co.	45,687	59,592
3,000	Investors Real Estate Trust	30,600	17,040
475	Johnson & Johnson Com.	30,447	66,367
300	Kansas City Southern	4,250	31,566
1,000	Leucadia National Corp.	38,322	26,490
575	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	6,434	52,659
1,000	Lkq Corp.	29,277	40,670
400	McDonalds Corp Com.	36,002	68,848
900	Microsoft Corp. Com.	23,589	76,986
1,250	Opus Bank Irvine California Com.	40,877	34,125
2,200	Orion Engineered Carbons Com.	48,052	56,320
2,000	Pfizer Inc.	49,974	72,440
1,100	St. Joe Company	24,078	19,855
400	Texas Pacific Land Trust	11,552	178,652
800	Verizon Communications Inc. Com.	38,093	42,344
275	Vulcan Materials Co.	11,305	35,302
625	Wal Mart Stores Inc. Com.	40,416	61,719
960	Weyerhaeuser Co. Com.	<u>17,823</u>	<u>33,850</u>
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>1,076,718</u>	<u>1,781,684</u>

Index

Address of the Grand Master.....	25
Cornerstones.....	32
Grand Master’s Recommendations	32
Lodge Anniversaries	31
Lodge Bylaw Amendments Approved.....	38
Lodge Consolidations.....	39
Necrology.....	32
One-day Conferrals	40
Permissions, Dispensations and Orders.....	41
Reinstatements	48
Trial Commissions	48
Visitations	27
Waivers of Jurisdiction.....	49
Appointed Officers for 2018, Announcement of	50
Artificer Award	4
Certification of Authenticity.....	vii
Child Identification Program (CHIP) Award.....	1
Close of Ballot, Election of Officers.....	25
Codification of the Law, Jurisprudence Committee Report.....	106
Committees, Grand Lodge.....	116
Consolidated Lodges	146
DeMolay Mason of the Year and Sponsoring Body f the Year Awards	4
DeMolay, Introduction of Representatives from	9
Deputy Grand Custodians	
Apprentice Deputy Grand Custodians.....	126
Deputy Grand Custodians and their Districts	120
Deputy Grand Custodians Emeritus	125
Roll of and Date of Appointment	135
Deputy Grand Master's Address	55
Election of Officers	
Appointed Officers for 2018, Announcement of.....	50
Close of Ballot	25
Opening of Ballot.....	22
Report of Ballot.....	52
Existing Lodges	144
Extinct Lodges.....	150
Formal Opening Session - Friday	19
Gold Pan Award	5
Gold Pan Award, Historical List.....	142
Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Introduction of Representatives from.....	9
Grand Custodian, Report of the	74
Grand Lecturers	135
Grand Lodge Awards Breakfast	1
Artificer Award.....	4
Child Identification Program (CHIP) Award	1
DeMolay Mason of the Year and Sponsoring Body of the Year Awards.....	4
Gold Pan Award.....	5
Grand Master’s Leadership Award	4
Grand Master’s Recruitment Award	2
Lodge Membership Awards.....	3

Lodge Vitality Award..... 3

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP) Awards 2

Nebraska Pillar Award 3

Plus Club Certificates..... 2

Rock Maul Award 5

Secretary of the Year Award 3

Grand Lodge Officers, 2017-2018..... 114

Grand Master – Richard D. Myers..... ii

Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 1, Voting on..... 58

Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 2, Voting on..... 59

Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 3, Voting on..... 60

Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 4, Voting on..... 63

Grand Master's Humanitarian Award, Historical List..... 143

Grand Master's Leadership Award 4

Grand Master's Recruitment Award 2

Grand Oration..... 13

Grand Secretary, Report of the 72

Greetings from Order of the Eastern Star on behalf of Nebraska Appendant Bodies 9

Greetings on behalf of the Nebraska Masonic Charities..... 9

Historical Records and Information..... 130

Humanitarian Award Presentation..... 53

James L. "Sonny" Eatmon Traveling Gavel, Presentation of the..... 111

Job’s Daughters, Introduction of Representatives from..... 9

Lodge Membership Awards 3

Lodge Vitality Award..... 3

Lodges Organized in Territories Other than Nebraska 149

Masonic Calendar..... 151

Masonic Charities Golf Tournament Proceeds 53

Masonic History of the Grand Master – Richard D. Myers iii

Masonic Service Association, President to the Grand Master 54

Masonic Veterans Partnership 12

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP) Awards..... 2

Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Introduction of Representatives from 9

Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Report of the..... 91

Membership Activity Record 127

Membership Banquet - Friday 53

Morning Session - Saturday..... 54

Nebraska Freemasons Child Identification Program Foundation, Report of the..... 92

Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation, Report of the 93

Nebraska Masonic Foundation, Report of the 94

Nebraska Masonic Home, Introduction of Representatives from The 9

Nebraska Masonic Home, Report of The 10

Nebraska Pillar Award..... 3

Nebraska York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine, Introduction of Officers from..... 24

Necrology 12

Opening of Ballot, Election of Officers 22

Organization Information 113

Past Grand Custodians..... 134

Past Grand Masters

 Past Grand Masters, All 131

 Past Grand Masters, Living..... 114

Past Grand Masters, Reception of the 22

Past Grand Master's Apron and Past Grand Master's Jewel, Presentation of..... 111

Past Grand Secretaries 134

Plus Club Certificates 2

Printed Reports, Approval of..... 77

Public Opening 6

Rainbow for Girls, Introduction of Representatives from..... 8

Ratification of Actions of Grand Lodge Officers 103

Re-obligation in the Master Mason’s Degree 20

Report of Ballot, Election of Officers..... 52

Reports of Committees

 Approval of Printed..... 77

 Awards 80

 Boy Scouts Outreach..... 90

 Business and Rules..... 21

 Credentials 70

 East Grand Master’s Masonic Charities Activity 90

 Finance Committee, Final Report of the 65

 Finance, Preliminary 23

 Fraternal Relations 77

 George Washington Masonic Memorial Committee 89

 Grand Lodge Office 82

 Grievances..... 82

 Internet and Computer Technology 87

 Jurisprudence, Final Report of the..... 106

 Jurisprudence, Preliminary 20

 Lodge Leadership..... 85

 Masonic All-Star Marching Band 86

 Masonic Education..... 79

 Masonic Relief..... 78

 Membership 86

 Nebraska Work 81

 Public Relations 84

 Youth 88

Reports of Committees of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation

 Masonic Heritage Committee..... 102

 Masonic Veterans Partnership..... 102

Representatives of Lodges 152

Resolutions, Report of Pending 103

Rock Maul Award 5

Rock Maul Award, Historical List..... 141

Rules for Masonic Dates..... 151

Secretary of the Year Award 3

Silent Auction Results 55

Social Order of the Beauceant, Introduction of Representatives from..... 9

Supplemental Schedule of Restricted Net Assets 157

Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets..... 155

Visiting Grand Jurisdictions, Introduction of Nebraska Prince Hall Grand Master..... 7

Visiting Grand Jurisdictions, Introduction of Representatives from..... 8

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A.:F.: & A.:M.:
OF
NEBRASKA

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