



Light from the Great Land

March 2013

Grand Master's Message

Brethren I do not know the words to express my sincere appreciation for this honor you have given me by



electing me Grand Master of Free and Accepted Mason of Alaska. I shall endeavor to prove myself worthy of the confidence you have bestowed upon me. You have entrusted into my care the oldest fraternity known to man. I promise you with all my heart that I will perform all my duties to the best of my ability and I will do nothing that might bring disgrace to The Grand Lodge of Alaska, the blue lodges, or anyone of you. Thank you so very much!!!

As some of you know my theme is Ritual, Education, and Communication. I chose this theme because I believe it is the key to lodge growth and maintaining your current members. I've outlined my theme in a 5 page and given it to the Worshipful Masters of each Lodge with instructions to conduct a class centered around this theme. I hope you will understand the importance of each point.

I have changed the travel itinerary for this year to some of the lodges and others will stay the same. You may visit the Grand Lodge Web Site and view my itinerary. I have decided that lodge members may wear tuxedos at my official visits if your

Worshipful Masters direct. I have no problem with you getting dressed up for my official visit.

We have a great line of officers and look forward to the coming year. I want to thank each one of you for your commitment to the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Without each and every one of you we would not be able to exist. I respectfully request that you take your position seriously and perform your duties accordingly.

A special thanks to MW Jerry Pinion and his wife Ginger for the wonderful dinners and entertainment during the 32nd Annual Grand Lodge of Alaska Communication. I heard from many individuals that they had a lot of fun and thought it was well prepared.

The raffle went well and we netted about \$8,650.00. Thanks for all the help selling tickets. A special thanks goes out to Kim Oaks for selling more ticket than anyone else. Kim sold about 75 tickets. I have not decided on a fund raiser for this year as of yet. I have a couple ideas and will let you know later what they are. If you have any suggestions please let me know.

Again I want to thank you for electing me Grand Master of Alaska and I will do my very best to represent you with honor.

M : W : James R. Herrington
Grand Master of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska

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Freemasonry embraces the highest moral laws and will bear the test of any system of ethics or philosophy ever promulgated for the uplift of man.

Douglas MacArthur



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March 2013

THE QUARRY PROJECT

Masonic Research and Preservation Conference

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL

The Quarry Project

(Conference on researching and preserving Masonic history)

Initiatives like the International Conference on the History of Freemasonry, the Worldwide Exemplification of Freemasonry, and UCLA's "Freemasonry and Civil Society" demonstrate an ever growing interest from the academic community in the history and philosophy of our great fraternity. It is gratifying to witness this increased attention from the non-Masonic community, and it presents a challenge for us as Masons to provide a balanced view of the fraternity from those who have experienced Masonry from within our fair Craft.

The most significant aspect of this challenge is that few Masons hold the same level of knowledge and abilities as those in the academic community. To help rectify this discrepancy, The Masonic Society (www.themasonicsociety.com) and the Masonic Library and Museum Association (<http://www.masoniclibraries.org>) have joined forces to establish The Quarry Project.

Phase one of this endeavor will be the Conference on Masonic Research and Preservation to be held at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA on September 27-29, 2013. The conference is open to anyone interested in Masonic research and preservation, but will be specifically targeted toward two groups: members of Masonic lodges of research as well as authors, writers, and researchers (both published and aspiring), and Masonic librarians and museum curators. The conference will draw from both the Masonic and academic communities to provide detailed instruction on Masonic research and the editing of same. In addition, the

recommendations of a committee created to establish a set of voluntary standards for future Masonic research, writing, and editing will be introduced. Professional librarians, museum curators, and experts on display and preservation will address that area of interest. Multiple concurrent presentations on both fields of endeavor will be offered on all three days. Along the way, participants will be enthused and inspired by stories from successful Masonic library and museum curators and from published Masonic authors.

Program details and conference registration for this event, along with hotel reservation information, is now available at www.thequarryproject.com. Make your arrangements today to join us in Alexandria, VA.

John R. "Bo" Cline, President
The Masonic Society





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March 2013

Deputy Grand Master's Message



March 4, 2013

My Brothers,

Here we are at the start of a new year. Thank you all for your vote of confidence.

As everyone knows, for the last two years and now starting into my third year, I have said, and keep saying; all lodges must have a plan. Ask yourself where

you want your lodge to be in 3 years. Then **MAKE A PLAN** to get there!!!. In other words, a Long Range Plan (LRP).

- Membership
- Finance
- Masonic Education
- Mentoring
- Wills and Endowments

By now each lodge should have a LRP in place. If you haven't started your LRP, now is a good time to start. Please know we are here if you need help.

Today let's talk about Masonic Awareness. Ask yourself some questions.

- Does your community know your lodge exists?
- Does your community know what Freemason is?
- How often are you in the public?
- Does your lodge building look good or worn down?

As you can see, we could write down many more questions. As a group please get together and make up 10 questions about Masonic awareness. Put your questions in order of importance. Then come up with a plan to improve your

community awareness.

Masonic Awareness is the key to helping your lodge grow.

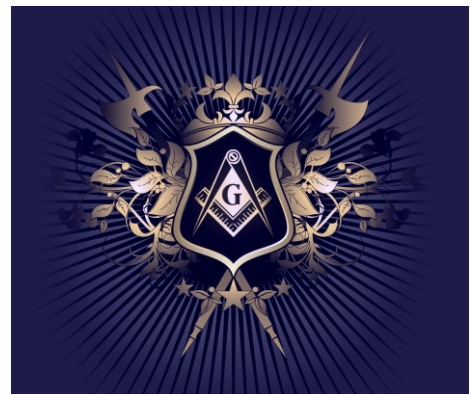
Furthermore there is nothing wrong with working with Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Eastern Star and our youth groups to help with our community awareness.

My Friends, Please contact me anytime. I'll be happy to help set up a plan or even come to your lodge to explain further. I'm here to support you and your lodge.

Finally, Kathy and I wish you and your families a very happy Spring!!!!!!

Remember- When we work as a team we can grow.

Fraternity Yours,
David Worel
Deputy Grand Master
Contact info 907-378-4640
Email dw@nlhc.com





Light from the Great Land

March 2013

Senior Grand Warden's Message

Hello Brothers,

I would like to thank you for electing me as your Senior Grand Warden; I will strive to do my best in representing you to others. Following is a synopsis of happenings to date.



After Grand Lodge in February, all were invited to attend Lodge Officer Training held at the Masonic Center in Anchorage. The topics were very interesting and of much value. I feel it would be beneficial for all lodges to see that they are represented at future training sessions.

The Kansas City Conference of Grand Masters was next on our Grand Lodge agenda. M.:W.: James R. Herrington, R.:W.: Dave Worel, R.:W.: Douglas C. Teninty, R.:W.: Carl J. Linstrom, R.:W.: Jerome P. Wasson were the Alaska representatives. We flew in on Friday morning to attend the Western Conference of Grand Lodges, followed by the Conference of Grand Lodges. The Western Conference is composed of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

During the conference, each area offered presentations covering subjects of importance to the growth of our organization. Our attendance at these events was a great opportunity for us to learn what is happening throughout the fraternity. It provided ideas to help improve our approach to building better programs for our success as F. & A. Masons.

Alaska's subject matter covered "Communication and Growth"; Arizona followed with "Membership Retention", while California gave an update on the "Online Candidate Education Program". Hawaii presented "The Future Starts Today", followed by a talk about "Public Relations in Community Involvement", given by the Oregon representatives. The final presentation, from Washington, covered the "Practical Application of a Long Range Plan".

The Conference of Grand Lodges conducted their regular business, followed by break out sessions covering various issues of importance to our future as Masons.

1. Mentoring & Membership Retention
2. Grand & Local Lodge Business & Finance
3. Technology in Today's Masonry
4. Changes in Family Structures and Impact on Masonry
5. Youth Groups
6. Lodge Officer Training Programs
7. Local and Grand Lodge Relationships.

I chose to attend sessions 3, 5, and 6. It became clear to me that technology is something we have to update in our lodges. The young man presenting this was way too advanced for me. I would like to see more training and much more involvement in this area to catch up with the world today.

Our youth groups are in need of our help. They need leadership and guidance in how to attract and hold new members. We have one Bethel of Job's Daughters which is in Anchorage. There are three Rainbow groups, one in Anchorage, one in Juneau, and one in Fairbanks, and zero chapters of Demolay. I realize it takes fifteen boys to establish a chapter, but in the meantime, we can form clubs. I made it a point to ask everyone at the conference if they had any ideas of what are not doing or doing wrong?

One of the answers was that there were not enough Masons willing to be advisors or adult leaders. You need at least 3 adults for each group minimum; ideally, you should have nine. These advisers are required to pass background checks to ascertain they are of good character and have nothing in their backgrounds that would give parents cause for concern. It is essential that parents feel safe in leaving their children in our care.

Remember, the youth of today will be our leaders in the future. The young men may or may not become masons, but they still will be leaders. The young women will not only become leaders in their own right, but should they marry, their influence could well lead to the members of their families becoming members of the various Masonic groups.

I hope my notes have given you some thoughts as to the importance of helping to grow our organization. It is through these conferences that we can gain knowledge in helping to achieve our goals.

Fraternally yours,
R.:W.: Douglas C. Teninty
Senior Grand Warden



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MSANA to Reprint Complete Short Talk Bulletins

The publication of a complete collection of Short Talk Bulletins, the most widely distributed Masonic publication in the world, has been announced by the Masonic Service Association of North America.



The first of five projected volumes, a book of more than 750 pages, will be published in the fall of 2013 in two, hard-cover editions: a leather-bound and gilt-edged "Grand Master Edition," and a linen-bound "Master Mason Edition." The editor of the volumes will be S. Brent Morris, P.M., Managing Editor of the Scottish Rite Journal and Past Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge in London.

"Short Talk Bulletins have been published monthly by MSANA for 90 years, since 1923, and are a treasure of American Masonry," said George O. Braatz, PGM, MSANA Executive Secretary. "The knowledge contained in these Bulletins provides a foundation for understanding our fraternity, including Masonic history, symbolism, philosophy, and biography. These volumes should be at the core of any Masonic library."

Volume 1 will retail for \$90 for the Master Mason Edition and \$150 for the Grand Master Edition. However, those who purchase before September 1, 2013, will get a special pre-publication price of \$55 or \$110 plus \$7 S&H for U.S. addresses. Lodges can purchase one Master Mason Edition for their libraries for \$45, plus \$7 S&H for U.S. addresses (payment must be with a lodge check).

For more information, or to order online using a credit card, go to the MSANA webpage: www.msana.com, where a sample chapter can be reviewed. If you have any questions, contact MSANA.

George O. Braatz, Executive Secretary
Masonic Service Association of North America
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Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785
301-588-4010 msana@ix.netcom.com

Many writers and thinkers have tried to define Freemasonry but it really defeats definition. It is too complex, too profound in conception, to easily expressed in words. Perhaps the simplest and best definition of all is the phrase "the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God." Our Masonic forefathers had an understanding of human needs and human aspirations. They may never have dreamed of the mindless computer which governs our lives, or the fission of matter which threatens our lives, but they understood human nature and what motivates the spirit of man. Thus from a simple process of using stone and mortar for building they progressed to the most important of life's functions, the building of character. -Louis L. Williams



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District News

District #1



After returning from Grand Lodge as the new District Deputy for District One, I was met with my first deadline; an article for the newsletter.

Let me start with how well District one was represented at our 32nd Annual Communication and all that attended relayed to me what a great time they had. If you've ever been on the fence about

attending, let me say how rewarding an experience it is. It would be impossible to find a finer group of men congregated for a more noble purpose.

The training done on Saturday was worth an extra day's stay, (if only for the wonderful breakfast). The I'm OK, You're OK presentation by M.:W.: Pinion was a class on Transactional Analysis. I'm sure everyone got what they needed from the class, but for me it was a new way of analyzing everyday conversations, not only in lodge, but in my business and personal relationships as well. It was so well received, there is a good chance this training will be done at the lodge level in the near future. Should you see this class being offered in your area, please take the time to attend. It's one of those training sessions that could impact your life in a most positive way.

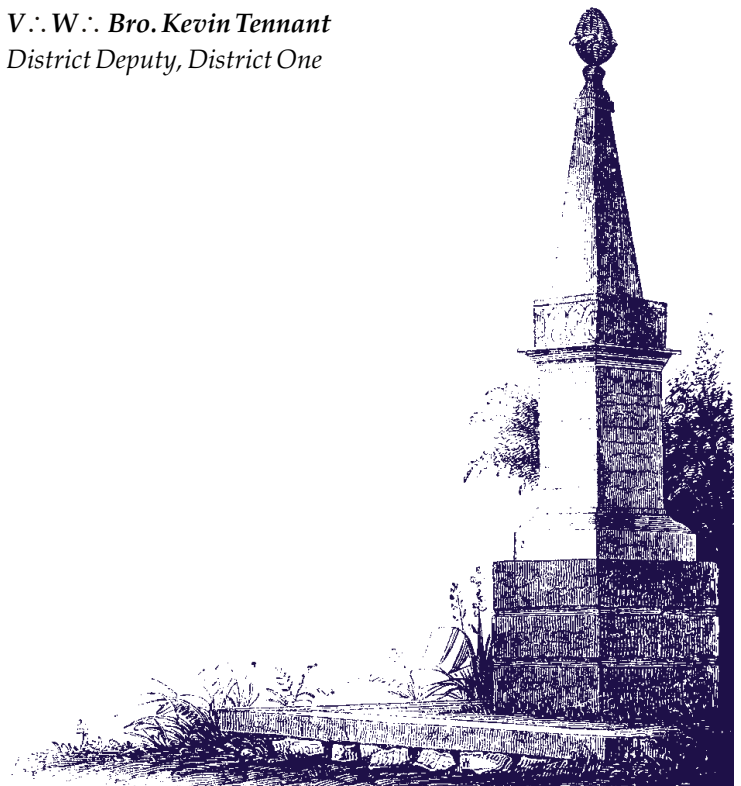
Bro Dan O'Connell gave a brief talk on finances. I'm sure he's forgotten more about this subject than I'll ever know. Very informative. W.:B.: Joe Dahl showed us a glimpse of the future and things are moving fast in the electronic world let me tell you. I never thought I would have to manage a Face Book page for my lodge but I'm here to tell you, that time is NOW! R.:W.: Dave Worel outlined our long range plan for Grand Lodge. I feel lodges need to form their own long range plans

that complement the direction Grand Lodge has chosen as well as the individual needs at each lodge.

Last on the agenda was M.:W.: Jim Herrington and the Standard Work. We opened lodge and began the 1st degree in stop and go fashion. Even if you think you are doing good work, it's advisable to open the book and check yourself as was evident from our exercise. It was fun and enlightening how varied the "same" work is done throughout the state. While it was agreed that lodges have their own customs, we should endeavor to keep our work consistent throughout the state and of course, do it from memory.

The Grand Master did an excellent job of outlining his expectations for the coming year.

*V.:W.: Bro. Kevin Tennant
District Deputy, District One*





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District News

District #5

My first duty of course is to thank Grandmaster M.:W.: James R Herrington for my reappointment as District Deputy of the Grandmaster for District No.5 for duration of his term. This District encompasses a large triangle which includes Matanuska Lodge No.7, Eagle River Lodge No.13, and Iditarod Lodge No.20 and stretches from Eagle River to Big Lake.



I attended this year's Grand Communication held at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage, and was delighted to participate in the ceremonies. I was honored to be able to serve Grand Master Pinion, for his year also in the capacity as District Deputy, and I offer him my sincerest appreciation.

My congratulations go to R.:W.: Carl Lindstrom on his election to be our new Junior Grand Warden as well as all the Elected and Appointed Officers for the 2013 year. Also, to W.:B.: Joe Dahl for being willing to offer himself up for service to Grand Lodge for an elected position. I hope he will try again.

2013 promises to be another good year of working with the Lodges of District 5 as they continue the mission to see that we strive to do great ritual work. But Brothers, we are coming to a point in time where the younger and newer Master Masons are going to have to step up to the plate and start learning the Lectures and Charges for all three degrees, as well as the 'G' lecture and many other parts that are lengthy and take much time to learn. Those who are already meeting that challenge, please accept my thanks, encouragement and support.

V.: W.: *Dennis N. Oakland, District No.5*

District #2

At our Stated Meeting on December 20, 2012, a letter from the Director of the Sterling Area Senior Center, Mr. Mike McKinley, was read asking the members of Sterling Masonic Lodge #22 to cook a dinner for the Senior Center. The brothers unanimously volunteered to help. This annual event is a fundraiser for the Center and one in which the Masons are involved.



On Saturday, January 26, 2013, the members of the Sterling Masonic Lodge prepared and served a Fried Fish Dinner. The Senior Center furnished the food, we Masons prepared it, and members and adult advisors of the local 4-H Club ensured the dining area was well stocked with salads, drink and dessert.

The all-you-can-eat dinner was held from 4 to 6 PM and, as usual, was open to the public. There were 70 adults plus a few children in attendance and numerous compliments were received.



The menu was Southern fried catfish, beer-battered deep fried halibut, beer-battered deep fried cod, green salad, hush puppies, cheesy biscuits, cold slaw, baked beans, french fries, fruit cup, cold drinks and various desserts.

Fraternally Yours,

V.: W.: *Bro Bill Roberts, DD #2 Sterling Masonic Lodge #22*



Light from the Great Land

March 2013

February

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24	25	26	27	28		

April

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit To Eagle River 13</i>	12	13	14 <i>Celebration of Remembrance and Rewewal Fairbanks Scottish Rite</i>	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit To District 3 (@ Glacier 10)</i>	22	23 <i>Ladies Oriental Shrine Installation Reception to Follow- Hosted by the High Priestess and the Potentate</i>
24	25 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit To District 1</i>	26	27	28 <i>Maundy Thursday Dinner Anchorage Scottish Rite</i>	29	30 <i>Kid's Easter Party Al Aska Shrine Temple</i>
31 <i>Easter Sunday</i>						



Light from the Great Land

March 2013

March

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31						

May

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Juneau</i>	3 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Sitka</i>	4 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Ketchikan</i>	5 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Petersburg</i>	6 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Skagway</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Anchorage Scottish Rite Valley</i>	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Light from the Great Land

March 2013

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <i>Grand Masters Official Visit- Seward</i>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Shrine Outreach Clinic -Anchorage</i>
19 <i>Shrine Outreach Clinic -Anchorage</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	