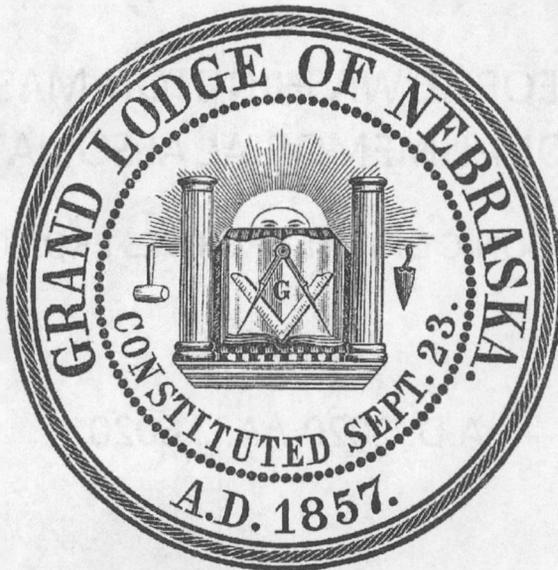


2019
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 2019 / A.L. 6019

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A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

Grand Lodge

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



2019

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**



2019 Proceedings
of the
One Hundred Sixty-second
Annual Communication

Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019

2019



Patrick D. Barger

**Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska
2018-2019**

Masonic History of the 152nd Grand Master

Patrick D. Barger

Patrick D. Barger was initiated, passed, and raised in Omadi Lodge No. 5 in 1998. He became a dual member in Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in 1999 and in Cotner Lodge No. 297 in 2002. He was elected as Worshipful Master of both lodges, following which they each won the Rock Maul Award. In 2006, he was a charter member of Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 and served as its Worshipful Master in 2011.

Patrick earned the Grand Master's Leadership Award with Distinction in 2007 and 2010, as well as Master of the Year for both time frames. He was awarded the Grand Master's Top Recruiter Award in 2004, 2007, 2009, and 2010 upon recruiting nearly 90 new Masons during those years.

He was selected as an Apprentice Deputy Grand Custodian by W.:B.: Steve Green and served from 2010-2014 before being appointed a Deputy Grand Custodian in 2014, still serving in that capacity. He is lifetime certified Individually Proficient in the Nebraska Work.

Patrick founded and implemented Nebraska's Individual Proficiency School and the Nebraska College of Ritual in 2013. Both entities have produced dozens of graduates individually certified in the Nebraska Work and in the comprehensive lectures of both the Third Section Entered Apprentice and Master Mason degrees, as well as the Middle Chamber of the Fellow Craft degree. Many graduates now serve as Deputy Grand Custodians across the state. In 2018, Patrick also envisioned and implemented the first "Deputy Grand Custodian At Large" program which created a statewide pool of ritual mentors unrestricted by geographical district constraints to assist Nebraska lodges wherever they are located.

In 2011, Patrick deployed to Afghanistan with the U.S. Air Force and opened Swisher Lodge under a dispensation from M.:W.:B.: Bruce Baker. An expeditionary lodge, it is named in honor of Christopher B. Swisher, a Nebraska Mason killed in action in Iraq in 2003. While there, Patrick initiated seven new Masons in the war zone.

He served as a member of the Grand Lodge Membership Committee beginning in 2008 and served as Chairman for 2011 and 2012.

Patrick has been a Member of Omaha Valley Scottish Rite and Tangier Shrine since 2003; elected an active member of Omaha Chapter No. 19, National Sojourners and the Joseph E. Warren Camp, Heroes of '76 in 2009; and elected to membership of Florence Chapter No. 61 RAM and Omaha Council No. 1 of Cryptic Masons in 2013.

Patrick was appointed Grand Orator by M.:W.:B.: Russell G. Reno in 2009 and again by M.:W.:B.: John T. Parsons in 2010; appointed Personal Representative of the Grand Master in 2011 by M.:W.:B.: Bruce A. Baker and again by M.:W.:B.: Rex J. Moats in 2012; appointed Grand Junior Deacon in 2013 by M.:W.:B.: Thomas L. Hauder; appointed Grand Senior Deacon in 2014 by M.:W.:B.: Joe D. McBride; elected Grand Junior Warden in 2015, Grand Senior Warden in 2015, and Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master-elect in 2017. Patrick was installed as the 152nd Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska on February 3, 2018.

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Certification of Authenticity

Attest:

It is hereby certified that the following is a full, true and complete record of the Proceedings of the One Hundred Sixty-second 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 1-2, 2019, 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, 2019.



Reginald S. Kuhn
GRAND SECRETARY

2019 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-second
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019

Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger
Grand Master

Grand Lodge Awards Breakfast
Friday, February 1, 2019
7:30 a.m.

The 2018 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 Neil Kloppenborg, nominated by Franklin Lodge No. 264.

The recipients of the award in the non-Mason category were Beatrice Middle School, nominated by Beatrice Lodge No. 26, and Rebekah Little, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Omaha, nominated by Shiloh Lodge No. 327.

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. Centennial Lodge No. 326
- 2. George W Lininger Lodge No. 268
- 3. Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
- 4. Franklin Lodge No. 264
- 5. Geneva Lodge No. 264

Honorable Mention:

Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Top Total Per Capita Contributions

- 1. Centennial Lodge No. 326
- 2. Franklin Lodge No. 264
- 3. Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
- 4. George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268
- 5. Plainview Lodge No. 204

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 Jacob Leeper introduced the recipient for DeMolay Mason of the Year chosen by the Grand Master:

“Each year at Grand Lodge, Nebraska DeMolay presents an award to the ‘Mason of the Year’ as selected by the Grand Master or a committee of his choosing. Before presenting this year’s recipient, we would like to thank Most Worshipful Patrick Barger for allowing us to continue this tradition.

This year’s recipient was raised as a young man shortly after completing his career as an Active DeMolay where he served as Master Councilor of Carl A. Swanson Chapter in Papillion and was designated to receive the Degree of Chevalier. He is also a member of the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

He has fulfilled ancillary roles in Job’s Daughters; however, the bulk of his labor has been in the vineyards of DeMolay. He has served as Chapter Advisor of his local chapter as well as a State Staff Member for Nebraska DeMolay. He is an Active Member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay and has served as a member of DeMolay International Board of Directors. He is also the current Executive Officer of Nebraska DeMolay, serving in that role since 2014.

The recipient of this year’s Mason of the Year award, as selected by Most Worshipful Patrick Barger, is Kevin Grazier of Papillion Lodge No. 39.”

State Master Councilor Leeper presented the Sponsoring Body of the Year Award.

“DeMolay Chapters thrive on the relationships with the Masonic family, they are required to have at least three Master Masons on their Advisory Council and be sponsored by a Masonic family body. Each year, Nebraska DeMolay

recognizes a group who has gone “above and beyond” as the Nebraska DeMolay Sponsoring Body of Year.

The 2019 recipient is always looking for ways to assist their chapter. Not only do they furnish a meeting place, they truly partner with the Chapter. The Chapter members know the members of the sponsoring body. Every member and officer speaks to and acknowledges the Chapter members when they are in the facility. They provide fund raising opportunities and participate in those endeavors. This is not to say that they hand out money; however, they provide a number of “sweat labor” opportunities for their DeMolays to earn the funds that underwrite their Chapter programing.

In return, the Chapter donates countless hours of Masonic service where they work side by side with their Masonic Sponsors. For several years, Chapter members have staffed every performance of the local Shrine Circus as well as working other Masonic events. This sponsoring body has underwritten all transportation costs for Chapter members to attend state events for more than 10 years.

The example that is set by this sponsoring body is paying off for Freemasonry in Nebraska. Nearly every DeMolay of their Chapter has petitioned a lodge upon reaching their eighteenth birthday.

Nebraska DeMolay is pleased to present the Sponsoring Body of the Year Award to Tangier Shrine of Omaha, Nebraska.”

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.

Waterloo Lodge No. 102
Samaritan Lodge No. 158
Bartley Lodge No. 228
Camp Clarke Lodge No. 285

Victory Lodge No. 310
Shiloh Lodge No. 327
Miloma Lodge No. 328
Albert Pike Lodge No. 333

GRAND MASTER'S RECRUITMENT AWARD

The Grand Master's Recruitment Award recognizes Brothers who have recruited the largest number of new members. This award is determined by the number of times a member is reported as the first line signer on a petition in the year. Recipients must sign at least five petitions in the first-line position, indicating their significance as the primary contact with the candidate. The top recruiter is recognized on the plaque on display in the Grand Lodge office, along with a plaque to keep and a lapel pin.

This year’s recipient was Brooks J. Call of Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn, with 7 first-line petitions.

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:

Franklin Lodge No. 264 in Franklin
Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie
Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln

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 Miloma Lodge No. 328 in Omaha.

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

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 2018 is Dan Aspegren of Geneva Lodge No. 79 in Geneva.

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 at lodge functions, etc. Each recipient receives a certificate and lapel pin. The awards were presented to the members by their mentors.

The following newly raised Brother received the award in 2018:

William “Bill” Pickle of Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue.

Mentor: George McMullin (George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268)

Gary D. Olsen of Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln.

Mentor: William “Bill” Short (Cotner Lodge No. 297)

Lynn Friesen of Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln.

Mentor: Dennis Hecht (Liberty Lodge No. 300)

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 Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie for their Service to the Community and Public Awareness Campaigns. The Brethren of Olive Branch Lodge have been very busy this year with a variety of public events that have helped to increase the presence of Masonry in the community. A significant food drive that provided 600 baskets of food to needy families at Christmas, a Veterans Breakfast, an outdoor communication, and an informational program and dinner were among the events that Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 held throughout the year to help advance Freemasonry in Nebraska.

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 Waterloo Lodge No. 102 in Elkhorn.

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Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger
Grand Master

First Day – Public Opening
Friday, February 1, 2019

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 1, 2019.

Most Worshipful Rick Myers, Past Grand Master, presided.

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

The Nebraska Grand Lodge Officers entered in reverse order, followed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Patrick D. Barger and his Lady Diane. Past Grand Master Myers led grand honors for Most Worshipful Barger.

Right Worshipful Robert W. Moninger, Deputy Grand Master, took over for M.:W.: Myers and presided from the lectern to introduce the Grand Chaplain for the invocation.



Very Worshipful Charles Odorizzi, Grand Chaplain, invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Oh Heavenly Father, We give thanks to You for having brought us together as one Masonic Family. How fortunate we are to be allowed to assemble without allowing the disharmony and acrimony of the everyday world to intrude. Thank you to our brave service men and women serving all around the world that guarantee us these rights and all our rights. Keep them protected while they are away from our loved ones and deliver them home safely. Amen.”



Deputy Grand Master Moninger asked that all remain standing for the presentation of the colors by military personnel from the Kearney area.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.



Right Worshipful Moninger invited Most Worshipful Patrick Barger to cover at the podium. He thanked the color guard for the presentation of the colors. He greeted everyone, welcomed them to the 162nd Annual Communication, and thanked them for attending.

In the absence of Tyler Loontjer, Grand Tyler, due to military service, and David Norton, Grand Junior Steward, Grand Master Barger appointed W.:B.: Michael Tomasiewicz as Grand Tyler Pro-tem and W.:B.: John Herbolsheimer as Grand Junior Steward Pro-tem.



Most Worshipful Barger asked the Grand Senior Deacon to please escort Henry D. Atkinson, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, to the East, where he was given grand honors and invited to be seated at the head table in the East for the Public Opening and business meetings.



Grand Master Barger 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 Moninger 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 John Fairlie 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.: Ralph Newby, Grand Master, and his Lady Margaret
- M.:W.: Phillip Moss, Past Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Iowa

M.: W.: Terry Osborne, Grand Master
M.: W.: Dennis “Toby” Williams, Past Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Montana

R.: W.: Lewie Fletcher, Deputy Grand Master
M.: W.: Gerald Anderson, Past Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Nevada

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

From the Grand Lodge of New Mexico

R.: W.: Ralph A. Easley, Deputy Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of North Dakota

M.: W.: Dale Sandstrom, Grand Master
W.: Tyler Hall, Grand Tyler, and his Lady Kelli Michaels

From the Grand Lodge of South Dakota

M.: W.: DaNiel Wood, Grand Master
R.: W.: Harold Ireland, Deputy Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Washington

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

From the Grand Lodge of Wyoming

R.: W.: Thomas Hamm, Deputy Grand Master, and his Lady Diane

From the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia

M.: W.: Charbel Fahed, Grand Master, and his Lady Ricci Tan

From the George Washington National Masonic Memorial Association

W.: B.: George D. Seghers, Executive Director

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



Most Worshipful Patrick 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

Morgan Chandler, Grand Worthy Advisor
Betty Garwood, Supreme Inspector in Nebraska

For Nebraska Job’s Daughters

Alexandria Titsworth, Grand Bethel Honored Queen
Hannah Leeper, Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter
Tiana Hudson, Miss Nebraska Congeniality
Cora Redwine, Grand Guardian
Greg Prososki, Associate Grand Guardian

Grand Master Barger asked all other officers of Nebraska Job's Daughters to stand and be recognized.

For Nebraska DeMolay

Jacob Leeper, State Master Councilor
Caid Brees, State Senior Councilor
Kevin D. Grazier, Executive Officer
Katie Warwick, State Sweetheart

For Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Candace Martin, Worthy Grand Matron
Harold Terry, Worthy Grand Patron, and his Lady Sue

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

For the Social Order of the Beauceant

Erin Marr, Worthy President of Omaha Assembly #91, and her husband Dan

Grand Master Barger asked all other officers of the Social Order of the Beauceant to stand and be recognized.

For The Nebraska Masonic Home

Mary Russell, Executive Director
Steven R. Barchus, Foundation Executive Director

For the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children

Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director



M.: W.: Barger noted that written greetings from each of the appendant bodies have been included in the Annual Communication book. He then invited L. Cecil Smith, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar, York Rite of Nebraska, to bring greetings on behalf of all of the Nebraska appendant bodies.

“Most Worshipful Grand Master Patrick, Grand Officers, Brothers, Sisters, Distinguished Guests, Good morning. I am honored to bring greetings on behalf of our appendant bodies here in Nebraska. I would like to congratulate the Grand Master and your Grand Officers on a great year. I would like to extend to you and those of you who are here an invitation to all of our different grand sessions for our different appendant bodies, whether it's the Grand York Rite in April, Eastern Star in May, DeMolay or Rainbow Girls or Job's Daughters this summer, Shrine Ceremonials, Scottish Rite Reunions, or the celebration of the 100 years of National Sojourners in Omaha, and any others that maybe I did forget. Having said that, if you have any questions about our appendant bodies, I would encourage you to get with one of those folks you saw stand up today or get with me, we'd be happy to answer your questions.

I was trying to think of something profound to say this morning. It didn't come to me, but one thing that did come to me was that things stay with you.

Over the years, one thing that stayed with me, there was a wise Past Master who told me ‘Blue Lodge comes first.’ And for some reason, that’s always stuck with me. As appendant bodies, we are an extension of Freemasonry, and it’s our job, each in our unique ways, to promote those lessons that we have learned in Freemasonry. So having said that, Grand Master, thank you, have a great grand session and thank you for this opportunity.”

Grand Master Barger took the podium and presented the following award to L. Cecil Smith:

“In 2018, the Awards Committee reworked the Masonic Achievement Award structure and created a new award called the Masonic Service Award, as well as creating the ability for the Grand Master to give the awards “with distinction.” Cecil Smith was nominated by Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 to receive this award in 2018, and I am proud to present him with the first Masonic Service Award to be presented to a member with distinction from the Grand Master. Congratulations, Cecil, and thank you for your commitment to Masonry.”



Grand Master Barger 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. M.:W.: Phil thanked everyone for their generous and numerous contributions to the Masonic Charities and made reference to the printed reports from the Homes.



M.:W.: Barger 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 2018.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Barger asked Charlie Odorizzi, Grand Chaplain, to present the Necrology Report.

NECROLOGY

Charles Odorizzi, Grand Chaplain

“Thank you Most Worshipful Patrick, welcome Brethren, guests and visitors. I’m glad you could join us today. It is one of my duties as Grand Chaplain to deliver the Necrology at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The Necrology is a time to remember those who have passed before us. We think of them every day and we miss them. Those memories bring smiles to our faces and so they are never very far away. Please assume an attitude of prayer while we offer our gratitude to the Grand Architect of the Universe.

“We thank you Lord for loaning us these men and Brethren for so many years. We were blessed to have known them, loved them and learned from them. You have now called them home and though we are saddened to no longer visit with them in our daily lives, we know we have not lost them, but rather have

returned their souls to You, their Eternal Guardian. Even though we may walk upon the face of the earth as men, we are here but for a few short years and still belong to You. We look forward to residing with You in your Palatial Heaven. Please help us to be worthy of a home with You and with them so that we too may rest in eternal peace and happiness. Amen.'

The several roles of the workmen have been called, Brethren, and there are 244 Master Masons missing. In just a few minutes you'll see their names on the screen before you and I hope you will remember them and offer up your own silent prayer for their souls and thank them for the contributions they made to us as men and as Masons. We are taught during the moving words of the gravesite prayer in the second section of the Master Mason degree that 'man that is of woman is of few days and full of trouble.' We are further reminded in the third section of the lecture of that degree that we are all going to die, and we all know and we accept this in some far off abstract level. Yes, we are going to die, but not today. That's impossible. We're far too busy to die today. Death for us remains some far off possibility.

For 244 of our Brethren, however, the hour of their dissolution did arrive in 2018. They were called to that house not made with hands eternal in the Heavens. Death came seeking them, and as it has been since the beginning of time, he was not dissuaded by wealth, honors, status, or the flowing tears of loved ones. Death's chilly wave washed over our Brethren and left our lives emptier with each of their passing. If the hour of your dissolution were to occur sometime today, would you be found worthy or wanting? Do you follow the tenets of your faith, as well as Masonic values you swore to uphold – Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth? Are they the platform of your life, or just words in the cipher? Do any of us truly measure up to what we swore to do? Do we exert the effort to strive toward the unreachable perfect ashlar? If not, thank God we still have time to repair that fault.

All our departed Brethren are a loss to our great Fraternity, but among the 244 Brethren we lost this year, there were three that were of special note to me and I'd like to talk just briefly about them. Not because they died, but because of how they lived their lives with purpose. And in doing so, they served as an example to all of us.

Most Worshipful John McHenry, Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska in 1990. He was a brother interested in knowing and being on the level with all men that were around him. For him, there were no social or economic barriers. Seemingly every person he met, without exception, speaks in glowing terms of his concern with being a good man and a Brother. They recognize his true desire to be recognized for who he was as a man and not merely remembered for a title he held briefly many years ago.

Another brother, Jerry Verbeek, was one of those people you just naturally and instantly liked. He was very jocular and incredibly knowledgeable about ritual. One brother said of Jerry, 'He was just one of those guys that even when he was working very hard, he always had a smile on his face and a spring in his step.' I personally was very blessed to have learned some of my ritual work under his tutelage, and I can attest to his decency and his ritual acumen.

And last I would like to mention Chuck Folsom. Chuck was sometimes larger than life and I am certain that he was 100 percent certain that he could defeat death, somehow in hand to hand combat. I mean, he was a Marine Major, after all. And I will tell you one thing that I mean with all my heart, I hope that when Chuck Folsom arrived at the Pearly

Gates, that if they do fly a flag in Heaven, I hope for God's own sake it did not have a yellow fringe border.

I am so very grateful and honored to have served as your Grand Chaplain for the last year. May God smile upon all of us and may we all be blessed through His teachings to be better men tomorrow than we were today."

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

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Odorizzi, 290, 281
Grand Chaplain

M.:W.: Barger thanked V.:W.: Odorizzi for his moving tribute to the departed Brethren.

GRAND ORATION

Kevin H. Scheele, Grand Orator

Brethren, Ladies and Guests, As Freemasons, we have inherited a rich and storied past. This impressive history is what drew many of us to our beloved Fraternity. Take a moment to think about your own personal Masonic story. Many of you can look back on decades of membership, service, friendship, and brotherly love. Some of you may have been raised as new Master Masons within the last few years, or even the last few months. Regardless of the year of our initiation, we all passed through the same ceremonies, with the same ritual, and the same lessons for hundreds of years. As you remember your own journey towards light in Masonry, remember your Masonic forefathers who raised you as Master Masons. I know that each of you will remember specific Brethren that were there, no matter how long ago it was. Now, remember the Brethren who have come after you, whom you have raised and mentored. I'm certain some of those Brothers figure just as prominently in your memory, as you continue to meet with them on the level. These Brothers have shaped us into who we are as Masons. This is the legacy that has preceded us, the present that we live in, and the future we must perpetuate. As we look to the horizon, consider what legacy we want to leave for Nebraska Masons yet to come. What will be our unique story that the next generation will share with those that follow?

In thinking back on my own Masonic story and towards the future, I realized it all came down to four main points: Leadership, Ritual, History, and Brotherly Love.

We entrust our Lodges—and consequentially the future of the Fraternity—to those we elevate to positions of leadership. We must be certain we are advancing Brothers that are ready and able to perform the duties of the office in our local lodges. It can be difficult to be selective as numbers decline in some lodges, but some may argue that fact makes it even more important.

A friend recently shared a statistic for a different community organization. He commented that in the last 25 years, they have lost 50% of their membership. Those numbers may sound familiar to us, as well. His encouragement from there reminded me of his strength as a leader. He noted that with their decrease in size, they are now small enough to be agile in forming new partnerships with other organizations, and lean enough to be hungry for new ways to be their best. We, too, are small enough to be agile in forging new partnerships. M.:W.:B.: Barger's R3 Initiative partnered three Lodges around the state with their local Chamber of Commerce. Events held by the Chamber were visited by local Brethren and vice versa. In Columbus, Lebanon Lodge No. 323 met

with their Chamber Ambassadors at the Lodge building. An Ambassador group of nearly 20 professionals took time off from their workday on a Tuesday morning to learn what we as Masons do and who we are. They asked great questions, and a new partnership was forged.

As Masons, we differ most strikingly from any other service or fraternal organization in our ritual. Masonry is the world's oldest fraternity of gentlemen, who base themselves on the code of ethics of the builders of King Solomon's Temple. This particular legend and its lessons are the very bedrock foundation of our order, and is the cement that unites as we travel into each succeeding generation. Strong ritual informs and instructs each new Brother in the tenets that have sustained us and make us unique. I am certain that each of us, at one time or another, have taken time with a more experienced ritualist to learn something new—no matter how long or short that bit of ritual may be. The relationship that grows from that shared study is not by happenstance; I'd argue that it's built into Masonry by design.

One of my early Masonic mentors posted me as I first delved into our ritual. He was fully-proficient in the ritual for over 30 years, and I am reminded of his zeal for ritual every time I hear the charge in the Entered Apprentice degree. Soon after I was raised, I learned that the first funeral oration he delivered was for my great-grandfather. I never met my great-grandfather, but I was lucky enough to be given his Masonic ring. I'd studied family history and I would hear stories about him, so I had a vague picture of who he was—his personality and his character. When I joined the same lodge that he had belonged to, all of those stories seemed to come into better focus. His character, work ethic, charitable giving and brotherly love were underscored as I learned the same ritual that he did. I know that I'm not alone or unique in these connections to the past; Masonry is inseparably tied to family history for many of us. For others, we find and build unique relationships through the fraternity with friends that we might consider family.

I remember another prominent Brother that seemed to be a constant presence at my home Lodge. He asked the questions in all three of the degrees, was treasurer for over 50 years, and a Mason for 70 years before entering the Celestial Lodge above. In his last years, we all looked after him, helped him where we could, and took a special interest in his safety and wellbeing. I know that the brotherly love that we shared with him was strengthened through our Masonic teachings and experiences. His steadfast example is forever etched into my consciousness as I remember my own Masonic journey.

As we look to the future, let us remember the excellent principals and tenets laid out for us by our Masonic forefathers. Our strength is built into our ancient and honorable fraternity, and we must keep finding innovative ways to reach new Brethren and prospective candidates, while keeping the integrity of our ritual strong. Remember that we are lean enough that each of us should be hungry to find ways to build Masonry in our Lodges, in our communities, and in the hearts of our Brethren.

Most Worshipful Barger thanked Worshipful Brother Scheele for his oration.



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



Most Worshipful Patrick asked everyone to remain seated as the Grand Lodge Officers retired. The room would then be purged in preparation for the tyled Formal Session to begin 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.

2019 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-second
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019

Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger
Grand Master

First Day – Formal Opening Session
Friday, February 1, 2019

Prior to the Public Opening, a tyled Lodge of Master Masons was opened by Brothers of Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 in Lincoln.

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

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.

V.: W.: Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Most Worshipful Master of all that is, we come to You this weekend and ask that You guide our hearts and minds so we may do what is best for Masonry and most pleasing to You. Allow us to take pride in each and everyone one of our fellow brethren here assembled. We thank You for guiding us here safely and ask You to watch over and protect the rest of our brethren as they travel here to join us. Help us to be ever mindful of our responsibilities and our obligation to be good men. Bless our great fraternity, that it will continue long into our

children’s children’s future so that they may enjoy these things we have so enjoyed. Amen.”

M.:W.: Barger declared the 162nd 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 Barger thanked the members of Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 in Lincoln for opening the lodge.



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 our duties now and for all time.” He asked the Deputy Grand Master to cover, and instructed 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 and Past Grand Master Scott Krieger.

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

Grand Master Barger recovered in the East.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.:B.: Barger 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, January 31, 2019 in its annual meeting with all of the members of the Jurisprudence Committee present, along with the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, most of the Grand Lodge Officers, and four Past Grand Masters. The following action was taken regarding the pending legislation. On motion by Most Worshipful Brother Hauder, seconded by Most Worshipful Brother Skokan and carried, Recommendation No. 1 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session. A motion was made by Most Worshipful Steven Mattoon, seconded by Most Worshipful Brother Les Seiler and carried, Recommendation No. 2 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session. On motion made by Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Hauder, seconded by Most Worshipful Brother Les Seiler and carried, Recommendation No. 3 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session. A motion was made by Most Worshipful Brother Les Seiler, seconded by Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Hauder and carried with Most Worshipful Brother Dean Skokan abstaining, Member Resolution No. 1 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session. With regard to the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the committee determined that on motion by Most Worshipful Les Seiler, seconded by Most Worshipful Thomas Hauder and carried, Proposed Amendment to the Constitution No. 1 was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session. The final report will be presented on Saturday morning.

Respectfully submitted,
Dwight Smith, 286, Chairman
Steven Mattoon, 75
Thomas L. Hauder, 332
Les Seiler, 317
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 Barger appointed M.:W.: Dean Skokan as Parliamentarian for the 162nd Annual Communication.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Barger announced the appointment of the Deputy Grand Custodians as tellers for this session, with W.:B.: Roger Deininger as Chairman.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – OPENING OF BALLOT

Grand Master Barger 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 any one of the number of ballot boxes located about the room. The ballot would remain open for approximately one-half an 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.



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

Don E. Rasmussen.....	1998
Dwight E. Smith.....	1999
James F. Brown, Jr.	2000
Philip A. Lorenzen.....	2001
Michael E. Jones.....	2002
Kenneth D. Beebe.....	2003
Les Seiler.....	2004
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
Richard D. Myers	2017

Grand Master Barger returned to the podium and led the grand honors.

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 2019 in the Annual Communication book, and announced that the Finance Committee met on December 3, 2018 to conduct its assigned duties as prescribed in Section 1-318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. He noted that the committee approved the proposed budget for 2019, made note of its location in the Annual Communication booklet, and asked the brethren to review the budget and feel free to speak to him about it prior to the vote that would take place during the Saturday session.

He mentioned that the Masonic Band Camp has been removed from the general operating budget due to a separate restricted checking account being created for that purpose. He also pointed out that the revenue was down \$10,000 but that also the expenses were held in line on the proposed budget for 2019. 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, especially the officers for taking care of their own expenses for the most part.

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.

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

Most Worshipful Barger recognized the leaders of the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine Centers and representatives from the National Sojourners and the Red Cross of Constantine and the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. 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
Bruce Wood.....	General Secretary, Valley of Lincoln
John Ferguson.....	Personal Representative, Valley of Alliance
M.: W.: Les Seiler.....	Personal Representative, Valley of Hastings

Grand York Rite of Nebraska

Brett R. Bennett.....	Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons
David Shaw	M.W. Grand Master, Grand Council, Cryptic Masons
L. Cecil Smith...R.E.	Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

From the Red Cross of Constantine

M.: W.: A.J. Johnson	Intendant General
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Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Nebraska

Bill German High Priest and Prophet, Tangier Shrine
Owen Nelson Potentate, Tehama 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

Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis

David Long Chief Adept of Nebraska

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

Grand Master Patrick Barger thanked all of the representatives for their attendance and dedication to the Craft.



Grand Master Barger announced that the afternoon workshops would be held following lunch, beginning at 2:00 pm in the lodge room. The topics to be discussed are *Looking Beyond the Surface: Symbolism and Exegetis in Masonry* and *The 6 Questions of Masonry*. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

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 Barger 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.



Grand Master Barger invited George Seghers, Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, to bring greetings.

“Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, my Brethren, I do have some prepared remarks, but before I do, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the Memorial, and especially the Foundation, which is helping support a book that our staff is producing on Washington the Mason. There has not been a definitive study done on him since the 50’s. So we’re going to produce a book that will have all of the facts, explain his activities as a Mason and how it affected his life and how it affected our country.

I bring you all fraternal greetings from the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. Brethren, we honor and remember those who have done great deeds to advance and benefit all of humanity. In Masonry, we understand that all of humanity exists under the fatherhood of God, and that we are responsible for each other. It is because we are all interconnected that the actions of those who do great deeds affect us on a level that is difficult to define and explain. It is imperative that the George Washington Masonic National

Memorial is supported and that it continues to be a reminder of and a memorial to George Washington – that truly great man who did more for the advancement of humanity than any other man in the history of western civilization.

Washington's life was a continual journey of improvement. He lived his life in the same manner that we as Freemasons should live our lives. We should strive to improve ourselves daily and work to make this world that we live in a peaceful, productive and joyous world. Through his lifetime and Masonic understanding, he became a perfect ashlar, a just and upright Mason and a true Master Mason. George Washington was indeed a living stone who remains the cornerstone of American civilization.

The Memorial was conceived and constructed as a physical representation of the admiration and respect that Freemasons hold for him – in his honor and memory it was erected, Brother George Washington. It is a valid, meaningful and inspiring contribution to the betterment of mankind. The physical structure of the Memorial is symbolic of the greatness in character of that man it memorializes. Designed in the classical fashion, symbolizing the classical reference and model for the new nation created by Washington and our founding fathers. Built of granite, symbolizing the strength, courage and perseverance of Washington. Erected on the highest hill in the area, pointing to the Heavens, symbolizing the divine guidance and providence that Washington believed were guiding his efforts in creating our nation.

It was his courage, his strength of character, his integrity, his perseverance and his belief in divine providence that guided and were the deciding factors in the success of the American Revolution and the founding of the United States of America. We must not allow his name, his legacy and his memory to fade away. We must keep him as our example and model of what a citizen and what a Freemason should and can be. The character, virtues and vision of Washington must be preserved and transmitted to this and all future generations.

The vision and mission of the Memorial for the 21st Century is to inspire humanity through education, to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington – the man, the Mason and father of our country. To do this the challenge we face, and that all Freemasons face, is that whether we as Masons are striving to live in accordance with the virtues Brother Washington exemplified.

In 1929, the President of the Association, Louis Watres, articulated that challenge clearly when he stated, 'The Memorial will eloquently tell the world that Masons are builders, builders of individual character, and that the vital question of our time and our country is not how many adhere to any particular creed, but how many accept as their standard the stabilizing, constructive character of him in whose memory this temple shall stand throughout the coming years.' These words spoken so many years ago are just as relevant and perhaps even more important today than when they were spoken.

For those of you who have not visited the Memorial, it is a large lighthouse looking building more than 335 feet high on the highest hill in the area within sight of our nation's Capital just across the Potomac River. The purpose of the Memorial is to shine the light of the Freemasonry to the four corners of the world. The light that shines from the lighthouse in Alexandria, Virginia is the

light of George Washington's character, the light of Freemasonry. It is the light that calls good men to be better. It is the light that reminds the world of Freemasonry's noble history.

The Memorial's light began illuminating the world in 1932, yet its Masonic light began in the distant past. It is a light that inspired the first Freemasons in the British Isles to form lodges and grand lodges. It is a light that spread American Freemasonry from a few lodges and a few dozen brothers in the 1750's to thousands of lodges and millions of Masons today. It is the same light that spread Freemasonry across the globe. It is a light that when rising in the East calls us to labor, illuminates our work throughout the day and guides us from labor to rest as it sets in the West.

The light that shines from the Memorial is the very light that a young George Washington received in the lodge at Fredericksburg in 1752. It's the light that spurred him into action as a young surveyor, a farmer at Mount Vernon, and as our first Commander in Chief during our war for independence. This light shown through Washington when after ultimate victory as the American Cincinnatus, he surrendered his commission to the continental congress and returned to Mount Vernon. Yet guided by that light, Washington returned to public service as our first President of the new United States of America. Until his untimely death, it was a light that guided all of his actions.

Through the generations, and since the Memorial Association was founded in 1910, the light of Washington's virtues has made manifest in that great granite memorial that bears his name remains a strong and bright beacon. It lights the way and calls every Freemason to better actions, to avoid the dangers of vice, and to guide all Americans toward brotherly love, relief and truth.

Today, the Memorial, Freemasonry's Lighthouse, continues to shine the light of Washington's character and the light of Freemasonry. As long as men are drawn to the light, the Memorial would inspire men to become Freemasons, but not simply Freemasons – but to be good men and true men, be like George Washington, an upright, honest and just man.

Brethren, I am certain the light of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial will continue to shine from the high hilltop along the Potomac. It will stand for generations to come, unmovable, a beacon from the past and into the future. But unlike other lighthouses, the Memorial needs men not simply to keep its light shining, but to amplify and perpetuate the virtues of Washington, thereby spreading the light of Freemasonry. It needs good Freemasons to call men to be better, to join an ancient and honorable tradition and to inspire them to good works. Brethren, the greatest gift George Washington gave us was our freedom. The Memorial was built by our Masonic Forefathers to acknowledge not only that gift, but all that he gave and all that he did for us. Now it is our turn to ensure that the light of George Washington continues to shine and dispel the darkness, and bring further light to mankind. Thank you, my Brethren. Please come and visit your Memorial.”

At this point, Brother Seghers presented to Most Worshipful Barger a certificate of appreciation for interest in and support of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary

As always, it is an honor and privilege to present my report as Grand Secretary.

After several years of planning for and then hosting the Conference of Grand Masters of North America in 2017, the work of the Grand Lodge office was more “normal” this year. This allowed our staff to focus on the day-to-day operations of the Grand Lodge. We continue to look for ways to make the operation of the Grand Lodge office as efficient as possible while still providing the best service possible to our lodges and members. Likewise, improvements continue to be made to our lodge interface software program as part of the Grand Lodge’s commitment to support the work of our local lodge secretaries.

Our office building continues to provide a wonderful home to the Grand Lodge and the Nebraska Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. This year improvements were made to our entryway to address continuing water leaks and improve the drainage in this area of our property. In addition, repairs were undertaken to the back of our building to address water leakage and drainage issues in that part of the structure. Thanks to the financial support of our membership, a new flag pole in front of the building has been installed. Each member is welcome to visit our office when in Lincoln. I know you will be made welcome.

The Nebraska Masonic Foundation continues its support of our Museum and improvements continue to be made to the exhibition of our collection of historical materials.

We continue to benefit from the excellent work of Michelle Fulmer and Debbie Galli. In addition to their regular duties, they are actively involved with the Masonic All-Star Band Camp and Nebraska CHIP. 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 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 deaths of Ted R. Groves of Peru Lodge No. 14 and A. Gary Keeling of Superior Lodge No. 121. We will miss their good counsel and knowledge at our annual secretary workshop at Grand Lodge.

My report would not be complete without thanking our Lodge secretaries for their service to the fraternity. Their work is essential to the well-being of each lodge and, while often taken for granted, is appreciated. The Grand Lodge annually recognizes secretaries who timely file their reports and participate in Grand Lodge activities. The secretaries receiving this Certificate of Achievement for 2018 are:

Mark K. Westadt, Nebraska Lodge No. 1
 John R. Grant, Western Star Lodge No. 2
 Jay H. Speck, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6
 A. Carl Highman, Papillion Lodge No. 39
 Ronald L. Furse, Aurora Lodge No. 68
 Daniel G. Aspegren, Geneva Lodge No. 79
 Alvin O. Benemerito, Long Pine Lodge No. 136
 Bruce G. Raddatz, Jachin Lodge No. 146
 Frederich E. DeVries, Highland Lodge No. 194

Dick L. Hemmingsen, Plainview Lodge No. 204
 Olin D. Boone, Hickman Lodge No. 256
 Jerrell F. Gerdes, Franklin Lodge No. 264
 Kent L. Neumann, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
 Dwight E. Smith, Oshkosh Lodge No. 286
 Ralph J. Riemann, Cotner Lodge No. 297
 Craig R. Crawford, Mizpah Lodge No. 302
 S. Hal Cottrell, Bellevue Lodge No. 325

I also report the following statistical information:

Membership longevity awards presented in 2018

50-year 138 60-year..... 97 65-year27
 70-year 26

2018 Membership Activity (preliminary)

Number of Lodges.....	118		
Membership 1/1/2018	9,644		
Entered Apprentices	157		
Fellow Crafts	1934		
		Demits	31
Master Masons	127	Deceased.....	296
Affiliations	25	Suspensions.....	324
Duals	20	Withdrew	5
Reinstatements	61	Termination of duals	23
Consolidated	185	Consolidated	185
Other.....	0	Other	0
Total Gain	418	Total Loss.....	864
<hr/>		<hr/>	
		Membership 12/31/2018	9,198

I am honored by this opportunity to serve our Fraternity, and express my continued appreciation to the members of the Grand Lodge.

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 2018 Proceedings as printed, including the reports contained therein. The motion was seconded and carried.



To fill time before the report of the results of the officer elections, Most Worshipful Barger invited those in attendance to address the assemblage to discuss topics of interest to the Craft.

Most Worshipful Bruce Baker, Past Grand Master and outgoing Chairman of the Grand Lodge Office Committee gave a report on the status of the exterior construction project at the Grand Lodge Office building.

“We reported last year that we found some deficiencies with the building. We have a beautiful building in Lincoln that houses the Grand Lodge office. Most Worshipful Brother Grand Secretary Reg already touched on our staff, which is outstanding. We, along with Most Worshipful Patrick, Right Worshipful Brother Bob and the Finance Committee, approved some improvements to the Grand Lodge office building in Lincoln. I’ll bring you up to date on that. We’ve replaced the roof. We’ve fixed the deteriorating corners which were causing a leak, including the front entrance. We’ve done cement work that makes the entrance and exit much safer than it was previously. Yet to be completed are the installation of windows, painting and the installation of new gutters.

I would also mention that we had an asking about a year ago because for some unknown reason we hadn’t noticed that we did not have a flag pole at the Grand Lodge office. Thanks to the generosity of individuals and lodges, we financed that and it will be erected as soon as weather permits, along with the windows, the painting and the guttering that are yet to be completed. We consider the office a great investment. We think the improvements enhance that investment.

I’m going to mention here, unsolicited, and Most Worshipful Sir, you can shut me down at any time. When Most Worshipful Patrick served with me when I was Grand Master in 2011, he was deployed to Afghanistan, and when he returned, he brought a flag that was presented to him that flew over his location in Afghanistan. I am going to propose to you, Brethren, that while we are so grateful for the flagpole that was obviously missing, when we get an opportunity to look at the progress we’ve made and improvements we’ve made on the building, we would like to raise that flag and have you, Most Worshipful, and Right Worshipful, obviously to supervise our intentions, and that flag will then be displayed in our museum, with your permission. I know I’ve talked with you before so I’m not putting you on the spot, but we appreciate that. And Brethren, we appreciate what we’re doing with that building and it’s a great investment. If you’re in Lincoln, take a look and stop in and thank the staff for what they do.

M.:W.: Philip A. Lorenzen requested permission to approach the altar. The Grand Master granted permission, and Past Grand Master Phil made the following remarks:

“Phil Lorenzen, Past Grand Master, and a role as Chair of the Committee on Nebraska Work and also in my role as President of the Nebraska Masonic Home. You have approved both of my reports. I appreciate that very much. But I would like to call your attention to a couple of things. Number one, relative to the Committee on Nebraska Work. I again emphasize, and it’s included in the report, the focus that’s been given to proficiency. I’m a ritualist, I love ritual, and I really commend you, Most Worshipful Patrick, and your officers for all that’s been done to promote that. I wish to thank the Custodians in the room, and I will personally thank them for what they’ve done, because it is admirable how we have advanced in our quality of ritual and I do thank you very much for that, very sincerely. Keep it up, Brethren. It’s what we’re made of and those lessons are terribly important, so I’m pleased to see that focus.

A couple things on The Nebraska Masonic Home. One, we’ve made a lot of capital improvements. It’s expensive. We paid about \$400,000 for a new chiller.

We have two chillers. You have to have cooling for the residents and we need the backup, so we spent about \$400,000 there. The nurse call system was antiquated. That broke down. We spent about \$400,000 for a nurse call system to get us up to speed for where we need to be. In the absence of an adequate nurse call system, we have to call in basically everybody that's available and they have to make a one-hour check on every resident when we don't have communication. So we've made capital improvements there. We have a new flag pole that was a donation from one of our residents in The Home. It carries the American flag, lighted, and on game days, it carries the Nebraska flag. So when you go through Plattsmouth, it just shows our patriotism and our loyalty to our University as well.

Just looking to the future, we're focusing on vetting the qualifications for entry to The Home, so keep that in mind. Our census is down, Brothers. Promote The Nebraska Masonic Home everywhere you are. We think it's misunderstood in terms of how you gain admission to The Home. It's important to know how easy it is to be admitted to The Home. There's a regular way, which is we pay the bill, and there's a self-pay way. And we're trying to liberalize those requirements and so forth. The census is down to 63 residents. The memory unit is back up a little bit, but people tend to come later. So I would implore each of you to consider in your own lodge areas the value of The Nebraska Masonic Home and what it means to Masons and what a fantastic facility it is and how it will long endure. Our endowment fund is doing well, but we appreciate all the contributions that are made. Please promote The Home as a residence for those folks who need care as they move through life. That's very important.

Thank you, Most Worshipful."

Grand Master Patrick thanked M.:W.: Phil for all of his work for the Grand Lodge and The Home.



Grand Master Patrick asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort Worshipful Brother Myron Bell, Sr. to the East.

Most Worshipful thanked W.B. Bell, Sr. for his efforts in coordinating the Swisher Lodge Degrees in 2018 with Bellevue Lodge No. 325. He explained that he had awarded W.B. Bell with the Masonic Service Award, with distinction, following those degrees. Previously, the pins representing distinction were not available. Grand Master then presented the pin to Brother Bell and thanked him again for his work and the work of the brothers of Bellevue Lodge for those degrees.



Deputy Grand Master announced that Nebraska Masonic Foundation Museum and Library Coins were available for purchase from the Foundation directors for \$25 each. He encouraged the Brethren to purchase the coins and contribute to the Foundation.



Most Worshipful Mike Jones, President of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation addressed the assembly regarding the report of the Foundation. He noted that the emphasis for the past year has been on getting the museum and library prepared. He acknowledged M.:W.: Tom Hauder, M.:W.: Russ Reno, Denny Brydl, and other

members of Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 for their efforts in organizing and entering the books in the library into the database and getting the museum and library in order.

M.:W.: Jones made reference to the Foundation report, pointing out the summary from M.:W.: Hauder regarding the value of some of the books and challenges the Foundation will face going forward. Past Grand Master Jones noted that the funds being raised are needed to fund software purchases, preparing the museum for public access, as well as moving forward from the books to cataloging the objects in the museum. He encouraged everyone to support the Foundation so that the goals may be accomplished.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REPORT OF BALLOT

The Chairman of Tellers, W.:B.: Roger Deininger 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.: Ronald D. Stites
- Grand Senior Warden R.: W.: James A. Carlton
- Grand Junior Warden..... R.: W.: Alexander F. Straatmann
- Grand Secretary M.: W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM

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



The Grand Lodge was called from Labor to Refreshment, to reconvene Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 8:30 am.



V.:W.: Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi invoked the blessing of Deity, in preparation for the noon meals:

“Thank you Heavenly Father for having allowed us to share this day together in brotherhood and fellowship. We go forth now looking forward to tomorrow’s assemblage to continue this weekend with our Masonic family. Watch over us this evening as we go about relaxing at the banquet, spending time with our loved ones and sharing spirits and conversation. And please watch over the late John Wonder for having worked so diligently to establish an oasis at mirth at our Annual Communication that lives on long after he joined You in Your Heavenly Kingdom. Amen.”

2019 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-second
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019

Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger
Grand Master

Membership Banquet
Friday, February 1, 2019
7:00 p.m.

V. :. W. :. Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi 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 Patrick Barger invited Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Mary Russell, 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 17th Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. Each was presented a check in the amount of \$3,691.34. A total of \$11,074.02 was raised at the Grand Master's Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. The Grand Master thanked Rob King, Chairman of the Masonic Charities Golf Tournament Committee, committee members, volunteers and participants who have continued to make it a successful endeavor for the charities.



Most Worshipful Patrick Barger then introduced the band Swing Fever for the evening's entertainment.

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One Hundred Sixty-second
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Held in Kearney, Nebraska
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Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger
Grand Master

Morning Session
Saturday, February 2, 2019

V.: W.: Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi invoked the blessing of Deity.

“Oh Great Architect of the Universe, we know that winter will soon pass and the return of spring will most assuredly renew growth in the world around us. Please guide us as we move forward with a renewed commitment in our hearts to truly live our Masonic vows in both thought and deed. We thank You for allowing us to assemble at the altar yesterday with our Brethren, and once again repeat the stirring words of our obligation as Master Masons. Allow those vows to trumpet forth as a clarion call to remind us to be worthy of them. Help us to commit to fulfilling these vows to Masonry and the world at large. Please allow us to be truly worthy of the title of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska. Assist us to move ever closer to that perfect ashlar which is unreachable in our world and is attainable only in Your Holy Kingdom. Amen.”

R.: W.: Bob Moninger, Deputy Grand Master, called the 162nd 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 2, 2019.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

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

Recommendation No. 1

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~~ *new candidates* 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, Most Worshipful Barger gave the following rationale for the recommendation:

“Let me ask you. What’s the hurry to make someone a Master Mason? We hope that they’re with us for the rest of their lives. What’s the hurry? In the last thirty years we’ve made it as quick and easy to make men Masons as we possibly could and all it did is make it quick and easy for them to leave. And after we’ve raised them in what amounts to overnight, then what? Little to nothing in many lodges except throw them in a chair before the ink is dry on the

bylaws they just signed. No mentoring and no lifelong bond. In most cases you'll have them on the books for three years, but he'll stop attending long before that. This recommendation restores the bond a candidate develops with the Mason who would post him with full proficiency and assist with his fledgling understanding of our Craft.

When petitioning to join us today, the vast majority of our new Masons tell us they want to learn the full form proficiency and that Masonic knowledge is what they seek. If we instill in them a solid understanding of the fraternity they just joined, they are much more likely to stay with us for the rest of their lives. This is not about memorizing words to perfection, but rather the fraternal bond created by the pairing of a new candidate with a seasoned mentor. It is something they will never forget, nor are likely to toss away easily by leaving us.

To conduct degrees, most lodges depend on Masons – now I'm saying most lodges. It may not be your lodge. But we see these lodges all across the state in every size, shape and form you can imagine. But most lodges rely on the people who learned the full form proficiency, the time honored requirements that this legislation seeks to restore. Once those men pass on to that Undiscovered Country, lodges will be unable to conduct degrees. In fact, sixty-six percent of our lodges cannot conduct degrees. Two-thirds of our lodges cannot conduct degrees. We must take an immediate, bold step to ensure Nebraska Masonry does not lose its identity and, subsequently, its very existence.

This proposed legislation reaffirms that the final say on whether or not a candidate demonstrates the full form answers well enough to advance to the next degree rests with the Worshipful Master. Again, this is not about memorization. Even if a candidate performs at fifty percent proficiency, or even less, and is approved to advance by the Worshipful Master, that leaves lodges much better off than the meager number of lines they barely learn now. There's no set number of mistakes a candidate can make. It's up to the Worshipful Master. And I trust that he'll make the decision that is best for his lodge.

I have always said that when it comes to ritual, we seek to be proficient, not perfect. Nebraska Masonry doesn't have a recruiting problem, we have a retention problem. We brought in approximately 100 people last year, but we fail to keep those men. Don't look around at the handful of people who are active in your lodge. Look at your records and see how many of them came through your doors and walked back out again after a short period of time. This year, not counting 244 deaths, we suspended 324 people across the state, which is a long-standing trend. Three times as many people that we bring in choose to walk away from our lodges each year. Three times. Plus three times as many die each year.

Nebraska now stands at under 9,000 members. And if you do the math, very simply put, if we don't do something now, Nebraska Masonry has approximately 15.7 years left. We've tried countless recruiting drives over the years, but none have ever been or ever could be massive enough to offset this rapid decline, and that's akin to putting more and more air in the tire without plugging the hole.

It is critical that sooner rather than later the fraternity must come to acknowledge many men come to Masonry looking for something we never give

them. We offer plenty of green bean dinners, picnics, charity work, and opportunities to have fun, yet we still lose members in droves. We need to realize that men aren't coming to us for all of those things. They can find that in any of countless other community groups. We have to offer them something that sets us apart from all of those organizations. We must offer them the lessons of Masonry. This is what distinguishes us from the pack. This is what we have been sorely lacking since the terrible and ill-advised decision thirty years ago to all but eliminate it from a candidate's introduction to and subsequent interaction with our beloved fraternity. The subsequently sharp decline in our membership numbers is dramatically evident as a result.

At the beginning of 2018, I unveiled a coin to bestow upon Entered Apprentice Masons who voluntarily chose to learn and recite the full form answers for proficiency. As you saw in the Nebraska Mason and the Grand Lodge blog, I was kept very busy traveling the state as a result of these self-motivated men. The argument that young people these days will refuse to learn our ritual is wholly misguided. On average, it takes about thirty days for a new Mason to learn the full form EA answers if he has a mentor to regularly help and encourage him. Much less time is required for the Fellow Craft and Master Mason since they are very similar. Working toward a consistent, detailed and significant Masonic task is much more worthwhile in a mentoring role than simply giving a new Mason your phone number and telling him to contact you if he needs anything. The mentor doesn't even have to memorize the ritual. He just needs to be able to read a cipher and know when a candidate needs help.

Our new Deputy Grand Custodians at Large can come to your lodge and ask your candidate the questions for the official proficiency immediately prior to his next degree, if necessary. And that is why we created that corps, to be able to help lodges that need help in every aspect of the ritual, including proving up new candidates.

In the last twenty-five years, most lodges have not utilized any formal mentoring structure due to not knowing exactly how to do it, coupled with a constant change in lodge leaders each year. Re-establishing standardized full form proficiency mentoring under this measure takes all of the guesswork out of that. If a candidate refuses to join Masonry because of his ritual requirement, how can you depend on him to put forth the proper amount of effort it takes to be a good lodge officer or roll up his sleeves for important lodge projects?

It takes a sixty-six percent majority to pass this recommendation, not fifty-one percent as required in our Presidential and other government elections, and most everywhere else a vote is held. Last year, this recommendation received sixty-two percent of your votes. Not only did it come very close to passing, but it shows the vast majority of you recognize our desperate need for this. This year, I humbly urge you to again vote for this initiative and if you've already marked your ballot against, please consider the long-term welfare of our fraternity and change it to for.

My brothers, I leave the future of Nebraska Masonry in your hands. There are many challenges to overcome, but one thing stands above the rest if we're going to survive in any configuration the great men who founded this fraternity would recognize. Renew the time honored focus on putting more Masonry into men rather than more men into Masonry."

M.:W.:B.: Barger moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 1 was seconded.

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

After discussion was held on the matter, R.:W.:B.: Moninger 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 more than the required two-thirds majority vote

Most Worshipful Barger announced that the Recommendation would become effective upon codification of the bylaws, which would be a few months into the future. Lodges with candidates who were balloted upon prior to the recommendation would be allowed to request dispensation from the Grand Master to complete their degrees with the form of proficiency in place at the time of their election.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

Recommendation No. 2

Amend **Section 2-503 – MEETINGS** – by adding such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized.

Sec. 2-503 – MEETINGS – The regular meetings of a subordinate lodge are those only which are designated by its Bylaws as such. Notices of meetings may be published in the news media. Eight Master Masons, members of the lodge, must be present at all regular meetings. *Regular meetings of a subordinate lodge may be opened in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason degree when eight Master Masons of said lodge assume the officer stations and places and comply with the requirements of Section 2-1001 of this code.* When, however, the question to be voted upon is consolidation with another lodge, under provisions of Section 2-207 hereof, the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative, may convene the lodge and preside therein and the question may be decided by a majority vote of such members of the lodge as are present, even though less than eight. At all meetings of the lodge the charter or a photo static copy thereof, certified by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge, as well as the three great lights and the representative of the three lesser lights must be present. No business matters may be taken up or passed upon by the lodge at a special or emergent meeting except funerals, installation, conferring of degrees, examination for proficiency in the degrees, and those matters specifically authorized in the Grand Lodge law, or referred to such special meeting by the Grand Master.

The Worshipful Master of each subordinate lodge, after being duly installed, is authorized to open a lodge for emergent communication for the sole purpose of conducting funeral services, which lodge shall remain open for the duration of the term of office of the Worshipful Master who opened the same, and which shall be closed by him before his successor is installed. The Secretary shall be responsible for supplying and returning to the lodge the properties of the lodge required for use at each funeral service.

After explaining the recommendation, Most Worshipful Barger gave the following rationale for the recommendation:

“This recommendation seeks to allow regular communications of a subordinate lodge to be opened in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or

Master Mason degree when eight Master Masons of said lodge assume the officer positions and comply with the requirements of Section 2-1001 of our Masonic Code. In 2018, multiple lodges drafted changes to their bylaws asking the Grand Master to approve opening in any degree at the discretion of the Worshipful Master to facilitate new members becoming involved in the lodge from the outset. This legislation extends that decision from me to all of you.

Voting in blue lodges, a luxury only to Master Masons, can be easily monitored and regulated by the Worshipful Master and Senior Deacon since they should know the few members in their lodge who are Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons. They can direct them to abstain from casting ballots or raising hands in favor of or opposition to any motion. This legislation further retains that luxury for Master Masons only, but it extends a welcoming hand to those new Masons who we want to meaningfully engage in the bulk of our lodge activities.

While this proposed legislation does not alter the voting mandates of Section 2-1001, it is interesting to note that nothing in Anderson's constitutions, the Shaw statutes or other Masonic charges and landmarks prohibited opening in any of the degrees of ancient craft Masonry originally. Until the United States Masonic Convention of 1843 in Baltimore, all American lodges allowed business meetings to be opened in any degree. Only after the infamous "Morgan Affair" did American lodges want to ensure only Master Masons could vote to prevent Anti-Masonic Party members from infiltrating the fraternity by managing to obtain Entered Apprentice status under nefarious intent. The justification for this level of caution has long since passed. The ability to open in any degree affords Nebraska Masonry the opportunity to dispense with the need to make Master Masons as fast as we can and ensures a more thorough, methodic approach to their initial interaction with their brothers.

This legislative proposal seeks to meet the needs of not only the vast majority of new Masons seeking membership in our fraternity, but those of the fraternity itself. If a new Mason invests something of himself into our organization and receives a sound, fundamental understanding of it and interaction with his brethren through this proposed opportunity, he'll find what he's looking for and remain with us for the rest of his life. I humbly urge you to vote for this initiative."

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Barger 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.: Moninger 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 **Section 2-512 – BYLAWS** – 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. 2-512 – BYLAWS – Each chartered subordinate lodge may enact bylaws for its own government, provided the same are not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of this Grand Lodge, or with the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. No bylaw shall be valid until approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. No bylaw or amendment thereto shall be adopted until a written proposal thereof shall have been presented at some previous regular meeting of the lodge. After adoption, ~~a certified copy three certified copies thereof, with the amended section, if any, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, two of which shall be retained by him, and the other~~ **The proposal shall then be** returned to the lodge with an endorsement of action taken thereon. Every member of a subordinate lodge must sign its bylaws.

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

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

There was no discussion on the matter. There was a call 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 MEMBER RESOLUTION NO. 1

The following resolution was presented at the 161st Annual Communication in February 2018:

Resolution No. 1

Amend **paragraph (g) of Section 3-102 – ENUMERATED** – by adding such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized.

Sec. 3-102 – ENUMERATED – Masonic offenses shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(g) Making application to, or joining any lodge, society, or institution that shall 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.

R.:W.:B.: Moninger asked one or more of the signers of Resolution No. 1 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. Brother William “Bill” Short, a delegate

from Cotner Lodge No. 297, a signer on Resolution No. 1, gave the rationale for proposing the Resolution, and moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded.

After discussion, R.:W.:B.: Moninger called for the question and the written ballot was collected and counted by the Tellers. The motion failed to receive the required two-thirds majority vote.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Delmar A. Jones, Chairman

The Credentials Committee is pleased to report the following for this the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska.

We have in attendance 14 Grand Lodge Officers, 19 Past Grand Masters, 16 Deputy Grand Custodians and 43 Non-delegate Masons.

At the time of this report, there are the following Masters, Wardens and Secretaries registered: There are 53 Worshipful Masters in person and 28 by proxy; there are 26 Senior Wardens in person and 25 by proxy; there are 46 Junior Wardens in person and 22 by proxy and 53 Secretaries in person and 25 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, 39, 46, 50, 54, 102, 112, 135, 256, 268, 281, 290, 300, 310, 314, 325, 328, 332 and 333. 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: 30, 34, 36, 41, 43, 73, 75, 83, 95, 128, 134, 154, 158, 180, 204, 222, 229, 248, 251, 265 and 324. There have been no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries registered for two years from the following Lodges: 73, 83, 128, 158, 180, 248 and 324; and for three years from lodges 73, 128, 180 and 248, and for four years, 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, Iowa, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, 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, Daughters of the Nile, Social Order of the Beauceant, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.

Other attendance items that may be of interest are: There were 223 at the Grand Master's Banquet Thursday evening, there were 278 at the Public opening Friday morning and 220 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 Patrick. 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 Mike Hoagland, Karl Rasmussen, Gordon Brown, Grady Wells, and Bill Short. We missed Frank Dougherty this year, who was unable to attend.

I also extend a huge thank you to Michelle and Debbie at the Grand Lodge office who work so hard and efficiently 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
William “Bill” Short, 297, Ad hoc

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

FINAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

John E. Lorenzen, Chairman

Worshipful Brother Jack Lorenzen began by recognizing and thanking the members of the Finance Committee and the office staff of the Grand Lodge.

The 2018 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 December 3, 2018, the Committee approved the following budget for 2019 to be proposed for approval by the delegates at the Annual Communication in February 2019. It should be noted that the categories of income and expense for the Masonic Band Camp have been removed from the general operating budget due to a separate restricted checking account being created for that purpose.

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 2018 are as follows:

	Actual	Budgeted
Revenue	516,227	\$526,987
Expenses	510,814	572,847
Net Difference	5,413	(45,860)

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 2018. An investment draw was not necessary in part due to most Grand Lodge Officers not claiming expense reimbursements for travel and the office staff keeping budget items for operating expenses, equipment, printing, supplies, computer and general expenses in check.

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
 Micheal A. Buchardt, 256
 Jack G. Frahm, 204
 Thomas W. Hosier, 268
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19, 317
 Rick E. Nelson, 317
 Charles V. Sederstrom, III, 290, 333
 Stuart W. Sprick, 10

Account	2019 Budget
Lodge Income	
4100.000 Membership Dues	230,464.00
4100.000 Membership Dues - from Perp	12,361.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home	8,864.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home - from Perp	473.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home	22,160.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home - from Perp	1,811.50
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington	13,296.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington - from Perp	553.00
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason	4,432.00
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason - from Perp	311.00
4175.000 GL Admin Fee - from Perp	2,000.00
4200.000 Initiation Fees	3,000.00
4210.000 Reinstatement Fees	800.00
4640.000 CHIP Assessment	14,466.00
4670.000 Youth Assessment	14,466.00
4300.000 Surety Bond Premium	2,500.00
4350.000 Liability Ins Premium	15,759.00
Subtotal - Lodge Income	347,716.50

Sales Income	
4400.000 Donations for Supplies	6,000.00
4625.000 Annual Communication Meals Income	20,245.00
4633.500 AC Registration Fee	3,200.00
4335.400 Sale of Installation Reception Tickets	1,400.00
4875.000 Miscellaneous Income	1,500.00
4910.000 Interest - General Fund	400.00
Subtotal-Sales Income	32,745.00
Program Income	
4900.000 GL Education Programs	0.00
4465.000 GM Program Income	0.00
Subtotal-Program Income	0.00
Participatory Income	
4500.000 SR Feasibility Study Reimb Loan Pmt	3,865.66
4600.000 Rental Income	9,180.00
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	42,445.66
TOTAL REVENUE	\$422,907.16
Annual Communication	
5100.000 Annual Communicattion Meals Expense	20,869.68
5104.400 Guest Room Rental	3,600.00
5111.400 Entertainment - Grand Master's Banquet	2,500.00
5131.400 Entertainment - Membership Banquet	750.00
5150.400 Ladies Program	500.00
5170.400 Misc Incidental Expense	6,000.00
5440.400 Printing & Copying - Ann. Comm.	2,500.00
5120.400 Proceedings	3,000.00
Subtotal-Annual Communication	39,719.68
Installation	
5170.425 Misc. Installation	3,000.00
5220.425 Installation Meals	2,580.60
5440.425 Printing & Copying - Installation	200.00
Subtotal-Installation	5,780.60
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	500.00
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 Conf of Grand Masters/Grand Secretaries	6,718.15
5240.550 Midwest Conference	730.00
5240.600 Rocky Mountain Conference	5,900.00
5240.700 Shrine Membership Seminar	1,000.00
5260.300 School of Instruction	1,000.00
Subtotal-Travel & Related	43,498.15
Occupancy & Related	
5410.000 Utilities	10,350.00
5412.000 Trash Removal	500.00
5413.000 Grounds Maintenance	3,940.00
5414.000 Building Maintenance	11,030.00
5415.000 Telephone	3,800.00
5420.000 Equipment Lease & Maintenance	13,100.00
5430.000 Equipment Purchase	4,000.00
5435.000 Postage	6,000.00
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	3,200.00
5460.000 Computer Repair & Maint	2,000.00
5465.000 Computer Software Sup	4,012.95
5470.000 Dues & Subscriptions	1,100.00
5475.000 NE Mason Pub Exp	25,525.00
5480.000 Bank Service Charge-Unrestricted	25.00
5481.000 Credit Card Fees	1,000.00
5485.000 Professional Fees - Accting Audit	5,500.00
5490.000 Corporate/Legal Fees - Sect'y of State, etc.	25.00

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	1,000.00
5515.000 Lodge Ofcra Directory Printing	2,000.00
5525.000 GL Jewels, Aprons & Collars	2,400.00
Subtotal-Occupancy & Related	113,057.95
Insurance & Administrative	
5600.000 Workers Compensation	562.00
5605.000 Group Ins for GL Employees	23,342.88
5610.000 Surety Bond	2,500.00
5620.000 GL Directors & Officers Ins	3,318.00
5625.000 Lodge Liability Insurance	15,759.00
5635.000 Grand Lodge Insurance	6,742.00
5650.000 Other Admin Exp-General	4,000.00
Subtotal-Insurance & Admin	56,223.88
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
5650.750 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	700.00
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	16,450.00
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	108,744.41

6560.000 Performance Incentive	2,400.00
6562.100 FICA-Employer Share	8,502.55
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	3,262.33
6681.000 Grand Custodian Contract Amt	3,000.00
6680.000 Contract Labor	1,000.00
6580.000 GL Office Staff-Training	500.00
Subtotal-Salaries & Related	127,809.29
Pass Through	
5704.000 Fremont Home Dues	9,337.00
5705.000 NE Masonic Home Dues	23,971.50
5706.000 Geo Washington Mem Dues	13,849.00
5650.100 CHIP Expense	14,466.00
5810.000 NE DeMolay Donation	4,822.00
5811.000 Job's Daughters Donation	4,822.00
5812.000 Rainbow Donation	4,822.00
Subtotal-Pass Through	76,089.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$482,959.05
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES (Net Loss)	-60,051.89
Investment Income	
4700.000 Int & Div FNB (3.61% of investment balance of \$1,663,710 on 11/30/2018)	
Subtotal-Investment Income	\$60,051.89
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.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER’S ADDRESS

M.: W.:B.: Grand Master Barger asked R.: W.:B.: Bob Moninger for his Address in anticipation of serving as Grand Master in 2019.

Deputy Grand Master Moninger addressed the brethren:

“Most Worshipful Patrick, Past Grand Masters, visiting dignitaries, and brethren all, it is truly an honor and a privilege, yet very humbling experience to stand before you to bring this address. There are so many, many things that need to be said and done, and it’s difficult to know where to begin.

I'll go back in history just a little bit. In 2013, Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder and the advancing line laid out five areas of importance that needed to be worked on: Membership, Leadership, Finance, Ritual and Public Relations. I don't want to paint a picture of doom and gloom. We've had a lot of discussion, Grand Master's Recommendation No. 1 just passed, but yet there is great concern about membership numbers and the direction in which they are going. As we all know, our membership has been in steady decline for many, many years.

Suspension for nonpayment of dues and the Great Architect of the Universe calling brothers to that Celestial Lodge above, those two added together far exceed the number of men which are raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. That's not a problem that's unique to Nebraska. It's nearly in every jurisdiction across the United States. To address membership, we will be implementing a very simple program that I stole from Most Worshipful John Maxell. You can call it Rush Night, Discovering the Mysteries of Masonry, or just Friendship Dinner, or whatever you want to call it, but inviting potential candidates and their wives, and that will be rolling out within a few days.

There is no silver bullet to solve this long-term problem. Hopefully the ritual improvement will build better relationships and better mentoring in the lodges and help us solve this problem. Last year we raised 127 Master Masons. The average for the previous five years was 203. The previous five years before that was 298. Now, Brothers, something needs to be done. One, we need to work on this ritual, and two, we need to recruit. We need to replace ourselves. We heard that there were 284 votes cast just a minute ago. If each one of us that cast votes would go out and recruit one person that would be a very nice increase. It would be a good start. I'm asking each lodge to embrace this program in an effort to change this trend. I'm also asking each Brother to give serious consideration to become a spark in their lodge in recruiting and mentoring prospects. Not only replacing themselves, but recruiting one more for growth, so take that 284 times two. You do the math. That increase would be fantastic.

There are many who say that we cannot put on the degrees, so why do we even bother? As Most Worshipful mentioned a little while ago, we have Deputy Grand Custodians at Large and we have a lot of Deputy Grand Custodians. I ask that you call upon them. They will line up degree teams. We will come out and we will put on the degrees. In my little lodge, we have to call on other lodges to come in and help us to put on degrees. We're not ashamed of that. We just do it. We get it done. And it works. And we are also building camaraderie among the lodges too. Together, all of us working together, we can make a difference.

I would also ask the Membership Committee of each lodge to make a greater effort in calling on Brothers who have not paid their dues and who might be subject to suspension in an effort to determine what the lodge can do to retain them. What about brothers who have been suspended over the past few years? Are we reaching out to them requesting them to rejoin the fraternity or are we just forgetting about them? There may have been something going on in their lives at the time that they were suspended that doesn't apply today, and they might be willing to come back. They might want to come back. I fear that once a Brother has been suspended, he's just forgotten and no more effort is made to contact him. I would ask the Membership Committee of each lodge to carefully read the Retention Manual on the Grand Lodge web site.

While I've mentioned the Grand Lodge web site, I'm asking all Masons to check out the information that is contained in the many publications. A Brother recently discovered there was a wealth of information on the Grand Lodge web site that he did not know even existed.

Leadership seminars will be held across the state, as was done last year. These will most likely happen in the July/August timeframe. They will again be held in various locations with the goal of assisting Brothers in governing their lodges. Much can also be learned from cross-pollination of ideas among lodges at these seminars. Please make a concerted effort to attend a seminar close to you. Dates and locations will be announced in the coming weeks.

Financial security is a concern for everyone. We will be exploring an initiative to generate funds for the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Foundation. Whether it may be an immediate financial gift, or consideration of a gift left in a will, every bit helps, but together we can move the needle.

Ritual improvement has grown by leaps and bounds in terms of progress in the last few years thanks to the initial effort of M.:W.: Patrick. The DGC's and DGC's at Large will be called on to assist more Lodges in becoming proficient in opening and closing, along with working with Brothers who desire to become individually proficient. Together we can raise the bar in improving our ritual. At breakfast this morning, I had a past master say that he has a brother that wants to become proficient. I believe he was in the panhandle. We'll get him to work and we'll get him proficient. I applaud that.

Public Relations will be working with Membership and Leadership committees on the completion of a video promoting our fraternity, among other projects to put Masonry in front of the public in a positive manner.

We will be putting more emphasis on the Masonic Veterans Partnership program. There will be an upcoming article, as well as emails to the lodges on that topic.

We're going to have Area Meetings – one in the spring and one in the fall. In the spring, the officers will come out and we'll talk about what my programs are, what I would like to see done. Then they're going to turn it over to you. It's going to be your meeting. We want to hear from you. The Grand Lodge Officers don't have the cure for everything. We need to hear from you, take your ideas, and again, the cross-pollination of ideas, the more people that can get to these Area Meetings, the better. I believe that's paramount in making things work. There will be fall Area Meetings, which, again as history says, we will discuss Grand Master's Recommendations at that time.

One last little thing. We're going to do a Grand Master's trip this year. We're going to Key West, Florida. There will be information coming out on that. If you're coming to Installation this afternoon, there will be a flyer available. Again, borrowing from Past Grand Master John Maxell, thirty of us went down in 2015, and we had a blast. We would love to have everybody come along. I've heard right now we have forty people signed up, so that's not bad.

In closing, I'm reminded of a quote from Winston Churchill where he made a comparison to the duration of a speech to the length of a woman's skirt. 'It has to be long enough to cover the subject, yet short enough to keep your attention.' With that, thank you."

VOTING ON PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 1

The following proposed Constitutional Amendment was presented at the Annual Communication in February 2018 and thereafter submitted to the chartered subordinate lodges for their approval or rejection of bringing the question for ballot at the following session. A majority of the subordinate lodges approved thereof.

Proposed Amendment No. 1

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 Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon***, Grand Chaplain, 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-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 Custodian
- The Worshipful Grand Marshal
- ~~The Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon~~
- ~~The Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon~~
- The Worshipful Grand Senior Steward
- The Worshipful Grand Junior Steward
- The Grand Tyler

The office of Grand Master's Personal Representative(s), limited to a maximum of three appointed, if desired.

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

R.:W.:B.: Moninger covered for the Grand Master and asked a signer of Proposed Constitutional Amendment No. 1 to state the position of the signers prior to the ballot. M.:W.: Rick Myers, Past Grand Master, approached the microphone and gave the rationale for the proposed amendment.

A motion for the adoption of Proposed Constitutional Amendment No. 1 was made and seconded. There was no discussion on the matter. There was a call for the question and voting was done by a show of hands. The motion passed with a majority vote.



Grand Master Barger asked R.:W.: Bob Moninger to announce the slate of appointed officers for the 2019-2020 term, when he will serve as Grand Master.

John L. Millington, Grand Senior Deacon
John B. Ferguson, Grand Junior Deacon
John R. Herbolzheimer, Grand Chaplain
Michael W. Stuhr, Grand Orator
Kevin H. Scheele, Grand Historian
Delmar A. Jones, Grand Custodian
Robert C. King, Grand Marshal
Stanley L. Weidner, Grand Senior Steward
Jock H. Faris, Grand Junior Steward
Larry D. Donner, Grand Tyler
Michael D. Beall, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
Tyler S. Loontjer, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
Wayne E. Vian, Personal Representative of the Grand Master

A motion was made for the approval of the aforementioned appointed officers for 2019-2020. The motion was seconded and, with no discussion, the motion carried.

Right Worshipful Moninger 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.

REPORT OF PENDING RESOLUTIONS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Secretary Reginald S. Kuhn announced that he received two resolutions – one to amend the Bylaws and one to amend the Constitution. 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 2020.

Resolution No. 1

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

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

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

So that when amended, it will read as follows:

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

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

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

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

So that when amended, it will read as follows:

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

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

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

So that when amended, it will read as follows:

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

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

“In addition, each lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of Thirty-one dollars and fifty cents (\$31.50) as a per capita tax. The per capita tax allocated to the Grand Lodge shall increase...”

So that when amended, it will read as follows:

“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, *unless excluded for plural members as provided in Section 2-408*, commencing on the *1st day of January 2020*. *Plural members excluded from the per capita tax as provided in Section 2-408 shall be reported annually to the Grand Lodge by the Lodge Secretary using forms provided by the Grand Lodge Office.* The per capita tax allocated to the Grand Lodge shall increase...”

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

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

So that when amended, it will read as follows:

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

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

Resolution No. 2

Amend **ARTICLE VI – ELIGIBILITY** of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by adding such language, so that such Article, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized:

**ARTICLE VI.
ELIGIBILITY**

Sec. 1 No brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Warden, who has not been duly elected, installed, and presided over a subordinate lodge. There shall be no Honorary Officer or Officers of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 2 No Past Grand Master shall be appointed to any Grand Lodge Office, with the exception of Grand Secretary, until at least six years have passed since the completion of his term as Grand Master.

Rationale: There are several reasons for this change. First of all, we need to avoid the perception that the Grand Lodge line is an “old boys club” that only a select few can enter. While the office of Grand Secretary has duties and responsibilities that are unique and require some experience as a Grand Master, other Grand Lodge offices have no such prerequisites. We need to encourage participation from members across the state, not just in the eastern third. Offices such as Grand Orator, Grand Chaplain, Grand Custodian, and Grand Historian should be open and available to any and all Past Masters who have displayed the skills and talent needed to successfully carry out the duties of those offices.

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.: Bob Moninger and Blazing Star Lodge No. 200 in Burwell.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

M.: W.: B.: Patrick Barger made the following remarks before moving for approval of his printed and supplemental address.

“To the Brethren of Nebraska, it has been my pleasure to stand before you, before and right now, to offer remarks at the close of my tenure as Grand Master. Over the past year, I have acted in your stead. After shouldering responsibility for twelve months as your representative, you now set the course for the future of Nebraska Masonry.

To our visiting Brethren and representatives of Masonic appendant bodies, I thank you for your attendance and hope you garner as much from this annual session as I gained from yours. Throughout my decade of service as a Grand Lodge Officer, its high point is the friendships developed around the state and around the world. We establish robust connections that reinforce the fraternal

bond of our Craft. Thank you for your unwavering friendship and support throughout my journey.

My wife Diane and I offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the entire Masonic family of Nebraska for the honor and privilege of representing you in 2018. The support and friendship you offered us made fulfilling this significant and challenging effort must less daunting. We shall forever cherish the meaningful experience of service from the Grand East.

To the 2018 Grand Lodge Officers, despite my serving decades in the military, law enforcement investigations and Masonry, you are truly among the finest groups of men I have ever had the pleasure to stand beside. Those of you I had the privilege of selecting for service were handpicked for your proven leadership skills, dedication to the Craft and ability to work as a team. Your appointment was also ratified unanimously by the advancing line officers and Grand Secretary. Each of you is different and carries your own set of strengths, but all of you share the common bond of a desire to better the Craft as opposed to bettering yourself alone. It is nearly impossible to find that level of dedication in any group. I cherish our travels together and I salute you.

Henceforth you carry upon your shoulders the awesome responsibility of the prosperity of the Craft – not because you were a Grand Lodge Officer, but because you will always be a leader of our fraternity, regardless of whether or not you ever wear a gold chain again. Stand on what you accomplished, not whatever title accompanied your office. Titles without deeds are meaningless. Treat our ancient fraternity like the precious gem it is and always ensure your actions and decisions align with the great lessons of Masonry. It will mean infinitely more to you and the rest of the world than any laundry list of titles.

We began 2018 by reemphasizing what Masonry is, which was not to be confused with what it does. I've said that I've often heard Masons say, 'Masonry means something different to different people.' And I agree with that. That is true regarding some aspects of Masonry. But after reconvening Swisher Lodge, bestowing countless coins for proficiency excellence, our new lodge leadership program, and other events and programs too numerous to mention, now more than ever I believe Masonry is one thing to all of us. Masonry is the world's old fraternity of gentlemen founded on the code of ethics of the stone Masons who built King Solomon's temple.

As I prepare to move to the next phase of my life, I again thank those who, throughout Masonry's lifelong journey, inspired me with motivation, friendship and brotherly love. I will never forget the many wonderful experiences we shared while climbing the winding stairs together. To my Brethren wherever dispersed across this jurisdiction and the rest of the world, I offer my humble and heartfelt thanks. You have shown me great respect and given me great inspiration.

I leave you with this thought. Our fraternity is a precious gift bestowed upon us by our ancestors. It serves as an aid to living a well spent life but only if you work toward it through the time honored tenets of Masonry. This will never occur overnight and never ensues without effort. Properly and understood and embraced, it has the power to transform your life if you subscribe to its ongoing teachings. I wish each of you a fruitful, gratifying and lifelong journey discovering the hidden mysteries of Masonry. Thank you."

The printed Address is as follows:

Brethren:

Welcome to the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. This yearly assembly is designed as an occasion to address the significant business of our Grand Jurisdiction. Equally important is the opportunity to socialize, reinvigorate old friendships, and create new ones. In compliance with Article X, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska, and with great pride, pleasure, and humility, I present this written address. Among my thoughts, observations, and activities, it includes legislative proposals I tendered as Grand Master, consisting of recommendations forwarded to the Jurisprudence Committee and Nebraska's lodges not less than 45 days prior to this Annual Communication. These recommendations were presented in advance at all Area Meetings held this fall and sent to all lodges in December 2018.

This address further presents my official acts as the 152nd Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska during the preceding Masonic year.

To the Brethren of Nebraska, it is my pleasure to welcome you here. Over the past year, I acted in your stead; after shouldering this responsibility for 12 months as your representative, you now set the course for the future of Nebraska Masonry.

To our visiting Brethren and representatives of Masonic Appendant Bodies, I thank you for your attendance and hope you garner as much from this annual session as I gained from yours. Throughout my decade of service as a Grand Lodge Officer, its highpoint is the friendships developed across the state and around the world. We established robust connections that reinforce the fraternal bond of our craft. Thank you for your unwavering friendship and support throughout my journey.

My wife Diane and I offer our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the entire Masonic Family of Nebraska for the honor and privilege of representing you in 2018. The support and friendship you offered us made fulfilling this significant and challenging effort much less daunting. We shall forever cherish you and the meaningful experience of service in the Grand East.

PREFACE

Leadership is a Responsibility, not a Reward

Upon reviewing the Proceedings chronicled in M.:W.:Bro. Russ Reno's *The Sesquicentennial History of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska*, I reaffirmed my understanding and interpretation of the awesome responsibility of the Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska and the great character of many men preceding me in office.

I have done my level best to live up to that historical benchmark.

Amid taking the oath of office, I was fully cognizant of my charge to act in the best long-term interests of our fraternity. I believe this address confirms my commitment to that principle and reflects my philosophy toward governance and motivating others to action: *Leadership is a Responsibility, not a Reward.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, foremost, and without hesitation, I must acknowledge my loving wife Diane in the most heartfelt manner. As I was off pursuing matters of the craft for the last decade and before, she endured two separate ordeals battling different cancers, the loss of both of her beloved parents, and other unjust and unthinkable external tragedies. Yet, amid these and her thoroughly hectic and ever-changing internationally-based professional schedule, she stood by me and offered her every support of my fervent crusades, both within the fraternity and without. It is to her I owe the deepest of debts for greatly exceeding everything I could want in my wife. It is with great devotion I look forward to the rest of our lives together.

Concurrently, no one described in or reading this address would have come into my life without one brother who made it all possible: my father-in-law, Robert G. “Bob” Cawein, Diane’s father. Like thousands of men who became Masons in the 1990s through today, I left the fraternity after not finding within it what was promised. However, after meeting my future wife and learning her father was a Mason, I found Bob to be a delightful man committed to the tenets of Masonry and quickly developed a tremendous respect and love for him; he subsequently inspired me to re-explore our fraternity. Bob was in his 70s and, unfortunately, dying of cancer. Also, his heart was weak following quadruple bypass surgery only months before we met. Despite his very poor health, the one activity he cherished was Masonry. Seeing Bob’s enthusiasm for the fraternity, and seeking something to do together to advance our bond, I returned to lodge with him. I soon met Russ Reno, who encouraged me to become a lodge officer and begin a journey of Masonic leadership I never dreamed would culminate in becoming Grand Master. Bob concurrently encouraged me to learn the teachings of Masonry through the legend of Hiram Abiff, and I became certified individually proficient in the ritual through his inspiring motivation. Bob also continued to study it in earnest while ascending the officer ranks toward his lifelong goal of serving as Master of a lodge; as he knew he was dying of cancer, time was of the essence. Just days before his installation as Master, Bob died of a heart attack before achieving his lifelong goal and passed away on the steps of the lodge doing what he loved – Masonry. Thankfully he had already inspired me to pursue my own Masonic horizon through Masonry’s unique heritage. As I prepared to preside as Grand Master over 123 Masonic lodges, I dedicated 2018 to Bob without whom I would not be a Mason and certainly, not be Grand Master today. As I close out my year leading Nebraska Masonry, I reaffirm that dedication.

This anecdote is a shining illustration of why fostering an enduring, meaningful bond with new Masons is vital to our survival as a fraternity. Masonry ought to create a lifelong connection that can never be systematically and appropriately described and understood over coffee, packaged cookies, and cold sandwiches. Like Bob did of me, I embolden you to mentor new Masons to embrace the time-honored wisdoms of our fraternity through the legend of Hiram Abiff. You never know who will provide the spark of needed leadership for your lodge, our state, and the fraternity. In fact, someday he might be penning an address such as this one.

My final thanks are given to several men preceding me as Grand Master. Each added an element to my leadership style that has and will continue to inspire me. I am thankful to M.:W.:Bro. Russ Reno who appointed me Grand Orator in 2009 and has been an utter inspiration and mentor since it all began; to M.:W.:Bro. Tom Hauder who appointed me Grand Junior Deacon in 2013, whose judgment is without question and who continues to teach me the value of planning and organizing; M.:W.:Bro. Bruce Baker, who continues to inspire me with his pragmatism and courage to make the tough

decisions, and to M.:W.:Bro. Scott Krieger, who not only instilled in me the value of ritual work well beyond the mere memorization of words, but encouraged me to stand by my principles.

The list of mentoring Past Grand Masters and countless others to acknowledge, some no longer with us, goes on and is too extensive to list. If I ever sought your counsel, know you are among my cadre of mentors who provided a significant and meaningful contribution to my leadership philosophy.

My Definition of Masonry:

We began 2018 by re-emphasizing what Masonry *is*, which was not to be confused with what it *does*. I often hear Masons say, “Masonry means different things to different people.” That is true regarding some aspects of the fraternity. But it is *one* thing to *all* of us: *Masonry is the world’s oldest fraternity of gentlemen founded on the code of ethics of the stonemasons who built King Solomon’s Temple.*

Anyone would be hard pressed to say Masonry, in its most foundational form, isn’t *exactly* that. Everything we do is rooted in the builders of King Solomon’s Temple: our leadership structure, lodge room arrangement, aprons, jewels, titles, symbols, terminology, and philosophies are all based on the Legend of Hiram Abiff. It defines us and is our identity.

Everything we need to know about being a good Mason is contained within the legend; more appropriately, everything we need to teach our new Masons is contained there. Charity? Brotherhood? Community Service? Look for all those things in a candidate’s first introduction to the tenets of Masonry in the Entered Apprentice degree. And it builds from there.

That’s what Masonry *is*. It *does* all that through our benevolent endeavors, diverse group activities, and extensive civic involvement. Each lodge *does* those things a little differently. But *every* lodge *is exactly the same* in its fundamental Masonic foundation in the Legend of Hiram Abiff. When you remove it from the description and meaning of Masonry, you are describing any of a vast number of organizations that do charitable work, offer fellowship, or practice fun activities.

Men should seek Masonry *for* Masonry. If I could select one thing I wished my tenure as Grand Master remembered by, it is how I defined what Masonry is.

To the 2018 Grand Lodge Officers:

Despite serving decades in the military, law enforcement & investigations, and Masonry, you are truly among the finest groups of men I ever had the pleasure to stand beside. Those of you I had the privilege of selecting for service (all but four elected officers) were hand-picked for your proven leadership skills, dedication to the Craft, and ability to work as a team. Your appointment was also ratified unanimously by the advancing line officers and Grand Secretary, which until recently, was the absolute standard of vetting Grand Lodge Officers potentially appointed by the Grand Master-Elect. Each of you is different and carries your own set of strengths, but all of you share the common bond of desire to better the Craft, as opposed to bettering yourself alone. It is nearly impossible to find that level of dedication in any group. I cherish our travels together and I salute you.

Henceforth you carry upon your shoulders the awesome responsibility of the prosperity of the craft, not because you were a Grand Lodge Officer, but because you will

always be a leader of our fraternity regardless of whether you ever wear a gold chain again. Stand on what you accomplished, not whatever title accompanied your office; titles without deeds are meaningless to a thinking man. Treat our ancient fraternity like the precious gem it is and always ensure your actions and decisions align with the great lessons of Masonry; it will mean infinitely more to you (and the world) than any laundry list of labels.

The Grand Custodian & Deputies and the Committee on Nebraska Work, and Grand Historian's New Compendium:

I was elated when M.:W.: Bro. Scott Krieger accepted my appointment of him to the position of Grand Custodian for a final year, having informed me years ago (but kept *strictly* between us until you read this) he wished to retire from the position at the end of my tenure as Grand Master following his many years of devoted service to the craft. He is well versed in our ritual work and is in my opinion, the finest ritualist in Nebraska in modern times. M.:W.: Bro. Scott has been an integral part of the Individual Proficiency School, Grand Lodge College of Ritual Lecture Seminars, Full-form Proficiency Coins, Full-form Proficiency Seminars, Entered Apprentice Mini-Cipher, and the Deputy Grand Custodian At-Large programs I have presented to the Grand Lodge since 2013; most importantly, he supported all my ideas. I thank him for his contributions to Nebraska Masonry in a most positive way and the deployment of countless additional Deputy Grand Custodians across the state. Nebraska Masonry will continue to draw upon his expert guidance and leadership as a Grand Custodian Emeritus and Past Grand Master.

Most Deputy Grand Custodians continue to work with our lodges providing needed instruction in our work, which ensures the message of our degrees is clearly and accurately presented. This is an important function of the Grand Lodge, and I extend my most sincere thanks to these Brothers for their high level of commitment and dedication. Due to the massive increase in Deputy Grand Custodians across the state, for the first time the Grand Lodge was able to provide personalized, one-on-one instruction to anyone interested in our proficiency class curriculum. Thank you, gentlemen, for investing a great deal more of yourselves into the future of Nebraska Masonry!

The Committee on Nebraska Work has supported all of my ritual ideas and was intimately involved in the planning and execution of the above programs. Although many distinguished gentlemen have served on the committee over the years, Chairman M.:W.: Bro. Phil Lorenzen continues to be a staunch advocate of quality ritual and its importance to the future of Nebraska Masonry. I hope he continues to serve in that capacity for years to come.

To put this all in perspective, I was honored to pen an introduction to Grand Historian M.:W.: Bro. Russ Reno's updated compendium of our degree work, *Our Ritual: The History of Achieving Uniformity of Masonic Ritual Work in Nebraska*. His masterful editing and combining of three historical accounts from Nebraska's historic Masonic leaders on how our version of the Legend of Hiram Abiff came to exist is a must-read for those seeking further light in Masonry. This insightful treasure compiled by the best Masonic Historian I know is now available from the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

To the Craft:

To my Brethren wherever dispersed across this jurisdiction and the rest of the world, I offer my humble and heartfelt thanks. You have shown me great respect and given me great inspiration.

Our fraternity is a precious gift bestowed upon us by our ancestors. It serves as an aide to living a well-spent life, but only if you work toward it through the time-honored tenets of Masonry. This will never occur overnight and never ensues without effort. Properly understood and embraced, it has the power to transform your life if you subscribe to its ongoing teachings.

I wish each of you a fruitful, gratifying, and lifelong journey discovering the hidden mysteries of Masonry.

On Titles and Power:

In my travels this year I was frequently asked what advice I would give a Mason who seeks a leadership role in the fraternity. That is a very comprehensive issue, but as I narrow it to the context of Masonic leadership, I find one overarching cultural malady that is something every potential Masonic Leader should consider. In my tenure as a Grand Lodge Officer and certainly during this year as Grand Master, I became increasingly exposed to those who stand on their Masonic title rather than on their accomplishments and contributions to the Craft. It is because of this I spent much of this year implementing and promoting leadership matters such as the immensely popular and well-attended Lodge Leadership training conducted across the state by Past Grand Masters Bruce Baker, Reg Kuhn, Rex Moats, and Russ Reno, leaders all who stand on their accomplishments and contributions to the fraternity, not their titles. Further, I placed an emphasis on leadership in every Masonic Education Committee email to the Craft for which I was invited to comment, in all of my commentaries published in the *Nebraska Mason*, and as was heard in my installation speech and read at the beginning of this address, I firmly subscribe to the notion that *Leadership is a Responsibility, Not a Reward*. Men don't deserve to be rewarded with leadership positions, titles, or the respect associated with it because of where they own property, it's simply their turn, or because no one else was willing. They merit it because they earned it, and continue to demonstrate that during their tenure as a leader.

Among other important matters, good leaders should use their "power" to fix an organizational problem. Opening and Closing twelve Regular Communications where all that is accomplished is paying the bills and such is not fixing a problem, but routine and preventive maintenance at the barest of minimums. If your lodge has no problems to fix, please share your recipe for success with the rest of Masonry.

My advice to any man seeking a leadership position in Masonry: *earn your position and use it to get something done.*

SWISHER LODGE DEGREES

Master Masons around the world attended the reconvening of Nebraska's only existing military lodge. I had the distinct honor of re-activating Swisher Lodge and conferring the Master Mason degree on service members I initiated six years ago in the Afghanistan war zone. In conjunction with Veterans Day, this monumental event occurred on Saturday, Nov. 10, at 1 p.m. at Bellevue Lodge No. 325 with great support from Worshipful Master (MSgt, USAF) Myron Bell, Sr., his wonderful crew of Brethren devoted to military members led by Brother (Col., USAF) Mohan Krishna, and the ever-amiable, supportive, true patriot R.:W.: (Lt Col., USAF) Jim Carlton, Grand Junior Warden. Bellevue Lodge, led by Jim Carlton in the East, graciously conferred the Fellow Craft degree on Brothers (CAPT., USN) James Young and (SSG, USA) Ian Parker the night before.

Swisher Lodge U.D. was named in honor of Brother (SSG, USA) Christopher Swisher of Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Nebraska, who was killed in Iraq in 2003. Everything the lodge accomplished in Afghanistan and Bellevue was dedicated to his memory.

The convening of Swisher Lodge in Afghanistan not only allowed brothers to bring a piece of home to the war zone, it opened doors for non-Mason military members to experience an additional form of brotherhood that compliments that of the military – brotherly love and friendship. Having begun their initial Masonic journey amid the horrors of war, we completed it in the safety, security, and comfort of this great nation, honoring the military service of these and all veterans in our unique Masonic way. Swisher lodge's 2011-12 (as well as our 2018 efforts) were featured in the Scottish Rite Journal, Freemasons for Dummies blogspot, and on multiple Masonic web sites worldwide; as a result, several Masons from other grand jurisdictions attended. A cadre of Nebraska Grand Lodge advancing line officers consisting of Grand Junior Warden Carlton, Grand Senior Deacon (Maj., USA) Alex Straatmann, Grand Junior Deacon John Millington and numerous appointed 2018 Grand Lodge Officers, military veterans, and Past Grand Masters Dean Skokan, Scott Krieger, Reg Kuhn, and Russ Reno attended or participated in the Master Mason degree. The degree was followed by a formal dinner and Grog Bowl, a traditional military ceremony with toasts and frivolity that filled every seat in the house. Uniformed and formally dressed veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, and in between were widely represented. I was honored to propose a toast to our recently departed Brother (Maj., USMC) Chuck Folsom, distinguished combat veteran and long-time advocate of the military and Masonry who laid down his working tools too soon this year. All Master Masons were invited to participate in both aspects of this major event, a wonderful yet missed opportunity for recruiting new members for Masonic military-themed organizations through their attendance to honor comrade combat veterans.

Besides Nebraska, deployed members of the 2011 Swisher Lodge included 30 Master Masons from the Philippines, Nova Scotia, Texas, Virginia, Germany, Washington, Colorado and South Dakota which I recruited from among my military comrades stationed with me in Afghanistan. The military members I initiated in Afghanistan included a Navy Captain, Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, Army Sergeant First Class, two Navy Lieutenants, and an Air Force Major; a retired Command Sergeant Major/Army Ranger was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason. To conduct business in Swisher Lodge, I carried a kit of equipment to Afghanistan containing necessary Masonic paraphernalia assembled by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. In addition, an ammunition box with a towel on top served as the kneeler for the candidates, and a wooden stand used to hang individual body armor and helmet served as the square supporting the candidate's elbow in the Fellow Craft degree. Three more of these stands also served as the pedestals for the Master and Wardens. It was refreshing to complete Brothers Young and Parkers' initial Masonic journey as well as have Brother (Capt., USAF) Thomas Payne, another candidate I initiated in Afghanistan who was raised in his home state in the years since, reunite with us in the comforts and fellowship of Bellevue Lodge No. 325 on this monumental day.

The concept of Swisher Lodge was inspired by Monitor Lodge, organized within the First Nebraska Regimental Infantry during the Civil War. In addition to discovering that lodge, Vietnam combat veteran and Nebraska Past Grand Master Dean Skokan learned of a Tennessee expeditionary lodge and led the charge to create an equipment kit for

deployed Nebraska Masons. In 2011, Grand Master Bruce Baker granted dispensation for me to open Swisher Lodge in Afghanistan.

It was a distinct privilege this year to honor these Afghanistan veterans who travelled from around the world to be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, as well as all who have served in the armed forces of this great nation.

GRAND MASTER'S PROFICIENCY COIN/FULL-FORM SCHOOL

At the beginning of 2018 I unveiled a coin I created to bestow upon Entered Apprentice (EA) Masons who voluntarily chose to learn and recite the Full-Form Answers in the first EA Lecture to demonstrate proficiency. New Masons repeatedly tell us they want to learn ritual, but nobody asks them to; this would be my way to let all of them know I was asking them to. I encouraged lodges to do the same with their candidates, but this was a concept not widely practiced by the majority of the 2018 Worshipful Masters. Despite this, I was kept very busy travelling the state as a result of self-motivated Entered Apprentices. I was saddened to learn from several that they were never informed by their lodge leadership (and an EA doesn't normally have access to Grand Lodge publications or lodge Regular Communications) of the option to compete for a coin or they certainly would have.

To be eligible for this coin, I declared a recipient must not have been passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason. Due to its immediate and enormous popularity among the new candidates (and the Craft as a whole) bringing me multiple requests to do so, I extended eligibility to any Mason who learned the Answers in any of the degrees through our newly created Full-form Answers Proficiency seminars or by very special arrangement with me.

The coins are limited editions available exclusively from me in my capacity as Grand Master. They could not be purchased by lodges or Masons at large.

The coin features the Lion's Paw seal of the Grand Master on one side. The reverse features many time-honored symbols of the Entered Apprentice degree: the square and compass and white leather apron in the EA configuration, the 24-inch gauge, common gavel, mosaic pavement, and the three principle rungs of Jacob's Ladder ascending to Heaven: the principle virtues of Hope, Faith, and Charity. The coin is bordered with a single strand of golden cord to symbolize the EA cable tow. I announced that if lodges have an Entered Apprentice who earns this coin, I would personally present it to him in his lodge, anywhere in the state.

On average, it takes about 30 days for a new Mason to learn the full-form EA Answers if he has a mentor to regularly help and encourage him. It is the ongoing and repetitive interaction between the candidate and his mentor that builds a lifetime bond between them. Working toward a consistent, detailed, and significant Masonic task is much more worthwhile in a mentoring role than simply giving a new Mason your phone number and telling him to contact you if he needs anything, or having nonspecific discussions about Masonry on a cursory and general basis.

In talking with lodges across the state, I found them excited about this incentive, telling me our time-honored Legend of Hiram Abiff is a wonderful story. It cannot be expressed in a meaningful way in any other manner than from one Mason who understands it to another.

To my surprise and pleasure, interest in my incentive coin initiative didn't stop with new EA Masons. As I travelled the state to present coin after coin, I learned they were

anxious to earn similarly designed Fellow Craft and Master Mason coins for demonstrating the same level of proficiency in the Answers for those degrees. I was honored to do so on many occasions in locations across Nebraska.

The demand for these coins and interest in learning the Full-Form Answers extended beyond new candidates to many long-time Masons. As a result, I created a Full-Form Answers seminar to teach them in all three degrees; short, 30-day classes were arranged for Masons in the North Platte and Omaha areas. Personal Representative of the Grand Master John Herbolsheimer led those classes in Omaha and Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi was set to do so in North Platte. I was pleased to present coins to Omaha graduates; unfortunately, none of the several pre-registered North Platte students attended when W.:B.: Charlie arrived from Omaha to teach the first day of the first class. Although the classes continue in Omaha with newly registered students every 30 days, no further students in North Platte registered for the classes.

RECEPTION, RESPONSIBILITY, AND RENEWAL (R3) INITIATIVE

One of the biggest challenges impeding the growth of lodges is not only identifying and recruiting potential new members, but more importantly, providing them background to better understand and become personally invested in the fraternity. Encompassing 2018's major lines of effort under one umbrella, my new Reception, Responsibility, and Renewal (R³) initiative laid the foundation to prepare not only new members, but inactive members and local officers to lead their lodge with proven, successful strategies.

The program had three components:

- Reception, education, and developing longevity in new lodge members;
- Providing leadership strategies for lodge officers, and
- Contacting and engaging inactive members.

Grand Lodge Reception Committee:

The unique urban and rural demographic nature of Nebraska makes identifying new members increasingly difficult for many individual lodges across the state. Through outreach and engagement, this program took aim at discovering potential Masons within local and nearby communities. The 2018 Grand Lodge Reception Committee used its statewide resources to solicit various community-based programs and tools to identify and locate good candidates for Masonry.

This engaged Grand Lodge Officers to reach out into the community to discover and contact prospective members and provide information about the fraternity. The prospects were invited to a personal gathering to learn more about Masonry. The program's agenda touched on the history, purpose, and personal growth new members can receive through their involvement in the fraternity.

The goal of the Grand Lodge Reception Committee was directed to provide a consistent message that prepares the new member for positive involvement in their lodge, and leadership training based on strategies proven to be effective in lodge growth. The committee focused on giving new members the best possible preparation for active involvement in Masonry. As a result, they became involved, armed with useful information designed to stabilize and grow their lodges.

As part of my new Reception, Responsibility, and Renewal (R3) initiative, the Grand Lodge Reception Committee partnered with the Columbus, Grand Island, and Norfolk

Chambers of Commerce to support growth in our respective organizations and the community. This program was designed as an experiment to determine potential for lodges to partner with the business community for community outreach, goodwill, and potential new members. Chambers of Commerce offer a guaranteed base of involved business owners and their employees as well as other community-minded members. Chambers utilize an established social framework that allows Masons to attend events and showcase our fraternity across a key community spectrum.

Columbus:

Grand Orator Kevin Scheele organized various meetings with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and representatives of Lebanon Lodge No. 323 at the Masonic Center in Columbus.

Fifteen Columbus Chamber “Commodores” learned about Lebanon Lodge and Masonry in Nebraska. W.:B.: Scheele was pleased so many busy businesspeople attended on a weekday morning during business hours. Many asked meaningful questions about Masonry, cornerstones, Masonic history, and how we could partner in the Columbus community. Two potential cornerstones were discussed – a police/fire station and a library. Chamber members were quite interested in Grand Lodge cornerstones after learning of them for the first time through this effort, and initial ceremony discussions with Chief of Police Charles Sherer and the project architect began.

Chamber representatives were very receptive of the new partnership, one mentioning her son is a good candidate for Masonry based on his interest in history; she provided his contact information to Lebanon Lodge for follow up. Bi-weekly emails sent from the Chamber to Lebanon Lodge will keep them abreast of possible ways to collaborate in the community through various projects and events.

Grand Island:

Grand Senior Deacon Alex Straatmann led the Grand Lodge’s efforts to reach out to the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce. He found this Chamber is sporadic in its events and it was difficult to synchronize a schedule.

In attending multiple social events and business meetings, he found many community members were unaware Masons still existed in the city. At another event he discovered most Chamber attendees assumed when Ashlar Lodge sold its building, the Masons went extinct in their community. He further reports many people expressed a general awareness of Masons but weren’t really sure what we do.

Straatmann recommends continued interaction to raise awareness of Masonry’s presence in Grand Island, as that the population base should be able to support as robust a lodge membership as it does in the local Chamber of Commerce.

Norfolk:

Grand Chaplain Charlie Odorizzi visited Norfolk and established a working relationship with Membership Engagement Director Jenni Canham to design a methodology to raise awareness of Masonry within the Norfolk community through Chamber of Commerce members. After the first of the year, Nebraska Masonry will be featured in Chamber advertising flyers and mailings. Canham is arranging “meet and greet” events starting in April 2019 in which the Grand Lodge can distribute promotional brochures and chat with attendees.

Odorizzi attended the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Recognition Banquet, an After Hours Social with local business owners, and a Morning Coffee Call. He delivered a Masonic presentation featuring a cornerstone ceremony video on November 28. He reports the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce is very receptive to Grand Lodge efforts to network and connect with the area business community.

Personal Representative of the Grand Master John Herbolshimer also attended the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce/Northeast Nebraska Ag Banquet, reporting much positive public relations that raised public awareness of Masonry among attendees..

Responsibility: Training Lodge Officers:

As detailed in other sections of this address, the responsibility aspect of the R³ Initiative found Past Grand Masters conducting training across the state for lodge officers concerning key aspects of conscientiously leading a Masonic lodge. The areas of leadership included:

- Strategic planning
- Fellowship
- Service to Community and Fraternity
- Membership
- Communication
- Meetings and Other Events
- Finances
- Grand Lodge Activities

Renewal of Inactive Members:

The third aspect of the R³ initiative was designed to link Grand Lodge Officers with lodges to identify members who are not active. An invitation would have been sent inviting inactive Masons to attend a gathering led by a Grand Lodge Officer to re-invigorate their interest in the fraternity, seeking to return them to their lodge better enabled to help it grow. In essence, both the individual member and the lodge would potentially experience a Masonic renewal. Unfortunately, the lodges selected for evaluating this aspect of the R³ initiative did not respond to us with a list of identified members.

Concerning the Reception, Responsibility, and Renewal (R³) initiative as a whole, it is with great pleasure I declare the Grand Lodge Reception Committee's partnership between Nebraska Masonry and local Chambers of Commerce a huge success. As with any relationship-building effort, Nebraska Masonry's alliance with them will take time to bear fruit and should be strategic in scope. Lodges across the state are highly encouraged to reach out to their local Chambers for the unlimited potential of an ongoing and fruitful enterprise. Further, lodge leadership training was standing-room only in many locations across Nebraska, and its benefits to the future of Masonry are boundless. Finally, I believe the efforts toward the renewal of absent members' interest and involvement in their lodges is a worthy concept to pursue, and conscientious lodges should undertake those efforts.

EIGHTY AND TWENTY-FIVE YEAR PINS

This year we unveiled a new pin recognizing those Masons who achieve the milestone of eighty years of membership in the fraternity. I was inspired by W.:B.: Marvin Andersen, a member of Omadi Lodge No. 5 who participated in my own degrees of Masonry when I was a candidate. While attending there early this year to

present 50-year pins to members, Marvin mentioned something I took to heart. Being 98 years old, he commented that he received his 70-year pin seven years ago and was looking forward to receiving his 80-year pin soon. Seeing how I knew the Grand Lodge of Nebraska didn't have such a pin for that incredible milestone, I walked away motivated to rectify that. Those of you looking forward to serving eight-tenths of a century in Masonry are now able to be recognized for achieving that inspiring goal.

In addition, we placed a significant emphasis on the little-known, seldom issued 25-year pin. Lodges have always had the option to order these from the Grand Lodge, but many were not aware or interested. I personally feel 25 years of service is a very admirable milestone to achieve in any organization, and encouraging lodges to recognize their members with this award solidifies that.

GRAND MASTER'S HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Grand Master's Humanitarian Award is a distinguished honor given to those brothers who best practice and instill the tenets of Masonry into their communities. It is my intent to recognize these brethren for their labors. Although these Masons did not seek public recognition for activities rendered to individuals or communities in need, they have labored long in the quarries and deserve our recognition.

Candidacy for the Grand Master's Humanitarian Award requires a brother to meet very specific criteria: he must have been a Master Mason for at least thirty years. Secondly, he must have been active in three of the following community activities. (1) held a political office such as mayor, city council member, county board member, natural resource district board member, school board member, or other such political elected or appointed office. (2) He could have been active in his Church either as an elder, a vestry member, Deacon, lay leader, lay reader, or other such similar office. (3) denoted as a civic leader through involvement on boards of directors for local hospitals, nursing homes, financial institutions, foundations, or similar organizations. (4) be a volunteer for non-Masonic charitable organizations. (5) or a member of service organizations as the Lions, Sertoma, Kiwanis, Rotary, or Optimists. Most important, he must have been active in the Masonic Fraternity.

Freemasonry motivates men to strive for greater perfection, a richer life achieved through labor, equal justice, and a willingness to extend the hand of fellowship. Brothers Marvin Andersen of Omadi Lodge No. 5 in South Sioux City and John Lowe of Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 in Kearney have been thus motivated and far exceeded award criteria (their records too voluminous to list here) in good deeds to society. They are and have been leaders and users of Masonic ideals in their communities. They have extended the right hand of fellowship and been doers of Masonic deeds. It is my honor to present both of these distinguished gentlemen with the Grand Master's Humanitarian Award.

NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME AND MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

The Nebraska Masonic Home provides excellent care for our Brothers, their wives and widows, and other female relatives. The staff at The Home has the best interest of the residents at heart in everything they do. The Nebraska Masonic Home will be there for you and your eligible relatives. Please remember to recognize this tremendous benefit when you consider maintaining your Masonic membership, and don't take it for granted. It could spell the difference in your quality of life. It is the least expensive long-term care investment you can make and the best care available.

The Masonic Eastern-Star Home for Children creates miracles on a daily basis. During this year, I have been honored to spend time at the Home and learn just how much good work gets accomplished with little to no recognition. The staff take lonely, scared, troubled children and turn them around into productive, happy young people with love, discipline and a lot of hard work. You should be familiar with and appreciate the amount of effort made by the staff that leads to the great successes we all enjoy.

Please keep both Homes and their needs in your planned giving efforts for the coming years. These two great Masonic efforts are run by dedicated board members and world class staff. We should be proud of how such efforts are caring for of our senior members and making a difference in the lives of troubled young people.

MASONIC ALL-STAR MARCHING BAND

The Masonic All-Star Marching Band is one of the most popular programs of the Grand Lodge. The Band Committee transforms this event into an extravagant cavalcade during halftime of the Shrine Bowl Football Classic and Shrine Bowl Parade. In 2018, hundreds of high school students descended on the camp, learned the finer points of band drill, and received outstanding instruction in applied performance. My thanks to our Masonic lodges, Eastern Star Chapters, and others who funded scholarships so these students can participate completely free of charge and share their musical gifts. In addition, the committee members and chaperones work very hard to provide adequate assistance and ensure the students enjoy a fun experience.

CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CHIP)

The Child Identification Program (CHIP) continues its good deeds across Nebraska and provides families with appropriate tracking materials if the unthinkable scourge of abduction happens to their child. This effort takes place in schools, churches, and at the State Fair. To date, parents of tens of thousands of children have taken identification kits home at no cost since the program began nearly fifteen years ago. The need for child identification has not ebbed since then. If your lodge has not held a CHIP event recently, consider it again. This is a tremendous opportunity for every lodge to support from the community and introduces the public to the basic tenets of Masonry, besides the obvious benefit of protecting children.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

The Grand Lodge committees are designed to contribute much to our welfare and the advancement of the fraternity, and we thank those dedicated Brothers who actually made that happen in 2018. As Deputy Grand Master, I began the process of clearly defining job descriptions of committee members; that work continues to be refined and is projected to be completed in 2019. Innovative and notable achievements for specified 2018 committees include:

Awards Committee:

- Established the new “Local Mason of the Year” award by the Grand Lodge
- Revised the “Individual Masonic Service/Achievement Awards” to include “Awarded With Distinction by the Grand Master” status. Refined criteria to appropriately recognize the level of work, service, and achievement of recipients.

- Reviewed Artificer Awards application to offer a wider range of qualifying criteria.
- Revised/updated the Lodge Vitality Award criteria to reflect a broader scope of eligibility.
- Revised policy on the number of annual recruitment awards to top 3 statewide.

Masonic Education Committee:

- Launched a monthly email to all members including a message from the Grand Master, two education articles, articles on Leadership and Membership, book review, and video learning on leadership topics.

Finance Committee

- Developed a written investment philosophy and supporting guidance policies for Grand Lodge funds.
- Policy was reviewed by the Finance Committee, the Grand Lodge Investment Advisor, and the Grand Lodge Advancing Line officers and instituted as policy.

Lodge Leadership Committee:

- Established a "Lodge Leadership Landing Page" on the Grand Lodge web site.
- Consolidated and simplified 12 publications from the Grand Lodge web site into the new "Lodge Operations Manual."

Masonic Veterans Partnership Committee (Nebraska Masonic Foundation):

- For this wonderful program, several lodges generated \$7K in funds for homeless veterans under the umbrella of Voluntary Services for the Neb-Western Iowa Health Care System.

These and a few additional committees actually executed their mandated responsibilities, such as: the Masonic All-Star Band Camp, advising the Grand Master about Masonic law, handling requests for relief, developing educational presentations and materials, instructing Brethren in ritual work, carefully guarding our funds, monitoring office operations, working with struggling lodges, Masonic Youth Committee, organizing credentials for Annual Communication, organizing and preparing for fundraisers for our Grand Lodge philanthropies, and other efforts too numerous to mention. In total, it is an impressive body of work and I thank those committees who actually labored diligently this past year by sharing their time and talent with the Craft. Your efforts help ensure the growth and prosperity of Nebraska Masonry.

Unfortunately, after receiving direction from the Grand Lodge, many committees still accomplish nothing each year after promising much, as was the case again in 2018 following years of well-documented lament over this trend by sitting Grand Masters.

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: Magnolia Lodge No. 220, Emerson

150 Years: Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lincoln and Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair

NECROLOGY

In 2018, 244 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:

Scottsbluff – March 3 – High School
 Host Lodge: Robert Furnas Lodge No. 265
 Master: Ed Morava

Lincoln – May 20 – Lincoln Lodge No. 19 Lodge Rededication
 Host Lodge: Lincoln Lodge No. 19
 Master: Charles “Dick” Clark

Blair – August 25 – 150th Anniversary Lodge Rededication
 Host Lodge: Washington Lodge No. 21
 Master: Max A. Wilkins

VISITATIONS

Owing to the fact I did not track my visits this year as they occurred, the following are those I was able to reconstruct coupled with projected visits occurring after this publication’s print deadline:

February

- 3 Installation of Grand Lodge Officers – Kearney
- 13 Omadi Lodge No. 5, Year Pin presentations – South Sioux City
- 16 Tangier Shrine Circus – Omaha
- 22 Conference Grand Masters of North America – Indianapolis

March

- 3 Robert W. Furnas Lodge No. 265, Cornerstone – Scottsbluff
- 10 Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Grand Lodge School of Instruction – Omaha
- 24 Liberty Lodge No. 300, Grand Lodge School of Instruction – Lincoln

April

- 11 Covert Lodge No. 11, Awards Night – Omaha
- 14 Grand Lodge All-Committee Meeting – Fremont
- 17 George W. Linger Lodge No. 268, Table Lodge – Omaha
- 20 Tangier Shrine Ceremonial – Omaha
- 23 North Bend Lodge No. 119, Grand Master EA coin presentation – North Bend

May

- 5 One Day Conferral – Omaha
- 9 OES Grand Chapter – Kearney
- 12 Mosaic Lodge No. 55, Entered Apprentice degree – Norfolk
- 15 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332, Regular Communication – Lincoln
- 17 Scottish Rite Grand Lodge, 8th Degree performance – Omaha AASR
- 21 Cotner Lodge No. 297, Grand Master EA coin presentation – Lincoln
- 23 Western Star Lodge No. 2, Leadership Meeting – Nebraska City
- 28 Alliance Lodge No. 183, Lodge Leadership Seminar – Alliance
- 29 Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lodge Rededication – Lincoln

June

- 1 Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp – Kearney
- 2 Shrine Bowl Parade – Kearney
- 9 Rainbow Grand Assembly – Crete
- 18 Washington Lodge No. 21, Grand Master EA coin presentation – Blair
- 19 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332, Regular Communication – Lincoln
- 21 Western Star Lodge No. 2, Regular Communication – Nebraska City
- 30 Mosaic Lodge No. 55, Lodge Leadership Seminar – Norfolk

July

- 10 John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290, Grand Master EA coin presentation – Omaha
- 16-17 Imperial Shrine Session – Daytona Beach, FL
- 20 Prince Hall Annual Communication – Omaha
- 24 Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Lodge Leadership Seminar – North Platte
- 25 Waterloo Lodge No. 102, Lodge Leadership Seminar- Elkhorn
- 26 Cobia Lodge No. 631, Grand Lodge of Iowa Team Building Event – Council Bluffs, IA
- 28 Masonic OES Home of Children 4-H Day – Fremont
- 31 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332, Regular Communication – Lincoln

August

- 10-12 Grand Lodge Officer Retreat – Burwell
- 15 Grand Lodge and OES Joint Finance Meeting – Lincoln
- 17-19 Midwest Conference of Grand Lodges – Bismark, ND
- 23 Masonic Funeral Service for MWB John McHenry – Lincoln
- 25 Washington Lodge No. 21, Lodge Rededication – Blair
- 26 Washington Lodge No. 21, Two Grand Master FC Mason coin presentations – Blair

September

- 5 Bellevue Lodge No 325, Honors Night – Bellevue
- 8 George Washington Lodge No. 250, Fish Fry – Lincoln
- 21 Grand Lodge of Iowa Annual Communication – Des Moines, IA
- 25 Cornerstone planning meeting, Columbus Police building – Columbus

October

- 11 Utica Lodge No. 96, Grand Lodge Area Meeting – Utica
- 16 Grand Lodge Area Meeting – Lincoln
- 19 Tangier Chanters Rib Feed – Omaha
- 27 Wahoo Lodge No. 59, Grand Master EA coin presentation – Wahoo
- 30 York Lodge No. 56, 50-year pins – York

November

- 3 Grand Lodge Deputy Grand Custodian School – Kearney
- 9 Bellevue Lodge No 325, Fellow Craft degree – Bellevue
- 10 Swisher Lodge U.D., Master Mason degree and Grog Bowl – Bellevue
- 14 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 - Grand Master visit – Chesapeake, VA
- 24 Wahoo Lodge No. 59, Grand Master FC coin presentation – Wahoo
- 27 Centennial Lodge No. 326, Grand Master EA coin presentation – Omaha

December

- 1 Tangier Shrine Ceremonial – Omaha
- 4 Omadi Lodge No. 5, Grand Lodge Master Mason degree courtesy work and Grand Master coin presentations – South Sioux City
- 12 Masonic Holiday Gathering – Lincoln
- 16 Bethel No. 1, Installation of Officers – Papillion
- 19 Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Installation of Officers – Plattsmouth

January

- 5 Fremont Lodge No. 15, Installation of Officers – Fremont
- 6 Capitol Lodge No. 3, Installation of Officers – Omaha
- 6 Bellevue Lodge No. 325, Installing Master for Installation – Bellevue
- 10 Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Installing Master for Installation – Lincoln
- 10 Liberty Lodge No. 300, Installing Master for Installation – Lincoln
- 12 College View No. 320, Installing Master for Installation – Lincoln
- 13 Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Installing Master for Installation – Lincoln
- 16 Omadi Lodge No. 5, Grand Lodge MM coin presentation – South Sioux City
- 21 Omaha Valley Scottish Rite, Installation of Officers – Omaha
- 22 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332, Installing Master for Installation – Lincoln
- 30-31 Grand Lodge Annual Communication – Kearney

February

- 1-2 Grand Lodge Annual Communication – Kearney

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 1:

I proposed restoring the proficiency requirements for candidate advancement between degrees to the days before Nebraska Masonry's leaders brought forth legislation that reduced the amount of ritual candidates must learn to approximately ten simple lines. This significantly reduced the amount of effort a candidate put into his new found yet ancient fraternity, but more horridly, eliminated the bond he developed with the Mason who would "post" him and assist with his fledgling understanding of our Craft. I have to ask, "What's the hurry to make someone a Master Mason?" When petitioning to join us, the vast majority of new Masons tell us they want to learn the full-form proficiency and that Masonic knowledge is what they seek; we just have to ask them to. If we instill in them a solid understanding of the fraternity they just joined, they are much more likely to stay with us for the rest of their lives. This is not about memorizing words to perfection, but the fraternal bond created by the pairing of a new candidate with a seasoned mentor through "posting" the full proficiency and is something they will never forget, nor likely throw away easily by leaving us. To conduct degrees, most lodges depend on Master Masons who learned the full form answers under the time-honored requirements this legislation seeks to restore. Once those men pass on to that Undiscovered Country from whence no traveler returns, lodges will be unable to conduct degrees. In fact, 66% cannot do so now. We must take immediate, bold steps to ensure Nebraska Masonry does not lose its identity and subsequently, its very existence.

My proposed legislation reaffirms that the final say on whether or not a candidate demonstrates the full form answers well enough to advance to the next degree rests with the Worshipful Master. Even if a candidate performs at only 50% proficiency (or less) and is approved for advancement, that leaves lodges much better off than the meager number of lines they barely memorize now. There is no formal requirement for exactly how many words a candidate must memorize.

Nebraska appears to be one of VERY few jurisdictions to have changed the age-old requirements of proficiency to an extremely simplified amount of memory work. This change, which occurred in the late 1980's, was apparently adopted to address a perceived unwillingness of new candidates to memorize the answers to the questions as given in the first section lectures of each degree. Even if that was the case then, it is not now. We

must adapt to the trends of those who seek to join us today so they will still be with us tomorrow.

The former time-honored requirements assured candidates demonstrated the same proficiency as their forebears, and of course, it prepared them for the possibility of service as a lodge officer and conferring degrees. Their forebears did not memorize full proficiency perfectly, as this has never been about exact memorization, but a solid understanding and fraternal bond with a Masonic mentor.

With the simplification of the process, many of our newly obligated brethren are unprepared and nervous about agreeing to serve as a lodge officer, and we find quickly increasing numbers of lodges unable to open, close, or confer degrees.

Lodges that have individually chosen to require a modified form of proficiency that includes the full answers report a tremendous success with retention of candidates. Section 2-402(a) of the code would be deleted entirely because it would no longer be necessary.

If enacted, this proposal would return the proficiency requirements in Nebraska to those that existed from the creation of our Grand Lodge until the same were drastically reduced approximately 30 years ago. Such a return will benefit the Craft, the lodges, and the experience of each of our candidates for the degrees of Masonry.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2:

My second proposal sought to allow Regular Communications of a subordinate lodge to be opened in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason degree when eight Master Masons of said lodge assume the officer stations and places and comply with the requirements of Section 2-1001 of our Masonic code.

In 2018, multiple lodges drafted changes to their bylaws asking the Grand Master to approve opening in any degree at the discretion of the Worshipful Master to facilitate new members becoming involved in the lodge from the outset. This legislation extends that decision to the voting delegates of the Grand Lodge.

Voting in Blue Lodges, a luxury available only to Master Masons, can be easily monitored and regulated by the Worshipful Master and Senior Deacon since they should know the few members who are EA and FC Masons in their lodge; they can direct them to abstain from casting ballots or raising hands in favor of or opposition to a motion.

This legislation further retains that luxury for Master Masons only, but it extends a welcoming hand to those new Masons who we want to meaningfully engage in the bulk of lodge activities.

While this proposed legislation does not alter the voting mandates of Section 2-1001, it is interesting to note nothing in Anderson's Constitutions, the Shaw Statutes, or other Masonic charges and landmarks prohibited opening in any of the degrees of ancient craft Masonry. Until the United States Masonic Convention of 1843 in Baltimore, all American lodges allowed business meetings to open in any degree. Only after the infamous "Morgan Affair" did American lodges want to ensure only Master Masons could vote to avoid Anti-Masonic Party members from infiltrating the fraternity by those managing to obtain Entered Apprentice status under nefarious intent. The justification for this level of caution has long since passed.

The ability to open in any degree affords Nebraska Masonry the opportunity to dispense with the need to make Master Masons as fast as we can and ensures a more thorough, methodic approach to their initial interaction with their brothers.

My first two legislative proposals seek to meet the needs of not only the vast majority of new Masons seeking membership in our fraternity, but those of the fraternity itself. If a new Mason invests something of himself into our organization and receives a sound, fundamental understanding of it and interaction with his Brethren through both of these proposed opportunities, he'll find what he is looking for and remain with us for the rest of his life.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 3:

This recommendation simply modifies the language regarding Bylaws Amendments so lodges are only required to send the Grand Lodge one copy of the requested change instead of three.

GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation No. 1:

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~~ *new candidates* 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.~~

Recommendation No. 2

Amend **Section 2-503 – MEETINGS** – by adding such language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language bold and italicized.

Sec. 2-503 – MEETINGS – The regular meetings of a subordinate lodge are those only which are designated by its Bylaws as such. Notices of meetings may be published in the news media. Eight Master Masons, members of the lodge, must be present at all regular meetings. *Regular meetings of a subordinate lodge may be opened in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason degree when eight Master Masons of said lodge assume the officer stations and places and comply with the requirements of Section 2-1001 of this code.* When, however, the question to be voted upon is consolidation with another lodge, under provisions of Section 2-207 hereof, the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative, may convene the lodge and preside therein and the question may be decided by a majority vote of such members of the lodge as are present, even though less than eight. At all meetings of the lodge the charter or a photo static copy thereof, certified by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge, as well as the three great lights and the representative of the three lesser lights must be present. No business matters may be taken up or passed upon by the lodge at a special or emergent meeting except funerals, installation, conferring of degrees, examination for proficiency in the degrees, and those matters specifically authorized in the Grand Lodge law, or referred to such special meeting by the Grand Master.

The Worshipful Master of each subordinate lodge, after being duly installed, is authorized to open a lodge for emergent communication for the sole purpose of conducting funeral services, which lodge shall remain open for the duration of the term of office of the Worshipful Master who opened the same, and which shall be closed by him before his successor is installed. The Secretary shall be responsible for supplying and returning to the lodge the properties of the lodge required for use at each funeral service.

Recommendation No. 3

Amend **Section 2-512 – BYLAWS** – 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. 2-512 – BYLAWS – Each chartered subordinate lodge may enact bylaws for its own government, provided the same are not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of this Grand Lodge, or with the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. No bylaw shall be valid until approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. No bylaw or amendment thereto shall be adopted until a written proposal thereof shall have been presented at some previous regular meeting of the lodge. After adoption, *a certified copy* ~~three certified~~

copies thereof, with the amended section, if any, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, ~~two of which shall be retained by him, and the other~~ **The proposal shall then be** returned to the lodge with an endorsement of action taken thereon. Every member of a subordinate lodge must sign its bylaws.

LODGE BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED

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

On April 19, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Washington Lodge No. 21 in Blair to increase the annual dues.

On May 14, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Lone Tree Lodge No. 36 in Central City to change the day of their regular communication.

On August 16, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Blue Valley Lodge No. 64 in Wilber to increase the annual dues and to change language with regard to the month dues become delinquent to bring lodge bylaws in line with the Grand Lodge bylaws.

On August 16, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Covert Lodge No. 11 in Omaha to increase the annual dues.

On August 22, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Lincoln to remove a provision that provided for quarterly payments to the Tyler.

On August 22, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Lincoln to increase the annual dues.

On September 4, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Nebraska City to increase the amount paid to the Secretary for each regular or special communication.

On October 16, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Papillion Lodge No. 39 in Papillion to increase the annual dues.

On October 17, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Keystone Lodge No. 62 in Phillips to increase the annual dues.

On October 26, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie to change the location of their lodge, add an Education Committee, increase the amount that may be drawn on the treasury for relief, add the Senior Warden to the audit committee, change the number of members of the Committee of Censors, increase the degree fees, change the order of business, and to add the establishment of a separate foundation.

On November 12, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 in Lincoln to update the list of appointed officers, add the Membership Sustaining and Masonic Education Committees to the list of standing committees of the lodge, and to delete a provision providing for a part of lodge dues to be apportioned to a temple improvement and modernization fund.

On November 12, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Alliance Lodge No. 183 in Alliance to increase the annual dues.

On December 17, 2018, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Silver Cord Lodge No. 224 in Ainsworth to increase the annual dues.

On December 18, 2018, I approved a complete revision of the bylaws of Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue. Said revision was reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee prior to approval by the Grand Master.

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:

Harvard Lodge No. 44, Harvard, merged with Mid-West Lodge No. 317, Hastings, effective April 19, 2018.

Charity Lodge No. 53, Red Cloud, merged with Franklin Lodge No. 264, Franklin, effective June 7, 2018.

Diamond Lodge No. 291, Orchard, merged with Plainview Lodge No. 204, Plainview, effective October 8, 2018.

Wood Lake Lodge No. 221, Wood Lake, merged with Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth, effective October 26, 2018.

Oakland Lodge No. 91, Oakland, merged with Olive Branch Lodge No. 274, Rosalie, effective December 4, 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	No. of Candidates
May 5, 2018	G.W. Lininger No. 268	Omaha	7
October 27, 2018	Nebraska No. 1	Omaha	Cancelled: lack of candidates

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). The minimum number of candidates to convene this one-day conferral is six (6). All candidates must receive all three (3) degrees.
- b. The number of candidates who may attend the one-day conferral from any one lodge is limited to three (3).

- c. A public records criminal history check will be obtained on each candidate by the Grand Lodge office. 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) business days prior to the commencement of the degrees (October 15, 2018), 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 and knowledgeable mentor present at the degrees. Mentors are expected to be capable of instructing the candidates in proficiency.
- 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; each candidate will do so individually – not as a group.
- h. Conferral of each degree will be witnessed by a member of the Committee on Work, Deputy Grand Custodian/Apprentice, 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.
- m. The secretary of the host lodge will forward to the Grand Lodge office immediately following the conferral the completed copy of the List of Candidates form with signatures of those who completed the work. Said form shall be certified by the supervising Member of the Committee on Work, Deputy Grand Custodian/Apprentice, 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 6, 2018, 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 Wardens of lodges within their jurisdiction, for the purpose of sending an invitation to the Grand Master's dinner.

On February 6, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the 1635 L Street Presentation Foundation, with permission from the Masters of the lodges, to obtain address labels for members from Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Liberty Lodge No. 300, for the purpose of sending an invitation to the reopening of the refurbished small lodge room.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 in Lincoln to install their 2018 Secretary/Treasurer out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Capitol Lodge No. 3 in Omaha to install their 2018 Tyler out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Osceola Lodge No. 65 in Osceola to install their 2018 Officers out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Jachin Lodge No. 146 in Holdrege to install their 2018 Officers out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201 in Gering to install their 2018 Junior Warden, Junior Steward and Marshal out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to install their 2018 Secretary/Treasurer out of time.

On February 7, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha to install their 2018 Marshal out of time.

On February 7, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to East Lincoln Lodge No. 210 in Lincoln to move their charter on February 22, 2018, to Robbers Cave in Lincoln, for the purpose of holding a lodge presentation.

On February 9, 2018, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Plainview Lodge No. 204 in Plainview to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On February 12, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Ashlar Lodge No. 33 in Grand Island to install their 2018 Senior and Junior Wardens, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Senior and Junior Stewards, Marshal and Tyler out of time.

On February 12, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Capitol Lodge No. 3 in Omaha to install their 2018 Senior Warden, Chaplain, Junior Deacon and Junior Steward out of time.

On February 12, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Nebraska City to install their 2018 Tyler out of time.

On February 20, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Heirloom Bible Publishers to obtain a list of Nebraska lodge secretaries with contact information, for the purpose of sending The Cornerstone newsletter.

On February 21, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in Long Pine to move their charter on March 20, 2018, to Minnekadusa Lodge No. 192 in Valentine, for the purpose of modeling the proper opening and closing of all three degrees to be certified proficient.

On February 23, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Cheyenne Lodge No. 1 in Wyoming to obtain a list of Nebraska lodge secretaries with contact information, for the purpose of inviting Nebraska members to their 150th Anniversary event.

On February 28, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the George Washington Masonic Memorial to obtain a list of Nebraska members with contact information, for the purpose of sending the newsletter from the Memorial.

On March 2, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 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 receive mailing labels for all subordinate lodges from the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of sending a letter to the lodges requesting contributions for the same.

On March 7, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter for all regular and special meetings to be held in 2018 to the United Methodist Church in Rosalie due to the lodge building in Walthill being unsafe and unsuitable for meeting and gathering purposes.

On March 7, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter on March 31, 2018, to Omadi Lodge No. 5 in South Sioux City, for the purpose of holding the annual proficiency examination.

On March 28, 2018, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite to send a letter to Omaha area lodges inviting members to participate in a Master Craftsman education program.

On April 3, 2018, 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 April 6, 2018, 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 April 19, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Charity Lodge No. 53 in Red Cloud to move their charter on May 8, 2018, to 53 North Webster in Red Cloud, for the purpose of holding the regular communication.

On April 20, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln to move their charter on the following dates:

1. May 2, 2018 to Lebanon Lodge No. 323 in Columbus, for the purpose of holding the regular communication in Columbus to allow the Bronze Jordan Medal holder to attend the meeting;
2. July 11, 2018 to the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont, for the purpose of holding a regular communication at the Home and to educate their members in the benefits provided by the Children's Home; and
3. December 5, 2018, to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, for the purpose of holding a regular communication at The Home to allow residents to attend, and to education their members in the benefits of The Home.

On April 24, 2018, 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 12, 2018, to 16600 N Johnson Road in North Platte, for the purpose of holding the regular communication in an outdoor setting.

On May 2, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Geneva Lodge No. 79 in Geneva to move their charter on June 5, 2018, to Dan Aspegren's field located two miles east and one and one-half miles north of Geneva, for the purpose of holding the regular communication in an outdoor setting.

On May 22, 2018, 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 May 23, 2018, pursuant to Article X, Section 1(a) and (e), I convened Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Nebraska City and presided therein, suspending the Worshipful Master of Western Star Lodge No. 2 for good cause shown.

On June 7, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to move their charter on July 5, 2018, to 901 Rosewood Drive in Lincoln for the purpose of holding an outdoor BBQ meeting.

On June 8, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to Tehama Shrine in Hastings to obtain a list of names and contact information for members within their jurisdiction, for the purpose of sending information regarding friendship meetings, membership and ceremonials.

On June 11, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Walthill to move their charter to 309 Maple Street in Rosalie, for the purpose of permanently moving the location of the lodge.

On June 11, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to McCook Lodge No. 135 in McCook to move their charter on June 16, 2018, to Greg Wolford's home on Airport Road in McCook, for the purpose of holding a lodge picnic.

On June 11, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha to move their charter on July 3, 2018, 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 June 26, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Camp Clarke Lodge No. 285 in Bridgeport to move their charter on August 4, 2018, to Schuler Red Angus Ranch, located 20 miles southwest of Bridgeport, for the purpose of performing an outdoor Master Mason degree.

On July 11, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie to move their charter on August 16, 2018, to Beck Memorial Park in Decatur, for the purpose of holding the regular communication in an outdoor setting.

On July 11, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Falls City Lodge No. 9 in Falls City to move their charter to 1212 Stone Street in Falls City, for the purpose of permanently moving the location of the lodge.

On August 9, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Seneca Lodge No. 284 in Thedford to move their charter on September 12, 2018, to Thomas County Fairgrounds on Hwy 2, 1.5 miles east of Thedford. for the purpose of holding a pasture lodge.

On August 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in Lincoln to send invitations to lodges within 70 miles of Lincoln to attend an open house for the viewing of refurbished paintings in the lodge building.

On August 29, 2018, under the provisions of Section 3-102, I approved the request of Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 in Kearney to conduct a raffle pursuant to the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.

On September 17, 2018, pursuant to Sections 2-704 and 2-612, I granted permission to the Sioux City Valley of the Scottish Rite to obtain a list of Nebraska members with address information in requested zip codes, for the purpose of sending correspondence asking them to consider membership in the Scottish Rite.

On September 18, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Hickman Lodge No. 256 in Lincoln to move their charter on October 4, 2018, to 1801 N 112th Street in Lincoln, for the purpose of holding the regular communication in an outdoor setting.

On September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 2-612, I granted permission to the Masters and Wardens Club of Greater Omaha to contact Nebraska subordinate lodges by letter, for the purpose of requesting donations of holiday gifts for residents of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, The Nebraska Masonic Home and the Omaha Home for Boys.

On October 18, 2018, I granted dispensation pursuant to the provisions of Section 2-402 to permit North Star Lodge No. 227 of Lincoln to request courtesy work of Oshkosh Lodge No. 286 in Oshkosh to examine a brother without reference to time following his reinstatement to good standing to North Star Lodge.

On October 30, 2018, I granted dispensation authorizing the reconvening of Swisher Lodge for the purpose of conferring the Fellow Craft degree on November 9, 2018, and the Master Mason degree on November 10, 2018, in Bellevue, Nebraska, upon two Entered Apprentice Masons initiated in Swisher Lodge while serving in Afghanistan, and for the purpose of issuing an open demit to such other Entered Apprentice masons who were initiated in Swisher Lodge while serving in Afghanistan who now desire to petition a lodge in their home jurisdiction for the purpose of completing the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. The Master Masons will be issued demits to allow them to transfer their membership within a period of one year to any subordinate lodge of any other grand lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. This dispensation will terminate on December 31, 2018.

On November 12, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit George Washington Lodge No. 250 of Lincoln to install their 2019 Officers out of time.

On November 16, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Omadi Lodge No. 5 in South Sioux City to elect their 2019 officers out of time.

On November 16, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Liberty Lodge No. 300 in Lincoln to elect their 2019 Junior Warden out of time.

On December 4, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit Arcana Lodge No. 195 in Gordon to elect their Master and Wardens out of time.

On December 6, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in Omaha to move their charter on January 19, 2019, to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite, for the purpose of holding the Installation of Officers.

On December 10, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie to move their charter on January 6, 2019, to Omadi Lodge No. 5 in South Sioux City, for the purpose of holding the Installation of Officers.

On December 10, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-207, I granted permission to Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie to receive on loan the cancelled charters of Jordan Lodge No. 27, Oakland Lodge No. 91, Winnebago Lodge No. 309, and Roman Eagle Lodge No. 203, to display for historical purposes the charters of lodges that have consolidated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 274.

On December 17, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Renaissance Lodge No. 334 in Elkhorn to move their charter on January 31, 2019, to the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On December 18, 2018, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Hickman Lodge No. 256 in Lincoln to move their charter on January 13, 2019, to the Lincoln Valley Scottish Rite, for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On December 21, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit John J Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha to elect their 2019 Junior and Senior Wardens out of time.

On December 31, 2018, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Article X, Section 1(c) of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge to permit John J Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha to elect their 2019 Treasurer out of time.

On January 9, 2019, I granted dispensation waiving the provisions of Section 2-312 to permit Papillion Lodge No. 39 in Papillion to install their 2019 Senior Deacon and Senior Steward out of time.

On January 10, 2019, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Miloma Lodge No. 328 in Omaha to move their charter on January 12, 2019, to the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite Building, for the purpose of holding an installation of officers.

On January 10, 2019, under the provisions of Section 2-502, I granted permission to Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 in Lincoln to move their charter on February 1, 2019, to the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska, for the purpose of opening a lodge of Master Masons for the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

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:

- June 19, 2018.....Paul R. Doxtator-Morenberg..... Alliance Lodge No. 183
- June 19, 2018.....Robert P. Herman..... Ashlar Lodge No. 33
- August 12, 2018.....Scott A. MerchantOmadi Lodge No. 5
- August 12, 2018.....Stuart F. Johnson.....Albion Lodge No. 78
- October 18, 2018Brandon S. Hixon.....North Star Lodge No. 227
- October 18, 2018Glenn A. Koplin..... Fremont Lodge No. 15
- December 10, 2018....Curt W. Foerster.....Nebraska Lodge No. 1
- December 31, 2018....Troy D. Launsby Olive Branch Lodge No. 274

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 John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on November 9, 2018.

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:

- March 8, 2018..... Scott A. Peters, Bluffs City Lodge No. 71, Council Bluffs, Iowa
- April 6, 2018..... Salvatore Frank Politi, Jr., Cobia Lodge No. 631, Council Bluffs, Iowa
- July 11, 2018..... Timothy Ellis, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Council Bluffs, Iowa
- August 17, 2018..... Jeffrey C. Brown, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Council Bluffs, Iowa
- December 10, 2018..... Philip M. Durham, Triangle Lodge No. 643, Sioux City, Iowa

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT

From analyzing our numbers over the decade I served as a Grand Lodge Officer, it is clear: Nebraska Masonry doesn't have a recruiting problem, as so many Brothers lament; we have a *retention* problem. What organization wouldn't want to bring in approximately 102 people a year, as we did in 2018? That is not the real problem. The problem is, we fail to keep these men. This year, not counting 350 deaths, we suspended 324 across the state, which is a long-standing trend. Three times as many people as we bring in choose to walk away from our lodges. Nebraska now stands at just over 9000 members. Do the math: simply put, if we don't do something now, Nebraska Masonry has approximately 15.7 years left. We have tried countless recruiting drives over the years, but none have been or ever could be massive enough to offset this rapid decline, akin to putting more and more air in a tire before patching the gaping hole. It is critical that sooner rather than later, the fraternity must come to acknowledge many men come to Masonry looking for something we never provide them. We offer plenty of green bean dinners, picnics, charity work, and opportunities to have "fun." Yet we still lose members in droves. We need to realize men aren't coming to us for all those things. They can find all of that in any other of a myriad of community organizations. We have to offer them something that sets us apart from all those other organizations:

The teachings of Masonry.

This is what distinguishes us from the pack. This is what we have been sorely lacking since the terrible and ill-advised decision 30 years ago to all but eliminate it from a candidate's introduction to and subsequent interaction with our beloved fraternity. The subsequently sharp decline in our membership numbers is dramatically evident as a result.

Since 2013, approximately 100 men have become certified fully proficient in our ritual, learned extended lectures, voluntarily demonstrated proficiency in the full-form Answers, or become new Deputy Grand Custodians through Grand Lodge programs. The vast majority of these men are young, by anyone's standards. Don't blame society for not producing men today who are willing to invest something of themselves into the

teachings of Masonry. We must blame ourselves for not having the courage or foresight to ask them to do so.

When people stand up to oppose returning our teachings to their formerly successful status, they strive to appear they speak for new candidates. In fact, as has been well-evidenced over the past five years, they are speaking only for themselves. Only on the rarest of occasions does a person who is actually well versed in our ritual stand up to oppose this, and even then there are ulterior motives inspiring them; by and large with extremely limited exceptions, only those who themselves know little of the teachings of Masonry do so. Let me be clear, I firmly believe you do not have to memorize ritual to recognize its value to a new candidate and the process that sustained Masonry for 300 years. I have always said and will always say, “We are certified proficient, not certified *perfect*.” Be sure your opposition to it is not disguised as concern for new candidates when it is actually self-conscious fear of your own limitations. A good leader focuses on his entire lodge and the Craft as a whole. Since printing scheduling demands I pen these thoughts in December 2018, our Annual Communication in February 2019 has yet to provide your opportunity to demonstrate what you choose to focus on through my initiative to restore candidate proficiency requirements to historic precedent. I hope you are bold enough to take the steps necessary to ensure our continued existence.

CONCLUSION

As I prepare to move to the next phase of my life, I again thank those who, throughout Masonry’s lifelong journey, inspired me with motivation, friendship, and brotherly love. I will never forget the many wonderful experiences we shared while climbing the winding stairs together.

My Brothers, I leave the future of Nebraska Masonry in your hands. There are many challenges to overcome, but one thing stands above the rest if we are going to survive in any configuration the great men who founded this fraternity would recognize: renew the time-honored focus on putting more Masonry into men, rather than more men into Masonry.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick D. Barger



Grand Master Barger asked R.:W.: James A. Carlton to approach the microphone where R.:W.: Brother Carlton moved for approval to hold the 165th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2022. The motion was seconded and carried.



Right Worshipful Ron Stites, was invited to the podium and announced that, as approved at the 161st Annual Communication in 2018, the 164th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Center in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2021.

FINAL REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.: Dwight Smith, Chairman

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

The meeting of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska was called to order on Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. by M.:W.: Brother Dwight E. Smith, Chairman. All committee members were present: Most Worshipful Brothers Steven F. Mattoon (by telephone), Dean Skokan, Les Seiler, and Thomas L. Hauder. The following Grand Lodge Officers were present: Patrick D. Barger, Grand Master; R.:W.: Robert W. Moninger, Deputy Grand Master; R.:W.: Ronald D. Stites, Grand Senior Warden; R.:W.: James R. Carlton, Grand Junior Warden; M.:W.: Reginald S. Kuhn, Grand Secretary; V.:W.: Charles J. Odorizzi, III, Grand Chaplain; W.: Kevin H. Scheele Grand Orator; M.:W.: Russell G. Reno, Grand Historian; M.:W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr., Grand Custodian; W.: John R. Fairlie, Grand Marshal, W.: Alexander F. Straatmann, Grand Senior Deacon; W.: John L. Millington, Grand Junior Deacon; W.: Robert C. King, Grand Senior Steward; W.: F. Graham House, Grand Musician; W.: John R. Herbolsheimer, Personal Representative of the Grand Master, W.: Michael E. Tomasiewicz, Personal Representative of the Grand Master; W.: David A. Wetrosky, Personal Representative of the Grand Master; as well as Past Grand Masters: M.:W.: John T. Parsons, M.:W.: Dennis E. Rix, and M.:W.: John T. Maxell.

The following were elected to serve 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, 2018 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 15, 2019 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.: Thomas Hauder and seconded by M.:W.: Dean Skokan, and carried, Recommendation One was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by M.:W.: Steven Mattoon and seconded by M.:W.: Les Seiler and carried, Recommendation Two was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by M.:W.: Thomas Hauder and seconded by M.:W.: Les Seiler, and carried, Recommendation Three was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

On motion by M.:W.: Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.: Thomas Hauder, and carried, with M.:W.: Dean Skokan not voting, Member Resolution Number One was approved as to form and can be submitted for ballot at this session.

The Jurisprudence Committee considered Constitutional Amendment Number One and determined as follows: On motion by M.:W.: Les Seiler and seconded by M.:W.: Thomas Hauder, and carried, Constitutional Amendment Number One was approved as to form and can be submitted to be balloted upon at this session.

With regard to Review of Changes in Lodge Bylaws approved by the Grand Master and Lodge Consolidations and Extinctions, on motion by M.:W.: Dean Skokan, seconded by M.:W.: Les Seiler, and carried, the actions were approved.

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

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

The Committee then proceeded to pass a motion commending M.:W.: Patrick D. Barger on his very successful year as Grand Master and commended him and his officers for their year of service to the Fraternity.

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

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

Codification of the Law:

As a result of the approval of Recommendation No. 1, included on Page 68 of the Annual Report of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska distributed at the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and incorporated by reference on the written ballot completed on the voting on the Recommendation, Sections 2-302, 2-402 and 2-402(a) of the Grand Lodge Bylaws are amended 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.*

Sec. 2-402 – PROFICIENCY – All ~~those~~ *new candidates* 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.

~~**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.~~

As a result of the approval of Recommendation No. 2, included on Page 70 of the Annual Report of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska distributed at the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and incorporated by reference on the written ballot completed on the voting on the Recommendation, Sections 2-503 and 2-512 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-503 – MEETINGS – The regular meetings of a subordinate lodge are those only which are designated by its Bylaws as such. Notices of meetings may be published in the news media. Eight Master Masons, members of the lodge, must be present at all regular meetings. *Regular meetings of a subordinate lodge may be opened in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason degree when eight Master Masons of said lodge assume the officer stations and places and comply with the requirements of Section 2-1001 of this code.* When, however, the question to be voted upon is consolidation with another lodge, under provisions of Section 2-207 hereof, the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative, may convene the lodge and preside therein and the question may be decided by a majority vote of such members of the lodge as are present, even though less than eight. At all meetings of the lodge the charter or a photo static copy thereof, certified by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge, as well as the three great lights and the representative of the three lesser lights must be present. No business matters may be taken up or passed upon by the lodge at a special or emergent meeting except funerals, installation, conferring of degrees, examination for proficiency in the degrees, and those matters specifically authorized in the Grand Lodge law, or referred to such special meeting by the Grand Master.

The Worshipful Master of each subordinate lodge, after being duly installed, is authorized to open a lodge for emergent communication for the sole purpose of conducting funeral services, which lodge shall remain open for the duration of the term of office of the Worshipful Master who opened the same, and which shall be closed by him before his successor is installed. The Secretary shall be responsible for supplying and returning to the lodge the properties of the lodge required for use at each funeral service.

As a result of the approval of Recommendation No. 3, included on Page 71 of the Annual Report of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska distributed at the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and incorporated by reference on the

written ballot completed on the voting on the Recommendation, Section 2-512 of the Grand Lodge Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-512 – BYLAWS – Each chartered subordinate lodge may enact bylaws for its own government, provided the same are not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of this Grand Lodge, or with the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. No bylaw shall be valid until approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. No bylaw or amendment thereto shall be adopted until a written proposal thereof shall have been presented at some previous regular meeting of the lodge. After adoption, ~~a certified copy three certified copies~~ thereof, with the amended section, if any, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary. ~~two of which shall be retained by him, and the other~~ **The proposal shall then be** returned to the lodge with an endorsement of action taken thereon. Every member of a subordinate lodge must sign its bylaws.

As a result of the approval of Proposed Constitutional Amendment No. 1, included on Page 72 of the Annual Report of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska distributed at the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and incorporated by reference on the written ballot completed in the voting on the Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Articles II and V of the Grand Lodge Constitution is amended to read as follows:

**ARTICLE II.
MEMBERS**

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, **Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon**, Grand Chaplain, 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-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 Custodian
- The Worshipful Grand Marshal
- ~~The Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon~~

~~The Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon~~

The Worshipful Grand Senior Steward

The Worshipful Grand Junior Steward

The Grand Tyler

The office of Grand Master's Personal Representative(s), limited to a maximum of three appointed, if desired.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Dwight E. Smith, 286, Chairman
Steven F. Mattoon, 75
Les Seiler, 317
Dean Skokan, 15
Thomas L. Hauder, 54, 332

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

RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Right Worshipful Bob Moninger 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 2018-2019.”

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

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

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

M.:W.: Krieger made reference to the printed report and noted that the lecture slides available from the Grand Lodge office on CD have been reworked and improved. A new CD was available at the Credentials desk for each lodge.

Most Worshipful Krieger then asked the Grand Senior Deacon to conduct Worshipful Brother Steve Green to the East, where he presented a certificate to W.:B.: Steve Green naming him as a Deputy Grand Custodian Emeritus.

The printed report as follows:

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. With the leadership of Most Worshipful Patrick Barger we have gained a number of new Deputy Grand Custodians and individually certified members which will be a great benefit to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for many years to come,

I also want to thank the Committee on Nebraska Work for their dedication to keeping the Nebraska Work true. 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.

For the year 2018 we had 38 of the 118 lodges in Nebraska fully certified and 31 lodges certified in open and close only. The lodges are as follows:

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Nebraska	1	Omaha	*
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	61
Capitol	3	Omaha	*
Omadi	5	S Sioux City	69
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	95
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	64
Covert	11	Omaha	49
Fremont	15	Fremont	88
Washington	21	Blair	30
Blue River	30	Milford	*
Ashlar	33	Grand Island	*
Fairbury	35	Fairbury	*
Lone Tree	36	Central City	*
Papillion	39	Papillion	12
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	73
Hastings	50	Hastings	95
Mosaic	55	Norfolk	*
York	56	York	*
Wahoo	59	Wahoo	94
Osceola	65	Osceola	16
Aurora	68	Aurora	*
Hooper	72	Hooper	94
Frank Welch	75	Sidney	68
Geneva	79	Geneva	44
St Paul	82	St Paul	*
Utica	96	Utica	90
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	87
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	68
Springfield	112	Springfield	*
North Bend	119	North Bend	60
Long Pine	136	Long Pine	1
Jachin	146	Holdrege	61
Custer	148	Broken Bow	*
Alliance	183	Alliance	74
Bee Hive	184	Omaha	*
Blazing Star	200	Burwell	*

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Scotts Bluff	201	Gering	*
Plainview	204	Plainview	*
East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	85
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	1
North Star	227	Lincoln	86
Comet	229	Ceresco	66
Zion	234	Hyannis	*
Geo. Washington	250	Lincoln	*
Wausa	251	Wausa	*
Hickman	256	Lincoln	31
Franklin	264	Franklin	*
Robert W Furnas	265	Scottsbluff	*
Geo. W Lininger	268	Omaha	1
Olive Branch	274	Rosalie	10
Florence	281	Omaha	*
Camp Clarke	285	Bridgeport	Initial
Union	287	Palmyra	*
Omaha	288	Omaha	*
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	87
James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	*
Cotner	297	Lincoln	78
Mizpah	302	Omaha	69
Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	*
Victory	310	Valley	69
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	95
Mid-West	317	Hastings	71
College View	320	Lincoln	*
Lebanon	323	Columbus	*
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	7
Centennial	326	Omaha	0
Shiloh	327	Omaha	55
Miloma	328	Omaha	*
Albert Pike	333	Omaha	*

We have 58 brethren eternally certified in the Grand jurisdiction of Nebraska, and I commend them for their hard work and dedication.

In addition to those eternally certified, we have 72 brothers who recertified in all three degrees in the past year. We have 2 brethren who are newly certified in our grand

jurisdiction and I want to also thank them for all 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 - John E. Dimon, Omaha
- District 4 - Brian K. Sandall, Blair
- District 5 - Michael E. Tomasiewicz, Tekamah
- District 6 - Kent L. Neumann, Bancroft
- District 8 - Stephen C. Kennedy, Brownville
- District 9 - Jonathan L. Paz, Papillion
- District 11 - Suman Vallabhbai, Lincoln
- District 12 - Dennis H. Brydl, Lincoln
- District 13 - Carl C. Plants, Lincoln
- District 15 - Randall L. Hart, Tekamah
- District 16 - Alvin O. Benemerito, Long Pine
- District 17 - Roger A. Deininger, Hastings
- District 19 - Dean Papenhagen, Hastings
- District 20 - Kent R. Millington, Raymond
- District 21 - Kevin H. Scheele, Waco
- District 22 - Tyler S. Loontjer, Bellevue
- District 23 - James A. Carlton, Bellevue
- District 24 - Delmar A. Jones, Kearney
- District 26 - Arthur J. Ferguson, Wood Lake
- District 27 - Scott E. Emmett, Scotia
- District 28 - Bradley M. Dutton, Alliance
- District 29 - Joel W. Zilmer, Alliance
- District 30 - Richard H. Cooper, Morrill
- District 30 - John B. Ferguson, Kimball
- District 31 - Mark L. Carley, Dalton
- District 32 - Roger L. Shillington, Max
- District 34 - Brent Myers, Lincoln
- District 35 - Edward W. Nolte, Papillion
- DGC-at-Large - Bruce A. Baker, Hastings
- DGC-at-Large - Patrick D. Barger, Lincoln
- DGC-at-Large - John L. Brommer, Omaha
- DGC-at-Large - Bernard F. Hauber, Omaha
- DGC-at-Large - John R. Herbolsheimer, Gretna
- DGC-at-Large - F Graham. House, III, Lincoln
- DGC-at-Large - Jeffrey A. Merriman, Omaha
- DGC-at-Large - John L. Millington, Lincoln
- DGC-at-Large - David C. Norton, Bellevue
- DGC-at-Large - David A. Shaw, Bellevue
- DGC-at-Large - Mark J. Turner, Trinity, TX

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 plus 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.

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 | Richard L. Mauch | Augustine S. Scolari |
| Arthur S. Dye | Ralph E. McNulty | Eugene C. Sibley |
| Kenneth G. Fleming | Harold C. Mueksch | James R. Taylor |
| Scott J. Krieger, Sr. | Harold W. Noble | |

We also have 23 brethren serving the Grand Lodge as Apprentice Custodians. Their dedication to learning the work by shadowing and assisting our Deputy Grand Custodians is to be commended.

The annual Custodian School was held this year in Kearney at Rob Morris Lodge on November 3rd, 2018. We continue to have a mediocre turnout at the school but need to stress that all DGC's 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.

I would like to take a moment to thank Most Worshipful Brother Patrick Barger 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.

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 Worshipful Brothers Delmar Jones, Tim Lowe 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: Worshipful Brothers Delmar Jones, Kevin Johnson, Jeff Merriman, John Herbolsheimer, Kent Neumann, James Michaelson, Charlie Odorizzi, Dean Papenhagen, R.:W.: Jim Carlton, Tom Lagerstrom, Frank Veverka, Ron Nielson, John Dimon, Roger Deininger, David Kipp, Dennis Brydl, Scott Emmett, Charles Monter, Michael Tomasiewicz, Steve Green, Bernie Hauber, R.:W.: Bob Moninger & Brother Hustin Williamson from Texas.

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, moved for the adoption of the report of the Grand Custodian, as printed. There being no discussion, the motion was approved and the report of the Grand Custodian was adopted by vote of the Masons assembled.

PRESENTATION OF THE PAST GRAND MASTER’S APRON AND PAST GRAND MASTER’S JEWEL

Grand Master Barger asked Deputy Grand Master Moninger to cover. The following Past Grand Masters were escorted to the East: M.:W.: Jim Brown. M.:W.: Les Seiler, M.:W.: Russ Reno, and M.:W.: Tom Hauder. The Past Grand Master’s apron was then passed to these Past Grand Masters in Most Worshipful Barger’s Masonic lineage. M.:W.: Tom Hauder made the formal presentation of the Past Grand Master’s Apron to M.:W.: Patrick Barger. The jewel was passed along in the same manner and also presented to M.:W.: Barger by M.:W.: Hauder, after which M.:W.: Hauder directed the brethren in giving Grand Master Barger the grand honors.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED REPORTS

The list of the reports of committees not verbally received were read. They were received and approved without objection. The reports to be approved as printed are:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Judge Advocate | Membership |
| Fraternal Relations | Masonic Band |
| Masonic Relief | Internet and Computer |
| Masonic Education | Technology |
| Awards | Youth |
| Nebraska Work | George Washington Masonic |
| Grievances | Memorial Association |
| Grand Lodge Office | East Grand Master’s Activities |
| Public Relations | Committee |
| Lodge Leadership | Boy Scouts Outreach |

Necrology – This report was received at the Public Opening, but will be moved for adoption here.

REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMITTEE

Alexander F. Straatmann, Chairman

This was the first year of the committee. The Judge Advocate Committee received two referrals this year. The referrals were from Mizpah Lodge No. 302 and Covert Lodge No. 11. As neither referral came from the sitting Junior Warden or Master, both were deemed improper and returned to the individuals with the proper deficiency noted.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexander Straatmann, Chairman, 46
C. Dick Clark, 19
Tyler S. Loontjer, 1

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

John T. Parsons, Chairman

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska has received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Malta. Our Grand Lodge is the only jurisdiction within the regular Grand Lodges of the United States that does not yet recognize this Grand Lodge. The committee recommends that recognition be extended.

The Grand Lodge of New York has recognized the Grand Lodge of Lebanon, a new Grand Lodge not yet recognized by any other Grand Lodge. We have just received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Lebanon. The committee recommends that recognition not be granted until further investigation can be completed.

A Grand Lodge of Kosovo has been formed and requests recognition. Kosovo was previously under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Albania. Nebraska does not recognize the Grand Lodge of Albania, nor do most US Grand Lodges. Consequently we recommend that no action be taken at this time.

The following requests for recognition remain pending and the committee does not recommend recognition at this time: Mexico, Grand Lodge del Estado Andres Quintana Roo (2014); National Grand Lodge of Azerbaijan (2011); Mexico, Grand Lodge del Estado de Guanajuato (2007); Russia, Grand Lodge of Georgia (2015); Grand Lodge of Kazakhstan (2017); Grand Lodge of Moldova (2009); Grand Lodge of Montenegro (2014); and the Grand Lodge of San Marino (2009).

During preparation of the letters of recognition for the Grand Lodges of Baja California and the Grand Orients of Santa Catarina, Rio Grande Do Sul, Mato Grasso and Parana recommended for recognition in the 2018 report, it was discovered that addresses for the grand lodges did not match those in the List of Lodges. Consequently, although these Grand Lodges have since been recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, recognition was not extended to those grand lodges and the committee recommends that recognition be postponed until they can be investigated further.

Mutual recognition between Prince Hall Grand Lodges and their counterparts seems to be slowly growing. There are now only eight grand lodges that do not recognize Prince Hall: SC, GA, MS, TN, AR, LA, FL, and WV. A request from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was granted pursuant to the approval given at Annual

Communication in February 2018 to recognize any Prince Hall Grand Lodge recognized by the respective regular Grand Lodge in their state.

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

Patron of Masonic Relief: At the 160th Annual Grand Lodge Communication W.:B.: Alvin Benemerito introduced the Patron of Masonic Relief Jewel. 2017 was the inaugural year for the collectible jewel.

1. At the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska W.:B.: Alvin Benemerito will be presenting the second in the series of Patron of Masonic Relief jewels.
2. As a reminder, the inaugural 2017 jewel should be retired from wearing, and preferable be put on prominent display.
3. To date, the Inaugural 2017-2018 Patron Jewel has had enough sales to recoup our initial costs, and begin turning a small profit. We will be introducing the next in the series at the 2019 Grand Lodge Communication.
4. To date, twenty-four 2017-2018 Patron Jewels have been sold for a total of \$6,000; and six 2019-2020 Patron Jewels have been sold for a total of \$600.

Relief Requests

The Grand Lodge Masonic Relief committee has assisted Nebraska Masons, their widows or orphans with aid totaling \$8,838.57 in disbursements.

Respectfully submitted,
Troy Myers, Chairman, 297
Steven R. Barchus, 302, 333
Alvin O. Benemerito, 136
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15
Douglas S. Rasmussen, 119

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman

In response to input from the Craft during a 2017 Masonic Education survey, the Committee, in 2018, launched a monthly Masonic Education email. The email can be subscribed to by filling out the form on the home page of the Grand Lodge or on the home page of the Nebraska Masonic Education website.

The email consists of a message from the Grand Master, 2 education articles, a message from the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont and the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth. Additionally, there are short articles on Leadership and

Membership. A book review is also included with a link to find the book online and video education was added in the second half of the year on leadership topics.

The monthly email has been very successful with an average 50% tracked opening rate (actual rate is generally higher but tracking inefficiencies misses some of the opens) and a robust click through rate to the longer articles and other resources. The Committee will continue to produce the monthly emails and fine-tune the process to add new features as needed.

The Grand Lodge Masonic Education website (www.nebraskamasoniceducation.com) is a great source of Masonic education available to Nebraska Masons. More information is added often to support the local Masonic Educators in each Lodge.

Excellent articles appear in the “To Light” section in the Nebraska Mason quarterly publication. The committee uses this publication to give all Nebraska Masons access to professional Masonic Education articles. This section is tied to the Nebraska Grand Lodge Education website. A 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 is presented at the Annual Communication on Saturday morning. It is the annual wake up call for all Masons interested in a high-quality education presentation. This presentation continues to bring in high attendance. Recommendations of Masonic books are also presented. The Committee has partnered with Macoy’s and who has expanded their offering of titles to include books from Lewis Publishing in the UK. An archive of past recommended books can be found on the Grand Lodge Masonic website.

The committee continues to send a monthly “To Light Minute” education presentation to the subordinate Lodges secretaries and Worshipful Masters to be read in the monthly business meeting. This presentation is a short topic that should take only 10 minutes of the meeting time. 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.

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 if interested.

Respectfully submitted,
 Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman, 287, 314, 332
 Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, 332
 W. Larry Jacobsen, 327
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268
 Bobby W. Lingerfelt, 325, 332

REPORT OF THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kevin H. Scheele, Chairman

The Awards Committee has again this year reviewed some of the awards available in conjunction with our regular assignment of making recommendations for selecting each of the annual awards. As promised in last year’s report, we have implemented a new

application for recognizing individual Masons, which divides the old Individual Masonic Achievement Award into categories. This application allows the Awards Committee to better recognize Brethren by recommending presentation of either the Individual Masonic Service Award or Individual Masonic Achievement Award. Both of these awards may be bestowed With Distinction in exemplary instances at the discretion of the Grand Master. New presentation pieces were designed, approved, and have been presented to worthy Brethren this year. If either category of the award is presented With Distinction by the Grand Master, the Brother is presented with a lapel pin which was custom-designed for this award.

Many lodges have a history of presenting a Mason of the Year Award, or something similar, to one of their local Brethren. In order to show the Grand Lodge's support for such an award, a certificate was designed and made available on the Grand Lodge website. This certificate is meant to be a token of commemoration from the Grand Lodge, either bestowed in conjunction with another presentation piece traditionally used by your local lodge or by itself.

Another new award this year came in the form of a program established by Grand Master Barger. Several full-form proficiency challenge coins have been presented across the state to new Brethren found proficient in the full questions and answers in the degrees. The Awards Committee is pleased to lend its full support to this program and offers a hearty congratulations to all Brethren who have demonstrated their zeal for Masonry by undertaking this challenge.

The Artificer Award continues to be popular for new Brothers in their pursuit of further light in Masonry. In some instances, extenuating circumstances encountered by the applicant have prompted us to look at ways to continue to update the application, making it more user-friendly while maintaining its integrity. We hope to encourage more newly raised Master Masons to rise to the challenge of earning the Artificer Award.

Edits to existing awards continue to keep us busy. Last year's new Lodge Vitality Award was updated to reflect current Grand Lodge programs which are available, as were the examples of how requirements may be met on the application. The Recruitment Award presentation guidelines were revised to give more gravitas to the award for the top recruiters of new Masons across the state. This change is intended to make the award a true recognition for merit, rather than a participation award for meeting minimum requirements.

The Awards Committee continues to encourage all lodges to apply for the awards available through the Grand Lodge. All applications can be found on the Grand Lodge website, and requirements for each are listed at the top of each application. When you apply for the Rock Maul or Gold Pan 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
Kirk E. Bruno, 148
Barry L. Frerichs, 136
F. Graham House, 54, 332
Bryan L. Regier, 234

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

Philip A. Lorenzen, Chairman

There is little new in the area of the Committee on Nebraska Work—what is exciting is the focus and dedication to the continuing highlights for Nebraska Freemasonry which strongly declared three key elements in 2016—which has been reinforced in the 2017 and 2018 Masonic years.

First is the renewed interest in individual proficiency and 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 set the pace and our Nebraska Deputies have risen 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 is his daily life, in his communion with God, and in his obligations to his family, his County, 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.

In 2018, additional Subordinate Lodges requested and were granted permission to require the more traditional long form of proficiency in the three degrees of Freemasonry. A program including specially minted coins, certificates and public recognition has brought attention to participants to demonstrate the way one may, with added effort, achieve success and further serves to encourage others to take the path to added proficiency.

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 2018 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 2018 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 2019 Masonic year.

The Committee reviewed the list of the “Grand Lodge fixed assets” and noted that the HP 4100N printer is no longer in use and can be removed. It was noted that the paper folder is approximately 25 years old and cannot be serviced any longer and will need to be replaced in the not too distant future; replacement cost is estimated at \$5000.00. The machine is still operational, and replacement will be considered when it is no longer functional.

The Grand Lodge Office Committee budget will remain at \$150.00 for 2019.

The Grand Lodge office staff consists of two full-time employees (Michelle & Debbie). The employee evaluation process implemented in 2015 was utilized again in 2018; the Committee reviewed the evaluations, and responsibilities of the employees to determine compensation commensurate with their experience and responsibilities. The insurance package for the two full time employees was reviewed and approved. It was noted that the Life Insurance rate will increase approximately \$7.00 per month and the dental/vision premium will increase about \$3.00 per month. Michelle reported an anticipated increase of 12 to 14 percent for health care coverage resulting in an estimated increase of \$3000.00 for the year.

In addition to a conservative 2% wage increase, the maximum “performance incentive” (bonus) as established in 2016 was awarded to both Michelle and Debbie for their continued high level of work on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

The CHIP administrative fee will remain at \$1200.00 per month for 2019. This amount is based on Michelle’s CHIP salary and the percentage of the office space, utilities and Grand Lodge resources used by the CHIP program.

As noted last year, the Committee continued to monitor and evaluate structural deficiencies identified during the installation of the entry access system. Several items were discovered as areas of concern with the Grand Lodge office building including a water leak located at the southwest corner, the deteriorating roof, drainage/safety issues near the main entrances, and substandard windows. A special joint meeting of the Grand Lodge Office Committee, Finance Committee, Grand Master Patrick Barger, Deputy Grand Master Bob Moninger, and Office Manager Michelle Fulmer was held on August 20th. A proposed exterior renovation plan was discussed and approved; as a result the roofing contract was awarded to A-R Roofing and VerMaas Construction was selected as the general contractor for the project.

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

Edward W. Bennett, Chairman

In 2018, the Public Relations Committee began work with the Leadership and Membership Committees to create Nebraska's own video promoting Freemasonry. Our committees agreed to create a video showing the appeal of our fraternity to our current newer members. The video will represent the diverse membership of our fraternity, both racially and geographically with a focus on middle aged to younger members in testimonial style interviews.

It is our hope that by sharing a variety of experiences we will be able to relate to more potential members. As of this writing our committees have firm and eager commitments from members wishing to participate. We still have need of additional members for these testimonials. Anyone wishing to participate should contact the Public Relations, Leadership, or Membership committees.

Respectively submitted
 Edward W. Bennett, Chairman, 61
 Brett R. Bennett, 6
 James R. Corsaro, 268
 Brent R. Elder, 227
 John A. Hardy, 102

REPORT OF THE LODGE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Charles J. Odorizzi and Robert L. Schapp, Co-Chairmen

The focus of the Lodge Leadership Committee has been making leadership documents and resources more visible and easier for the Brethren to access and use.

The committee supported the 2018 Lodge Leadership Conference Series developed by M.:W.: Russ Reno and facilitated by several Past Grand Masters. These sessions were attended by a number of Brethren throughout the state. After arranging hosting of the events with the respective lodges, committee members attended the sessions and are compiling suggestions for the 2019 series.

Much effort went into reviewing the existing leadership publications of the Grand Lodge. A number of these publications were edited, consolidated and reorganized in order to eliminate outdated, redundant and/or conflicting information and make them more understandable. These documents can now be easily accessed from the GLNE homepage through “Grand Lodge Committees” under the Lodge Resources dropdown. Document creation, review and updating will continue to be an ongoing activity, and more resources will be added during 2019 to the Grand Lodge Committees link.

As a Craft, we need to recruit, retain and develop members. This is a complex challenge not easily compartmentalized into one committee or another. Toward this end, the Lodge Leadership Committee will continue to pursue opportunities for cooperative efforts with other Grand Lodge committees.

We appreciate the Grand Master's confidence and the opportunity to serve which he afforded us, and look forward to further progress in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles J. Odorizzi, Co-Chairman, 290, 281
Robert L. Schapp, Co-Chairman, 327
Jeffrey A. Herber, 33
Richard J. Ray, 119
Eric D. VanSky, 325
Ad Hoc Members:
Lawrence J. Ruh, 327
Curtis E. Wolbert, 320

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman

The committee published a few articles on membership topics in the Nebraska Mason. There is information on the Grand Lodge website and mentioned within an article.

We continued the discussion on a long-term strategy for revitalizing area lodges. This effort has been slow, but the discussion has been good. There is not a simple answer and not everyone agrees on the problem or solutions.

We provided a plan for lodges to host a Masonic Interest night and provided the draft to the Grand Lodge Officers. The final version has not been released yet, but hopefully by early 2019 this will be available to local lodges.

A continuing issue is everyone in the lodge is part of the membership committee and remember to say “Hello” to a member and make a visitor or candidate feel welcome at your lodge or another masonic event.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey M. Coleman, Chairman, 302, 268
Mark L. Carley, 75
S. Hal Cottrell, 325, 332
Daniel J. Marr, 39
Joel W. Zilmer, 183

REPORT OF THE MASONIC ALL-STAR BAND COMMITTEE

K. Roger Dill, Chairman

From OH NO!! to WOW!!! can best describe this year's Masonic Band. At the first rehearsal on Tuesday night, I was concerned about the way the band sounded, but by the end of the week, this band had improved as much as any band that we've had. 264 students from 88 different Nebraska high schools worked very hard every day to improve their playing and marching skills and produced one of the best bands we've had.

This was the 24th year of The Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp and was one of my most enjoyable. 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. These students were outstanding not only with their on-field attitude, but also their off-field behavior. 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, and Brad Weber and Dr. Dave Bohnert from Wayne State University. They did their usual magic and prepared the band for their performances. The half-time directors were Lauren Milbourn, a graduate music major at UNO, Harvey Mohlman, band director from Broken Bow and Chris Weddel, band director from Yutan. The (old) band directors work with the students all week getting them ready for the performances and then the (younger) directors take over for the shows. We also have several junior and senior band assistants who are prior Masonic band students that help the students by being on the field during the week and getting the students in the right place at the right time. We could not have a band camp without them. They are the hardest workers of the camp.

Our band camp also relies on the wonderful volunteers who chaperone the students during the week. We had 81 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 previous years and I am hopeful 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 result of seeing the students come together and produce an outstanding show is priceless and very rewarding. Ask someone who has been there. We are always in need of night chaperones who attend all the activities and prepare the students for the following day. Their job is the fun job.

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. We get many, many positive comments about our program.

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, the 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
Rolland M. Otte, 119
Dennis E. Rix, PGM 15, 310
Jennie Danner
Jan Thoman, PGM
Kathy Worrell

REPORT OF THE INTERNET AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Thomas L. Hauder, Chairman

The 2018/2019 Masonic year was very low key from a technology standpoint. The Office Manager continues to do an outstanding job in keeping the website up to date and as of this report we have had no successful hacks on the site. The Committee did participate in two new projects: A custom webpage for the Leadership committee and helping the Education committee with starting up a monthly email newsletter for the Craft.

We continue to keep our eye on changes in technology that might profit the Grand Lodge and communicate regularly with the Grand Lodge staff on their technology needs.

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

REPORT OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Gene F. Wehrbein, Chairman

The purpose of the Grand Lodge Youth Committee is to support our Youth Organizations, DeMolay, Job's and Rainbow, its members and adult leaders.

This year the Committee gave four \$1,000 scholarships to Darci Rene Simmons, Job's Daughters; Hayly Ann Daudt, Rainbow; Jonathan Moats, DeMolay; and the Grand Masters' Scholarship went to Hannah Leeper.

It is important that 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 7th Triennial Masonic Youth Leadership Conference will be held on September 26-27, 2020 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney, Nebraska. The theme is "The Power is Yours." This is open to all Masonic youth and any non-Masonic youth that would like to attend. The Committee is working to provide a meaningful program with outstanding speakers, so we encourage everyone to help promote and support this event.

The Silent Auction held in conjunction with the 2018 Annual Communication raised over \$3,200.00. 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 also 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
James A. Carlton, 325, 332
Greg E. Mason, 297
Michael W. Stuhr, 302
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 first complete restoration of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, continues through the Landmark Century Campaign. Already significant progress has been made on our National Historic Landmark, and when completed it will be in better than new condition due to advanced preservation techniques and additional structural repairs.

Following is a summary of recent work:

- Stone by stone, the mortar is being repointed to protect the building from water leaks. Work is about half done.
- During 2018, the exterior of the third and fourth floors were addressed.
- Exterior restoration will be completed on the fifth, sixth and seventh floors.
- Restoration work on the large murals in Memorial Hall. The painting of the laying of Washington laying the cornerstone of the nation's capitol has been repaired and returned to the Memorial.
- Granite cladding will be added to the pylons in front of the Memorial.
- A direct sidewalk through the plaza will better connect the Memorial to the city of Alexandria, promote tourism and greater awareness, and improve public safety.
- LED exterior lighting has been added enabling the tower to be lit in different colors in keeping with the Memorial's architectural inspiration, the Lighthouse at Alexandria, Epypt. Lights will be needed on the third floor level and other areas as well.
- Six upper-level windows will be restored. The original plan called for windows of amber glass braced by a neoclassical bronze grille like those found elsewhere in the building, but were never installed. Once installed, they will provide more light and more effectively illuminate the murals and 17-foot bronze statue of Washington in Masonic regalia.

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska and its members have long been a leader in support of the Memorial. That support is important for many reasons. The Memorial teaches the general public about Washington, his life and virtues, and the role Freemasonry played throughout his life. The building also serves as a gathering place for the performing arts, social gatherings, public events and educational seminars. It has become a central hub

connecting Masons to one another, as well as our fraternity to the public, our nation and the world.

We honor the life and memory of George Washington through the Memorial “to inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason, and Father of our Country.” Thank you to the Grand Lodge and those brothers who provide ongoing support to the Memorial.

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

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

Robert C. King, Chairman

The 17th Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament was held at the North Bend Golf course on Monday, September 10, 2018. Seventy-five 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 \$11,074.02 - \$3,691.34 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,
Robert C. King, Chairman, 310,
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 fourth annual report of the Masons Supporting Scouting initiative. This Committee was initiated by Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder and re-energized by Most Worshipful Brother John Maxell. At the first of his year he tasked WB AJ Johnson to revive this program and to ensure its continued viability.

I would like to thank the committee for their assistance and support. The committee continues its work and seeks participation from interested brethren.

This program has three primary purposes: 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 is working to maintain 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 continued work with Mid-America Council to identify Cub Scout Packs in need of chartering partners. Packs in West Omaha and Bellevue are now chartered to Masonic Lodges and are doing well. We have worked with several other Packs on potential relationships. We are working with the Mid-America Council to identify scouting needs and work to expand the effort with 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 a solid 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 continues the process for Nebraska recognition by the National Association of Masonic Scouters and promotes recognition of Masonic Scouters with the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award.

In 2019 we will continue to outline the current program, facilitate consistent processes, and expand it in the future. We continue the work of improving 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 2018 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
 Ad Hoc Member:
 William D. Pickle, 325



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

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Mary Russell, Executive Director

The Nebraska Masonic Home has always strived to provide excellent care to our residents and that goal has never changed. As a Continuing Care Retirement Community, we provide independent living, assisted living, nursing care and an Alzheimer's Special Care Unit.

The end of year census is 63 residents, which includes 15 men and 48 women. There are 4 couples and 7 residents that pay an additional fee for a private room in the 24-hour nursing care center.

We are in the process of updating our Nurse Call system. This expansive project started in September 2018 with the task of rewiring the entire facility and changing out the panels in all resident rooms, apartments, and wherever a nurse call button is located. We are

now looking at a completion date for the end of February 2019. A heartfelt thank you is extended to everyone that made a "Nurse Call Donation." Your generosity is appreciated.

A retaining wall was needed just to the north of our 1924 Wing. When designing the wall, we decided to add a large patio to the top of the wall. This is just outside the entrance to the Spencer Wing, or as everyone calls it, the Blue Awning entrance. This is a wonderful addition of usable outside space for our residents. The landscaping, fencing and furniture will be added this spring. The residents are looking forward to warm summer days and the view of the beautiful trees in the fall. We are also planning on having some entertainment out there on the nice days.

We are very thankful for a generous donation from resident and past Board member Don Andrews. He donated a 35-foot flag pole, U.S. flag and a red Nebraska Flag. The flag pole was installed on our east lawn by The Nebraska Masonic Home monument. Lights were added to illuminate the flag which makes it very impressive at night. The Nebraska flag will be flown on game days, much to the residents' delight.

The residents really look forward to the delicious picnic dinners hosted by Narcissus Chapter No. 269 and Home Chapter No. 189 of Plattsmouth each summer. The food and fellowship are enjoyed by all. The commitment these chapters have to these traditions is greatly appreciated.

Hickman Lodge No. 256 of Lincoln not only visited for a facility tour with ladies in November, but they came bearing gifts for every resident in the facility. After a coffee hour with the residents complete with food and goodies provided by the Lodge, the Brethren and their ladies individually visited with the residents and gave them fleece blankets from the lodge. This lodge was super busy before their visit as they made homemade Christmas stockings for every resident and filled them with goodies of food and personal items. The lodge didn't bring elves with them, but they did bring two service dogs that were the hit of the day. Many thanks to Hickman Lodge for their kindness and generosity. We look forward to your visit again next year. Educational visits for lodges and chapters on what The Home has to offer combined with visits to the residents are a win-win situation for everyone.

The Home is faithfully visited by Masonic Lodges, Shrine Units, Eastern Star Chapters, Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters and the many other individuals committed to visiting our residents or donating to help provide for their care.

The annual Boon Memorial Food Truck continues to be a treasured 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 is extended to the lodges that donated to the Food Truck which benefits all The Home's residents.

We always know the holiday season is upon us when the Tangier Shrine Chanters bring good cheer to our residents as they perform their annual Christmas concert. Thank you for starting the holiday season off right.

Special thanks are extended to the Masters and Wardens Club of the Greater Omaha Metro area for their continued generosity to our residents each Christmas.

The residents enjoyed being entertained before Christmas by The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children's 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 Patrick Barger, 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 Candace Martin and Worthy Grand Patron Harold Terry 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, Department Supervisors and all employees of The Nebraska Masonic Home for their hard work and commitment to our residents and The Home. I am truly blessed to have such a fine team. Without their devotion to our residents, The Home would not be where it is today.

A special thank you to Steven Barchus, Foundation Director, and Lisa Davis, Marketing Coordinator, for their hard work and commitment to The Masonic Home and our residents.

It is with sadness that we said farewell to a devoted member of our Board of Trustees, John McHenry. John was on The Nebraska Masonic Home Board of Trustees from 1991 – 1996 and 2002 – 2018 and The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation Board of Directors from 1991 – 1996 and 2008 – 2018 until his death on August 18, 2018. He served as President of the Board of Trustees from 2013 – 2016. John was a very dedicated and caring gentleman and is greatly missed.

I want to thank the gentlemen of The Nebraska Masonic Home Board of Trustees that I have had the privilege to work with. Thank you for the commitment and attention you give that affects the lives of our residents and employees. The Masonic Home residents and employees are very fortunate to have such a loyal and dedicated Board in charge.

This concludes my annual report.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Russell, Executive Director

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Ronald Giesselmann, Executive Director

It is my pleasure to report that the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children (M-ESHC) is thriving. Everyone is working hard to accomplish their goals and the goals of the M-ESHC. This report will touch on some of the many things that happened in 2018 at the M-ESHC.

In an effort to stay consistent with the M-ESHC's Board of Directors, I will first talk about the children at the M-ESHC. The Board of Directors first considers the effect that decisions will have on children.

On the date of January 3, 2018, six girls and two house parents moved into the M-ESHC's new cottage. The new cottage was named Paden Cottage, after the major financial contributor, Leona Paden. Paden Cottage was an investment for the children and an investment for the future of the M-ESHC. With this additional cottage, there will be room for 30 children on campus.

There were five high school graduates in 2018 – four in May and one in December. One is gainfully employed at a Fremont factory, two went on to college, one joined the Marines and one joined the Army. Three former residents graduated from college in May. Two have jobs and one is moving on to earn her Master's Degree.

Children are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. The 2018 activities were: football, baseball, band, choir, wrestling, basketball, and bowling. The most notable extracurricular activity accomplishment was Dimitri's bowling team winning the Nebraska State Tournament upon his tie-breaking toss.

All of the children at the M-ESHC were members of the Rawhide Wranglers 4-H Club in 2018. The 4-H Club earned over 800 awards. Maddie was the club's 4-Her of the

Year. New to the Rawhide Wranglers this year, is a chance to be certified in Basic Agriculture Technology Training. The year-long program will give each 4-Her a taste of almost all aspects of farming and ranching. Todd Thomason, our Youth Director, introduced a new 4-H project called aquaponics. Aquaponics will be an addition to our gardening projects.

The annual Chili Feed and the Purple Ribbon Club continue to be great fundraisers for our 4-H Club thanks to our gracious donors. In an effort to keep 4-H costs down and provide a great experience for the 4-Hers, the 4-H Club had a herd of 10 cows last year that all produced one calf.

The people in and around Fremont, Nebraska are very good to the M-ESHC. Reduced rates at the local YMCA, accommodating schools, and a helpful UNL Extension office are a few of the many amenities in Fremont for the children. In turn, there have been over 1,000 visitors on the M-ESHC campus in 2018. The word visitors might be defined as someone touring, those using a classroom for a meeting, using the pavilion for a picnic, or participating in an animal judging clinic in the barn. The M-ESHC tried to give back to the community that is good to them.

Charles “Ched” House was the President of the very active Board of Directors in 2018. The Board helped with fundraising activities and they share their expertise while working on projects and on committees. Their ability to provide proper direction is irreplaceable. M-ESHC Board member Beverly Perkins-Bobb passed away in 2018. The Board voted to fill the vacancy with Betty Garwood.

The Board of Directors and the staff at the M-ESHC adjusted policies and procedures to conform to new Federal Acts and State Licensing requirements. Reporting child and family progress was the largest of the projects. It was concluded that two positions needed to be created. These positions will focus on child and family goals, so the ultimate goal of the child reunifying with his/her family is more attainable. House parents TJ Stosich and Natoya Brown became the first Navigators.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and children we commend you as members of the Masons and Eastern Star for your continuing personal and monetary support. The lives of the children at the Masonic-Easter Star Home for Children will be greatly enhanced by your kindness, thoughtfulness, and support.

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 14th year and we have reached 45,592 kits at 418 events. That’s 45,592 children ID’s processed and given to parents in the last 14 years. This year there were 16 events held with 901 kits completed. Events were held across the state along with two days at the State Fair sponsored by NeChip. 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 have transitioned to thumb drives instead of the floppy discs. Thumb drives really speed up the process of saving data to give the families. We also purchased additional sandwich boards to use to direct people at the state fair to the 4-H building to increase the traffic flow.

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

Bruce A. Baker, President

At the annual meeting of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation, held on February 01, 2018, in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center, the Board Members for 2018 are as follows:

R.: W.: Robert W. Moninger, Deputy Grand Master
M.: W.: Reg Kuhn, Grand Secretary
M.: W.: Bruce A. Baker (President), Chairman of the Grand Lodge Office Committee
Jack Lorenzen, Chairman of the Finance Committee
Michelle Fulmer (Secretary/Treasurer), Office Manager
Brian Zahm (Vice President), Appointed for 2017 & 2018
M.: W.: Thomas L. Hauder, Appointed for 2018 & 2019

As a result of discussion concerning fundraising, it was determined that a Fundraising Committee was needed and the following agreed to serve: M.: W.: John Maxell (Chairman), M.: W.: Rick Myers, and Brian Zahm.

Additionally, it was determined that the Board of Directors would meet with the Fundraising Committee in six months to review its progress and recommendations. A meeting was held at the Grand Lodge office on October 4th with Fundraising Committee member Brian Zahm making report on behalf of the Committee. Following discussion concerning the direction, relevance and future of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation, it was decided to direct John Maxell as the Chairman of the Fundraising Committee to develop a "fundraising plan" including "benchmarks" to be reported at the Annual Meeting scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on January 31st in Kearney, Nebraska at the Younes Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce A. Baker, PGM, Chairman, 317

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Michael E. Jones, President

Contained herein is a brief synopsis of efforts throughout the 2018 year. Addressed will be five topics: Library/Museum Partnership; Investment review; support of George Washington book publication; Library progress; Masonic Veterans Partnership.

We continue to encourage members and families to financially support the Library/Museum by renewing their membership or becoming a member. This initiative allows for a “steady” stream of financial support to assist in furthering the mission of the Foundation. There remain the coin program and naming rights to specific parts of the library/museum.

Since we reviewed our investment plan, the Investment Committee has monitored the progress of our funds. Since the realignment of representation, we have seen a nice gain. Through the end of November our funds grew by \$5,141.99 in 2018. We appreciate the work of that committee under the chairmanship of M.:W.: Philip Lorenzen.

This year an opportunity presented itself with an appeal from the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. The Association requested consideration of funds to support the publication of a biography of M.:W.: George Washington. During a Special Meeting of the Directors a motion was made and seconded to send \$5,000 to the project. Following a good discussion, the motion passed and funds were forwarded to the national office.

The work to catalogue, examine, and finalize book collections has continued. Under the direction of co-chairmen M.:W.: Tom Hauder and M.:W.: Russ Reno, members of Tabula Rasa Lodge continue this arduous work. There is an extensive review of that work included as a discussion item on this year’s meeting agenda.

Under the direction of AJ Johnson, a check in the amount of \$7,000 from our Masonic Veterans Partnership program was presented to the Omaha and Lincoln Veterans Voluntary Services. Again, it is an honor to show continued support of our Veterans.

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

Report of Outcome of the Tabula Rasa No. 332 Inventory Project by M.:W.: Thomas L. Hauder

Executive Summary

The 2018 Masonic year has seen several milestones from the last report completed with the continued work of the Lodge to bring the library to a useful state. Tabula Rasa has continued to hold weekly work sessions to sort, catalog and shelve the books. A database has been launched with the outcome of the work and we continue to add to the database as we work through the original books and additional volumes that have been donated during the year.

Process

The process described in the 2017 report continues to be used to in a slightly modified version to reshelve the books according to the categorization system while also capturing the essential data about each volume that is used by the database.

During this process, many volumes were put in a “discard” pile due to one of following reasons:

1. Condition of the book – many are beyond saving at this point having either extensive mold damage and/or other physical damage.
2. Subject of book – many volumes are simply books that were donated but do not have value either as directly connected to Masonry or peripherally connected to Masonry.
3. Duplicates – Following standard procedure, if there were more than two copies of any book, the best two were kept and the others were placed in the “discard” pile.

This has resulted in trimming the original number of items in the library from 3,279 to roughly 2,000.

There was a third category of books that was created and is labeled as “Sell”. These are either fine literature (signed or numbered copies; e.g. Rousseau, Balzac) or other scholarly books that don’t match our criteria but might bring some dollars on the resale market. When the main library project is finished, a project to research the value of the books and a sales channel will be launched.

Outcome

(This report is being written in late November 2018, so some of this information will be dated by the time of the meeting in February 2019)

At the time of this report, we have cataloged and returned to the shelves roughly 90% of the books that were selected to be saved during the sorting process. The data have been collected into a spreadsheet to be imported to the database software. The following categories of information were collected during the sorting and shelving:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| • Collection Name | • Call Number | • Publisher |
| • Accession Number | • Other Number | • Edition |
| • Object ID | • Publish Date | • ISBN |
| • Object Name | • Cataloged by | • Physical Description |
| | • Title | • Catalog Date |
| | • Author | |

In late 2018, we purchased the two basic modules of PastPerfect software that were needed to set up a database. W. B.: Denny Brydl donated an up-to-date, fast CPU to host the database and new peripherals were purchased to complete the set up. The spreadsheet containing the book data was converted to a compatible format for the database software and was loaded into the database. The library now has a basic database of the location and information of all of the volumes on the shelves. This information can be improved upon as time allows with further information on any given volume but the basics that are now loaded will allow search and discovery to be made.

We are currently working on the last bit of the books that will be saved and will update the database as those books are cataloged and shelved.

Hardware/Software

As mentioned above, W. B.: Denny Brydl donated a new CPU to host the software and the needed monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer and backup drive were purchased.

We also opened a Dropbox account (cloud storage) in order to conform with the 3-2-1 Away method for back up. This means three copies of your data, one on the machine in use, one on an external drive and one on a service or drive that is external to your physical location, in this case, cloud storage at Dropbox.

The database software makes automatic backups to its host hard drive, and the external drive and then the Admin manually moves a copy of the back up to the Dropbox account. This process will give the library the best protection against loss or corruption of data.

Expenses

Name	Memo	Amount
5350 · Museum/Library Expense		
US Bank	Staples-Index cards, trash can, Sharpies, tape, trash liners	428.46
US Bank	Quill-bookends	59.87
US Bank	Staples-Ink & paper	60.67
Rixstine Recognition	Bookcase plate for Mike & Joanie Jones	16.09
US Bank	Quill-bookends	247.62
US Bank	Staples-bookends	231.40
US Bank	Past Perfect Software Users Guide	73.00
US Bank	American Assoc for State and Local History Membership	98.00
US Bank	The Fixture Zone-Book displays	341.45
US Bank	Staples-HP Laserjet Pro Color printer & HP27SC1 27" LED monitor	450.43
US Bank	Amazon-ioSafe Solo G3 4TB external hard drive	406.48
US Bank	Past Perfect Software	1,294.00
US Bank	Staples-keyboard, mouse, legal pads	66.77
US Bank	Staples-Surge Protector	43.59
US Bank	Gaylord-Index cards	21.43
US Bank	Dropbox subscription	99.00
US Bank	Staples-Refund for defective surge protector	-33.02
US Bank	Total Cleaning Expenses	750.00
US Bank	Gaylord-Archival boxes	108.00
Total 5350 · Museum/Library Expense		4,763.24
5430 · Maintenance - Bldg & Grounds		
Biggerstaff Pluming Heating & Air	Liebert Unit repair short in wiring and service outdoor condensing unit	287.48
5430 · Maintenance - Bldg & Grounds		287.48
5460 · Rental Expense		
Grand Lodge of NE	2019 Rental Expense	3,780.00
Total 5460 · Rental Expense		3,780.00
Total Expense		8830.72

Task List

In the 2017 report, a list of tasks and issues was enumerated for 2018 and forward. This section will update each of those tasks and add any additional tasks.

General Issues

- Regular Cleaning – DONE. Using the same service as the Grand Lodge.
- Environmental Control Issues – We still struggle with controlling the humidity in the library. The desired environment is 72 degrees F. and 40% to 50% humidity. Unfortunately, this summer we could not get the humidity below 60% or 70% even with an external de-humidifier running in the space. Now that we have switched to heating, we can't get the humidity above 20%. We have requested that a HVAC service company be called in to see if they can get control of the issue.
- Insurance – No update. Check with M.: W.: Mike Jones
- Controlling access – No issues so far, the Grand Lodge office staff understands the process and has been watching over the library.
- Computer / software upgrade to host database – DONE
- Cost of online presence – Not ready for this phase of the program. Cost will be included in proposed budget later in this document.
- Yearly budget for restoration, scanning and upkeep – Include in proposed budget later in this document.

Tasks Remaining for the Library

- Appoint and authorize a Librarian – Open
- Establish a first-year budget – This was approved at the 2018 meeting.
- Reshelve books – As previously explained, this task is 90% complete.
- Create a visible designation of each bookcase – Done. Laser engraved nameplates were created and attached by M.: W.: Tom Hauder.
- Research and recommend database -- During the 2018 meeting, PastPerfect software was approved. It has been purchased, installed and is running.
- Establish value of the collection – Open. This will be started when the books are 100% on the shelf.
- Establish processes – In progress. Standard processes are being developed for the use and maintenance of the library, database and accession of new volumes.
- Make books available to the Craft – On hold pending the completion of other tasks in this list.

Tasks Remaining for the Museum

This list of tasks is identical to the 2018 list, as we have been concentrating on the library.

Proposed Budget for 2019 Masonic Year

Based on what we have discovered working with the books this year and the tasks remaining, we will need to up our budget for restoration / conservation materials in the coming Masonic Year (*n.b. We are using Gaylord Archival to buy the restoration / conservation materials. This is the generally recommend vendor by other Masonic Libraries*). This will be offset by not having the startup costs of hardware and the database software. The only new software costs would be the cost of putting the database online.

Library Budget Worksheet 2019

Item Description	Fixed Cost	Ongoing Cost	Notes
Cleaning Services		\$840.00	
Conservation Supplies	\$2,500.00		

Restoration Services	\$1,500.00		
Data Backup (Cloud)		\$150.00	
Collections Software			
Online Option	\$285.00	\$450.00	Per year for first 10K records
Software support		\$440.00	
Totals	\$4,285.00	\$1,880	
Grand Total	\$6,165.00		

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 dedication to this program over the last eight years and your generosity in supporting this program. This heart felt gratitude includes all the Brethren from the all the Lodges across Nebraska, 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 fifth year as the MVP and this year your generosity provided \$7,000 to the homeless Veteran shelters in Omaha and Lincoln to be used for the Veterans incidentals that they may need. The donation was given on the 17th of December in the hopes of making the Veterans’ holidays more pleasant in helping to provide for them the basic essentials that most of us take for granted. At the 2017 Annual Communication, we had \$8,054 and the Foundation decided we could donate the \$7,000 discussed above. This year we have basically collected \$4,350, and after our donation to the Veterans we are left with a final income of \$5450.63 to work with in the future to support other Veterans efforts

I would like to remind all of the Brethren again that the program is a 501c3 program and in the upcoming years we can continue to support two other programs at the VA Hospital besides purchasing a vehicle that can help homeless Veterans and provide them an opportunity to get back on their feet. If there are other venues that support Veterans, as Chairman I am open to recommendations from the membership of other organizations or groups that support Veterans to investigate. As the chairman of this program 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
 Gary S. Unger, 112



M.:W.: Patrick Barger asked Charlie Odorizzi, Grand Chaplain to lead the delegation in a closing prayer.

“Heavenly Father, We prepare to leave here for the final time as members of the Grand Lodge of 2018. We go ready and willing to do those things we know we need to do as men and Masons to make the world a better place. Please guide us so that we may better focus our efforts to improve the world around us that it may be more pleasing to You and more kind to all. Please guide our new Grand Lodge Officers and supply them the strength and wisdom to lead us ably. Make Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth the constant watch words of our lives. Amen.”



By virtue in the power and authority in him vested as Grand Master, Patrick D. Barger then declared the 162nd 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 Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 closed in ample form.

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



Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

M.: W.:	Patrick D. Barger	GRAND MASTER
R.: W.:	Robert W. Moninger.....	Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.:	Ronald D. Stites.....	Grand Senior Warden
R.: W.:	James A. Carlton.....	Grand Junior Warden
M.: W.:	Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM.....	Grand Secretary
V.: W.:	Charles J. Odorizzi, III	Grand Chaplain
W.:	Kevin H. Scheele	Grand Orator
W.:	Russell G. Reno, PGM.....	Grand Historian
M.: W.:	Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM.....	Grand Custodian
W.:	John R. Fairlie.....	Grand Marshal
W.:	Alexander F. Straatmann	Grand Senior Deacon
W.:	John L. Millington	Grand Junior Deacon
W.:	Robert C. King.....	Grand Senior Steward
W.:	David C. Norton.....	Grand Junior Steward
W.:	Tyler S. Loontjer.....	Grand Tyler
W.:	F. Graham House	Grand Musician
W.:	John R. Herbolsheimer	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	Michael E. Tomasiewicz.....	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	David A. Wetrosky	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
 1507 S 193rd St, Omaha 68130, 402-670-0871

SCOTT J. KRIEGER, SR., 317, 332, 33 (140th)2006
 1231 Pershing Rd, Hastings 68901-2836, 402-469-7002

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

RICHARD D. MYERS, 102, 119 (151ST).....2017
 2790 Big Island Rd, Fremont 68025-6184, 402-250-1418

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, 308-874-4484 (c), dwight174@gmail.com
 Steven F. Mattoon, 75, 1736 Dorwart Dr, Sidney 69162, 308-249-0761 (c), smattoon@charter.net
 John M. McHenry, 19, PO Box 82426, Lincoln 68501, 402-476-2200 (w), jmchenry@mchenrylaw.com
 Les R. Seiler, 317, 848 N 6th Ave, Hastings 68901-4117, 402-462-9396, lrseiler33@gmail.com
 Dean F. Skokan, 15, 268, 333, 404 E Ridge Dr, Hooper 68031, 402-720-3241 (c), dskokan@hotmail.com

Judge Advocate (§1-320)

Chm. Alexander F. Straatmann, 46, 4410 Avenue E, Kearney 68847-2641, 308-627-2503 (c), alexander.straatmann@gmail.com
 C. Dick Clark, 19, 1008 S 8th St, Lincoln 68508-3105, 334-524-7223, crotalus@gmail.com
 Tyler S. Lontjer, 1, 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147-1225, 402-660-6415 (c), tyler.s.lontjer@gmail.com

Fraternal Relations (§1-308)

Chm. John T. Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565, parsoni1@q.com
 John B. Ferguson, 294, 511 S Webster St, Kimball 69145, 402-235-4563, ferguson4563@embarqmail.com
 Byron L. Hust, 159, 1711 Broadway, Imperial 69033-3032, 308-882-1699 (c), aghust@bwtelcom.net
 Scott J. Krieger, 317, 332, 33, 1231 Pershing Rd, Hastings 68901, 402-469-7002 (c), sjk1323@msn.com
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-592-0184, ewn@cox.net
 Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-438-4220, rsk@mattsonricketts.com
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-438-4220, rsk@mattsonricketts.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
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-727-4108, karliv@neb.rr.com
 Douglas S. Rasmussen, 119, 1945 County Rd 11, North Bend 68649-2021, 402-720-5342, doug.rasmussen1957@gmail.com

Masonic Education (§1-310)

Chm. Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502, 402-430-5616 (c), db22849@windstream.net
 Thomas L. Hauder, 332, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-421-7436, tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 W. Larry Jacobsen, 327, 5149 S 77th Ave, Ralston 68127-2859, 402-339-1309, larryjacobsen1218@msn.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046, 402-212-7861 (c), omahaprogrammer@gmail.com
 Bobby W. Lingerfelt, 325, 4208 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123, 402-502-3114, 1927LA@gmail.com

Awards Committee (§1-311)

Chm. Kevin H. Scheele, 96, 54, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com
 Kirk E. Bruno, 148, 77849 Rd 449, Mason City 68855, 402-575-8570 (c), kirk.e.bruno@gmail.com
 Barry L. Frerichs, 136, PO Box 501, Bassett 68714, 402-760-0357 (c), bearfrerichs@gmail.com
 F. Graham House, 54, 332, 3245 S 28th St, Lincoln 68502, 402-617-5577 (c), ghouse3@gmail.com
 Bryan L. Regier, 234, PO Box 294, Hyannis 69350, 308-458-8347 (c), godsbandman@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, 402-984-5030 (c), r.dein@yahoo.com
 Steven A. Green, 54, 332, 2635 S 12th St, Lincoln 68502, 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, 402-430-6628 (c), rkinsey@krbklaw.com
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133, 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, 402-450-4085 (c), mike.buchardt@ubt.com
 Jack G. Frahm, 204, 86419 533 Ave, Plainview 68769-2518, 402-582-4888, jgfrahm@plvwelco.net
 Thomas W. Hosier, 268, 9315 Harney, Omaha 68114-5035, 402-383-1850 (w), tom@bhcepa.com
 Andrew M. Loudon, 19, 317, 3647 S 77th St, Lincoln 68506-4706, 402-489-7515, aloudon@bayloremvnen.com
 Rick E. Nelson, 271, 317, 2565 S Smokey Hill Rd, Hastings 68901-7441, 402-462-4001,
Rick.Nelson@RaymondJames.com
 Charles V. Sederstrom, 290, 333, 3510 N 252nd St, Waterloo 68069, 402-510-5854 (c), chuck@finance1.us
 Stuart W. Sprick, 10, 1610 Lincoln St, Fort Calhoun 68023, 402-468-5744, stuzmail@juno.com

Credentials (\$1-315)

Chm. Delmar A. Jones, 65, 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848, 308-440-3319 (c), 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 68507-2125, 402-464-5045,
 Robert M. Hoagland, 46, 146, 2701 Grand Ave Trlr 66, Kearney 68847, 308-240-5626 (c), hoagland@citlink.net
 Karl H. Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025, 402-727-4108, karliv@neb.rr.com
 William E. Short, 297, 314, 6837 Dudley St, Lincoln 68505-1848, 402-617-7130 (c), bsaeagle81@gmail.com
 Grady A. Wells, 15, 274, 1651 Parkview Dr, Fremont 68025, 402-720-5808 (c), mrgadywells@gmail.com
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-438-4220,
rsk@mattsonricketts.com

Grand Lodge Office (\$1-316)

Chm. Bruce A. Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901, 402-984-7396 (c), bsbaker74@charter.net
 Wayne A. Andreasen, 204, 410 Ridgeway Dr, Norfolk 68701-3240, 402-640-4966 (c), Wayne@andreasen.us
 Christopher M. Carter, 268, 281, 5206 Farnam St, Omaha 68132, 402-670-2658 (c), majekcarter@mac.com
 Howard R. Fairbairn, 134, 200, PO Box 332, Burwell 68823, 308-346-5251, calamuscon@nctc.net
 Rex J. Moats, 290, 102, 131 S 202nd St, Elkhorn 68022, 402-871-1060 (c), rexmoats@aol.com
Ex-Officio: Reginald S. Kuhn, 134, 19, 2627 Park Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-438-4220, rsk@mattsonricketts.com

Public Relations (\$1-317)

Chm. 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, 785-925-1206 (c), chiefs0652@charter.net
 James R. Corsaro, 268, 101 N 39th St, Omaha 68131, 402-639-0409 (c), rob.corsaro@gmail.com
 Brent R. Elder, 227, 815 Grant St, Beatrice 68310, 402-462-5353, thecalloffhunder@gmail.com
 John A. Hardy, 102, 16333 Ohio St, Omaha 68116, 402-639-8558 (c), admin@waterloo102.com

Lodge Leadership Committee (\$1-318)

CoChr Charles J. Odorizzi, 290, 281, 7352 N 85th St, Omaha 68122-1488, 402-201-3938 (c), hypnos@ix.netcom.com
 CoChr Robert L. Schapp, 327, 5109 S 194th St, Omaha 68135-3568, 314-799-5300 (c), RLS80@aol.com
 Jeffrey A. Herber, 211, 14869 W Binfield Rd, Wood River 68883, 308-380-9506 (c), herbman99@hotmail.com
 Richard J. Ray, 119, 1110 Main St, North Bend 68649, 402-719-4785 (c), rray@walnutradio.com
 Eric D. Van Sky, 325, 119 Longwood Dr, Papillion 68133, 402-881-5210, eric.vansky@yahoo.com
Ad-hoc Member:
 Lawrence J. Ruh, 327, 10615 Martha St, Omaha 68124-1845, 402-212-5735, larry@ljarah.com
 Curtis E. Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516, 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, 308-250-6838 (c), mark.carley@leytonwarriors.org
 S. Hal Cottrell, 325, 2312 Jackson St, Bellevue 68005, 402-980-2131 (c), stewartcottrell@aol.com
 Daniel J. Marr, 39, 7705 S 70th Street Cir, LaVista 68128, 402-517-1861, danmarr@outlook.com
 Joel W. Zilmer, 183, 688 Hampton, Alliance 69301-2248, 308-760-7150 (c), zjilmer@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, krögerdill@yahoo.com
 Bruce A. Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901, 402-984-7396 (c), bsbaker74@charter.net
 William H. Cummins, 54, 9620 S 30th St, Lincoln 68516, 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, 402-654-2133, coma@midlands.net
 Rolland M. Otte, 119, 2785 County Road Z, Morse Bluff 68648-4822, 402-666-5277, rmotte2785@nntc.net
 Dennis E. Rix, 15, 310, 1860 Phelps Ave, Fremont 68025, 402-720-1274 (c), therix@aol.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, 402-817-2634, james@gonines.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 402-212-7861 (c), omahaprogrammer@gmail.com

Youth

- Chm. Gene F. Wehrbein, 6, 8817 Church Rd, Louisville 68037, 402-298-8192, gwehrbein@jagwireless.net
 Tim Birdsall, 210, 749 Sunnyslope Rd, Lincoln 68505, 402-489-3860, kmtbirdsall@windstream.net
 James A. Carlton, 332, 325, 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarton1945@gmail.com
 Greg E. Mason, 297, 415 Laramie Trl, Lincoln 68521, 402-770-5898 (c), gregemason@gmail.com
 Michael W. Stuhr, 302, 13814 Arbor St, Omaha 68144-2462, 402-250-3563 (c), mstuhr@cox.net
Ex-Officio: State Master Councilor of DeMolay; Grand Bethel Honored Queen of Job's Daughters; Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter; 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

- Chm. Robert C. King, 310, 1003 S East St, Valley 68064-9774, 402-618-9740 (c), rking75@cox.net
 Karl R. Adamson, 31, 1506 O St, Tekamah 68061, 402-307-0007 (c), lionkarl@abnnebraska.com
 Beverly Donham, 1901 S 61st Ave, Omaha 68106-2132, 402-558-9032, mndonham@cox.net
 Richard E. Gilmore, 268, 2426 S 84th St, Omaha 68124, 402-953-7302, rgilmore2426@gmail.com
 Peter G. Larson, 11, 4508 N 192nd Cir, Elkhorn 68022-5237, 402-498-8392, nu4me@cox.net
 Dale G. Lueders, 300, 220, 8350 Katrina Ln, Lincoln 68512, 402-430-4710 (c), dglueders@aol.com
 Dee Schuetz, 209 Avian Circle South, Bellevue 68005, 402-504-4570, deeschuetz01@gmail.com
 Daniel J. Wellendorf, 112, 268, 333, PO Box 27987, Omaha 68127-0987, 402-658-3611 (c), bsclumber1@aol.com

Boy Scouts Outreach

- Chm. George L. McMullin, 268, 10305 Cary St, LaVista 68128-3246, mcmullins1@cox.net
 Anthony T. Johnson, 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147, 402-291-8603, tjark@cox.net
 Paul D. Rutherford, 327, 333, 7804 Terry Dr, LaVista 68128-3942, 402-681-5646 (c), 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, 402-651-5483 (c), dgworkmanjr@gmail.com
 John R. Herbolzheimer, 3, 11409 S 173rd St, Gretna 68028-3867, 402-670-8599 (c), herboljohn@hotmail.com

COMMITTEES OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP) (previously Change for the Troops)

Chm. Anthony T. Johnson, 464, 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-291-8603, tjark@cox.net

John E. Lorenzen, 10, 314, 3941 Eagle Ridge Rd #108, Lincoln 68516-7046, 402-610-1006 (c),
jack@qualitywaterservices.com

William H. Nelson, 256, 9417 Wishing Well Dr, Lincoln 68516, 402-420-1555, william.h.nelson48.ctr@mail.mil

John T. Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565, parsoni1@q.com

Gary S. Unger, 112, 909 Leprechaun Ln, Papillion 68046, 402-651-9710 (c), garyunger2015@gmail.com

Nebraska Masonic Heritage Committee

Chm. Christopher M. Carter, 268, 281, 5206 Farnam St, Omaha 68132, 402-670-2658 (c), majekcarter@mac.com

Michala Bader, 8546 Granville Pkwy Apt 23, LaVista 68128, 402-507-9412, msjp820@gmail.com

Carl J. Diamond, 326, 11677 Douglas St, Omaha 68154, 402-850-4168 (c), carldiamondm@cox.net

Micah I. Evans, 281, 268, 333, 202 South 20th Street, Omaha 68102, 402-547-9755 (c), mevans0424@cox.net

Christopher S. Nigro, 268, 2111 S 146th Cir, Omaha 68144, 402-763-7625 (c), cnigro@yahoo.com

David N. Silver, 120, 11, 5612 N 115th Ave Cir, Omaha 68164-0123, 402-660-9382 (c), isellre4u@gmail.com

GRAND CUSTODIAN

W. : Scott J. Krieger, Sr.

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS AND THEIR DISTRICTS

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #1 – David A Wetrosky , 2, 331 Pinewood Dr, Nebraska City 68410-3338, 402-873-5437, dwetrosky@neb.rr.com, Appt 2017					
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	2017	60	
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	2018	95	
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	2017	86	
Union	287	Palmyra	2017		Yes
District #2 – Charles J Odorizzi , 290, 281, 7352 N 85th St, Omaha 68122-1488, 402-201-3938 (c), hygnos@ix.netcom.com, Appt 2014					
Capitol	3	Omaha	2017		Yes
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	2017	63	
Florence	281	Omaha	2017		Yes
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	2017	86	
Shiloh	327	Omaha	2018	54	
District #3 – John E Dimon , 290, 631, 6617 Lafayette Ave, Omaha 68132-1147, 402-218-8873 (c), 290sec@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Bee Hive	184	Omaha	2016		Yes
George W Lininger	268	Omaha	2017	0	
Mizpah	302	Omaha	2017	68	
District #4 – Brian K Sandall , 21, 310, 1063 N 17th Ave, Blair 68008-1234, 402-427-5311 (c), 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 Tomasiewicz , 302, 1404 P St, Tekamah 68061-1539, 402-838-9977 (c), michael.tomasiewicz@live.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 68004-3557, 712-223-2232 (c), kentneu77@gmail.com, Appt 2016					
Northern Light	41	Stanton	2016		Yes
Corinthian	83	Wayne	2017		Yes
Laurel	248	Laurel	2015		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #8 – Stephen C Kennedy , 4, 73088 646 Ave, Brownville 68321-6025, 402-274-7521 (c), skennedyorchard@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Nemaha Valley	4	Brownville	2010	52	
Falls City	9	Falls City			
Peru	14	Peru			
Pawnee	23	Pawnee City			
District #9 – Jonathan L Paz , 39, 331, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 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 68502-3515, 402-477-9055, bearlyflyin@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 Vallabhbai , 314, 6200 Eureka Dr, Lincoln 68516-3467, 402-420-7616sgvalla4@gmail.com, Appt 2004					
Hickman	256	Lincoln	2017	30	
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	2017	94	
College View	320	Lincoln	2017		Yes
District #12 – Dennis H Brydl , 331, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-430-5616 (c), db22849@windstream.net, Appt 2018					
Fairbury	35	Fairbury			
Hebron	43	Hebron			
Harvard	44	Harvard	2012		Yes
Charity	53	Red Cloud			
Friend	73	Friend			
Geneva	79	Geneva	2017	42	
Superior	121	Superior	2016	0	
Guide Rock	128	Guide Rock	2013	60	
Lily	154	Davenport			
District #13 – Carl C Plants , 54, 334, 6124 NW 6th St, Lincoln 68521-3701, 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	2018	77	

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #14 – John L Millington , 54, 332, 6141 S 93rd St, Lincoln 68526-9509, 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 , 222, 31, 412 S 12th St, Tekamah 68061-1444, 402-870-0348 (c), randy.hart@abnebraska.com, Appt 2008					
Mosaic	55	Norfolk	2017		Yes
Albion	78	Albion	2017		Yes
Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	2017		Yes
District #16 – Alvin O Benemerito , 331, 136, PO Box 38, Long Pine 69217-0038, 402-760-0979 (c), secretary@longpinelodge.org, Appt 2016					
Garfield	95	O'Neill			
Plainview	204	Plainview			
Wausa	251	Wausa	2016		Yes
Diamond	291	Orchard			
District #17 – Roger A Deininger , 317, 1115 Oswego Ave, Hastings 68901-3643, 402-984-5030 (c), r.dein@yahoo.com, Appt 1998					
Ashlar	33	Grand Island	2017		Yes
Lone Tree	36	Central City	2016		Yes
Keystone	62	Phillips	2017		Yes
Aurora	68	Aurora	2017		Yes
Cairo	324	Cairo	2010		Yes
District #19 – Dean Papenhagen , 50, 2904 Lakeview Cv, Hastings 68901-2510, 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	Yes
District #20 – Kent R Millington , 54, 38, PO Box 185, Raymond 68428-0185, 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 – Kevin H Scheele , 96, 54, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinsscheele@hotmail.com, Appt 2018					
Fidelity	51	David City	2010		Yes
York	56	York	2017	0	
Utica	96	Utica	2017	89	
Stromsburg	126	Stromsburg	2011		Yes
Solar	134	Clarks	2010		Yes
Lebanon	323	Columbus	2010		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #22 – Tyler S Loontjer , 1, 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147-1225, 402-660-6415 (c), tyler.s.loontjer@gmail.com, Appt 2016					
Nebraska	1	Omaha	2017		Yes
Covert	11	Omaha	2017	48	
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	2017	67	
Centennial	326	Omaha	2017		Yes
District #23 – James A Carlton , 332, 325, 334, 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarlton1945@gmail.com, Appt, 2016					
Springfield	112	Springfield	2017		Yes
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	2017	6	
Albert Pike	333	Omaha	2016		Yes
District #24 – Delmar A Jones , 65, 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-440-3319 (c), jonesdelmar@ymail.com, Appt 1992					
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	2017	72	
Thistle	61	Lexington	2017		Yes
Osceola	65	Osceola	2017	15	
Jachin	146	Holdrege	2017	60	
Franklin	264	Franklin	2017		Yes
District #26 – Arthur J Ferguson , 221, PO Box 776, Wood Lake 69221, 402-967-3361, Appt 1979					
Long Pine	136	Long Pine	2017	0	Yes
Minnekadusa	192	Valentine			Yes
Wood Lake	221	Wood Lake	2016	62	
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	2017	0	
District #27 – Scott E Emmett , 136, 200, 1999, PO Box 12, Scotia 68875-0012, 308-750-2963 (c), semmet49@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Porter	106	Loup City			
Custer	148	Broken Bow	2016	73	
Blazing Star	200	Burwell			
Parian	207	Callaway			
District #28 – Bradley M Dutton , 183, 802 Missouri Ave, Alliance 69301-3043, 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, levert@gpcom.net, Appt 1985 & Joel W Zilmer , 183, 688 Hampton, Alliance 69301, 308-760-7150 (c), jzilmer@bbc.net, Appt 2016					
Samaritan	158	Chadron	2012		Yes
Arcana	195	Gordon	2016	0	

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
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 69145-1447, 402-235-4563, ferguson4563@embarqmail.com, Appt 2016					
Scotts Bluff	201	Gering	2017	0	
Robert W Furnas	265	Scottsbluff	2017		Yes
James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	2017		Yes
District #31 - Vacant					
Frank Welch	75	Sidney	2017	67	
Oshkosh	286	Oshkosh			
District #32 – Roger L Shillington , 180, 71562 Avenue 343, Max 69037-4411, 308-423-2547, rns@bwtelcom.net, Appt 1976					
McCook	135	McCook	2011	66	
Robert Burns	173	Stratton			
Justice	180	Benkelman	2013	63	
Bartley	228	Bartley	2008		Yes
District #33 – Kent D Priest , 32, 820 Hackberry Rd, North Platte 69101-6811, kjapathome@charter.net, Appt 2014					
Platte Valley	32	North Platte	2017	66	
Ogalalla	159	Ogallala	2017		Yes
Wallace	279	Wallace	2012		Yes
Seneca	284	Theford			
District #34 – Brent Myers , 300, 332, 901 Rosewood Dr, Lincoln 68510-4242, 402-770-0901 (c), brent@legacystings.com, Appt 2016					
Fremont	15	Fremont	2017	87	
Acacia	34	Schuyler	2015		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, 334, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-592-0184, ewn@cox.net, Appt 2009					
Papillion	39	Papillion	2017	11	
Omaha	288	Omaha	2017		Yes
Miloma	328	Omaha	2016		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS AT LARGE					
Bruce A Baker , 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901, 402-984-7396, bsbaker74@charter.net , Appt 2018					
Patrick D Barger , 54, 332, 5, patrick@nebraskagrandlodge.com , Appt 2014					
Bernard F Hauber , 11, 18826 P St, Omaha 68135, 402-619-6788 (c), bernardhauber@cox.net , Appt 2018					
F Graham House , 54, 332, PO Box 62, Firth 68358, 402-617-5577, ghouse3@gmail.com , Appt 2018					
David C Norton , 302, 2811 Angie Dr, Bellevue 68005, 402-658-6951, dnorton97@cox.net , Appt 2018					

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS EMERITI

Michael G Birnstihl, 3145811 Dobsons Rd, Lincoln 68516-3721
 Arthur S Dye, 317..... 910 N Jefferson Ave, Hastings 68901-3727, retdyes@windstream.net
 Kenneth G Fleming, 75..... 14205 Constitution Cir Apt 22, Bellevue 68123-6861,
 402-408-6337, kgfleming@hotmail.com
 Scott J Krieger, 317, 332, 33 ... 1231 Pershing Rd, Hastings 68901-2836, sjk1323@msn.com
 Richard L Mauch, 224, PO Box 10..... Bassett 68714-0010, rlmauch@huntel.net
 Ralph E McNulty, 61412 E 8th St, Cozad 69130-1919
 Harold C Mueksch, 132, 72 1615 E Military Ave #101, Fremont 68025, 402-664-3438
 Harold W Noble, 325..... 2504 Sidney St, Bellevue 68005-4020
 Augustine S Scolaro, 3 801 5th St N, Bellevue 68005-4303
 Eugene C Sibley, 314 1320 Silver Ridge Rd, Lincoln 68510-5131, 402-421-2711,
gsibley01@earthlink.net
 James R Taylor, 327 711 N 92nd Ct Apt 307, Omaha 68114-2661, ijtaylor36@cox.net

APPRENTICE DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS

Patrick S Andrew, 4	1202 8th St, Auburn 68305, 402-297-8478 <i>trickflyguy@hotmail.com</i>
Jerry J. Caha, 229	PO Box 353, Ceresco 68017, 402-665-2275 <i>gjcaha@yahoo.com</i>
Mark L Carley, 75	PO Box 235, Dalton 69131, 308-250-6838 <i>mjjajj@daltontel.net</i>
Mark K Clinton, 332, 54	3300 S 27th St, Lincoln 68502, 402-770-0806 <i>mclinton1@unl.edu</i>
John R Herbolsheimer, 3	11409 S 173rd St, Gretna 68028, 402-670-8599 <i>herboljohn@hotmail.com</i>
Robert M Hoagland, 46, 146	2701 Grand Ave Trlr 66, Kearney 68847, 308-240-5626 <i>hoagland@citlink.net</i>
F Joe Huskey, 54, 332	3920 LaSalle St, Lincoln 68516, 402-489-7315 <i>joe.huskey53@gmail.com</i>
Kevin T Johnson, 46	1319 E 45th St, Apt C4, Kearney 68847, 308-440-7410 <i>kevinj3@charter.net</i>
David A Kipp, 281	2565 Mary St, Omaha 68112, 402-346-0832 <i>david.kipp@yahoo.com</i>
Thomas J Lagerstrom, 281	8620 Lexington Ave Apt 239, Lincoln, 68505, 402-314-1672 <i>nebr_seadog@hotmail.com</i>
Ernest G Lehmkuhler, 32	110 Tanglewood Dr, Dodge City 67801, 308-532-2889 <i>ardislehm@gmail.com</i>
Kevin R Lindly, 148, 200	819 S 10th Ave, Broken Bow 68822, 308-880-1081 <i>kevin.lindly@bbps.org</i>
Donald E Loos, 265	2665 Monument Valley Dr, Gering 69341, 308-632-6761 <i>deacloos@embarqmail.com</i>
Daniel J. Marr, 39	7705 S 70th Street Cir, LaVista 68128, 402-517-1861 <i>danmarr@outlook.com</i>
Jeffrey A Merriman, 281	4941 S 129th St, Omaha 68137, 402-319-3268 <i>frostymerriman@gmail.com</i>
James B Michaelson, 210	3619 Magnolia, Lincoln 68521, 402-217-0394 <i>jmichaelson20@yahoo.com</i>
Mark L Miller, 302, 288	7746 Charles St, Omaha 68114, 402-390-2586 <i>mmiller82kz@gmail.com</i>
Charles Monter, 62	420 12th St, Aurora 68818, 402-694-2002 <i>charles.monter@titanmachinery.com</i>
Kyle J Peterson, 274, 5	1699 F Ave, Dakota City 68731, 402-251-8398 <i>ktklpete@siouxlan.net</i>
Gregory L Prosofski, 229	21040 NW 70th St, Agnew 68428, 402-525-9243 <i>cometlodge229@gmail.com</i>
Darrell D Schuler, 285	7526 Road 74, Bridgeport 69336, 308-279-0592 <i>butch@schulerredangus.com</i>
L Cecil Smith, 6	916 Bordeaux Ave, Bellevue 68123, 402-502-3858 <i>cnjrsmith@cox.net</i>
Alexander F Straatmann, 46	4410 Avenue E, Kearney 68847, 308-627-2503 <i>alexander.straatmann@gmail.com</i>
Adam M Thayer, 54, 38	3110 S 72nd St Apt 142, Lincoln 68506, 402-314-6310 <i>adam.thayer@gmail.com</i>
Mark J Turner, 300	5131 Myrtle St, Lincoln 68506, 402-405-9510 <i>markt@me.com</i>
Donald L Veskrna, 59	756 N Walnut St, Wahoo 68066, 308-279-0592

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018	Membership Dec. 31, 2017	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, 2018
1 - Nebraska	2	3	2	2	119	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	1	3	0	0	0	7	-4	115
2 - Western Star	3	3	1	1	118	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	5	-4	114
3 - Capitol	2	2	2	4	82	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	6	0	0	0	10	-8	74
4 - Nemaha Valley	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	38
5 - Omadi	4	0	4	0	103	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	2	3	1	0	1	0	7	-4	99
6 - Plattsmouth	2	0	3	0	271	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	6	0	1	0	9	-6	265
9 - Falls City	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	28
10 - Solomon	1	1	0	0	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	69
11 - Covert	2	1	2	0	346	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	20	0	0	0	1	21	-18	328
14 - Peru	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	23
15 - Fremont	1	6	1	0	156	2	2	0	1	0	0	5	0	9	9	0	1	0	19	-14	142
19 - Lincoln	6	0	2	2	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	4	0	0	0	0	10	-10	110
21 - Washington	4	1	4	0	89	3	0	0	2	0	0	5	2	3	10	0	0	0	15	-10	79
23 - Pawnee	0	0	0	1	105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	-7	98
26 - Beatrice	1	0	1	0	141	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	6	0	1	0	11	-10	131
30 - Blue River	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
31 - Tekamah	0	1	0	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	91
32 - Platte Valley	4	2	2	0	159	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	9	5	0	2	0	16	-14	145
33 - Ashlar	1	2	0	0	98	2	0	0	1	27	0	30	1	2	4	0	0	0	7	23	121
34 - Acacia	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	45
35 - Fairbury	3	1	1	0	40	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	41
36 - Lone Tree	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	43
37 - Crete	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	5	-5	38
38 - Oliver	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
39 - Papillion	6	3	5	0	158	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	6	3	0	0	0	10	-5	153
41 - Northern Light	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	34
43 - Hebron	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
44 - Harvard	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	9	-9	0
46 - Rob Morris	1	1	1	0	175	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	4	0	0	0	9	-8	167
50 - Hastings	2	2	3	0	98	3	1	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	8	0	0	0	9	-4	94
51 - Fidelity	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	5	-5	34
53 - Charity	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	12	-12	0
54 - Lancaster	2	4	1	0	248	1	0	1	2	0	0	4	3	10	5	0	0	0	18	-14	234
55 - Mosaic	2	1	1	0	60	2	1	1	1	0	0	5	0	2	7	0	0	0	9	-4	56
56 - York	0	1	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	1	0	7	-7	61
57 - Mt Moriah	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
59 - Wahoo	1	1	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	55
61 - Thistle	0	0	0	0	92	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	0	1	0	7	-6	86
62 - Keystone	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	-6	22
64 - Blue Valley	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
65 - Osceola	0	2	0	0	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	72
68 - Aurora	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	24
72 - Hooper	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	33
73 - Friend	0	0	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	-3	38
75 - Frank Welch	0	0	0	0	92	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	10	0	0	0	14	-12	80
78 - Albion	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-2	26
79 - Geneva	0	1	0	0	92	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	88
82 - St Paul	1	1	1	0	23	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	22
83 - Corinthian	0	1	0	0	114	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	3	6	0	0	0	9	-7	107

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018	Passed	On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018	Membership Dec. 31, 2017	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, 2018
91 - Oakland	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	34	39	-38	0
94 - Bennett	0	1	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	20	23	-23	0
95 - Garfield	0	1	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43
96 - Utica	0	1	0	0	19	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	-1	18
97 - Euclid	3	0	3	0	74	3	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	3	0	2	1	0	6	-2	72
102 - Waterloo	18	5	11	1	89	7	2	3	1	0	0	13	1	3	1	0	0	0	5	8	97
106 - Porter	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	-4	33
112 - Springfield	8	3	12	1	319	11	2	0	1	0	0	14	0	2	14	0	0	0	16	-2	317
119 - North Bend	2	0	2	0	89	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	-3	86
121 - Superior	0	0	1	0	44	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	44
126 - Stromsburg	0	0	0	0	56	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	55
128 - Guide Rock	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1	24
135 - McCook	1	0	1	0	110	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	-2	108
136 - Long Pine	0	0	0	1	36	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	36
146 - Jachin	1	0	2	1	71	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	5	0	0	0	10	-9	62
148 - Custer	0	0	0	0	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	-3	71
154 - Lily	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	-7	7
158 - Samaritan	2	0	2	0	55	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	56
159 - Ogalalla	1	0	1	0	87	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	5	1	0	0	0	7	-5	82
173 - Robert Burns	1	2	1	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	17
180 - Justice	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	20
183 - Alliance	1	0	1	0	117	1	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	3	7	0	1	0	11	-7	110
184 - Bee Hive	0	0	0	0	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	7	0	1	0	16	-16	82
192 - Minnekaadusa	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	30
194 - Highland	0	2	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
195 - Arcana	3	2	2	0	56	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	56
200 - Blazing Star	1	0	1	1	43	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	43
201 - Scotts Bluff	1	0	1	0	104	1	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	7	7	0	0	0	14	-10	94
204 - Plainview	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	2	28	0	30	0	2	3	0	0	0	5	25	63
207 - Parian	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
210 - East Lincoln	1	0	1	1	167	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	11	7	0	0	0	18	-16	151
211 - Cement	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	26	30	-30	0
220 - Magnolia	1	0	1	0	63	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	62
221 - Wood Lake	0	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	56	-56	0
222 - Landmark	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	25
224 - Silver Cord	0	0	0	0	52	0	1	0	0	56	0	57	0	2	4	0	0	0	6	51	103
227 - North Star	2	0	2	0	98	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	4	0	1	0	0	5	-1	97
228 - Bartley	1	0	1	0	39	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40
229 - Comet	1	0	1	0	86	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	86
234 - Zion	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	30
241 - G Armstrong	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	9
248 - Laurel	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2	19
250 - G Washington	0	2	0	0	42	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	41
251 - Wausa	0	0	0	0	57	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	-3	54
256 - Hickman	6	0	6	0	189	6	1	0	6	0	0	13	1	4	17	0	0	0	22	-9	180
264 - Franklin	0	0	0	1	49	0	0	1	0	12	0	13	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	10	59
265 - R W Furnas	1	1	1	1	63	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	5	-4	59

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY RECORD

	Initiated		On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018		Passed		On Rolls Dec. 31, 2018		Membership Dec. 31, 2017		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, 2018
268 - G W Lininger	7	1	5	1	218	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	13	-8	210
274 - Olive Branch	2	0	2	0	54	2	0	1	2	34	0	0	39	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	6	33	87
279 - Wallace	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
281 - Florence	0	3	0	0	89	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	8	-5	84
284 - Seneca	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	19
285 - Camp Clarke	2	0	2	0	62	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	63
286 - Oshkosh	3	2	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	-5	59
287 - Union	0	0	0	1	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	-6	44
288 - Omaha	2	0	2	0	49	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	6	-4	45
290 - John J Mercer	2	1	5	0	282	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	6	0	9	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	-14	268
291 - Diamond	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	28	-28	0
294 - James Eatmon	0	3	0	0	39	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40
297 - Colner	0	0	2	6	166	3	0	1	2	0	0	6	0	6	0	5	14	1	1	0	0	0	0	21	-15	151
300 - Liberty	1	3	0	0	132	1	0	1	6	0	0	8	0	3	8	0	3	8	0	3	0	0	14	-6	126	
302 - Mizpah	3	1	4	0	237	3	1	0	7	0	0	11	1	8	20	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	30	-19	218	
305 - Newman Grove	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	23
310 - Victory	2	2	1	4	59	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	60
314 - Craftsmen	5	3	2	0	131	2	1	1	2	0	0	6	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	-3	128	
317 - Mid-West	2	3	2	2	117	2	0	0	2	8	0	12	0	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	-1	116	
320 - College View	4	3	2	0	54	2	1	0	0	20	0	23	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	17	71	
323 - Lebanon	0	0	0	0	79	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	-4	75	
324 - Cairo	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
325 - Bellevue	6	2	5	0	202	6	0	1	0	0	0	7	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	-1	201	
326 - Centennial	3	1	1	0	82	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	-5	77	
327 - Shiloh	3	1	3	0	121	2	1	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	122	
328 - Miloma	8	0	8	0	130	8	2	0	0	0	0	10	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	138	
332 - Tabula Rasa	2	4	0	0	13	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	14	
333 - Albert Pike	2	0	2	0	33	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	36	
TOTALS	166	95	139	33	9644	131	26	19	62	185	0	423	32	309	321	5	23	185	875	-452	9192					

**Historical Records
and Information**

of

Grand Lodge

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



**Kearney, Nebraska
February 1-2, 2019**

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. Bottorf.....	49.....	Feb. 21, 1984
103rd.....	1968.....	Norris W. Lallman.....	72.....	Mar. 1, 1984
104th.....	1969.....	Hugh W. Eisenhart.....	228.....	June 16, 1995
105th.....	1970.....	John H. Brown.....	1.....	Feb. 2, 1978
106th.....	1971.....	Russell L. Fickes.....	33.....	April 18, 1989

107th.....	1972.....	Howard J. Hunter.....	59.....	May 6, 1975
108th.....	1973.....	Frank J. Mattoon.....	75.....	July 4, 1997
109th.....	1974.....	Donald R. Swanson.....	54.....	Jan. 27, 2016
110th.....	1975.....	Harold Hultman.....	39.....	April 3, 2005
111th.....	1976.....	T. Leo Stines.....	36, 323.....	Feb. 26, 1994
112th.....	1977.....	Alfred B. Saum.....	46.....	Oct. 11, 1980
113th.....	1978.....	Jack H. Hendrix.....	174.....	Nov. 25, 2006
114th.....	1979.....	Warren D. Lichty, Jr.....	314.....	May 23, 2012
115th.....	1980.....	Byron C. Jenkins.....	325.....	Sept. 12, 2000
116th.....	1981.....	Harold C. Wurdeman.....	323.....	June 21, 1985
117th.....	1982.....	Paul R. Pierce.....	50.....	July 31, 1999
118th.....	1983.....	Bevin B. Bump.....	158.....	Dec. 30, 2010
119th.....	1984-85.....	Robert A. Metcalf.....	210.....	Nov. 22, 2002
120th.....	1986.....	Charles W. Amidon.....	281, 327.....	
121st.....	1987.....	Wayne G. 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.....	
150th.....	2016.....	Dennis E. Rix.....	15, 310.....	
151 st	2017.....	Richard D. Myers.....	102, 119.....	

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. Entriken, 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. Fauss, 55 1982
- Augustus W. Clark, 33 1982
- Wayne E. Beatty, 126 1982
- Kenneth G. Fleming, 75 1984
- Eugene C. Sibley, 314 1984
- Leslie Evert, 195 1985
- William Fogle, 135 1985
- Roscoe Malick, 297 1985
- R. Winton Wilson, 199 1985
- Robert E. Kyes, 36 1985
- W. Dale Page, 15 1985
- Gordon E. Richards, 75 1986
- Harold Noble, 325 1987
- Deon D. Eberly, 314 1988
- Steven A. Green, 54 1988
- Steven K. Jones, 265, 263 1988
- Lloyd Vrtiska, 23 1988
- Robert M. Littrell, 77 1989
- Roy L. Smith, 6 1989
- Daniel E. Spearow, 26 1989
- LeRoy Crye, 328 1990
- Ronald D. Grass, 31 1990
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr., 317 1990
- Richard W. Linnemeyer, 135 1990
- Keith B. Leibhart, 148 1990
- Gordon L. Carley, 75 1990
- Gerald D. Verbeek, 15 1990
- Herbert M. Chambers, Sr., 288 1991
- Delmar Jones, 46, 65 1992
- Don L. Jelinek, 54 1992
- Albert Wise, 79 1992
- Halsey D. Phillips, 325 1993
- John M. Weidner, Sr., 75, 33 1993
- Rodney L. Samp, 159 1994
- Robert L. Carter, 314 1995
- Richard H. Cooper, 263 1996
- Thomas R. Reed, 5 1996
- Monte K. Olmstead, 290 1997
- Michael G. Birnstihl, 314 1997
- Roger A. Deininger, 317 1998
- Kenneth G. Fleming, 75 1998
- Bruce A. Watkins, 300 1999
- Jack D. Nichols, 265, 285 2000
- Harold C. Mueksch, 132, 72 2000
- Carl C. Plants, 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 Vallabhbbhai, 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
- John R. Herbolsheimer, 3 2018
- Stephen C Kennedy, 4 2018
- Jeff A. Merriman, 281 2018
- David C. Norton, 302 2018
- Kevin H Scheele, 96, 54 2018
- David A. Shaw, 302 2018
- Mark J. Turner, 300 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	Omadi Lodge	No. 5	South Sioux City
Large	2010	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2010	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2011	Lancaster Lodge	No. 54	Lincoln
Small	2011	Franklin Lodge	No. 264	Franklin
Large	2012	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2012	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2013	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2013	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
Large	2014	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2014	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2015	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2015	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2016	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2016	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
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
Large	2019	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Bellevue
Small	2019	Waterloo Lodge	No. 102	Elkhorn

**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
2019	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie

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. Rusmisesl	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
2018	Marvin M. Andersen	Omadi No. 5	South Sioux City
2018	John S. Lowe	Rob Morris No. 46	Kearney

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED		CHARTERED	
Nebraska	No 1	Omaha	Douglas	February	1,1855	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	Blair	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
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
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
Garfield	No 95	O'Neill	Holt	June	28,1882	June	19,1883
Utica	No 96	Utica	Seward	July	14,1882	June	19,1883
Euclid	No 97	Weeping Water	Cass	July	21,1882	June	19,1883
Waterloo	No 102	Elkhorn	Douglas	September	7,1882	June	19,1883
Porter	No 106	Loup City	Sherman	December	9,1882	June	19,1883
Springfield	No 112	Springfield	Sarpy	March	30,1883	June	19,1883
North Bend	No 119	North Bend	Dodge	September	5,1883	June	24,1884
Superior	No 121	Superior	Nuckolls	November	22,1883	June	24,1884

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
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
Ogalalla	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
Landmark	No 222	Herman	Washington	March 1,1893	June 21,1894
Silver Cord	No 224	Ainsworth	Brown	October 17,1893	June 21,1894
North Star	No 227	Lincoln	Lancaster	July 28,1894	June 13,1895
Bartley	No 228	Bartley	Red Willow	November 23,1894	June 13,1895
Comet	No 229	Ceresco	Saunders	December 5,1894	June 13,1895
Zion	No 234	Hyannis	Grant	July 19,1895	June 10,1896
Geo. Armstrong	No 241	Craig	Burt	August 1,1895	June 17,1897
Laurel	No 248	Laurel	Cedar	February 12,1900	June 7,1900
Geo. Washington	No 250	Lincoln	Lancaster	June 20,1900	June 6,1901
Wausa	No 251	Wausa	Knox	November 18,1900	June 6,1901
Hickman	No 256	Lincoln	Lancaster	December 7,1903	June 9,1904
Franklin	No 264	Franklin	Franklin	June 11,1907	June 10,1908
Robert W. Furnas	No 265	Scottsbluff	Scotts Bluff	June 21,1907	June 10,1908
Geo. W. Lininger	No 268	Omaha	Douglas	February 26,1908	June 10,1908
Olive Branch	No 274	Walthill	Thurston	September 20,1909	June 8,1910
Wallace	No 279	Wallace	Lincoln	February 25,1911	June 4,1912
Florence	No 281	Omaha	Douglas	January 17,1913	June 4,1913
Seneca	No 284	Theford	Thomas	September 29,1913	June 9,1914
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
Kimball	No 294	Kimball	Kimball	June 10,1915	June 7,1916
Cotner	No 297	Lincoln	Lancaster	June 15,1917	June 5,1918
Liberty	No 300	Lincoln	Lancaster	January 10,1918	June 5,1918
Mizpah	No 302	Omaha	Douglas	November 12,1918	June 4,1919
Newman Grove	No 305	Newman Grove	Madison	January 14,1920	June 9,1920
Victory	No 310	Valley	Douglas	December 27,1920	June 8,1921
Craftsmen	No 314	Lincoln	Lancaster	March 22,1922	June 5,1923
Mid-West	No 317	Hastings	Adams	January 8,1925	June 10,1925
College View	No 320	Lincoln	Lancaster	July 1,1927	June 6,1928

EXISTING LODGES

Roll of Existing Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE	TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
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
Incese No. 182, Ohioa	Jewell No. 149, Tobias	April 22, 1947
Bee No. 259, Bee	Oliver No. 38, Seward	June 13, 1947
Tuscan No. 130, Surprise	Composite No. 81, Rising City	February 9, 1963
Delta No. 230, St. Edward	Albion No. 78, Albion	January 1, 1965
Jewel No. 149, Tobias	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	September 9, 1966
Valley No. 157, Wilsonville	Beaver City No. 93, Beaver City	March 8, 1966
Ruskin No. 304, Ruskin	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	September 23, 1966
Morning Star No. 197, Gresham	Stromsburg No. 126, Stromsburg	December 9, 1967
Cornerstone No. 247, Osmond	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	December 12, 1967
Kenesaw No. 144, Kenesaw	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	January 13, 1968
Blue Hill No. 129, Blue Hill	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	February 9, 1968
Pioneer No. 322, Lyman	Oasis No. 271, Morrill	April 10, 1969
Compass & Square No. 212, Sumner	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	April 20, 1969
Hope No. 29, Nemaha	Nemaha Valley No. 4, Brownville	September 9, 1969
Elm Creek No. 133, Elm Creek	James A. Tulleys No. 267, Overton	March 17, 1970
Naphthali No. 206, Diller	Fairbury No. 35, Fairbury	March 23, 1970
Alexandria No. 74, Alexandria	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	September 10, 1970
Pythagoras No. 156, Ewing	Diamond No. 291, Orchard	December 4, 1970
Grace No. 226, Wilcox	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	May 11, 1971
Wolbach No. 292, Wolbach	St. Paul No. 82, St. Paul	December 23, 1971
Tyrian No. 243, Oak	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	June 9, 1972
Mystic Tie No. 166, Tilden	Trowel No. 71, Neligh	June 12, 1972
Roman Eagle No. 203, Pender	Bancroft No. 145, Bancroft	April 20, 1973
Amethyst No. 190, Stapleton	Cable No. 225, Arnold	April 20, 1973
Prudence No. 179, Beaver Crossing	Utica No. 96, Utica	April 20, 1973

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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	Ornan No. 261, Spencer	April 22, 1983
Crofton No. 273, Crofton	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	April 17, 1984
Harlan No. 116, Alma	Melrose No. 60, Orleans	April 17, 1984
Hardy No. 117, Hardy	Superior No. 121, Superior	April 17, 1984
Merna No. 171, Merna	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	April 17, 1984
Lee P. Gillette No. 272, Dunbar	Western Star No. 2, Nebraska City	January 18, 1985
Occidental No. 215, Cedar Bluffs	Fremont No. 15, Fremont	March 28, 1985
Siloam No. 147, Stuart	Atkinson No. 164, Atkinson	November 20, 1985
Ponca No. 101, Ponca	Alpha No. 316, South 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
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

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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 City	Fidelity No. 51, David City	February 26, 2010
Trestle Board No. 162, Brock	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	February 26, 2010
Hay Springs No. 177, Hay Springs	Arcana Lodge No. 195, Gordon	May 27, 2011
Canopy Lodge No. 209, Elmwood	Euclid Lodge No. 97, Weeping Water	June 7, 2011
Golden Rule Lodge No. 236, Allen	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wakefield	July 21, 2011
Pomegranate Lodge No. 110, Ashland	Comet Lodge No. 229, Ceresco	November 1, 2011
Wymore Lodge No. 104, Wymore	Beatrice Lodge No. 26, Beatrice	February 20, 2012

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
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	Ogallala Lodge No. 159, Ogallala	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
Harvard Lodge No. 44, Harvard	Mid-West Lodge No. 317, Hastings	April 19, 2018
Charity Lodge No. 53, Red Cloud	Franklin Lodge No. 264, Franklin	June 7, 2018
Diamond Lodge No. 291, Orchard	Plainview Lodge No. 204, Plainview	October 8, 2018
Wood Lake Lodge No. 221, Wood Lake	Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth	October 26, 2018
Oakland Lodge No. 91, Oakland	Olive Branch Lodge No. 274, Rosalie	December 4, 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

MASONIC CALENDAR

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONS commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it ANNO LUCIS (A.:L.:) "in the year of light."

A.:.S.: RITE, same as Ancient Craft except the Jewish Chronology is used, ANNO MUNDI (A.:M.:) "in the year of the world."

ROYAL ARCH MASONS date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, ANNO INVENTIONIS (A.:I.:) "in the year of the discovery."

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS date from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed, ANNO DEPOSITIONIS (A.:Dep.:) "in the year of the deposit."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR commence their era with the organization of their Order, ANNO ORDINIS (AO) "in the year of the Order."

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD dates from the year of the Blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchizedek, ANNO BENEFACTO (A.:Beo.:) "in the year of the Blessing."

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

- | | |
|--|--|
| ANCIENT CRAFT Add 4000 to the common era. | Thus, 2004 and 4000 = 6004. |
| A.:A.:S.: RITE Add 3760 to the common era. | Thus, 2004 and 3760 = 5764.
After September add another year. |
| ROYAL ARCH Add 530 to the common era. | Thus, 2004 and 530 = 2534. |
| ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS | Add 1000 to the common era.
Thus, 2004 and 1000 = 3004. |
| KNIGHTS TEMPLAR | From the Christian era take 1118.
Thus, 1118 from 2004 = 886. |
| ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD | To the Christian era, add 1913,
the year of the blessing, B.C.
Thus, 2004 and 1913 = 3917. |

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

** Denotes proxy*

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Nebraska 1	Bartholomew J Randolph	David H Ramsay	Eric L Jones	
Western Star 2	David A Wetrosky	Edward L Reed	David G Njus	John R Grant
Capitol 3	R Kevin Throckmorton	Lane Raub*	Christopher D Greenawal*	John R Herbolsheimer
Nemaha Valley 4				Stephen C Kennedy
Omadi 5	Randall J Walsh*	Wayne Benson*		
Plattsmouth 6	Heath T Davenport	Michael D Carroll	Matthew L Hullett*	Jay H Speck
Falls City 9				Robert L Ferguson
Solomon 10	Rick L Burmeister*	Donald R Knight	Stuart W Sprick*	Philip A Lorenzen
Covert 11	Donald L Mastny*		Tracy Willits	David N Silver*
Peru 14			Edward D Raper	Carl O Stevenson*
Fremont 15	Peter G Rix	Mitch L Smith*	Dennis E Rix	Larry F Jirsak*
Lincoln 19	William W Folsom	Kent W Folsom		Bruce T Anderson
Washington 21	Max A Wilkins*			Brian K Sandall*
Pawnee 23	Larry L Bradbury*		Edward D Raper	
Beatrice 26	Donald E Vetrovsky*	Cody L Orth*	Robert E Dye	Jason M MacKichan
Blue River 30				
Tekamah 31			Randall L Hart	
Platte Valley 32	Lyndell L St Clair*	Michael D Beall		Larry E Linstrom*
Ashlar 33			Chad A Kuil*	Dewey R Heminger
Acacia 34				
Fairbury 35	Thomas R Curry*			Jeremy D Engelman
Lone Tree 36				
Crete 37				Jerry F Bespalec
Oliver 38			Robert W Stokes*	Adam M Thayer
Papillion 39	Daniel J Marr	Adam J Cejka	Curtis R Marr	A Carl Highman
Northern Light 41				
Hebron 43				
Rob Morris 46	John M Hoggatt	Steen F Kendle	Nathaniel T Lowe	Delmar A Jones
Hastings 50	Casey H Nuss	Richard L Williams	Robert M Lewis	Michael L Small
Fidelity 51		Rex M Rehmer*	Michael E Jones	
Lancaster 54	John L Millington	Matthew R Zier	Turner T Cox	Russell G Reno
Mosaic 55	Marcus A Bond*	Christopher D Thompson*	Ryan T Ginn	Rodrick R Hughes
York 56	Fran L Crowe			Ronald L Winquest*
Wahoo 59	R Michael Lawver	Gregory L Nability*	Burton A Knudsen	Kenneth Houfek*
Thistle 61	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Keystone 62			Robert W Kipper	
Blue Valley 64	Thomas L Waldo			
Osceola 65	Ricky A Jones*	Charles A Roberts	James M Winslow	Mervin E Ransom
Aurora 68	John W Lowe	Wayne R Brehm*		Ronald L Furse*
Hooper 72	Kevin R Larson*			Roger L Huntzman*

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Friend 73				
Frank Welch 75				
Albion 78		Charles L Sweet		
Geneva 79	Victor E Smith	Andrew J Dunker*		
St Paul 82			Gary A Rasmussen*	Wesley E Stevens*
Corinthian 83				
Garfield 95	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Utica 96	Robert O Rhodes	Fred O Wyant		Kevin H Scheele
Euclid 97	Scott M Miller	Raymond K Althouse*	Chad W Mayfield*	
Waterloo 102	Roger D Moore	Richard J Sherburne	Kyle J Clark	Kraig A Prange
Porter 106	Lanny R Kizer			Kenneth A Bills
Springfield 112	David L Larsen	Brett A Drake	Christopher R Brown	Gary S Unger
North Bend 119				David G Otte*
Superior 121	James W Keifer	William R Sauce*	Frank L Borden	
Stromsburg 126	Christopher M Young*			
Guide Rock 128				
Scribner 132	David H Otteman*			Donald G Havekost
Solar 134				
McCook 135	John A Zlomke	Kenneth E Keslin	Clay H Grizzle	Steve G Lyne
Long Pine 136	Jeremiah J Schartz	Garrett C Weidner	Murray D Mellor*	Alvin O Benemerito
Jachin 146	John D Konzack		Lon C Clark	Bruce G Raddatz
Custer 148	Russell C Simmons	Harley R Mohlman*	Douglas P Sadler*	Kevin R Lindly
Lily 154	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Samaritan 158				
Ogalalla 159	David L Yost*	Thomas W Elder	Nathan D Holthusen	Richard H Roberts*
Robert Burns 173			Donald E Rife	
Justice 180				
Alliance 183	Michael D Fritzler	Jock H Faris	Joel W Zilmer	Eugene Gatti*
Bee Hive 184	David Workman	Thomas G Jones	Jason A Dueling	Derick L Loberg*
Minnekadusa 192	Phillip D Paxton			
Highland 194	Justin W Grusing			
Arcana 195			George Meng	James O Smith*
Blazing Star 200	Alan D Petersen*	Ross L Plock*	Chandler W Larsen	Howard R Fairbairn
Scotts Bluff 201	Ed Morava	Edwin L Mayo*		Kelly M Sandberg*
Plainview 204				
Parian 207		Kenneth L Rigler*	William C Trumbull*	Edward A Lashley*
East Lincoln 210	Jeffrey L Buhman	Adam S Holle*	Nathan A Abshire	Thomas M Michaelson
Magnolia 220	Mark L Jahde*			
Landmark 222	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Silver Cord 224	Joe D McBride	Terry R Foxworthy	Lucas E Hitchcock*	Evan C Evans*

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
North Star 227	Daniel R Chesnut*	Adam A English*	Christopher R Storz	Steven B Wetzel
Bartley 228		D Gregory Fyn*		Gary A Newcomb*
Comet 229				
Zion 234		Devon D Walker*		Bryan L Regier
Geo. Armstrong 241	T Richard Eriksen			Keith A Eriksen
Laurel 248	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Geo. Washington 250	Keith W Chambers	Roger Warnke*		Daniel E Brunsen
Wausa 251				
Hickman 256	Brian J Goninan	Anthony D Canada	John R Knoell	Jeffrey B Eggerling*
Franklin 264			Thomas W Moore*	Jerrell F Gerdes
Rbt. W Furnas 265				
Geo. W Lininger 268	Andrew J Muska	Donald A Leu	George L McMullin	Mitchel J Inman
Olive Branch 274	Grady A Wells	Kyle J Peterson	Richard G Leitschuck*	Kent L Neumann
Wallace 279	Randall E Ogier*		Brian W Banks	Eric J Chrisman*
Florence 281	Micah I Evans	Ralph W Tomonelli	Daniel P Ohren	Joseph P Charbonneau
Seneca 284				James J Jones*
Camp Clarke 285		George T Chikos*	William Newkirk*	
Oshkosh 286	Merlin G Zoucha		James C Hinnegan*	Dwight E Smith
Union 287		Dennis H Brydl		
Omaha 288	Brian C Wigger	Alex E Wigger	John K Walz	Nathaniel T Bradburn*
John J Mercer 290	Brian Briggs	Eric J BenSalah	Christian J Soseman	Jonathan D White
James L Eatmon 294	Kevin S Wynne	E Josh Gillming*	Tommy D Yung	Fred K Holz
Cotner 297	Dennis Robertson	William E Short	Jeffrey S Axelson	Ralph J Riemann*
Liberty 300	Lance M Neeman	Dennis J Hecht	Justin L Williamson	Brent Myers
Mizpah 302	Jeffrey M Coleman	Thomas A Gibbs*	Jeremiah D Jones	Benjamin R Zaayer
Newman Grove 305				Raymond J Herbert
Victory 310	K Roger Dill	Carroll G Peacock*	David S Dust	Dennis E Rix
Craftsmen 314	Myron L Coleman	Keith A Simonsen	Dillon A Dawson	Byrl A Shear
Mid-West 317	Robert E Summers	Tyson E Wademan*	Warren Christensen*	Dan J Nonneman*
College View 320	Curtis Eugene Wolbert	Byron VanPatten*	David A Johnson*	Douglas B Johnson
Lebanon 323	Wayne R Jacobsen	Robert E Wilbur	Kim L Severyn*	Rick B Porter
Cairo 324	NO ELECTION REPORT-NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Bellevue 325	Myron M Bell	Kyle A A Beckner	Bobby W Lingerfelt	S Hal Cottrell
Centennial 326	Daren W Kizlin	Brian W Schamber*	Brett Jendro*	Loren Lee Loibl*
Shiloh 327	David L Mrsny*	Rex P Waller	Kyle D Soares	Matthew W Vandergriff
Miloma 328	Dustin R Johnson	Mark Huss	Martin Mullins	Matthew B Schell
Tabula Rasa 332	Russell G Reno	Bobby W Lingerfelt	S Hal Cottrell	Dennis H Brydl
Albert Pike 333	Donald R Kavalec	Matthew O Johnson	Carl F Simmons	Micah I Evans

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets
December 31, 2018

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - UNRESTRICTED -			
GS FIN SQUARES TREAS OBLIG		<u>262,911</u>	<u>262,911</u>
BONDS			
TRANSPORTATION, INDUSTRIAL, AND			
MISCELLANEOUS BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	50,500
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	50,253
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	51,322
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	47,744
Qvc Inc., 4.375%, 3-15-2023	50,000	50,763	47,977
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	47,808
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,247	49,528
US West Communications, Inc., 7.125%, 11/15/2043	<u>50,000</u>	<u>51,000</u>	<u>47,122</u>
Total transportation, industrial, and miscellaneous bonds	<u>550,000</u>	<u>405,632</u>	<u>392,254</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>550,000</u>	<u>405,632</u>	<u>392,254</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
1,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc.	4,266	35,230
600	Anheuser Busch	54,814	39,486
300	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Cl B	19,634	61,254
150	Boeing Co.	6,894	48,375
850	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	29,060	32,598
225	Cato Corp.	5,397	3,211
2,000	Century Link	37,172	30,300
300	ConocoPhillips Com.	8,990	18,705
1,100	Constellation	20,925	7,689
975	Crimson Wine Group LTD Com.	14,702	12,716
350	Disney Walt Co. Com.	10,542	38,377
800	Discovery Communications Inc.	24,825	18,464
250	Dominion Resources Inc.	9,472	17,865
360	Gallagher Arthur J & Co. Com.	15,143	26,532
1,000	Gildan Activewear Inc. Com.	27,535	30,360
350	Gilead Sciences Inc. Com.	29,948	21,893
375	Hershey Co.	33,082	40,193
2,000	Investors Real Estate Trust	20,400	9,814
900	Jefferies Finl Group Inc. Com.	38,150	15,624
250	Johnson & Johnson Com.	16,035	32,263
150	Kansas City Southern	2,125	14,317
300	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	3,360	23,655
550	Lkq Corp Com	16,103	13,052
200	McDonalds Corp. Com.	18,001	35,514
500	Microsoft Corp. Com.	12,560	50,785
900	Opus Bank Irvine California Com.	28,563	17,631
1,500	Orion Engineered Carbons Com.	33,407	37,920
900	Pfizer Inc.	15,512	39,285
675	St. Joe Company	15,503	8,889
225	Texas Pacific Land Trust	4,215	81,245
150	Vulcan Materials Co.	6,166	14,820
350	Wal Mart Stores Inc. Com.	22,633	32,603
640	Weyerhaeuser Co. Com.	<u>11,882</u>	<u>13,990</u>
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>617,016</u>	<u>924,653</u>

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Temporarily Restricted and
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
December 31, 2018

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - RESTRICTED U.S.			
GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		<u>427,191</u>	<u>427,191</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>52,530</u>
CORPORATE BONDS			
Alcoa Inc., 5.400%, 4-15-2021	50,000	51,380	50,500
Altera Corp., 4.100%, 11-15-2023	25,000	24,383	25,883
Anglogold Ashanti Hldgs., 5.125%, 8-1-2022	50,000	50,934	50,450
Bunge Ltd Fin Corp., 8.500%, 6-15-2019	25,000		
CA Inc., 4.500%, 8-15-2023	50,000	51,169	50,489
Domtar Corp., 4.400%, 4-1-2022	50,000	51,110	50,253
Halliburton Co., 6.750%, 2-1-2027	25,000	24,325	27,920
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,183	51,322
Kia Tencor Corp., 4.650%, 11-1-2024	50,000		
Kohls Corp., 4.000%, 11-1-2021	25,000	25,080	25,763
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	47,744
Qvc Inc., 4.850%, 4-1-2024	50,000	51,108	48,317
Rpm Intl Inc., 3.450%, 11-15-2022	50,000	49,246	49,528
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	47,809
US West Comm. Inc., 7.125%, 11-15-2043	25,000	25,500	23,561
Zurich Reins Centre Hldgs., 7.125%, 10-12-2023	<u>50,000</u>	<u>54,510</u>	<u>56,530</u>
Total corporate bonds	<u>675,000</u>	<u>610,877</u>	<u>606,066</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>725,000</u>	<u>661,969</u>	<u>658,596</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
2,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc.	8,533	70,460
1,000	Anheuser Busch	93,699	65,810
500	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Cl B	31,842	102,090
300	Boeing Co.	13,789	96,750
1,550	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	52,973	59,443
475	Cato Corp.	11,393	6,778
3,400	Century Link	63,192	51,510
550	ConocoPhillips Com.	20,275	34,293
2,300	Constellation	48,372	16,077
2,600	Crimson Wine Group LTD Com.	23,592	20,345
1,400	Discovery Communications Inc.	43,443	32,312
700	Disney Walt Co Com.	19,990	76,755
650	Dominion Resources Inc.	24,627	46,449
600	Gallagher Arthur J & Co. Com.	25,344	44,220
1,800	Gildan Activewear Inc. Com.	49,563	54,648
600	Gilead Sciences Inc. Com.	51,600	37,530
675	Hershey Co.	60,012	72,347
300	Investors Real Estate Trust	30,600	14,721
1,000	Jefferies Finl Group Inc. Com.	38,322	17,360
475	Johnson & Johnson Com.	30,447	61,299
300	Kansas City Southern	4,250	28,635
575	Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	6,434	45,339
1,000	Lkq Corp.	29,277	23,730
400	McDonalds Corp Com.	36,002	71,028
900	Microsoft Corp. Com.	23,589	91,413
1,550	Opus Bank Irvine California Com.	49,338	30,365
2,500	Orion Engineered Carbons Com.	55,249	63,200
2,000	Pfizer Inc.	49,974	87,300
1,100	St. Joe Company	24,078	14,487
300	Texas Pacific Land Trust	8,431	162,489
275	Vulcan Materials Co.	11,305	27,170
625	Wal Mart Stores Inc. Com.	40,416	58,219
960	Weyerhaeuser Co. Com.	<u>17,824</u>	<u>20,985</u>
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>1,097,775</u>	<u>1,705,555</u>

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The Next
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
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A.:F.: & A.:M.:
OF
NEBRASKA

Will Be Held

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