

**The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge  
of Free and Accepted Masons  
of Alaska**

# **Proceedings**

**Twenty-Second  
Annual Communication  
February 6-7, 2003**







**STEPHEN L. COX**  
**GRAND MASTER**  
**2002**



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# PRAYER OF THE GRAND CHAPLAIN

Prayer as on the tape is not fully understandable due to several people talking while the prayer is being given by:

W John B. "Jack" Coghill  
Grand Chaplain

## ROLL CALL

### GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Master	MW Stephen L. Cox
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Grand Master	RW Kenneth Stedman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Warden	RW L. V. "Joe" Dees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Warden	RW Harry J. Koenen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Treasurer	RW Charles O. Ashcraft
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Secretary	MW Leslie R. Little
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Chaplain	W John B. "Jack" Coghill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Lecturer	W Robert E. MacArthur
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Orator	W Marty W. Parsons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Historian	W Gerald R. Fairley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Marshal	W Rex Hasty
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Deacon	W Nate Esteban
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Deacon	W Claude H. Roberts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Standard Bearer	W Roger A. Barnstead
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Sword Bearer	W Preston O. Hughes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Bible Bearer	W Yvaneck Tremblay
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Steward	W Robert G. Homoleski
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Steward	W C. Vernon Carlson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Tyler	W J.B. Carnahan

### CONSTITUENT LODGES

(Would the most Senior Representative please respond?)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	White Pass Lodge No. 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anvil Lodge No. 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tanana Lodge No. 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Valdez Lodge No. 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seward Lodge No. 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matanuska Lodge No. 7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kodiak Lodge No. 9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Glacier Lodge No. 10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kenai Lodge No. 11
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12

- ☒ Eagle River Lodge No. 13
- ☒ Aurora Lodge No. 15
- ☒ North Pole Lodge No. 16
- ☒ Anchorage Lodge No. 17
- ☒ Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
- ☒ Ketchikan Lodge No. 19
- ☒ Iditarod Lodge No. 20
- ☒ Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21
- ☒ Sterling Lodge No. 22
- ☒ Petersburg Lodge No. 23

MW Grand Master, all Grand Lodge Officers with the exception of the Grand Orator and Senior Grand Deacon are present and all 22 Lodges are represented and we, therefore, have a Constitutional quorum to open Grand Lodge.

MW Leslie R. Little  
Grand Secretary

## SOLEMN CEREMONIES

The public opening of the Twenty-Second Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 8:00 A.M. on February 6, 2003, by Worshipful Jim Howard (3). The program for the public ceremonies included:

Entrance of Grand Lodge Officers

Pledge of Allegiance

U.S. and Canadian National Anthems

The Alaska Flag Song

Welcome to representatives of the Youth Groups

**International Order of Job's Daughters**

Jenny M. Anderson, Past Honored Queen Bethel No. 1

**International Order of Rainbow for Girls**

Amanda Aceves, Grand Worthy Associate Advisor, representing Rachel Clymer, Grand Worthy Advisor, Grand Assembly of Alaska

**International Order of DeMolay**

B. Ben Hughes, Past State Master Councilor

Welcome by representative of the Mayor's Office

Introduction of Representatives of Concordant Bodies

Representatives of Concordant Bodies present included:

**Al Aska Shrine Temple**

Dale Cain, Potentate

**Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction**

Mitchell R. Miller, Sovereign Grand Inspector General

**Grand Court of Alaska, Amaranth**

Marianne Little, Grand Royal Matron

**Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alaska**

Don G. Chaffin, Grand High Priest

**Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Alaska**

Stanley R. Foulke Grand Illustrious Master

**International Order of the Rainbow for Girls**

Hilary Freeman, Supreme Deputy in Alaska

**Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle**

Leonard E. Luchau, Executive Secretary

**Order of Eastern Star**

Joan P. Morgan, Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron in Alaska

**York Rite College**

Gene R. Freeman, Grand Governor of Alaska

The formal opening of the Twenty-Second Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 10:00 A.M. on February 6, 2004, by Most Worshipful Stephen L Cox, Grand Master of Masons in Alaska in Ample form.

The first through fourth sessions of Grand Lodge were called to order by the following brethren respectively:

**First Session**

W Doug Wharton (12)

**Second Session**

W Bob Minor (16)

**Third Session**

W Russ Shivers (21)

**Fourth Session**

W Roger K. Hansen (7, 20, 23)

Distinguished Guests present included:

**Nevada F. & A. M.**

RW H. Wayne Kingsley, Deputy Grand Master

**Oregon A. F. & A. M.**

RW L.L. Vern Beito, Deputy Grand Master

MW Herman C. Kuppler, Past Grand Master

MW John D. Livie, Past Grand Master

**Washington F. & A. M.**

MW James Reid, Grand Master

RW John D. McNab, Deputy Grand Master

RW Saturo Tashiro, Senior Grand Warden

MW William R. Miller, Past Grand Master  
MW Wendel H. Kueker, HPGM Alaska, Past District Deputy

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Alaska**

MW Alfred Boyles, Grand Master

## **MESSAGE OF THE MW GRAND MASTER**

To the Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

Welcome to the Twenty-Second Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska. Our annual sessions allow us to meet on the level and act on the level with brethren from around the world. For those who are here in Fairbanks for the first time we would like to extend our sincere thanks for visiting us this year. We hope that you will enjoy this visit to the Interior of Alaska, and return as often as you can. There is a saying that is appropriate for extreme Alaska, as we explain ourselves up here: Cold Nose, Warm Heart. Welcome again to our Great State.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Most Worshipful Brother Lloyd Triggs, Very Worshipful Brother Samuel K. Medsker, and Very Worshipful Brother Mitchell R. Miller were appointed to the Committee on Segregations and Reference.

### **NECROLOGY**

We lost two exemplary members of our Grand Lodge this past year. Most Worshipful Brother John Ingram left this existence of toil and trouble June 19, 2002 and Most Worshipful Brother Howard Hobbs joined him on July 25, 2002. These illustrious brethren have passed to that mansion not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The least desirable of all reports is the Necrology Report and I shall leave this labor of Sorrow and Love to our Chaplain, Worshipful Brother John B. "Jack" Coghill who shall give his report at a later time during this Session. The scythe of time and the cold touch of death never cease to take from us those we love. We can only try to live our lives in such a manner that we are living monuments to their sacred memory.

### **STATE OF THE CRAFT**

The State of the Craft is encouraging. Many Lodges are beginning to show the effects of utilizing the precepts taught in the Warden's Charge. Several Lodges are experiencing a

growth unseen since the heady days of the pipeline, yet others are barely staying above water. Those Lodges in jeopardy of extinction are notable for their resistance to attendance of the Warden's Charge. Without an effort from the brethren in the Lodges afflicted with the apathy that is killing them, their charters have a questionable future. The Grand Lodge officers have repeatedly offered assistance to many struggling Lodges, but the local brethren must win the final struggle. We can show you how, but YOU must put in the effort to grow.

The Grand Lodge office data bank is in dire need of updating. It would greatly assist the Grand Secretary if each Lodge would send an updated copy of their rosters with their end of year reports as is required by the Alaska Masonic Code. Monthly corrections from the Lodge Secretaries would also be most appreciated.

Our web page is again being tended with loving hands. W Brother Nate Estaban has taken the Web page and increased the visibility of our Grand Lodge to the outer world. We still need an editor for the Northern Lights, and hope to find a suitable candidate soon. I look forward to helping these brethren in the future, should they need any of my assistance.

## **VISITATIONS**

During the year of 2002 I made the annual Official Visitation by the Grand Master to each Lodge in the Jurisdiction except Anvil Lodge No. 2, which had their Charter suspended due to lack of monthly reports and per capita payments. I also visited the Conference of Grand Masters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Western Conference of Grand Masters in San Francisco, California, The Grand Lodges of Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and the Yukon, Oklahoma, and Texas. I also visited the Masonic Lodge in Whitehorse, Y.T., Lafayette Lodge No. 242 in Seattle, Washington during the year of 2002. Other visits to various functions of the concordant bodies within the State of Alaska and other states were also made. The development of new friendships and the spread of Brotherly Love and Affection was a most enjoyable task.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

The Conference of Grand Masters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Western Conference of Grand Masters in San Francisco, California

Sterling Lodge No. 22 dedication

Welcoming Petersburg Lodge No. 23 into the Grand Lodge of Alaska

The International Order of Rainbow for Girls Supreme Assembly, Orlando, Florida

The Cornerstone laying for Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 and the celebration of their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

International Night held at Lafayette Lodge No. 242 in Seattle, Washington

## **SPECIAL ACTIONS of the GRAND MASTER**

The following Edicts were issued during the past year:

February 23, 2002

EDICT: It is a Masonic offense for any Mason in, or a member of, this jurisdiction to sit in a tiled meeting of any appendant or concordant body with a suspended or expelled Mason.

A tiled meeting is defined as any meeting, which is limited to members of the appendant or concordant organization and/or is not open to the general public.

The generally recognized Masonic appendant and concordant bodies in this jurisdiction are named below, but are not limited to these listed:

- All Masonic Clubs and other organizations requiring membership in Masonry for initial membership,
- The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, its bodies and subordinate organizations,
- The York Rite, its bodies and subordinate organizations,
- The Shrine, its Clubs, Units, Orders, and other bodies requiring Shrine membership,
- The Order of Eastern Star,
- Order of Amaranth,
- DeMolay International,
- The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls,
- Any other Masonic appendant or concordant bodies that may appear in this jurisdiction

February 26, 2002

EDICT: the various elected presiding officers of the Grand York Rite bodies, and the Scottish Rite Orient of Alaska (SGIG or Deputy), are hereby authorized to wear the regalia and aprons of their office when requested to act as the official representative of their organization to a Lodge, or to the Grand Lodge.

April 1, 2002

EDICT: Any Mason involved in a legal action against the Grand Lodge, or Grand Lodge Officer's actions for the Grand Lodge, will be immediately expelled from the Grand Lodge. Confirmation of the Summary Expulsion will be taken at the next Grand Lodge session and will require a two-thirds vote of the members attending. If the Expulsion is not upheld, the penalty will be lowered to Suspension for a time indefinite.

## **DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS by the GRAND MASTER**

Offenses by members of the Fraternity and Lodges of this Jurisdiction required the Grand Master to take disciplinary action in the following matters:

### **Charter Suspended**

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2002, the Charter of Anvil Lodge No. 2, Nome, Alaska, was suspended. This action was necessitated by a lack of response to requests for their Monthly and Annual reports, and the lack of payment of their per capita for a period in excess of two years. This suspension is required by the Alaska Masonic Code, and will be removed if the needed reports and per capita are received prior to the 2003 Communication. If the necessary items are not submitted before the Annual Communication, the Charter will be revoked.

### **Grand Master's Trial Committee**

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002, a Grand Master's Trial Committee found three members guilty of un-Masonic conduct. The three were **Suspended for Periods Definite**.

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, a member was Suspended for a Period Indefinite for Insubordination of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers; and Attempting to cheat, wrong, or defraud the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

These punishments were painful for all affected. The last thing I, as Grand Master, wanted was to have problems of this sort. It pained me to have to rule on every decision concerning the Brethren who have failed the members of this Grand Lodge. I take no pleasure in having to be involved in any disciplinary action. Many hours of counseling with the other Grand Lodge officers and advisors, interspersed with a great amount of prayer, went into these sad events. The sovereignty, integrity, and reputation of this Grand Body was the primary concern in every decision I made this year, more especially these.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

I recommend the adoption of the edicts issued this past year and their inclusion into the Alaska Masonic Code. Masonry should be devoid of lawsuits, and the debilitating effect they have on the members and officers of the Grand Lodge. The litigious society we live in believes that all answers are found in the courts. We, as Masons, feel that the Grand Lodge is the supreme authority for all Masonic affairs in the Jurisdiction and the final solution to disputes between the members of the fraternity. One of the edicts issued specifically removes the Mason from the legal situation, and returns one who wishes to sue to the ranks of those not worthy to be welcomed into our proceedings. This edict is mirrored in many other Grand Lodges in the U.S. This edict protects the individual

members of the Grand Lodge from paying excessive fees that would be levied to the Brethren in the case of the loss of a lawsuit.

The awesome responsibility of governing the Grand Lodge causes the Grand Master to require sufficient power to properly enforce the Masonic Code without question. Some within our ranks feel the Grand Master should be no more than a paper tiger, unable to act as expressed by the Constitution and historically accepted as part of the Ancient Customs and Usages. I recommend the Grand Lodge as a whole reaffirm the judicial powers of the Grand Master when Grand Lodge is not in session. An emergent resolution (from tape recording, "which is not going to be brought) to accomplish this will come before this body. (from the tape recording, "I am going to skip this part as the emergent resolution was dropped."- ed. note: last two sentences of this paragraph). It is written so that not even the weakest of minds could misinterpret the right of the Grand Master to make decisions of Summary of Discipline between Grand Lodge sessions. The Grand Lodge, in session, must approve or disapprove every action of the Grand Master at the end of his term.

The Wardens Charge continues to be one of the most important projects of this Grand Lodge. I recommend that the Warden's Charge Committee be renamed the Leadership Training Committee and elevated to the status of a Standing Committee of this Grand Lodge.

Financial security for the Grand Lodge is of a paramount importance to the continuation of the projects and charities we wish to fund. I recommend that the Finance Committee work with the Fundraising Committee and establish two Gaming Permits for the Grand Lodge. One gaming permit should be for normal operation of the Grand Lodge. The monies earned through this system would allow the employment of a staff to help the Grand Secretary and his assistant. The other permit should be for the Travel Fund, so Brothers would not be held personally responsible for the considerable expense it takes to be a Grand Lodge Elected Officer. To make the funds fiscally secure, I would also recommend that half of the funds earned by these permits be placed in the appropriate permanent fund. I also encourage every Lodge in this Jurisdiction to follow the lead of the Grand Lodge and help support their coffers through this method.

## **APPRECIATION**

I believe that a special thanks to the Grand Lodge Secretary, the Grand Lodge Treasurer, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee is in order. Thank you MOST WORSHIPFUL, Brother Les Little, RIGHT WORSHIPFUL, Brother Chuck Ashcraft, and MOST WORSHIPFUL, Brother Gunnar Flygenring for the assistance you have given me about issues that have arisen this year. I want to single out one Mason for his efforts to help this Grand Lodge. W Brother Jerry Fairley has given of his time and skills to help the Grand Secretary in modernizing the Grand Secretary's Office. The Grand Secretary has been able to decrease expenses and increase the efficiency of his station for the Grand Lodge.



Thanks to the Brethren of Sterling Lodge No. 22 and Petersburg Lodge No. 23 for being a most important part of my year. Having two new lodges join our small jurisdiction is more than any Grand Master could ask. Congratulations to Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21, for their magnificent 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It will continue into next year, so those who missed the first celebration, you can make it up this year. Thanks to all of my Officers and everyone who has gone the extra mile to help with not only the difficult things but the fun things also.

Thanks to Gayle, my blushing bride of over 29 years, for her patience and understanding during these past four years. Thanks to my Mother, Patsy, and my children, Stephanie and Jonathan, for the help they have given to Gayle and me before and during this Session. I could never have completed this magnificent journey without the love and support of my wonderful family.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

The opportunity to represent the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction is one of the greatest honors any person could ever receive. For the past four years, I have attempted to represent you with honor, integrity, and compassion. Actions beyond the Grand Lodge's control have made the road a little bumpier than I would have liked, but a true joy, nonetheless. I feel especially blessed to have been the Grand Master when our dear brothers in Petersburg voted to join us. This singular act, placing all of the lodges in Alaska under our jurisdiction is such an historic event, and I am proud to have been a small part in the completion of our 21-year quest for consolidation.

Thank you my Brothers, for allowing me the honor of serving you this year. As I rejoin the ranks of my Brethren, again a simple Master Mason, I will continue to help the Grand Lodge in any manner needed. We have a wonderful Grand Jurisdiction, with fantastic members who know how best to work, and best agree. Masonry has a bright future in Alaska. Let's work together to let our light shine for the betterment of all humanity. Most importantly, perhaps now Right Worshipful Ken Stedman can have a roommate who doesn't snore, so he can have a full nights rest. May God bless the Brethren and their families.

Stephen L. Cox  
Grand Master

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

This report is one of the most difficult I have ever had to write. This year has been one filled with sorrow with the passing of two of our Past Grand Masters, Most Worshipful John C. Ingram and Most Worshipful Howard N. Hobbs.

It has been a year of vast and incredible turmoil within our ranks because of legal actions taken against your Grand Lodge and its officers. Three members of this Grand Lodge sought to set aside their obligations as Masons. The pain these actions have caused Masonry will, unfortunately, reach throughout the North American Continent and could perhaps even tear down the very fabric of Masonry by allowing the courts to interfere in our Grand Fraternity.

It has been a year of excitement, first, to see a new Lodge constituted in Sterling, Alaska, and perhaps even more important, the last of the Lodges who opted to remain under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington, when we formed this Grand Lodge, has elected to join with us in making our Grand Lodge whole and complete. We have come of age in our twenty-first year.

It has been a year of renewal and rebuilding within the Grand Lodge office due to the change in the position of Grand Secretary. None of us perhaps can really appreciate all the work that RW Rick Bender did as our Grand Secretary for so many years. The many changes we have wrought have been necessary to bring us into this new century. Many changes have been made to the record keeping system, and changes are still being made today. We have upgraded the Grand Lodge computer system including a new color printer. We are now able to do a large amount of our printing needs in house, instead of having to pay for the work in a print shop. Printing costs have soared as well as have many other expenses and we have attempted to cut some of these costs wherever possible. We have purchased a laptop computer for the Grand Lodge use. These new purchases could not have been made were it not for the generous out pouring of financial aid from the Lodges, AMRA, the Fairbanks Shrine Club, and a great many individual Masons. My heart felt thanks to all of you who contributed.

The following Lodges have not fulfilled their obligations to file timely returns to the Grand Lodge office by January 10, as required by Sections 15.08 and 16.16 Paragraph. 5.

White Pass Lodge No. 1  
Anvil Lodge No. 2  
Valdez Lodge No. 4  
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5  
Seward Lodge No. 6  
Matanuska Lodge No. 7  
Kodiak Lodge No. 9

North Pole Lodge No. 16  
Ketchikan Lodge No. 19  
Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21

Some of the Lodges are delinquent in filing returns for more than one year, and have had their Charter suspended by the Grand Master. By order of the Grand Master, a fine, as provided in Section 15.08, will be levied against all Lodges who have not complied with Section 15.08 in full.

I cannot begin to say how much I appreciate the endless and tireless work done by W Brother Gerald R. Fairley. Without his help we would not be in the shape we are in today. The office is well organized and the database is as accurate as the information sent to us by the Lodges. We are still lacking much information from several Lodges, and we will be asking for that information soon.

I close by saying that I most appreciate my wife Roxie, who has endured many hours of loneliness while I worked in the Grand Lodge office, or in our office at home, doing Grand Secretary's work. Yes, she has grumbled a bit, but she has always been my main support when I needed a kind word to help me get through the frustration of the job.

The following was either missing from the Grand Master's Message and Annual Report booklet or has been submitted since the printing of the booklet

### **Addendum No. 1**

Dispensations granted during the Masonic year:

- February 23, 2002 to Ketchikan Lodge No. 19 to change their meeting date until a change of bylaws
- March 23, 2002 to Kenai Lodge No. 11 to allow Masons to wear aprons and jewels during public school awards ceremony
- April 4, 2002 to Iditarod Lodge No. 20 to allow a change of meeting place to the building of Matanuska Lodge No. 7
- December 16, 2002 to Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 to allow a change of meeting time for a stated meeting in December
- Eagle River Lodge No. 13 to allow a one-time change of meeting place for a Stated Communication February 3, 2003.

### **Addendum No. 2**

The following Lodges have sent in the required forms and reports since the printing of the Grand Master's Message and Annual Report booklet was printed.

- White Pass Lodge No. 1 has filed all missing forms.
- Anvil Lodge No. 2 has filed all missing returns and paid all fees through December 2002 and they are now current.
- Valdez Lodge No. 4 has filed all missing returns.
- Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5 has filed all missing returns.

- Matanuska Lodge No. 7 has filed all missing returns
- Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8 has filed all missing returns.
- Kodiak Lodge No. 9 has filed all missing returns.
- North Pole Lodge No. 16 has filed all missing returns.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, this concludes the Grand Secretary's report.

Les R. Little, PGM  
Grand Secretary

Grand Master, I ask for the acceptance of this report.

Grand Master: It is accepted.

## STATUS OF LODGES

LODGE	GAIN	LOSS	DIFF	MEMBERS
WHITE PASS			0	82
ANVIL			0	43
TANANA	8	11	-3	279
VALDEZ	2		2	70
MT. McKINLEY			0	40
SEWARD			0	31
MATANUSKA	9	7	2	115
NT. SUSITNA	5	3	2	125
KODIAK			0	69
CLACIER	3	2	1	242
KENAI	5	12	-7	104
FAIRBANKS	3		3	104
EAGLE RIVER	5	7	-2	85
AURORA	4	1	3	67
NORTH POLE	3	1	2	59
ANCHORAGE	7	6	1	267
MT. VERSTOVIA	6	2	4	60
KETCHIKAN		12	-12	19
IDITAROD		1	-1	135
MT. JUNEAU-GASTINEAUX	1	5	-4	142
STERLING	5		5	23
PETERSBURG	1	2	-1	49
TOTAL (GAIN/LOSS)			-5	
TOTAL MEMBERS				2210

**Note: Any missing report(s) not included in this proceedings document may be due to the report(s) not being turned in to the Grand Secretary, or the report(s) may not have been recorded onto the audio tape records or appears to be garbled on the audio recordings. One audio tape has no recording, approximately two-thirds of its length and then starts in the middle of a report.**

## **REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

### **1<sup>st</sup> Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 1st Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Cameroon. They wish to have a brotherly and traditional relationship with our Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Cameroon consists of four lodges and was consecrated by the Grand Lodge Nationale of France on 15 September 2001. They would like to assure us of their absolute commitment to comply with the rules and regulations of Freemasonry and to adhere to the ways and customs of regular and universal Freemasonry.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Grand Lodge of Cameroon.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 2<sup>nd</sup> Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge de Estado Baja California. The Grand Logia de Estado Baja California meets all of the standards set by the Grand Masters Conference of Masons of North America and appears on reports from 1963, 74, 92, and 2002. It is listed in the 2002 edition of the List of Lodges Masonic. The Grand Lodge of the State of Baja California consists of thirty lodges and about 2,000 members. It received its charter from the Gran Logia of the Valle de Mexico in 1933.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Gran Logia de Estado Baja California.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved**

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 3<sup>rd</sup> Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the Grande Loja Maconica Do Estado De Sergripe in Brazil. This Grand Lodge consists of 12 Blue Lodges. It is affiliated with the Grand Orient of Brazil and is listed in the List of Lodges Masonic 2002 edition. It is currently recognized by most other Grand Lodges in the United States.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman

Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Grande Loja Maconica Do Estado De Sergripe Brazil.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved**

## **4<sup>th</sup> Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 4th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of the Congo. The Grand Lodge of Congo was consecrated by the Grand Lodge of Senegal on October 21, 2000. The Commission on Information of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America is awaiting further information about the Grand Lodge of Congo and before issuing an opinion of their regularity. We recommend that the Grand Lodge of the Congo not be recognized at this time pending their approval by the Grand Masters Conference of North America

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: Your report is received.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 5th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the National Grand Lodge of Romania. This Grand Lodge was reestablished and



consecrated on 24 January 1993 by the Grande Oriente of Italy. They have 48 active constituent lodges with approximately 700 members. The National Grand Lodge of Romania was found to be regular by the Conference of Grand Masters as reported in 1996 and 1997.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the National Grand Lodge of Romania.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved.**

## **6th Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 6th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic. This Grand Lodge was revived on 17 November 1990 after having been forced into darkness for about 40 years by the Communist regime. Several regular Grand Lodges from throughout Europe and elsewhere have assisted in bringing back Masonic life to the Czech Republic. This Grand Lodge consists of six constituent lodges and about 210 Masons. The Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic is listed in The List of Lodges Masonic and as such is considered regular by the Grand Masters Conference of North America.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved.**

## **7th Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 7th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Bulgaria. This Grand Lodge was instituted by the Grand Lodge of Germany on 20 September 1997 and consists of five constituent lodges, all chartered by the United Grand Lodge of Germany. The Commission on recognition of the Grand Master's Conference is of the opinion that this Grand meets the standards of regularity and is entitled to recognition.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Bulgaria.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved.**

## **8th Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 8th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition of the Grand Orient du Brazil. This Grand Lodge is already recognized by many grand lodges

throughout the world and several in the United States. It is listed in the List of Lodges Masonic, 2002 edition and as such has to have been found regular by the Grand Master's Conference of North America sometime in the past.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report and that full recognition be accorded to the Grand Orient du Brazil.

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved.**

## **9th Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 9th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

We, the Committee on Fraternal Relations have received a request for recognition from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. After reviewing the information contained in this report, it appears that the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia meets all the standards of recognition for all ..... break in tape..... This was confirmed in a telephone call to MW C. E. Buster Horn who was the Junior Past Grand Master of Georgia. The Commission on Information for Recognition of the Grand Master's Conference of North America is of the opinion that the same standards should be applied to the Prince Hall Grand Lodges as to any other grand lodge when granting recognition. In other words, when two or more grand lodges share the same geographic area, they must have a mutual consent or agreement in order for both to be recognized by other grand lodges. Therefore this Committee recommends that recognition of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia not be approved at this time. Perhaps in the future, if an agreement of mutual consent can be negotiated with the regular Grand Lodge of Georgia, which at then can reconsider this request.

Fraternally submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman  
Jimmie McGoldrick, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request that this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report

Motion moved and seconded

**Note: This motion was approved, recognition fails.**

## **10th Report**

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

Subject: 10th Report - Fraternal Relations Committee - February 6, 2003

The Committee on Fraternal Relations received correspondence from several other Grand Lodges.

1. From the Grand Lodge of Turkey: We received a letter stating that the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Turkey had extend recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Poland
2. From the Grand Lodge of Rio de Janeiro: A letter stating that two brothers had been expelled from Masonry in that jurisdiction and were therefore expelled from many symbolic lodges of which they may be a member in good standing.
3. From the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Venezuela: A letter was received reaffirming their sovereign jurisdiction of their grand lodge and reaffirming their adherence to the basic principles of Freemasonry.
4. From the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico: A letter of greetings from the 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication and that an announcement of their newly elected grand lodge officers was received.
5. From the Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masons Southern Jurisdiction of the United States: A letter was received announcing the availability of Scottish Rite scholarships at George Washington University. There are twenty undergraduate scholarships at \$13,000 per year. There are 20 post graduate scholarships from \$5,000 to \$10,000 year depending upon the field of study, and ten post graduate scholarships at \$10,000 each per year for a degree leading to children's speech and hearing degrees. Some of these required Scottish Rite affiliation and others do not. Contact your local Scottish Rite body or this Committee for details for anyone.

6. Letter from the Grand Lodge of Rio Janeiro announcing the signing of a solemn treaty of mutual recognition and fraternal relationship with the Grand Oriente of Brazil, the most ancient and Masonic power in that country.
7. From the Grand Lodge of Spain: A letter stating that on the 31 March 2001, El Grande Oriente Espanol had joined the Grand Lodge of Spain. Gratitude was expressed to those members in temperance and tenacity of the long preparation period necessary for the signing of this historical agreement. According to this agreement, the legal identity of EL Grande Orient Espanol will remain alive as an inherited historical asset since its foundation in 1889.
8. From the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Lithuania: There was a letter from the United Grand Lodge of Germany announcing that the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Lithuania has been duly installed in Vilinius, Lithuania on 13 April 2002. Representatives from several European grand lodges, the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Illinois, and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of South Australia attended this event. Necessary documents needed for the process of recognition have been forwarded to the Conference of Grand Masters of North America.
9. From the Grand Lodge of Panama: A letter extending greetings from the Grand Lodge of Panama with a list of its dignitaries and current grand lodge officers was received.
10. From the Grand Lodge of Belgium: A letter of greetings from Belgium with a list of current grand lodge officers and a request of similar information to update their records was received.
11. From the Grand Lodge of Seneboa, Mexico: A letter requesting recognition was received by this Committee. This Committee could not find or confirm the regularity of this grand lodge and will have to do some further investigation. We are not making a recommendation at this time on this request.
12. From the Grand Lodge Nationale of France. A letter from Grand Master MW Paul J. Chegenova to bring notice regarding the status of their temperature (not audible) under the title of the Great Priory of Gauls. Over the past years repeated infringements of this organization on the sovereignty of their grand lodge and numerous other irregularities have made it necessary for the Grand Master, with the full concurrence of their Board of General Purposes, to declare the Great Priory of Gauls as an illegitimate Masonic body on French territory, and to forbid all Master Masons under their Grand Lodge to seek or continue membership therein. A further request as a matter of courtesy, we informed the Masonic (not audible) body in our jurisdiction of these facts.

Fraternally Submitted:

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM Chairman

Jimmie McGoldrick, PM  
Robert Homoleski, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received for the record.

# REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The following is the number of votes available by lodge, as provided in the final report of the Committee on Credentials.

	Total Number of Ballots
<b>Grand Lodge</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>White Pass Lodge No. 1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Anvil Lodge No. 2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Tanana Lodge No. 3</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Valdez Lodge No. 4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Seward Lodge No. 6</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Matanuska Lodge No. 7</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Kodiak Lodge No. 9</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Glacier Lodge No. 10</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Kenai Lodge No. 11</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Fairbanks Lodge No. 12</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Eagle River Lodge No. 13</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Aurora Lodge No. 15</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>North Pole Lodge No. 16</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Anchorage Lodge No. 17</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Ketchikan Lodge No. 19</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Iditarod Lodge No. 20</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Sterling Lodge No. 22</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Petersburg Lodge No. 23</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Darrell Winsor, PM

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report is received.

# APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

## Standing Committees

### Jurisprudence

- MW Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman
- VW Ken Creamer (9, 18)
- VW V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)
- W William Lawrence (21)
- RW Richard D. Bender (10)

### Grievance & Appeals

- MW Henry T. Dunbar, PGM (10, 17) Chairman
- RW Harry J. Koenen (7, 20, 22)
- RW Thomas O. Mickey, HPGM (1, 3)
- VW Mitchell R. Miller (3, 12)

### Finance

- MW Gunnar Flygenring, PGM (10) Chairman
- MW Don G. Chaffin, PGM (3, 12, 16)
- RW Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
- VW Harley Clough (21)
- W Bert K. Stedman (18)
- Bro. Mike Johnson Advisor

### Fraternal Relations

- MW Henry T. Dunbar, PGM (10, 17) Chairman
- RW L. V. "Joe" Dees (13)
- W Jimmie R. McGoldrick (13)
- W Robert Homoleski (3)

### Masonic Research & Education

- W John P. Johnson (3) Chairman
- W Claude Roberts (21)
- W Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20)
- W Harry E. Casson (6, 11)

### Credentials

- W Howard McElrath (4) Chairman
- W Theodore M. Cadman (10)
- W Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17)
- W Darrel E. Windsor (18)
- W Marvin B. Fitzpatrick (10)



## **Masonic Public Relations**

- W Glen E. Josey (8, 17, 22) Chairman
- W John B. (Jack) Coghill (3)
- W Jimmie R. McGoldrick (13)
- Bro. Benerito Angel (3)

## **Masonic Youth**

- W Stanley Woodin (3, 7, 8, 20) Chairman
- W John R. "Bo" Cline (7)
- VW David DeLong, (12, 21)
- W Gerry Lassman (8)
- Bro. Vernon Hughes (3)

## **Bylaws**

- MW Gunnar Flygenring, PGM (10) Chairman
- RW Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
- W Robert Homoleski (3)
- W David C. Pratt (10)

## **Public Schools**

- VW Robert R. Wiseman (11, 22) Chairman
- W John R. "Bo" Cline (7)
- W John B. (Jack) Coghill (3)

## **Long-Range Planning**

- MW Stephen L. Cox, GM (3, 12) Chairman
- RW Kenneth Stedman (18, 23)
- RW L. V. "Joe" Dees (13)
- RW Harry J. Koenen (7, 20, 22)
- RW Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
- MW Leslie R. Little PGM (10, 15, 22)
- MW Charles E. Corbin PGM (7, 20)

## **Sub Committees**

### **Charters & Dispensations**

- MW Gene Freeman, PGM (3, 12, 16) Chairman
- W Roger K. Hansen (7, 20)
- W Emil F. Lentz (9)
- W John P. Johnson (3)

### **Sessions & Arrangements**

- VW Doug Ooms (12) Chairman
- VW Samuel Medsker (3, 12, 16)
- W James LeFlore (16)

### **Warden's Charge**

- MW Leslie R. Little, PGM (10, 15, 22) Chairman
- MW Don G. Chaffin, PGM (3, 12, 16)
- MW Stephen L. Cox (3, 12) GM
- W Robert E. MacArthur (17)
- W Marty W. Parsons (1, 19)
- W James M. LeFlore (16)

### **Russian Relations**

- MW John Grainger, PGM (1, 19) Chairman
- MW Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20)
- VW William Goodwin (7, 20)
- W Roger A. Barnstead (4, 18)
- W James R. Griffith (13)
- W J. B. Carnahan (12)
- W Larry D. Wright (7, 20)
- Bro. Benerito Angel (3)
- Bro. Jerry Lewis, (21)

### **Internet & Publications**

- MW Don G. Chaffin, PGM (3, 12, 16, 17) Chairman
- W Nate Esteban (11, 20) Webmaster
- W D. Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17)

### **Awards**

- MW Stanley R. Foulke, PGM (2, 17) Chairman
- MW Gene R. Freeman, PGM (3, 12, 16)
- W Charles O. Ashcraft (10)

### **Wills & Endowments**

- RW Kenneth Stedman (19, 23) Chairman
- W C. Vernon Carlson (12)

### **George Washington Masonic Memorial**

- MW Lloyd W. Triggs, PGM (3, 16) Chairman

### **Military Recognition**

- W Charles O. Ashcraft (10) Chairman
- W George W. Earp (16)
- W Roger Barnstead (4, 18)

### **Grand Lodge Photographers**

W George Steck (3)  
W Robert MacArthur (17)  
W Claude Roberts (21)  
W John Grady (17)

### **Masonic Code Review**

RW Harry J. Koenen (7, 20, 22) Chairman  
W Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20)  
VW David DeLong (12, 21)  
VW Mitchell R. Miller (1, 3)  
VW Johnnie L. Wallace (12, 17)

### **Deputies of the Grand Master**

VW	Samuel K. Medsker (3, 12, 16)	District 1
VW	Robert E. Cunningham (5)	District 2
VW	Johnnie L. Wallace (12, 17)	District 3
VW	David DeLong (12, 21)	District 4
VW	William J. Goodwin, Jr. (7, 20)	District 5

## **REPORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business was discussed.

## **MOTIONS**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Motion by MW Charles Corbin PGM to reduce the sentence imposed on three brothers.

MW Grand Master, I would like to move that this Grand Body reconsider the sentence rendered, rescind those that are now present, and re-establish sentences that were rendered in 2003 and voted upon by this Grand Lodge which is two years for one person, two years for another person, and one year for the other one. In previous year 2002 that this issue come up and voted upon by the Grand Lodge by the sentences rendered: two years suspension for one of the brothers; two years suspension for another brother; one year suspension for the other brother.

Motion moved, seconded, and passed

Motion by MW Stan Foulke PGM to commute the sentence of the three sentenced brothers from this day forward as time served from the trial on December 14, 2002.

Grand Master: Motion moved, seconded, and failed to pass.

Motion made by Douglas Ooms to provide \$100.00 to each of the following women's groups that have assisted us and also assisted in the hospitality suite:

Eastern Star Chapters 6 and 18  
Amaranth  
Rainbow Fairbanks Assembly No. 1  
Daughters of the Nile  
for a total amount of \$500.00.

Motion moved, seconded, and passed.

Motion made by RW Kenneth E. Stedman for the next annual communication to be held in Sitka, Alaska.

Motion moved, seconded, and passed

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution 2003-1**

To Amend Sections 16.02, 16.03, 17.01, and 20.11 Bylaw  
To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** To make all newly raised Master Masons dues paying members and to eliminate contradictions between Section 16.02, Section 16.03, Section 17.01, and Section 20.11 Bylaws.

**RESOLUTION:** WHEREAS, those Master Masons raised in One-day Ritual Classes who pay dues, sign By-laws, and can hold all offices except Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Worshipful Master; and,

WHEREAS, the Master Mason raised in the traditional manner may attend Lodge, but must return proficiency prior to signing the Bylaws, paying dues, and holding any office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 20.11 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

### **Section 20.11 Bylaw**

**PROFICIENCY IN THE DEGREES.** A candidate may not be passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, nor raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason without proof of proficiency in the preceding degree. This may be done by either:

1. memorization and recital of the Standard Proficiency as detailed in the Standard Work Cipher of this Jurisdiction; or,
2. by completion of a written Study Guide provided by the Grand Secretary as an education in Freemasonry and the memorizing and recital of the obligation of each degree as the Brother progresses through the degrees.

The choice of proficiency method shall be made by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and can be changed as the situation may dictate.

If option (1) is selected, the Standard Proficiency may be done by examination in open Lodge or by a committee appointed by the Master of the Lodge to examine such Candidate. If option (2) is selected, the completed written Study Guide is reviewed by the Master of the Lodge or a Committee of one or more members of the Lodge and if completed correctly the Brother is declared proficient by the Master and may progress to the next degree. The obligation of each degree must be given in accordance with the provisions in (1) above. The signs, tokens, and words must also be demonstrated at the same time.

After the Brother is declared proficient in the Degree of Master Mason by the Master of the Lodge, he must then sign the Bylaws of the Lodge and pay his dues for the current year. This may be done:

- (1) immediately following the examination if the Brother was examined in open Lodge: or,
- (2) at the next Stated Communication of the Lodge if the Brother was examined by a committee or if he selected the written Study Guide.

He then becomes an enrolled member of the Lodge. **(Section revised 1988, 1990, 1992)**

The provisions of this paragraph may be waived by the Grand Master for the purpose of conducting a "One-Day Ritual Class." (See Section 20.12)

Be amended to read:

### **Section 20.11 Bylaw**

**PROFICIENCY IN THE DEGREES.** A candidate may not be passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, nor raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason without proof of proficiency in the preceding degree. This may be done by either:

1. memorization and recital of the Standard Proficiency as detailed in the Standard Work Cipher of this Jurisdiction; or,

2. by completion of a written Study Guide provided by the Grand Secretary as an education in Freemasonry and the memorizing and recital of the obligation of each degree as the Brother progresses through the degrees.

The choice of proficiency method shall be made by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and can be changed as the situation may dictate.

If option (1) is selected, the Standard Proficiency may be done by examination in open Lodge or by a committee appointed by the Master of the Lodge to examine such Candidate. If option (2) is selected, the completed written Study Guide is reviewed by the Master of the Lodge or a Committee of one or more members of the Lodge and if completed correctly the Brother is declared proficient by the Master and may progress to the next degree. The obligation of each degree must be given in accordance with the provisions in (1) above. The signs, tokens, and words must also be demonstrated at the same time.

~~After the Brother is declared proficient in the Degree of Master Mason by the Master of the Lodge, he must then sign the Bylaws of the Lodge and pay his dues for the current year. This may be done:~~

- ~~1. immediately following the examination if the Brother was examined in open Lodge: or,~~
- ~~2. at the next Stated Communication of the Lodge if the Brother was examined by a committee or if he selected the written Study Guide.~~

After being raised as a Master Mason the Brother shall pay his dues for the current year as established in the Lodge bylaws and sign the bylaws.

He then becomes an enrolled member of the Lodge. (Section revised 1988, 1990, 1992)

If at a later date he wishes to progress through the “Chairs” of his lodge he must demonstrate proficiency in the Master Mason degree in accordance with section 20.11 Bylaw paragraph 1 & 2 prior to being installed in the office of Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden or Worshipful Master.

The provisions of this paragraph may be waived by the Grand Master for the purpose of conducting a “One-Day Ritual Class.” (See Section 20.12)

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sections 16.02 which now reads:

**Section 16.02 Bylaw**

**QUALIFICATION TO VOTE, ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE.** Each member in good standing of a lodge is entitled to vote, and is eligible to hold any office.

Be amended to read:

**Section 16.02 Bylaw**

Each member in good standing of the lodge is entitled to vote, and is eligible to hold any office **therein, except as restricted in Section 20.11**

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 16.03 which now reads:

**Section 16.03 Bylaw**

**OFFICER QUALIFICATION.** Prior to election or appointment, officers of a Lodge must be voting members thereof except the Chaplain, Organist, and Tyler, who may also be voting members of the Lodge or they may be members of other regular Lodges.

Be amended to read:

**Section 16.03 Bylaw**

**OFFICER QUALIFICATION.** Prior to election or appointment, officers of a Lodge must be voting members thereof except the Chaplain, Organist, and Tyler, who may also be voting members of the Lodge or they may be members of other regular Lodges, **except as restricted in Section 20.11.**

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 17.01 Bylaw which now reads:

**Section 17.01 Bylaw**

**LODGE MEMBERSHIP, HOW ACQUIRED.** Membership in a Lodge is acquired only in one of the following manners:

1. By being one of the Brethren to whom was granted Dispensation or Charter under which the Lodge was constituted;
2. By being elected by the Lodge to receive the degrees, receiving the Third Degree therein and passing a satisfactory examination for proficiency in the Third Degree, signing the Bylaws, and paying dues as provided for in Section 20.11.
3. By affiliation; a Master Mason may become a member of a Lodge other than that in which, or at the request of which, he received the Third Degree, if it appears that he is nonaffiliated and not **indebted** to any Lodge for dues or assessment, and that no charges of un-Masonic conduct are pending against him, or as provided in **Sections 17.03 and 17.05**. Provided further that a Lodge may not receive or act upon a petition for affiliation from a person who was formerly a member of a Lodge under Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, has been dropped for any cause until such former member is reinstated or restored to membership in the Lodge of which hew was last a member in good standing.
4. By reinstatement: A Master Mason dropped for nonpayment of dues for a period in excess of 24 months, as is provided in **Section 17.14** may submit a petition for reinstatement. Such petition must comply with the provisions of **Section 17.14** as relates to dues in arrears and dues for the current year. The petition is processed in the manner prescribed in **Section 19.01** as it applies to petitions for affiliations.
5. By restoration: A Mason deprived of membership under penal sections of this Code may apply for restoration to membership as prescribed in **Section 34.01** and subsequent Code sections using a form provided by the Grand Secretary.

6. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft made by a Lodge Under Dispensation which ceased to exist may petition a Lodge within the Lodge Jurisdiction where he resides for the remaining degrees or degree. If he is elected therein, he becomes a member of such Lodge on receiving the Third Degree as provided in **Section 20.11**.

Upon affiliating with or receiving the Third Degree in a Lodge, the Brother shall sign its Bylaws, as provided in subsection 2 of this Section, except when that degree is conferred upon him by courtesy for another Lodge, in which case his signature must be provided by the Brother to the Lodge which he petitioned. **(Section revised 1988)**

Be amended to read:

### **Section 17.01 Bylaw**

**LODGE MEMBERSHIP, HOW ACQUIRED.** Membership in a Lodge is acquired only in one of the following manners:

1. By being one of the Brethren to whom was granted Dispensation or Charter under which the Lodge was constituted;
2. By being elected by the Lodge to receive the degrees, receiving the Third Degree therein ~~and passing a satisfactory examination for proficiency in the Third Degree~~, signing the Bylaws, and paying dues as provided for in Section 20.11.
3. By affiliation; a Master Mason may become a member of a Lodge other than that in which, or at the request of which, he received the Third Degree, if it appears that he is nonaffiliated and not **indebted** to any Lodge for dues or assessment, and that no charges of un-Masonic conduct are pending against him, or as provided in **Sections 17.03 and 17.05**. Provided further that a Lodge may not receive or act upon a petition for affiliation from a person who was formerly a member of a Lodge under Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, has been dropped for any cause until such former member is reinstated or restored to membership in the Lodge of which he was last a member in good standing.
4. By reinstatement: A Master Mason dropped for nonpayment of dues for a period in excess of 24 months, as is provided in **Section 17.14** may submit a petition for reinstatement. Such petition must comply with the provisions of **Section 17.14** as relates to dues in arrears and dues for the current year. The petition is processed in the manner prescribed in **Section 19.01** as it applies to petitions for affiliations.
5. By restoration: A Mason deprived of membership under penal sections of this Code may apply for restoration to membership as prescribed in **Section 34.01** and subsequent Code sections using a form provided by the Grand Secretary.
6. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft made by a Lodge Under Dispensation which ceased to exist may petition a Lodge within the Lodge Jurisdiction where he resides for the remaining degrees or degree. If he is elected therein,



he becomes a member of such Lodge on receiving the Third Degree as provided in **Section 20.11**.

Upon affiliating with or receiving the Third Degree in a Lodge, the Brother shall sign its Bylaws, as provided in subsection 2 of this Section, except when that degree is conferred upon him by courtesy for another Lodge, in which case his signature must be provided by the Brother to the Lodge which he petitioned. **(Section revised 1988)**

Respectfully submitted,

Jim R. McMichael, PM (17)  
Sean R. McGrane, PM (17)  
Robert K. Kelly, Jr., PM (17)  
Michael B. Swensen, PM (17)  
Johnnie L. Wallace, PM (17)  
Henry T. Dunbar, PM (10, 17, 20, 22)  
James W. Morton, PM (17)  
Thomas L. Schram, SW (17)

Report of the Jurisprudence Committee: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. As it seeks to amend a Bylaw, it will require three-fourths majority vote to pass. The Committee does not offer an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

**Note: This resolution failed to receive the required three-fourths vote but did receive a majority vote and is a Carryover Resolution to be considered in 2004**

## **Resolution 2003-2**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

To amend the Petition for the Degrees of Masonry

**Statement of Purpose:** The purpose of this resolution is to amend the “Petition for the Degrees of Masonry” to conform with the Alaska Masonic Code, Section 18.19 Bylaw.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Whereas:** most petitioners have not know personally three members of said Lodge, and

**Whereas:** members of the Lodge sign the petition on recommendation of another member, and

**Whereas:** the merits and or demerits of the petitioner will be discussed among the members of the Investigating Committee for their recommendation on the petition to the Lodge, and

**Whereas:** Section 18.19 Bylaw, third sentence reads: “To be accepted by the Lodge, the petition must be recommended in writing by three members of the Lodge and etc.”

**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the “petition for the Degrees of Masonry” under RECOMMENDATIONS: which now reads:

“We as Master Masons and members of Lodge named herein, do solemnly declare that we have known this applicant personally. From the personal knowledge of him, we have strong reason to believe that, if elected, he will be a credit to our institution.”

Be amended to read:

“We as Master Masons and members of Lodge named herein have signed his petition. We recommend that this petition be accepted and processed per Alaska Masonic Code.”

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Frigon, PM (13)

Report of the Jurisprudence Committee: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. As it does not seek to amend the Code, it will require a simple majority vote to pass. The Committee does not offer an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

**This resolution failed to receive a simple majority vote and was rejected.**

## **Emergent Resolution 2003-1**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To amend Section 5.01 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** To add a new paragraph establishing a Leadership Training Committee.

**WHEREAS:** The Warden’s Charge continues to be one of the most important programs of the Grand Lodge.:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that Section 5.01 Bylaw of the Masonic which now reads:

**Section 5.01 Bylaw**

**STANDING COMMITTEES.** On the last day of each Annual Communication, just before its close, the Grand Master shall appoint the following Standing Committees to serve until the close of the succeeding Annual Communication

(There are now eleven committees listed.)

Be amended to read by adding one additional committee consisting of five or more on Leadership Training Committee.

There are no other changes to be made to this section.

Respectfully submitted

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman

V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Ken Creamer (9, 18)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that this report be adopted.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It has been moved and seconded

Report passed

I move that Emergent Resolution 2003-1 be adopted.

Grand Master: It has been moved that Emergent Resolution 2003-1 be adopted.

**This emergent resolution passed and was adopted.**

## **Emergent Resolution 2003-2**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To amend Section 5.13 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** To add a new paragraph establishing a Leadership Training Committee.

**WHEREAS:** Emergent Resolution 2003-1 established a new committee called the Leadership Training Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that a new section be added to read:

### **Section 5.14 Bylaw**

**Leadership Training** The Committee on Leadership Training shall annually conduct a school of leadership training at a time and place designated by the Grand Master. The form and conduct of this school shall be determined by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that this resolution be adopted.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It has been moved that Emergent Resolution 2003-1 be adopted.

**This emergent resolution passed and was adopted.**

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Jurisprudence**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

#### **1st Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 2003-1, Bylaw Section 16.02, 16.03, 17.01, and 20.11 have considered the same and report as follows:

This resolution is in proper form for consideration by the Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether or not this resolution should or should not be adopted,

As this resolution proposes to amend a Bylaw, it requires a three-fourths majority vote of the Grand Lodge for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman

Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received.

MW Grand Master I move that this report be adopted

**This resolution failed to receive the required three-fourths vote but did receive a majority vote and is a Carryover Resolution to be considered in 2004**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 2003-2, have considered the same and report as follows:

This resolution is in proper form for consideration by the Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether or not this resolution should or should not be adopted,

As it doesn't require an amendment to the Code, it requires a majority vote of the Grand Lodge for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received.

MW Grand Master I move that this report be adopted

**This resolution failed to receive the simple majority vote and was rejected.**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the Grand Master's Edict dated February 23, 2002 submit the following:

Edict February 23, 2002, It is a Masonic offense for any Mason in or a member of this Jurisdiction to sit in a tiled meeting with any appendant concordant body with a suspended or expelled Mason.

Whereas, the edict dated February 23, 2002 names several bodies in the district to those listed in Resolution 85-5 which was rejected by Grand Lodge in 1985 as this edict specifically indicates that they are appendant and or concordant bodies. It would also imply some relationship with Section 26.01 Constitution, Masonic Offenses, Unless we determined that the act is morally wrong or any wrongful act because it is expressly prohibited, then we would have to amend the Constitution.

Therefore, we the Committee on Jurisprudence find that this Edict is not in proper form. Of course a resolution to that affect would be proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received

MW Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made, seconded, and passed (edict rescinded)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following section of the Grand Master's Message, submit the following:

February 26, 2002 Edict: the various elected presiding officers of the Grand York Rite bodies, and the Scottish Rite Orient of Alaska (SGIG or Deputy), are hereby authorized

to wear the regalia and aprons of their office when requested to act as the official representative of their organization to a Lodge, or to the Grand Lodge.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence find that this edict is not in violation of the Masonic Code.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report is received.

MW Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made, seconded, and passed

## **5<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that section of the Grand Master's Message, submit the following:

Special Actions of the Grand Master, April 1, 2002 Edict Any Mason involved in a legal action against the Grand Lodge, or Grand Lodge Officer's actions for the Grand Lodge, will be immediately expelled from the Grand Lodge. Confirmation of the Summary Expulsion will be taken at the next Grand Lodge session and will require a two-thirds vote of the members attending. If the Expulsion is not upheld, the penalty will be lowered to Suspension for a time indefinite.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence have considered this action and report as follows. This edict does call for the two-thirds vote of the Grand Lodge in favor thereof upon final determination of expulsion. However, as it allows for the punishment of expulsion to be imposed prior to the vote of the Grand Lodge, it is in direct conflict with the Code and an in proper measure will require a resolution to change the bylaws. Reference to Alaska Masonic Code Chapter 27 Original Jurisdiction in Grand Lodge, Section 27.07 Bylaw, paragraph 3.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman

Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report is received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

For further clarification, if the report is adopted, it rescinds the Grand Master's edict dated April 1, 2002. If it is not adopted the edict stands.

Motion made and seconded and after much discussion motion passed (edict rescinded)

## **6<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following section of the Grand Master's Message regarding Special Actions of the Grand Master.

Suspension of Charter: Two charters were suspended, Nome and Seward Lodges. From what I understand now those problems have been resolved and the charters have been returned, but I still have to read the report as this was an act which he did.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence having considered the decision by the Grand Master to suspend the two charters for their lack of response per the Alaska Masonic Code, we believe he had the right to do that.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made, seconded, and passed



## **7<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the section of the Grand Master's Message submit the following;

Disciplinary Actions by the Grand Master, Grand Master's Trial Committee

On December 14<sup>th</sup> 2002, the Grand Master appointed a Grand Master's Trial Committee and after their consideration found three members guilty of un-Masonic conduct. The three were suspended for periods definite. After review of the actions, we find this action be consistent with the Code.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is received

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made, seconded, much discussion followed, and motion passed

## **8<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following section of the Grand Master's Message submit the following;

Disciplinary Actions by the Grand Master

On December 16<sup>th</sup> 2002, a member of this Grand Lodge was suspended by the Grand Master for a period indefinite for a cause. There is also an appeal coming forward on this.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence find this action of the Grand Master to be consistent with the Alaska Masonic Code. We recommend nothing.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report is received

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made and seconded and discussion followed and motion passed

## **9<sup>th</sup> Report**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the section of the Grand Master's Message submit the following;

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendation is for the Finance Committee to work with the Fundraising Committee to establish gaming permits for the Grand Lodge. The recommendation of the Grand Master relates to the gaming permits and on details to what they are going to do with them. Most Worshipful, as far as are your recommendation is concerned, we the Committee on Jurisprudence find no conflict with the Alaska Masonic Code.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Corbin, PGM (7, 20) Chairman  
Ken Creamer (9, 18)  
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: it is received

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted

Motion made and seconded and discussion followed and motion passed

## **Grievance and Appeals**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska

Most Worshipful Grand Master, this is the report of the Grievance and Appeals Committee.

We the Committee on Grievance and Appeals met at approximately 10:30 AM on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2003 ... tape ends ... and ... new tape starts ... the evidence presented to the trial committee and their findings was in accordance with the Alaska Masonic Code.

Therefore, it is the Committee's decision that the appeals be denied.

Fraternally reported,

Henry T. Dunbar, PGM (10, 17) Chairman

Harry J. Koenen (7, 20, 22)

Thomas O. Mickey, HPGM (1, 3)

Mitchell R. Miller, PDD (3, 12)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that the report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report will be received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this report.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It has been moved and seconded that this report be adopted. Voting was to close to call and a revote was taken, 46 votes for and 46 votes against. As Grand Master (according to Section 7.03) I cast the deciding vote in favor of the report passing and report was adopted.

## **Finance**

### **Report of the Grand Treasurer**

No report from the Grand Treasurer was received at the time of publication

## **Report of the Finance Committee**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska

Report of the Committee on Finance

The task of the Committee on Finance, a submission as spelled out in 5.05 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code, was indeed a daunting one in the year 2002. What with a new Grand Treasurer, a new Grand Secretary, and a not to well functioning bookkeeping system. What in the past had been a DOS based bookkeeping or record keeping system was determined to be very cumbersome and inadequate for the needs for Grand Lodge. The new Grand Secretary, earning his tender, obtained new software in an attempt to correct the situation. This software is an improvement but still too cumbersome and unwieldy for the continued use by Grand Lodge. However, it became evident that we have to proceed with this accounting system for at least this year. We recommend, however, to the next Grand Master that this Committee on Finance that the Grand Lodge invest in a much more responsive and flexible accounting software system to be used in future years and the list money be provided for it in the proposed budget for 2003.

The accounting records, one hoped that this is not thereof, were very difficult to sort out and analyze. In reality, most of the work has to be redone. As a result, you are now seeing a new format of presentation in financial statements. As a result of this rebuilding process, of going from essentially a cash basis to an accrual basis accounting system, there are, undoubtedly, some slippage or shifting of possibly some minor discrepancies in some of these categories, although, we are confident that none to be considered deceiving.

The access, that is the bank accounts, investments, accounts receivable, inventory, etc., all will be verified as have outstanding liabilities. What we now have is a much improved presentation of our financial records and we now have the ability to truly review each year's operation on its own merit and in times make proper comparison of the results of succeeding years.

Some additional comments, as I just mentioned, have been made in the notes accompanying the financial statements. We believe the financial statements for the year 2002 and the additional information provided fairly reflect the financial condition of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska at the end of 2002 and its operations for the year then ended. While the accounting records cannot and have not been certified, they have been prepared and, to the best of our ability, been presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and procedures. You, so be acknowledged that we may have missed a minor point or two in their presentation, but feel such omission or oversight is minor in the overall context of the financial statements.

One more point for the consideration of the incoming Grand Master, this is the geographical makeup of the Committee on Finance. The logistics of this year's committee made it virtually impossible to get together for occasional meetings and you can only accomplish so much by telephone or other means. There is no other substitute for eye - to - eye meetings.

This year's committee was made up of one member from Fairbanks, one from Juneau, one from Sitka, and two from Anchorage. It makes it a little difficult to get together. It is as far from Sitka to Anchorage as it is to go from Anchorage to Seattle or for that matter San Francisco. So, there is something to be considered.

Because of the above concerns, I, as chairman on the Committee on Finance, take full responsibility for the presentation to the various documents this year and absolve all the other members of the committee from any and all blame for any errors made.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by all of the members of the committee except VW Harley Clough who could not make it out of Juneau.

MW Gunnar Flygenring, PGM (10, 17) Chairman  
RW L. V. "Joe" Dees (13)  
W Bert K. Stedman (18)  
Bro. Mike Johnson Advisor

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request that this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report will be received.

***Special Reflection of the Finance Committee***

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska

We the Committee on Finance to was referred item number four of the RECOMMENDATIONS as contained in the Grand Master's Message, have reviewed the same, discussed at some detail, and have precluded that it would be more prudent to have it submitted first to the Grand Lodge Long-Range Planning Committee for a greater in-depth study before it returns to the Committee on Finance for submittal to the Grand Lodge membership for its consideration. It is hoped that the ... (not audible)... Committee or another committee would provide a more direct guidance for the means of distribution for all net proceeds, the amount of which could hopefully be fairly accurately projected.

With all this information available, it would then make for a better presentation for Grand Lodge and encourages the discussion, maybe even a spirited one at a future Grand Lodge session.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Signed by all the members of the Finance Committee that are in Fairbanks at this time.

MW Gunnar Flygenring, PGM (10, 17) Chairman

RW L. V. "Joe" Dees (13)

W Bert K. Stedman (18)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I request that this report be received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report is received.

## **Report of the Audit Committee**

No report from the Audit Committee was received at the time of publication

## **Notes to Accompany Financial Statements for Year 2002**

As you may notice there has been a major change in the presentation of the Financial Statements for year 2002 as compared with those of past years.

There are many reasons why such change was undertaken but, mainly, it was to portray a more current and "actual picture" of the results for the year 2002 – and as all subsequent years will be portrayed, each "standing on its own."

Our accounting – or rather record keeping system – of the past was maintained on a "cash basis," where income/revenue was reflected in the year in which **received**, rather than in the year in which **earned**, as were the expenses in the year **paid** and not when actually **incurred**. This, is of course, led to "overlaps" or "shifting" to the point where one could not properly identify the financial success (or lack thereof) of each Masonic Year, which was deemed an undesirable practice to continue "ad infinitum." We, therefore, have changed the system to a proper, "accrual-basis" one, where income/revenue is reflected in the year **earned** and the expenses, likewise, reflected in the year **incurred**, thus providing for a "stand-on-its-own" accounting for each year. This will greatly enhance the ability to portray accurate comparisons from one year to the next.

Undoubtedly, in the process of making this change, there has been some "slippage," as some judgment calls had to be made while recording the activities for the year 2002. In the main, however, we feel that the financial statements properly reflect the financial condition of the Grand Lodge at the end of year 2002. The Books of Record are now

being maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and procedures.

Our investment picture may need a little explanation. On the Balance Sheet, our investments are “carried at cost” – i.e. our base or adjusted base, as of the end of 2002 our investments totaled about \$450,000. In this amount is included the “realized” investment income (i.e. interest and dividends) – automatically “reinvested” – in the amount of some \$26,000 – thus changing the previous year’s cost basis. This is in addition to any sale or purchase of stocks in the fund which, of course, would also affect the “new” basis.

The stock (investment) market had its ups and downs during the year, with two funds – the “Tech Growth Fund” and the Life Membership Fund – reflecting losses, while the other three reflected gains. For your further information the Market Value of all funds stood at some \$503,500 as of December 31, 2002 – with the Life Membership Fund being the only fund, however, having a Market Value of less than its cost-basis, by about \$4,000.

We believe that this change of/in the accounting system has been well worth the effort, although further refinements may need to be made in the future.

**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2002

<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Account No.</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>CHECKING/SAVINGS</b>			
1110.0	Checking - First National Bank	11,144.67	
1120.0	Saving – First National Bank	2,740.69	
1130	Money Market - MSDW- 0551149	1,218.48	
1140	Petty Cash	100.00	
1210	Dean W. – Global Growth - 064043	59,622.48	
1220	Dean W. – TCW/Tech Growth - 064042	92,244.03	
1230	Dean Witter – Fixed Income – 057523	194,601.83	
1240	Dean W. – Life Membership – 015272	99,743.60	
1250	Wells Fargo Stock – 1060 Shares	2,496.00	
	<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	463,911.78	<b>463,911.78</b>
 <b>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>			
1400	<b>Accounts Receivable - Lodges</b>		
1401	White Pass Lodge # 1	1,715.00	
1402	Anvil Lodge #. 2	3,312.50	
1406	Seward Lodge # 6	1,150.00	
1408	Mt. Susitna Lodge # 8	2,360.00	
1409	Kodiak Lodge # 9	1,550.00	
1410	Glacier Lodge No. 10	12.60	
1416	North Pole Lodge # 16	1,350.00	
Total 1400	<b>Total Accounts Receivable - Lodges</b>		11,437.50
1450	<b>Accounts Receivable Other</b>		-348.00
	<b>Total accounts Receivable</b>		<b>11,089.50</b>
 <b>OTHER CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
1500	<b>MASONIC SUPPLIES/INVENTORY</b>		
1509	Alaska Masonic Code w/Binder	1,272.00	
1511	Alaska Masonic Code w/o Binder	1,664.00	
1515	Alaska Monitor w/Binder	277.20	
1516	Alaska Monitor w/o Binder	401.50	
1520	Lodge Officer Hand Book w/Binder	966.80	
1521	Lodge Officer Hand Book w/o Binder	52.50	
1530	List of Lodges Masonic	82.95	
1540	Entered Apprentice Cipher	377.60	
1541	Entered Apprentice Booklet	689.40	
1550	Fellowcraft Cipher	195.04	
1551	Fellowcraft Booklet	1.68	
1560	Master Mason Cipher	6.40	
1561	Master Mason Booklet	57.60	
1570	Pamphlet - On The Threshold	71.28	
1571	Pamphlet - What I'd Like My Friends ...	353.88	
1575	Claudy Books – Set of three	160.00	
1580	Pins - 25 Year	70.40	
1581	Pins - 50 Year	407.88	



1582	Pins - 75 Year	99.20	
1585	Pins – Widow’s	166.40	
Total 1500	<b>Total Masonic Supplies Inventory</b>		7,373.51
	<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>		7,373.51
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>482,374.79</b>
	<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
1810	Office Furniture & Fixtures		9,000.94
	<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		9,000.94
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>			<b>491,375.73</b>

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Liabilities

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable

2200	Accounts Payable-Summary		
2210	George Washington Memorial	1,237.00	
Total 2200	Accounts Payable _ Summary		<b>1,237.00</b>

2240	Payroll tax Liability		
2241	Medicare	24.16	
2242	FICA	103.34	
2243	ESC – State (SUI)	12.50	
2245	Federal Income Tax Withheld	125.00	
Total 2240	Payroll Tax Liability		<b>265.00</b>

**Total Accounts Payable 1,502.00**

Other Current Liabilities

2250	Def. Income - Annual Communication	1,337.50	
2270	Def. Income – Wardens Charge	100.00	

**Total Other Current Liabilities 1,437.50**

**Total Current Liabilities 2,939.50**

**Total Liabilities 2,939.50**

**EQUITY**

3000	Equity/Retained Earnings		
3050	Grand Lodge Equity		
3100	Arts - Scholarships	3,454.00	
3110	DeMolay – Scholarship Fund	463.00	
3120	General Charity Fund	3,284.00	
3130	Dedicated Travel Fund	25,471.00	

3140	Life Membership	98,743.60	
3150	Martinez Education Fund	587.00	
3160	Office Equipment Fund	1,484.00	
3170	Proceedings - Transcript, P&B	33,710.00	
3180	Russian Relations Fund	1,746.00	
3190	General Fund	70,912.69	
3195	Permanent Fund	241,965.74	
Total 3050	<b>Grand Lodge Equity</b>		<b>482,821.03</b>
Total 3000	<b>Equity/Retained Earnings</b>		<b>482,821.03</b>
	<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>5,615.20</b>
	<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>488,436.23</b>
	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		<b>491,375.73</b>

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**Profit & Loss**  
January through December 2002

Account No.		AMOUNT	TOTALS
	Ordinary Income/Expense Income		
<b>4000</b>	<b>Grand Lodge Revenue</b>		
4100	Assessment – Per Capita	36,458.50	
4110	Assessment – Bulletin	3,594.50	
4120	Assessment – Late Fees	50.00	
4130	Grand Master Dispensations	50.00	
4140	Assessments – Other – “GWM”	0.00	
4145	GWMNM fund Contribution	1,237.00	
4150	Assessment – Petition Received	2,100.00	
4160	Assessment – Degrees Conferred	805.00	
4170	Assessment – Affiliation/Dual Member	840.00	
4175	Reinstatement for NPD	34.50	
4180	General Contributions/Donations	2,552.39	
4200	2002 Pin Program	8,988.37	
4240	Medallions (Fundraiser)	70.00	
4260	Special Orders	1,226.30	
<b>Total 4000</b>	<b>Grand Lodge Revenue</b>		<b>58,006.56</b>
<b>4300</b>	<b>R &amp; E Book Sales</b>		<b>457.50</b>
<b>4400</b>	<b>Sale of Masonic Inventory</b>		
4680	Miscellaneous Sales	1,549.35	
4400	Sale of Masonic Inventory – Other	59.00	
<b>Total 4400</b>	<b>Sale of Masonic Inventory</b>		<b>1,608.35</b>
4810	Interest – General Savings		<b>3.69</b>
4901	Interest Income – Other		<b>0.00</b>
4950	Reimbursed Expenses – Annual Comm.		<b>11,380.75</b>
4960	Reimbursed Expenses – Wardens Charge		<b>3,345.00</b>
4999	Uncategorized Income. Divs., etc		<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>		<b>74,891.85</b>
	<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>74,891.85</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>		
	<b>Uncategorized Expenses</b>		
<b>6000</b>	<b>Annual Communications</b>		
6005	Banquet Expenses	11,171.00	

6020	Equipment Rental	175.00	
6030	Printing	1,035.00	
6035	Rental – Other	0.00	
6040	Supplies	541.05	
6000	Annual Communications – Other	99.00	
<b>Total 6000</b>	<b>Annual Communications</b>		<b>13,021.95</b>
<b>6100</b>	<b>Warden’s Charge</b>		
6125	Hotel Expense	4,505.13	
<b>Total 6100</b>	<b>Warden’s Charge</b>		<b>4,506.13</b>
<b>6220</b>	Awards Program		101.30
<b>6225</b>	Bank Service Charges		3.00
<b>6227</b>	Groker Commissions/Foreign Taxes		0.00
<b>6255</b>	Internal Service Expense		46.10
<b>6270</b>	Dues and Subscriptions		250.00
<b>6275</b>	Equipment Rental		686.42
<b>6277</b>	Equipment Repair		100.00
<b>6300</b>	<b>Grand Master Expense</b>		
6305	Regalia	1,803.35	
6310	Miscellaneous Out-of-Pocket	1,000.00	
6315	GM Discretionary (Conf. Travel)	1,225.00	
<b>Total 6300</b>	<b>GM Expense</b>		<b>4,028.35</b>
<b>6400</b>	<b>Grand Lodge Officer’s Travel</b>		
6405	Travel – Grand Master	4,000.00	
6410	Travel – Deputy Grand Master	1,600.00	
6415	Travel – Senior Grand Warden	800.00	
6420	Travel – Junior Grand Warden	800.00	
6425	Travel – Grand Secretary	800.00	
<b>Total 6400</b>	<b>Grand Lodge Officer’s Travel</b>		<b>8,000.00</b>
<b>6500</b>	<b>GM &amp; GS Conference &amp; Misc.</b>		
6505	Conference of GM (GM & GS)	115.00	
6510	Grand Secretary–Misc. Expenses	550.00	
<b>Total 6500</b>	<b>GM &amp; GS Conference &amp; Misc.</b>		<b>685.00</b>
<b>6610</b>	Gain/Loss on Sales of Securities		<b>0.00</b>
<b>6620</b>	GW Memorial Association		<b>0.00</b>
<b>6630</b>	Liability Insurance		<b>6,789.00</b>
<b>6635</b>	Workman’s Compensation		<b>150.00</b>
<b>6680</b>	Recruiting		<b>57.50</b>
<b>6690</b>	MSA Dues		<b>300.00</b>
<b>6700</b>	Office Salary		<b>9,999.96</b>

<b>6710</b>	Office Supplies and Expense		<b>1,279.23</b>
<b>6730</b>	Postage and Delivery		<b>851.88</b>
<b>6743</b>	Printing – Dues Cards		<b>680.12</b>
<b>6745</b>	Printing – General Forms		<b>1,195.00</b>
<b>6750.0</b>	Rent		<b>9,711.00</b>
<b>6755</b>	Russian Relations		<b>3,269.36</b>
<b>6760</b>	Property Taxes		<b>64.50</b>
<b>6765</b>	Telephone		<b>1,070.89</b>
<b>6780</b>	Web Site Fees		<b>468.00</b>
<b>6790</b>	Miscellaneous		<b>78.00</b>
<b>6820</b>	Taxes		
6821	Medicare	144.96	
6822	FICA	620.04	
6823	State (SUI)	99.96	
6830	Federal (FUTA)	0.00	
6840	Local	0.00	
<b>Total 6800</b>	<b>Taxes</b>		<b>864.96</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>68,326.65</b>
	<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>		<b>6,565.20</b>
	<b>Other Income/Expenses</b>		
	<b>Other Income</b>		
<b>4900</b>	Other Income - Miscellaneous		50.00
	<b>Total Other Income</b>		<b>50.00</b>
	<b>Other Expenses</b>		
<b>8010</b>	Other Expenses		<b>1,000.00</b>
	<b>Total Other Expenses</b>		<b>1,000.00</b>
	<b>Net Other Income</b>		<b>-950.00</b>
	<b>Net Income</b>		<b>5,615.20</b>

## 2002 Income Statement – 2002 & 2003 Budgets

Acct #	Budgeted 2003	Budgeted 2002	Actual 2002
<b>Revenue</b>			
4000	<b>Grand Lodge Revenue</b>		
4100	\$ 36,000	\$ -	\$ 36,458.
4110	35700	-	3,595
4120			50
4130			50
4145	10,000		1,237
4150	1,500	-	2,100
4160	500	-	805
4170	600	-	840
4175			35
4180	2,000		2,552
4200	9,000		8,988
4240			70
4260			1,226
4300	400		458
4400	1,500		1,608
		-	
4810	5,000	-	4
4950	12,000	-	11,381
4960	3,400		3,435
			203
	<b>Total Revenue</b>		
	<b>\$ 85,400</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 74,892</b>

### Expenses

<b>Grand Lodge</b>			
6000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -
6005			11,172
6020			175
6030			1,035
6040			541
6050	-	-	99
6100	3,400		
6125			4,505
6220	100	500	101

6225	Bank Service Charges	25		3
6230	Contributions/Donations	1,000		1,320
6255	Internet Service	375	50	356
6270	Dues & Subscriptions	250		250
6275	Equipment Rental	700	700	686
6277	Equipment Repair	100	100	100
6300	Grand Master			
6305	GM Regalia	2,000	1,700	1,803
6310	GM Expenses – Misc. Out-of-Pocket	1,000	1,000	1,000
6315	GM Travel-Discretionary, Cor	1,000	1,000	1,225
6400	Grand Lodge – Officers Travel: *			
6405	Grand Master	4,000	4,000	4,000
6410	Deputy Grand Master	1,600	1,600	1,600
6415	Senior Grand Warden	800	800	800
6420	Junior Grand Warden	800	800	800
6425	Grand Secretary	800	800	800
6500	Grand Secretary			
6505	GM & GS Conference & Misc.	500	480	115
6510	GS Expenses & Miscellaneous	1,000	600	550
6515	Reception of Visitors	-	500	-
6630	Insurance	8,500	6,000	6,879
6635	Workman's Comp. Ins.	150		150
6680	Recruiting	60		58
6690	MSA Dues	300	300	300
6700	Office Salaries*	10,000	10,000	10,000
6710	Office Supplies	1,500	950	1,279
6730	Postage	1,000	1,000	852
6743	Printing Dues Cards	700	500	680
6745	Printing General Forms	1,500	1,500	1,195
6750	Rent	10,000	8,600	9,711
6755	Russian Relations	3,200		3,269
6765	Telephone	1,500	1,800	1,071
6760	Property Tax	65		65
6780	Web Site Fees	500		468
6790	Miscellaneous **	100	12,080	79
6820	Payroll Taxes	900	1,500	
6821	Medicare			145
6822	FICA			620
6823	State (S.U.I.)			100

4900	Other Income – Miscellaneous			(50)
8010	Other Expenses	2,500	1,000	1,000
	Office Accounting Software ***	1,500		
	George Washington Memorial* Ex.	10,000		
		<hr/>		
		<b>\$ 84,100</b>	<b>\$ 59,810</b>	<b>\$ 69,277</b>
		<hr/>		
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>\$ 1,300</b>		<b>\$ 5,615</b>

**BUDGET NOTES:**

- \* No revenue projections made for 2002.
- \* Annual Communication & Wardens Charge Revenue and Expenses Net Out
- \* George Washington Memorial revenue is generated first before committed to spend.
- \* Grand Officers Travel may be increased from last year if revenue exceeds projections!
- \* Office salary to pay for part time accounting and secretary help.
- \*\* Account 6790 Miscellaneous for 2002, not elsewhere identified, used only to agree with the proposed expense budget for 2002.
- \*\*\* New office accounting software.



## **Masonic Research and Education**

No report from the Committee on Masonic Research and Education was received at the time of publication.

## **Masonic Public Relations**

No report from the Committee on Masonic Public Relations was received at the time of publication.

## **Masonic Youth and Public Schools**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

This is the fifth installment of this year's public school committee. It has been a great pleasure to serve you on this committee this year. Also, I want to give a big thanks to Worshipful Brother John Cline for all the help he gave this year for preparing these articles.

Brothers, unfortunately ... (word(s) not understood)... this year I have heard brothers say our public schools are a disaster or they are only a breeding ground for future disasters. They don't teach anything in our public schools except with the most liberal attitudes or similar things. Brothers, I will be the first to admit our public school system is not perfect. However, as I have heard in the past, get involved to try and fix the small, and I repeat the small things that do need a little adjusting. As I reported several years ago, someone else is dead. We had a very big burial service for him. We can no longer look up to him. I ask when was the last time you got involved by attending a school board meeting, or P.T.A. meeting, or contacted one of your legislators with a problem of offered a solution to a problem. Brothers, this is the only way that anything can be fixed or changed.

Where would we be if the founder of our great fraternity or of our great nation chose not to take a stand and not make their wishes known. Where would we be if they had left it up to someone else.

When only a third of the eligible voters go to the polls and we sit around and do nothing, what direction are those in charge get it? The answer is simple, we don't give a damn! We can continue to give them the same answer. We can choose to get up and get involved and let them know, in fact that we do get it.

At this time I would like to give you a little explanation of why I have such strong feelings about everyone being motivated to get an education and that it be available to

them. That's correct all too many instances there are too many young people who aren't given enough motivation to seek an education.

In 1925 my mother was going to start the first grade She had three other older siblings who were already in school. Her mother and father were on contract to manage an overnight stop on a horse-drawn stage line, that's right in 1924 in ...(not understandable name) ..., Idaho, we were still on a horse drawn stage line. In fact, the history book, that I studied in the seventh grade, had a picture of my grandfather sitting upon the box on one of the last horse-drawn stages in ... (not understandable name)... Idaho. As part of their contract, my grandparents insisted that there would be a full time school teacher living at the station to tutor my mother and older sisters. That's correct, a full time teacher for four children and paid for by the stage line. My grandparents had only enough basic education to sign their names and keep the check book. However, that only made for them more determined that their children would get an education.

In 1929 they finished the ...(not understandable name) Road that made the station no longer necessary and shut down. In 1930 my grandparents took contract to manage a very large ranch in ... (not understandable)... . At that time my mothers older brother and sister elected to stay home and help manage this ranch and farm, to feed the hired hands, and maintain the bunk house. It was approximately five miles, from the road to a one-room school that my mother and older brother and two younger sisters would attend. It was her oldest brother's job each morning to hitch the team to the wagon and take them to school and stop along the way and pick up several other children that needed a ride to school. All of which was done with no monetary reimbursement to her ... (words not understandable)... . A few years later when it was time for my mother to start high school, which was eighteen miles away, it was decided that she learn to drive and my grandfather bought a pickup for her to get to school and take her two sisters also.

I grew up being told about this dedication for my mother to get an education to the fact that she was the first one in the family to graduate from high school. There is no way that I could not have had the devotion to get an education and also be committed to the philosophy that a quality education must be available to all.

As a member of Sterling Lodge No. 22 and the chairman of this committee, I am sure that you will believe me when I say that I was very aggressive in wanting Sterling Lodge to start a program to show Sterling Elementary School that our lodge and, in fact, our fraternity is a strong supporter of our public school system. I wanted to be sure that it didn't conflict in any way with the great program that Kenai Lodge has.

With the Lodge's permission, I approached the principal of Sterling Elementary School and advised him that we would like to have such a program. After some discussion, I learned that they had a program that every month an outstanding student was chosen for their city or outstanding performance not connected with their academic achievement. I asked if Sterling Lodge could be permitted to participate in this program. When the principal asked as how I would like to participate, I said that we would give each recipient of this award a small certificate and a metal flag pin to wear. What I did

acknowledge was that this award be given in all ten classrooms each month and because of ties, sometimes this meant twelve of them each month.

The bright side of this is there will be in the neighborhood of one-hundred of these pins and certificates go home with a student each year. This is a very small cost for the exposure that Sterling Lodge gets and the fact that this many students get honored. Congratulations to Sterling Lodge No. 22.

(Reads certificate)

Brothers, this is how easy it is for your lodge to have a public schools program. There should be no lodge that doesn't have one.

From the very beginning of our nation, our founders were adamant that we have a system for all in our country to have access to a quality education. This is the number one thing missing in the rest of the world. I have already told you one of the earlier installments, that in 1647, New England issued a proclamation that all villages and settlements more than fifty persons must have a public school system available to all. Were you aware that more than twenty years before then, New England founded the first university?

This commitment is still there today. We can find many who are quoted as mandating public school systems. Two of which are Brother Stephen Austin and Samuel Houston who mandated that the Republic of Texas have a public school system for the rest of the world to look up to. When Texas was admitted into the United States, their ... (not understandable)... public school system was indeed held up as an example for the states to match. The commitment is still there. They only need a little direction and a little support.

The latest program demanding that no child be left behind is a continuation of this mandate. If ... (not understandable) ... this program that your legislator know what you think.

Brothers, I challenge you to ask yourselves what you as an individual or what your lodge can do to continue the mandate that our founders of our great nation and our great fraternity had in mine, especially, what we can do to see the values and morals that is the foundation of our great fraternity was fostered by the founders of country, our father. I remind you we can not leave it up to someone else.

Lest I forget, the university that was founded in 1636 was Harvard.

Respectfully submitted,

VW Robert R. Wiseman (11, 22) Chairman  
W John R. "Bo" Cline (7)  
W John B. (Jack) Coghill (3)

Most Worshipful Grand Master I ask this report be accepted.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report is received.

## **Bylaws**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska

During the Masonic year-2002, the Committee on Bylaws received the following five amendments to lodge bylaws all in accordance to Section 15.02, Constitution, entitled Lodge Bylaws

The first, from Matanuska Lodge No. 7 relative to the establishment of a life membership plan allegedly previously submitted in 2001. The paperwork for which was misplaced by the lodge. Actually, the stated meeting on which the vote was taken, was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 1999.

The second was from North Pole Lodge No 16 relative to the increase of annual dues from fifty dollars to one-hundred dollars (garbled) twenty percent of the said dues being deposited into a new temple construction fund as had also had been done earlier when the annual dues were fifty dollars.

Item number three from North Pole Lodge No. 16 relative to the establishment of a life membership plan for two separate levels. One, from until the age of sixty years and another at age sixty and above.

The fourth item was from Tongass Lodge No. 19 relative to changing the lodge name to Ketchikan Lodge No. 19 F. & A. M. of Alaska.

And, last but not least, number five was from Ketchikan Lodge No. 19 relative to the changing and leaving days of stated communications on the fourth Friday to the second Thursday of each month starting at 7:00 P.M.

We the Committee on Bylaws found that in each instance, a sufficient number of votes were cast in favor of the said amendments upon due and timely notice to the members of the respective lodges and that each amendment was found to be not in violation of the Alaska Masonic Code.

We the members of the Committee on Bylaws, therefor, approve the five above mentioned amendments to the various lodge bylaws and in each instance affixed our signatures to the documents as we have to this report.

Signed by all members of the committee, including myself as chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

MW Gunnar Flyngenring, PGM (10) Chairman  
RW Charles O. Ashcraft (10)  
W Robert Homoleski (3)  
W David C. Pratt (10)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that this report be received

Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report shall be received

## **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### **Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)**

We remember these brethren who have laid down their working tools, as reported by the Constituent Lodges in their monthly reports for 2002

#### **Tanana Lodge No. 3**

<b>Richard Currington</b>	<b>April 23, 2002</b>
<b>Arnold James Elieff</b>	<b>February 15, 2002</b>
<b>Charles David Griffs</b>	<b>November 15, 2002</b>
<b>Monte Clair Opsata</b>	<b>July 9, 2002</b>
<b>Richard Martin Roethler</b>	<b>August 15, 2002</b>
<b>Walter Valentine Solinski</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Frank Joseph Von Der Harr, Jr</b>	<b>December 23, 2002</b>

#### **Seward Lodge No. 6**

<b>Kenneth Cleve Shearer</b>	<b>September 1, 2002</b>
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#### **Matanuska Lodge No. 7**

<b>John William Platt</b>	<b>John William Platt</b>
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#### **Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8**

<b>Emit Soldin</b>	<b>November 11, 2002</b>
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#### **Glacier Lodge No. 10**

<b>George Pittner Brummitt</b>	<b>July 12, 2002</b>
<b>MW Howard Norman Hobbs, PGM</b>	<b>July 25, 2002</b>
<b>W Charles Elbert Rhea, III PM</b>	<b>January 23, 2002</b>

#### **Kenai Lodge No. 11**

<b>Alfred Ray Adamson</b>	<b>August 18, 2002</b>
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<b>Albert Lambert</b>	<b>May 9, 2002</b>
<b>MW John Calvin Ingram, Sr., PGM</b>	<b>June 19, 2002</b>
<b>Herbert Wilborg</b>	<b>February 2, 2002</b>
<b>Eagle River Lodge No. 13</b>	
<b>Eugene Franklin Lemery</b>	<b>December 28, 2002</b>
<b>Andrew Frank Silva</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
<b>Anchorage Lodge No. 17</b>	
<b>Robert Earl Barber</b>	<b>September 26, 2002</b>
<b>William Frederick Kelly</b>	<b>January 23, 2002</b>
<b>Marvin Kluksdahl</b>	<b>May 27, 2002</b>
<b>Russel John Larsen</b>	<b>January 27, 2002</b>
<b>Charles Jack Stratton</b>	<b>January 21, 2002</b>
<b>Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18</b>	
<b>W Joe Hickman Ashby, PM</b>	<b>July 26, 2002</b>
<b>Virgil James Wright</b>	<b>August 6, 2002</b>
<b>Ketchikan Lodge No. 19</b>	
<b>Roy Anderson</b>	<b>March 11, 2002</b>
<b>John Watson Davis</b>	<b>January 15, 2002</b>
<b>William Ray Hill</b>	<b>January 31, 2002</b>
<b>Melvin Long</b>	<b>February 24, 2002</b>
<b>Frank Elmer Lound</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
<b>Frank DeForrest Tillotson</b>	<b>May 27, 2002</b>
<b>Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21</b>	
<b>W Phillip Charles Edelman, PM</b>	<b>March 26, 2002</b>
<b>Gil N. Eide</b>	<b>December 29, 2001</b>
<b>Lowell Burt Goodwin</b>	<b>December 11, 2001</b>
<b>Maxwell R. Smith</b>	<b>February 20, 2002</b>
<b>Jack Nicholas Trambetes</b>	<b>March 28, 2002</b>
<b>Petersburg Lodge No. 23</b>	
<b>Nedford Hugh Zenger</b>	<b>March 18, 2002</b>

Note: Some of our deceased Brothers may have belonged to more than one Lodge.  
Only one Lodge is shown here.

*When the door of life closes, another door opens;  
but often we look so long at the closed door  
that we do not see the one that has been opened.  
May his life beyond that door  
be even more fruitful and rewarding  
than the life he led while on this side.*

Our condolences go to the family and friends of each of these Brethren

**They may be gone from us, but they are not forgotten.**

Leslie R. Little, PGM  
Grand Secretary

## **Report of Grand Lecturer**

No report from the Grand Lecturer was received at the time of publication.

## **Report of Grand Orator**

The Grand Orator was not in attendance and therefore no report from the Grand Orator was received at the time of publication.

## **Report of Grand Historian**

### **The Grand Historian – Keeper of the Light.**

I have always been curious as to why the Grand Historian was ranked so high on the normal list of Appointed Grand Lodge Officers. The vast majority of our Lodges do not have an individual who is designated to fill a similar position. Those few Lodges that do have one usually place him below the ranks of the officers who are listed in our Monitor's installation ceremony.

Why, then, does the Grand Historian rank fourth in the appointed officers' list? To answer that question, it is necessary to look at each of these four positions whose duties are complimentary and supportive of each other.

The first appointed officer is the Grand Chaplain. He is to provide appropriate prayer. In this capacity, it is his duty to display the word of God as found in the Holy writings of our faith. He, therefore, interprets the Great Light of Masonry. He provides the comfort of our faith, and invokes our supplications and thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe.

Next is the Grand Lecturer. He provides needed instructions to the Lodges. His area of expertise must cover a wide variety of subjects. But, in a similar manner with the Grand Chaplain, he interprets the beauties of Masonry to the brethren. It is his province to provide continuity and consistency in the application of the ritual and lessons of Masonry.

Third, the Grand Orator is to deliver an address on Freemasonry to the assembled Brethren at the Annual Communication and other suitable occasions. His oration is intended to interpret the lessons and symbolism of Freemasonry and associated subjects as they relate to our Lodges and our lives. He helps us put Masonry into perspective and helps us apply the Masonic philosophy to the end that it will help us to become better men.

Rounding out our team of four is the Grand Historian. Many picture him as the little old white-haired man who spends his time going through dusty volumes searching for something that almost everyone else has forgotten. In some respects, that may not be totally inaccurate. However, consider the simple fact that without the historian, history would be lost. And, when history is lost, mankind is destined to repeat the mistakes of the past.

In our Masonic Lodges, there is a Light above the stations of the Worshipful Master and the two Wardens, representing Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. There are three lessor lights that represent the Sun, Moon, and Master of the Lodge. There are the three Great Lights of Masonry – the Square, the Compasses, and the Sacred Writings of our Faith. When a Lodge is open, there is even another Light that shines down upon the Holy Bible so that its words may be more easily read and may better guide the Master, officers, and members in their deliberations. These lights all reflect Masonry's one priceless commodity (if I may call it that). Masonry imparts the Light of Knowledge – knowledge of the experiences of the past; knowledge of how to use that information to handle the challenges of our daily lives; and knowledge of how we might apply those past experiences in our efforts to create a better future world.

The first three positions on our team are charged with interpreting Masonic Light. But, someone has to collect the knowledge which actually is the Light of Masonry. He has to keep it safe. And, he has to be able to provide it to anyone who has the need for this type of Light. That is the job of the Grand Historian. And, this is why the Grand Historian could be called "The Keeper of the Light."

During this past year, as Grand Historian, I have endeavored to follow the "job description" contained in the Masonic Code. It says that I am to: "... collect, classify, arrange, and file... all available data, documents, and material touching matters of interest to the Grand Lodge . . .". It is an impossible task. Even if all this data, documents, and material were to be made available, we in Alaska would have no place to store it. More than 100,000 books, many thousand volumes of periodicals and an untold amount of historical artifacts have been produced – all relating to Masonry. Considering only the material of interest solely to Alaska's Masons and their Grand Lodge, the volume is enormous.

As Grand Historian, therefore, I have endeavored to accumulate as much of this knowledge – this Masonic Light – as possible. The one thing I have not done is that part of the Code that says that the Historian shall write a history of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. However, I felt it was my major responsibility to concentrate on the



accumulation of as much information as possible, so that it might be available when a future great Masonic scholar comes along. Partial histories have been written in the past, but unfortunately, little has been done to accumulate the actual historical materials from which a fully comprehensive and documented history might be written. Without that material, a true history would be very difficult if not impossible.

Where is all our historical material residing now? Much has been accumulated in the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum. But that collection, while it is a good start, is merely a drop in the bucket compared to what should be available. The rest is in Lodge file cabinets, in people's attics or garages, and in city trash heaps. This is the biggest concern of any historian – to rescue valuable material before it is lost forever. All too often, once this type of material is no longer used by the person who created it, it is put aside and lost forever.

With this in mind, my emphasis this year has been in the preservation of our history and our knowledge. I hope to contact each Past Master of an Alaskan Lodge to ask them to donate their Masonic papers, books, and memorabilia to the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum. Not only will these items be available for future study, but the donation is a tax-deductible contribution for the benefit of the donating individual. For more information on contributions, please refer to the report of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.

In addition, I am working on a plan where, with the permission of the individual Lodges, their minute books and other valuable documents would be computer scanned and two (or more) copies of a CD would be created. One copy of these CD's would be returned to the Lodge (with the original documents), and the second would be kept in the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum. This would permit historical research on the Lodge's activities, and also would provide off-site back-up storage in case of a loss of the original material. Several Lodges have already agreed to the concept of such a plan.

However, to insure that all relevant Masonic material is safeguarded, the assistance of every Mason is required. Please make sure that your own Masonic books, papers, and paraphernalia are kept in a safe place. Equally important is that you pass them on for proper storage and research when you are no longer in need of them. Currently, we have so little material safeguarded that we can not afford to let any more of our history wind up in the rubbish heap. (But that is where it will go unless each of you designates its proper disposition.) We can't expect those who come after us to just intuitively know how valuable this material can be unless we make specific plans in advance.

In closing, please remember that knowledge is the single most important benefit that can be provided by any institution. Masonry, in particular, has always promoted education of the individual. That is what we mean when we refer to "Masonic Light". And, if it was not for the ability to access and interpret the historical documents and materials relating to Masonry, the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lecturer, and Grand Orator would be unable to adequately perform their duties. Therefore, the Grand Historian, in his role as "the Keeper of Masonry's Light", has the job of making the Light of Masonry available and

burning brightly for all who want to receive our Masonic knowledge. That may be why his is included in the team of four on the list of Appointed Grand Lodge Officers.

Please contact the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum or myself at any time. We want to keep the Light shining throughout our beloved Masonic fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,

W Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley (10, 20)  
Grand Historian – 2002-2003

## Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation



## ALASKA MASONIC LIBRARY AND Museum

P.O. Box 143413 Anchorage, AK 99514-3413  
Phone - (907) 276-BOOK (907-276-2665)

RW Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley, Curator

February 6-7, 2003

To: Most Worshipful Grand Master  
Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alaska  
Distinguished Guests

From: Douglas C. Teninty, President  
Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

Subject: Annual Report of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

Brethren:

This report marks the second year in a row in which the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation has seen remarkable progress.

In our report of last year, we noted that "...we now actually have a facility – a real library

and museum.” It went on to describe our growth for the year as starting with “... only five books – plus some copies of the Proceedings of our Mother Jurisdiction...” then it described the activities of that year – all geared toward the development of a modern research facility specializing in Masonry, particularly in Alaska as called for in the Foundation’s statement of purpose.

With that start, 2002 continued with the organization of the facility. But the majority of the progress was in the area of cataloging and arranging those materials that had been donated by a number of interested individuals. While we started with five books, the number has now grown to almost 2,000 cataloged items, and there is still a very large number waiting to be recorded.

Even though the physical Library and Museum are really only two years old, our growth has been so spectacular that we have outgrown the space we had originally occupied. Yes, we had to move into larger quarters. Fortunately, our Brothers of Anchorage Lodge No. 17 once again have come to our aid, and have permitted us to re-locate into a larger suite of offices. Now we have more room to display our collection, as well as room for further expansion. In addition, the new facility, because of its layout, offers a more attractive way to display our materials. A picture of the main room is displayed in the lobby of this hotel so that all who are in attendance can get a partial idea of how the facility now appears to our visitors.

Our projects for 2003 will be a continuation of the organization, cataloging, and display of the collection as before. However, there will be an extra added emphasis on acquiring Masonic materials – particularly those pertaining to the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Too many items of great historical interest are in danger of being lost or damaged through neglect or because their value is not recognized. Lodge Secretaries do much of their work at home (and are commended for their dedication). However, when their term in that position is over, boxes of material may be left in their garage or attic – to be deteriorated by age, dust, flood, etc. Their successor may not know the significance of some of the records and may determine that a “good house-cleaning” is in order. Finally, interested Masons at all levels have accumulated a variety of Masonic books, papers, and memorabilia. When they pass on, their survivors, all too often, will send these apparently useless items to the scrap heap.

Our history is rapidly becoming lost. Therefore, the Curator has proposed to write to all the Past Masters of Alaska Lodges to remind them of the value of their Masonic materials. He will ask our Brothers to donate any materials for which they have no further use. If they do not care to donate at this time, they should at least identify them and leave instructions that they be sent to the Library and Museum on their passing. As the Foundation has been designated an IRS 501(c) 3 organization, all these donations are tax deductible, so the individual gets a direct benefit while Masonry gets a major boost in saving its history.

There is still a great deal of work to be done. Retaining items need to be cataloged and displayed. Additional items must be acquired and catalogues. This history of Masonry in

Alaska must be preserved. Until then, a truly comprehensive history of our Grand Lodge can not be written.

We invite each of you to visit our Library and Museum. I think you will be pleased with what you see there. The Curator is normally there on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. However, he would be happy to have the facility open at other times on request. Our address is:

Alaska Masonic Library and Museum

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 143413  
Anchorage, AK 99514-3413  
Physical Address: 606 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Suite 201  
(Across from the Log Cabin Visitor’s Center)  
Anchorage, AK  
Phone: (907) 276-BOOK (276-2665)  
Email: [fairley@alaska.net](mailto:fairley@alaska.net)

If you can’t come to our facility, contact the Curator. He may be able to send materials to you, or may even help in researching the topic in which you are interested.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

W Douglas C. Teninty, President  
MW Raymond A. Beaver, Vice-President  
MW Henry T. Dunbar, Treasurer  
RW Charles O. Ashcraft, Secretary

## Charters and Dispensations

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

No Charters or Dispensations were submitted to this Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene R. Freeman, PGM (3, 12, 16) Chairman  
Roger K. Hansen (7, 20, 23)  
Emil F. Lentz (9)  
John P. Johnson (3)

## **Wardens Charge**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

### **1st Report**

We, the Warden's Charge Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's Message, paragraph regarding the Warden's Charge, feel that as the recommendation of the Grand Master to form a new standing committee of this Grand Lodge feel that this is a matter to be addressed by the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little PGM, Chairman

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask the acceptance of this report

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is accepted.

### **2nd Report**

No recording made of the 2<sup>nd</sup> report.

## **Military Recognition**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

This is the report of the Military Recognition Committee.

It was my pleasure again this year to serve on the Military Recognition Committee. I tell you brothers, MW Stanley Foulke (MW Don Chaffin as corrected by MW Stan Foulke) started this several years ago and it's one way to recognize the young members of the Alaska National Guard, the Alaska Air Guard, and the Alaska Army Guard.

Most of you were at the banquet last night and met our two awardees – Master Sergeant Kevin Bishop and Sergeant Barbara Addock (?).

In doing the research on this and meeting with people, probably one of the biggest rewards of being chairman of this committee. I thank you for the opportunity of doing it. We had two excellent young people and their spouses

at dinner last night and look forward again next year,

It does take much time to do it, but you have to do a little research and go out and find the people; and, find out who deserves the award. They all deserve the award for serving, us, our state, and our country. We appreciate what they have done for us and what they will be doing for us in the future and then ... (not audible)... I learned a warning came out on the orange level, home security business on the terrorist alert I think, we are going to be calling on these young people to serve us and more.

God bless them and God bless America. Thank you

Respectfully submitted,

Charles O. Ashcraft (10) Chairman

George A. Earp (16)

Roger A. Barnstead (4, 18)

## **George Washington National Memorial**

No report from the George Washington National Memorial Committee was received at the time of publication

## **Russian Relations**

### **Freemasonry in Russia**

Moscow—Today, after more than 70 years of its sleepy period freemasonry in Russia is in the process of revitalizations. The Russian Grand Lodge reports: “It is strengthening its position in society and establishing a high moral value of Equality, Fraternity, Faith, Honor, and Tolerance.”

The Grand Lodge of Russia has fraternal relations with over 80 regular Grand Lodges and participates in the program of Grand Representatives.

The Russian Far East offers a unique opportunity to establish our Fraternity in an area where Masonic precepts and tenants are unknown. Here, seven time zones from Moscow, new lodges are being formed by the Alaska Grand Lodge Russian Relations Committee.

Because of the distances involved, Alaska is in a unique position to revive Freemasonry in the area east of the Ural Mountains. Anchorage, Alaska is approximately eight hours flying time to major cities in Eastern Russia. The new lodges are being formed as a courtesy for the Russian Grand Lodge.

The history of these events began in 1993 when MW John Grainger, then Grand Master of the Alaska Grand Lodge, formed a Russian Relations committee.

Since 1993 eight trips have been made to Eastern Russia by Masons from Alaska. Pacific Rim Lodge No. 12 has been constituted in the seaport city of Vladivostok. Last year petitions for Masonry were received from eight candidates in Novosibirsk "New Siberia," city with a population over 1,500,000. The two lodges are the beginning of Freemasonry in the Far East.

### **The Return of Freemasonry to Russia**

Russian Masonry underwent its most recent period of dormancy following the Russian Revolution. Masonry was prohibited during the Fourth Congress of the Communist International in November 1922. This dormancy came to an end when on January 14, 1992, the Grand Lodge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) chartered Harmonic Lodge No. 398 in Neuilly, near Paris. Less than a year later on September 8, the installation of officers in Moscow under Worshipful Master Georgi Borisovich Dergachev, marked the physical return of Masonry to Russia.

On the first anniversary of this event, three additional lodges were constituted by the GLNF: Lotus (in Moscow), Novaya Astrea (in St. Petersburg), and Gamaloun (in the southern city of Voronezh). These four lodges formed the modern Grand Lodge of Russia, under the auspices of the GLNF, and the direction of MW Dergachev as Grand Master on June 24, 1995.

During the next four years seven new lodges were consecrated: "Polar Star" in Arkhangelsk; "Alexander Pushkin" in Moscow; "Jupiter" in Zvenigorod; "Aurora" (English-speaking lodge) in Moscow; the Northern Lights" (Armenian Sojournal Lodge) in Moscow; "Fraternal Love" in Moscow (Traveling lodge in which brothers from Russia, Turkey, France, and Lebanon work together holding their meetings in different countries).

The Russian Grand Lodge today has 14 lodges in Russia including Pacific Rim Lodge in Vladivostok. The Grand Lodge of Russia is planning to consecrate the first lodge in the Republic of Armenia by the end of this year.

The Russian Grand Lodge officers have chosen to proceed slowly with creating new lodges "so they may be certain those who they do accept as candidates are worthy, and not those desiring to use the craft for their own purposes."

### **The Emergence of Freemasonry in the Russian Far East**

In June 1993, Alaska Brothers MW John Grainger, VW Mitchell Miller, Bro. Roger Barnstead, and VW Richard L. Olsen from Kentucky visited the port of Magadan located on the northern part of the coastline of the Russian Far East. The visitors found the

Russian people gracious hosts. The exploratory trip determined the feasibility of spreading Masonic light in this region.

In 1998, MW Grainger, accompanied by Bro. John Richardson visited the Fourth Session of the Russian Grand Lodge in Moscow. While there, permission was granted by the Grand Lodge of Russia for the Alaska Grand Lodge to establish new Russian lodges in the Far East as a courtesy for the Russian Grand Lodge.

In August 1999, MW Grainger and RW Charles Corbin, co-chairman of the Alaska Russian Relations Committee, visited the Far Eastern cities of Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Blagoveshensk, and the Siberian city of Novosibirsk. The two discussed Masonry with potential candidates for Freemasonry, ages generally between 35 and 45. Eight petitions were received from candidates in Vladivostok.

In June 2000, MW Grainger and RW Corbin visited the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Grand Lodge of Russia in Moscow. At that session plans were discussed for the constitution of Pacific Rim Lodge. It was decided to schedule this event in Vladivostok in the autumn.

MW Grainger and RW Corbin returned to Alaska by way of Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk, and Vladivostok. While in Vladivostok they joined with brethren of Pacific Rim Lodge, U.D. to formulate final plans for the Constitution ceremony. Returning home was through Seoul, San Francisco, Seattle, and Alaska – a trip around the globe.

### **General Information**

By Olga Luzganova

A trip to Eastern Russia is an opportunity to meet people with a different culture and customs. Though much of the basic infrastructure is not developed, the country is quite modern in technology, science, education, and the arts. Residents are generally friendly and sincerely anxious to make the trip for visitors pleasant and enjoyable.

The country is so large and sparsely settled in the east that tours are limited to the southern area. Eastern Russia is populated along the railroad much like Canada and America was before a road network was created. The climate is severe in winter. Touring is limited to April through October when the weather is normally pleasant to hot.

Travelers can exchange dollars in Russia, with the reverse on return. Some places accept credit cards, but do not count on it. It is also difficult to wire money to Russia. Inside East Russia domestic travel is generally by air or train. The Trans-Siberian trains offer modern conveniences with a regular schedule. Roads outside of the cities are limited. It is better to travel with a guide especially if language is a problem. Return trips to Russia for visitors are frequent.

The Russian Far East offers a unique opportunity to establish our fraternity in an area where Masonic precepts and tenants are virtually unknown. With its traditions of Brotherhood and caring, our gentle craft can contribute a positive influence in Russia.



**A comprehensive educational program, together with such personal contact  
is needed to establish a viable Masonic presence in Eastern Russia**

MW Grainger, Chairman of the Russian Relations Committee writes: "Committee expenses are not funded by Grand Lodge. Income is raised by a \$200 Lifetime Membership fee in Pacific Rim Lodge No. 12, in Vladivostok. It is this support and committee members paying their own travel expenses that keep us solvent."

A colorful certificate, lifetime membership card, and Russian Masonic pin will be sent to non-Russian members of the new lodge in Eastern Russia. A newsletter is sent periodically to all Lifetime Members updating new developments, future plans, and scheduled trips to the Far East.

Masons interested in becoming a member of a new Russian Lodge and supporting the work extending Freemasonry in Eastern Russia should contact MW John Grainger, Chairman of the Russian Relations Committee, P.O. Box 5326, Ketchikan, AK 99901 ([jhg@kpunet.net](mailto:jhg@kpunet.net)). Checks should be made out to Grand Lodge of Alaska, Russian Relations Committee.

If you would like to know more about the program of bringing the Light of Freemasonry to Eastern Russia a copy of an earlier newsletter will be mailed without obligation.

### **Report**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Originally, I had a report for the Russian Relations Committee. It is the same one that was in the packets (reproduced above). So, rather than read that because each one has a copy of that, I would just like to make a few comments about the Russian Relations Committee ... (garbled)...

I would like to, for the benefit of those that are not familiar with the Russian Relations Committee, I would like to say that in 1993 a letter was sent to the Commission on Fraternal Relations of the Conference of Grand Masters to ask if we could start a lodge of Masons in Russia. The letter came back saying that Russia was open territory and that there was no problem of starting a lodge in Eastern Russia.

I might mention this was two years before the Russian Lodge was consecrated under the Grand Lodge of France, in 1995. Though the Alaska Grand Lodge started, you might say, Freemasonry in Russia, over eighty years since they were disbanded.

The Pacific Rim Lodge in Vladivostok was started in Palmer, Alaska by members of the committee (I would like to read the names in a few minutes). Members of the Committee joined the lodge, started it, and brought one of the members from Vladivostok over to Palmer; made him a Master Mason and started the lodge under dispensation.

A year later the lodge was constituted by the Grand Lodge of Russia in Vladivostok. Actually, the first Masonic Lodge in Eastern Russia, east of the Ural Mountains was started in Palmer, Alaska.

The purpose of the Alaska – Russian Relations Committee was to start two lodges in Eastern Russia. Originally, we wanted to start as many lodges that we could, but it is pretty expensive to start the lodges. They cost approximately \$2,500 to start a new lodge. So, what we were trying to do was to concentrate on the two lodges that we have and make them proficient in education doing their original work and getting new members. They in turn will start their own lodges in their area.

I might mention that we have two lodges now in Vladivostok and we have one in Novosibirsk (means new Siberia). They are very active and we have been able to help them rent a building so that they could have a place to meet. Hopefully, they will be able to soon start getting new members.

The Master of the Lodge says he wants to meet twice a week. He said he wants to get education and he wants them to be proficient in ritual and he wants to get new candidates. I am hoping ... (garbled) ---get additional lodges. They might be able to use the same building and cut down on some of their expenses. We had started it for three or four months and then after that it's going to be up to them to continue.

I might mention that the Worshipful Master, Sergey Elaogelov was raised in Missouri. He was going to a church convention in the States and our committee contacted the Grand Secretary of Missouri and asked if they could make him a Master Mason during the period while he was there. It was possible under their code and he was made a Master Mason, (garbled) and started this new lodge.

I might mention that Most Worshipful Charles Corbin, co-chairman of our Russian Relations Committee, went to Novosibirsk in July, accompanied by some of the Grand Lodge Officers from Moscow, and constituted the lodge in Novosibirsk, and Sergey was installed as Worshipful Master.

Again I owe this to support those two lodges and hopefully they plan to go ahead. In fact, Sergey has an ambition of having 50,000 new Masons in the next twenty years. That is quite a challenge.

At this time, I would like to give credit to the people of the Russian Relations Committee that I have worked so hard with and have gone to Russia at their own expense and helped establish the lodges there. The Russian Relations Committee, myself, and Most Worshipful Charles Corbin, Very Worshipful William Goodwin, Worshipful Roger Barnstead, Worshipful James Griffith, Worshipful J.B. Carnahan, Worshipful Larry Wright, Very Worshipful Bob Fulton, Van Angel, and Jerry Lewis of Juneau.

In closing, I might mention that anyone interested in becoming a Lifetime Member of Pacific Rim Lodge, applications are available in the package and all that is required is a

certificate of good standing and a one-time fee of \$200. You can set your own rate of pay. There is a place on there for comments, to set you own rate, how you would like to make you own payments throughout the year, there is no problem.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Grainger, PGM (1, 19) Chairman

In conclusion, I would like to ask that this report be received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report will be received.

## **Wills and Endowments**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Wills and Endowments Committee is composed of two people living at extreme end, almost, of the State of Alaska, myself living in Sitka and Worshipful Brother Vern Carlson in Fairbanks. This report will be very brief. It is, as much as this committee has no historic background and asked for files from the office on Wills and Endowments and we have none.

The attempt to collect information is of very little success from the Grand Lodge office. Our committee had no formal meetings during the year, but we did meet whenever I was in Fairbanks and the opportunity or chance presented itself.

It is our thought that the only way to bring the matter of Wills and Endowments to the attention of the brethren is through two ways.

The first was through bringing the subject to the attention of the constituent lodges when the Grand Lodge officers travel to lodges from lodge to lodge and spoke. Our Junior Grand Warden took this upon himself this last year and it was a topic that he brought to the attention of the various lodges. It resulted in just zero income slowly.

The other way is through the publication of our, theoretically, quarterly "*Light From the North.*" It was not published this year. It was our feelings, that, when this magazine is again published, that a little ad, if you will, be included in every issue, reminding the brethren that the Grand Lodge needs money, and please remember us in your wills or endowments. Until that publication is once again forthcoming, there is no other written publication that we can put it in, other than I asking the FEZ Magazine to allow me to put a little blurb in it as they indicated that they would like the Grand Master to periodically write something for the publication which I am going to do. This probably will not be on the same page as the request for wills and endowments for the Shriners.

Respectfully submitted,

RW Kenneth Stedman (19, 23) Chairman  
W C. Vernon Carlson (12)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask for the acceptance of this report

Most Worshipful Grand Master: Your report will be accepted

## **Long - Range Planning**

No report from the Long Range Planning Committee was received at the time of publication

## **Internet and Publications**

No report from the Internet and Publications Committee was received at the time of publication

## **Segregations and Reference Committee**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

This is the report of the Committee on Segregations and References.

We the Committee have met and report as follows:

We find the first section of the Grand Master's Message interesting and noteworthy.

Under Special Actions of the Grand Master:

- Edict No. 1 We recommend this edict to the Committee on Jurisprudence.
- Edict No. 2 We recommend this edict to the Committee on Jurisprudence.
- Edict No. 3 We recommend this edict to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Under Disciplinary Actions by the Grand Master

Charter Suspension Section: Since this deals with portions of the Alaska Masonic Code, we recommend this to go the Jurisprudence Committee.

Grand Master's Trial Committee: We recommend this section to be sent to the Jurisprudence Committee.

#### Grand Masters Recommendations

- Paragraph 1 This deals with the previous edicts and this committee recommends this be sent to the Jurisprudence Committee
- Paragraph 2 We agreed with the recommendations that the Grand Lodge as a whole reaffirm the judicial powers of the Grand Master when the Grand Lodge is not in session that the Emergent Resolution was withdrawn.
- Paragraph 3 We recommend this to the Warden's Charge Committee, and
- Paragraph 4 We recommend this to be sent to the Finance Committee and I understand that this will also go to the Long – Range Planning Committee.

In conclusion, this committee also wishes RW Brother Stedman the well needed quiet and restfulness that he deserves.

Thank you, Grand Master for allowing us to serve this Grand Lodge. We wish for you also the well deserved rest and relaxation.

Respectfully submitted,

MW Lloyd Triggs, PGM Chairman  
VW Samuel Medsker  
VW Mitchell Miller

Most Worshipful Grand Master: I move that this report be accepted.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is accepted.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: I move that this report be approved

Most Worshipful Grand Master indicated that the report had been moved and seconded and that the report was accepted and approved.

## **Report of Deputies of the Grand Master**

### **District 1**

No report from the District Deputy was received at the time of publication

### **District 2**

No report from the District Deputy was received at the time of publication

### **District 3**

No report from the District Deputy was received at the time of publication

### **District 4**

No report from the District Deputy was received at the time of publication

### **District 5**

No report from the District Deputy was received at the time of publication

## **Alaska Masonic Research Association**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Worshipful Master, Brethren all.

This is a letter sent to the fellow officers of AMRA dated October 16.

It is time for an update report from your secretary. We are in good shape financially. As of September 20 our bank balance is \$4,651.08. We have enough money to cover the costs of the current Grand Lodge programs... (garbled)... check for \$2,000 made out...(garbled)... to the Secretary for the General Fund. In addition to that we have a check for \$4,000, coming from the gold pan program, 10/10 and 10/12 (?) to be put into the Permanent Fund. I have two checks that I would like to pass on to you in the amount of \$6,000.

In addition to those two checks, we did present a check for \$1,000 on August 19 to the Grand Secretary for the General Fund ... (garbled)...because we did not do a check last year to Grand Lodge and so there is an additional \$1,000 to the General Fund.

W Brother Erne Andres of Ketchikan donated a complete set of Grand Lodge coins to the benefit of the Alaska Masonic Museum and Library Foundation. The coins to be raffled at a later date and we can get a raffle permit. A second ...(garbled)... of coins...(garbled) was donated to AMRA by VW Brother Andres of Ketchikan. It was an income of the sales of the second group of coins to pay for the "Founders and Members" plaque. Any money left over ...(garbled)... go to the Grand Lodge.

AMRA, at the very beginning, had a total (?) of the "Founders and Members, we paid \$250 (?). We made a list of all of the members as best we could find them in old records. We think the list is quite accurate and we promised at that time, the plaque would be made listing names of the "Founders and Members" and we propose to continue to get the plaque made this year. We will have some funds from the , extra funds from these donations to do that.

The 10/10 or 10/20 club membership program has been a success. Gold pan sales have been a steady source of income. However, AMRA faces the declining source of income. Mailing costs have increased. The list of prospective members for the have been decreasing, that's because so many of them have already signed up for that program.

It is time for AMRA to decide to do less. AMRA has served Grand Lodge well. ARMA was formed to prepare plans for the formation of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. After which it was mandated to raise funds for the Alaska Grand Lodge.

One course of action that could be maintained is to discontinue AMRA. If this was done, one individual would take over the Grand Lodge fund program. The secretary would still be responsible for collecting balances from the 10/10 program and collect those funds for the Grand Lodge.

Funding for the Grand Lodge could be ... (garbled)... provided by each Lodge or even some of the Lodges could do it. This would ensure a new and great source of income for the benefit to the Grand Lodge. If you have any questions about AMRA's operations and future plans, do not hesitate to contact the secretary.

At the AMRA meeting, we only had seven people show up. A motion was made to recommend to the Grand Lodge of Alaska that AMRA now has completed their charge and should be disbanded by the beginning of next year when we go to Sitka.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Grainger

I ask that this report be received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report will be received.

## Awards

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

This is the report of the Awards Committee.

First, is the **Grand Masters Award for Excellence.**

The Grand Master's Award for Excellence was earned by the following Masters in 2002:

W Greg E. Knutsen

W Lee O. Seagondollar

W Peter A. DiMaggio

Valdez Lodge No. 4

Matanuska Lodge No. 7

Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8

W Robert M. Carruthers	Glacier Lodge No. 10
W Nathan D. Esteban	Kenai Lodge No. 11
W C. Vernon Carlson	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
W George W. Frigon	Eagle River Lodge No. 13
W Douglas C. Tenity	Anchorage Lodge No. 17
W Eldon D. Jenkins	Iditarod Lodge No. 20
W H. Daniel McCrummen	Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21
W Will R. Josie	Sterling Lodge No. 22

This award reflects the hard work of the Masters of the lodges and the hard work of the lodge itself, because the Master cannot earn this award without the support of the lodge. So, it really shows that the Master and the lodge are really working hard to make improvements in their lodge.

Also, it is a great pleasure to announce the Grand Lodge of Alaska Mason of the Year Award to a very deserving brother who works so hard in this fraternity not only in the blue lodge but also in various concordant bodies, supporting youth groups, DeMolay, and numerous activities in the community. This award is presented to VW Brother David DeLong who is a member of Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 and Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No.21, a very deserving Mason.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley R. Foulke, PGM (2, 17) Chairman  
 Gene R. Freeman, PGM (3, 12, 16)  
 Charles O. Ashcraft (10)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.  
 Most Worshipful Grand Master: The report will be received

### **James A. Williams Award**

The recipient of the James A. Williams Award for honoring the Alaska Lodge with the largest number of Master Masons raised was presented to Matanuska Lodge No. 7 for the year 2002.

### **Buckley C. Hazen Award**

The recipient of the Buckley C. Hazen Award for the largest percentage membership growth was presented to Sterling Lodge No. 22 for the year 2002.

### **Military Recognition Award**

Awards presented to the following military personnel:

Master Sergeant Kevin Bishop and Sergeant Barbara Addock (?)



## **Mason of the Year**

VW David W. DeLong (12, 21)

## **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

### **Miscellaneous Fund Raising Activity**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Brother Rodney Young gave a report on several fund raising activities planned within the State of Alaska.

Brother (?) White gave a short report concerning pull tabs as follows:

A friend of mine today asked me to download some information on gaming accounts and I came across the statement report for the gaming in the State of Alaska. This report is a total of 282 vendors – permittee’s – selling pull tabs here in Alaska. Just off pull tabs, it generated \$273,767,221 in gross receipts. The net take on that was \$23,276,643 so that the average pay out to each was \$82,541 for the calendar year. And, I wanted to say that in support of your earlier recommendation that Grand Lodge and the Lodges pursue gaming permits.

### **Contributions to the Grand Lodge**

Except for the checks submitted to Grand Lodge from AMRA, there are no other donations listed or indicated on the tape recordings to make a report.

## **Speeches and Remarks by Concordant Bodies and Distinguished Guests**

### **Remarks by Marianne Little, Grand Court of Amaranth**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning.

Some of you, I am sure, do not realize that Amaranth is part of the Masonic body. You have to be affiliated with a Master Mason to be involved. We are philanthropic in diabetes research. For Alaska, that is all we do is to earn money for diabetes.

Over ten million people in the population who do not realize they have diabetes and have not been diagnosed yet. Thirty percent of the population have diabetes and will need your help. A lot of our (?) and three-fourths of Alaska in the system alone and just a little over 200 members. Last year we gave \$26,660 to diabetes research.

We have no overhead, everything is volunteers. How we raise our money is we go dumpster - diving for the aluminum; we collect aluminum no matter how good it is; we make chocolate for those who don't have diabetes and hope in finding a cure.

Each of our courts at Christmas time, we have a really cute moose, poinsettia boxes that have mint inside, and then for Easter, we have an Easter basket; even the grass is chocolate.

So, if you would like to order anything, we will take orders out at the ladies room registration and we will make certain you get your Easter baskets for your children, grand children, or whatever, even your mother, plus your wife.

Thank you Grand Master

## **Remarks by Joan Morgan, Order of Eastern Star**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master and Brothers.

It is my honor to be here to give greetings from Dorothy Dewing (?) the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Harles Kreesh (?) the Most Worthy Grand Patron of the General Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star.

Just to give you a little idea of how important you are to us in the Order of Eastern Star, in order to become a member, for a woman, we have to have a Masonic relationship by either being the wife, mother, sister, daughter, or other assorted female relationship in order to be an Eastern Star member. Now we are allowed to accept majority Rainbow Girls and Job's Daughters.

So, I just want to let you know how important you are to the Order of Eastern Star. And, if you don't belong to our order, we would like to encourage you to seek out a member of the Order of Eastern Star and get a petition. It is a wonderful organization and it's really wonderful for husbands and wives to belong together for something that you can do together.

Grand Master, I am very happy to give you good wishes and hope for a very successful Grand Session.

## **Remarks by Amanda Aceves, International Order of Rainbow for Girls**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand East, Grand Officers, and Guests.

It is my pleasure to be here this morning on behalf of our Grand Worthy Advisor, Rachel Clymer, who is attending college right now and is unable to be here. She asked me to share a little bit about her term plans with you. I will start off with her Grand Service Project

Her Grand Service Project this year is the pediatric wards of Alaska hospitals across the State. We are raising money, donating our time, and donating supplies. She also has a Grand Hope Project this year, which is new and that is to support membership of Alaska Rainbow's to carry on into the future.

In Fairbanks, our advisory board has extended a challenge to us:

- If we initiate three new members, we can pierce our mother advisor's ear, which is a big deal since she doesn't let people do that;
- If we initiate six new members, we get to turn Mrs. (garbled) into an ice cream sundae which she did to us a couple of years ago at Assembly;
- If we initiate nine new members, we get to shave Mr. (garbled) at Grand Assembly; and
- If we initiate twelve new members, Past Grand Master, Mr. Gene Freeman is going to let us dye his hair any color we like, and he has to wear it during Grand Assembly and (garbled) party.

Grand Worthy Advisor, Rachel's theme is "Ocean-to-Ocean," her colors are "ocean blue, sky blue, and pearl," her mascot is the dolphin, and we would like to invite everyone to be "Under-the-Sea in 2003" here in Fairbanks, June 25<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I would like to congratulate you and wish you a great lodge meeting.

## **Remarks by Miss Terry Osterbee, Worthy Advisor of Fairbanks No. 1**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning.

We have a fund raiser also. We sell chocolate covered cherries and they are really good. For those of you that have diabetes of course (garbled) in body, and then give them away for a Valentine's gift. We will be able to take orders from you, whether by our Mother Advisor, Mrs. (garbled), I, or Mandy(?).

I just would like to thank you for having us here and would like to hope you have a great Grand Lodge.

Thank you.

## **Remarks by Most Worshipful Grand Master Alfred Boyles, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

I bring you greetings from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Masons of Alaska.

Nice Morning, nice morning to be alive and again this is my second visit to the Grand Lodge of Alaska, Grand Lodge Session that is, and again (garbled) and as feelings go, our Brotherhood, Christianity Brother to Brother is overwhelming. You don't know how my heart feels right now. I'm just elated.

Always, it is always a pleasure to be amongst Brothers. For Brothers and Sisters to act like Brothers and Sisters and different times have attended a function of the Grand Lodge of Alaska, I am always treated as a Brother.

Thank you Brother Cox, Past Grand Masters, Masters, Brother Bob, as well as the Board of Eastern Star, I am not going to keep you long. I am done!

## **Remarks by Illustrious Dale Cain, Potentate, Al Aska Shriners**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Sir, Distinguished Guests, Brethren one and all.

I bring you greetings from Al Aska Shriners. We are in our twenty-ninth year of Shrine in Alaska as Al Aska Shriners and you are all aware, as our Grand Master has alluded to, we have twenty-two hospitals across North America that support orthopedic and burns hospitals and research for the children at no cost to these children and their parents for any treatment whatsoever.

Al Aska Shriners are also facing similar challenges as the Grand Lodge of Alaska is with membership and finances. We are striving to work to increase our membership and to strengthen our financial base.

We have a very aggressive program planning for this year and I look forward to working with the Grand Lodge of Alaska and the Lodges around the State of Alaska in this effort to:

1. Strengthen the Shrine, and
2. To assist the Lodges, hopefully, in strengthening their membership participation and their contributions toward humanity.

Most Worshipful Sir, I bid you greetings from the Shriners and I wish and I hope that deliberations and decisions made at this Grand Lodge lead to the advancement of Masonry in Alaska.

Thank you very much for allowing me to speak. If you have time between these Grand Sessions, please join us for some refreshments at the Shrine hospitality suite, hosted by the Farthest Most Shrine Club here in Fairbanks.

Thank you very much.

## **Remarks by Chuck Davis, Grottos of North America**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Brethren, Ladies, it is a pleasure to bring you greetings from the Supreme Council, Mystic Order of (garbled) of the Enchanted Realm, which is better known as Grottos of North America. Our main philanthropy is our dentistry for the special needs children with muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, and mental retardation. We also provide dentistry for children with the organ transplants and very recently, within the last three years, we are a major sponsor for the Special Olympics.

I will be talking to the gentlemen later on trying to get a Grotto formed here in Alaska. It is a family oriented organization that, I think, the Brethren and Sisters from Alaska would enjoy becoming members of the Grotto.

Thank you, thank you Stephen.

## **Speech by Right Worshipful Ronald D. Kamp, Director of Development and Communications for the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, my Brethren all.

I bring you fraternal greetings from Most Worshipful Grand Master Carl J. Fitzhugh, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York. I am extremely pleased on behalf of

the board of directors and staff of the Laboratory to accept the invitation to be here today. Also, I wish to thank the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction for their hospitalities and courtesies that have been extended during my stay.

It is my high honor and distinct privilege to introduce you to the only basic medical research laboratory in the world that is sponsored and supported by Freemasons, the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, located in Utica, New York. Since its inception over forty-five years ago, the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory has made study of the electrical activities of the human heart its major focus. Especially, how it relates to cardiac arrhythmia and sudden cardiac death.

The ability to understand the electrocardiogram is critical in the diagnosis of a heart attack. Electrical instability of the heart can lead to a cardiac arrhythmia during or after a heart attack. These abnormal rhythms are usually the immediate cause of death after a heart attack.

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory has been a major player in the development of a number of drugs and devices such as a pacemaker and the inflammable (?) cardio-diverter defibulator-the same device that was placed in the chest of the Vice-President of the United States, Dick Cheney. This was in place to help prevent death during a heart attack.

Our scientists are also credited with discovering two treatments for two different forms of sudden death, the first gene responsible for sudden cardiac death, and the first direct evidence linking a form of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome through an abnormal heart rhythm

Unraveling the mechanisms of the majority of those known cardiac arrhythmias aided in discovering a new cell in the heart, and also the cellular basis for the various waves that we see on the ECG.

Brethren, the value and the importance of medical research are very real and relevant to every human being. It all begins with basic research. The type of research that is conducted in the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory and similar institutions all over the world.

Allow me to site just one of numerous examples. As I said earlier, our own Masonic Medical Research Laboratory discovered a new cell in the human heart, which we named the "N Cell" in 1990. I did not publish our findings until we were absolutely sure of our groundbreaking research.

For hundred of years, the brightest minds and the most prestigious medical research facilities have studied the human heart. Yet it was our laboratory, under the leadership of Dr. Charles Antzelevitch who proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that these cells not only exist but also they had different characteristics from other heart cells. First the Laboratory discovered the cells and then we proved these cells were not all the same and

that the difference that we discovered accounted for many of the things in the medical world that your clinician or physician observed but could not previously explain. It was a discovery that revolutionized the world of cardiology.

Now, make no mistake about it, every discovery, every medical advance, every improvement in diagnostic ... break in tape...or comprehended the impact of such research. Brethren, let me make this perfectly clear, the life saving research that is conducted by the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory is world class cardiac research. Our findings are published in the most prestigious scientific and medical journals. Our laboratory has received ten international research awards within the last five years. This is an achievement that is unprecedented in the world.

Dr. Charles Antzelevitch, our Executive Director and Director of Research is a world authority in experimental cardiac electrophysiology. He was recently presented the distinguished scientist award of the North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology for his life time achievements in the field of experimental cardiology.

Using the molecular biology and molecular genetic techniques, our scientists have unraveled the basis of a number of inherited diseases that include the Long QT Syndrome and the Brugada Syndrome, two types of sudden death. Study in which the genetic mutations that link these diseases provided the first direct evidence that one form of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) to the Long QT Syndrome. And, that study my Brothers, appeared in the July 2002 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Now, none of us in this room are immune to this disease. Nor, can you or I escape our genetics. Molecular genetics, simply put, is the study of genes, gene mutations, and their role in our hereditary predisposition to disease. Now we may not be able to change our genes, but by understanding their contribution to disease, we may have a better way to treat or even cure every disease. Our ability to link specific diseases to defective genes, that's opened up new vistas of understanding into disease and into our approach of development of much needed therapies and potential cures.

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory has assembled one of the most complete teams of investigators anywhere in the world to tackle the problems of cardiac arrhythmia and sudden cardiac death. The Laboratory is currently one of a handful of research centers worldwide capable of studying the genetic causes of lethal cardiac arrhythmias responsible for sudden cardiac death in your children, young adults, and infants. I am here today because by increasing the awareness of the lifesaving research of this facility, I hope can not only foster the pride in our great fraternity but also help us increase our membership.

The Laboratory's cutting edge research harvests the number one killer of men and women in industrialized nations – heart disease. We are the leading center in the United States for the study in the Brugada Syndrome.

You just imagine for a moment, the positive public relations and the impact that Freemasonry will garner supporting medical research on the national level into heart disease, sudden cardiac death, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. No one wants to see their children killed or their children die unrepentantly in the crib, on sports fields, or anywhere else. The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory has made its part in heart disease and tens of thousands perhaps hundreds of thousands of people are alive today or have had their life improved thanks to our research.

The Laboratory has been supported by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida since 1994 and in 1997 the Grand Lodge of Florida passed legislation designating the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory as its pre-leader for flagship charities.

Brethren, we have indeed made tremendous progress. However, the best the science in medicine has to offer is yet to come. The Laboratory is now poised on a new era of discovery and we would welcome the support of your Grand Jurisdiction.

Brethren, part of the expression that “this is only the tip of the iceberg,” I only have spoken about our facility from the broadest of terms. I encourage you to take and review the literature that is available at our display outside to the right down the hallway. I invite you to visit the Laboratory’s website, [www.mmrl.edu](http://www.mmrl.edu) , to stay abreast of our current research efforts. Please feel free to download any of the materials that you see there, our newsletters, our press releases, and share that with your membership.

Last, but certainly not least, I cordially invite you to visit the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory on our Masonic Home Campus in Utica, New York should your travels bring you to upstate New York. I wish to thank Most Worshipful Stephen Cox, Worshipful Leonard Luchau, Brother Russell Sanders, and a host of other Past Grand Lodge officers that I have had the pleasure of meeting at the North American Grand Masters Conference the last four or five years. It is through that Masonic body that I was able to receive this invitation to come here today. It is an historic event, we are making history today and I hope we are ourselves embarking on a new era of joint cooperation amongst our grand jurisdictions.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I left with the Grand Secretary, a couple videos on our facility. I hope that your Brethren will avail yourselves in literature. We have DVD’s available if your (garbled) would like one.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this Grand Jurisdiction.



## **Remarks by Right Worshipful L.L. Vern Beito, Deputy Grand Master of Oregon**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is indeed a pleasure to stand here before (garbled) this day and bring greetings from the State of Oregon and from our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Lawrence O. Weaver.

One of the things that I stand here before you today with a heavy heart in much grief is that something I tell for many years be it a truth, that I found out upon my arrival in Alaska, is merely a myth. In 1959, a fellow by the name of Johnny Horton, sang a song that said "...when it's spring time in Alaska, it's forty below." You guys use a different thermometer than we use down there. It ain't forty below out here Brethren! As I said it is a pleasure to be here. This is my second time to visit the Grand Lodge of Alaska. I did so in 1997 with Most Worshipful Brother Vern Wertz.

In Oregon we have a lot of exciting things occurring and going on; new hope, new beginnings. We all engage in Master's and Warden's Charges. This year, under the leadership of our Grand Master and with the assistance of Most Worshipful Brother Vern Wertz and Most Worshipful Brother Aaron Harvey, which started a new program "Leadership Beyond the Charges" takes the step further and brings it into the Lodges and a little bit more. As a group we are watching this really more carefully and are starting to see some results, even though it is a very new program in its infancy, we are excited about it in Oregon and we are looking for good things to happen.

Now, one of the things I do know is that you didn't come here to listen to me talk, and I didn't come here prepared to talk. So, I am going to sit down in just a minute. But, I do want to extend to each and everyone of you the invitation that ...(tape ran out)...is going to be held this year in the beautiful city of Lincoln City which is on the coast. Our Grand Master has guaranteed that every room in the hotel has an ocean view. I am not quite sure how that works, they have a long skinny hotel, but anyway, I extend the invitation to each and every one of you. Please joins us in June in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I thank you for this opportunity to speak this afternoon.

## **Remarks by Worshipful Brother Warren McConnell, Oklahoma**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

This is my third trip to Alaska. We almost have as many "Okies" here as Alaskans. It is always a pleasure and a joy every time I come up here. I really had a great time.

I am kind of like RW Vern, I understood that there was snow and cold and we were kind of led to believe that we could go snowmobiling this time. We came up, we went dog

sled riding a couple of years ago. But, not enough snow and I think the reason that the Alaskans are spreading the rumors is that they don't want too many more "Okies" to come up here in the winter time. That way they're not over crowded. But, it is great to be here in Alaska. I've really enjoyed it.

One of the great programs that we've done in Oklahoma in the last year or two is we have a one-day class for the sons, grandsons, dads, granddads of Master Masons. You have to have a direct personal relationship. We had a one-day class last year and we raised 497 Masons in one day. It looks like it is really going to work great.

I don't think this year the Grand Master is going to do it, but it's not something you want to do every year. But, I think that it should be done every few years.

We need to get back to praying(?) our kids and grandkids back into Lodge. We would have a thriving Masonic (?), if we get our kids and grandkids and family involved.

I keep hearing that this son's too busy or that son's too busy. Start off then when they are of age. Don't know what the age is in Alaska but (18) get them a petition; sign it for them; give them a check to pay their dues; and make them perpetual if you have perpetual. Get them involved in Masonry while they have the time; before they go away to college; before they get into the service; before they get too busy. Then, if they come back later in life, and thank you for having, that for so many years, had anyway.

## **Remarks by Leonard Luchau, Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning brothers, How are you today? I am pretty good.

Down there in Seattle, what we have is called the Masonic Services Bureau. Anytime you need something, some of the brethren have done they have called and we have responded to their requests.

Example, was one particular lady, she wanted to come down there because she had to visit a doctor. That was funny, there's no problem. She had to be brought out of the aircraft by a wheelchair. What I had done, I went to Alaska Airlines and I told them I had to pick up somebody in a wheelchair. They said fine, that's no problem, we'll give you a gate pass. Of course, you know the security, you are going to go through a zillion things with security. That meant no difference. Alaska means a lot to me, especially the (garbled). So I went out there; she was in a wheelchair; she had no idea who I was; and I didn't have anything on that identified me, but when she came off there, I asked her name and she said yes that's who I am. I made sure she got to the hospital.

The day she wanted to be picked up was the Fourth of July. Oh yes, went out there on the Fourth of July, picked her up, and took her to the airport. Being that she was not

(garbled) Seattle, or any of the area, and a little leery of sitting there alone. I sat there until her aircraft arrived. She returned safely back here in Alaska. She came up to me, when I was working in the Scottish Rite booth (garbled) Scottish Rite booth and that was all I needed.

Brethren, we, down there in Seattle, we are there for your benefit and that anytime you need assistance, please do not hesitate to call us. The number is 1-800-600-5544. We are there to do a service for you and we are definitely, definitely for the service (?). It is a pleasure and an honor to do this service.

Sometimes we don't have to go out and meet the aircraft. Simply just meeting, if you have a person in the hospital and I will go there and make sure that, that particular individual visited in any type of thing he needs will be attended to.

I want to thank you for letting me speak before you today. It's an honor and a privilege. Thank you Most Worshipful Sir.

## **Remarks by Right Worshipful John McNab, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Grand Master.

Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brothers, Right Worshipful Brothers, Very Worshipful Brothers, Worshipful Brothers, and Brothers all.

What a pleasure it is to be up here and congratulate you, particularly. I only had a very small part, but I was involved the day the Grand Lodge of Alaska, no (garbled) no links, no tags, became a sovereign grand jurisdiction all by itself within the State of Alaska. What a pleasure it is. Congratulations my brothers.

I do feel sadly that the Grand Lodge of Alaska is the pride of the premiere service.. Army and Air Force (?) having spent 32 years in that group, premier service of the United States Navy. I am sure that I have support in that.

Grand Master, that you mentioned last night about the Great War, you said something about Korea, oh yeah the Vietnam. You didn't mention a thing about the real war. No, if you go back to about 1948, a lad about seventeen, six foot tall – great big strapping 135-140 pound. Put him on East Main Street, Norfolk, Virginia you will really learn what is hand-to-hand combat.

Grand Master, this is an opportunity I can't lose. Grand Master has teased me a little bit. I have a joke that I have used at two or three district meetings, but this is new territory. I can't let this slide by.

Seems as though if you would come to Sedro Woolley, a small town, I live in northern Washington there's a small church on the left. It doesn't particularly matter any which way you come into town, it's the same church. There is Sister Martha, who is a self-proclaimed controller of Christian dignity and behavior. Sister Martha got up in church and said to the congregation "we have a heathen among us. Brother George is an alcoholic." George has only been the congregation a short time and this is guilt-by-association of course. "We only have one bar in town and Brother George's pickup was parked down there all afternoon. So it is obvious that Brother George is an alcoholic. We just cannot have this type of individual in this congregation." Well, Brother George got up quietly and didn't say a word. That evening Brother George parked his pickup by Sister Martha's house and left it there all night. ...break in tape... I hope that I didn't steal our Grand Master's thunder that he (garbled).

About four years ago to the Grand Line of Washington, the Grand Master said, "Brethren we've been reinventing the wheel every year. Every new Grand Master that comes in is charged up with his program and off he runs not necessarily in the same direction we've here before gone." So he organized the group of Masons and some (garbled) long-range training program which we are extremely proud of, and I am proud to say that the Grand Lodge of Alaska also has a long-range planning.

But, I am going to just touch upon some of the (garbled) where I am going with this. This particular Grand Master's theme was "Do Good Unto All" a part of our Master's Charge. Incoming Grand Master, his was "Shaking the Future." Try to think about this plan. How this plan is going to affect us. Then, as you know Most Worshipful Robert Van Zee came in. He wanted to focus. He wanted a vision and a vision without a plan is nothing more than a dream, You can't dream, you have to think about it. So he wanted to focus and develop this plan.

So, this year, under the direction of Most Worshipful Brother James Reid (garbled), "Living the Vision." Not only have you got that vision, and a plan, you focus on it, now to this live this vision, and we are living this vision.

Under Most Worshipful James Reid, we got to make it, what we are doing, where we are going with it. The Pillars of Progress seems to be a developed (?), being tracked with a tracking system. I've got a manner in gaining whether a proficiency that we are achieving from lodge to lodge to whether it changes.

So, where I am bringing you now is to get the brothers that are cordial and have the same attitude in June. My program is going to be "Mentoring." And, mentoring takes place from the altar, my brothers, to the State.

You have to take into consideration, whether it is one Mason that you are making at that altar or as we have a some of our one-day conferrals where we have had fifty out on the floor. You still make a Mason one at a time. When I say mentoring, to the altar to the State, you have to treat that new candidate as a man that walked into that lodge room the

first time unknowing what is going to happen to him at the altar. Not even understanding the verbiage and putting so much information into him all of a sudden, very little of it he's able to understand and comprehend.

Here is where Mentoring comes in and he puts his arm around that new individual and says "Come here my brother, let me show what this is all about." We've got to give that candidate something to work with; you've got to hug him; do what it takes; and develop him as a Mason, one at a time.

You can't make all Masons all at once, still one day at a time to make a Mason, and it takes time. You develop a very strong friendship with that individual and you push on, even to, you got to draw your (garbled) about to transfer to the Supreme Grand Lodge. You need to sit with him as well and need to talk with him. Make that transition for him as you are making that transition as a new Mason.

Thank you Grand Master.

## **Remarks by Most Worshipful James Reid Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

(Break in starting of tape recording)... organize their own mundane programs under the supervision of the Grand Lodge of Washington. In this particular case, Saturday for example, down in Toppenish, there will be twenty brothers. We will be coming by that program. It's of great concern, I think, to all of us, my successor, John McNab, we met as indicated. To be knowledge of the fact that the brethren, the key to success of Freemasonry, is not what happened so much during the degrees, it's what happened afterwards.

The education of the Mason is a continuing process. We learn first in our Entered Apprentice obligation, "What came you here to do?" To learn, to learn (garbled) we came here to do and this is because (garbled), the learning that each of us share our experiences as Freemasons with each other; that we mature in our Craft; mature through the ritual and mature through so many aspects of our Fraternity, the quiet mystic ties we enjoy with each other.

Brethren, Freemasonry is also challenge, I think. I heard a couple of my colleagues refer to my conditions, directly or indirectly. I picked up on Most Worshipful Grainger reporting on the lodges in Russia. He found that the Worshipful Master of the lodge in Russia, Sergey, has said that in twenty years he will raise fifty-thousand Masons in Russia. The snicker and comment of the brothers of our fraternity could be audibly heard in this group. You know brothers, that man is a fool, that man's insane, that man has a vision, and guess who's going to have fifty-thousand Mason in twenty years.

My Deputy Grand Master has indicated that “Jimmy’s a kind of nuts too.” They say (garbled) is an individual who builds castles in the air and a (garbled) is an individual who lives in those castles. I’m about as (garbled) as they come, because I have chosen to move into a castle into the future of Freemasonry in my grand jurisdiction. It is a vision that we have begun to share with great conviction and we have begun to make significant changes in how we approach our planning process, and how we did approach so many other aspects of our Fraternity in administering in other ways.

A vision, that, I’m going to capitalize on is a very simple one. Freemasons in Washington will be recognized as a relevant and respected fraternity, committed to attracting and retaining all men of high quality, strive for self-improvement, and the opportunity to make a positive difference in their communities.

Relevance. Respected. Committed. Empowered. Called to service (I missed a couple of tie bars from Oregon a couple of years ago from Most Worshipful Vern Wertz’s years as Grand Master.) Raised to Serve, Indeed brothers, you may have your own jurisdiction, but you cannot escape the inevitable truth that we are one fraternity in this area. It strikes, from Alaska down through British Columbia, into Washington, Oregon, and into Idaho. I am pleased to celebrate the life and commitment of our brother, Vern Wertz, He’s the one that comes to all of our grand jurisdictions. He came to us and said, “you know, if we can bring the Wardens of our lodges into the vision, into the future with us, we will have made a great stride.”

Everybody now has a Warden’s Seminar or a Warden’s Charge as you heard it called. Well, I hate to tell you, but Brother Vern’s on the march again. He is coming after us one more time and he is saying to you and to me and to everybody in Freemasonry, these grand jurisdictions he loves so much, that Freemasonry is a leadership that stretches from the top all the way down to the bottom of every lodge. It is not just the Wardens that need to be committed to leadership, the vision of our future. It is every officer and every member in those lodges that need to understand our purpose, our hope, and our expectations.

These are difficult times for all of us and our grand jurisdiction as well. Many of you know that our Senior Grand Warden, Sat Tashiro, lost his beloved daughter, not to long ago, just after Christmas. Dottie fought her own private battle with breast cancer. Dottie passed away and we marveled at her commitment to life and her commitment to the principals that you and I have found, to life, and the goodness in every human being. The principals that we were reminded just the other evening, the principals that were laid down in the enlightenment (?); the essential goodness of humanity; the (garbled) trustworthy. Dottie, however, brings to my mind a couple comments of Freemasonry that I want to share with you closely.

Dottie was convinced that there was always hope; that there was another step that we could take together; another bend she could go around; another opportunity to extend her influence for good in this world. Dottie also chose not to be afraid. Chose not to be afraid.

Brethren, I sometimes think as Freemasons we are so afraid of that we are going to lose we lost sight of everything that we possibly could. We are so afraid of looking at fools, that it is foolish ideas that turn the world upside down.

We have an intimately glorious past. My Brethren it takes absolutely painless comparison to our future. If you are concerned about Freemasonry 250 years ago, I suggest you are looking in the wrong direction. Be concerned about the Freemasonry in the 250 years in our future. That future will be made up of men like Sergey admitting the others into our fraternity who will look back upon these times and say we inherited a great fraternity, a great commitment, a great and glorious and honorable fraternity of men. May they look back on us and honor us as we should honor them by preparing for their future and making a commitment to that future.

Brethren, if you were to call the Grand Lodge of Washington's office right now and, I bring you greetings from our Right Worshipful David P. Owen, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and, if you were to call our office, if you haven't got anything else to do with your life in a given day, call 1-800-628-4732 and give yourself a lift. The guy who's going to answer that phone on the other end says "David P. Owen, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A MASON!" You bet it is!

I am so pleased to have the opportunity to be part of this Grand Lodge session and share it with a friend, and look forward to the future that we will share on the building we have created together.

My brethren, today is the greatest day we (garbled). I cannot wait for tomorrow. I cannot wait for tomorrow, because I am committed to the vision of a lot of grand lodges, a vision of a fraternity that's committed to attracting and retaining all men of high quality who strive for self-improvement and the opportunity to make a positive difference in their communities. Oh brethren, what a great day, it's just around the corner.

Thank you Grand Master.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Stephen Cox extended private grand honors to Most Worshipful James Reid, Grand Master of Masons of Washington.

## **Remarks of Right Worshipful Thomas O. Mickey, Grand Lodge of B.C. and Yukon**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it's a pleasure to be here and of course you know I'd be here anyway. Actually, I'm not going to talk so much about the East. I'm going to talk about the North.

Our Right Worshipful Brother Frizzell and I had the opportunity to, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, fly to Inuvik, in the Northwest Territory and Institute Far North Lodge UD. They laid claim to being the farthest north lodge in the British Commonwealth. They were going to go for the world until they checked in the Scandinavian countries and there is a couple or three lodges up there further north.

We flew up there from Whitehorse and stopped at Old Crow where it was minus forty-five below, when in Inuvik where it was twenty-seven below with a thirty mile an hour wind, but the warmth of the brethren up there was absolutely astounding. From when they picked us up at the airport, they looked out for our every needs for two days. The first day was the Institution and the Senior Grand Warden, from Alberta, RW Rod Ponneck (?) came up and he was going a little bit. His Grand Master was too busy and his Deputy Grand Master was also too busy, so he got the honor. There was another VW Brother from Yellowknife who came and other than that there was just myself and RW Frizzell who were visitors that night or outsiders. But it went off fine.

The Institution was done and we had a great banquet afterwards and the next day we were toured around Inuvik. That night we did and initiation on two brand new candidates. This is a young lodge, young people out there and it looks like a great future. There appeared at this time, they will do the Constitution of the Lodge in 2004 when they get their charter and they are planning to do it in the summer. The plan is at the present time, maybe a plane will start in southern Alberta and stop in Edmonton, Yellowknife and go on to Inuvik. Of course, at that time of the year, the Dempster Highway is open so it can be driven as well. We are looking forward to that and I am sure that you are going to hear more about it.

For British Columbia and Yukon, well, we've got the one-hundredth anniversary of Whitehorse Lodge No. 46 in June. Right after that, the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon is in Dawson Creek B.C. I guess that is about the furthest north and east that the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon has been held. It's been held in Prince George and that is just a little lower. They are getting there and they may have mentioned they will get to the Yukon.

With that I will say thank you very much to the courtesies that you have extended to us over here and it is a pleasure to be here.

## **Remarks of Right Worshipful Wayne Kingsley, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Nevada**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge officers, Distinguished East, Brethren, it's indeed a pleasure and once again to be in Alaska for your Grand Lodge.



I've enjoyed coming to Alaska for several years now, and I certainly hope I do not cause a rift between you and your relationship you've had with Washington over the years. I hope it's been a very pleasurable one. It's worked out good for both of you and I think all of your lodges up here as Alaska Grand Lodge. But, I think you should pay attention to what the Grand Master from Washington said when he was reserving the three districts for historical significance. I would make sure that historical significance is not part of his future plan.

I (garbled) raised from Nevada and Most Worshipful Grand Master Rodger W. Denn, the five-thousand plus Masons in the State of Nevada. The Grand Master was sorry that he was not able to make it, but he was afraid that the shock between Mexico, somewhere way south, and Alaska would probably be too much for him to stand and he's only back in town, that is today. He's sorry that he wouldn't be able to be here. He did want me to tell you about some of the things that are going on.

Some years ago, he, the previous Grand Master, myself, and other Grand Lodge officers got together and talked about future planning and we had all kinds of future plans. Over the years, unfortunately, future plans seem to go and come with Grand Masters. So, we all agreed to what we would do is to set forth a plan on a step-by-step annual basis over a period of years to bring Masonry into favorable light with the public in Nevada.

So, one of the first things undertaken was undertaken by the Junior Past Grand Master, was to approach the State of Nevada and get a license plate for Masons. It took him some time to get that done. We were fortunate in Nevada that the Speaker of the House, at that time, was an active, good Mason and he took up the charge for us at the State House and got us a license plate in Nevada for Masons.

We had another brother that was part of this group who had been somewhere and seen the child ID program. He contacted several Masters of lodges in Nevada and asked if they would be favorable and interested in starting a child ID program. Four or five of them took the charge and ran with it. They procured the equipment, and started the child ID program three years ago and over that period of time, we have identified for the parents and for the future use that we hope never occurs, child ID for an excess of 20,000 children for the State of Nevada. We have somebody somewhere in the State running that program at least once a month and quite often every weekend.

The next program we decided to deal with is our scholarship program. In the past we had some difficulty dealing with the universities for giving scholarships. We didn't have any problems with the high schools, but when we tried to work with the universities their comment was you send us the money and we'll decide who it goes to. But, you know Masons, they didn't want to be quite that liberal with what they were doing, and that just didn't work. And, so we thought as we were enjoying success with the few lodges that were giving these scholarships to the high schools, so let's just kick that money back to the lodges.

So, while I was dealing with that program, I'm also the secretary of the Scottish Rite and my office is just down the hall from the York Rite Foundation, who for years in Nevada ran the loan program for graduate students, primarily for medical students, and over the years that program had matured and the people running it had passed away and there was new blood in there. They decided what they wanted to do was to convert their loan program to a scholarship program. Over a period of time collect all their loans and start giving scholarships away as opposed to loans.

I was telling him of what I hoped to get done with the Nevada Grand Lodge scholarship and pass that back to the lodges and he said that sounds like an excellent idea and why doesn't he talk to the York Rite Masons and see if they won't kick into Grand Lodge some of the money they've been giving away as scholarships and let the lodges do it. Let's give this recognition back to the grassroots level. So, that has been taking place over the last two years and has been quite successful and we have very few lodges now that do not give scholarships because they are able to with the modest amount of money coming from their own lodge, give away a rather nice scholarship to the (garbled) from Grand Lodge. So, they are excited about that.

The last thing that we are working on is something that most jurisdictions that I've been in that is to recognize a teacher-of-the-year and that sort of thing. I've been in jurisdictions where they do a bang-up job. You all know we profess to support the public school systems. In Nevada, with the exception of giving away scholarships, we really didn't do much or haven't done to much in the way of recognizing the schools. So, we are working on a program now to see if we can't get involved with the State with local school boards to, if we are not able to help them select a teacher-of-the-year. We would like to be involved. It might not be the case early on, at least get involved as recognizing the teacher-of-the-year on some sort of a local basis. As you know out towns are about as far apart as they are in Alaska. Now we think that over the years, this program will last because we converted it from a Grand Master's program to a Grand Lodge program and we think that is important..

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is always the hospitality in Alaska here that has been outstanding. I appreciate the opportunity here today and your session. Thank you very much.

## **Remarks by Most Worshipful Stanley R. Foulke, York Rite**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

What a pleasure it is to be part of the York Rite Masons. We had a little spurt of growth back in the year 2000 and had a campaign with the Grand Encampment and since that time we have found that it leveled out. Even though it is a small group, it's, I believe, a very fun group to belong to. If you are not a York Rite Mason, what is it all about is the continuation of your education in Freemasonry. We are so lucky to have found something that we lost in the third degree. On behalf, I should mention Don Chaffin, also, since he is

the Grand High Priest. Our sessions are coming up a month from today held at the West Coast International Hotel. If you are a York Rite Mason, please come to visit us. You don't have to be a presiding officer. Our sessions tend to be more social than business. We actually have very little on the way of business.

Concerning that, I am sure most of you know that we lost a very dear friend, not only in Alaska but also in Idaho, that was David Volkman (?). Not only did he carry a regular lifetime membership in every chapter and council, and committee in the State, he was also very active and had numerous titles in Masonry in the State of Idaho. We will really miss him, as he was such a tremendous asset to us as well as to the State of Idaho.

But, anyway, if you are available, come to our sessions, and I promise you will have a good time.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Thank you for the opportunity to talk about (garbled).

## **Remarks by Right Worshipful Ken Stedman, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Alaska**

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Worshipful Sirs, Brethren all.

It's great to be used as a filler to kill time. It gives a man a chance to hone his speaking skills to talk to an almost empty audience.

Sitka has decided to hold a little boat trip. That decision kind of grew on us. We as line officers have to travel to all the lodges once a year. We go through Southeast and it is very, very expensive to fly from city to city. I thought wouldn't it be wonderful if we all hop on the ferry and go from city to city. It would be cheaper and a little less hassle from all the stuff we're subjected to now in (garbled) security at the airports. The State of Alaska ferry schedule just does not jive with my anticipated travel itinerary.

So, I chose the next best thing and that was to see, with the aid of some of the members of Mt. Verstovia Lodge, if it would be feasible to charter a boat capable of carrying a hundred people and start our plans to Southeast Alaska in view of the other and in five days invite, for a price, the Brothers and their ladies who would like to accompany us to make the trip.

We're putting it together with the whole thing hinging on us getting a hundred people as passengers aboard that boat.

The plan is to meet on a Monday morning in Juneau, and leave on a three hour boat trip. These are catamaran jet drive, average speed twenty-eight knots surface speed, three hours roughly to Skagway. Hold the visitation in Skagway that evening and hopefully the

group in Skagway would feed us. We would spend the night in Skagway, at the expense of the passengers, they would rent their own hotel rooms, double up, that is not that expensive. Get up the next morning, have breakfast, get aboard the boat and go to Juneau, three hours back. Spend the afternoon in the fair city of Juneau sightseeing. Have a meeting with everybody. I spoke to the Master of that lodge, and he said no sweat, we can feed a hundred Masons and their wives. Great, great Brothers up there.

Have our visitation, and spend the night in Juneau and get up in the morning and take off to Sitka by the sea, a seven hour trip of the most beautiful country you could travel through on a boat. Meet that evening with the Sitka lodge and they would feed us. Spend the night in Sitka, a very historic place. The ladies could go sightseeing and the men, I am certain, can find plenty to do. Spend the night, two nights in Sitka, got to get the tourist's dollars in there.

Friday morning take off for Petersburg and they have indicated they would be able to take care of us. Have a visitation in Petersburg that evening, spend the night and get up in the morning and the next stop-Ketchikan. The Ketchikan lodge has indicated that they could accommodate us. Spend the night in Ketchikan and those who want to go back to where they came from, either catch Alaska Airlines northward bound. If they want another ferry ride, the State ferry going north, or get back aboard the catamaran with us and ride back to Sitka. That's an eleven hour trip through the most pristine wilderness area you've ever seen and leave Sitka the following day for wherever you want to go.

All of this for about \$275 a passenger, and the ladies in Sitka would be serving us a deli lunch along the way on the boat. The boat is very comfortable, as you've seen the picture out here. They've got big seats. We've got tables if you want to play pinochle or you want to play cards while you are traveling or you want to look at the scenes. It's all there and all we need is one-hundred people.

You say, let me multiply one-hundred times \$275 and that's twenty-seven thousand five-hundred dollars. Terrific! The boat is going to cost about nineteen thousand dollars. If we get stuck weather-wise some place it is going to cost more for an additional day because the boat has four crew members aboard that we have to pay for.

If things go as planned, we should wind up with eight or nine-thousand dollars profit, which would go the George Washington Memorial Committee. We've got to send a number of the board to several meetings to Washington D.C. The first meeting is this month in Minneapolis and we can't expect a member of this Grand Lodge, who serves on a committee like that, to pay his own way. We do have obligations.

February, next year, Alaska has the display area at the George Washington Memorial in Washington D. C. to display whatever we want for a month. We've got to send our Grand Master back there. We've got to send whomever we can gather up back there. We've got to send more than the Grand Master back there. We've got to send others.

So, think about it if you want to make this trip and let us know. In a little while, I'll hope to make a motion to have our meeting next year in Sitka, so you're going to be able to see Sitka twice within the next twelve months.

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have run out of words.

# ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

(Taken from transcription of the tape recording of the proceedings.)

The following are the results of the election of officers for the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and accepted Masons of Alaska.

## **Grand Master**

Blank - 1 vote  
Chuck Wellong - 3 votes  
**Kenneth E. Stedman – 115 votes (Station accepted)**

## **Deputy Grand Master**

Blank – 2 votes  
Harry J. Koenen – 2 votes  
Chuck Wellong – 8 votes  
**L. V. “Joe” Dees – 108 votes (Station accepted)**

## **Senior Grand Warden:**

Robert Fulton – 2 votes  
Joe Dees – 2 votes  
Blank – 1 vote  
Vern Carlson – 2 votes  
Charles Wellong – 6 votes  
**Harry J. Koenen – 108 votes (Station accepted)**

## **Junior Grand Warden:**

Chuck Corbin – 1 vote  
Jack Coghill – 1 vote  
Robert Caruthers – 2 votes  
Vern Carlson – 23 votes  
Blank – 1 vote  
Chuck Wellong – 12 votes  
**Marvin B. Fitzpatrick – 89 votes (Station accepted)**

## **Grand Treasurer:**

Wendal Kuecker – 1  
Don Chaffin – 1 vote  
James Grubbs – 2 votes  
Steve Cox – 1 vote  
Blank – 2 votes  
Charles Ashcraft – 6 votes  
Fred Angleton – 2 votes  
None – 1 vote  
Gunnar Flyngenring – 5 votes  
Vern Carlson – 2 votes

Bert Stedman – 6 votes  
Jack Coghill – 1 vote  
Charles Corbin – 5 votes  
Clifford Darnell – 4 votes  
Dennis Thayer – 2 votes  
**Gerald R. “Jerry” Fairley – 54 votes (Station accepted)**

**Grand Secretary:**

Leonard Luchau – 1 vote  
John Johnson – 1 vote  
Gunnar Flygenring – 1 vote  
Robert Caruthers – 3 votes  
Chuck Corbin – 1 vote  
Jerry Fairley – 3 votes  
Chuck Wellong – 1 vote  
**Leslie R. Little – 101 votes (Station accepted)**

# INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

An open installation for the 2003 - 2004 officers for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was conducted in Sitka, Alaska on February 7, 2003.

## OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome and Introduction

By MW Stephen L. Cox

## INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing Master	MW Hank Dunbar
Installing Marshal	MW Thomas O. Mickey
Installing Chaplain	MW Don Chaffin
Installing Secretary	MW Stanley Foulke

## ELECTED OFFICERS

Grand Master	MW Kenneth E. Stedman (Bonnie))
Deputy Grand Master	RW L. V. "Joe" Dees (Jackie)
Senior Grand Warden	RW Harry J. Koenen (Maggie)
Junior Grand Warden	RW Marvin B. Fitzpatrick (Gwen)
Grand Treasurer	RW Gerald R. "Jerry" Fairley (Sharon)
Grand Secretary	MW Leslie R. Little (Roxie)

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Grand Chaplain	W Roger K. Hansen
Grand Lecturer	W Robert E. MacArthur
Grand Orator	W Marty W. Parsons
Grand Historian	W Douglas C. Teninty (Linda)
Grand Marshal	VW L. Tom Smotherman
Senior Grand Deacon	W Nate Esteban (Barbara)
Junior Grand Deacon	W Roger A. Barnstead (Sheryl)
Grand Standard Bearer	W Bert K. Stedman
Grand Sword Bearer	W Claude Roberts (Joan)
Grand Bible Bearer	W Charles D. Wileman
Senior Grand Steward	W John F. Bahrt
Junior Grand Steward	W Edward Nygard
Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris (Deanna)
Grand Tyler	W J.B. Carnahan (Roberta)



## **DEPUTIES TO THE GRAND MASTER**

District 1	Samuel K. Medsker
District 2	Jerrod S. Decker
District 3	Johnnie L. Wallace
District 4	David G. Koko
District 5	James d. Grubbs