

Grand Lodge

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



2023

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

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



2023 Proceedings
of the
One Hundred Sixty-sixth
Annual Communication

Kearney, Nebraska
February 3-4, 2023

2023



Alexander F. Straatmann

**Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska
2022-2023**

Masonic History of the 156th Grand Master

Alexander F. Straatmann

Alex Straatmann began his Masonic Journey in Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 in Kearney, Nebraska. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in September 2007. He served Rob Morris No. 46 as Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden, and was the Worshipful Master in 2012. He was named the Rob Morris No. 46 Worshipful Master's New Mason of the Year in 2008. He completed the Individual Proficiency Class in 2017 and earned his individual proficiency.

He joined Tehama Shrine in September 2007. He has served on the Tehama divan as 2nd Ceremonial Master, 1st Ceremonial Master, and Oriental Guide. He is also a member of the Fort Kearney Shrine Club and regularly participates in parades as a member of the Fort Kearney Shrine Club Razz Tazz Riders.

Alex joined the Hastings Valley Scottish Rite in 2017. He serves with the Grand Lodge, advancing line officers on the 8th Degree ritual team for Scottish Rite Reunions.

He is a member of the Royal Arch Masons, completing the degrees of Mark Master Mason, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

As a military veteran, he is also a member of National Sojourners Omaha Chapter #19 and Grand Masters Chapter #996, and the Joseph Warren Camp Heroes of '76.

He and his wife, Kim Andresen, were initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star, Tuscan Chapter #35, in May 2022.

Alex was appointed a Personal Representative of the Grand Master by M.:W.: John T. Maxell in 2015, again appointed a Personal Representative of the Grand Master by M.:W.: Dennis E. Rix in 2016. He was appointed Grand Junior Deacon by M.:W.: Richard D. Myers in 2017 and appointed Grand Senior Deacon by M.:W.: Patrick D. Barger in 2018. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 2018, Grand Senior Warden in 2019, and Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master-elect in 2020. M.:W.: Alex Straatmann was installed as the 156th Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska on February 5, 2022.



John L. Millington

**Grand Master-Elect of Masons of Nebraska
2023-2024**

Masonic History of the 157th Grand Master

John L. Millington

John L. Millington began his Masonic Journey in Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in September 2012. He served Lancaster Lodge No. 54 as Junior Steward, Senior Steward, Junior Deacon, Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden and was the Worshipful Master in 2019. He earned the Keith Atteberry Ritual Award in 2014. John was a graduate of the first individual proficiency class earning his individual proficiency in 2015.

He joined Tabula Rasa Lodge No. 332 in 2013, serving as Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, and Worshipful Master in 2016. He served as Secretary in 2017 and 2018.

John was appointed as Deputy Grand Custodian of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 2016.

He joined the Omaha Valley Scottish Rite in 2017 and serves with the Grand Lodge Officers on the 8th Degree ritual team for Scottish Rite Reunions.

John served on the Grand Lodge Membership Committee from 2014 to 2016 and was appointed as Grand Junior Steward of the Grand Lodge by MW Dennis Rix in 2016, was appointed Grand Senior Steward by MW Richard D. Myers in 2017. He was appointed Grand Junior Deacon by MW Patrick D. Barger in 2018 and appointed Grand Senior Deacon by MW Robert W. Moninger in 2019. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 2020, Grand Senior Warden in 2021 and Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master elect in 2022. MW John L. Millington was installed as the 157th Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska on February 4th, 2023.

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Certification of Authenticity

Attest:

I *is hereby certified that the following is a full, true and complete record of the Proceedings of the One Hundred Sixty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, held at Kearney, Nebraska, February 3-4, 2023, and printed under my direction.*

W *itness my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska this 1st day of July, 2023.*



**Bruce A. Baker
GRAND SECRETARY**

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Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
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Most Worshipful Alex F. Straatmann
Grand Master

Grand Master's Banquet
Thursday, February 2, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Most Worshipful Rick Myers, Past Grand Master, introduced the Nebraska Grand Lodge Officers as they entered in reverse order, followed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Alex F. Straatmann and his lady Kim Andresen Straatmann. Past Grand Master Myers led grand honors for Most Worshipful Straatmann.

Grand Master Straatmann thanked everyone for attending and then asked the Grand Chaplain to give the invocation before the meal.

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

“Creator and provider of all things, we thank You for this occasion, and ask your blessing upon the food that has been prepared for us. We thank you also for the fellowship with our brothers. Enrich us in our time around these tables, that through our conversations and sharing we may become more committed to understanding and supporting one another in words and actions which are consistent with Your laws and the principles of our Craft. Amen.”

After dinner, the following awards were presented by Grand Master Straatmann.

GRAND MASTERS MASONIC SERVICE AWARDS

A Non-Mason Individual Achievement Award was presented to Judy Wehrbein and Grand Master's Masonic Service Awards with Distinction were awarded to WB Gene Wehrbein, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, and WB Tim Lowe, Rob Morris Lodge No. 46

GRAND MASTER'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

Grand Master's Humanitarian Awards were presented to Dr. David Lofgreen, Ashlar Lodge No. 33, and Most Worshipful Les Seiler, Past Grand Master, Mid-West Lodge No. 317.

MASTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Roger D. Moore, Waterloo Lodge No. 102, was selected as the Master of the Year and was informed of his award by a phone call to his home.

Most Worshipful Alex Straatmann then introduced the entertainment, Steve Lungrin.

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Most Worshipful Alex F. Straatmann
Grand Master

First Day – Public Opening
Friday, February 3, 2023

Preceding the formal opening of the Annual Communication, the Grand Lodge of Masons of Nebraska held public opening ceremonies at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska, at 8:30 a.m. Friday, February 3, 2023.

Most Worshipful Rick Myers, Past Grand Master, presided.

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

The Nebraska Grand Lodge Officers entered in reverse order, followed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Alex F. Straatmann and his lady Kim Andresen Straatmann. Past Grand Master Myers led grand honors for Most Worshipful Straatmann.

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



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

“God of action, enabler of all life, let us never forget that Masonry is meant to be lived. Show us that Masonry, to be true to its purpose, must be translated into life. Help us to boldly and faithfully live our Masonry, today and always. We also ask that you please watch over our service men and women wherever they may be stationed around the globe. Amen.”



Deputy Grand Master Millington asked that all remain standing for the presentation of the colors by Heroes of '76, Joseph Warren Camp.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

The Toast to the Flag was given by W.B. Carl Diamond.



Right Worshipful Millington invited Most Worshipful Alex Straatmann to cover at the podium. Grand Master Straatmann thanked the Heroes of '76, Joseph Warren Camp for the presentation of the colors and introduced the members of the color guard. Grand Master Straatmann asked all masonic veterans who had not yet received their veteran's pins to stand up so that they could be recognized. He greeted everyone, welcomed them to the 166th Annual Communication, and thanked them for attending.



Grand Master Straatmann asked the Grand Senior Deacon to escort the visiting dignitaries from other grand jurisdictions to the East, facing west. The Grand Master then asked Deputy Grand Master Millington to join him on the floor to greet the guests.



Grand Marshal Stanley L. Weidner introduced the representatives:

From the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska

M.: W.: Michael R. Wilcoxson, Grand Master

R.: W.: Terry Underwood, Grand Senior Warden and his Lady Patricia

M.: W.: Freddie Clopton, Past Grand Master and his Lady Karen

M.: W.: Doysa L. Whitaker, Past Grand Master

W.: Duane Jackson Sr., Past Master

From the Grand Lodge of Iowa

M.: W.: Ted C. Wiley, Grand Master

From the Grand Lodge of Minnesota

M.: W.: Tony Krall, Grand Master

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



Most Worshipful Straatmann asked the Grand Senior Deacon to please escort Michael R. Wilcoxson, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, to the East, where he was asked to bring greetings from his grand jurisdiction and was invited to be seated at the head table in the East for the Public Opening and business meetings.



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

For the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Courtney Bockman, Grand Worthy Advisor
Karan Birdsall, Supreme Deputy in Nebraska
Betty Garwood, Supreme Chaplain, Past Supreme Inspector for Nebraska and Member of the House of Gold

For Nebraska Job’s Daughters

Sarah Warwick, Grand Bethel Honored Queen
Emily Wood, Miss Nebraska Job’s Daughter
Abby Njus, Miss Nebraska Congeniality
Renee Rose, Grand Guardian
Byron Simmons, Associate Grand Guardian

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

For Nebraska DeMolay

Kolyn Beard, State Master Councilor
Caleb Malousek, State Senior Councilor
Isaac Barchus, State Junior Councilor
Sarah Warwick, State Sweetheart
Grady Wells, Executive Officer

For Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Laurie Sieg, Worthy Grand Matron
Wayne Andreasen, Worthy Grand Patron

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

For Social Order of the Beauceant

Deb McMullin, Worthy President of Omaha Assembly #91

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

For Daughters of the Nile

Tonya Ngotel, Queen, Naphis Temple No. 66
Cassandra Norton, Queen, Sat-ra Temple No. 55

Grand Master Straatmann asked all other officers of the Daughters of the Nile to stand and be recognized.

For The Nebraska Masonic Home

April Johnston, Executive Director
Steven R. Barchus, Foundation Executive Director

Grand Master Straatmann again welcomed April to the Nebraska Masonic Family.

For the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children
Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director



M.:W.: Straatmann called on Abby Njus, Miss Nebraska Congeniality, to bring greetings from Nebraska Job's Daughters.



M.:W.: Straatmann invited State Master Councilor Kolyn Beard to the podium to bring greetings and present the DeMolay Mason of the Year award.

DEMOLAY MASON OF THE YEAR AWARD

State Master Councilor presented the award for DeMolay Mason of the Year:

“The recipient of the 2022 Nebraska DeMolay Mason of the Year award became a Mason in May, 1978 and has served as Worshipful Master four times. He served from March, 2008 to July, 2022 as Rainbow Dad for Lynn Broyhill Assembly No. 12 in South Sioux City. He has helped numerous young ladies develop and become outstanding citizens and leaders in their communities. He also served on the advisor council of the local DeMolay Chapter that helped the Chapter get started. He is very active in his church and helped in organizing an award ceremony for a Boy Scout to receive his Eagle Scout award. He is a plural member of Omadi Lodge No. 5 along with Olive Branch Lodge No. 274. He is a member of the Sioux City Scottish Rite and Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH)

It gives me great pleasure to announce the 2022 Nebraska DeMolay Mason of the Year Award recipient is Worshipful Brother Wayne Benson.”

State Master Councilor Kolyn Beard also presented the DeMolay Sponsoring Body Award of 2022 to Tangier Shrine Temple.



Miss Courtney Bockman, Grand Worthy Advisor, was asked to bring greetings from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.



M.:W.: Straatmann noted that written greetings from each of the appendant bodies have been included in the Annual Communication book. He then invited Laurie Sieg, Worthy Grand Matron, and Brother Wayne Andreasen, Worthy Grand Patron, to bring greetings on behalf of the Order of the Eastern Star.



M.:W.: Straatmann invited Potentates Bro. Paul Gonzales, Bro. Jeffrey Messbarger and WB Mervyn Moeller to bring greetings on behalf of the Shrine.



M.:W.: Straatmann invited April Johnston, Executive Director of the Nebraska Masonic Home and Worshipful Brother Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic – Eastern Star Home for Children, to the podium to bring greetings on behalf of the Masonic Charities.



M.:W.: Straatmann called attention to the lists of Emick, Grand Lodge Youth Committee, and Houghton Scholarships printed in the program, indicating Masonic funds were well invested in these young scholars in 2022.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Carlton asked Kevin Scheele, Grand Chaplain, to present the Necrology Report.

NECROLOGY

Kevin Scheele, Grand Chaplain

Thank you, Most Worshipful. We pause at this time each year to remember those brethren who have come before us. Many of us in this room have stories about the brethren who we will remember today, brothers that influenced us as we began our Masonic journey. It's important that we share that history with each other to honor the memory of our departed brothers. Some of our most important storytelling happens during our own degree work. We retell the story of the builders of King Solomon's temple and perpetuate the values which we are taught in that historical drama, passed down from generation to generation.

As I was preparing this address, I wondered if there were any names on the roll this year which I recognized. In doing so, I realized that each of these brothers are, to someone among us, the very foundation of our own Masonic record. When we each began as an apprentice, our mentors, these master craftsmen, provided us with working tools in one form or another to set us to work. That work which we all strive to accomplish throughout the entirety of our life—aspiring towards the perfect ashlar.

I asked our Grand Master if I could try something a bit different this year. It has been said that one who sings prays twice. As you listen, use this time to reflect on the legacies of the departed brethren who mentored us. Think of how their stories are the foundation of our own and made us who we are.

V.:W.: Scheele then sang “His Eye is on the Sparrow.”

Gracious God, how grateful we are that within our Craft's great teachings is one which reminds us that death is not the end. For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. As we think of the sprig of acacia, the evergreen, may we be reminded that we are preparing our lives now for an eternity with You. Grant to us the resolve to live our lives so as to add truth, love, and beauty to them, thus making them living stones for that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Amen.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Scheele
Grand Chaplain

M.:W.: Straatman thanked V.:W.: Scheele for his moving tribute to the departed brethren and invited the Grand Orator WB Jeffrey Buhrman to deliver the oration.

GRAND ORATION

Jeffrey Buhrman, Grand Orator

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren, and family ... Good Morning! As has been the custom of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska's Annual Communication for many years, it is my honor to stand before you as Grand Orator to share my thoughts concerning our mutual horizon through the success of the Masonic year we bring to a close, and the enthusiasm for the one about to begin. As we look to the horizon, consider what legacy we will leave for Nebraska Masons yet to come. What will be our unique story the next generation will share with those who follow?

As Freemasons, we have inherited a rich and storied past. This impressive history is part of what drew many of us to our beloved fraternity. Regardless of the year of our initiation, we all passed through the same ceremonies, using the same ritual, and learned the same lessons for hundreds of years. We have all been taught Masonry's principles.

My interpretation of the word "principles" includes not only a reference to Masonic ethics and beliefs, but also to the fundamental ideals of Masonry we value and put into action. Let's take a moment to examine the common characteristics of things people value.

I'm sure we can agree that very few of the things we value in life came easily. I'm not referring to your house, your car, or your boat, but I'm referring to your life's success stories such as your family or your health. Only in rare cases did any of us stumble upon something we deem of significant value by waiting around for it to come to us. Unless you were born with a silver spoon in your mouth, nothing of value was just handed to you. You earned it, and you appreciate it. Often times, when something of value is simply handed to us, we do not value it and it is soon discarded.

Masonry is an experience of tremendous value. You are here today because you value Masonry as a way of life. The principles of Masonry transcend time. The greatest and most enduring ideals of Man are those that use our fundamental Masonic principles to clarify life's mysteries. They transcend all ages and have been interpreted over the centuries to apply to the problems of the time. Because of our foregoing Brothers' labor on the grand edifice, we know as our Masonic way of life, as well as our own labors toward it, we are reminded of the significant value of our own lives.

As Masons, we differ most strikingly from any other service or fraternal organization through our legendary ritual. Masonry is the world's oldest fraternity of gentlemen, who base themselves on the code of ethics of the builders of King Solomon's Temple. The Legend of Hiram Abiff and its important lessons are the very foundation of our order, and is the cement that unites us as we travel into each forthcoming generation. The relationship that grows from that shared study is not by happenstance but built into Masonry by design. The ritual lessons mentors teach ought to be an indestructible foundation of Masonic understanding that is forever etched into a candidate's consciousness as they reflect upon the cornerstone of their Masonic journey. Making someone a Master Mason as fast as you can etches nothing into their consciousness.

Through the allegory of Masonry, each Master Mason is transformed into an architect. Each supervises the construction of that "house not made with hands." Each builds into his spiritual structure the values of beauty, harmony, and knowledge. Our actions are underscored by the tenets of Masonry to build upon the ideals we value that established and sustained our beloved fraternity generation after generation. When faced with the challenges of modern society and the worldwide decline Masonry has sadly experienced

in the last fifty years, we cannot afford to scale back our personal commitment to its value. If we do, the fraternity will surely face indisputable extinction.

As we contemplate our future, let us invoke the excellent principals laid out for us by our Masonic forefathers. Our enduring values are built into our ancient and honorable fraternity through the integrity of our ritual, that which makes us Masons, and must remain strong and steadfast in the hearts of our brethren.

May God Bless You, our beloved country, and our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

Most Worshipful Straatmaan thanked Worshipful Brother Buhrman for his oration.



M.: W.: Straatmann introduced and thanked WB Bill Pickle of Bellevue Lodge No. 325 for serving as photographer throughout the session, as well as audio specialist WB Paul Rutherford of Shilo Lodge 327 and Grand Musician, WB Graham House, for their efforts to help to record, preserve and document the proceedings of this Annual Communication.



Most Worshipful Alex noted that there was a container in the back of the room to collect donations for the Masonic Veterans Partnership and encouraged everyone to continue to donate to that cause.

He then asked everyone to remain seated as the Grand Lodge Officers retired. The room would then be purged in preparation for the tiled Formal Session to begin at 10:00 am. All voting delegates were reminded to bring their electronic voting devices with them to the business session.

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

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Most Worshipful Alex F. Straatmann

First Day – Formal Opening Session
Friday, February 3, 2023

Prior to the Public Opening, a tiled Lodge of Master Masons was opened by Brothers of Rob Morris Lodge No. 46.

The Grand Lodge Officers assumed their stations. Deputy Grand Master John Millington accepted the gavel from the Lodge Master. Grand Master Alex F. Straatmann was escorted to the East and Deputy Grand Master Millington led grand honors. He then presented the gavel to Grand Master Straatmann.

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

M.:W.: Bruce A. Baker, Grand Secretary, declared that a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

M.:W.: Straatmann declared the 166th Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful, The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, duly open for the transaction of business, and asked that the Grand Marshal proclaim the Annual Communication open in ample form.

M.:W.: Grand Master Straatmann thanked the members of Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 for opening the lodge.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.:B.: Straatmaan asked M.:W.:B.: Dean Skokan to come forward to give the preliminary report of the Jurisprudence Committee. M.:W.: Skokan read the report:

The meeting of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: and A.:M.: of Nebraska was called to order on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 10:00 am by M.:W.: Brother Dean Skokan, Chairman Pro Tem. The following members were present: Most Worshipful Brothers Les Seiler, Steve Matoon, Thomas L. Hauder and Dwight Smith, via phone. Also present were the following Grand Lodge Officers: Most Worshipful Brother, Alex Straatmann, Grand Master; Right Worshipful John L. Millington, Deputy Grand Master; Right Worshipful John B. Ferguson, Grand Senior Warden; Right Worshipful Michael W. Stuhr, Grand Junior Warden; Most Worshipful Bruce A. Baker, PGM and Grand Secretary; John R. Herbolsheimer, Grand Senior Deacon; Tyler S. Loontjer, Grand Junior Deacon; Very Worshipful Kevin H. Scheele, Grand Chaplain; Jeffrey L. Buhrman, Grand Orator; Eric J. BenSalah, Grand Historian; Most Worshipful Patrick D. Barger, Grand Custodian; Stanley L. Weidner, Grand Marshal; John R. Fairlie, Grand Senior Steward; Kent L. Neumann, Grand Junior Steward; Ronald A. Nielsen, Grand Tyler; F Graham House, Grand Musician; S Hal Cottrell, Personal Representative of the Grand Master; Jock H. Faris, Personal Representative of the Grand Master; Sean D. Sutherland, Personal Representative of the Grand Master; Past Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother James A. Carlton; as well as David A. Wetrosky, Grand Lodge Office Manager and Ronald R. Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic – Eastern Star Home for Children .

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

The Minutes and Report of the Committee from February 4, 2022 were reviewed and approved.

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

The entire Jurisprudence Committee met on January 18, 2023 by conference call and submitted to the Grand Master an agenda and report.

Pursuant to Committee Rules adopted last year, when the Committee acts unanimously on any matter, the moving and seconding members will not be recorded in the minutes and the vote will only be recorded as an unanimous action.

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

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 1 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master’s Recommendation No. 2 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master's Recommendation No. 3 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master's Recommendation No. 4 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master's Recommendation No. 5 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master's Recommendation No. 6 to be in proper form and found that it can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee also reviewed the Address and Supplemental Address of the Grand Master. The Committee questioned the Grand Master concerning certain actions taken during the year and received satisfactory responses.

The committee unanimously passed a motion commending the Grand Master for a successful year.

The final report will be presented on Saturday morning.

M.:W.: Skokan asked that the actions of the Jurisprudence Committee be approved subject to the report to be given on Saturday, February 4. The motion was made, seconded and approved.



M.:W.: Grand Secretary Bruce A. Baker brought the report of the Committee on Business and Rules, and then moved for its adoption.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND RULES

Bruce A. Baker, Grand Secretary

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

1. The Grand Master shall appoint a brother to serve as Parliamentarian of the Annual Communication. The Parliamentarian need not be a member of the Jurisprudence Committee. It shall be the duty of the Parliamentarian to advise and consult the Grand Master regarding procedures.
2. Committee Reports shall be given by the Chairman or designated member from the East unless otherwise directed by the Grand Master.
3. Amendments which have been brought to the floor for ballot: One of the signers of an amendment shall state the position of the signers prior to the ballot.
4. Officers speaking on any motion, resolution, committee report or other matter may speak from the East. Members of the Grand Lodge may then speak from the main floor at a microphone near the altar or as directed by the officer presiding. Time permitting, other brothers may speak to the issue. Prior to speaking, each brother shall be recognized by the officer presiding and shall state his name and lodge before addressing the Grand Lodge.
5. No brother shall speak more than twice on any motion, resolution, committee report or other matter unless special permission is granted by the officer presiding. Members

shall be recognized to speak in the order they rise unless the officer presiding shall otherwise direct. If more than one brother rises at approximately the same time, the officer presiding shall direct the order of speaking.

6. Time limits on speaking shall not be imposed unless the officer presiding shall announce time limits in order to expedite the business of the Annual Communication. Upon announcement, the officer presiding shall enforce the stated limits.
7. When the Grand Lodge is passing upon the decision and formal recommendations of the Grand Master, the Grand Master shall first announce his position. The Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee will announce the position of the committee. Discussion will then be permitted with the Grand Master permitted to speak. Members of the Grand Lodge shall then be permitted to speak to the issue. Time permitting, other brothers may speak after which a vote will be taken.
8. The text of each Grand Master's Recommendation, Member Resolution or Constitutional Amendment to be voted upon at this Annual Communication shall be as provided in the Grand Lodge Annual Report.
9. When the voting method is not prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws, it shall be by the usual sign of a Mason while voting. The Grand Master, or other officer presiding, may prescribe voting by secret ballot or other method at his discretion.
10. Questions of procedure not provided for in the Constitution, Bylaws, or these rules, shall be determined by the Grand Master.

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



Grand Master Straatmann appointed M.:W.: Dean Skokan as Parliamentarian for the 166th Annual Communication.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Straatmann asked the Deputy Grand Custodians to be available when voting commences to retrieve and assist with any voting devices, should there be a problem.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rick E. Nelson, Chairman

Brother Nelson referred the brethren to the Report of the Finance Committee and the proposed budget for 2023 in the Annual Communication book and announced that the Finance Committee met in December 2022 to conduct its assigned duties as prescribed in Section 1-318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. He congratulated the Grand Master on a good year financially. He noted that in 2022, we had a surplus of \$41,000 and did not have to draw upon the investment funds even though the 2022 approved budget called for a deficit of \$46,000. This was due to the Grand Lodge Office Manager job vacancy for 5 months, events being cancelled, the office staff being frugal with their spending and Grand Lodge officers not submitting their expenses.

He further noted that the Committee had approved a proposed budget for 2023 and asked the brethren to review the budget and feel free to talk to him prior to the vote that would take place during the Saturday session. He added that the proposed budget contained a deficit of approximately \$49,000 due to expenses going up and travel becoming more normal following the pandemic. The deficit would be covered by a draw on the investment reserves of approximately 2.3% which is significantly less than the average draw over the past ten years.

On our investment funds which are managed by the Lawson Kroeker Investment firm in Omaha, we have in our general reserve \$2,090,815 which was down less than 1% during the past year even though we have had a bear market in stocks and bonds. In our special funds, which are the restricted and designated funds, we have \$3,900,887 which was also down less than 1% during the past year.

Grand Master Straatmann thanked Brother Nelson for his report and further repeated that in 2022, we had budgeted for a deficit of \$46,000 but ended the year with a surplus of \$41,000. He thanked the Grand Lodge officers for their frugality and dedication in not submitting any expenses during the year.

RECEPTION OF PAST GRAND MASTERS OF NEBRASKA

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

M.: W.: James F. Brown, Jr	2000
M.: W.: Philip A. Lorenzen.....	2001
M.: W.: Michael E. Jones.....	2002
M.: W.: Kenneth D. Beebe.....	2003
M.: W.: Scott J. Krieger, Sr.....	2006
M.: W.: Dean Skokan.....	2007
M.: W.: Reginald S. Kuhn.....	2008
M.: W.: Russell G. Reno.....	2009
M.: W.: John T. Parsons.....	2010
M.: W.: Bruce A. Baker.....	2011
M.: W.: Thomas L. Hauder.....	2013
M.: W.: Joe D. McBride.....	2014
M.: W.: John T. Maxell.....	2015
M.: W.: Dennis E. Rix.....	2016
M.: W.: Richard D. Myers.....	2017
M.: W.: Patrick D. Barger.....	2018
M.: W.: Robert W. Moninger.....	2019
M.: W.: Ronald D. Stites.....	2020
M.: W.: James A. Carlton.....	2021

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

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

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

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

- W.: Daniel Wellendorf.....Deputy to the Supreme Council for the Orient of Nebraska
- M.: W.: John T. Maxell.....General Secretary, Omaha
- Bruce Wood.....General Secretary, Lincoln

Grand York Rite of Nebraska

Dennis Newman..... Grand Secretary/Recorder
 A. Carl Highman.....Grand Treasurer
 Edward RaperGrand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

Red Cross of Constantine

Anthony Johnson..... Intendent General for Nebraska

Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Nebraska

Paul GonzalesPotentate, Tangier
 Jeffrey Messbarger..... Potentate, Tehama

National Sojourners, Inc.

Carl Diamond..... National 1st Vice President

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

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Grand Master Straatmann announced that the next order of business would be the election of the 2023-2024 Grand Lodge Officers. All offices shall be determined by a majority vote. He stated that all balloting at the session would be conducted using an electronic voting system. The system was loaned to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by the Grand Lodge of Michigan and he thanked them for entrusting it to us. All devices were to be returned to the Credentials Desk after the close of Annual Communication. Devices not returned would be billed to the lodge in the amount of \$250.

Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder operated the system and a few tests were conducted prior to the official ballot being taken. Each office was balloted upon individually.

The following individuals received a majority of votes for the offices indicated:

Deputy Grand Master/
 Grand Master-Elect.....R.: W.: John B. Ferguson
 Grand Senior Warden R.: W.: Michael W. Stuhr
 Grand Junior WardenR.: W.: John R. Herbolsheimer
 Grand Secretary M.: W.: Bruce A. Baker, PGM

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

Grand Master Straatmann asked R.:W.: John Millington to announce the slate of appointed officers for the 2023-2024 term, when he will serve as Grand Master.

- Tyler S. Loontjer, Grand Senior Deacon
- Kevin H. Scheele, Grand Junior Deacon
- James A. Carlton, Grand Chaplain
- Jeffrey L. Buhrman, Grand Orator
- S. Hal Cottrell, Grand Historian
- Patrick D. Barger, Grand Custodian
- Eric J. BenSalah, Grand Marshal
- John R. Fairlie, Grand Senior Steward

Sean D. Sutherland, Grand Junior Steward
Curtis Wolbert, Grand Tyler
F. Graham House, III, Grand Musician
Mark L. Carley, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
Robert C. King, Personal Representative of the Grand Master
Mohan S. Krishna, Personal Representative of the Grand Master

A motion was made for the approval of the aforementioned appointed officers for 2023-2024. The motion was seconded and, with no discussion, the motion carried.

Grand Master Straatmann announced that at this time the balloting on Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2 would take place.

Grand Master Straatmann asked Deputy Grand Master John Millington to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

Recommendation No. 2

Amend the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by amending **Section 2-404 – HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** by adding and deleting certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken:

Sec. 2-404 – HONORARY MEMBERSHIP – Honorary membership in subordinate lodges is not recognized in this jurisdiction. *The Grand Master, in his discretion, may provide an honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to Grand Masters of other jurisdictions, or their representatives(s). Honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska shall not convey any membership benefit other than recognizing a Master Mason in good standing from another grand jurisdiction upon the judgement of the Grand Master. Any honorary member shall not already be a member of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska or one of its subordinate lodges.*

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

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions for discussion.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 2 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

Grand Master Straatmann then directed the Grand Senior Deacon to conduct M.:W.:B.:Michael Wilcox, M.:W.:B.:Freddie Clopton, M.:W.:B.:Doysa Whitaker and W.:B.:Russell Hobson to the East where he presented them with their Honorary Membership into the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Grand Master Straatmann then directed the Grand Senior Deacon to conduct the Grand Master of Iowa, M.:W.:B.:Ted C. Wiley, and the Grand Master of Minnesota, M.:W.:B.:Tony Krall, to the East where he presented them with their Honorary Membership into the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA FREEMASONS CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM FOUNDATION

Stephen Kennedy, President

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

Stephen referred everyone to his printed report. In addition, Stephen noted that the logo is being changed to NEKIDS due to some negative connotations with the word CHIP. He also added that the Foundation continues to look for someone to assume the role of CHIP Coordinator with the resignation of Michelle and that the number of CHIP events is once again growing and thanked everyone for their support of the program.

The full printed report is as follows:

It is the 18th year of Nebraska Freemasons Child Identification Program. We had several events this year mainly late summer into early fall with the State Fair sandwiched in between. There was a reasonable number at the fair and a very good turnout of volunteers. We had youth groups, Prince Hall and OES assist once again. This event is one where you can really see what it means to do this work. Thank you to all the volunteers. We are getting groups to start planning and have a few other events coming up on the schedule. We are getting back to normal, and I think as we do more events our numbers will return. Our numbers have grown to 46,915 kits used. The last 12 months we have utilized much more safety equipment at events to ensure cleanliness and safety for our families and volunteers.

We had a big change to our family this year. Michelle Fulmer, our long-time state coordinator, moved on to other challenges. This left the board with a void in knowledge that was a struggle to say the least. She did her best to leave us with documents and notes on how things were handled and ordered. We all survived and as the president I now have a new perspective on all that her competent hands did. She is missed, but we are progressing and will have a new state coordinator to help us out soon. Thank you to all those who did events and had to put up with our struggles.

We are changing our logo to be, NEKIDS. This will be done in a fun manner and used on our banners and signs for events. We continue to have some issues with the word CHIP and felt this would alleviate that issue and the fun colorful logo will be more attractive. The Grand Lodge website has links to all the information you need to organize a NEKIDS event.
<https://www.gln.org/chip.html>



NEKIDS board meetings are held on the second Friday of the month. We meet at the Grand Lodge office in Lincoln or via teleconference. Anyone wishing to attend or participate on the teleconference is welcome. Please contact Stephen Kennedy at nechip.nekids@gmail.com.

Those members who desire to make a gift to the NEKIDS program may do so by contacting the Grand Lodge office. Nebraska Freemasons Child Identification Program is a 501 (c) 3 foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen C. Kennedy, President

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION

Reginald S. Kuhn, PGM, President

Grand Master Straatmann asked Most Worshipful Reg Kuhn, President of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation, to come forward and present the report of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation.

M.:W.:B.: Kuhn referred everyone to his written report in the Annual Communication Book and made the following brief comments. A couple of years ago, the programs of the Grand Lodge were restructured so that our main charitable endeavors were now conducted under the umbrella of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation and that the reports of those main charitable endeavors, the Masonic Band Camp, Masonic Veterans Partnership and the Masonic Heritage Committee are printed in the AC book. He highlighted the project of restoring the portrait of our first Grand Master, Robert C. Jordon, and announced that limited edition prints of the portrait were being sold to help defray the cost of the restoration. He then asked the Grand Senior Deacon to conduct M.:W.:B.: Tom Hauder to the altar where he presented him with a poster entitled “The Self-Made Man” in appreciation of the incredible amount of time that M.:W.:B.: Hauder has devoted to the Library/Museum and the Foundation over the past years.

The full printed report is as follows:

In 2022, the Nebraska Masonic Foundation continued to support the philanthropic endeavors of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Masonic All Star Band Camp - Thanks to the hard work of the Foundation’s Band Committee and our many volunteers, the 27th Masonic All Star Marching Band Camp was another successful event. I direct your attention to the full report of the Band Committee included in this annual report booklet. In 2022, the Band Committee assumed full responsibility for conducting the Band Camp and the event continued to provide an outstanding experience for all participants. The Band Committee is already fully engaged in planning for the 2023 Band Camp.

Masonic Veterans Partnership – The Veteran’s Partnership Committee continued its efforts to support Nebraska Veterans. A full report of the committee’s activities is also included in this annual report. Thank you to the members of the committee for their dedication in reminding the Nebraska Masonic family of the critical need to support our nation’s veterans.

Grand Masters Golf Tournament – The 2022 Grand Masters Golf Tournament raised \$12,936.31. The proceeds from this event are distributed in equal portions among The Nebraska Masonic Home; the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children; and the Nebraska Masonic Foundation. A full report of the tournament is included in this booklet. Thank you to the members of the tournament committee, to the tournament donors, and to the tournament participants for making this another successful event. A special note of thanks to the members of the North Bend Lodge for their continued efforts to make the tournament work so well.

Masonic Heritage Committee – The digitalization of the books and records of our museum continues under the leadership of M.W. Thomas Hauder and M.W. Russ Reno. The committee has completed cataloging the museum’s collection.

In 2022, the Foundation authorized the restoration of the Museum’s original oil portrait of Robert C. Jordon, the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. The painting was showing signs of its age and its prior poor storage (before our Museum was

established), so a professional conservator was engaged to restore the painting. The Foundation is very pleased with the result of this project. To help defray the costs of this project, a limited number of prints of the painting are available for purchase by lodges or members.

A list of the donors to the Nebraska Masonic Foundation is included in this annual report booklet. Thank you to all who contributed their time, talent, or treasure in 2022 to allow the Foundation to continue its mission. Please consider an annual contribution to support one of the activities of the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted
Reginald S. Kuhn PGM 19 and 36

REPORT OF THE MASONIC ALL-STAR BAND COMMITTEE

Eric J. BenSalah

Grand Master Straatmann asked Eric BenSalah to give the report of the Masonic All Star Band Committee and thanked him for the tremendous job he and the Band Committee did after taking over after Michelle's departure from the Grand Lodge office staff.

Eric thanked all the members of the Committee for stepping up and helping him put on an outstanding Band Camp in 2022 without the students even knowing that things were different than past years. He noted that with one year of experience under his belt, he and the Committee would be making some changes for the Band Camp in 2023. One of those changes involved splitting the Band Committee into two parts. One is the Advisory Committee that basically oversees the process and offers advice and guidance as required and makes sure that everything is on the right track. The other is the Planning Committee that is comprised of four people that Eric leads and is responsible for putting the Band Camp on. One of the major changes for 2023 is doing everything on-line and transitioning to a paperless system which make the planning process more efficient. Eric noted that the planning for the 2023 is well underway and was looking forward to a great Band Camp this year.

The printed report is as follows:

The 27th Annual Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp was held because of the work of WB Eric BenSalah, Jennie Danner, Joe Hagerty and WB Christian Soseman. These four took over the huge task of putting together all the components that make the camp work while learning how to do it along the way. Without their efforts, we would not have had the great camp that we had.

186 students from 70 different Nebraska high schools came together in Kearney, Nebraska on Tuesday afternoon, May 31st and worked very hard to be ready for their band concert on Friday, June 3rd. They were also ready to march in the Shrine Parade on Saturday, June 4th and perform their half-time show on Saturday evening. The students were either on the field or rehearsing inside for 7 to 8 hours a day. Their hard work paid off with outstanding performances at all three venues. These students are recommended by their band directors meaning we get some of the best of the best throughout the state of Nebraska. They were rewarded with a Polka Band dance on Wednesday, a D.J. dance on Thursday (by WB Adam Grazier – Rob Morris Lodge No. 46) and a night of bowling at the Big Apple on Friday.

The cost of the camp is \$350 per student which is paid for by the scholarships from the Masonic Family: Blue Lodges, Eastern Star Chapters, Shrines, Royal Arch Chapters,

etc., individuals and businesses. With them we could not have the camp. Special thanks to all who donate to this event.

The band directors of the camp were Bro. Dan Sodomka (Ashlar Lodge No. 33) from Aurora High School, Brad Weber and Dr. Dave Bohnert from Wayne State University. These three have been with the camp for several years and continue to have the students ready to perform. Once the students are ready, the directors turn the band over to the field Drum Majors who were Lauren Milbourn, graduate student at CU Boulder College of Music, Chris Weddel, band director at Yutan High School and Alex Wieland, band director at Wayne High School. They are assisted by JBAs (Junior Band Assistants) who work on the field to make sure students are where they are supposed to be at the right time and help with the inside rehearsals. We also have volunteers who give of their time to chaperone the students and make sure they are at the right event at the right time. I think we are the only band camp who has 24 hour supervision of their students. We also have medical personnel (headed by WB Jim Cope – Victory Lodge No. 310) who are on duty 24 hours a day to make sure the students stay healthy and safe. If you would like to volunteer and be a chaperone, we are always looking for help. It is quite an experience seeing the band come together the way they do. One you will never forget.

The Band Camp does as much as any activity promoting Masonry and its Masonic values not only to the students, but to the parents, friends and relatives of the attendees and other staff members. We continue to get many, many positive comments about our program.

I would like to thank the band committee members, Grand Lodge members and Officers and all the people who make this camp a week of enjoyment for all who attend. We are already deep into planning and preparations for 2023!

Respectfully submitted,
WB Roger Dill, Chairman, 310
WB Eric BenSalah, Camp Director, 290
Jennie Danner – Coordinator
Joe Hagerty - Coordinator
Kathy Worrell
WB Bill Cummins, 54
WB Rollie Otte, 119
Liz Boschult



MASONIC VETERANS PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

A.J. Johnson, MVP Committee Chairman

Grand Master Straatmann announced that these awards are given to the Lodge whose members have contributed the most money to the Masonic Veterans Program, in the areas of Total Amount Raised and Amount Raised Per Capita. The top three in each category will receive trophies, the others will receive certificates.

TOP TEN (Amount Raised)

I am going to read the winners from fifth to first. In the interest of time, I ask that only the first place winners in each category come forward to receive their awards, and the runners up should retrieve theirs following the session.

5	Centennial No. 326	\$ 978
4	Lancaster No. 54	\$1,000
3	Rob Morris No. 46	\$1,500
2	Mizpah No. 302	\$2,000
1	Bellevue No. 325	\$3,000
Honorable Mention	Order of the Eastern Star	\$1,000

TOP TEN (Per Capita)

		Amount	Members	Percentage
5	Mizpah No. 302	\$2,000	179	11.1732
4	Frank Welch No. 75	\$ 800	68	11.7647
3	Centennial No. 326	\$ 978	73	13.3973
2	Bellevue No. 325	\$3,000	170	17.6571
1	Tabula Rasa No. 332	\$ 300	16	18.7500



PLUS CLUB LODGE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Kevin Scheele, Awards Committee Chairman

Grand Master Straatmann asked Kevin Scheele to come forward to present the Plus Club Lodge Membership Awards.

The Plus Club Award recognizes lodges which have had at least a plus one net positive membership growth for the year. The calculations for this award take into account new Master Masons, reinstated members, deaths, and suspensions for non-payment of dues. Members of each lodge announced, please stand as your Lodge is called and collect your award at the end of the session. The lodges that have earned the Plus Club award for 2022 are as follows:

- Waterloo Lodge No. 102
- Bee Hive Lodge No. 184
- Blazing Star Lodge No. 200
- Albert Pike Lodge No. 333



NEBRASKA MASONIC ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION

Rick Nelson, Foundation Chairman

Grand Master Straatmann asked Rick Nelson to come forward and give the report of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation.

Brother Nelson referred to his written report in the Annual Communication Book. He noted that we had sold 3 bricks in the past year but there was still plenty of room left on the wall for more bricks to be purchased. The proceeds from the brick sales go to

building the monetary fund that supports the Grand Lodge Office Building. He further noted that the Foundation at the present time had approximately \$18,000 in a checking account and \$50,000 in an investment account.

The printed report is as follows:

The annual meeting of the Nebraska Masonic Endowment Fund Foundation was held February 3, 2022, in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center. The Board Members for 2022 were as follows:

R.:W.: John L. Millington, Deputy Grand Master

M.:W.: Bruce A. Baker, Grand Secretary

Michael Gray, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Office Committee

Rick E. Nelson (President), Chairman of the Finance Committee

Matt Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer, Appointed by R.:W.: Jim Carlton February 2021, exp 2024

Timothy E. Lowe, Appointed by M.:W.: Alex Straatmann February 2022, exp 2025

Michael W. Stuhr, Appointed by M.:W.: Ron Stites, February 2020, exp 2023

For the year 2022, there were two (2) \$500 bricks sold.

The Donor Wall is designed to allow Masons to honor their mentors by having a brick with their name displayed in the lobby of the Grand Lodge Office. The funds raised from the sale of bricks and donations are invested and their purpose is to provide for the maintenance and improvement to the Grand Lodge. The office repairs and modifications to the exterior of the building have been completed.

As of the December 2022 statement, the checking account balance was \$18,470.97 and the investment account balance was \$50,753.75.



Grand Master Straatmann made the following announcements:

- Brethren, as I mentioned before, I would like to remind you that the donation box is in the back of the room where we are collecting donations for the Masonic Veterans Partnership. Please show your generosity in support of the program.
- At 4:00 PM, there will be meetings for the 2022 Masters and Wardens. The Masters will meet in Ruby 6; and the Wardens will meet in Ruby 7.
- Also at 4:00 PM, the following organizations and committees will meet: The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee will meet in Ruby 4, and the National Sojourners will meet in Ruby 1.
- The social hour for this evening will begin at 6:00 PM in Crystal 1&2, followed by dinner and entertainment in the same banquet room.
- Please have your meal tickets with you when attending any of the meals. No one will be admitted without a ticket.

- You may have noticed that Masonic Appendant Body Displays, the Silent Auction to benefit our Youth Groups, and our Masonic vendor, Illinois Regalia, are all located in the Diamond Exhibit Room.

Please participate generously in the Silent Auction and help support our youth. The silent auction will end at 6:45 p.m. during the social hour prior to the Membership Banquet this evening.

Please use the new exhibit space as a gathering area and visit our appendant body displays, the silent auction, and vendors regularly throughout the session.

- The Nebraska Masonic Home is hosting a Hospitality Area in the exhibit room.
- The Masonic Family Hospitality Room is located off the lobby in the Fairfield Inn. All are welcome there.
- The Grand Master will be holding a Question-and-Answer session this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. after the Secretary's Workshop in the Grand Lodge room.
- We will reconvene here tomorrow morning, Saturday, February 4th at 9:30 AM to continue the business session.

The session was called from labor to refreshment, and V.: W.: Grand Chaplain Kevin Scheele invoked the blessing of Deity, in preparation for the noon meals.

2023 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-sixth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 3-4, 2023

Most Worshipful Alex F. Straatmann
Grand Master

Membership Banquet
Friday, February 3, 2023
7:00 p.m.

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

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

MASONIC CHARITIES GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS

Grand Master Alex Straatmann invited Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, April Johnston, Executive Director of The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, and Most Worshipful Reg Kuhn, President of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation, to come forward to receive checks representing the proceeds of the 21st Annual Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. Each was presented a check in the amount of \$4,312.11. A total of \$12,936.31 was raised at the Grand Master's Masonic Charities Golf Tournament. The Grand Master thanked Rob King and Roger Moore, Co-Chairmen of the Masonic Charities Golf Tournament Committee, committee members, volunteers and participants who have continued to make it a successful endeavor for the charities.

NEBRASKA PILLAR AWARD

The Nebraska Pillar Award recognizes lodges that perform activities that lead to a successful year, a stronger lodge and a fulfilling experience for members. A plaque is awarded to lodges the first year they qualify and a plate is presented each subsequent year the award is earned.

The following lodges received the Pillar Award:

Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in Long Pine
Franklin Lodge No. 264 in Franklin
Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie
John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha (Plaque)
College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln
Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue

GRAND MASTER'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Grand Master's Leadership Award recognizes Masters that perform the required activities on the shared application with the Nebraska Pillar Award.

The following 2022 Masters earned the Grand Master's Leadership Award:

Garrett C. Weidner, Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in Long Pine
Michael D. Ingram, Franklin Lodge No. 264 in Franklin
Michael E. Tomasiewicz, Olive Branch Lodge No. 274 in Rosalie
Thomas O. Anderson, College View Lodge No. 320 in Lincoln
Bobby W. Lingerfelt, Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue

GOLD PAN AWARD

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

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

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

The Gold Pan was awarded to John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290.

ROCK MAUL AWARD

The Large Lodge Rock Maul was presented to M.:W.: Byron C. Jenkins by the Omaha Area Past Masters of 1966 to be used as a traveling trophy. It is sixteen pounds in weight with a bronze head. The Rock Maul has been used for its original purpose in a stone quarry, and has been beautifully refurbished with a square and compass worked into the metal.

The Small Lodge Rock Maul was presented as a gift to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska by the family of Past Grand Master Harold Hultman. In recognition of the celebration of

the Bicentennial of the United States, and in honor of Grand Master Hultman, W.:B.: Herman O. Hansen, DGC, gold plated the head of a rock maul, engraved the handle with Masonic working tools, and gifted it to M.:W.: Hultman.

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

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

The recipient of the Large Lodge Rock Maul Award was John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha.

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

Most Worshipful Alex Straatmann then introduced the entertainment, Flat Water Jazz Orchestra.

2023 Proceedings
of the
Grand Lodge
of the
Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

One Hundred Sixty-sixth
Annual Communication

Held in Kearney, Nebraska
February 3-4, 2023

Most Worshipful Alex F. Straatmann
Grand Master

Morning Session
Saturday, February 4, 2023

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

“Gracious God, remind us of the importance of keeping the promises we have made to each other and to You. Teach us that the obligations we have taken upon ourselves cannot be forgotten or overlooked. Show us that the only way to honor our commitments is to live in harmony with them on a daily basis. Keep us faithful in living with, living in awareness of, and living up to our Masonic Obligations. Guide us in the responsibilities which are ours as we assemble here to conduct our business today. We ask that you watch over our service men and women wherever they may be stationed around the globe. In Your Spirit we pray, Amen.”

R.:W.: John L. Millington, Deputy Grand Master, called the 166th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska from Refreshment to Labor at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2023.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Most Worshipful Brother Alex Straatmann covered in the East. Grand Master Straatmann welcomed the brethren to the morning session.

Most Worshipful Straatmann asked the Grand Senior Deacon to please escort Ted C. Wiley, Grand Master of Iowa, to the East. Grand Honors were given, and he was asked to bring greetings from his grand jurisdiction.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rick Nelson

The printed report is as follows:

The Committee on Finance met via Zoom on December 29, 2022 to conduct its assigned duties as outlined in Section 1–318 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. During that meeting, the Committee approved the following budget for 2023 to be proposed for approval by the delegates at the Annual Communication in February 2023.

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

Actual revenue and expenses, compared to budgeted, for 2022 are as follows:

	Actual	Budgeted
Revenue	\$379,076	\$422,907
Expenses	\$337,663	\$482,959
Net Difference	\$41,413	\$(46,803)

After other activities affecting cash flow, such as cash on hand on January 1, prepaid Annual Communication, prepaid expenses, and purchases of inventory assets, an investment draw for operating expenses was not necessary. The results of the fiscal year show that the Grand Lodge Officers and staff have been good stewards of the funds of the Grand Lodge operating budget during 2022. An investment draw was not necessary in part due to the cancellation of numerous activities, the Grand Lodge Officers not claiming expense reimbursements for travel, and the office staff keeping budget items for operating expenses, equipment, printing, supplies, computer and general expenses in check.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rick E. Nelson, 317, Chairman
Michael A. Buchardt, 256
Roger W. Chamberlin, 54
Jack G. Frahm, 204
John E. Lorenzen, 10, 314
James G. McCullough, 314
Charles V. Sederstrom, III, 290

Account	2023 Budget
Lodge Income	
4100.000 Membership Dues	207,660.00
4100.000 Membership Dues - from Perp	11,733.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home	10,383.00
4110.000 Dues-Fremont Home - from Perp	498.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home	17,305.00
4120.000 Dues-Masonic Home - from Perp	1,796.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington	10,383.00
4130.000 Dues-Geo Washington - from Perp	589.00
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason	3,461.00
4140.000 Dues-Educ. Pub. - NE Mason - from Perp	317.00
4175.000 GL Admin Fee - from Perp	1,700.00
4200.000 Initiation Fees	5,000.00
4210.000 Reinstatement Fees	400.00
4220.000 Public Records CHC	2,500.00
4640.000 CHIP Assessment	11,670.00
4670.000 Youth Assessment	11,670.00
4300.000 Surety Bond Premium	2,145.00
4350.000 Liability Ins Premium	20,040.00
Subtotal - Lodge Income	319,250.00
Sales Income	
4400.000 Donations for Supplies	5,000.00
4625.000 Annual Communication Meals Income	18,195.00
4633.500 AC Registration Fee	3,000.00
4335.400 Sale of Installation Reception Tickets	1,350.00
4875.000 Miscellaneous Income	1,000.00
4910.000 Interest - General Fund	100.00
Subtotal-Sales Income	28,645.00
Participatory Income	
4500.000 SR Feasibility Study Reimb Loan Pmt	0.00
4600.000 Rental Income	10,695.00
4650.000 NE Masonic Home-Admin	5,000.00
4641.000 CHIP Foundation Admin Fee	500.00
4655.000 NE Masonic Home-Paper	2,500.00
4660.000 OES & Fremont –Paper	2,500.00
Subtotal-Participatory Income	21,195.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$369,090.00
Annual Communication	
5100.000 Annual Communication Meals Expense	26,927.25

5104.400 Guest Room Rental	3,000.00
5111.400 Entertainment - Grand Master's Banquet	1,500.00
5131.400 Entertainment - Membership Banquet	500.00
5150.400 Ladies Program	125.00
5170.400 Misc Incidental Expense	6,000.00
5440.400 Printing & Copying - Ann. Comm.	1,500.00
5120.400 Proceedings	3,500.00
Subtotal-Annual Communication	43,052.25
Installation	
5170.425 Misc. Installation	2,500.00
5220.425 Installation Meals	3,589.00
5440.425 Printing & Copying – Installation	200.00
Subtotal-Installation	6,289.00
Travel & Related	
5210.000 Auto Allowance	1,000.00
5210.100 In-State Travel-Grand Master	5,000.00
5210.150 In-State Travel-Dep Gr Master	2,000.00
5210.200 In-State Travel-Gr Secretary	950.00
5210.250 In-State Travel-Gr Custodian	650.00
5210.350 In-State Travel-Other Officers	2,000.00
5210.300 Auto Allow-DGC's	400.00
5220.000 Meals-GL Office Staff	150.00
5220.100 Meals-Grand Master	1,000.00
5220.150 Meals-Dep Gr Master	500.00
5235.150 Retreat-Dep Gr Master	2,000.00
5240.100 Conf & Conv -Gr Master	1,000.00
5240.150 Conf & Conv-Dep GM	1,500.00
5240.200 Conf & Conv-Gr Secretary	1,000.00
5240.350 Conf & Conv-Other Officer	5,000.00
5240.500 Conference of Grand Masters/Grand Secretaries	10,210.00
5240.550 Midwest Conference	1,316.00
5240.600 Rocky Mountain Conference	0.00
5240.700 Shrine Membership Seminar	1,000.00
5260.300 School of Instruction	500.00
Subtotal-Travel & Related	37,176.00
Occupancy & Related	
5410.000 Utilities	11,400.00
5412.000 Trash Removal	500.00
5413.000 Grounds Maintenance	5,140.00
5414.000 Building Maintenance	10,910.07

5415.000 Telephone	2,900.00
5420.000 Equipment Lease & Maintenance	12,425.00
5430.000 Equipment Purchase	6,000.00
5435.000 Postage	4,000.00
5440.000 Printing & Copying	500.00
5445.000 Office Supplies	4,000.00
5450.000 Office Maintenance	1,000.00
5455.000 Computer Supplies	2,000.00
5460.000 Computer Repair & Maint	2,000.00
5465.000 Computer Software Sup	4,593.00
5470.000 Dues & Subscriptions	330.00
5475.000 NE Mason Pub Exp	15,815.00
5480.000 Bank Service Charge-Unrestricted	25.00
5481.000 Credit Card Fees	850.00
5485.000 Professional Fees - Accting Audit	6,500.00
5490.000 Corporate/Legal Fees - Sect'y of State, etc.	25.00
5495.000 Membership Database Software	3,757.50
5500.000 Lodge Supplies-Printed	5,000.00
5505.000 Lodge Supplies-Other	100.00
5505.250 Supplies Lodges-GC	100.00
5510.000 Supplies Lodges-Pins	750.00
5525.000 GL Jewels, Aprons & Collars	2,045.00
Subtotal-Occupancy & Related	102,665.57
Insurance & Administrative	
5600.000 Workers Compensation	527.00
5605.000 Group Ins for GL Employees	600.00
5610.000 Surety Bond	2,145.00
5620.000 GL Directors & Officers Ins	3,953.00
5625.000 Lodge Liability Insurance	20,040.00
5635.000 Grand Lodge Insurance	9,410.00
5640.000 Public Records CHC	2,500.00
5650.000 Other Admin Exp-General	3,000.00
Subtotal-Insurance & Admin	42,175.00
Committees and Programs	
5650.450 Masonic Education	550.00
5240.450 Conv & Conf Education	1,000.00
5650.600 Trial Commissions	500.00
5220.650 Gr Lodge Office Comm-Meals	150.00
5650.700 Public Relations Committee	1,000.00
5650.710 Grand Marshal Exp - Office Expenses	100.00
5650.750 Youth Committee	2,500.00
5875.750 Youth Scholarships Awards	4,000.00

5650.800 Membership committee	150.00
5650.900 Awards Committee - Awards & Misc	700.00
5650.950 Lodge Leadership Committee	400.00
5650.970 All Committee Meetings	200.00
5650.980 Internet and Computer Committee	500.00
5800.000 GL Education Programs	500.00
5801.000 GM Program Expense	0.00
Subtotal-Committees	12,250.00
Contributions	
5820.000 Masonic Service Assoc Dues/Hosp	1,700.00
5830.000 Other Masonic Promotion - Cornerstones	1,000.00
5835.000 Assn of Masonic Brds of Relief	115.00
Subtotal-Contributions	2,815.00
Salaries & Related	
6561.000 Salary-GL Office Staff	89,640.00
6561.000 Salary-CHIP	0.00
6560.000 Performance Incentive	3,000.00
6562.100 FICA-Employer Share	7,086.96
6562.200 Unemploy Tax-Fed	150.00
6562.300 Unemploy Tax-State	150.00
6560.000 Payroll Expenses-Other	100.00
6570.000 Employer's Share Sep/IRA	0.00
6681.000 Grand Custodian Contract Amt	3,000.00
6680.000 Contract Labor	4,000.00
6580.000 GL Office Staff-Training	500.00
Subtotal-Salaries & Related	107,626.96
Pass Through	
5704.000 Fremont Home Dues	10,881.00
5705.000 NE Masonic Home Dues	19,101.00
5706.000 Geo Washington Mem Dues	10,972.00
5650.100 CHIP Expense	11,670.00
5810.000 NE DeMolay Donation	3,890.00
5811.000 Job's Daughters Donation	3,890.00
5812.000 Rainbow Donation	3,890.00
Subtotal-Pass Through	64,294.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$418,343.78
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES (Net Loss)	(49,253.78)
Investment Income	

4700.000 Int & Div FNB (2.3% of investment balance of \$2,036,054 on 11/30/2021	
Subtotal-Investment Income	\$49,253.78
ADJ. BALANCE WITH INVEST. INCOME	\$0.00

M.: W.: B.: Ronald Stites then moved for adoption of the 2023 budget and the report of the Finance Committee. With no discussion, the motion was seconded and carried favorably.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Delmar A. Jones, Chairman

The Credentials Committee is pleased to report the following for this, the 166th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska.

We have in attendance all Grand Lodge Officers, 24 Past Grand Masters, 12 Deputy Grand Custodians and 39 non-delegate Masons. At the time of this report, there are the following Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Registered.

There are 62 Worshipful Masters in person and 16 by proxy; there are 47 Senior Wardens in person and 23 by proxy; there are 39 Junior Wardens in person and 24 by proxy; and there are 55 Secretaries in person and 18 by proxy.

Again, this year we are recognizing the Lodges that have all four elected delegate officers in attendance in person. They are lodges #6, 32, 46, 50, 102, 119, 184, 256, 268, 288, 290, 302, 328, and 333.

They will receive a certificate to display in their lodge. We thank them for their attendance.

There are no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries registered from the following Lodges: 34, 37, 59, 62, 73, 121, 126, 173, 180, 192, 207, 224, 229, 248, 251 and 285.

There have been no Masters, Wardens or Secretaries Registered from the following lodges for two years: 34, 37, 59, 62, 73, 126, 180, 192, 207, 229, 248, 251 and 285, and for three years: 37, 59, 62, 73, 180, 192, 207, 229, 251, and 285.

We are pleased to have dignitaries present representing the following jurisdictions and organizations: Prince Hall Masons of Nebraska, Grand Lodges of Iowa, and Minnesota.

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

Other attendance items that may be of interest are: There were 176 present at the Grand Master’s Banquet Thursday evening, there were 293 at the Public Opening on Friday morning, and 235 at the Membership Banquet Friday night.

It has indeed been a pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Credentials Committee this year for Most Worshipful Alex Straatmann. I want to personally thank the other Brothers

on the Committee who have spent many hours at the registration table to help make this a smooth and enjoyable Grand Lodge Communication. They are Mike Hoagland, Karl Rasmussen, and Grady Wells.

I also give a huge thank you to David and Jennifer at the Grand Lodge office who work so hard to make this Grand Lodge Session run smoothly.

With possible corrections or additions due to late registrations, I move for the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Delmar Jones, 65 & 46, Chairman
Robert M. Hoagland, 46 & 146
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15
Grady A. Wells, 15 & 274
William "Bill" Short, 297
Bill Pickle, 325, Ad Hoc

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

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

M.:W.: Patrick D. Barger

M.:W.: Patrick D. Barger noted that his written report could be found on page 41 of the Annual Communication Book and moved for its adoption.

The printed report is as follows:

Serving a second year as Grand Custodian has proven once again to be a meaningful endeavor and a great honor. In the lodges embracing the true meaning of masonry and practicing it through ritual work, they experience no difficulty filling leadership positions, advancing multiple candidates, and maintaining or re-establishing their certifications to conduct masonic degrees. In the lodges seeking to make Master Masons as fast as they can, they may ultimately do so for a short period of time, but the vast majority of those same instant masons leave the lodge just as fast. In lodges who seek to demonstrate they did not lose members within three years of their "overnight" raising, it is because the priority of the vast majority of those masons was to maintain their blue lodge membership to be eligible for membership in an appendant body.

As my deputies and I travel the state, we witness a high level of passion, reverence, and welcoming of our ritual work in many lodges. It remains obvious that those lodges who embrace our legend flourish while those who do not continue to struggle to survive as they have for decades. Lodges who have not raised members or stemmed the steady decline in their membership for years cannot suddenly blame the 2019 long-form proficiency for their woes. Lodges with a serious membership decline all have the same fundamental issue: we promise candidates a wonderful masonic experience, but once they get here, they find little but distractions from the very thing that makes us masons: the Legend of Hiram Abiff. They ignore or marginalize this time-honored concept candidates cannot find in any other club or organization, all of whom exact far less financial and manpower demands than masonry.

New candidates continue to learn full-form proficiency at amazing rates, as the continuous flow of those earning Grand Master proficiency excellence coins is staggering. This alone is strong evidence the 2019 return to long-form proficiency has been a positive move and mostly without objection, except for those lodges wishing to make Master Masons as quickly as possible. Long-form proficiency has developed new candidates with a much deeper knowledge and understanding of what makes us Masons and offers a built-in program for mentoring, where none had existed in countless lodges across the state. Lodges embracing this concept report having new members lined up to compete for a chance to be appointed into their advancing line based on how well they know their ritual parts.

For the second year in a row, we have no vacancies in any of our 30+ Deputy Grand Custodian districts across the state, which is another welcome change from a long stretch of vacancies in years past. This can also be attributed to the emphasis placed on ritual by many recent Grand Masters. Nebraska Masonry has this year again enjoyed an unprecedented increase in lodges who for decades had not been certified to conduct degrees until 2022. Even more are now certified to open and close in all degrees after many years being unable to do so due to never asking new members to learn any ritual, so they didn't, leaving very few in most lodges to teach it to others until recently.

Our completely reformatted structure for Schools of Instruction, now conducted by Deputy Grand Custodians, allows more interaction from sideline brethren without fear of making ritual errors in front of people. Attendance has greatly increased for the second year in a row as well. The Grand Lodge held multiple Schools of Instruction in Omaha, Lincoln, Bridgeport, and Rosalie.

Deputy Grand Custodians continue to use our new training manual developed in 2021. The Deputy Grand Custodian Handbook consolidates over 150 years of ritual knowledge and procedures for use in conducting lodge examinations, training new Deputies and Apprentices, and communicating the expectations of the Grand Master and Grand Custodian.

After a two-year gap in Grand Lodge emphasis of long-form ritual requirements for candidates since it was restored in 2019, the 2021 Grand Lodge under the sound and judicious leadership of Grand Master Jim Carton took great steps to help lodges succeed with it. 2022 Grand Master Alex Straatmann further took up the torch and helped Nebraska lodges grow with the long-form proficiency requirement. As a result of the Grand Lodge's 2021 and 2022 efforts to emphasize the importance of Round Table ritual practices across the state, lodges who had previously had the highest backlogs of candidates have now passed and/or raised them. If long-form proficiency is not working in a lodge, it is not the candidate's nor the legislation's fault; it is a lodge culture barrier opposed to the value of ritual that impedes the development of an effective mentoring program.

It continues to be my honor and pleasure to labor beside an innumerable number of amazingly dedicated and fervent Nebraska Masons. Their ongoing endeavors methodically improve and expand the significance and distinction of ritual work within our jurisdiction. They make Nebraska Masonry stronger and meticulously meaningful. Most Worshipful Brothers Scott J. Krieger, Sr., James A. Carlton, and Philip A. Lorenzen, the Committee on Nebraska Work, should also be commended for their efforts. Further, I

would like to express my sincerest appreciation of Most Worshipful Alex Straatmann and his Grand Lodge Officers for their commitment to the Craft through their steadfast ritual efforts.

For the year 2022 we had 38 of the 107 lodges in Nebraska, currently certified and 33 lodges certified in open and close only. The lodges are as follows:

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
Nebraska	1	Omaha	*
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	65
Capitol	3	Omaha	*
Omadi	5	South Sioux City	73
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	99
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	68
Covert	11	Omaha	53
Fremont	15	Fremont	*
Lincoln	19	Lincoln	88
Washington	21	Blair	34
Pawnee	23	Pawnee City	*
Blue River	30	Milford	*
Tekamah	31	Tekamah	*
Platte Valley	32	North Platte	71
Ashlar	33	Grand Island	*
Fairbury	35	Fairbury	*
Lone Tree	36	Central City	*
Papillion	39	Papillion	1
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	77
Hastings	50	Hastings	99
Lancaster	54	Lincoln	101
Mosaic	55	Norfolk	*
York	56	York	*
Wahoo	59	Wahoo	98
Keystone	62	Phillips	*
Osceola	65	Osceola	*
Hooper	72	Hooper	*
Frank Welch	75	Sidney	72
Geneva	79	Geneva	47
Corinthian	83	Wayne	*
Utica	96	Utica	94
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	91
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	72
Springfield	112	Springfield	*

Lodge Name	No	City	Years
North Bend	119	North Bend	64
Superior	121	Superior	*
Long Pine	136	Long Pine	5
Jachin	146	Holdrege	65
Custer	148	Broken Bow	*
Alliance	183	Alliance	78
Bee Hive	184	Omaha	*
Highland	194	Cortland	*
Scottsbluff	201	Mitchel	*
East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	89
Magnolia	220	Emerson	*
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	*
North Star	227	Lincoln	90
Geo. Washington	250	Lincoln	*
Hickman	256	Lincoln	35
Franklin	264	Franklin	*
Geo. W Lininger	268	Omaha	5
Olive Branch	274	Rosalie	14
Florence	281	Omaha	1
Camp Clarke	285	Bridgeport	0
Union	287	Palmyra	*
Omaha	288	Omaha	*
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	91
James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	*
Cotner	297	Lincoln	81
Liberty	300	Lincoln	74
Mizpah	302	Omaha	73
Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	*
Victory	310	Valley	73
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	99
Mid-West	317	Hastings	75
College View	320	Lincoln	1
Lebanon	323	Columbus	*
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	11
Centennial	326	Omaha	*
Shiloh	327	Omaha	*
Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	15
Albert Pike	333	Omaha	*

We have 50 brethren eternally certified in the Grand jurisdiction of Nebraska. And I commend them for their hard work and dedication.

In addition to those eternally certified, we have 55 brothers who recertified in all three degrees in the past year. We have 4 Brethren who are newly certified in the Entered Apprentice Degree, 4 Brethren who are newly certified in the Fellow Craft Degree, and 4 Brethren who are newly certified in the Master Mason Degree in 2022. I want to thank them for all the hard work they put into learning the work correctly.

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

DISTRICT	NAME	LOCATION
1	David A. Wetrosky	Nebraska City
2	Charles J. Odorizzi, III	Omaha
3	John E. Dimon	Omaha
4	Brian K. Sandall	Blair
5	Michael E. Tomasiewicz	Tekamah
6	Kent L. Neumann	Bancroft
8	Stephen C. Kennedy	Brownville
9	Benjamin R. Zaayer	Omaha
10	F. Graham House	Lincoln
11	Suman Vallabhbhai	Lincoln
12	Dennis H. Brydl	Lincoln
13	Jeffrey L. Buhrman	Seward
14	Eric J. BenSalah	Omaha
15	Randall L. Hart	Tekamah
17	Roger A. Deininger	Hastings
19	Dean Papenhagen	Hastings
20	Adam M. Thayer	Lincoln
21	Kevin H. Scheele	Waco
22	Tyler S. Loontjer	Bellevue
23	S. Hal Cottrell	Bellevue
24	Delmar A. Jones	Kearney
26	Arthur J. Ferguson	Wood Lake
27	Alvin O. Benemerito	Long Pine
28	Bradley M. Dutton	Alliance
29	Joel W. Zilmer	Alliance
30	John B. Ferguson	Kimball
31	Mark L. Carley	Dalton
32	Roger L. Shillington	Max
33	Sean D. Sutherland	Sidney

DISTRICT	NAME	LOCATION
34	Thomas J. Lagerstrom	Lincoln
35	Jeffrey A. Merriman	Omaha
DGC-At-Large	Bruce A. Baker	Hastings
DGC-At-Large	Patrick D. Barger	Lincoln
DGC-At-Large	James A. Carlton	Bellevue
DGC-At-Large	Bernard F. Hauber	Omaha
DGC-At-Large	John R. Herbolsheimer	Gretna
DGC-At-Large	John L. Millington	Lincoln
DGC-At-Large	David C. Norton	Bellevue

My sincerest thanks to each of these men and their apprentices for their service to Nebraska Masonry, without whom it would fail to maintain its time-honored, centuries-old identity.

I also want to thank each of the Deputy Grand Custodians Emeritus for their lifelong efforts to strengthen the Legend of Hiram Abiff in Nebraska Masonry:

Richard H. Cooper Eugene C. Sibley
 Scott J. Krieger, Sr. Carl C. Plants

Regrettably, we bid farewell to the following Deputies, Apprentices, and Emeriti who passed to that Undiscovered Country in 2022: Steve Green. While we mourn this dedicated Brother, we express our sincerest appreciation for their service to Nebraska Masonry.

Disappointingly over time, we bade farewell via suspension to many from our rolls for reasons we could have prevented. Over the last 30 years, we have lost innumerable brethren after their first three years in Masonry because we did not deliver what we said we would during their initiation. Paying bills, having cookies and coffee, and using the blue lodge merely as a steppingstone to get to an appendant body is not what we promised in their initiation. Although this tide is steadily turning following the long-form proficiency restoral, undoing the damage done will take years, but it has started and must continue. We must perform meaningful degrees through quality ritual and assign candidates dedicated mentors who follow-through with their duties. Thus, our lodges will become more resilient, viable, and sustainable and preserve the heart and spirit of our beloved fraternity for years to come. It is toward this goal I have respectfully dedicated my time and efforts as your Grand Custodian.

The motion was seconded and carried favorably. M.:W.:B.: Straatmann thanked M.:W.:B.: Patrick for his report.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY
M.:W.: Bruce A. Baker, PGM, Grand Secretary

Grand Secretary Bruce Baker began his report by referring to the Secretary’s Workshop on Friday where a possible new membership management system was rolled out to the attendees of the Workshop. The new membership management system received

a favorable impression by a vast majority of the attendees. Because of its widespread acceptance over the current membership management system, M.:W.:B.: Bruce announced that it would most likely be implemented in 2023.

Grand Secretary Bruce thanked the Grand Lodge Office Committee for their tireless professionalism in filling the position of Grand Lodge Office Manager. Secretary Bruce then publicly thanked the Grand Lodge office staff, David and Jennifer, for their work during the past year in filling the huge void left by the resignation of the past Grand Lodge Office Manager and then planning for this successful Grand Lodge Annual Communicaton.

The printed report is as follows:

It has been a distinct honor to serve as Grand Secretary this past year. The challenges have been plentiful with the departure of our previous Office Manager.

One of the duties of the Grand Secretary is to serve as the Grand Lodge liaison to the Grand Lodge Office Committee. Per our code, the GL Office Committee is responsible for the Grand Lodge Office Building, staff and equipment. I participated in the extensive search and ultimate hiring of WB David Wetrosky as the new Grand Lodge Office Manager. My hat is off to the GL Office Committee for their tireless professionalism in identifying the best possible candidate for the Office Manager position. Additionally, the Office Committee has identified the need and implemented a plan to replace and upgrade the computer and related equipment while maintaining solid fiscal responsibility as good stewards of the Grand Lodge resources.

As we complete our 3rd year using the Groupable/m2 member database, we continue to experience a level of resistance to this effective reporting membership management system. To the many secretaries who have embraced and effectively used m2 for their monthly reporting and membership management, thank you! While the office staff is willing to help as they are able, the local lodge secretaries are strongly encouraged to utilize the Secretary's Manual and the many Groupable/m2 online training sessions available to them. Additionally, lodge secretary assistance options continue to be explored.

My sincere gratitude to our Records Administrative Secretary Jennifer for her dedicated service to the Grand Lodge during the months required to fill the Office Manager position. Jennifer really performed above and beyond expectations. Thank you, Jennifer. Likewise, our Brother GL Office Manage David started in a less than favorable position "in the hole" in June and has performed tirelessly as he's learned while executing the many duties of the Grand Lodge Office Manager. My sincere respect and thank you for your efforts, WB David. I encourage everyone to drop into the Grand Lodge Office to say hello, admire the beautiful building and Library/Museum. While you are there, thank Jennifer and David for their efforts on behalf of the Nebraska Grand Lodge.

My report would not be complete without thanking each Lodge Secretary for your service to your lodge. While much of the secretary's work goes unnoticed, yet it is vital to the health of their lodge. I appreciate, along with the GL office staff, the diligence of our secretaries in filing their reports and participation in Grand Lodge. Those secretaries who timely file all their reports and attend Grand Lodge are recognized with a Certificate of Achievement. The secretaries receiving this Certificate of Achievement in 2022 were:

Jay H. Speck, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6
Michael L. Small, Hastings Lodge No. 50
Kevin Bonin, Geneva Lodge No. 79
Dick L. Hemmingsen, Plainview Lodge No. 204

Jeffrey B. Eggerling, Hickman Lodge No. 256
 Jerrell Gerdes, Franklin Lodge No. 264
 Eric BenSalah, John J Mercer Lodge No. 290
 Curtis Wolbert, College View Lodge No. 320
 S. Hal Cottrell, Bellevue Lodge No. 325

In addition, Mark L. Rossignol of Cotner Lodge No. 297, Liberty Lodge No. 300, and Craftsmen Lodge No. 314 received the 2021 Lodge Secretary of the Year award at the Grand Lodge Session in February 2022.

I also report the following statistical information. This information is accurate to the date of printing of this publication.

Membership longevity awards presented in 2022.

50-year.....41 60-year.....54 65-year.....28
 70-year.....12 75-year.....1

2022 Membership Activity (preliminary)

Number of Lodges	104		
Membership 1/1/2022	7,778		
Entered Apprentices	112		
Fellow Crafts	43		
		Demits	5
Master Masons	54	Deceased	259
Affiliations	3	Suspensions	177
Plurals	26	Withdrew	0
Reinstatements	20	Termination of plurals	7
Consolidated	49	Consolidated	49
Other	5	Other	2
Total Gain	157	Total Loss	499
		Membership 12/31/2022	7,436

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

Respectfully submitted,
 Bruce A. Baker, PGM, 317

Grand Secretary Bruce Baker moved for the adoption of the printed report of the Grand Secretary, along with the adoption of the 2022 Proceedings as printed, including the reports contained therein. The motion was seconded and carried.

LODGE VITALITY AWARDS

Grand Master Staatmann then called upon the Chairman of the Awards Committee, Kevin Scheele, to announce the Lodge Vitality Awards.

The Lodge Vitality Award recognizes lodges that complete involvement requirements in their state, local and area communities. These activities help to keep the

lodge visible in the community. Each lodge is eligible to earn this award annually, with no limit to the number of lodges that may be recognized.

Very Worshipful Brother Kevin asked members of the following lodges to please stand and be recognized for their achievements, and to come up after the session to retrieve their certificates. Today we congratulate:

- Western Star Lodge No. 2
- Long Pine Lodge No. 136
- Olive Branch Lodge No. 274
- John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290
- College View Lodge No. 320

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Grand Master Straatmann reiterated that all balloting at the session would be conducted using an electronic voting system. The system is on loan to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska from the Grand Lodge of Michigan and he thanked them for entrusting it to us. All devices were to be returned to the Credentials Desk after the close of Annual Communication. Devices not returned would be billed to the lodge in the amount of \$250.

Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder operated the system and a few tests were conducted prior to the official ballot being taken.

M.:W.:B.: Alex Staatmann asked Deputy Grand Master John Millington to assume the lectern and preside over the discussion of the Grand Master’s Recommendations.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

Recommendation No. 1

Amend paragraph (b) of **Section 1-201 – GRAND SECRETARY** by adding and deleting certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 1-201 – GRAND SECRETARY – The Grand Secretary shall have charge of the seal of the Grand Lodge; shall personally attend and record the transactions of the Grand Lodge when in Annual Communication; shall sign all orders, certificates, documents and diplomas requiring the seal of the Grand Lodge, to include the affixing of the seal thereon. The Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio a member of the Fraternal Relations Committee and the Grand Lodge Office Committee. The Grand Secretary shall report to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge such statistical data concerning the status of membership of this Grand Lodge as may, in his opinion, be appropriate, or as may be directed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary shall devote such time as his duties may require for the efficient and prompt completion of such duties or other programs of the Grand Lodge to include the promotion of Masonry.

The Grand Secretary, within his discretion, may appoint up to six (6) Deputy Grand Secretaries, for the purpose of administering his duties and to assist subordinate lodges and their secretaries. Any member appointed a Deputy Grand Secretary shall have served as a secretary for a subordinate lodge prior to appointment. The duties of Deputy Grand Secretary shall include, but are not limited to, assisting subordinate secretaries

with reporting requirements, technology requirements, and reporting back to the Grand Secretary any assistance provided to subordinate lodges. The Deputy Grand Secretaries serve at the pleasure of the Grand Secretary in consultation with the Grand Master.

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

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions for discussion.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 1 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

Recommendation No. 3

Amend **Section 2-506 – ATTENDING CHURCH: MASONIC CLOTHING** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized:

Sec. 2-506 – ATTENDING CHURCH: MASONIC CLOTHING – Members of a subordinate lodge may attend church services in procession without dispensation. But Masonic clothing should be worn only when the lodge is at work or upon some Masonic occasion. *Masonic aprons may be worn to a public event where it would be appropriate, such as a community parade or other public celebration upon dispensation from the Grand Master.*

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

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions for discussion.

After discussion was held on the matter, there was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 3 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

Recommendation No. 4

Amend **Section 2-605 – LODGE DUES** by adding certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 2-605 – LODGE DUES – Beginning January 1, 2007, the dues assessed by all chartered subordinate lodges shall be payable on January 1 of the year for which they are assessed and shall become delinquent on the 1st day of March of the same year, if not paid by that date. On March 1, of each year, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify in writing each member that is in arrears for dues of the current year of such fact and request payment thereof on or before April 30, of the same year. If such member fails to pay his dues on or before April 30 of such year, he shall stand suspended for non-payment of dues upon approval of the Grand Master, and an entry noting said approved suspension shall be made in the minutes of the lodge. Approval *or disapproval* of a suspension for non-payment of dues shall be given by the Grand Master upon submission by the lodge. *The Grand*

Master may approve the form upon submission of satisfactory evidence of compliance with Section 2-513 of the Bylaws. ***The Grand Master may also disprove an individual suspension of non-payment of dues if good cause is shown, such as length of membership or failure to contact the member personally. The Grand Master may also request additional information before an approval or disapproval of a membership suspension for non-payment of dues.*** Subordinate lodges will be responsible for per capita payments of all members listed on any Annual Report of Suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues received after June 10. Members listed on Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues reports received after June 10 will not be suspended. It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to notify, in writing, each member approved for suspension for non-payment of dues. Such notice shall be deemed properly given when mailed by first class mail to the last known post office address of such suspended individual.

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

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 4 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

Recommendation No. 5

Amend **Section 3-906 – DEATH AFTER SUSPENSION** by adding certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 3-906 – DEATH AFTER SUSPENSION – The record of a brother's suspension for non-payment if dues cannot be changed, vacated, or annulled by the lodge suspending him, after the brother's death. But when the action of the lodge was illegal, the sentence of suspension may be declared null and void by the Grand Master, provided, that if the so-called suspension occurred more than one year prior to the death of said brother, and no attempt has been made by himself or his relations for restoration to good standing in that length of time, he shall be deemed to have had full knowledge thereof, and to have concurred therein, and the action of the lodge shall not be changed, but shall be final. ***The Grand Master, at his discretion and upon application from a subordinate lodge, may reinstate a brother who was suspended for non-payment of dues for the purposes of a Masonic funeral. The reinstatement for the purposes of a Masonic funeral shall not provide any further benefit to the survivors of the reinstated members and the reinstatement will be solely for the benefit of a Masonic funeral.***

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

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 5 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

Recommendation No. 6

Amend **Section 3-102 – ENUMERATED** by adding certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 3-102(g) – ENUMERATED – Making application to, or joining any lodge, society, or institution that shall provide as a condition precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, or shall have taken the degrees of Entered Apprentice Mason, Fellow Craft Mason, and Master Mason, provided that this inhibition shall not apply to York or Scottish Rite bodies, the Order of Eastern Star, the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, National Federated Craft, Allied Masonic Degrees, the National Sojourners, the Past Grand Masters Association, the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, High Twelve International, Inc., Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatus, *the Royal Order of Scotland, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America, Grottoes International*, or to organizations which do not require the taking of any obligation and which do not have any secret ritual or ceremony. The above described organizations, societies, or institutions are commonly referred to as, and are hereby defined as, appendant bodies or appendant Masonic bodies *recognized by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Any other body requiring that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing may apply to the Grand Master to operate under dispensation until the matter may be voted upon at the next Annual Communication under a Grand Master's recommendation if the body is operating under dispensation.*

After explaining the recommendation and giving his rationale for presenting it, M.:W.:B.: Straatmann moved for the adoption of Recommendation No. 6. The motion for the adoption of Recommendation No. 6 was seconded.

R.:W.:B.: Millington gave the general instructions.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Recommendation No. 6 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were presented at the 165th Annual Communication in February, 2022 and determined by the Jurisprudence Committee to be in proper form.

VOTING ON MEMBER RESOLUTION NO. 1

Resolution No. 1

Amend **Section 2-402 – PROFICIENCY** by adding certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

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

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

Entered Apprentice Degree – Starting with the words, “Give me a sign” and ending with giving of the “word”.

Fellow Craft Degree – Starting with the words, “Have you any signs...” and continuing to the end of the lecture.

Master Mason Degree – Starting with the words, “Have you any signs...” and continuing to the end of the lecture and following the Third Degree before eligibility to be declared proficient as a Master Mason.

No other Proficiency Examination shall be ~~recognized~~ ***mandated*** in this Grand Jurisdiction. ***Provided however, any candidate electing to do so, may request instruction in the traditional or long form proficiency in any degree of Masonry. Such candidate’s subordinate lodge shall provide or arrange for such instruction and notify the Grand Lodge Office of the candidate’s election to pursue long form proficiency. Any such subordinate Lodge may, with permissions of the Grand Master, allow any candidate so requesting, to be instructed and prove up in the traditional or long form proficiency.***

Traditional or long form proficiency shall mean the proficiency requirements as previously historically defined and set out in Section 2-402 as of December 31, 2021.

After ~~such~~ the examination, ***appropriate as to long form or short form proficiency***, the Master may declare the brother proficient. Such declaration and the recording of the proficiency of the brother shall be made in the degree in which the examination is made, providing no objection is raised; if objection is made and it becomes necessary to put the question to a vote the ballot shall be determined in a lodge of Master Masons. Whereupon the Master shall put the question; “The candidate has satisfactorily answered the questions in the Standard Proficiency Manual and has completed the required examination in open lodge; is the brother proficient?” and this question shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present.

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

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

a diploma shall be issued by the subordinate lodge of which he is a member, on the form prescribed by Grand Lodge.

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

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

R.: W.: B.: Millington asked one of more of the signers of Resolution No. 1 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. MWB Phil Lorenzen, a member of Solomon Lodge No. 10 and a signer on Resolution No. 1, gave the rationale for the Resolution, and moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded.

After discussion was held on the matter, there was a call for the question which passed, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Member Resolution No. 1 failed to receive the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON MEMBER RESOLUTION NO. 2

Resolution No. 2

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

Sec. 2-601 – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS – Chartered subordinate lodges shall have discretionary power to assess annual dues and special assessments upon its members who are Master Masons in good standing. Such dues and assessments shall be uniform upon such members. The amount of the annual dues payable to each subordinate lodge by members must be designated in the bylaws in one of two ways: (1) lodge dues plus Grand Lodge per capita and assessments, or (2) a total amount that includes lodge dues plus Grand Lodge per capita and assessments. Special assessments may be made payable in installments. A brother desiring to demit shall be required to pay dues only for the time he is a member of the lodge, that is, to the end of the month in which he is demitted, but he shall be required to pay in full all special assessments.

A subordinate lodge's floating debt does not rest pro-rata on its members until so assessed. The dues owed by members to a lodge cannot be offset against any debts owed by the lodge to said members, except with the consent of the delinquent members.

Each lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge on or before the 10th day of April for each initiation during the preceding calendar year an initiation fee in the sum of Thirty Dollars (\$30). ~~In addition, each Lodge shall pay annually for each member the sum of Thirty one dollars and fifty cents (\$31.50) as a per capita tax. The per capita tax allocated to the Grand Lodge shall increase at a rate of \$1.00 per year for the next five (5) years, commencing on the first day of January, 2020. The said per capita tax shall accrue as follows: 2028 and 2019 \$31.50, 2020 \$33.00, 2021 \$34.00, 2022 \$35.00, 2023 \$36.00, 2024 \$37.00.~~

The annual per capita for each fiscal year shall be determined as follows:

- A. The Grand Lodge budget shall be prepared under the direction and control of the Deputy Grand Master;**
- B. The Grand Secretary, and the Grand Lodge committee on Finance shall consult in the preparation of the Grand Lodge budget;**
- C. Each Grand Lodge budget shall be based upon the following:**
 - a. The per capita sum to be collected for Master Masons in good standing of each subordinate lodge as of October 31st immediately preceding the commencement of the fiscal year covered by such budget. In no case shall the per capita be less than \$37;**
 - b. The expected income from the investment portfolio and any other source of income; and**
 - c. The estimate of the operating expenses, the cost of program activities and number of requests for Masonic aid.**
- D. If the per capita sum and expected income is insufficient, the budget shall be based upon an increase in per capita to cover the insufficiency;**
- E. The proposed Grand Lodge budget shall be transmitted by the Grand Secretary to the Masters of the subordinate lodges, Grand Lodge Officers and members of the Committee on Finance by no later than November 1 with a proposed per capita for the coming fiscal year;**
- F. The proposed Grand Lodge budget shall be referred to the Committee on Finance for its review and report to Grand Lodge before the vote is taken to adopt the budget and;**
- G. The Deputy Grand Master shall present the proposed budget to the members of Grand Lodge for their approval. The Grand Lodge budget shall be adopted by a majority vote.**

The Grand Lodge shall distribute the per capita tax as provided in Section 1-404 of this code. Before any subordinate lodge shall be consolidated with another lodge, the per capita tax for the year preceding the year of consolidation shall be determined and paid. In addition to the per capita tax as currently provided, commencing on January 1, 2016, each subordinate lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge an assessment of \$3.00 per member, said assessment to be distributed as follows: \$1.50 to support the Child Identification Program, \$.50 to support Nebraska Jobs Daughters, \$.50 to support International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Nebraska, and \$.50 to support Nebraska DeMolay. Said assessment shall be due and payable in the same manner as the Grand Lodge per capita tax. The funds from this assessment shall be separate from the Grand Lodge per capita tax and shall be used for no other purpose than provided above. Upon application from a subordinate lodge that has remitted a member's dues pursuant to Section 2-603, the Grand Master may authorize the Grand Lodge to remit the Grand Lodge per capita and special assessments on behalf of said member.

R.:W.:B.: Millington asked one of more of the signers of Resolution No. 2 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. MWB Tom Hauder, Past Grand Master and a signer on Resolution No. 2, gave the rationale for the Resolution, and moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question which passed, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Member Resolution No. 2 failed to receive the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON MEMBER RESOLUTION NO. 3

Resolution No. 3

Amend **Section 2-1604 – THE BRONZE JORDAN MEDAL** by adding certain language, so that such section, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized and the deleted language stricken.

Sec. 2-1604 – THE BRONZE JORDAN MEDAL – The Bronze Jordan Medal shall be presented by the parent lodge to that member of said lodge who shall possess all of the following qualifications:

1. ~~Resident of the state of Nebraska;~~
2. Master Mason in good standing, and
3. Longest period of membership.

No Masons shall be entitled to hold more than one Bronze Jordan Medal, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to any person holding more than one such medal prior to June 9, 1979.

R.:W.:B.: Millington asked one of more of the signers of Resolution No. 3 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. Brother Patrick Smith, a member of Mizpah Lodge No. 302 and a signer on Resolution No. 3, gave the rationale for the Resolution, and moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded.

After discussion was held on the matter, there was a call for the question which passed, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Member Resolution No. 3 passed with the required two-thirds majority vote.

VOTING ON MEMBER RESOLUTION NO. 4

Resolution No. 4

Amend **ARTICLE X, Section 1** of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to add a new sentence to read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 1. The Grand Master, during the interval between the communications of the Grand Lodge, may exercise all of its executive powers, excepting the granting of charters, *by executive order. Any executive order or other action issued pursuant to this section shall expire at the closing of the next annual or special communication of the Grand Lodge.* His powers shall include, but not be limited to the following:

R.:W.:B.: Millington asked one of more of the signers of Resolution No. 4 to state their position and rationale for the proposal. WB Tyler Loontjer, Grand Junior Deacon and a signer on Resolution No. 4, gave the rationale for the Resolution, and moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded.

There was no discussion held on the matter. There was a call for the question which passed, and ballots were cast using the electronic voting system. Member Resolution No. 4 passed with the required majority vote.

M.:W.:B.: Straatmann asked everyone to take their voting devices off the lanyards and pass them to their right to be collected by the Deputy Grand Custodians.

REPORT OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Gene F. Wehrbein, Chairman

Worshipful Brother Gene Wehrbein made reference to his printed report, and noted the following highlights. This year only three of the possible four Masonic Youth scholarships were awarded due to the limited number of youth applying for the scholarships. WB Wehrbein highlighted the importance of doing all we can to spread the word about the availability of scholarships and encourage young people to apply. The Masonic Youth Leadership Conference was held on October 8th and 9th, 2022, after having to postpone it the previous two times that it was scheduled. The next MYLC is being scheduled for 2025. Finally, WB Wehrbein announced that slightly more than \$4,000 was raised from the silent auction and thanked all the donors and bidders for a great auction result and submitting their payment in a timely manner.

The printed report is as follows:

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

One of the highlights of our Committee is the opportunity we have to award scholarships to deserving Masonic youth. Each year we have four \$1,000 scholarships available: one to each Youth Group and one to an overall winner which is the Grand Master's Scholarship. This year's recipients were Emily Wood, Bethel #1, Papillion, the Job's Daughters Scholarship; Caleb Malousek, Lewis M. Keene Chapter, Fremont, the DeMolay Scholarship; and Shelby Chesnut, Bethel #27, Lincoln, the Grand Master's Scholarship. No applications were received from Rainbow. It is so important that each of us do all we can to spread the word about the availability of these scholarships and encourage our young people to apply.

The Masonic Youth Leadership Conference, "The Power is Yours" was held October 8th and 9th at the Holiday Inn in Kearney, Nebraska. After having to postpone it in 2020 and 2022, we were thankful that we could all get together once again. Grand Master, Alex Straatmann welcomed 186 youth and adults in attendance during opening on Saturday morning. This year we also had 6 guests join us from Missouri Rainbow. Guest speakers engaged the attendees through the focused messages they brought to the group. The Saturday night dance provided by Complete Music is always a hit. This Conference is open to all Masonic youth, as well as any non-Masonic youth. The MYLC Committee takes pride in continuing to offer a Conference where everyone can join together for a weekend of fellowship and outstanding speakers with the focus on our youth. We are looking forward to being able to host the next Conference in 2025.

The Silent Auction, held at the 2022 Annual Communication, brought in \$5,196.00 from the 108 donated items. This was divided equally with Rainbow, Job's Daughters and DeMolay. Our deepest gratitude to everyone who has been so generous in their giving of items for the auction and/or taking part in the sometimes 'spirited' bidding!!! Our Youth groups too, are very grateful to you all!

As always, we extend our sincere thanks to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for their continued commitment and support of our Nebraska youth to allow us to provide these projects for our youth organizations. Our young people are our future and your faithful support of these kids, their adult sponsors and their respective youth organizations is such a blessing and never goes unnoticed.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene F. Wehrbein, Chairman, 6
Tyler S. Loontjer, 1
Tim Birdsall, 210
Roger Manley, 290
James A. Carlton, 325, 332
Michael W. Stuhr, 302
Ex-Officio: State Master Councilor, DeMolay
Grand Bethel Honored Queen, Job's
Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter, Job's
Grand Worthy Advisor, Rainbow

WB Wehrbein then moved for adoption of the Youth Committee report. After being seconded, the motion was approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

Philip A. Lorenzen, PGM, Chairman

Most Worshipful Brother Phil Lorenzen made reference to the printed report and then made note of the excellent ritual and floor work being performed by the Grand Lodge Officers at the annual communication.

The printed report is as follows:

Life after Covid? Or is Covid poised to resurge in some new variant and reintroduce another pandemic? Was there truly an overpowering panic? Was it as bad as “advertised” to be? Was it a creation of nature gone wild or created by experimentation? What was the origin? All yet not fully known, nor might the reality ever be known? But it was a World changing event, and continued to rage on, impacting our employment or lack thereof, our manner of working, our family life, our social life, and painful chaos as to politics, civility and insane rioting under the guise of “peaceful protest”; in short affecting every aspect of our lives. As chair of our Committee, my view is that it truly resulted in a disruption of so many aspects of our life and activities, including Freemasonry. Its aftermath will continue as principally a negative influence.

Masonry can simply wring its hands and we can fold our tent. But that's not an acceptable course. The view and uplifting attitude of Freemasonry must remain that of optimism and hope for an always better future. We were each brought to light, not to find the light dimming and darkening, but rather each of us individually, and collectively, as Freemasons, must and will always forge ahead seeking greater light and understanding. We now must light more lanterns than ever before. Now is the time to set aside incandescent bulbs and replace with LED s.

I will repeat the observation stated last year--as one settles into what is hoped to be a restful night's sleep one's mind begins to ponder “what has overtaken humanity in its perverted pursuit of purely individual self-interest, loss of integrity and truthfulness, abandonment of faith in God and in worship”; fair questions they are. A large portion of not only our Nation's, but also the World's populace seems misguided, but that unstable erratic compass some seem to allow to be their ill-founded navigational course, and it does not appear to constitute a majority of Americans. So, what is the answer to what can only

be described as madness or perhaps insane behavior? It is in large part a return to the lessons of conduct learned from one's parents, from the Golden Rule, from Faith and from the profound, yet simple lessons and reality gained in the ritual and participation in Freemasonry by becoming truly a Brother.

An unending role of the Committee on Nebraska Masonic Work is that of preserving the purity of the Ritual and the well-practiced manner in which the Degrees are conferred. Perhaps the language, the sentence structure and the cadence of delivery might seem old fashioned, but it is well written proper English and repetitive by design. A man does not simply join Freemasonry, he *experiences it*, the *ongoing challenge* of 2020, continuing in 2021 and 2022, and still appearing to impact us in 2023 and likely well beyond, has been in part, that of allowing and enabling a candidate to experience the emotions and challenges presented in the degrees and understanding and realizing his achievement and reward in truly achieving brotherhood.

The Committee, on behalf of the Craft, especially calls attention to the dedicated efforts of MW Alexander Straatmann, Grand Master; Grand Custodian, MW Patrick Barger, PGM. And the dedicated cadre of Deputy Custodians.

Reduction in the number of Masonic meetings and activities, lesser attendance at most events, and limits as to the number of newly initiated Masons has been painful. Looking to the future those reductions will most hopefully be reversed by the visionary, encouraging efforts of Grand Lodge and all Masons. Updated methodology in the conduct of Schools of Instruction, by promotion and participation of "Round Table" format to assist in memorization of ritual, has attempted to create a renewed enthusiasm of every Nebraska Mason. As Chairman, I pose the following question [*my thoughts and view, not necessarily those of the Committee*]: Many subordinate Nebraska Lodges are struggling in attracting candidates and once petitioned, elected and initiated, finding it difficult to pass and to raise the candidates. Is it a good long-term posture to have a relatively small number of proficient Masons sitting around reciting ritual to one another glowing over one's knowledge and style, or is it perhaps a better posture to INTRODUCE AND EXPOSE Freemasonry to a greater number of "good" men, help them to grow in Masonic conduct and knowledge (and wholesome social participation), thereby expanding our ranks and geometrically increasing our numbers, helping to keep Freemasonry an inspiration and continuing fabric of our American Republic? We are at a crossroads again, long-form has not worked well nor has short-form proficiency worked well. It is a changing World and we need to be inventive and adaptive in providing flexibility. Long-form or short-form? Might one allow a choice.

Your Committee Chairman appreciates the efforts of Grand Custodian Emeritus/Past Grand Master Scott Krieger, Sr., and Past Grand Master James Carlton, each of us proficient (perhaps more polished than me) and all dedicated to and supportive of Ritual. In closing we also note our appreciation for the service of MW Patrick Barger, PGM, Grand Custodian and his Deputies, as well as dedicated officers and members of subordinate lodges willing to take the time to learn the ritual, including lectures; and to deliver the ritual with emotion and understanding, thus enabling the new candidate to better understand and appreciate the beautiful profound content of our degrees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Philip A. Lorenzen, PGM, Chairman, 10, 327, 1, 21, 333
Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM, 317, 332, 82
James A. Carlton, PGM, 325, 332

M.:W.:B.: Lorenzen moved for the adoption of the report of the Committee on Nebraska Work. The motion was seconded and carried.

REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMITTEE

Roger D. Moore, Chairman

Grand Junior Deacon, Tyler Loontjer, noted that several trial commissions had been completed in the past year and referred to the printed report in the AC book.

The printed report is as follows:

The Committee received no new requests for assistance in 2022. A prior referral made from Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in 2021 resulted in the indefinite suspension of a member during the 2022 calendar year.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger D. Moore, Chairman 102
Charles R. "Dick" Clark, 19
Tyler S. Loontjer, 1

W.:B.: Loontjer moved for the adoption of the report of the Judge Advocate Committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED REPORTS

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

Fraternal Relations
Masonic Relief
Masonic Education
Awards
Grievances
Grand Lodge Office
Public Relations
Lodge Leadership
Membership
Internet and Computer Technology
George Washington Masonic Mem.
East Grand Master's Activities
Committee
Scouts BSA Outreach

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

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

John T. Parsons, PGM, Chairman

2022 has again been a fairly uneventful year for the Fraternal Relations Committee. At the next conference of Grand Masters in February, 2023, requests for recognition will be presented by Grand Lodges in Bulgaria, Ecuador, Georgia (the country, not the state), Lebanon and Togo. There is nothing else of significance to report.

Respectfully submitted,
John T. Parsons, PGM, Chairman, 268, 6, 333
Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332
Eugene Gatti, 183
Scott J. Krieger, Sr., PGM, 317, 332
Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333
Ex-Officio: Bruce A. Baker, PGM, 317

REPORT OF THE MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE

Troy Myers, Chairman

Brethren, the Nebraska Masonic Relief Committee has been working hard to get assistance to those members in need in a timely manner. This Committee is in constant contact with each other and we are able, in a relatively short period, to answer and approve requests. We have had several requests in 2022 and as our financials have dwindled, we were only able to send partial amounts at times.

Our Patron of Masonic Relief Campaign is starting in 2023 and will end in 2025. A new Patrons Jewel has been minted and is now available. A Jewel is issued when a brother becomes a Patron by initially donating \$100. Clasp hand pin(s) are issued when members donate \$100 for each succeeding year of the campaign. The pin is attached on the ribbon of the jewel. Donations for the full campaign may be made at once. We highly encourage ALL Freemasons to assist in this endeavor. Donate this in the name of your Lodge or as a gift to another member. You may not need the assistance yourself but with your generosity think of the encouragement and certainly the dignity that our worthy brother feels when he receives our support.

May your brotherly love be known. Please join us to help, aid and assist our brothers in need. As the saying goes, charity begins at home. Masonic relief is CHARITY FOR MASONS – BY MASONS.

Respectfully submitted,
Troy Myers, Chairman, 297
Steven R. Barchus, 302, 333
Alvin O. Benemerito, 136
Douglas S. Rasmussen, 119
Karl H. Rasmussen, 15
Ad Hoc Member: William E. Short, 297, 314

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Bobby W. Lingerfelt, Chairman

The Masonic Education Committee continues to provide quality educational materials to Nebraska Freemasons. In addition to a monthly education article sent to all lodges for use at their business meetings, the committee published a monthly “email blast” to Nebraska Masons which includes a message from the Grand Master, an education article, a book review, and articles on leadership, membership, and Nebraska’s Masonic history. In 2022, the newsletter was converted from a rather lengthy email to a link that pulls up a web page on the Nebraska Masonic Education website. This change has simplified the production of the product and also provides an archive of past issues.

Changing to a web-based document also meant that we could now share the newsletter easily through the M2 system so that all Masons in Nebraska with an email address on file at the Grand Lodge office can view the newsletter. The release of the monthly newsletter is also promoted through social media, the Grand Lodge blog and the subscription list.

The Nebraska Mason was not published on a quarterly basis in 2022, as it has been in previous years. However, the Committee did provide materials for the two editions that were produced. These included an education article, links to news articles about Masonic activities around the world, a short biography on a famous Nebraska Mason, an excerpt from Coil’s Encyclopedia, and a Masonic history to the Nebraska Mason. These materials can be found on the Grand Lodge website.

Monthly planning meetings were held through the year for the 2023 Midwest Conference on Masonic Education (MCME), which will be held at the Canton Masonic Temple, Canton, Ohio April 28 – April 30, 2023. Those Masons unable to attend in person are invited to attend the several virtual meetings that will be available. More information can be found at <https://mcme1949.org/events.html>.

As in previous years, the Education Committee welcomes articles and presentations from all Nebraska Masons. Additionally, if any brother is interested in joining the committee as an *ad hoc* member, he is invited to contact one of the undersigned for consideration. The Committee is always looking for dedicated, enthusiastic Masons who can support the committee’s education mission in future years.

Respectfully submitted,
 Bobby W. Lingerfelt, Chairman, 325, 332
 Kent L. Neumann, 274, 5
 Matt W. Parker, 1, 314, 332
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268
 Curtis E. Wolbert, 320
 Ad Hoc Members:
 Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332
 Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, 332

REPORT OF THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kevin H. Scheele, Chairman

The Awards Committee annually reviews all available awards in conjunction with our regular assignment of making recommendations for selecting each of the annual awards. We work closely with the Grand Master each year to ensure that the needs of local lodges

are met and that the awards continue to be in line with programming from the Grand Lodge. We also consult with the Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master Elect in an effort to maintain continuity from year to year.

During 2022, we saw some great applications for the Individual Masonic Achievement/Service Awards. We wish to encourage all lodges to consider if there are brethren worthy of these awards within your ranks. These two types of recognition share an application, and if selected, the information may be forwarded to the Grand Master for his consideration to be bestowed With Distinction in exemplary cases.

We continue to lend our strong support to the Grand Master's Excellence in Individual Proficiency program. Several of the proficiency challenge coins have been presented across the state to new brethren found to be exceptionally proficient in the answers to the questions in the degrees in recent years, and this year was no different. If you have a newly made Mason who may be up to the task, contact MWB Patrick Barger, Grand Custodian, for more information. The Awards Committee offers a hearty congratulations to all brethren who have demonstrated their zeal for Masonry by undertaking this challenge.

As a reminder, newly raised Master Masons are encouraged to continue in their pursuit of further light in Masonry by completing the requirements of the Artificer Award. Every newly raised Master Mason is eligible to apply by completing the criteria listed on the application. In completing these requirements for the award, new Master Masons build a strong foundation upon which to build their Masonic edifice. We also encourage you to utilize the Titanium Trowel Award as a framework to reactivate brethren who have been absent from lodge activities. We are always available to provide counsel to mentors on how new or returning brothers may qualify for the awards, as well as answering questions about extenuating circumstances.

The Awards Committee continues to encourage all lodges to apply for the awards available through the Grand Lodge. All applications and an "Awards at a Glance" summary can be found on the Grand Lodge website. Requirements for each award are listed at the top of each application. When you apply for the Nebraska Pillar, Grand Master's Leadership Award, Rock Maul or Gold Pan as a lodge, it can help to increase the engagement of membership while working together completing requirements—that is truly where we all can win. We are here to serve the craft and are always happy to answer questions or help in any way we can with the award applications.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin H. Scheele, Chairman, 96, 54
Barry L. Frerichs, 136
F. Graham House, 54, 332
Justin M. Kenney, 56
Sean D. Sutherland, 75

REPORT OF THE GRIEVANCES COMMITTEE

Don C. Bottorf, Chairman

The Grievances Committee had no matters of appeals or grievances for examination, report or recommendation submitted to it for the 2022 year of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

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

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE COMMITTEE

Michael D. Gray, Chairman

Per Section 1-361 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Nebraska, the Grand Lodge Office Committee is charged with overseeing the effective operation of the Grand Lodge Office, employees, assistants, and supplies required to serve the Lodges that make up the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge Office Committee has had a challenging year at best. I will try my best to summarize the events and results.

After 20 great years, Michelle Fulmer terminated her employment with the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and effective January 3, 2022, started a new chapter in her life with Bridgepoint Financial. The Grand Lodge Office Committee agreed to pursue her replacement through Celebrity Staffing and several resumes were forwarded to us. The Celebrity Staffing option did not produce any results, and we focused on the resumes. One name rose to the top and an in-person interview results in a positive outcome. We offered the individual the Office Manager position. She accepted but then declined the job offer. We pursued several other positive options, but our lack of a benefit package and salary limitations resulted in no commitments.

We changed our focus and looked at resumes from brother Masons and again one name rose to the top. We interviewed the individual and the offer of Office Manager was extended and accepted. David Wetrosky was hired as the new Grand Lodge Office Manager effective June 1, 2022. Because of the difficulties in finding the right person, training for David was limited and he was left to learn on the fly. Jennifer was a big help and her hourly wage was increased to compensate her for those efforts during this difficult transition. David is committed and dedicated to improving the services provided by the Grand Lodge Office.

In the midst of the hiring process, the Grand Lodge Office Committee needed to address the condition of the building. It had not been properly cleaned and maintained so contacts were made and bids were solicited for cleaning services. Dormant Cleaning was awarded the contract to deep clean and maintain the building weekly. On visiting the Grand Lodge Office today, you can see it look great, clean and shiny.

The next task is to address the outside of the building and the grounds. After checking with our general contractor, they recommended a great company. The owner was very

helpful and a contract was signed for weeding, maintenance of the landscape beds and removal of the tree on the Northwest corner of the building.

Security and IT infrastructure were next on the list and MW Tom Hauder was extremely helpful as Chairman of the Internet and Computer Technology Committee. Based on MW Tom's recommendations, a motion was made to replace the PCs for the Office Manager and Administrative Secretary. This is scheduled to take place early in 2023.

In closing, we want to acknowledge the support David and Jennifer have given the Grand Lodge and our great fraternity. Their dedication and commitment have helped us through these trying times. I would be remiss, if I did not mention how extremely helpful and supportive MW Bruce Baker has been to myself and the Grand Lodge Office Committee. Bruce, you are just the best!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael D. Gray, Chairman, 256, 194
John R. Knoell, 256
Danforth D. Loring, Jr., 268, 333
Kent R. Millington, 54, 38
Rex J. Moats, PGM, 290, 102
Ex-Officio: Bruce A. Baker, PGM, 317

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Micah I. Evans, Chairman

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska met on September 24, 2022 at the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute, and laid a cornerstone to dedicate the new building on the AkSarBen campus in Omaha. This received news coverage, as well as recognition for the Nebraska Scottish Rite, which donates about \$800,000 each year for speech-language therapy. Nebraska Freemasons are grateful for any media coverage, but the goal is always to expand our external media coverage, as well as improving internal communications.

The Public Relations committee continues to work on the goals established at the Grand Master's All-Committee Meeting, which include:

1. Resume the monthly "Grand Master's Video Blog" video, which was successfully done in 2020 with M.W. Ron Stites. The goal will be to find someone who could coordinate schedules with R.W. John Millington for a monthly video message, which would be shared via social media or the Grand Lodge monthly communication. This has been an inexpensive but effective way of reaching members with timely messages from the Grand Master. Past videos may be seen on the Grand Lodge of Nebraska's Vimeo page at: <https://www.vimeo.com/GLNE>.

2. The Public Relations Committee created a Public Relations landing page on the Grand Lodge website. This is a work in progress, which needs to be continued and completed. The webpage would be accessible as a drop-down menu item when it is fully populated, will serve as a resource for Lodge PR committees. There will be articles, examples of press releases, best practices for maximizing the effective use of social media pages, links to Masonic blogs and podcasts, or the national "Not Just a Man. A Mason" campaign and website.

The ultimate goal of the Public Relations landing page is to help Lodges deliver messages that promote Freemason membership, philanthropy, and events.

3. Still in development for the Public Relations page is a “How To” guide, which will include useful suggestions on engaging local media, how to write effective press releases, ideas for promoting Freemasonry in the media, etc.

4. Continue the successful use of social media. The GLNE Facebook page continues to reach a large number of members, including prospective Masons. Posts are routinely shared with the Nebraska Masons Facebook page to increase engagement among Masons.

Past goals for the committee continue to be items to achieve in 2023:

1. A Nebraska Masonic podcast, envisioned as a 15-30 minute podcast, covering one or two topics of interest to Freemasons around the state, issued on a monthly basis.

2. Promoting better awareness of the Grand Lodge website (www.GLNE.org) as a resource for Nebraska Freemasons.

3. Effectively increasing our social media presence through Facebook, but adding Instagram and Twitter as successful means to reach Masons and prospective Masons.

4. Promoting Lodges to maintain modern, up-to-date websites that are kept current, and incentivizing this through points awarded through the Rock Maul or Gold Pan awards.

5. Continue to expand Lodges acquisition of members’ e-mails and keeping e-mails and contact information current and up-to-date. Grand Lodge will benefit by keeping more members informed of news and updates in a timely manner.

These goals continue to be modest but can have a large impact across Nebraska. The committee believes they are achievable, and we anticipate reporting on-going progress by the next Annual Communication.

Respectfully submitted,
Micah I. Evans, Chairman, 281, 268, 333
Edward W. Bennett, 61
Cody C. Carlow, 256, 194
Kent W. Folsom, 19
John A. Hardy, 102
Ad Hoc Members:
Brent R. Elder, 227
Russell G. Reno, PGM, 297

REPORT OF THE LODGE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Curtis E. Wolbert, Chairman

The Lodge Leadership Committee taught six Lodge Leadership seminars throughout the state for a third consecutive year. Of note, three of these seminars were taught in new locations, at the request of the individual lodges themselves, which in turn provided further opportunities for Masons to attend these seminars and receive valuable leadership training for the future. The Lodge Leadership Committee’s goal is to continue these seminars into

2023 and work with the individual lodges to coordinate the time, date, and location that works best for them. The committee is also looking to utilize “Zoom” meetings to help teach the seminars for those lodges with an interest in that type of instruction as well. In the end, the seminars have been a great way to teach Masons how to lead and they have also enabled the committee to reach out and contact many Masons throughout the state.

On the opposite side, the Lodge Leadership Committee looked at which lodges have been delinquent in attending the Grand Lodge Annual Communication for the past several years to determine if the committee could assist these lodges in any way. Visits were then made by the committee to several of these lodges and resources were provided to the lodge’s leadership to assist them should they need any assistance in the future. By meeting with these lodges, it provided the committee an excellent opportunity to meet new Masons, attend different lodges throughout the state, and helped “put a face to a name” in regards to someone at the Grand Lodge that these lodges could contact if they needed further assistance. The Lodge Leadership Committee will continue meeting with these lodges in 2023 with the goal of having all active individual lodges in attendance at the Annual Communication in February of 2024.

We appreciate the Grand Master’s confidence and support in our efforts and look forward to further progress in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Curtis E. Wolbert, Chairman, 320
Jeffrey A. Herber, 33
Eric J. BenSalah, 290
Daren W. Kizlin, 326
Kevin S. Wynne, 294
Ad Hoc Members:
Kevin T. Johnson, 46
Michael W. Stuhr, 302

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

S. Hal Cottrell, Chairman

The Membership Committee is charged with developing, implementing, and reviewing membership documents to help lodges grow and maintain membership. The committee consists of five members who are appointed for a one-year term by the Grand Master. The Grand Master also appoints the chairman and can appoint up to six additional ad hoc members. The Grand Lodge Membership committee is always looking at ideas for improving your lodge’s enrollment, involvement, restoration, and growth using surveys, enrollment, and involvement documents. The resources and documents developed and maintained by the Committee will help lodges identify issues and assist in formulating a plan to correct shortfalls.

The Grand Lodge Membership Committee meets throughout the year to talk about ways to engage the membership in finding new members. The committee reviewed all documents that were previously developed to ensure they were in line with the Grand Master’s guideline on recruiting and retaining members. These documents can and should be adopted and adapted to fit each lodge’s specific needs.

The committee explored the possibility of developing a new app to assist lodges with membership and recruitment. New Grand Lodge Trifolds and business cards were developed with a QR code to hand out to potential candidates, which would direct the

candidate to glne.org. The committee wrote monthly articles during 2022 that were published in the Nebraska Mason email blast and The Nebraska Mason magazine. These articles highlighted ways to help lodges find ways to recruit and retain current membership. This is a program that we plan on continuing in 2023.

We will continue to discuss long-term strategy for revitalizing and engaging area lodges and membership. This is not a simple fix and not everyone agrees on the problem or solution. We will also be looking to develop more documents to help lodges engage or re-engage their membership in 2023.

If you have any processes that have worked for you and your lodge, please let us know. Every Mason in Nebraska's Jurisdiction is invested in seeing our Craft grow, and by default a member of this committee.

Respectfully submitted,
S. Hal Cottrell, Chairman, 325, 332
Brooks J. Call, 102
Christian Soseman, 290
David Fachman, 15
Benjamin Zaayer, 290, 302
John Ferguson, GL Liaison

REPORT OF THE INTERNET AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, Chairman

This year was busy with upgrades to some aspects of the Grand Lodge technology base and assisting in the changeover to a new office manager.

The Grand Lodge office has switched to using Microsoft Teams for the phone system and has also upgraded to a much faster fiber optic connection. Both of these changes have resulted in better phone and Internet service and even saved a bit of money each month. Additionally, the network firewall, which was end of life, was replaced with an updated model.

A budget was submitted to replace the office PC's in 2023. The current PC's are end of life and are beginning to have issues. The new equipment should see the office through the next 3 to 5 years.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, Chairman, 332
James S. Bowen, 314
Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268
Myron Coleman, 314
Christian Soseman, 290
Sean Sutherland, 75

GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Russell G. Reno, PGM, Chairman

John Millington, Liason

With the reduction of the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic, our Ambassadors are available to speak at lodges about the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and George Washington. To arrange a visit, contact M.W.Bro. Russ Reno. With Ambassadors across the state, we can conveniently get someone to your lodge to speak.

Seven lodges are now members of the Society of Washington Lodges with the addition of George Washington Lininger Lodge No. 268 in Omaha. Other lodges in the Society are: Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Cotner Lodge No. 297, Hickman Lodge No. 256 and Craftsmen Lodge No. 314, all in Lincoln; Bellevue Lodge No. 325 in Bellevue; and Florence Lodge No. 281 in Omaha.

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska was featured as the Grand Lodge of the Month at the Memorial in December 2022. A display of items in the Memorial were included from the Nebraska Masonic Foundation's Museum: photo of the refurbished portrait of our first Grand Master, Robert C. Jordan; gavel made from a log of Peter Sarpy's cabin where the first meeting was held; history of the formation of Job's Daughters in Omaha; list of Nebraska's firsts in supporting the Memorial; 30th anniversary challenge coin of the mutual recognition by our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge; and proficiency coins. The display was assembled by Nebraska Brother James Ferguson, the Memorial's Museum Collections Manager and Registrar. Special thanks to W. Bro. Kevin Lindly of Broken Bow who loaned a framed receipt of his grandfather's life membership in the Memorial that was made in 1920.

In 2022, I was humbled to be asked to serve as the Fourth Vice President of the Memorial Association.

In addition, the Memorial is now open for tours Fridays through Sundays. Brothers interested in touring their Memorial should register online at gw.memorial.org.

The Memorial is at a crossroads. Its long-time executive director, George Seghers, will retire in 2023, and a new executive director will be announced soon. During his tenure, George has stabilized the future of the Memorial through investment in securing the building for the next 100 years and expanding its donation base. The new executive director will continue a focus on increasing donations and initiating a more aggressive educational effort.

As an initial venture in education, the Memorial hosted the Scottish Freemasonry in America Symposium in November 2022. Visiting brethren from Scotland and American experts and academic circles made presentations about the spread of Scottish chartered lodges, including Washington's home lodge in Fredericksburg, Virginia, which was toured. The Symposium provided inspiring insight into the history of American Freemasonry. Look for future symposiums on our fraternity.

The largest Masonic gathering in North America will occur February 20, 2023, when the Memorial re-enacts the laying of its cornerstone on its 100th anniversary. Masons from around the world will attend to march in the Annual George Washington Birthday Parade in Alexandria, Virginia, to the Memorial for the ceremony. The event will be held in conjunction with the Conference of Grand Masters in North America. When performed in

1923, the cornerstone laying event attracted about 18,000 Masons and President Calvin Coolidge. Nebraska's Grand Master and members of the advancing line will attend.

Also, work on the Memorial is very near completion. Restoration of the south side of the building, portico and front of the Memorial is now completed. The main bottom portion of the Memorial should be completed in time for the cornerstone laying event.

We appreciate the support of the brothers and lodges to help forward the mission of the Memorial, which is: To inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell G. Reno, PGM, Chairman, 297, 183, 332, 54
R.W. Bro. John Millington, 54, 332

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

*Robert C. King, Co-Chairman
Roger Moore, Co-Chairman*

The 21st Annual Masonic Golf Tournament was held at North Bend Golf course on Monday September 12, 2022. We had 21 teams with 83 golfers participating this year. Thank you to the many golfers, sponsors, and volunteers who helped make this a very successful event.

Since we are the only Nebraska Grand Lodge committee who **makes money**, we are pleased to say, that through the efforts of all involved, we were able to make more money this year than we did the previous year. This is important to the Masonic Eastern Star home for Children in Fremont, the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, and the Masonic Foundation, since they are the recipients of the proceeds.

Next year's tournament is scheduled again at the North Bend Golf Course on Monday September 11, 2023. We hope that you will join us for this fun event.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert C. King, Co-Chairman, 310
Roger D. Moore, Co-Chairman, 102
Richard E. Gilmore, 268
Peter G. Larson, 11
Gary S. Unger, 112, 333
Daniel J. Wellendorf, 112, 268, 333
Beverly Donham, PGM, OES
Dee Schuetz, PGM, OES
S. Hal Cottrell, 325, 332, GL Liaison

REPORT OF THE SCOUTS BSA OUTREACH COMMITTEE

George L. McMullin, II, Chairman

On behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, I am privileged to make the eighth annual report of the Scouts BSA Outreach initiative. This Committee was initiated by Most Worshipful Brother Tom Hauder, re-energized by Most Worshipful Brother John Maxell, and succeeding Grand Masters have continued that support and encouragement.

The committee consists of WB AJ Johnson, WB Bill Pickle, WB Jim Wolfe, WB Dave Workman and myself. Many thanks to each of them for their continued assistance and support. We always welcome participation from interested brethren and, if you are interested, please reach out to one of us!

This year Scouts BSA, like most other organizations, saw some improvement following the slowing of the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to adjust to the new normal. The committee's flexibility continued to be tested as Scouts BSA flexed to recover from the continuing impacts of COVID on social activities.

The committee continues with its three primary purposes: first, to bring scouting and Masons together in Nebraska; second, to provide a conduit through which Lodges (and other Masonic bodies) and scouts can support each other; and lastly, to provide those Lodges and other bodies something to spark increased activity and provide added service opportunities in their community.

In pursuit of the first goal the committee has reached out to the National Association of Masonic Scouters (NAMS) and will be engaging with them to more formally recognize the ties between Scouts BSA and Masonry. That partnership is expected to pay dividends towards both of our other goals.

Our committee is working with Grand Master Alex Straatmann and the Jurisprudence Committee to review/act towards an improved agreement to enable sponsorship of scout units by Masonic organizations. This effort could better promote those ties while protecting the Grand Lodge and local lodges from financial exposure. The effort continues and we are hopeful of positive progress in the coming months.

We continue to pursue regular contact with the four Boy Scout councils that serve the great state of Nebraska: Mid-America, Cornhusker, Overland Trails, and Longs Peak Councils. The responses to our attempts have varied widely and we continue to seek Masonic scouters in these councils who are willing to help maintain such communications.

In 2023 our goals are to formalize recognition/communication with NAMS, establish the necessary agreements to facilitate sponsorship of scout units by Masonic organizations, and identify/maximize local points of contact within Nebraska Councils to help achieve our goals. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers as we continue to pursue these wonderful opportunities to help our brethren support their local communities. This concludes the report of the Boy Scouts Outreach Committee for the 2022 year.

Respectfully submitted,
George L. McMullin II, 268, Chairman
Anthony T. (AJ) Johnson, 268
William D. Pickle, 325
James O. Wolfe, 326, 268
David Workman, 184



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

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Ronald Giesselmann, Executive Director

The theme for the Children's Home's campus and our country during this fiscal year is "Help Wanted!". Now that there is a pause in the Coronavirus Pandemic, finding proper employees is difficult. We have only been able to staff three of the five cottages during this fiscal year.

Census: We had a full house of 30 children on campus until the Pandemic hit Fremont in March of 2020. Protocols were installed for the safety of children and staff immediately after the Pandemic started. Recovery and rebuilding efforts have been slow, because of low unemployment rates and people unwilling to reenter the workforce. Three of the five cottages have consistently stayed open and each usually kept a full roster of six children, during the fiscal year.

School: Jennifer, Porsche and Cole earned the high Grade Point Average Award. Zoe, Baleigh and Draven earned the Citizenship Award. No students were eligible to graduate from high school during this fiscal year.

College Students: The past few high school graduates have elected to enter the military or the workforce. The Children's Home supported no students in college during this fiscal year.

Military: Former resident, Maddie, joined the Navy during this fiscal year. She is stationed on a ship around the area of Japan. Former resident, Aiden, joined the Army a few years ago and is now a sergeant. He came back to visit and is stationed in the state of New York and will soon be stationed in Germany. Aiden carried the American flag onto the field on Opening Day in Mets stadium. Daniel is in the National Guard and is stationed in Minnesota. He came back to visit while he was working his full-time job, which is transporting prisoners throughout the Midwest.

Extracurricular Activities: Fremont Public Schools put a stop to extracurricular activities, due to the Pandemic, during the last fiscal year. Activities were at full swing during this fiscal year. Students from the Children's Home participated in football, powerlifting, track, drama, choir, band, homecoming and prom festivities. It should be noted that Cameron earned second place in bench press at the Nebraska State Powerlifting Meet.

Rawhide Wranglers 4-H Club: Following strict protocols to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, 4-H projects have moved from virtual 4-H learning environment to an in-person learning environment. Competition also moved to in-person. 4-H'ers competed at two fairs and one beef progress show. Six calves were born from 12 cows. The 4-H'ers did a lot of volunteering at the local food pantry. Harley was the Club's 4-H'er of the Year.

Youth Council: The M-ESHC's Youth Council met monthly. At the beginning of the fiscal year they met virtually, but after a few months, they met in person. They addressed topics that ranged from activities, to school, to home visits, to 4-H.

Fun Fridays: Fun Friday activities moved from Friday to Thursday. This was done, because some children leave on weekend home visits immediately after school on Friday. Everyone is able to participate in fun activities on Thursday nights.

Annual Competitions: The Valentine's Day Bowling Tournament was temporarily replaced with a ping pong tournament, because of the large amount of covid cases in the

Dodge County area in February. Taylor and Draven won the Valentine's Day Ping Pong Tournament. Olivia, McKenzie and Alex won the Fishing Derby.

Children's Home Band: The director of the Children's Home's Band was unable to leave his assisted living facility due to covid precautions. There was no band practice during this fiscal year.

Social Media: The number of views on our website/blog, Facebook and Instagram increased from over 25,000 per month last year to nearly 35,000 this fiscal year.

Visitors: Visitors were allowed to come back onto campus during this fiscal year. Pandemic protocols did not allow visitors on campus. Tours, meetings and parties resulted in over 1,000 visitors.

Updated Minimum Regulations: The Nebraska Department of Social Services distributed a revised Minimum Regulations for Group Homes last year. We anticipated changes, so we made changes. After our first Licensing Audit since the new regulations were distributed, we had to change only a few of our policies and procedures.

Employees: A lot of time, effort and money has been placed into trying to maintain and attain proper residential staff. For the first time in over two decades, we were forced to place help wanted ads in local newspapers. Online and radio advertising were also utilized. Many of the people who responded to the advertising were unqualified. Currently, we have a group of six interested applicants. We are hopeful that at least four of the six are qualified, so we can open the two vacant cottages during the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Many of the current employees have stepped up and offered to multi-task and/or work overtime. This TEAM effort was accountable for keeping our ship afloat.

New Agriculture Technology Building: We went back to the drawing board after the Fremont Public School system discontinued a collaborative technology building last year. The sketch of the building went from six shops to four – with the option of future expansion on the west/back side. The sketch went to architect Jerry Nelson, for his professional work.

New Feedlot Pavilion: In an effort to beautify the feedlots and offer livestock increased protection from the weather, this project began earlier than planned. A very gracious donor offered to finance the project, so it started early. 4-H'ers and staff started the demolition of fencing in October.

Internet Fiber: Allo Communications won the bid to offer internet and updated phone lines into most of the buildings on campus. Actual construction started at the beginning of May.

Coronavirus: The vaccine to combat the coronavirus has helped gear us toward life without pandemic concerns. The virus continued to affect/infect people during this fiscal year, but on a much smaller scale. The number of new cases in Dodge County increased greatly during late fall and the winter months. New case numbers dramatically decreased during the spring.

Board of Directors: The Executive Committee had the challenge of setting protocols concerning the pandemic. Our new Board member, Mary Jo Peterson, sits on the Public Relations Committee. Mary Jo took the place of long-time Board member Ann Wells, who chose to retire at the end of her term.

Conclusion: During the last fiscal year, the common thread was the pandemic. Everything we did was affected by the pandemic. This year, there are two threads – lack of employees and the pandemic. It could be argued that the lack of employees is a symptom of the pandemic.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director, 119

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

April Johnston, Executive Director

On June 22, 1903, the Nebraska Masonic Home was established in Plattsmouth, Nebraska. A property that consisted of four lots and a building with sixteen rooms. The first resident, a 4-year-old child, was admitted on September 1, 1903. The admission requirements included being in good health and one had to be able to walk in or one did not get in

Flash forward 119 years to the year 2022. The Nebraska Masonic Home now stands on 40 acres as a 130-bed retirement community. The Nebraska Masonic Home offers independent living, assisted living, long term care and memory care.

The Nebraska Masonic Home entered 2022 with a new Executive Director with ideas of increasing census, increasing membership, boosting staff morale, and retaining employees. 2022 was a year of learning our new normal here at the home.

Census:

The year-end census at The Nebraska Masonic Home will be 60 residents.

Lodge Visits to the Nebraska Masonic Home:

George W. Lininger Lodge

Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6

OES Grand Officers

Queen Esther Chapter No. 1

Home Chapter No. 189

Elizabeth Chapter No. 250

Palmyra Chapter No. 257

Western Star Lodge No. 2

Arbor Shrine Club

Liberty Lodge No. 300

York Rite Signet Chapter No. 8

Allied Masonic Degrees and their ladies

Building Updates:

The Nebraska Masonic Home now offers a phone line in each resident room free of cost to the resident. The Board of Trustees has given approval to remodel the blue awning entrance. This project is still in progress.

Marketing:

The Nebraska Masonic Home hosted community Influenza vaccines, COVID-19 vaccine clinics, and blood drives with the Red Cross. The Nebraska Masonic Home also entered a working partnership with Emspace to enhance marketing material and tactics.

The Executive Director also visited Lodges throughout the year, along with attending Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. The Home also entered county fair parades! The Home also increased their usage of social media. Facebook postings increased and a Tiktok page was created.

Strategic Planning:

The Board of Trustees is currently developing a 1 year and 5-year strategic plan for The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Retention & Recruitment:

The first part of the year brought ways of celebrating employees. Monthly meetings for All-Staff, Jeans Day on Fridays, monthly birthday parties, you are awesome awards, and a committee that plans staff fun each month. The Nebraska Masonic Home starting wage for employees was also increased.

Residents:

March 25, 2022, marked a special day for the residents and the Home. On this day, the residents went on their first outing to Luigi's. Their first outing since 2019. April 2022 also brought lessened visitor restrictions.

The residents spent 2022 enjoying National Days, outings, live entertainment, baseball games, movies, social activities and the pets that visit. Out of the box thinking occurred to create moments of fun with the residents. A few that come to mind is the Gather Again picnic in July and the slip and slide that was created for the residents.

In Remembrance:

- Betty Bicking
- Robert Cole
- Janis Eno
- Gene Geise
- LuAnn Haydon
- Jeanne Houston
- Wayne Lewis
- John Richart
- Warren Weber
- Flora Belle Wehrbein

I want to take a moment to thank the Board of Trustees for their commitment and support. A thank you to our residents and families. A thank you to our committed staff and a thank you to the Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation for all that they do.

Respectfully submitted,
April Johnston, Executive Director

REPORT OF THE MASONIC VETERANS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

A committee of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation

Anthony T. "A.J." Johnson, Chairman

On behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, I would again for the 12th year, like to thank you all for dedication and support to this program. It is through your generosity in supporting this program that we have been able to accomplish purchasing three vehicles for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). This year the goal was to acquire the funds to be able to purchase a fourth vehicle and depending on the cost I believe we are there or extremely close with a total collection this year of \$23,567.41 At the time of this writing they may not be able to order a vehicle this year, but we should continue to build the coffers of the program so that we may be able to purchase two vehicles for the DAV. There are other option as in the past we have also been able to provide funding to assist the VA's homeless shelters during the holiday seasons that will be decided by the Grand Lodge Officers and the Foundation Committee.

The Grand Lodge's Officers and I offer our heartfelt gratitude to all the Brethren, Sisters, and Youth Groups for their generous contributions this year and in past years to the Masonic Veteran's Partnership (MVP)

This was our ninth year as the MVP and as stated above we already have around \$23,567.41 in the coffers, and I commend the Grand Master and his officers for reminding everyone of this worthwhile philanthropy.

However, this year and potentially next year they may not order vehicles because we are still experiencing the effects COVID has had on shipping and the shortage of chips for vehicles and other issues affecting the auto industries.

I would like to continue to remind all of the Brethren that the program is a 501(c)(3) program, and in the upcoming years we can continue to support the two other programs at the VA Hospitals besides considering the purchasing of other vehicles for the DAV that can help homeless Veterans and provide them an opportunity to get back on their feet. We are still reviewing supporting a room in the Fisher House for those that were paying attention and read this report last year that is now next to the VA hospital. We are awaiting information as to needs and prices of items they would like to have and then determine the amount and what we will propose to support. If there are other venues that support Veterans, as Chairman, I am open to recommendations from the membership of other organizations or groups that support Veterans to investigate. As the chairman of this program, I again greatly appreciate your generosity and consideration to help those who have served their country. We will give recognition to Lodges and organizations who were the three largest contributors.

Again, I appreciate the Grand Lodge Officers who mentioned the program throughout the year. We continue to work to develop advertising and promotion of this program

beyond Masons in conjunction with the DAV and to get it more into the minds of the general public.

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

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

REPORT OF THE MASONIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE

A committee of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation

Thomas L. Hauder, Chairman

Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman

This year has been a busy one at the Library & Museum. We continued with the scanning of the book collection and that work is posted on the Library & Museum section of the Foundation website. When new books are posted, they are announced on the various Masonic social media platforms so that the Craft can enjoy the new additions. The collection of early Masonic documents continues to grow as well giving researchers a window into the thoughts and traditions of early Grand Lodge Masonry.

The scanning operation has been upgraded with a light box/hood assembly that produces a better environment for scanning with less stray light. The scanner itself continues to perform well.

There have also been several new volumes of scholarly works added to the collection by current Masonic authors. While these books are under copyright and cannot be scanned they are available to the Craft onsite for research purposes. The library also received its signed copy of the ultimate Bro. George Washington tome, [A Deserving Brother](#) by Bro. Mark A. Tabert. The Foundation donated \$5,000 towards the production of this book.

The Foundation continues to receive donations of Masonic items typically from the family or Brothers of deceased Brothers. We carefully sort through these items and accept any items into the collection that are unique or valuable.

The most exciting project this year was the restoration of the bespoke oil portrait of our first Grand Master, Robert Carrel Jordan. This large painting has been in the possession of the Grand Lodge since 1884 but has not been properly cared for in that time. The portrait was dirty, had holes in the canvas and the frame was broken. The colors in the painting had long since faded or cracked. In short, it was in very bad condition. A project was started to find a restoration expert to restore the painting but it was hard to find anyone willing and the cost was very high. Thanks to a contact of MWB Reg Kuhn, we were able to find a local artist that was skilled in restoration and was willing to do the work for a reasonable price. The outcome is stunning! The painting looks brand new, the colors are again vibrant and there are now details visible that had been lost to dirt and time. The artist

also managed to save the original frame. The newly restored painting hangs in the library in a prominent space as befits this important Masonic artifact.

There were a couple of bumps in the road this year at the facility. First, the HVAC system suffered a failure of the dehumidifier coil which caused the library to become overly humid. The coil was replaced under warranty and the library environment is once again within desired limits. The next challenge was the water softener in the closet adjacent to the library, experienced a drain failure and leaked water that seeped under the flooring in the archive room and front entrance to the library. This resulted in a massive upheaval of the flooring in these areas that needed to be repaired. Many thanks to WB David Wetrosky, Office Manager for stepping up and leading the effort to get the floor repaired. The good news is that there was no damage to the collection.

Outreach efforts to the Craft continue with the current projects:

- Article in the monthly Masonic Education email that now goes to all members with an email address.
- Updates through social media to the Craft of new acquisitions and scanned books.
- The library / museum hosted two Lincoln lodges for their monthly meeting followed by a tour of the library / museum.
- After restoration of the Jordan painting, a limited number (25) of prints on high-quality, archival paper were made and offered to the Craft. When sold this will allow us to recoup the cost of printing and restoration with the added benefit of raising awareness of the Foundation and educating the Craft on this important individual.

The Foundation website received an important refresh as well this year. The home page of the site has been redesigned to more accurately reflect the three major programs of the Foundation, namely the library / museum, the Masonic All-Star Band and the MVP program. In addition, both the band and the MVP program now have their own pages on the website with donation buttons.

I'd like to thank MWB Reg Kuhn for his leadership of the Foundation and the Grand Lodge Office Manager WB David Wetrosky for help in keeping this incredible Masonic resource working smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis H. Brydl, Chairman, 287, 314, 332
Thomas L. Hauder, PGM, Chairman, 332
Russell G. Reno, PGM, 297, 183, 332, 54



Grand Master Stratmann asked R.:W.: Michael W. Stuhr to move for approval to hold the 169th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska in Kearney, Nebraska in February 2026. The motion was seconded and carried.



Grand Master Straatmann asked R.:W.: John B. Ferguson to announce that, as approved at the 165th Annual Communication in 2022, the 168th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Center in Kearney, Nebraska on February 6-8, 2025.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

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

“Brethren, you have all been furnished with a copy of my Address as you registered with Credentials, and the lodges all received a copy of my recommendations 45 days prior to this session. Brethren, I don’t want to belabor some of the points that are printed in the Grand Master’s Address. I know that we are getting close to the time when I am a has-been, and you won’t care what I have to say any more. So, I don’t want to filibuster our time together, but I do have some things that I would like to add to the Grand Master’s Address.

First, I would like to thank my wife and if you could thank her as well. This has been an eight-year journey along with work, and military and school board, I missed a lot of time at home. Some one asked me what I was looking forward to most on Monday, and I said being a husband. So, I am really looking forward to going home and being a full-time husband. I am also looking forward to returning to the level and going back to my lodge, going back to my Shrine Club, and driving my scooter and doing the things that I did before I started as a Grand Lodge officer.

I want to thank the Grand Lodge officers. As you heard yesterday, not one of them turned in an expense report and it’s partially the reason why we are ending in a \$97,000 swing in our budget from going from \$46,000 in the hole to \$41,000 in the black. So, I would like to thank the Grand Lodge officers for their dedication to the craft. For most of these gentlemen, this is a one-year appointment. The only security is for those who were elected by you. Everyone else serves a one-year appointment. There is no guarantee for next year and they do so willingly, and they do so on their own dime.

I would like to thank several Past Grand Masters, as well as all the Past Grand Masters that are here. I would especially like to thank Most Worshipful John Maxell for appointing me as Personal Representative to the Grand Master. I would like to thank Most Worshipful Dennis Rix for reappointing me during his year and I would like to thank Most Worshipful Rick Myers for giving me the opportunity to stand before you as the Grand Master. And I would like to thank Most Worshipful Patrick Barger, Bob Moninger, Ron Stites and Jim Carlton, all of which I served under during my time as a Grand Lodge officer. Each one of them brought their own unique characteristics to leadership and I learned something from each one of them.

I want to thank the Grand Lodge Office staff. This year was a learning experience for all of us, for David, for Jennifer, for myself, and for the Grand Secretary but we kept the train on the tracks. And I hope for most of you that the transition went largely unnoticed and that you enjoy the same services and level of service that you expect from the Grand Lodge office because you should expect that. Because we work for you. I don’t have this position because I wanted it, I have this position because you elected me to do it. When I was asked six years ago if I wanted to be Grand Master, I said “not really” but if I can serve the craft in any way, I will do so. And so I started off on the path to be Grand Master. But I am only here because you allowed me to. And so I thank you for the opportunity to serve.

I would like to congratulate the Deputy Grand Master. In about four hours, you will get to come back and see him installed and I congratulate you, and I congratulate Kathy. This has been several years in the making and I congratulate you.

Some of the programs that I wanted to touch on. As you heard yesterday, the Masonic Veterans Partnership, which we still have donation boxes for, has raised \$25,000 this year. And again, that's not me raising it, that's you all raising it. All I did was mention to you that I would like you to donate to it and you accepted and exceeded my challenge. Because of your efforts, we raised more than enough money to buy another vehicle for the Disabled American Veterans to transport veterans all over our state. And it's something that I am very proud of. If there is anything else that I do as Grand Master, the care of veterans and the care for Masonic veterans in this room will always be of the utmost importance to me in thanking them for their service and thanking them for their continued service in masonry. So, I thank you for the funds to do that and I would encourage you to continue to keep donating.

The amnesty program was not as successful as I would have liked it to be but we brought back in over 30 Brothers that had for some reason been suspended for non-payment of dues. And that's 30 more brethren that would not have come back into Masonry without the opportunity. So, I thank you for that. I know that it took a month or two to figure it out and get the paperwork started, but I would also like to thank you for continuing to send those. If you have any last-minute amnesty reinstatements, I still have the seal so I am happy to sign them. If any Secretary still has one, I still have it.

The Proficiency coin program, you have heard that mentioned several times over the weekend. It was a privilege to continue that and present the coin to those that had earned them. We get stuck in a rut sometimes in thinking that proficient means perfect. Proficiency is not perfect. Proficiency means understanding what you are saying. The proficiency coins are for those that not only understand what they are saying but retain what they are saying or learning. But I will tell you this, word perfect does not mean proficient and we get stuck in thinking that you either know it or don't know it. Proficient is proficient in understanding what you are saying.

To the appendant bodies, I would say that I am proud of my membership in the appendant bodies. I think that it provided something for everyone in Masonry. Masonry really is a chose your own adventure as you have heard me say before and whether you stay in the Blue Lodge or you go off and join one of the appendant bodies, you are still serving masonry in some shape or form and you should feel appreciated for that. You can still be a proud member of an appendant body and still be an active Blue Lodge member, and I would challenge you all as you go off to your appendant bodies to come back to your Lodge and make sure that they know who you are.

The future of Masonry will not be written from the sidelines, it will be written by those in the quarries. And if you are sitting on the sidelines during your Lodge meetings and you wonder why nothing changes, get in the quarry and get involved. We must adapt as you have heard from the Grand Master of Iowa. We must continue to evolve. We have been evolving for over 300 years and we must continue to evolve. One of the great tragedies this year for me was not

consolidating one lodge but three lodges and extinguishing another. I am a firm believer that once we lose a lodge in a community, it is likely that masonry is gone in that community not just for a generation but permanently. And until we can get to the point where we start reinvesting in some of the communities that we lost, we will not have an active masonic presence in those communities. Very rarely does a consolidation work for the lodge consolidating. Usually, it benefits the lodge into which they consolidate because of the treasure involved with it. You see an increase in dues. You see an increase in membership but very rarely does a consolidation work for the community that loses the lodge. All we are doing is admitting that masonry does not exist in that community. And I would challenge you there is no reason why we should not have active lodges in some of our communities. As much as it pains me to consolidate Aurora, and as much as it pains me to extinct St. Paul, it was necessary for where they were at the current time. But that doesn't mean that we should abandon these communities. We should continue to look for communities that Masonry has abandoned and look to restore our presence there.

We are needed more that we have ever been needed but if we get stuck with our artificial boundaries and thieftoms and we get stuck in internal fights, sometimes we just need to put a period on the arguments that we are having and accept that we are all brethren and move on from some of our internal squabbles. I don't like everyone that I am related to, but I still respect them. And as brethren, you don't have to like each other but you should respect each other, and you should meet on the level as brethren. I'm proud of all that you have accomplished and that you continue to do and as M.W. Phil said, the fact that we remain respectful, and we can disagree means that the fraternity is working.

Numbers are important, and as you heard, we need numbers to pay the bills, but they should not be the only metric of success that we have as a successful Grand Lodge. We predate our state's existence by ten years. How many state-wide fraternal organizations can last for 166 years and still have over 7,000 members. We need to find the good. We need to celebrate the good. No one wants to join an organization where they are told that they are failing. We need to celebrate the good. We have such a fantastic history that we sometimes let it cloud our judgement about the future. We need to continue thinking about the future, not so much about what our Grand Lodge will look like but what our lodges will look like.

Don't sell out for a short-term gain. We need to guard the west gate. One of the things that was really distressing to me was the four trial commissions I had to appoint and oversee this year. Everyone of them was an offense against a child, and as a man and a Mason, that is abhorrent to me that we would allow such a member to not only be in our fraternity but at some point in time have a lodge position in our fraternity. We need to better scutinize the west gate. Having a pulse and saying Hello should not make you a Mason. We shouldn't be so eager to sign a petition for someone that we just met. We need to do more to ingrain them into our lodge to get to know them first. In the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, you have to have six contacts with the candidate before they are given a petition. I'm not saying we have to do that here. I didn't propose that we do that here but to have at least six contacts with a candidate before they are given a petition allows you to vet them a little better that we currently are.

Ask for help. One of the Grand Master's recommendations came because you asked for help. Secretaries need help so we are providing that for them. You asked for better technology, so we are giving it to you. If you need assistance with any of the rituals, many of our lodges are willing to travel. Long Pine Lodge has 38 members in a town of 300 people, and they will travel anywhere in the state to assist you with a lecture. That is what masonry should be. Brothers helping Brothers. Brothers assisting Brothers. We had a Master's degree in Franklin, NE this year where we had 26 visiting Masons from four different lodges come and help put on a Lodge so they could raise a Master Mason. That is going to sustain Masonry in the western and central part of the state. Our rural areas are not declining in membership because people don't want to join Masonry. Our rural lodges are declining in membership because they don't have the people in the rural areas anymore. We are seeing more regional rural lodges. I spoke with a brother yesterday that their lodge is looking at a consolidation. Once the consolidation takes place, they will have 10 charters in their lodge in the western part of the state because of consolidations. So ask for help not just from the Grand Lodge but from each other. I have not come across any Master of a Lodge or any Warden not willing to assist another subordinate lodge when asked.

Finally, I want to thank you for entrusting me with this position. It has been one of the highest honors for me. I did not necessarily seek this position but for a slight time, I have been elevated above the level. And I'm looking forward to coming back to the level with you all. But I thank you for the opportunity of entrusting me with the awesome responsibility of being the Grand Master of Nebraska. It has been a joy and privilege of a lifetime for me to serve as your 166th Grand Master and I look forward even more to being a Past Grand Master. My wife asked me yesterday, "Are you sad to leave this behind?" and I said that when you have given everything that you can, sometimes it's hard to give even more. So, I thank you for that and I thank you for the awesome opportunity. Thank You.

The printed Address is as follows:

**TO THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NEBRASKA**

Brethren:

Welcome to Kearney! It is a pleasure to welcome you to my hometown and the center of our state and our nation. I also want to welcome you to the 166th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. In accordance with Article X, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, I am providing this written address. This address will cover most of my travels, activities and programs over the last year. Also covered will be my Grand Master's recommendations which were submitted to the Jurisprudence Committee and subordinate lodges more than 45 days before this Annual Communication.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank all the Masons of Nebraska for the opportunity to serve as the 156th Grand Master. It has been the honor of a lifetime for me to lead the fraternity. As I traveled the state and had the opportunity to observe many of you at labor, I am humbled by all your work and all that you do for Masonry and our appendant bodies and youth organizations. I want to thank my wife, Kim Andresen, for her unwavering support over my 8 years as a

Grand Lodge officer. I am not sure she really knew what we were signing up for at the time, but I could not have performed the duties of Grand Master without her.

I would like to thank all the Grand Lodge officers for their support during my year. We have great geographic diversity in our state and as much as I would like to be everywhere at once, it is impossible. I would like to thank all the officers for their commitment to Masonry and for being able to fill in for me when I need it and covering their own lodges for events and degrees. I especially would like to thank M.:W.: Bruce Baker for his time, effort and energy this year as Grand Secretary. While we were going through change at the Grand Lodge office from February to June, M.:W.: Bruce applied a steadfast hand to keep the Grand Lodge office afloat while going through personnel changes. His efforts are appreciated, and he is owed a debt of thanks for the many hours spent in Lincoln and working through the many issues of the office.

I would also like to thank all the Past Grand Masters who had confidence in me and mentored me along the way to the East. I especially want to thank M.:W.: Rick Myers for appointing me to the advancing line as Grand Junior Deacon. He has been a constant source of wisdom and advice during my year as Grand Master. I also appreciate M.:W.: John Maxell and M.:W.: Dennis Rix for appointing me as a Grand Master's Representative and giving me the opportunity to be a part of the Grand Lodge leadership. My thanks to M.:W.: Patrick Barger for appointing me as Grand Senior Deacon thus allowing me to continue my journey before I stood for election. Thank you to all of you who voted for me over the years as Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden, and Deputy Grand Master/Grand Master-Elect.

A special thank you to WB Ron Nielsen, the Grand Tyler for appointing me as his Chaplain in 2008. I don't think either of us could have foretold the road we would travel to this year.

YEAR IN REVIEW

This year began with the announcement that our office manager, Michelle Fulmer, would be transitioning to a new job. While hiring new staff is always difficult, we knew we couldn't replace Michelle, but we knew we had to find a new office manager to run the office. While it took longer than many of us had hoped, hiring WB David Wetrosky, has set the Grand Lodge office on a path of stability. His institutional knowledge and dedication to Masonry is reflected in his passion for his new role. I would also like to thank Jennifer Klein for her outstanding support during the transition. She was quick to acclimate to the daily requirements of the office staff and held the office together until David was able to begin the position.

One of the main goals I had for the year was to bring back those who had fallen behind on dues and been suspended. With the amnesty program, I waived one year's per capita if the lodge agreed to waive back dues. This enabled lodges to review their rosters, find members who had been suspended for non-payment of dues and have them reinstated for \$38.50 (plus \$20.00 background check fee). The first 100 reinstated members would have had their background fees reimbursed. While not receiving the number of reinstatements that I would have liked, the program brought focus to many lodges on membership issues. Quite simply, there is nothing the Grand Lodge can do if lodges aren't willing or able to increase their membership.

I continued the support of the Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP). As a veteran, this is an important program to me. I began the year asking each lodge to consider donating \$250 to MVP. I was overwhelmed by the response. I also created a fundraiser by selling

Grand Lodge shirts with \$5 from the sale of each shirt going to the MVP program. Within my first six months of office, we had raised enough to fund another vehicle for Disabled American Veterans (DAV). We currently have three other vehicles on the road with a Square and Compass visible as a testament to our commitment to DAV and our veterans.

The Grand Master's Excellence in Proficiency Coin Program continues to be a popular program for those willing to go the extra mile and become proficient in one or more degrees. We were also able to recognize those who were already Master Masons this year who wanted to become proficient in a degree and earn a coin. I am amazed at the quality of work being done to attain proficiency and obtain a coin.

The Grand Lodge officers held a retreat in Kearney which took place July 15-17. The focus of the retreat was to discuss strategic planning and review the strategic plan implemented in 2012. We covered a lot of ground and discussed many of the challenges facing the Grand Lodge and our subordinate lodges. While many of the issues facing the Grand Lodge in 2012 still face our organization, we discussed what Masonry in Nebraska would look like in another 10 years. While much of what is discussed in Masonic circles can tend to focus on doom and gloom, there is reason to be optimistic. While membership is certainly an issue, we have a lot to be proud of within our jurisdiction. The quality of work and the activities in our communities prove that if we give men an organization they want to join, we can recruit members. Those lodges who are active in their communities and doing degree work consistently are thriving and growing. There is no secret or magic to growing a lodge. We simply must provide a product we are proud of and an organization men want to join.

MASONIC YOUTH GROUPS

I had the honor and privilege of attending events sponsored by all our youth organizations. I attended the annual conventions of Job's Daughters and DeMolay. I also attended the state round-up for DeMolay and the Grand Cross of Color ceremony in Omaha for the Rainbow Girls. Our youth organizations give me great hope and promise for our future. Their dedication and time spent on Masonic organizations reminded me that people will always find time for what is important to them. I was consistently impressed by their ritual work, their professionalism and their maturity. All involved with our youth organizations should be proud of their accomplishments and their value to the Masonic family.

This year we were also able to hold the Triennial Masonic Youth Conference in Kearney on October 8-9. After a five-year hiatus due to COVID, nearly 200 youth and adults were able to resume the conference. I want to especially thank Gene and Judy Wehrbein for their dedication and commitment to the conference. Without their tireless leadership and fundraising, this event would not have been possible. I would encourage all lodges and appendant bodies to continue to support the conference as the Masonic family's generosity allows this conference to continue and grow.

MASONIC ALL-STAR MARCHING BAND

The Masonic All-Star Marching Band continues a stellar run of success. This year there were more students than ever who applied and participated. The band had approximately 190 members this year. I appreciate all the lodges who continue to sponsor the students as without this funding, the band wouldn't exist. I had the opportunity to speak to the band between the parade and the football game. As a former marching band student myself it was a real pleasure to share a few words with them. I want to thank WB Eric BenSalah and the committee for their dedication to maintaining the band.

CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CHIP)

The CHIP program, rebranded as KIDS ID this year, continues to be one our most successful public projects. I had the opportunity to attend the KIDS ID event sponsored by the Nebraska City Masonic bodies, including Western Star Lodge No. 2, during the annual AppleJack Festival in September. It was a well-attended event and served many families from all over the region.

The KIDS ID program returned to the Nebraska State Fair on August 27 and 28. There continues to be a need for Masons from all over the state to work at the State Fair event. This is one of our most publicly visible projects and I appreciate the work that goes into it. I know it is a lot of work to pull off one of these events and I thank all of the volunteers for their continued commitment.

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

Thanks to modern technology, I was able to attend most of the meetings of both homes. Both continue to provide first-class care for their residents. It was a pleasure to be hosted by the Masonic Eastern-Star Home for Children on March 11 for the annual All-Committee meeting. I want to thank Ron Giesselmann for his continued leadership of the home and for his hospitality. I also had the opportunity to visit with the Nebraska Masonic Home's new Executive Director, April Johnston, at several events this year including the Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation's Caring Club Dinner on September 25 at the Scottish Rite in Omaha. Both of our homes have exceptional leadership. We are lucky to have both homes on solid foundations. I want to thank Steve Barchus as well for another year of leading the Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

Due to the turnover of the Grand Lodge staff, the committees took on new importance. I relied on the committees to perform work previously performed by the Grand Lodge staff and it was a relief to see the committees rise to the challenge and provide great work products this year. Please refer to each of their reports.

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL F. & A. M.

One of the most important relationships to the Grand Lodge continues to be the relationship we maintain with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. We had another great year of friendship and fellowship. I was proud to attend the Prince Hall Annual Communication in July and bring greetings on behalf of the Grand Lodge. We continued our tradition of a friendship dinner at Cascio's Steakhouse in Omaha on October 20. To further foster our relationship, M.:W.: Michael Wilcoxon and I along with our Deputy Grand Masters, attended a regular meeting of Prince Hall's Lebanon Lodge No. 3 in Lincoln on November 22, the week of Thanksgiving. This was a really special treat for me, and the DGM and I were treated to a fantastic dinner and fellowship. I hope this will continue into a tradition in the future.

LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

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

- 150 Years:** Acacia Lodge No. 34, Schuyler
Fairbury Lodge No. 35, Fairbury
Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City
Crete Lodge No. 37, Crete

NECROLOGY

In 2022, 232 of the Brethren in our subordinate lodges went to their eternal home. Our Very Worshipful Grand Chaplain will conduct a memorial service during our Annual Communication which will pay fitting tribute to these brethren.

CORNERSTONES

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

- Beatrice** – July 23 – Beatrice Fire Station
Host Lodge: Beatrice Lodge No. 26
Master: Lance Brinkman
- Omaha** – September 24 – UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute
Host Lodge: Albert Pike Lodge No. 333
Master: Bennie Kugler

VISITATIONS

Following are the visits I conducted during my year as Grand Master:

February

- 3-5 Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Annual Communication, Kearney
6 All Officers Meeting - Kearney
17-23 Conference of Grand Masters of North America, Milwaukee

March

- 2 Rob Morris No. 46 Lodge Visitation, Kearney
8 Jachin No. 146 Lodge Visitation, Kearney
9 Board Meeting, Masonic Eastern-Star Home for Children (Conference Call)
12 All-Committee Meeting – Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont
12 Elkhorn/Fremont York Rite Masons Fundraiser for FurEver Home Inc., hosted by Fremont

Lodge No. 15, Fremont

- 12 Office Manager Interview, GL Office, Lincoln
- 17 St. Paul No. 82 Lodge Visitation, St. Paul
- 18 Fort Kearney Shrine Club 150th Shrine/100th Hospital Anniversary Event, Kearney
- 19 Tangier Shrine Potentate's Ball, Omaha
- 20 Omaha Chapter #1 Royal Arch Masons Soup Supper, hosted by John J. Mercer Lodge No.290, Omaha
- 25 Farewell Dinner for Michelle Fulmer, hosted by Omaha Valley Scottish Rite, Omaha
- 26 Council and Commandry, York Rite, Papillion Masonic Center, Papillion
- 26 OES Breakfast Fundraiser, Bellevue Lodge No. 325, Bellevue
- 26 Installation for Daughters of the Nile, Omaha

April

- 12 Board Meeting, Masonic Home in Plattsmouth (Conference Call)
- 12 Thistle Lodge No. 61 Lodge Visitation, Lexington
- 13 Board Meeting, Masonic Eastern-Star Home for Children (Conference Call)
- 18 Franklin Lodge No. 264 Lodge Visitation, Franklin
- 23 Museum/Foundation dedication of the new book scanner, GL Office, Lincoln
- 23 Shrine Bowl Player's Welcome Dinner, Tehama Shrine, Hastings
- 27 Central Nebraska Shrine Club Circus, Grand Island

May

- 4 Rob Morris No. 46 Lodge Visitation, Kearney
- 10 Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter Opening, Kearney
- 11 Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter Initiation, Kearney
- 12 Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter Installation, Kearney

June

- 1 Porter Lodge No. 106 Lodge Visitation, Loup City
- 3 Shrine Bowl Banquet, Kearney
- 4 Shrine Bowl Parade/Game, Kearney
- 4 Masonic All-Star Marching Band, Kearney
- 8 Board Meeting, Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont (Conference Call)

- 18 Job's Daughter's Grand Bethel Installation, Kearney
- 18 Sesostri Shrine, Potentate's Ball, Lincoln
- 25 Royal Arch Masons, York Rite, Hastings

July

- 2-6 Imperial Shrine Session, Minneapolis, MN
- 12 Board Meeting, Nebraska Masonic Home, Plattsmouth (Conference Call)
- 13 Board Meeting, Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont (Conference Call)
- 15 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Annual Communication, Omaha
- 15-17 Grand Lodge Officers Retreat, Kearney
- 23 Beatrice Fire Hall Cornerstone, Beatrice Lodge No. 26, Beatrice
- 23 DeMolay 102nd Annual Conclave, Grand Island

August

- 16 Waterloo Lodge No. 102, Master Mason Degree, Elkhorn
- 20 Grand Lodge of Texas, MasoniCon, Fort Worth, Texas
- 22 Advancing Line Meeting

September

- 7 Rob Morris No. 46, Regular Meeting, Kearney
- 15 St. Paul Lodge No. 82, Lodge Status Meeting, St. Paul
- 17 Western Star Lodge No. 2, CHIP Event, Nebraska City
- 17 Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Awards Night, Grand Island
- 24 Heroes of '76, Heroes Degree, Omaha
- 24 UNMC Munroe-Meyer Cornerstone, Albert Pike Lodge No. 333, Omaha
- 24 Heroes of '76, Curtis LeMay Central Area Encampment, National Sojourners Omaha Chapter #19, Omaha
- 25 Tangier Shrine, Vintage Iron Show and Shine, Omaha
- 25 Nebraska Masonic Home, Caring Club Banquet, Omaha
- 28 Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Master Mason Degree, Central City

October

- 2 Reception for Daughters of the Nile Supreme Queen, Tangier Shrine, Omaha
- 5 Rob Morris No. 46, Regular Meeting, Kearney
- 6 Area Meeting Hosted by Jachin Lodge No. 146, Holdrege
- 8 Masonic Youth Conference, Kearney

- 20 Friendship Dinner with Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Omaha
- 29 Ft. Kearney Shrine Club, UNK Homecoming Parade, Kearney

November

- 2 Rob Morris No. 46, Regular Meeting, Kearney
- 8 Platte Valley No. 42, Lodge Visitation, North Platte
- 13 Cross of Color, IORG, Omaha
- 21 Grand Lodge All-Officers Meeting
- 22 Lebanon Lodge No. 3, F&AM, Lincoln, Joint Visitation with MW Michael Wilcoxon, GM of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska

December

- 16 Fort Kearney Shrine Club Christmas Party, Kearney
- 19 Tehama Shrine Stated Meeting, Hastings
- 29 East Lincoln No. 210, Master Mason Degree/Visitation, Lincoln

January

February

- 2-4 Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Annual Communication - Kearney

GRAND MASTER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

Amend **Section 1-201 – GRAND SECRETARY** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 1-201 – GRAND SECRETARY – The Grand Secretary shall have charge of the seal of the Grand Lodge; shall personally attend and record the transactions of the Grand Lodge when in Annual Communication; shall sign all orders, certificates, documents and diplomas requiring the seal of the Grand Lodge, to include the affixing of the seal thereon. The Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio a member of the Fraternal Relations Committee and the Grand Lodge Office Committee. The Grand Secretary shall report to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge such statistical data concerning the status of membership of this Grand Lodge as may, in his opinion, be appropriate, or as may be directed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary shall devote such time as his duties may require for the efficient and prompt completion of such duties or other programs of the Grand Lodge to include the promotion of Masonry.

The Grand Secretary, within his discretion, may appoint up to six (6) Deputy Grand Secretaries, for the purpose of administering his duties and to assist subordinate lodges and their secretaries. Any member appointed a Deputy Grand Secretary shall

have served as a secretary for a subordinate lodge prior to appointment. The duties of Deputy Grand Secretary shall include, but are not limited to, assisting subordinate secretaries with reporting requirements, technology requirements, and reporting back to the Grand Secretary any assistance provided to subordinate lodges. The Deputy Grand Secretaries serve at the pleasure of the Grand Secretary in consultation with the Grand Master.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

Amend **Section 2-404 – HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 2-404 – HONORARY MEMBERSHIP – Honorary membership in subordinate lodges is not recognized in this jurisdiction. *The Grand Master, in his discretion, may provide an honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to Grand Masters of other jurisdictions, or their representative(s). Honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska shall not convey any membership benefit other than recognizing a Master Mason in good standing from another grand jurisdiction upon the judgement of the Grand Master. Any honorary member shall not already be a member of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska or one of its subordinate lodges.*

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

Amend **Section 2-506 – ATTENDING CHURCH: MASONIC CLOTHING** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 2 506 – ATTENDING CHURCH: MASONIC CLOTHING – Members of a subordinate lodge may attend church services in procession without dispensation. But Masonic clothing should be worn only when the lodge is at work or upon some Masonic occasion. *Masonic aprons may be worn to a public event where it would be appropriate, such as a community parade or other public celebration upon dispensation from the Grand Master.*

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

Amend **Section 2-605 – LODGE DUES** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized.

Sec. 2 605 – LODGE DUES – Beginning January 1, 2007, the dues assessed by all chartered subordinate lodges shall be payable on January 1 of the year for which they are assessed and shall become delinquent on the 1st day of March of the same year, if not paid by that date. On March 1, of each year, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify in writing each member that is in arrears for dues of the current year of such fact and request payment thereof on or before April 30, of the same year. If such member fails to pay his dues on or before April 30 of such year, he shall stand suspended for non-payment of dues upon approval of the Grand Master, and an entry noting said approved suspension shall be made in the minutes of the lodge. Approval *or disapproval* of a suspension for non-payment of dues shall be given by the Grand Master upon submission by the lodge. *The Grand Master may approve the form upon submission* of satisfactory evidence of compliance with Section 2-513 of the Bylaws. *The Grand Master may also disprove an individual*

suspension of non-payment of dues if good cause is shown, such as length of membership or failure to contact the member personally. The Grand Master may also request additional information before an approval or disapproval of a membership suspension for non-payment of dues. Subordinate lodges will be responsible for per capita payments of all members listed on any Annual Report of Suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues received after June 10. Members listed on Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues reports received after June 10 will not be suspended. It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to notify, in writing, each member approved for suspension for non-payment of dues. Such notice shall be deemed properly given when mailed by first class mail to the last known post office address of such suspended individual.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

Amend **Section 3-906 - DEATH AFTER SUSPENSION** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized:

Sec. 3-906 – DEATH AFTER SUSPENSION – The record of a brother’s suspension for non-payment of dues cannot be changed, vacated, or annulled by the lodge suspending him, after the brother’s death. But when the action of the lodge was illegal, the sentence of suspension may be declared null and void by the Grand Master, provided, that if the so-called suspension occurred more than one year prior to the death of said brother, and no attempt has been made by himself or his relations for restoration to good standing in that length of time, he shall be deemed to have had full knowledge thereof, and to have concurred therein, and the action of the lodge shall not be changed, but shall be final. ***The Grand Master, at his discretion and upon application from a subordinate lodge, may reinstate a brother who was suspended for non-payment of dues for the purposes of a Masonic funeral. The reinstatement for the purposes of a Masonic funeral shall not provide any further benefit to the survivors of the reinstated members and the reinstatement will be solely for the benefit of a Masonic funeral.***

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

Amend **Section 3-102 - ENUMERATED** by adding certain language, so that such sections, as amended, will read as follows, with the new language shown in bold and italicized:

Sec. 3-102(g) – Making application to, or joining any lodge, society, or institution that shall provide as a condition precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, or shall have taken the degrees of Entered Apprentice Mason, Fellow Craft Mason, and Master Mason, provided that this inhibition shall not apply to York or Scottish Rite bodies, the Order of Eastern Star, the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, National Federated Craft, Allied Masonic Degrees, the National Sojourners, the Past Grand Masters Association, the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, High Twelve International, Inc., Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatus, ***the Royal Order of Scotland, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America, Grottoes International,*** or to organizations which do not require the taking of any obligation and which do not have any secret ritual or ceremony. The above described organizations, societies, or institutions are commonly referred to as, and are hereby defined as, appendant bodies or appendant Masonic bodies ***recognized by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.*** ***Any other body requiring that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing may apply to the Grand***

Master to operate under dispensation until the matter may be voted upon at the next Annual Communication under a Grand Master's recommendation if the body is operating under dispensation.

LODGE BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED

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

On February 11, 2022, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Fidelity Lodge No. 51 in David City to change the time of regular communications from 8 p.m. to 7 p.m.

On August 1, 2022, I approved a complete revision to the bylaws of Lebanon Lodge No. 323 in Columbus.

On September 13, 2022, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Plainview Lodge No. 204 in Plainview to change the fees for degrees and to eliminate pay for the Treasurer and Secretary.

On September 13, 2022, I approved a complete revision to the bylaws of Blazing Star Lodge No. 200 in Burwell.

On September 13, 2022, I approved a complete revision to the bylaws of Seneca Lodge No. 284 in Thedford.

On October 14, 2022, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Ogallala Lodge 159 in Ogallala to change the date of the regular communication, if it falls on a holiday or if there is inclement weather, from the first Tuesday of each month to the third Tuesday.

On October 14, 2022, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of Ogallala Lodge 159 in Ogallala to raise lodge dues.

On November 23, 2022, I approved an amendment to the bylaws of JJ Mercer Lodge No. 290 in Omaha to change provisions related to their Temple Craft committee.

LODGE CONSOLIDATIONS AND EXTINCTIONS

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

I approved the following consolidations:

Falls City Lodge No. 9, Falls City, merged with Pawnee Lodge No. 23, Mitchell, effective September 16, 2022.

Aurora Lodge No. 68, Aurora, merged with Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City, effective September 16, 2022.

Scribner Lodge No. 132, Scribner, merged with Hooper Lodge No. 72, Hooper, effective September 21, 2022.

St. Paul Lodge No. 82, St. Paul, was declared extinct on December 20, 2022. All members were transferred to Ashlar Lodge No 33.

PERMISSIONS, DISPENSATIONS AND ORDERS

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

On March 1, I granted Plainview Lodge No. 204 dispensation to hold a small raffle (less than \$5000).

On March 11, I granted Cotner Lodge No. 297 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication to GL office on April 4 for the purpose of holding the regular business meeting and touring the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library.

On April 1, I granted Omadi Lodge No. 5 dispensation to hold a small raffle (less than \$5000).

On April 5, I granted Tabula Rasa No. 332 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication to the GL office on April 19 for the purpose of holding the regular business meeting and touring the Nebraska Masonic Museum & Research Library.

On April 13, I granted Florence Lodge No. 281 dispensation to incur debt for purchase of a lodge building (Shiloh Masonic Center).

On April 18, I granted College View Lodge No. 320 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication in June to Lebanon Lodge No. 323 and for August to Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont.

On April 28, I granted Liberty Lodge No. 300 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on June 2 to the Nebraska Masonic Museum and Research Library.

On May 9, I granted Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on June 14 to the Walter Johnson Ranch to conduct an outdoor meeting.

On May 9, I granted Geneva Lodge No. 79 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on June 14 to the SW ¼, 21-7-2 in Fillmore County, Nebraska to conduct an outdoor meeting.

On June 6, I granted Aurora Lodge No. 68 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication to move their charter for the rest of my term as Grand Master, to 1701 N Highway 14, Aurora, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding the regular business meetings as the members have sold their lodge building in anticipation of consolidation. Nothing in this dispensation relieves the members of this lodge from complying with 2-501 and 2-503 of the Bylaws of this Grand Lodge on meeting locations and meetings. All meetings must continue to be held at lodges for purposes of conducting lodge business.

On June 6, I granted Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on July 6 to the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

On June 27, I granted John J. Mercer Lodge No. 290 dispensation to hold a small raffle (less than \$5000).

On July 1, I granted George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on July 5 to the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

On July 8, I granted Florence Lodge No. 281 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on July 11 to the Shiloh Masonic Center in Omaha.

On July 14, I granted Liberty Lodge No. 300 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on August 31, to Craftsmen Temple in Lincoln.

On July 25, I granted Mizpah Lodge No. 302 authorized the refund of a perpetual membership due to extenuating circumstances.

On July 26, I granted Comet No. 229 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication beginning on July 26 to Wahoo Lodge No. 229 for the rest of my term to allow for amended by-laws.

On July 26, I granted Waterloo Lodge No. 102 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on September 6, to 4550 N. 216th Street, Elkhorn, Nebraska to conduct an outdoor meeting.

On August 15, I granted Western Star Lodge No. 2 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on August 18 to the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

On August 15, I granted Seneca Lodge No. 284 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on September 14, to 39401 Hwy 2, Thedford, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding the lodge's regular business meeting and inviting Zion Lodge No. 234 of Hyannis to attend and hold the meeting in an outdoor setting.

On August 15, I granted Liberty Lodge No. 300 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on September 1, to the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

August 30, Centennial Lodge No. 326, dispensation to move their charter on September 6, 2022, to 4550 N. 216th Street, Elkhorn, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding the regular business meeting in an outdoor setting with Waterloo Lodge No. 102.

On September 12, I granted Zion Lodge No. 234 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on September 14, to 39401 Hwy 2, Thedford, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding the lodge's regular business meeting with Seneca Lodge No. 284 and hold the meeting in an outdoor setting.

On September 15, Aurora Lodge No. 68 granted request to consolidate with Lone Tree Lodge No. 36.

On September 16, Falls City Lodge No. 9, granted request to consolidate with Pawnee Lodge No. 23.

On September 21, Scribner Lodge No. 132, granted request to consolidate with Hooper Lodge No. 72.

On September 27, I granted Cotner Lodge No. 297 dispensation to move charter for Regular Communication on October 3, to 17260 NW 12th St., Davey, NE, for the purpose of holding their regular business meeting in an outdoor setting.

On September 27, I granted Hickman Lodge No. 256 dispensation to move their charter on October 6, to 1801 North 112th Street, Lincoln, NE, for the purpose of holding the regular business meeting in an outdoor setting.

On October 11, I granted dispensation to the WM of St Paul Lodge No. 82 to wind up all business before the lodge became extinct.

On November 7, I granted Bee Hive Lodge No. 184 dispensation to conduct raffles on November 5, 2022, December 17, 2022 and February 4, 2023 hold a small raffle (less than \$5000).

On November 23, I granted Florence Lodge No. 281 dispensation to waive the provisions of Section 2-402 of the Bylaws of this Grand Lodge as related to the proficiency of a member as an exceptional case.

On November 23, I granted George W. Lininger No. 184 dispensation to hold a small raffle (less than \$5000) on December 6.

On December 19, I granted Victory Lodge No. 310 dispensation to elect a Senior Warden at their regular communication on December 12, 2022 (previously approved via e-mail).

On November 23, I granted George W. Lininger No. 184 dispensation to elect a Secretary/Treasurer at their regular communication on December 6, 2022 (previously approved via e-mail).

REINSTATEMENTS

The following brethren were reinstated during the past year, showing the names of the reinstated brethren, his lodge, and the date each was reinstated to membership:

January 14, 2022	Herbert W. Roeser	Ashlar No. 33
January 17, 2022	Robert D. McAllister	J.J. Mercer No. 290
January 25, 2022	Charles P. McCann	Mizpah No. 302
February 1, 2022	Craig D. Meierhenry	Mosaic No. 55
February 3, 2022	Joe L. Meuser	Platte Valley No. 32
February 15, 2022	T Brent Diers	Fremont No. 15
February 15, 2022	Danny E. Iiams	Bellevue No. 325
April 20, 2022	Daniel G. Thomas	Omadi No. 5
May 13, 2022	Fredrick S. Spady	Beatrice No. 26
July 11, 2022	Sean W. Reed	Nebraska No. 1
August 1, 2022	Gary S. Eller	George W. Lininger No. 268
August 2, 2022	Bryce Wells	Rob Morris No. 46
August 4, 2022	Jamie R. Sears	Liberty No. 300
August 28, 2022	Jason D. Thompson	Capital No. 3
September 6, 2022	Frederick G. Bernt	Hickman No. 256
November 2, 2022	John T. Hodge	Covert No. 11
December 1, 2022	Sean P. Trainor	Hickman No. 256
December 1, 2022	Timothy J. Trainor	Hickman No. 256

TRIAL COMMISSIONS

Pursuant to the authority delineated in Section 1-103 of the Bylaws, a Trial Commission was appointed in the matter of an offense by a member of Cotner Lodge No. 297. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and expelled from the Masonic fraternity on August 1, 2022.

Pursuant to the authority delineated in Section 1-103 of the Bylaws, a Trial Commission was appointed in the matter of an offense by a member of Bellevue Lodge No. 325. The individual was found guilty by the Commission and suspended for an indefinite period from the Masonic fraternity on November 15, 2022.

Pursuant to the authority delineated in Section 1-103 of the Bylaws, a Trial Commission was appointed in the matter of an offense by a member of Bellevue Lodge No. 325. The matter is still pending.

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

WAIVERS OF JURISDICTION

The following waiver of jurisdiction was granted in 2022.

June 8, 2022.....Ryan Michael McKittrick, Cobia Lodge No. 631, Council Bluffs, Iowa

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT

The condition of the craft in Nebraska remains strong. We must continue to capitalize on the opportunities presented to us. Our lodges must remain relevant in their communities and must actively recruit new members. As a statewide organization, we boast over 155 years of history and 7500 members. There are not many organizations in Nebraska which can claim 155 years of successful and continuous operation.

Our retention continues to improve. More and more members are succeeding in the long-form proficiency which requires more work, but also more commitment. If we continue to provide a welcoming and supportive environment, we will keep new and existing members engaged in Masonry and engaged in their lodges. If lodges only host the Regular Communication once per month to pay bills and read correspondence, we will fail our members and see lodge memberships continue to dwindle.

If you doubt the relevance of Masonry in today’s world, simply turn on your television. We have one of the most recognizable brands in the world. In the last year alone, several television shows have showcased Masonry including Dan Brown’s Lost Symbol and National Treasure: Edge of History. We have potential members reach out to the Grand Lodge office every week to potentially join a lodge. There are opportunities to make our lodges and our Grand Lodge stronger, but we must be willing to embrace and capitalize on these opportunities.

In short, we hold the keys to our own destiny. The opportunities are there for a resurgence of Masonry, but it will depend on our existing members and our existing lodges to secure our future. It will take a commitment from each of us to secure Masonry's future in Nebraska.

CONCLUSION

Again, I want to thank each and every one of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the 156th Grand Master. I took great pride in representing Masonry throughout Nebraska and throughout the country. It has been the honor of a lifetime to be the Grand Master and I am looking forward to going back to my Blue Lodge and continuing to contribute to the future of Masonry.

Respectfully submitted,



Alex F. Straatmann
Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska

Most Worshipful Brother Alex F. Straatmann moved for the adoption of his Address. The motion was seconded and passed, with the Grand Master receiving a standing ovation.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Master Straatmann asked R.:W.:B.: John Millington for his Address in anticipation of serving as Grand Master in 2023.

Deputy Grand Master Millington addressed the brethren:

I would like to thank you for the honor and privilege of being elected to serve as Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska in 2023. I am flattered and humbled by your support.

Before I begin, I congratulate Most Worshipful Brother Alex Straatmann on concluding a great year. Beginning your term with the pending resignation of our long-time Grand Lodge Office Manager was an enormous challenge and your brethren appreciate the time and energy you devoted to the craft.

Brethren: Nebraska Masonry is at a critical juncture in its history. As we have not yet fully recovered from the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 restrictions, our numbers are declining, lodges are consolidating, and others struggle with attendance and an aging membership. Despite all of this, dedicated Brothers, like many I see in here today, continue to focus on setting a good example for our fraternity by representing the values they learned in our ritual. It's because of your sacrifice and dedication that Masonry will rebound.

I will briefly share my 2023 vision and initiatives for the craft, but first, please indulge me while I build some backstory as to why I feel Masonry is struggling to build members. When I was a young man, my father impressed upon my brother and I the importance of hard work and dedication, he repeatedly told us. "If you ever have a chance to become a Mason, do it." You see, my father, who never became a Mason himself, looked up to the men he saw who represented our craft. They were successful men who demonstrated Masonic values in their daily actions. When my brother and I became Masons ourselves, we were impressed by men we met who were leaders in our lodge. Yet, after working in

the business world for nearly 20 years at that time, I knew of no one who was a Mason. Those who were Masons, never spoke about it and weren't actively bringing people into their lodges.

A few years ago, I visited a lodge in a small town in Nebraska. Arriving early for the meeting, I drove around town, but the lodge wasn't visible. I spoke to a local resident and asked where it was located and his response has stayed with me... he said he had lived in that town for 40 years and he wasn't aware of a Masonic Lodge in town.

This man's comments could have been made in towns and villages across the state, even in Omaha and Lincoln. He wasn't aware of a Masonic Lodge because the lodge didn't promote itself. There is no doubt in my mind he knew local lodge Brothers, but the lodge was not a topic of conversation. Like many Lodges, they held one event each year aside from their monthly business meetings.

As Masons we must raise awareness of ourselves and what we do to make our communities better. We must ensure our lodges are visible and we need to be certain they are representative of a thriving organization. I encourage all lodges to organize at least one new event in 2023. Perhaps a blood drive, food drive, or fundraiser for the local school or a charitable organization.

Today's young men are interested in what Masonry teaches. We only fail to bring them into Masonry because we don't meet them on their own playing field. Today's young men are more community and civic minded than ever and actively seek to work at businesses that contribute to their community. They volunteer at rates not seen in decades. Making these men masons is a win for everyone. Visibility for our lodges in today's terms means having an active website and social media that is updated frequently with photos of recent activities.

To increase our visibility, our technology committee is in the process of redesigning the Grand Lodge website. We want to transform its home page to something more appealing to a younger, more computer savvy audience and we want the website visible on smart phones. It is our hope that you do the same for your lodge's website. Change is never easy, but we feel Masonry's primary method of promotion needs to advance a modern image of Nebraska Masons.

It is well known that I believe in and enjoy our ritual. I believe it is essential that new candidates understand it and use it to become active in their lodges. Ritual work was the impetus for my initial commitment to our fraternity, and I see it affecting many other brothers in a positive way, just as it did me. It not only teaches moral lessons, but it promotes dedication to the fraternity and creates a bond with your mentor and lodge Brothers. In 2023, I plan to continue the long-form proficiency for excellence coins in all three degrees. Coins can be awarded not only to new Brothers, but also to existing Masons who demonstrate excellence in degree proficiency.

Performing quality degree work takes time, energy, and hard work. I want to encourage lodges to schedule ritual practices and actively involve your newer members in performing our ritual. Our Deputy Grand Custodians are always willing to assist lodges not only with practices, but also round tables and local schools of instruction. I know our Grand Lodge Officers firmly believe that meaningful activities and learning are what keep new members engaged with your lodge.

I do understand that some lodges struggle to perform degree work simply due to low numbers. Therefore, at the Grand Lodge level, I would like to pledge our support to those

lodges needing assistance. The 2023 Grand Lodge Officers are seasoned ritualists, most of whom are Deputy Grand Custodians, and we are happy to visit your lodge to perform degree work to help your lodge grow.

Your Grand Lodge Advancing Line Officers understands the importance of planning for the future. Last year, Most Worshipful Brother Alex reinvigorated the Grand Lodge planning process by hosting a planning session at his retreat in July. In 2023, we will continue this conversation in May where we will identify our primary objectives for the coming years. It is my fervent hope that we continue to do this annually to ensure the Grand Lodge remains focused on the future success of the craft. I encourage all lodges to do the same. Meet with your progressive line of leadership and work together to identify lodge objectives, both short and long-term. By doing this, you will help your lodges remain relevant.

In conclusion, I believe in Masonry, I believe in the moral lessons of our ritual and I believe in our resilience. Most importantly, I believe in the leaders in this room. As young men continue to look for ways to serve their communities, we need to be visible to them in order to be part of the conversation. We do this by maintaining active, updated websites, showing our community involvement as well as by simply talking about our lodge whenever we can. We keep Brothers coming to lodge by performing well-practiced ritual, ongoing mentorship, and getting them involved. The Grand Lodge Officers are eager to help your lodge succeed and we strive for success in everything Masonry does. In 2023, I pledge to do everything in my power to make the craft stronger and I ask that you join me in this effort. Thank You.

Right Worshipful Millington went on to state that the installation of the 2023-2024 Grand Lodge officers would be held that afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in the same lodge room and invited everyone to attend and that a reception would be held after the installation for those that pre-registered. The 167th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska will be held at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, NE on February 1-3, 2024.



M.:W.: Russ Reno presented Most Worshipful Brother Straatmann a Certificate of Appreciation from the George Washington Masonic Memorial in thanks for the support of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for the Memorial.

FINAL REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

M.:W.: Dwight Smith, Chairman

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

The meeting of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska was called to order on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 10:00 am by MWB Dean Skokan, Chairman Pro tem. The following members were present: MWB Les Seiler, MWB Steve Matoon; and MWB Thomas Hauder. MWB Dwight Smith attended by telephone.

Also present were the following Grand Lodge officers:

- MWB Alex Straatmann, Grand Master
- RW John Millington, Deputy Grand Master

- RW John B. Ferguson, Grand Senior Warden
- RW Michael Stuhr, Grand Junior Warden
- MWB Bruce Baker, Grand Secretary
- John Herbolsheimer, Grand Senior Deacon
- Tyler Loontjer, Grand Junior Deacon
- VW Kevin Scheele, Grand Chaplain
- Jeffrey Buhrman, Grand Orator
- Eric BenSalah, Grand Historian
- MWB Patrick Barger, Grand Custodian
- Stanley Weidner, Grand Marshal
- John Fairlie, Grand Senior Steward
- Kent Neumann, Grand Junior Steward
- Ronald Nielsen, Grand Tyler
- Hal Cottrell, Personal Rep
- Jock Faris, Personal Rep
- Sean Sutherland, Personal Rep

Also present were Jim Carlton, PGM, David Wetrosky, Office Manager, Ron Giesselmann, Ex. Dir. MESH.

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

The Minutes and Report of the Committee from last year were approved.

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

The Jurisprudence Committee met on January 18, 2023 by conference call and submitted to the Grand Master an agenda and report.

Pursuant to Committee Rules adopted last year, when the Committee acts unanimously on any matter, the moving and seconding members will not be recorded in the minutes and the vote will only be recorded as an unanimous action.

The Committee considered the Grand Master's Recommendations for amendments to the Grand Lodge Bylaws and Constitution, and the following action was taken:

The Committee unanimously found Grand Master's Recommendations One, Two, Three, Four, Five and Six to be in proper form and found that they can be balloted upon at this session.

The Committee also reviewed the Address and Supplemental Address of the Grand Master. The Committee questioned the Grand Master concerning certain actions taken during the year and received satisfactory responses.

The committee unanimously passed a motion commending the Grand Master for a successful year.

Codification of Law

At the Annual Communication, All six of the Grand Master's Recommendation were approved, and the following amendments to the Bylaws are required:

Sec.1-201- GRAND SECRETARY -The Grand Secretary shall have charge of the seal of the Grand Lodge; shall personally attend and record the transactions of the Grand Lodge when in Annual Communication; shall sign all orders, certificates, documents and diplomas requiring the seal of the Grand Lodge, to include the affixing of the seal thereon. The Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio a member of the Fraternal Relations Committee and the Grand Lodge Office Committee. The Grand Secretary shall report to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge such statistical data concerning the status of membership of this Grand Lodge as may, in his opinion, be appropriate, or as may be directed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary shall devote such time as his duties may require for the efficient and prompt completion of such duties or other programs of the Grand Lodge to include the promotion of Masonry.

The Grand Secretary, within his discretion, may appoint up to six (6) Deputy Grand Secretaries, for the purpose of administering his duties and to assist subordinate lodges and their secretaries. Any member appointed a Deputy Grand Secretary shall have served as a secretary for a subordinate lodge prior to appointment. The duties of Deputy Grand Secretary shall include, but are not limited to, assisting subordinate secretaries with reporting requirements, technology requirements, and reporting back to the Grand Secretary any assistance provided to subordinate lodges. The Deputy Grand Secretaries serve at the pleasure of the Grand Secretary in consultation with the Grand Master.

Sec. 2-404 - HONORARY MEMBERSHIP-Honorary membership in subordinate lodges is not recognized in this jurisdiction. The Grand Master, in his discretion, may provide an honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to Grand Masters of other jurisdictions, or their representative(s). Honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska shall not convey any membership benefit other than recognizing a Master Mason in good standing from another grand jurisdiction upon the judgement of the Grand Master. Any honorary member shall not already be a member of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska or one of its subordinate lodges.

Sec. 2 506 -ATTENDING CHURCH: MASONIC CLOTHING - Members of a subordinate lodge may attend church services in procession without dispensation. But Masonic clothing should be worn only when the lodge is at work or upon some Masonic occasion. Masonic aprons may be worn to a public event where it would be appropriate, such as a community parade or other public celebration upon dispensation from the Grand Master.

Sec.2 605 - LODGE DUES - Beginning January 1, 2007, the dues assessed by all chartered subordinate lodges shall be payable on January 1 of the year for which they are assessed and shall become delinquent on the 1st day of March of the same year, if not paid

by that date. On March 1, of each year, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify in writing each member that is in arrears for dues of the current year of such fact and request payment thereof on or before April 30, of the same year. If such member fails to pay his dues on or before April 30 of such year, he shall stand suspended for non-payment of dues upon approval of the Grand Master, and an entry noting said approved suspension shall be made in the minutes of the lodge. Approval *or disapproval* of a suspension for non-payment of dues shall be given by the Grand Master upon submission by the lodge. ***The Grand Master may approve the form upon submission of satisfactory evidence of compliance with Section 2-513 of the Bylaws. The Grand Master may also disprove an individual suspension of non-payment of dues if good cause is shown, such as length of membership or failure to contact the member personally. The Grand Master may also request additional information before an approval or disapproval of a membership suspension for non-payment of dues.*** Subordinate lodges will be responsible for per capita payments of all members listed on any Annual Report of Suspensions for Non- Payment of Dues received after June 10. Members listed on Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues reports received after June 10 will not be suspended. It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to notify, in writing, each member approved for suspension for non-payment of dues. Such notice shall be deemed properly given when mailed by first class mail to the last known post office address of such suspended individual.

Sec.3-906 - DEATH AFTER SUSPENSION- The record of a brother's suspension for non-payment of dues cannot be changed, vacated, or annulled by the lodge suspending him, after the brother's death. But when the action of the lodge was illegal, the sentence of suspension may be declared null and void by the Grand Master, provided, that if the so-called suspension occurred more than one year prior to the death of said brother, and no attempt has been made by himself or his relations for restoration to good standing in that length of time, he shall be deemed to have had full knowledge thereof, and to have concurred therein, and the action of the lodge shall not be changed, but shall be final. ***The Grand Master, at his discretion and upon application from a subordinate lodge, may reinstate a brother who was suspended for non- payment of dues for the purposes of a Masonic funeral. The reinstatement for the purposes of a Masonic funeral shall not provide any further benefit to the survivors of the reinstated members and the reinstatement will be solely for the benefit of a Masonic funeral.***

Sec. 3-102(g) - Making application to, or joining any lodge, society, or institution that shall provide as a condition precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, or shall have taken the degrees of Entered Apprentice Mason, Fellow Craft Mason, and Master Mason, provided that this inhibition shall not apply to York or Scottish Rite bodies, the Order of Eastern Star, the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, National Federated Craft, Allied Masonic Degrees, the National Sojourners, the Past Grand Masters Association, the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, High Twelve International, Inc., Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatus, ***the Royal Order of Scotland, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America, Grottoes International,*** or to organizations which do not require the taking of any obligation and which do not have any secret ritual or ceremony. The above described organizations, societies, or institutions are commonly referred to as, and are hereby defined as, appendant bodies or appendant Masonic bodies ***recognized by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Any other body requiring that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing may apply to the Grand Master to operate under dispensation until the matter may be voted upon at the next Annual Communication under a Grand Master's recommendation if the body is operating under dispensation.***

Members Resolutions 1 and 2, did not pass, and no Bylaw changes are required. Members Resolution 3 was passed and the following amendments to the Bylaws are required.

Sec. 2-1604 - THE BRONZE JORDAN MEDAL- The Bronze Jordan Medal shall be presented by the parent lodge to that member of said lodge who shall possess all of the following qualification:

1. Master Mason in good standing, and
2. Longest period of membership.

No Mason shall be entitled to hold more than one Bronze Jordan Medal, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to any person holding more than one such medal prior to June 9, 1979.

Resolution 4 did receive sufficient votes to be enacted, however, following the Annual Communication, it was determined that the notice requirement for Constitutional Amendments had not been properly followed. The Jurisprudence Committee was consulted and suggested that the vote be nullified, and that the matter be presented at the next Annual Communication without a new submission, and that a new petition or signatures not be required. It was so ordered by the Grand Master. Accordingly, no Bylaw amendments are necessary at this time.

Fraternally,
Dwight E. Smith, 286, Chairman
Thomas L. Hauder, 332
Steven F. Mattoon, 75
Les Seiler, 317
Dean Skokan, 15, 268, 333

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

RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Right Worshipful John Millington made the following motion:

“I move for approval of all actions taken by the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers, and their assigns, in the state of Nebraska for the Masonic Year 2022-2023.”

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

REPORT OF PENDING RESOLUTIONS

M.:W.:B.: Grand Secretary Bruce A. Baker announced that he received no resolutions to amend the Bylaws or Consitution of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

PRESENTATION OF THE JAMES L. “SONNY” EATMON TRAVELING GAVEL

The Traveling Gavel was presented as a gift to the Grand Lodge by the Family of Past Grand Master James L. “Sonny” Eatmon, (GM 1992) in 2005. M.:W.:B.: Eatmon entered into that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens on August 28, 1999.

W.:B.: John Ferguson handcrafted this beautiful wood gavel and case in honor of his father-in-law. The gavel or wood maul was commissioned as the James L. “Sonny” Eatmon Traveling Gavel on February 3, 2006.

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

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

The gavel was presented to R.:W.: John Millington and Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in Lincoln.

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

Grand Master Straatmann asked Deputy Grand Master Millington to cover. The following Past Grand Masters were escorted to the East: M.:W.: Dean Skokan, M.:W.: Reg Kuhn, M.:W.: Thomas Tye., M.:W.: Rex Moats and M.:W.: Rick Myers. The Past Grand Master’s apron was then passed to these Past Grand Masters in Most Worshipful Straatmann’s Masonic lineage. M.:W.: Rick Myers made the formal presentation of the Past Grand Master’s Apron to M.:W.: Alex Straatmann. The jewel was passed along in the same manner and also presented to M.:W.: Straatmann by M.:W.: Myers.



M.:W.: Alex Straatmann asked V.:W.: Kevin Scheele, Grand Chaplain, to lead the delegation in a closing prayer.

“Great Architect of the Universe, as we journey homeward from this meeting, may we be guided in all that we say or do by a strong sense of Your presence with us. For our labors, grant us the wages proper for us: the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. May our time together be such that nourishes and sustains us in the work which is ours as Masons. May the friendship we share as brethren give refreshment to our spirits. May the proceedings in which we have been engaged, and the friends we have greeted today give us a joy that encourages us, revives us, and adds deep meaning to our lives together. Amen.”



By virtue in the power and authority in him vested as Grand Master, Alex Straatmann then declared the 166th Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska closed in ample form.

Following the close of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master declared the lodge of Master Masons opened by Rob Morris No. 46 closed in ample form.

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



Kearney, Nebraska
February 4-5, 2022

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

M.: W.:	Alexander F. Straatmann	GRAND MASTER
R.: W.:	John L. Millington	Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.:	John B. Ferguson	Grand Senior Warden
R.: W.:	Michael W. Stuhr	Grand Junior Warden
M.: W.:	Bruce A. Baker	Grand Secretary
W.:	John R. Herbolsheimer	Grand Senior Deacon
W.:	Tyler S. Loontjer	Grand Junior Deacon
V.: W.:	Kevin H. Scheele	Grand Chaplain
W.:	Jeffrey L. Buhrman	Grand Orator
W.:	Eric J. BenSalah	Grand Historian
M.: W.:	Patrick D. Barger	Grand Custodian
W.:	Stanley L. Weidner	Grand Marshal
W.:	John R. Fairlie	Grand Senior Steward
W.:	Kent L. Neumann	Grand Junior Steward
W.:	Ronald A. Nielsen	Grand Tyler
W.:	F. Graham House	Grand Musician
W.:	S. Hall Cottrell	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	Jock H. Faris	Personal Representative of the Grand Master
W.:	Sean D. Sutherland	Personal Representative of the Grand Master

PAST GRAND MASTERS

Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge

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

CHARLES W. AMIDON, 281, 327	(120th)	1986
1706 Hillside Dr., Omaha 68114-1621, 402-391-2657		
PAUL R. EVELAND, 119	(122nd)	1988
1848 County Road 14 Blvd., Ames 68621-2123, 402-721-3298		
THOMAS W. TYE, 46	(123rd)	1989
12 West 48th St., Kearney 68847-8349, 520-648-5416		
STEVEN F. MATTOON, 75	(128th)	1994
1736 Dorwart Dr., Sidney 69162-0316, 308-249-0761		
V. KAYE RAMSEY, 290 & 317	(130th)	1996
14522 Patrick Ave., Omaha 68116-4130, 402-498-2821		
DON E. RASMUSSEN, 82, 135	(132nd)	1998
1327 W. 16th St., Hastings 68901-2907, 402-463-3864		
DWIGHT E. SMITH, 286	(133rd)	1999
P.O. Box 897, Chappell 69129-0897, 308-874-4484		
JAMES F. BROWN, JR., 54	(134th)	2000
PO Box 2089, Red Lodge, MT, 59068-2089, 402-430-0410		

PHILIP A. LORENZEN, 10, 327, 1, 21, 333 (135th)	2001
P.O. Box 308, Fort Calhoun 68023-0308, 402-677-9682	
MICHAEL E. JONES, 51, 173	(136th).....2002
PO Box 229, David City 68632-0229, 402-367-3342	
KENNETH D. BEEBE, 119	(137th).....2003
1291 Old Lincoln Hwy, North Bend 68649-2011, 402-652-3380	
LES SEILER, 317.....	(138th).....2004
848 N. 6th Ave., Hastings 68901-4117, 402-462-9396	
IVAN A. VRTISKA, 327	(139th).....2005
1516 N 170th Cir, Omaha 68118, 402-670-0871	
SCOTT J. KRIEGER, SR., 317, 332	(140th).....2006
30 Kirby Point Dr. #2, Elwood 68937-2242, 402-469-7002 (c)	
DEAN SKOKAN, 15, 333	(141st).....2007
404 E. Ridge Dr., Hooper 68031-3000, 402-654-2514	
REGINALD S. KUHN, 36, 19, 332	(142nd).....2008
2627 Park Ave., Lincoln 68502-4023, 402-540-2953	
RUSSELL G. RENO, 183, 297, 332, 54.....	(143rd).....2009
4710 Larkwood Rd., Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-420-1270	
JOHN T. PARSONS, 268, 6, 333, 284PA, 331..	(144th).....2010
1512 Beechwood Ave., Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565	
BRUCE A. BAKER, 317.....	(145th).....2011
2510 S. Deer Trl., Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396	
REX J. MOATS, 290, 102	(146th).....2012
131 S 202nd St., Elkhorn 68022-4896, 402-871-1060	
THOMAS L. HAUDER, 332.....	(147th).....2013
7718 Phares Dr., Lincoln 68516, 402-304-0137	
JOE D. McBRIDE, 224	(148th).....2014
87212 State Highway 7, Ainsworth 69210, 402-387-1214	
JOHN T. MAXELL, 327, 6, 333	(149th).....2015
15205 Drexel St., Omaha 68137-3862, 402-740-7664	
DENNIS E. RIX, 15, 310.....	(150th).....2016
1860 Phelps Ave., Fremont 68025-4425, 402-721-3076	
RICHARD D. MYERS, 102, 119	(151st).....2017
2790 Big Island Rd, Fremont 68025-6184, 402-250-1418	
PATRICK D. BARGER, 5, 54, 332	(152nd).....2018
2800 Manse Ave, Lincoln 68502, patrick.barger@gmail.com	
ROBERT W. MONINGER, 256, 200.....	(153rd).....2019
P.O. Box 277, Burwell 68823-0277, bob@nebraskagrandlodge.com	
RONALD D. STITES, 268,331,333	(154th).....2020
12409 S. 81st St., Papillion 68046-4412, rontami@cox.net	
JAMES A. CARLTON, 325, 332	(155th).....2021
4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue, NE 68123, jcarlton1945@gmail.com	

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

(Per Section 1-301 of Grand Lodge Bylaws)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence (§1-307: 5 Past Grand Masters - 5 year term)

Chm. Dwight E Smith, 286, PO Box 897, Chappell 69129-0897, 308-874-4484 (c), dwight174@gmail.com
 Thomas L Hauder, 331, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-304-0137,
tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 Steven F Mattoon, 75, 1736 Dorwart Dr, Sidney 69162-0316, 308-249-0761 (c), smattoon@charter.net
 Les R Seiler, 317, 848 N 6th Ave, Hastings 68901-4117, 402-469-4444, lrsailer33@gmail.com
 Dean F Skokan, 15, 333, 404 E Ridge Dr, Hooper 68031-3000, 402-720-3241 (c), dskokan@icloud.com
 **John L Millington, 54, 6141 S 93rd St, Lincoln 68526-9509, 402-560-8311 (c),
jmillington357@allophone.com

Judge Advocate (§1-320)

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

Fraternal Relations (§1-308)

Chm. John T Parsons, 268, 6, 333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-871-4564, parsoni1@q.com
 Dennis H Brydl, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-430-5616 (c),
db22849@gmail.com
 Scott J. Krieger, 317, 332, 30 Kirby Point Dr 2, Elwood 68937-2242, 402-469-7002 (c), sjk1323@msn.com
 Edward W. Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-592-0184, ewn@cox.net
Ex-Officio**Bruce A. Baker 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396,
bruceabaker30@gmail.com

Masonic Relief (§1-309)

Chm. Troy Myers, 297, 421 W Gourley St, Lincoln 68521-5306, 402-770-0704 (c), troy_myers32@hotmail.com
 Steven R Barchus, 302, 333, 1521 S 94th St, Omaha 68124-1105, 402-203-3067 (c), barchuss@aol.com
 Alvin O Benemerito, 136, PO Box 38, Long Pine 69217-0038, 402-760-0979 (c), secretary@longpinelodge.org
 Karl H Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-981-4395, karliv@neb.rr.com
 Douglas S Rasmussen, 119, 1945 County Rd 11, North Bend 68649-2021, 402-720-5342,
doug.rasmussen1957@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Members:

William E Short, 297, 314, 6837 Dudley St, Lincoln 68505-1848, 402-617-7130 (c), bsaeagle81@gmail.com
 **Jeffrey L Buhrman, 210, 1588 Ridge Run Rd., Seward 68434-3050, 703-732-4765, jeff.buhrman@hotmail.com

Masonic Education (§1-310)

Chm. Bobby W Lingerfelt, 325, 332, 4208 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-672-2404 (c),
1927la@gmail.com
 Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-430-5616 (c),
db22849@gmail.com
 Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 402-212-7861 (c),
omahaprogrammer@gmail.com
 Curtis E. Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860 (c), cewolbert@allophone.com

Ad Hoc Member:

Thomas L. Hauder, 332, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-421-7436,
tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 Matthew W. Parker, 1, 9137 Mohave Dr, Lincoln 68516-8901, 303-859-4790, mwparker42@gmail.com
 Thomas J Brumfield III, 302, 3002 N 131st St, Omaha 68164-4226, 402-880-7823, enderandrew@gmail.com
 **Eric J BenSalah, 290, 10615 Fowler Ave, Omaha 68134-2450, 402-415-6648 (c), ebens6@gmail.com

Awards Committee (§1-311)

Chm. **Kevin H Scheele, 96, 54, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com
 Barry L Frerichs, 136, PO Box 501, Bassett 68714-0501, 402-760-0357 (c), bearfrerichs@gmail.com
 F Graham House, 54, 332, 3245 S 28th St, Lincoln 68502-5108, 402-617-5577 (c), ghouse3@gmail.com
 Justin M Kenney, 56, 605 224th Rd, Milford 68405-8475, 402-318-4691, justin.kenney.dk1u@statefarm.com
 Sean D Sutherland, 75, 2634 El Rancho Rd, Sidney 69162-2424, 402-416-6995, seansutherland77@gmail.com
 **Kevin H. Scheele, 96, 54, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com

Nebraska Work (§1-312: 3 members - 3 year term)

Chm. James A. Carlton, 325, 332, 4204 Bob White Cir, Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarlton1945@gmail.com

Patrick D Barger, 54, 2800 Manse Ave, Lincoln 68502-4224, 402-770-2830 (c), patrick.barger@gmail.com
Scott J. Krieger, 317, 332, 30 Kirby Point Dr 2, Elwood 68937-2242, 402-469-7002 (c), sjk1323@msn.com

**John Herbolzheimer, 3, 290, 11409 S 173rd St, Gretna, 68028-3867, herboljohn@hotmail.com

Grievances (§1-313)

Chm. Don C Botorf, 79, PO Box 404, Sutton 68979-0404, 402-773-4698, botorflaw@windstream.net

Robert D Kinsey, 297, 6611 Leesburg St, Lincoln 68516-5416, 402-430-6628 (c), rkinsey@krbkllaw.com

Edward W Nolte, 39, 333, 4702 Windcrest Dr, Papillion 68133-4767, 402-980-9278, ewn@cox.net

Robert J Parker, 317, 515 W 3rd St, Hastings 68901-7542, 402-461-3170

Sean D Sutherland, 75, 2634 El Rancho Rd, Sidney 69162-2424, 402-416-6995 (c),

seansutherland77@gmail.com

** Sean D Sutherland, 75, 2634 El Rancho Rd, Sidney 69162-2424, 402-416-6995 (c),

seansutherland77@gmail.com

Finance (§1-314: 8 members)

Chm. Rick E Nelson, 317, 2565 S Smokey Hill Rd, Hastings 68901-7441, 402-469-2837,

rick.nelson@raymondjames.com

Micheal A Buchardt, 256, 6945 N 98th St, Lincoln 68507-9741, 402-450-4085 (c), mmb1114@windstream.net

Roger W Chamberlin, 54, 3772 Pablo Ln, Lincoln 68516-6202, 402-499-1862, randbchamberlin2@gmail.com

Jack G Frahm, 204, 86419 533 Ave, Plainview 68769-2518, 402-841-6049, jgfrahm@plvwtelco.net

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

jack@qualitywaterservices.com

Charles V Sederstrom, 290, 333, 3510 N 252nd St, Waterloo 68069-5612, 402-510-5854 (c),

chuck@finance1.us

**Kevin H Scheele, 96, 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com

Credentials (§1-315)

Chm. Delmar A Jones, 65, 46, PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-440-3319 (c), jonesdelmar@ymail.com

Robert M Hoagland, 46, 146, 1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth 68048-1055, 308-240-5625 (c),

hoagland@citlink.net

Karl H Rasmussen, 15, 1877 E 12th St, Fremont 68025-4414, 402-981-4395, karliv@neb.rr.com

William E Short, 297, 314, 6837 Dudley St, Lincoln 68505-1848, 402-617-7130 (c), bsaeagle81@gmail.com

Grady A Wells, 15, 274, 1651 Parkview Dr, Fremont 68025-4485, 402-720-5808 (c),

mrgadywells@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Member:

William D Pickle, 325, 3703 Schuemann Dr, Bellevue 68123-2218, 402-677-6128, wdpickle@hotmail.com

Ex-Officio: Bruce A Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901-7497, 402-984-7396 (c),

bruceabaker30@gmail.com

Grand Lodge Office (§1-316)

Chm. Rex J. Moats, 290, 102, 131 S 202nd St, Elkhorn 68022-4896, 402-871-1060 (c), rexmoats@aol.com

John R. Knoell, 256, 5211 Quail Ridge Dr, Lincoln, 68516-1854, 402-560-0785 (c), johnknoell25@gmail.com

Danforth D., Loring Jr, 268, 333, 9410 Chicago St, Omaha, 68114-3868, 402-677-2891 (c),

danforth@dloring.com

Mohan Krishna, 325, 13704 Tregaron Dr, Bellevue 68123-4748, 402-203-1184, volvomo@gmail.com

Tyler S. Loontjer, 1, 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147-1225, 402-660-6415 (c), tyler.s.loontjer@gmail.com

Ex-Officio** Bruce A Baker, 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings, 68901-7497, 402-984-7396 (c),

bruceabaker30@gmail.com

Public Relations (§1-317)

Chm. Marty C. McGuire, 1, 3411 S 94th Ave, Omaha 68124-2750, 402-639-5119 (c),

martymcguire.omaha@gmail.com

Kent W Folsom, 19, 2646 S 46th St, Lincoln 68506-2520, 402-440-8335, kwfolsom@gmail.com

Edward W Bennett, 61, 4635 Buffalo Creek Rd, Lincoln 68516-3039, 308-324-2321,

edwardwbennett@gmail.com

Chris B Stokes, 54, 3045 Georgian Ct, Lincoln 68502-5029, 402-423-6145, cbstokes1@aol.com

Patrick T. Smith, 302, 603 Elmhurst Dr, Papillion 68046-6008, pts52@hotmail.com

John A Hardy, 102, 16333 Ohio St, Omaha 68116-2551, 402-639-8558 (c), admin@waterloo102.com

Ad Hoc Members:

Brent R Elder, 227, 3421 Merle Hay Rd, Des Moines, IA 50310-1242, 801-462-5353,

thecalloffthunder@gmail.com

Russell G Reno, 183, 332, 54, 4710 Larkwood Rd, Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-617-4039 (c),
negm2009@hotmail.com

**Eric J BenSalah, 290, 10615 Fowler Ave, Omaha 68134-2450, 402-415-6648, 290sec@gmail.com

Lodge Leadership Committee (§1-318)

Chm. Curtis E Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860 (c), *cewolbert@allophone.com*

Eric J BenSalah, 290, 10615 Fowler Ave, Omaha 68134-2450, 402-415-6648, 290sec@gmail.com

Jeffrey A Herber, 33, 14869 W Binfield Rd, Wood River 68883-9321, 308-380-9506 (c),
herbman99@hotmail.com

Daren W Kizlin, 326, 14701 Edna St, Omaha 68138-6367, 402-201-6432, *centennial.326@gmail.com*

Adam L Homan, 210, 18301 Summit Dr, Omaha 68136-6553, 402-250-2672, *alhoman25@yahoo.com*

Ad Hoc Member:

Kevin T. Johnson, 46, 1404 E 39th St, Kearney, 68847-3977, 308-708-0035 (c), *kevinj3@gmail.com*

**Curtis E. Wolbert, 320, 5140 S 80th St, Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860 (c), *cewolbert@allophone.com*

Membership (§1-319)

Chm. S Hal Cottrell, 325, 332, 2312 Jackson St, Bellevue 68005-5136, 402-980-2131 (c), *halcottrell402@gmail.com*

Brooks J Call, 102, 19251 Walnut St, Omaha 68130-3765, 612-965-4110, *brooks.call10@gmail.com*

David A Fachman, 15, 2495 E 34th Blvd., Fremont 68025-3688, 402-706-0301, *civilwarboy@hotmail.com*

Karl J Vierkant, 210, 19501 S 96th St, Hickman 68372-9887, 402-517-7287 (c), *kvierkant2002@yahoo.com*

Benjamin R Zaayer, 290, 5604 N 162nd St, Omaha 68116-3740, 402-880-3028, *ben.zaayer@gmail.com*

**John B Ferguson, 294, 206 W 9th St, Kimball 69145-1377, 308-235-5404 (c), *ferguson4563@gmail.com*

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

May be appointed at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master or at the direction of the Grand Lodge.

Internet and Computer Technology Committee

Chm. Thomas L Hauder, 331, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-304-0137, *tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com*

James S Bowen, 314, 8934 Lammler Cir, Lincoln 68526-9554, 402-817-2634, *james@gonines.com*

Myron L Coleman, 314, 13421 Highlander Pl, Waverly 68462-9763, 402-937-0994 (c), *myroncoleman@gmail.com*

Jonathan L Paz, 39, 268, 819 Janesview St, Papillion 68046-2017, 402-212-7861 (c),

omahaprogrammer@gmail.com

Michael Tomaszewicz, 274, 1404 P St, Tekamah 68061-1539, 402-838-9977, *miketdgc@outlook.com*

William Pickle, 325, 3703 Schuemann Dr, Bellevue 68123-2218, 402-677-6128, *wdpickle@hotmail.com*

Ad Hoc Member:

Christian J. Soseman, 290, 5903 Maple St, Omaha 68104-4101, 402-669-3117 (c),

christian.soseman@gmail.com

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Youth

Chm. Gene F Wehrbein, 6, 8817 Church Rd, Louisville 68037-3813, *gwehrbein@jagwireless.net*

Tim Birdsall, 210, 749 Sunnyslope Rd, Lincoln 68505-3164, 402-489-3860, *kmtbirdsall@windstream.net*

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**Michael W Stuhr, 302, 13814 Arbor St, Omaha 68144-2462, 402-250-3563 (c), *mstuhr@cox.net*

George Washington Masonic Memorial Association

Chm. Russell G Reno, 297, 183, 332, 54, 4710 Larkwood Rd, Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-617-4039 (c),

negm2009@hotmail.com

Matthew A Beahm, 1, 8121 S 193rd Ave, Gretna 68028-5021, 703-966-8595, *jedi-beahm@gmail.com*

Jock H Faris, 183, 111 E 7th St, Alliance 69301-3001, 308-629-7150, *frs_jck@yahoo.com*

Brian J Goninan, 256, 1035 Eldon Dr, Lincoln 68510-4017, 402-304-6363, *fulltilt22@yahoo.com*

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Philip A Lorenzen, 10, PO Box 308, Fort Calhoun 68023-0308, 402-677-9682, *phil.pgm01@gmail.com*

Rex J Moats, 290, 131 S 202nd St, Elkhorn 68022-4896, 402-871-1060, *rexmoats@aol.com*

Ronald D Stites, 268, 12409 S 81st St, Papillion 68046-4412, 402-293-1538, *rontami@cox.net*

Wayne E Vian, 33, 1207 S Harrison St, Grand Island 68803-6352, 308-379-5173, *wevian8@gmail.com*

**Mark L Carley, 75, PO Box 235, Dalton 69131-0235, 308-250-6838, *markcarley1972@gmail.com*

East Grand Master's Masonic Charities Golf Committee

Chm. Robert C King, 310, 1003 S East St, Valley 68064-9774, 402-618-9740 (c), rking75@cox.net
 Chm. Roger D Moore, 102, 6418 N 163rd St, Omaha 68116-5324, 402-616-7607 (c), attymoore_97@yahoo.com
 Beverly Donham, 1901 S 61st Ave, Omaha 68106-2132, 402-490-5292, mndonham@cox.net
 Richard E Gilmore, 268, 2426 S 84th St, Omaha 68124-2229, 402-953-7302, bobtomg@msn.com
 Peter G Larson, 11, 4602 N 192 Terrace Cir, Elkhorn 68022-5237, 402-659-5960, nu4me@cox.net
 Dee Schuetz, 209 Avian Circle South, Bellevue 68005-6703, 402-504-4570, deeschuetz01@gmail.com
 Gary S Unger, 112, 909 Leprechaun Ln, Papillion 68046-6129, 402-651-9710, garyunger2015@gmail.com
 Daniel J Wellendorf, 112, 268, 333, PO Box 27987, Omaha 68127-0987, 402-658-3611 (c), bsclumber1@aol.com
 **S Hal Cottrell, 325, 2312 Jackson St, Bellevue 68005-5136, 402-980-2131 (c), halcottrell402@gmail.com

Boy Scouts Outreach

Chm. George L McMullin, 268, 10305 Cary St, LaVista 68128-3246, 402-968-6830 (c), george.l.mcmullin2.civ@mail.mil
 Anthony T Johnson, 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-679-6141 (c), tjark@cox.net
 William D Pickle, 325, 3703 Schuemann Dr, Bellevue 68123-2218, 402-677-6128, wdpickle@hotmail.com
 James O Wolfe, 326, 268, 16552 Washington St, Omaha 68135-5337, 531-203-9182, jjowolfe@gmail.com
 David B Workman, 184, 4877 S 143rd St, Omaha 68137-1550, 402-651-9483 (c), dgworkmanjr@gmail.com
 ** John Herbolsheimer, 3, 290, 11409 S 173rd St, Gretna, 68028-3867, herboljohn@hotmail.com

COMMITTEES OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC FOUNDATION**Masonic All-Star Band**

Chm. K Roger Dill, 310, 710 S East St, Valley 68064-9724, 402-669-4193, krogerdill@yahoo.com
 Eric BenSalah, 290, 3, 10615 Fowler Ave, Omaha, NE 68134-2450, 402-415-6648 (c), 290sec@gmail.com
 William H Cummins, 54, 9620 S 30th St, Lincoln 68516-6065, 402-525-8287 (c), bcummins@windstream.net
 Jennie Danner, 1501 Superior Street Apt #5, Lincoln 68521, 402-310-8684, jmsuice@hotmail.com
 Rolland M Otte, 119, 2785 County Road Z, Morse Bluff 68648-4822, 402-720-3410 (c), rmotte2785@nntc.net
 Dennis E Rix, 15, 310, 1860 Phelps Ave, Fremont 68025-4425, 402-720-1274 (c), rix1860@gmail.com
 Jan Thoman, 1320 N 55th St, Lincoln 68504, 402-432-0113, jandarby@aol.com
 Kathy Worrell, PO Box 145, Ainsworth 69210-0145, 402-760-2766, rkworrell@threeiver.net

Masonic Veterans Partnership (MVP)

Chm. Anthony T Johnson, 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-679-6141, tjark@cox.net
 John E Lorenzen, 10, 314, 3941 Eagle Ridge Rd #108, Lincoln 68516-7046, 402-610-1006 (c), jack@qualitywaterservices.com
 William H Nelson, 256, 9417 Wishing Well Dr, Lincoln 68516-6062, 402-480-2238, cw5retired04@gmail.com
 John T Parsons, 268, 284, 6, 333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-871-4564, parsoni1@q.com
 Gary S Unger, 112, 909 Leprechaun Ln, Papillion 68046-6129, 402-651-9710 (c), garyunger2015@gmail.com

Nebraska Masonic Heritage Committee

Chm. Dennis H Brydl, 287, 314, 332, 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-430-5616 (c), db22849@gmail.com
 Thomas L Hauder, 331, 7718 Phares Dr, Lincoln 68516-6758, 402-304-0137, tom@nebraskagrandmaster.com
 Russell G Reno, 297, 183, 332, 54, 4710 Larkwood Rd, Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-617-4039 (c), negm2009@hotmail.com

Fundraising Committee

Chm. Russell G Reno, 297, 183, 332, 54, 4710 Larkwood Rd, Lincoln 68516-5129, 402-617-4039 (c), negm2009@hotmail.com
 Anthony T Johnson, 464, 268, 2613 Alberta Ave, Bellevue 68147-2466, 402-291-8603, tjark@cox.net
 John T. Maxell, 327, 6, 333, 328, 15205 Drexel St, Omaha 68137-3862, 402-740-7664 (c), maxelljt@scottishriteomaha.org
 Rex J. Moats, 290, 102, 131 S 202nd St, Elkhorn 68022, 402-871-1060 (c), rexmoats@aol.com
 John T Parsons, 268, 284, 6, 333, 1512 Beechwood Ave, Papillion 68133-2506, 402-339-7565, parsoni1@q.com
 Ronald D. Stites, 268, 12409 S 81st St, Papillion 68046-4412, 402-293-1538, rontami@cox.net

Finance Committee

Chm. Richard D. Myers, 102, 119, 2790 Big Island Road, Fremont, NE 68025-6184, 402-250-1418 (c), rmyers2790@gmail.com

GRAND CUSTODIAN

M.W. Patrick D. Barger
E-mail – patrick.barger@gmail.com

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS AND THEIR DISTRICTS

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #1 – David A. Wetrosky , 2 - 331 Pinewood Dr, Nebraska City 68410-3338, 402-297-1217, dwetrosky@neb.rr.com, Appt 2017					
Western Star	2	Nebraska City	2022	65	
Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	2022	99	
Euclid	97	Weeping Water	2022	91	
Union	287	Palmyra	2022		Yes
District #2 – Benjamin R. Zaayer , 290, 281 – 5604 N 162nd St, Omaha 68116-3740, 402-880-3028, ben.zaayer@gmail.com, Appt 3/1/2021					
Capitol	3	Omaha	2022		Yes
Solomon	10	Fort Calhoun	2022	68	
Florence	281	Omaha	2022	1	
John J Mercer	290	Omaha	2022	91	
Shiloh	327	Omaha	2022	58	
District #3 – John E. Dimon , 290 - 6617 Lafayette Ave, Omaha 68132-1147, 402-218-8873 (c), jdimon60@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Bee Hive	184	Omaha	2022		Yes
George W Lininger	268	Omaha	2022	5	
Mizpah	302	Omaha	2022	73	
District #4 – Brian K. Sandall , 21, 310 - 1010 S 17th Ave, Blair 68008-1235, 402-427-5311 (c), bksandall@gmail.com, Appt 2010					
Washington	21	Blair	2022	34	
Tekamah	31	Tekamah	2022		Yes
District #5 – Michael E. Tomasiewicz , 302 - 1404 P St, Tekamah 68061-1539, 402-838-9977 (c), mikedtgc@outlook.com, Appt 2016					
Omadi	5	South Sioux City	2022	73	
Magnolia	220	Emerson	2022		Yes
Olive Branch	274	Walthill	2022	14	
District #6 – Kent L. Neumann , 274, 5 - 110 Washington St, Bancroft 68004-3557, 712-223-2232 (c), kentneu77@gmail.com, Appt 2016					
Corinthian	83	Wayne	2022		Yes
Plainview	204	Plainview	2021		Yes
Wausa	251	Wausa	2018		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #8 – Stephen C. Kennedy, 4 - 73088 646 Ave, Brownville 68321-6025, 402-274-7521 (c), kennedyorchard@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Nemaha Valley	4	Brownville	2010	52	
Peru	14	Peru			
Pawnee	23	Pawnee City	2022		Yes
District #9 – Gregory L. Prosocki, 54, 250 – 21040 NW 70th St, Agnew 68428-4012, 402-525-9243, gandnprosocki@hotmail.com, Appt 2/8/2023					
Fidelity	51	David City	2010		Yes
Wahoo	59	Wahoo	2022	98	
Victory	310	Valley	2022	73	
District #10 – F. Graham House, 54, 332 - 3245 S. 28th St., Lincoln, NE 68502-5108, 402-617-5577, ghouse3@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Lincoln	19	Lincoln	2022	88	
Lancaster	54	Lincoln	2022	101	
Liberty	300	Lincoln	2022	74	
Tabula Rasa	332	Lincoln	2022	15	
District #11 – Suman Vallabhbai, 314 - 6200 Eureka Dr, Lincoln 68516-3467, 402-420-7616, sgvala4@gmail.com, Appt 2004					
Hickman	256	Lincoln	2022	35	
Craftsmen	314	Lincoln	2022	99	
College View	320	Lincoln	2022	1	
District #12 – Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332 - 2510 Kessler Blvd, Lincoln 68502-5813, 402-430-5616 (c), db22849@gmail.com, Appt 2018					
Fairbury	35	Fairbury	2022		Yes
Hebron	43	Hebron	2021		Yes
Friend	73	Friend			
Geneva	79	Geneva	2022	47	
Superior	121	Superior	2022		Yes
District #13 – Jeffrey L. Buhrman, 210, 332 - 1588 Ridge Run Rd., Seward 68434-3050, 703-732-4765, jeff.buhrman@hotmail.com, Appt 2021					
East Lincoln	210	Lincoln	2022	89	
North Star	227	Lincoln	2022	90	
George Washington	250	Lincoln	2022		Yes
Cotner	297	Lincoln	2022	81	
District #14 – Curtis Wolbert, 320 – 5140 S 80th St., Lincoln 68516-6318, 402-440-6860 (c), cewolbert@allophone.com, Appt 2/8/2023					
Beatrice	26	Beatrice	2009	81	
Blue Valley	64	Wilber	2021		Yes
Highland	194	Cortland	2022		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #15 – Randall L. Hart , 222, 31 - 412 S 12th St, Tekamah 68061-1444, 402-870-0348 (c), randy.hart@abbnebraska.com, Appt 2008					
Mosaic	55	Norfolk	2022		Yes
Hooper	72	Hooper	2022		Yes
Newman Grove	305	Newman Grove	2022		Yes
District #17 – Roger A. Deininger , 317 - 1115 Oswego Ave, Hastings 68901-3643, 402-984-5030 (c), r.dein@yahoo.com, Appt 1998					
Ashlar	33	Grand Island	2022		Yes
Lone Tree	36	Central City	2022		Yes
Keystone	62	Phillips	2022		Yes
District #19 – Dean Papenhagen , 50 - 2904 Lakeview Cv, Hastings 68901-2510, 402-462-8540, dean.papenhagen@chiefind.com, Appt 2014					
Hastings	50	Hastings	2022	99	
Mid-West	317	Hastings	2022	75	
District #20 – Adam M. Thayer , 38, 54 - 4200 Witherbee Blvd., Lincoln 68510-3645, 402-314-6310 (c), adam.thayer@gmail.com, Appt 2021					
Blue River	30	Milford	2022		Yes
Crete	37	Crete	2014		Yes
Oliver	38	Seward	2011		Yes
District #21 – Kevin H. Scheele , 96, 54 - 1606 Hwy 69, Waco 68460-9128, 402-366-8648 (c), kevinscheele@hotmail.com, Appt 2018					
York	56	York	2022		Yes
Osceola	65	Osceola	2022		Yes
Utica	96	Utica	2022	94	
Stromsburg	126	Stromsburg	2011		Yes
Lebanon	323	Columbus	2022		Yes
District #22 – Eric J. BenSalah , 290, 3 – 10615 Fowler Ave, Omaha 68134-2450, 402-415-6648, ebens6@gmail.com, Appt 11/18/2021					
Nebraska	1	Omaha	2022		Yes
Covert	11	Omaha	2022	53	
Waterloo	102	Elkhorn	2022	72	
Centennial	326	Omaha	2022		Yes
District #23 – S. Hal Cottrell , 325, 332 - 2312 Jackson St., Bellevue 68005-5136, 402-980-2131 (c), halcottrell402@gmail.com, Appt, 2021					
Springfield	112	Springfield	2022		Yes
Bellevue	325	Bellevue	2022	11	
Albert Pike	333	Omaha	2022		Yes

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
District #24 – Delmar A. Jones , 65, 46 - PO Box 1005, Kearney 68848-1005, 308-440-3319 (c), jonesdelmar@ymail.com, Appt 1992					
Rob Morris	46	Kearney	2022	77	
Thistle	61	Lexington	2021		Yes
Jachin	146	Holdrege	2022	65	
Franklin	264	Franklin	2022		Yes
Seneca	284	Thedford	2021		Yes
District #26 – Arthur J. Ferguson , 224 - PO Box 776, Wood Lake 69221, 402-967-3361, Appt 1979					
Long Pine	136	Long Pine	2022	5	
Minnekadusa	192	Valentine			Yes
Silver Cord	224	Ainsworth	2021	4	
District #27 – Alvin O. Benemerito , 136 - P.O. Box 38, Long Pine 69217-0038, 402-760-0979 (c), secretary@longpinelodge.org, Appt 2016					
Porter	106	Loup City			
Custer	148	Broken Bow	2022		Yes
Blazing Star	200	Burwell	2021		Yes
Parian	207	Callaway			
District #28 – Bradley M. Dutton , 183 - 802 Missouri Ave, Alliance 69301-3043, 308-762-8388, dutton.art@hotmail.com, Appt 2016					
Alliance	183	Alliance	2022	78	
Zion	234	Hyannis	2021		Yes
Camp Clarke	285	Bridgeport	2022	0	Yes
District #29 – Joel W. Zilmer , 183 - 688 Hampton, Alliance 69301-2248, 308-760-7150 (c), jzilmer@bbc.net, Appt 2016					
Samaritan	158	Chadron	2020		Yes
Arcana	195	Gordon	2020	0	
District #30 – John B. Ferguson , 294 - 206 W 9th St, Kimball 69145-1377, 308-235-5404 (c), ferguson4563@gmail.com, Appt 2016					
Scotts Bluff	201	Gering	2022		Yes
James L Eatmon	294	Kimball	2022		Yes
District #31 – Mark L. Carley , 75 - PO Box 235, Dalton 69131-0235, 308-250-6838, markcarley1972@gmail.com					
Frank Welch	75	Sidney	2022	72	
Oshkosh	286	Oshkosh			
District #32 – Roger L. Shillington , 180 - 71562 Avenue 343, Max 69037-4411, 308-423-2547, rns@bwtelcom.net, Appt 1976					
McCook	135	McCook	2011	66	
Robert Burns	173	Stratton			

Name	No	City	Last Certified	Years Fully Certified	Open&Close Only
Justice	180	Benkelman	2013	63	
Bartley	228	Bartley	2008		Yes
District #33 – Sean D. Sutherland, 75 - 2634 El Rancho Rd., Sidney 69162-2424, 402-416-6995, seansutherland77@gmail.com, Appt. 2021					
Platte Valley	32	North Platte	2022	71	
Ogallala	159	Ogallala	2017		Yes
District #34 – Thomas J. Lagerstrom, 300 - 3623 S. 116th St., Omaha 68144, 402-314-1672 (c), nebr_seadog@hotmail.com, Appt 2021					
Fremont	15	Fremont	2021	91	
Acacia	34	Schuyler	2021		Yes
North Bend	119	North Bend	2022	64	
District #35 – Jeffrey A. Merriman, 281 - 4941 S. 129th St., Omaha 68137, 402-319-3268, frostymerriman@gmail.com					
Papillion	39	Papillion	2022	1	
Omaha	288	Omaha	2022		Yes
Miloma	328	Omaha	2018		Yes

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS AT LARGE

Bruce A. Baker , 317, 2510 S Deer Trail, Hastings 68901, 402-984-7396, bruceabaker30@gmail.com, Appt 2018
Bernard F. Hauber , 11, 18826 P St, Omaha 68135, 402-619-6788 (c), bernardhauber@cox.net, Appt 2018
John R. Herbolzheimer , 3, 11409 S 173 rd St, Gretna 68028, 402-670-8599, herboljohn@hotmail.com
John L. Millington , 54, 332, 6141 S 93rd St, Lincoln 68526, 402-560-8311 (c), jmillington357@allophone.com
David C. Norton , 6, 302, 325, 1025 Beaver Lake Blvd., Plattsmouth 68048, 402-658-6951, dnorton97@cox.net, Appt 2018
Patrick D. Barger , 5, 54, 332, 2800 Manse Ave, Lincoln 68502, 402-770-2830 (c), patrick.barger@gmail.com
James A. Carlton , 325, 332, 4204 Bob White Cir., Bellevue 68123-1103, 402-690-2202 (c), jcarlton1945@gmail.com
Tyler S. Loontjer , 1, 332, 3329 Willow St, Bellevue 68147-1225, 402-660-6415 (c), tyler.s.loontjer@gmail.com
Mark J. Turner , 300, 6511 Stoney Creek Dr, Pasadena, TX 77503, 936-730-5440 (c), markt@me.com

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIAN APPRENTICES

Daniel Alati, 325 6659 Clear Creek St, Papillion 68133-2202, 402-536-0703
Alati72@yahoo.com

Patrick S Andrew, 4.....72786 646 Ave, Brownville 68321-6043, 402-297-8478
trickflyguy@hotmail.com

Dalton J. Bichlmeier, 3..... 14751 Boyd Dt, Omaha 68116-6278, 402-851-1851
djbichlmeier@gmail.com

Jerry J Caha, 229PO Box 353, Ceresco 68017-0353, 402-665-2275
gjcaha@yahoo.com

Mark K Clinton, 332, 54 3300 S 27th St, Lincoln 68502-5104, 402-770-0806
mclinton1@unl.edu

Robert M Hoagland, 46, 146 1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth 68048-1055, 308-240-5625
hoagland@citlink.net

Nathan D Holthusen, 159 ... 402 North Spruce St, Ogallala, NE 69153-2137, 308-289-4152 (c)
ndhndh@hotmail.com

F Joe Huskey, 54 5125 N 161st Avenue Cir, Omaha 68116-8024, 402-730-1158
joe.huskey53@gmail.com

Kevin T Johnson, 46..... 1404 E 39th St, Kearney 68847-3977, 308-930-0998
kevinj3@charter.net

Robert C. King, 310..... 1003 S East St, Valley 68064-9774, 402-618-9740
rking75@cox.net

David A Kipp, 281..... 2565 Mary St, Omaha 68112-3215, 402-346-0832
david.kipp@yahoo.com

David L Larson, 112 6710 Sunshine Dr, Omaha 68107-3761, 402-541-4666 (c)
dlarsen92@cox.net

Donald E Loos, 265 320 E 42nd St Apt W105, Scottsbluff 69341, 308-631-2551
deacloos@embarqmail.com

Daniel J. Marr, 39 1608 Farrell Dr, Bellevue 68005-3320, 402-517-1861
danmarr@outlook.com

Dennis J. Meyer, 201..... PO Box 412, Morrill 69358-0412, 308-247-2071

James B Michaelson, 210.....3619 Magnolia, Lincoln 68521-3147, 402-217-0394
jmichaelson20@yahoo.com

Mark L Miller, 302, 288 7746 Charles St, Omaha 68114-1718, 402-238-8167
mmiller82kz@gmail.com

Charles Monter, 62..... 420 12th St, Aurora 68818-2703, 402-694-4510
charles.monter@titanmachinery.com

Kyle J Peterson, 274, 5..... 300 W 33rd St Apt 7, South Sioux City 68776-3708, 712-251-8398
ktklpete@outlook.com

Celio Octavio Santos, 2903711 N 154 Ct Apt 357, Omaha 68116-6256, 531-329-5854
celiooctavio@gmail.com

Darrell D Schuler, 2857526 Road 74, Bridgeport 69336-9409, 308-279-0592
butch@schuleredangus.com

L Cecil Smith, 6 916 Bordeaux Ave, Bellevue 68123-3627, 402-502-3858
cnjrsmith@cox.net

Alexander F Straatmann, 46.....4410 Avenue E, Kearney 68847-2641, 308-627-2503
alexander.straatmann@gmail.com

Donald L Veskrna, 59 756 N Walnut St, Wahoo 68066-1671, 308-279-0592
Matthew W. Vandergriff, 3274921 N 136th St, Omaha 68164-6178, 402-913-4864
mwvandergriff@cox.net

DEPUTY GRAND CUSTODIANS EMERITI

- Michael G Birnstihl, 314..... 5811 Dobsons Rd, Lincoln, NE 68516
- Richard H Cooper, 201..... 706 E Webster St Lot 16, Morrill, NE 69358,
..... *winifredsmokie@gmail.com*
- Arthur S Dye, 317 910 N Jefferson Ave, Hastings, NE 68901,
..... *retdyes@windstream.net*
- Kenneth G Fleming, 75.....1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth, NE 68048-1055, 308-249-3774,
.....*kandcfleming@hotmail.com*
- Steven A Green, 54 2635 S 12th St, Lincoln, NE 68502-3515
- Scott J Krieger, 317, 332.....30 Kirby Point Dr #2, Elwood, NE 68937-2242, 402-469-7002,
..... *sjk1323@msn.com*
- Richard L Mauch, 224..... P.O. Box 10, Bassett, NE 68714,
..... *rlmauch@hutel.net*
- Ralph E McNulty, 61 412 E 8th St, Cozad, NE 69130
- Harold C Mueksch, 132, 72..... 650 W 21st St Apt 113, Fremont 68025-2500, 402-753-1705
- Harold W Noble, 325
- Carl C. Plants, 54..... 6124 NW 6th St, Lincoln, NE 68521-3701
.....*cplants@inebraska.com*
- Augustine S Scolaro, 3 801 5th St N, Bellevue, NE 68005
- Eugene C Sibley, 3141320 Silver Ridge Rd, Lincoln 68510-5131, 402-421-2711
..... *gsibley01@earthlink.net*
- James R Taylor, 327 12301 N 149th Cir Apt 330, Bennington, NE 68007,
..... *ijtaylor36@cox.net*

Membership Activity Report

Lodge	EAs	FCs	Members on December 31, 2021	Raisings	Affiliations	Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	Total Gain	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdraw	Termination of Plural	Other Causes	Total Loss	Total Net Loss/Gain	Members on December 31, 2022
1 - Nebraska	2	0	99	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	7	8	0	0	0	15	-13	86
2 - Western Star	2	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	6	-6	87
3 - Capitol	1	0	66	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	-1	65
4 - Nemaha Valley	1	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	32
5 - Omadi	1	0	87	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	5	3	0	0	0	8	-6	81
6 - Plattsouth	1	1	242	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	6	7	0	0	0	14	-12	230
9 - Falls City	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
10 - Solomon	3	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	-4	62
11 - Covert	1	1	252	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	6	5	0	0	0	11	-7	245
14 - Peru	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	16
15 - Fremont	1	0	121	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-3	118
19 - Lincoln	2	1	110	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	1	0	5	-3	107
21 - Washington	3	2	87	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	-3	84
23 - Pawnee	1	0	85	1	0	0	0	22	0	23	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	18	103
26 - Beatrice	0	0	113	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	9	4	0	0	0	13	-12	101
30 - Blue River	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	23
31 - Tekamah	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	79
32 - Platte Valley	5	0	140	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	16	0	0	0	0	17	-14	126
33 - Ashlar	0	0	101	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	-4	97
34 - Acacia	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
35 - Fairbury	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	35
36 - Lone Tree	1	1	77	1	0	0	0	17	0	18	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	13	90
37 - Crete	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
38 - Oliver	0	0	25	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	26
39 - Papillion	1	1	129	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	4	12	0	0	0	16	-13	116
43 - Hebron	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
46 - Rob Morris	2	0	152	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	5	0	0	0	10	-9	143
50 - Hastings	2	2	85	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	83
51 - Fidelity	2	2	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	26
54 - Lancaster	2	2	203	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	7	3	0	0	0	10	-8	195
55 - Mosaic	2	1	43	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	42
56 - York	2	0	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	5	-5	47
59 - Wahoo	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
61 - Thistle	0	0	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	-5	64
62 - Keystone	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
64 - Blue Valley	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	41
65 - Osceola	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	56
68 - Aurora	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	17
72 - Hooper	1	0	31	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	5	36
73 - Friend	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	35
75 - Frank Welch	1	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	8	-8	60
79 - Geneva	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	5	-5	77
82 - St Paul	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
83 - Corinthian	0	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	10	-10	102

Membership Activity Report

Lodge	EAs	FCs	Members on December 31, 2021	Raisings	Affiliations	Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	Total Gain	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdraw	Termination of Plural	Other Causes	Total Loss	Total Net Loss/Gain	Members on December 31, 2022	
96 - Utica	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	
97 - Euclid	0	0	64	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	65
102 - Waterloo	5	8	105	6	1	2	0	0	0	9	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	5	110	
106 - Porter	0	0	28	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	27	
112 - Springfield	5	2	278	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	5	9	0	0	0	14	-11	267	
119 - North Bend	5	0	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	82	
121 - Superior	1	1	33	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	33	
126 - Stromsburg	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	-4	39	
132 - Scribner	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	8	
135 - McCook	1	1	87	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	87	
136 - Long Pine	0	0	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	-2	49	
146 - Jachin	1	0	52	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	53	
148 - Custer	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	52	
158 - Samaritan	2	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	43	
159 - Ogalalla	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	-5	60	
173 - Robert Burns	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	
180 - Justice	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	
183 - Alliance	1	1	83	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	83	
184 - Bee Hive	0	3	73	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	75	
192 - Minnekadusa	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-3	29	
194 - Highland	0	0	27	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	28	
195 - Arcana	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	7	-7	42	
200 - Blazing Star	0	0	38	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	39	
201 - Scotts Bluff	0	0	121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	7	-7	114	
204 - Plainview	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	
207 - Parian	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	
210 - East Lincoln	0	0	124	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	-4	120	
220 - Magnolia	1	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-2	54	
224 - Silver Cord	0	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	-6	71	
227 - North Star	5	2	85	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	6	-4	81	
228 - Bartley	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	34	
229 - Comet	0	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	75	
234 - Zion	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	21	
248 - Laurel	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	16	
250 - G Washington	0	0	38	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-1	37	
251 - Wausa	1	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	-4	44	
256 - Hickman	4	1	152	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	6	3	0	1	0	10	-8	144	
264 - Franklin	1	0	47	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	-2	45	
268 - G W Linger	2	1	195	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	8	0	0	0	12	-10	185	
274 - Olive Branch	2	0	74	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	74	
281 - Florence	13	4	70	3	1	1	0	0	0	5	2	1	2	0	0	0	5	0	70	
284 - Seneca	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	18	
285 - Camp Clarke	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	7	-7	41	
286 - Oshkosh	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	-3	41	
287 - Union	0	0	34	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	-1	33	

Membership Activity Report																			
Lodge	EAs	FCS	Members on December 31, 2021	Raisings	Affiliations	Plural Membership	Reinstated	Consolidated	Other Causes	Total Gain	Demitted	Deaths	Suspended	Withdrew	Termination of Plural	Other Causes	Total Loss	Total Net Loss/Gain	Members on December 31, 2022
288 - Omaha	1	1	43	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	-3	40
290 - John J Mercer	3	2	205	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	10	11	0	0	0	24	-21	184
294 - James Eatmon	0	0	38	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	5	-4	34
297 - Cotner	2	0	127	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	5	0	0	0	9	-8	119
300 - Liberty	3	2	101	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	2	2	0	2	0	6	-2	99
302 - Mizpah	2	2	179	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	6	9	0	1	1	18	-15	164
305 - Newman Grove	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	20
310 - Victory	0	0	52	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	54
314 - Craftsmen	0	0	114	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	6	-6	108
317 - Mid-West	3	0	95	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	95
320 - College View	3	3	64	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	7	0	0	0	8	-5	59
323 - Lebanon	0	0	65	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	64
325 - Bellevue	9	0	170	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	8	1	0	0	0	10	-7	163
326 - Centennial	4	0	73	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	73
327 - Shiloh	1	1	111	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	11	-6	105
328 - Miloma	4	3	119	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	5	0	119
332 - Tabula Rasa	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
333 - Albert Pike	1	0	41	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	-1	40
	126	53	7783	60	11	31	22	46	1	171	35	278	174	0	7	1	482	-311	7472

**Historical Records
and Information**

of

Grand Lodge

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



**Kearney, Nebraska
February 4-5, 2022**

PAST GRAND MASTERS

YEAR	SERVED	NAME	LODGE	IF DECEASED, DATE OF DEATH
1st	1857-58-59	Robert C. Jordan	3	Jan. 9, 1899
2nd	1860-61-62	George Armstrong	3	Nov. 12, 1896
3rd	1863-64	Daniel H. Wheeler	6	Nov. 27, 1912
4th	1865-66	Robert W. Furnas	4	June 1, 1905
5th	1867-68	Orsamus H. Irish	5	Jan. 27, 1883
6th	1869-70	Harry P. Deuel	11	Nov. 23, 1914
7th	1871-72	William E. Hill	2	Dec. 29, 1917
8th	1873	Martin Dunham	3	Feb. 18, 1915
9th	1874	Frank Welch	27	Sept. 4, 1878
10th	1875	Alfred G. Hastings	19	July 10, 1894
11th	1876	George H. Thummel	33	Feb. 5, 1932
12th	1877	George W. Lininger	3	June 8, 1907
13th	1878	Edward K. Valentine	27	April 11, 1916
14th	1879	Rolland H. Oakley	19	Feb. 2, 1904
15th	1880	James A. Tulleys	53	Jan. 21, 1901
16th	1881	James R. Cain, Sr.	9	Nov. 29, 1920
17th	1882	Edwin F. Warren	2	July 9, 1923
18th	1883	Samuel W. Hayes	55	Nov. 15, 1913
19th	1884	John Jay Wemple	50	May 28, 1943
20th	1885	Manoah B. Reese	59	Sept. 28, 1917
21st	1886	Charles K. Coutant	11	Aug. 23, 1910
22nd	1887	Milton J. Hull	67	Sept. 18, 1923
23rd	1888	George B. France	56	Aug. 16, 1914
24th	1889	John J. Mercer	4	Feb. 25, 1915
25th	1890	Robert E. French	46	Feb. 16, 1927
26th	1891	Bradner D. Slaughter	89	May 8, 1909
27th	1892	Samuel P. Davidson	17	Dec. 8, 1928
28th	1893	James P. A. Black	76	Nov. 12, 1918
29th	1894	John A. Ehrhardt	41	Nov. 1, 1925
30th	1895	Henry H. Wilson	19	June 28, 1941
31st	1896	Charles J. Phelps	34	Aug. 24, 1915
32nd	1897	John B. Dinsmore	49	Oct. 6, 1915
33rd	1898	Frank H. O. Young	207	Dec. 24, 1917
34th	1899	William W. Keysor	25	Aug. 17, 1922
35th	1900	Albert W. Crites	158	Aug. 23, 1915
36th	1901	Robert E. Evans	5	July 8, 1925
37th	1902	Nathaniel M. Ayers	93	Nov. 19, 1913
38th	1903	Frank E. Bullard	32	Jan. 31, 1933
39th	1904	Charles E. Burnham	166	May 29, 1933
40th	1905	Melville R. Hopewell	31	May 2, 1911
41st	1906	Zuingle M. Baird	155	Dec. 17, 1916
42nd	1907	Ornan J. King	54	Dec. 26, 1927
43rd	1908	William A. DeBord	3	May 17, 1916
44th	1909	Michael Dowling	119	May 5, 1921
45th	1910	Harry A. Cheney	100	June 27, 1948
46th	1911	Henry Gibbons	46	Aug. 22, 1923
47th	1912	James R. Cain, Jr.	105	Sept. 3, 1950
48th	1913	Alpha Morgan	148	April 17, 1924
49th	1914	Thomas M. Davis	93	Aug. 12, 1919
50th	1915	Samuel S. Whiting	54	Aug. 11, 1931
51st	1916	Andrew H. Viele	55	May 9, 1941

YEAR	SERVED	NAME	LODGE	IF DECEASED, DATE OF DEATH
52nd	1917	Frederic L. Temple	61	Aug. 13, 1944
53rd	1918	Ambrose C. Epperson	139	Mar. 16, 1944
54th	1919	John J. Tooley	258	June 30, 1934
55th	1920	Joseph B. Fradenburg	3	June 14, 1950
56th	1921	Lewis E. Smith	136	July 10, 1965
57th	1922	Edward M. Wellman	1	Aug. 31, 1922
58th	1923	Charles A. Chappell	127	Nov. 21, 1971
59th	1924	Robert R. Dickson	95	June 18, 1941
60th	1925	John Wright	19	Oct. 29, 1936
61st	1926	Edwin D. Crites	158	Nov. 7, 1953
62nd	1927	Albert R. Davis	120	Mar. 7, 1929
63rd	1928	Frank H. Woodland	25	Oct. 23, 1940
64th	1929	Ira C. Freet	56	Oct. 13, 1944
65th	1930	Orville A. Andrews	19	Oct. 16, 1936
66th	1931	John R. Tapster	119	Mar. 21, 1954
67th	1932	Edwin B. Johnston	33	Feb. 11, 1933
68th	1933	Ralph O. Canaday	50	Oct. 7, 1970
69th	1933	Archie M. Smith	203	May 8, 1950
70th	1934	Virgil R. Johnson	26	Aug. 7, 1956
71st	1935	William C. Ramsey	268	May 19, 1938
72nd	1936	Chancellor A. Phillips	150	Sept. 12, 1968
73rd	1937	William A. Robertson	6	July 3, 1944
74th	1938	Walter R. Raecke	36	April 6, 1960
75th	1939	William J. Breckenridge	317	Nov. 16, 1951
76th	1940	Earl J. Lee	15	Dec. 15, 1963
77th	1941	Edward F. Carter	201	Dec. 21, 1981
78th	1942	George A. Kurk	54	May 4, 1977
79th	1943	William B. Wanner	9	June 13, 1975
80th	1944-45	William C. Schaper	148	Feb. 12, 1977
81st	1946	Benjamin F. Eyre	1	Aug. 12, 1993
82nd	1947	Edward Huwaldt	318	Feb. 14, 1977
83rd	1948	Elmer E. Magee	227	Mar. 19, 1975
Honorary	1949	Roscoe Pound	54	June 30, 1964
84th	1949	Ernest S. Schiefelbein	59	April 20, 1959
85th	1950	John S. Hedelund	268	Jan. 30, 1962
86th	1951	Thomas J. Aron, Sr.	37	Dec. 22, 1993
87th	1952	Edward M. Knight	183	Mar. 3, 1983
88th	1953	Fay Smith	198	Oct. 2, 1968
89th	1954	Charles F. Adams	68	April 17, 1980
90th	1955	Herbert T. White	11	Oct. 12, 1975
91st	1956	Merle M. Hale	54	Feb. 23, 1988
92nd	1957	Roy I. Babbitt	295	Feb. 13, 1971
93rd	1958	John E. Beaver	253	Sept. 20, 1965
94th	1959	Joseph C. Tye	46	Feb. 14, 1989
95th	1960	John F. Futcher	302	July 11, 1984
96th	1961	Herbert A. Ronin	210	Nov. 4, 1997
97th	1962	Ernest O. Van Wey	32	July 16, 2005
98th	1963	Ralph M. Carhart	120	Nov. 10, 1965
99th	1964	Harry A. Spencer	184, 227	Aug. 9, 2007
100th	1965	Louis V. Sylvester	281	Dec. 4, 1997
101st	1966	Lewis R. Ricketts	19	July 14, 1990
Honorary	1966	Carl R. Greisen	32	June 28, 1995
102nd	1967	John A. Bottorf	49	Feb. 21, 1984

YEAR	SERVED	NAME	LODGE	IF DECEASED, DATE OF DEATH
103rd	1968	Norris W. Lallman	72	Mar. 1, 1984
104th	1969	Hugh W. Eisenhart	228	June 16, 1995
105th	1970	John H. Brown	1	Feb. 2, 1978
106th	1971	Russell L. Fickes	33	April 18, 1989
107th	1972	Howard J. Hunter	59	May 6, 1975
108th	1973	Frank J. Mattoon	75	July 4, 1997
109th	1974	Donald R. Swanson	54	Jan. 27, 2016
110th	1975	Harold Hultman	39	April 3, 2005
111th	1976	T. Leo Stines	36, 323	Feb. 26, 1994
112th	1977	Alfred B. Saum	46	Oct. 11, 1980
113th	1978	Jack H. Hendrix	174	Nov. 25, 2006
114th	1979	Warren D. Lichty, Jr.	314	May 23, 2012
115th	1980	Byron C. Jenkins	325	Sept. 12, 2000
116th	1981	Harold C. Wurdeman	323	June 21, 1985
117th	1982	Paul R. Pierce	50	July 31, 1999
118th	1983	Bevin B. Bump	158	Dec. 30, 2010
119th	1984-85	Robert A. Metcalf	210	Nov. 22, 2002
120th	1986	Charles W. Amidon	281, 327	Sept. 19, 2019
121st	1987	Wayne G. Luenenborg	32, 39	May 12, 2008
122nd	1988	Paul R. Eveland	119	May 5, 2019
123rd	1989	Thomas W. Tye	46	
124th	1990	John M. McHenry	19	Aug. 18, 2018
125th	1991	James N. DeMoss	325	Jun. 25, 2016
126th	1992	James L. "Sonny" Eatmon	294	Aug. 28, 1999
127th	1993	Donald L. Pohlman	41	April 14, 2015
128th	1994	Steven F. Mattoon	75	
129th	1995	Jerry L. Rittenburg	210, 64	Jan. 26, 2007
130th	1996	V. Kaye Ramsey	290, 317	
131st	1997	Kenneth G. Fleming	75	April 24, 2021
132nd	1998	Don E. Rasmussen	82, 135	
133rd	1999	Dwight E. Smith	286	
134th	2000	James F. Brown, Jr.	54	
135th	2001	Philip A. Lorenzen	10, 327, 1, 21, 333	
136th	2002	Michael E. Jones	51, 173	
137th	2003	Kenneth D. Beebe	119	
138th	2004	Les Seiler	317	
139th	2005	Ivan A. Vrtiska	327	
140th	2006	Scott J. Krieger, Sr.	317, 332, 33	
141st	2007	Dean Skokan	15, 268, 333	
142nd	2008	Reginald S. Kuhn	36, 19	
143rd	2009	Russell G. Reno	54, 183, 297, 332	
144th	2010	John T. Parsons	268, 6, 333, 284PA, 331	
145th	2011	Bruce A. Baker	317	
146th	2012	Rex J. Moats	290, 102	
147th	2013	Thomas L. Hauder	332	
148th	2014	Joe D. McBride	224	
149th	2015	John T. Maxell	327, 6, 333	
150th	2016	Dennis E. Rix	15, 310	
151st	2017	Richard D. Myers	102, 119	
152nd	2018	Patrick D. Barger	5, 54, 332	
153rd	2019	Robert W. Moninger	200, 256	
154th	2020	Ronald D. Stites	268, 333	
155th	2021	James A. Carlton	325, 332	
156th	2022	Alex F. Straatmann	46	

PAST GRAND SECRETARIES

- George Armstrong September 23, 1857 To June 2, 1858
- Robert W. Furnas..... June 2, 1858 To June 4, 1862
- Robert C. Jordan June 4, 1862 To June 24, 1863
- Stephen D. Bangs June 24, 1863 To June 24, 1865
- J. Newton Wise..... June 24, 1865 To October 27, 1869
- Robert W. Furnas..... October 27, 1869 To June 21, 1872
- William R. Bowen June 21, 1872 To May 6, 1899
- Francis E. White June 9, 1899 To June 11, 1925
- Lewis E. Smith June 11, 1925 To June 6, 1946
- Carl R. Greisen June 7, 1946 To June 6, 1968
- Robert W. Cook..... June 6, 1968 To April 5, 1969
- Norris W. Lallman June 4, 1969 To June 13, 1981
- Ralph W. Gerry..... June 13, 1981 To June 15, 1985
- Paul R. Pierce June 15, 1985 To December 6, 1986
- Edward M. Cummings..... December 6, 1986 To May 1987
- Albert T. Reddish May 1987 To September 1989
- Don E. Rasmussen September 1989 To November 1992
- Virgil L. Tubach November 1992 to August 1995
- Reginald S. Kuhn..... August 1995 to October 2003
- Bruce A. Watkins October 2003 to February 2012
- Reginald S. Kuhn February 2012 to June 2021
- Deceased

PAST GRAND CUSTODIANS

- Lee P. Gillette, 2 1882-1883, 1887-1894
- Benjamin F. Rawalt, 84 1884-1887
- James A. Tulleys, 53..... 1894-1900
- Robert E. French, 46..... 1901-1927
- Lute M. Savage, 3..... 1927-1948
- Raymond C. Cook, 6 1948-1965
- Robert W. Cook, 33 1965-1967
- Ralph W. Gerry*, 281..... 1968-1981
- Mannie O. Hansen, 1 1981-1984
- T. Leo Stines, 36..... 1984-1985
- Jerry L. Rittenburg*, 210, 64..... 1985-1990
- Augustine S. Scolaro*, 3 1990-2000
- Gerald D. Verbeek*, 15 2000-2009
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr.*, 317, 332, 33 2009-2012
- Bruce A. Watkins, 300..... 2012-2014
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr.*, 317, 332, 33 2014-2019
- Delmar A. Jones, 65, 46..... 2019-2021
- Deceased
- * Emeritus

GRAND LECTURERS

George Armstrong, 3	1858, 1859, 1866
Lee P. Gillette, 2	1860, 1861, 1881
Sylvester S. Redfield, 2	1862
E.C. Adams, 6.....	1863
Henry Brown, 2	1864
William E. Hill, 2	1865, 1866, 1868, 1874 to 1877
Byron Reed, 3	1867
Charles T. Whitmore, 11	1869 to 1871
Charles F. Catlin, 11	1871 (Acting)
George H. Thummel, 33	1872, 1873
Hiram C. Rider, 37	1877 to 1880

**The Roll of Deputy Grand Custodians
And Date of Appointment**

The first reference providing for an “Assistant Custodian” was made in 1869. In 1870, the Committee on Work recommended the establishment of five districts and the appointment of an equal number of brethren. These, together with the Grand Lecturer, were to constitute a “Board of Custodians” to serve for five years. From that time until now, there have been appointed assistant custodians. It is the purpose here to list all that have, at any time, served the Grand Lodge. They are listed in terms of first appointment. The number following each name represents the lodge of which each was, or is, a member.

Daniel H. Wheeler, 6	1870
John Reed, 2	1871
Robert W. Furnas, 4.....	1871
D. F. Powell, 3	1871
A. Atkinson, 3.....	1871
H. O. Hanna, 9	1872
Milton E. Pinney, 2.....	1873
William B. Wharton, 12.....	1875
Edward K. Valentine, 27	1875
Newton R. Persinger, 36.....	1876
David K. Hume, 3.....	1876
Hiram C. Rider, 37	1876
Frederick N. Dick, 32	1876
George W. Lininger, 3	1877
L. S. Moe, 15	1877
Roland H. Oakley, 19	1877
James R. Cain, 9	1877
Albert K. Marsh, 49	1877
Jess T. Davis, 21	1877
Charles H. Willard, 21	1878
Samuel W. Hayes, 55.....	1879
Marshall Smith, 2	1879
James McNaughton, 4	1879
Joseph H. McConnel, 32.....	1879
Edward F. Thorp, 2	1879
George W. Mowrey, 50	1880
Charles A. Holmes, 17.....	1880

Note: From 1880 until 1910, there were no recorded appointments of brethren to serve as assistants to the Grand Custodian. In 1910, Brother Robert E. French did hold special meetings

to examine and instruct brethren who were willing to become “assistant” in the work. Thirteen brethren were nominated and approved for appointment as assistants. After 1917, these brethren were generally referred to as “assistant custodians.” In 1925, the designation was “Deputy Custodian.” The following brethren appeared in the records as “Assistant Custodians;” or, at times, as “Deputy Custodians.”

- John J. Mercer, 3 1910
- Samuel S. Whiting, 54 1910
- Walter W. Wells, 192 1910
- Ensign J. Rix, 55 1910
- James D. Phillips, 93 1910
- Frederick L. Wolff, 135 1910
- Ernest H. James, 1 1910
- Fred A. Howe, 119 1910
- Robert B. Walker, 170 1912
- Frank W. Farrand, 36 1913
- Ira C. Freet, 56 1913
- Benjamin Wood, 210 1913
- Edward M. Wellman, 1 1913
- Charles A. Eyre, 268 1913
- Robert A. Armstrong, 32 1913
- Levi Pringle, 276 1913
- Earl M. Bolen, 130 1914
- Frank L. Haycock, 207 1914
- George A. Stevens, 158 1914
- Harry M. Jones, 46 1916
- Levi D. Phipps, 31 1916
- Alfred G. Hunt, 33 1916
- Harry L. F. Proffitt, 50 1916
- Barclay M. Hickman, 38 1916
- Orville A. Andrews, 50 1917
- Andrew H. Viele, 55 1917
- Maro C. Shipherd, 15 1920
- Jesse Lowther, 219 1920
- Franklin C. Tym, 25 1920
- Lute M. Savage, 3 1920
- Frank M. Johnson, 188 1920
- Lamont L. Stephens, 106 1922
- Frances S. Robey, 19 1922
- John B. Lichtenwallner, 275 1923
- Harry R. Belville, 146 1923
- George R. Patterson, 136 1923
- William J. Birkoffer, 249 1923
- D. Horace Schall, 307 1923
- Stanley P. Bostwick, 3 1924
- William D. Edson, 53 1926
- Francis B. Rodwell, 224 1926
- Edwin H. Gerhart, 305 1926
- William McCormack, 268 1926
- Harry L. Mantor, 306 1927
- John R. Easley, 49 1927
- L. Donald Huston, 65 1928
- Elmer Surber, 95 1928
- John M. Bennett, 19 1928
- Earl Barnett, 146 1929
- Jonathan Frye, 1 1929
- Ernest R. Reynolds, 124 1930

- Osborne P. Simon, 174 1930
- Doc L. Redfern, 300 1930
- Austin F. Whitmire, 306 1931
- Henning C. Johnson, 171 1930
- Carroll C. Raymer, 164 1932
- Ward B. Schrack, 46 1933
- Byron S. Peterson, 25 1933
- Raymond C. Cook, 6 1933
- Ray B. Bottorf, 33 1933
- Wallace E. Linn, 1 1934
- Jesse P. Entriken, 295 1934
- Harrold D. Weddel, 208 1937
- Cecil C. Gates, 227 1938
- Fred G. Christensen, 33 1938
- Ross Van Sickle, 184 1938
- S. William Beck, 43 1940
- Stanley B. Fryar, 139 1940
- Roy S. Planck, 15 1940
- Buren P. Wells, 315 1940
- Clarence G. McNamee, 55 1941
- F. Ray Dilts, 83 1942
- Ernest C. Purdy, 195 1942
- Lewis E. Baker, 135 1943
- Howard E. Bradstreet, 261 1943
- George S. Schwab, 49 1946
- Louis V. Sylvester, 281 1946
- Irving S. Johnson, 148 1946
- LaVerne A. Walker, 55 1946
- Ernest E. James, 1 1946
- Frank A. Anderson, 17 1949
- Robert W. Cook, 33 1949
- Paul D. Fleming, 293 1949
- Charles M. Frederick, 136 1949
- Sylvester Shumard, 227 1949
- Ralph M. Carhart, 120 1950
- Morris V. Balcom, 46 1950
- William F. Flicklinger, 56 1951
- Forest A. Lape, 183 1951
- Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314 1954
- Harold M. Wilkerson, 54 1954
- Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9 1955
- Clifford D. Webster, 75 1956
- Matthias E. Mael, 173 1956
- Frank H. Smith, 301 1957
- Ward V. Whitaker, 310 1957
- Richard L. Ely, 128 1957
- Asa J. Farnham, 106 1958
- Robert B. Conrad, 125 1958
- Winston C. Swanson, 120 1958
- Lyle A. Van Arsdol, 210 1959
- Edmund D. Shaw, 195 1959
- Harry N. Ahl, 112 1959
- Alfred R. Kenover, 148 1960
- Lloyd I. Edwards, 110 1960
- T. Leo Stines, 36, 323 1960
- Erwin J. Imig, 38 1960
- Sebert A. Stover, 281 1960

• Stanley E. Brunton, 222	1961
• Glenn W. Binder, 23	1961
• Richard L. Wait, 19	1962
• Gordon Chard, 240	1962
• Harold A. Tilton, 291	1962
• Stuart A. Johnson, 177	1964
• Arthur S. Dye, 317	1964
• W. Upton Dawson, 135	1964
• Donald R. Davis, 164	1964
• Ralph I. Berry, 256	1965
• Carl A. Johnson, 183	1965
• Robert W. Boon, 33	1965
• Augustus W. Clark, 33	1965
• Alton S. Mote, 183	1965
• Ralph W. Gerry, 281, 302	1965
• Arnold F. Mains, 15	1965
• Nelson W. Rittenburg, 210	1965
• Harold J. Oehlerking, 159	1966
• Gwynne L. Neubauer, 258	1966
• Ward L. McGlashan, 180	1966
• Curtis J. Griess, 49	1966
• Walter Brown, 1	1967
• John C. Nelson, 250	1967
• Mervin E. Ransom, Sr., 65	1967
• Donald A. Kyckelhahn, 210	1967
• Howard G. Whitmore, 81	1967
• Frank R. Harris, 77	1967
• Gerald V. Inslee, 158	1968
• John C. Sierks, 4	1969
• Paul D. Jacobsen, 148	1969
• David O. Kipling, 281	1970
• Herman O. Hansen, 3	1970
• D. Wayne Erickson, 146	1970
• Walter S. Cork, 75	1970
• Richard L. Mauch, 224, 136	1971
• O. Wayne Thompson, 201	1971
• John A. Brandt, 26	1971
• Dale E. Kube, 55	1971
• Robert E. Kyes, 36	1972
• Mannie O. Hansen, 1	1973
• Richard O. Cowles, 174	1975
• Jens P. Nielsen, 121	1975
• Ralph E. McNulty, 61	1975
• Don L. McCoy, 11	1975
• Everett K. Dappen, 265	1975
• Alfred V. Peltzer, 148	1975
• Roger L. Shillington, 180	1976
• James E. Cornish, 31	1976
• Ben D. Fussell, 79	1976
• Victor D. Hunt, 62	1976
• Lynn Doty, 251	1977
• Marvin R. Weber, 204	1977
• W. Dale Page, 15	1977
• Harry L. Saum, 308	1979
• DeVern A. Engberg, 26	1979
• Michael L. Peterson, 227, 37	1979
• Albert W. Watsek, 23	1979

- Douglas A. Thomas, 183 1979
- Arthur J. Ferguson, 221 1979
- Leslie G. Weber, 204 1979
- Kenneth G. Fleming, 75 1980
- Augustine S. Scolaro, 3 1981
- David E. Menck, 15 1982
- Vincent Rosenberger, 183 1982
- Justin F. Fauss, 55 1982
- Augustus W. Clark, 33 1982
- Wayne E. Beatty, 126 1982
- Kenneth G. Fleming, 75 1984
- Eugene C. Sibley, 314 1984
- Leslie Evert, 195 1985
- William Fogle, 135 1985
- Roscoe Malick, 297 1985
- R. Winton Wilson, 199 1985
- Robert E. Kyes, 36 1985
- W. Dale Page, 15 1985
- Gordon E. Richards, 75 1986
- Harold Noble, 325 1987
- Deon D. Eberly, 314 1988
- Steven A. Green, 54 1988
- Steven K. Jones, 265, 263 1988
- Lloyd Vrtiska, 23 1988
- Robert M. Littrell, 77 1989
- Roy L. Smith, 6 1989
- Daniel E. Spearow, 26 1989
- LeRoy Crye, 328 1990
- Ronald D. Grass, 31 1990
- Scott J. Krieger, Sr., 317 1990
- Richard W. Linnemeyer, 135 1990
- Keith B. Leibhart, 148 1990
- Gordon L. Carley, 75 1990
- Gerald D. Verbeek, 15 1990
- Herbert M. Chambers, Sr., 288 1991
- Delmar Jones, 46, 65 1992
- Don L. Jelinek, 54 1992
- Albert Wise, 79 1992
- Halsey D. Phillips, 325 1993
- John M. Weidner, Sr., 75, 33 1993
- Rodney L. Samp, 159 1994
- Robert L. Carter, 314 1995
- Richard H. Cooper, 263 1996
- Thomas R. Reed, 5 1996
- Monte K. Olmstead, 290 1997
- Michael G. Birnstihl, 314 1997
- Roger A. Deininger, 317 1998
- Kenneth G. Fleming, 75 1998
- Bruce A. Watkins, 300 1999
- Jack D. Nichols, 265, 285 2000
- Harold C. Mueksch, 132, 72 2000
- Carl C. Plants, 54 2001
- Joseph D. Chrisman, 279 2002
- Ashley H. Story, 314, 146 2002
- James R. Taylor, 327 2002
- Dean Papenhagen, 50 2003
- R. William Lichtenberger, 207, 148 2003

- Gordon L. Carley, 75 2003
- Suman Vallabhbhai, 314 2004
- Daniel L. Scarborough, 79 2005
- Frank Veverka, 15 2005
- Glenn R. Mulholland, 32, 284 2005
- Philip E. Darby, Jr., 61 2006
- Randall L. Hart, 22, 31 2008
- W. Keith Neisler, 1, 302 2009
- Edward W. Nolte, 39 2009
- Brian K. Sandall, 21 2010
- Patrick D. Barger, 54, 332, 5 2014
- Anthony T. Johnson, 268 2014
- Kent D. Priest, 32 2014
- Dean Papenhagen, 50 2014
- Charles J. Odorizzi, III 2014
- John L. Brommer, 1 2014
- Alvin O. Benemerito, 136 2016
- Corey L. Bergstrom, 75 2016
- James A. Carlton, 325 2016
- Bradley M. Dutton, 183 2016
- John B. Ferguson, 294 2016
- Tyler S. Loontjer, 1 2016
- John L. Millington, 54, 332 2016
- Kent R. Millington, 54, 38 2016
- Brent Myers, 300, 332 2016
- Kent L. Neumann, 274, 5 2016
- Jonathan L. Paz, 39, 268 2016
- Michael E. Tomasiewicz, 302 2016
- Joel W. Zilmer, 183 2016
- David A. Wetrosky, 2 2017
- Mark L. Carley, 75 2018
- Dennis H. Brydl, 287, 314, 332 2018
- John E. Dimon, 290 2018
- Scott E. Emmett, 136, 200 2018
- John R. Herbolsheimer, 3 2018
- Stephen C. Kennedy, 4 2018
- Jeff A. Merriman, 281 2018
- David C. Norton, 302 2018
- Kevin H. Scheele, 96, 54 2018
- David A. Shaw, 302 2018
- Mark J. Turner, 300 2018
- F. Graham House, 54, 332 2019
- Jeffrey A. Merriman, 281 2019
- Eric J. BenSalah 2021
- Jeffrey L. Buhrman, 210 2021
- S. Hal Cottrell, 325, 332 2021
- Thomas Lagerstrom 2021
- Sean D. Sutherland 2021
- Adam M. Thayer, 54, 38 2021
- Benjamin R. Zaayer, 290, 281 2021
- Gregory L. Prosocki, 54, 250 2023
- Curtis Wolbert, 320 2023

- Deceased

**Grand Lodge of Nebraska
ROCK MAUL AWARD**

Presented at each Grand Lodge Communication to a lodge deemed to be the most outstanding lodge that year by the Grand Master (award is dated year presented, for work in previous year).

	1981	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	1982	Shiloh Lodge	No. 327	Omaha
	1983	Culbertson Lodge	No. 174	Culbertson
	1984	Scotts Bluff Lodge	No. 201	Gering
	1984	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
	1985	Comet Lodge	No. 229	Ceresco
	1985	Hickman Lodge	No. 256	Hickman
	1986	Springfield Lodge	No. 112	Springfield
	1987	Platte Valley Lodge	No. 32	North Platte
	1989	Lancaster Lodge	No. 54	Lincoln
	1990	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	1991	Corinthian Lodge	No. 83	Wakefield
	1992	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
	1993	Bartley Lodge	No. 228	Bartley
	1994	North Star Lodge	No. 227	Lincoln
	1995	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
	1996	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
	1997	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Bellevue
	1998	Craftsmen Lodge	No. 314	Lincoln
	1999	Hastings Lodge	No. 50	Hastings
	2000	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
	2001	Papillion Lodge	No. 39	Papillion
	2002	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
	2003	Osceola Lodge	No. 65	Osceola
	2004	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
	2005	Liberty Lodge	No. 300	Lincoln
	2006	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
	2007	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Large	2008	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2008	Hooper Lodge	No. 72	Hooper
Large	2009	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
Small	2009	Omadi Lodge	No. 5	South Sioux City
Large	2010	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2010	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2011	Lancaster Lodge	No. 54	Lincoln
Small	2011	Franklin Lodge	No. 264	Franklin
Large	2012	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2012	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2013	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2013	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
Large	2014	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2014	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2015	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2015	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
Large	2016	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
Small	2016	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
Large	2017	Liberty Lodge	No. 300	Lincoln
Small	2017	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill
Large	2018	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Omaha
Small	2018	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill
Large	2019	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Bellevue
Small	2019	Waterloo Lodge	No. 102	Elkhorn

Large	2020	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Bellevue
Small	2020	Long Pine Lodge	No. 136	Long Pine
Large	2021	Bellevue Lodge	No. 325	Bellevue
Small	2021	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie
Large	2022	John J Mercer Lodge	No. 290	Omaha
Small	2022	College View Lodge	No. 320	Lincoln
Large	2023	John J Mercer Lodge	No. 290	Omaha
Small	2023	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie

**Grand Lodge of Nebraska
GOLD PAN AWARD**

Presented at each Grand Lodge Communication to a lodge deemed to have made the greatest contribution or most improvement towards Masonry that year by the Grand Master.

1987	Fremont Lodge	No. 15	Fremont
1989	Hickman Lodge	No. 256	Lincoln
1990	Crescent Lodge	No. 143	Primrose
1991	Mosaic Lodge	No. 55	Norfolk
1992	Frank Welch Lodge	No. 75	Sidney
1993	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
1994	Hooper Lodge	No. 72	Hooper
1995	Wood Lake Lodge	No. 221	Wood Lake
1996	Frank Welch Lodge	No. 75	Sidney
1997	Beatrice Lodge	No. 26	Beatrice
1998	Mid-West Lodge	No. 317	Hastings
1999	Robert W. Furnas	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2000	Beatrice Lodge	No. 26	Beatrice
2001	Wallace Lodge	No. 279	Wallace
2002	Blue Valley Lodge	No. 64	Wilber
2003	Cotner Lodge	No. 297	Lincoln
2004	Camp Clarke Lodge	No. 285	Bridgeport
2005	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2006	Hastings Lodge	No. 50	Hastings
2007	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Walthill
2008	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2009	Robert W. Furnas Lodge	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2010	Robert W. Furnas Lodge	No. 265	Scottsbluff
2011	Plattsmouth Lodge	No. 6	Plattsmouth
2012	Custer Lodge	No. 148	Broken Bow
2013	Not Awarded		
2014	North Bend Lodge	No. 119	North Bend
2015	Centennial Lodge	No. 326	Omaha
2016	Long Pine Lodge	No. 136	Long Pine
2017	Geneva Lodge	No. 79	Geneva
2018	Centennial Lodge	No. 326	Omaha
2019	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie
2020	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie
2021	Olive Branch Lodge	No. 274	Rosalie
2022	York Lodge	No. 56	York
2023	John J Mercer	No. 290	Omaha

Grand Lodge of Nebraska GRAND MASTER'S HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Presented during the year to not more than two honorees.

This award is presented to publicly honor an individual who has been an outstanding citizen, as well as an outstanding Mason. It is necessary that he has been a Master Mason for thirty years, and has been active in at least three of five designated activities in his community.

1989	Henry Rood	Wahoo No. 59	Wahoo
1989	Thomas Lutey	Kimball No. 294	Kimball
1990	W. Neil Colerick	Alliance No. 183	Alliance
1990	James Fegley	Omadi No. 5	South Sioux City
1991	Lloyd I. Edwards	Pomegranate No. 110	Ashland
1991	Wayne H. Hardy	Custer No. 148	Broken Bow
1992	Ralph E. Jones	Robert Burns No. 173	Stratton
1993	Christian F. Dahmke	Fidelity No. 51	David City
1994	Walter E. Truex	Mosaic No. 55	Norfolk
1994	Elsworth L. Abbott	Falls City No. 9	Falls City
1995	Harry A. Spencer	North Star No. 227	Lincoln
1996	Ben D. Fussell	Geneva No. 79	Geneva
1997	Ralph Townsend	Scotts Bluff No. 201	Gering
1997	Willard Rouze	Purity No. 198	Imperial
1998	Lowell C. Johnson	North Bend No. 119	North Bend
1998	Marvin M. Fink	Hastings No. 50	Hastings
1999	Dale E. Olson	Oakland No. 91	Oakland
1999	Norris L. Rusmisell	Rob Morris No. 46	Kearney
2000	Richard Brasel	John J. Mercer No. 290	Omaha
2000	Charles Spohr	Euclid No. 97	Weeping Water
2001	John Dick	Fremont No. 15	Fremont
2001	Loral Johnson	Purity No. 198	Imperial
2002	Robert A. Merchant	Wayne No. 120	Wayne
2002	Arthur S. Dye	Mid-West No. 317	Hastings
2003	Floyd P. Vrtiska	Table Rock No. 108	Table Rock
2003	Warren K. Urbom	Craftsmen No. 314	Lincoln
2004	Harold J. Daub, Jr.	Nebraska No. 1	Omaha
2004	Richard L. Ely	Guide Rock No. 128	Guide Rock
2005	Roger R. Wehrbein	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2005	Marvin H. Kraus	Friend No. 73	Friend
2008	V.K. "Tony" Vrana	Oliver No. 38	Seward
2008	Sanford H. "Sam" Nelson	East Lincoln No. 210	Lincoln
2009	G. Charles Thone	Lincoln No. 19	Lincoln
2010	Wesley H. Turtscher	Papillion No. 39	Papillion
2010	Delbert D. Weber	George W. Lininger No. 268	Omaha
2012	Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr.	Mizpah No. 302	Omaha
2012	Jay H. Speck	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2013	Charles E. "Ched" House	Hiram No. 52	Arlington
2014	Gene F. Wehrbein	Plattsmouth No. 6	Plattsmouth
2015	David A. "Doc" Portwood	Geneva No. 79	Geneva
2016	Larry D. Ludvigsen	Fremont No. 15	Fremont
2017	Gene A. Geise	Waterloo No. 102	Elkhorn
2017	Kenneth D. Beebe	North Bend No. 119	North Bend
2018	Marvin M. Andersen	Omadi No. 5	South Sioux City
2018	John S. Lowe	Rob Morris No. 46	Kearney
2019	Jerrell F. Gerdes	Franklin No. 264	Franklin
2019	Armel E. MacDonald	Covert No. 11	Omaha
2020	Ronald A. Nielsen	Rob Morris No. 46	Kearney
2021	James Karnegis	Ancient Landmark No. 5	St. Paul, MN

Grand Lodge of Nebraska

Kearney

2022 David V. Lofgreen
2022 Les Seiler

Ashlar No. 3
Mid-West No. 317

Grand Island
Hastings

EXISTING LODGES

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

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED		CHARTERED	
Nebraska	No 1	Omaha	Douglas	February	1,1855	Oct.	3,1855 •1
Western Star	No 2	Nebraska City ...	Otoe.....	May	10,1855	May	28,1856 •2
Capitol	No 3	Omaha	Douglas	January	9,1857	June	3,1857 •3

• Formed Grand Lodge of Nebraska September 23, 1857 • Chartered by ¹Illinois, ²Missouri, ³Iowa

Nemaha Valley	No 4	Brownville	Nemaha.....	December	15,1857	June	2,1858
Omadi	No 5	So. Sioux City ...	Dakota.....	January	18,1858	June	2,1858
Plattsmouth	No 6	Plattsmouth.....	Cass	January	18,1858	June	2,1858
Solomon	No 10	Fort Calhoun.....	Washington	August	15,1865	June	22,1866
Covert	No 11	Omaha	Douglas	July	24,1865	June	22,1866
Peru	No 14	Peru	Nemaha.....	May	23,1867	June	19,1867
Fremont	No 15	Fremont	Dodge.....	July	3,1866	June	20,1867
Lincoln	No 19	Lincoln	Lancaster....	May	4,1868	June	25,1868
Washington	No 21	Blair.....	Washington	February	24,1868	June	25,1868
Pawnee	No 23	Pawnee City.....	Pawnee	January	4,1869	Oct.	28,1869
Beatrice	No 26	Beatrice.....	Gage.....	March	23,1870	June	22,1870
Blue River	No 30	Milford.....	Seward	April	25,1870	June	23,1870
Tekamah	No 31	Tekamah.....	Burt.....	August	19,1869	June	23,1870
Platte Valley	No 32	North Platte.....	Lincoln	January	15,1870	June	23,1870
Ashlar	No 33	Grand Island	Hall	August	11,1870	June	22,1871
Acacia	No 34	Schuyler.....	Colfax	July	18,1870	June	19,1872
Fairbury	No 35	Fairbury.....	Jefferson.....	June	30,1871	June	19,1872
Lone Tree	No 36	Central City.....	Merrick.....	August	9,1871	June	19,1872
Crete	No 37	Crete	Saline	January	8,1872	June	19,1872
Oliver	No 38	Seward	Seward.....	July	25,1871	June	18,1873
Papillion	No 39	Papillion	Sarpy.....	November	18,1872	June	18,1873
Hebron	No 43	Hebron.....	Thayer	March	10,1873	June	18,1873
Rob Morris	No 46	Kearney	Buffalo.....	February	21,1873	June	26,1874
Hastings	No 50	Hastings.....	Adams.....	January	3,1874	June	26,1874
Fidelity	No 51	David City	Butler.....	January	18, 1874	June	26,1874
Lancaster	No 54	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	April	20,1874	June	26,1874
Mosaic	No 55	Norfolk	Madison.....	October	1,1874	June	23,1875
York	No 56	York	York.....	October	1,1874	June	23,1875
Wahoo	No 59	Wahoo	Saunders....	January	20,1875	June	23,1875
Thistle	No 61	Lexington.....	Dawson	May	8,1875	June	21,1876
Keystone	No 62	Phillips.....	Hamilton	January	1,1876	June	21,1876
Blue Valley	No 64	Wilber.....	Saline	October	6,1876	June	20,1877
Osceola	No 65	Osceola	Polk	November	23,1876	June	20,1877
Hooper	No 72	Hooper.....	Dodge.....	March	19,1878	June	25,1879
Friend	No 73	Friend	Saline	May	4,1878	June	25,1879
Frank Welch	No 75	Sidney.....	Cheyenne...	December	26,1878	June	25,1879
Geneva	No 79	Geneva.....	Fillmore	November	24,1879	June	23,1880
Corinthian	No 83	Wayne	Wayne.....	April	22,1880	June	22,1881
Utica	No 96	Utica.....	Seward.....	July	14,1882	June	19,1883
Euclid	No 97	Weeping Water .	Cass	July	21,1882	June	19,1883
Waterloo	No 102	Elkhorn	Douglas.....	September	7,1882	June	19,1883
Porter	No 106	Loup City	Sherman.....	December	9,1882	June	19,1883
Springfield	No 112	Springfield.....	Sarpy.....	March	30,1883	June	19,1883
North Bend	No 119	North Bend	Dodge.....	September	5,1883	June	24,1884
Superior	No 121	Superior	Nuckolls.....	November	22,1883	June	24,1884
Stromsburg	No 126	Stromsburg.....	Polk	January	16,1884	June	24,1884
McCook	No 135	McCook.....	Red Willow .	October	6,1884	June	24,1885
Long Pine	No 136	Long Pine	Brown	October	6,1884	June	24,1885
Jachin	No 146	Holdrege.....	Phelps	July	13,1885	June	17,1886
Custer	No 148	Broken Bow	Custer.....	August	10,1885	June	17,1886
Samaritan	No 158	Chadron.....	Dawes.....	March	17,1886	June	16,1887

EXISTING LODGESRoll of *Existing* Nebraska Lodges, with Locations, Dates Created and Chartered

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED	
Ogallala	No 159	Ogallala	Keith	August 14,1886	June 16,1887	
Robert Burns	No 173	Stratton	Hitchcock....	November 15,1887	June 21,1888	
Justice	No 180	Benkelman.....	Dundy.....	October 8,1888	June 20,1889	
Alliance	No 183	Alliance	Box Butte....	January 18,1889	June 20,1889	
Bee Hive	No 184	Omaha	Douglas	January 22,1889	June 20,1889	
Minnekadusa	No 192	Valentine.....	Cherry	August 15,1889	June 20,1890	
Highland	No 194	Cortland	Gage	September 21,1889	June 20,1890	
Arcana	No 195	Gordon.....	Sheridan.....	October 17,1889	June 20,1890	
Blazing Star	No 200	Burwell.....	Garfield.....	August 5,1890	June 18,1891	
Scotts Bluff	No 201	Gering.....	Scotts Bluff.	August 8,1890	June 18,1891	
Plainview	No 204	Plainview	Pierce.....	September 1,1890	June 18,1891	
Parian	No 207	Callaway	Custer.....	January 31,1891	June 18,1891	
East Lincoln	No 210	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	November 5,1891	June 16,1892	
Magnolia	No 220	Emerson	Dixon	January 21,1893	June 15,1893	
Silver Cord	No 224	Ainsworth.....	Brown.....	October 17,1893	June 21,1894	
North Star	No 227	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	July 28,1894	June 13,1895	
Bartley	No 228	Bartley	Red Willow .	November 23,1894	June 13,1895	
Comet	No 229	Ceresco	Saunders....	December 5,1894	June 13,1895	
Zion	No 234	Hyannis.....	Grant	July 19,1895	June 10,1896	
Laurel	No 248	Laurel.....	Cedar	February 12,1900	June 7,1900	
Geo. Washington	No 250	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	June 20,1900	June 6,1901	
Wausa	No 251	Wausa	Knox	November 18,1900	June 6,1901	
Hickman	No 256	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	December 7,1903	June 9,1904	
Franklin	No 264	Franklin	Franklin	June 11,1907	June 10,1908	
Geo. W. Lininger	No 268	Omaha	Douglas	February 26,1908	June 10,1908	
Olive Branch	No 274	Walhill	Thurston	September 20,1909	June 8,1910	
Florence	No 281	Omaha	Douglas	January 17,1913	June 4,1913	
Seneca	No 284	Thedford	Thomas	September 29,1913	June 9,1914	
Camp Clarke	No 285	Bridgeport.....	Morrill	October 16,1913	June 9,1914	
Oshkosh	No 286	Oshkosh	Garden	November 25,1913	June 9,1914	
Union	No 287	Palmyra	Otoe	December 15,1913	June 8,1915	
Omaha	No 288	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	March 24,1914	June 8,1915	
John J. Mercer	No 290	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	November 21,1914	June 8,1915	
James L. Eatmon	No 294	Kimball.....	Kimball	June 10,1915	June 7,1916	
Cotner	No 297	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	June 15,1917	June 5,1918	
Liberty	No 300	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	January 10,1918	June 5,1918	
Mizpah	No 302	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	November 12,1918	June 4,1919	
Newman Grove	No 305	Newman Grove.	Madison.....	January 14,1920	June 9,1920	
Victory	No 310	Valley.....	Douglas.....	December 27,1920	June 8,1921	
Craftsmen	No 314	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	March 22,1922	June 5,1923	
Mid-West	No 317	Hastings.....	Adams	January 8,1925	June 10,1925	
College View	No 320	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	July 1,1927	June 6,1928	
Lebanon	No 323	Columbus	Platte	November 14,1928	June 5,1929	
Bellevue	No 325	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	March 5,1955	June 8,1955	
Centennial	No 326	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	November 26,1955	June 6,1956	
Shiloh	No 327	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	September 3,1965	June 10,1966	
Miloma	No 328	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	January 19,1972	June 28,1972	
Saints John Educ.	No 331			December 27, 2000	February 2, 2002	
Tabula Rasa	No 332	Lincoln	Lancaster ...	July 24, 2006	February 3, 2007	
Albert Pike	No 333	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	October 28, 2013	February 8, 2014	
Renaissance	No 334	Elkhorn	Douglas.....	October 28, 2013	February 8, 2014	

CONSOLIDATED LODGES

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Joppa No. 76, Bloomington	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	October 18, 1934
Parallel No. 152, Liberty	Barneston No. 165, Barneston	January 2, 1940
Tyre No. 85, Blue Springs	Wymore No. 104, Wymore	July 7, 1941
Bradshaw No. 255, Bradshaw	Hampton No. 245, Hampton	May 21, 1942
Level No. 196, Stockville	Cambridge No. 150, Cambridge	June 4, 1942
Riverside No. 269, Belgrade	Cedar River No. 89, Fullerton	June 5, 1942
Juniata No. 42, Juniata,	Kenesaw No. 144, Kenesaw	July 15, 1942
Palmer No. 315, Palmer	St. Paul No. 82, St. Paul	October 6, 1942
Elk Creek No. 90, Elk	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	November 11, 1944
Riverton No. 63, Riverton	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	May 16, 1945
Hildreth No. 252, Hildreth	Grace No. 226, Wilcox	October 11, 1945
Hubbell No. 92, Hubbell	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	February 8, 1946
Incense No. 182, Ohiowa	Jewell No. 149, Tobias	April 22, 1947
Bee No. 259, Bee	Oliver No. 38, Seward	June 13, 1947
Tuscan No. 130, Surprise	Composite No. 81, Rising City	February 9, 1963
Delta No. 230, St. Edward	Albion No. 78, Albion	January 1, 1965
Jewel No. 149, Tobias	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	September 9, 1966
Valley No. 157, Wilsonville	Beaver City No. 93, Beaver City	March 8, 1966
Ruskin No. 304, Ruskin	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	September 23, 1966
Morning Star No. 197, Gresham	Stromsburg No. 126, Stromsburg	December 9, 1967
Cornerstone No. 247, Osmond	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	December 12, 1967
Kenesaw No. 144, Kenesaw	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	January 13, 1968
Blue Hill No. 129, Blue Hill	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	February 9, 1968
Pioneer No. 322, Lyman	Oasis No. 271, Morrill	April 10, 1969
Compass & Square No. 212, Sumner	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	April 20, 1969
Hope No. 29, Nemaha	Nemaha Valley No. 4, Brownville	September 9, 1969
Elm Creek No. 133, Elm Creek	James A. Tulleys No. 267, Overton	March 17, 1970
Naphthali No. 206, Diller	Fairbury No. 35, Fairbury	March 23, 1970
Alexandria No. 74, Alexandria	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	September 10, 1970
Pythagoras No. 156, Ewing	Diamond No. 291, Orchard	December 4, 1970
Grace No. 226, Wilcox	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	May 11, 1971
Wolbach No. 292, Wolbach	St. Paul No. 82, St. Paul	December 23, 1971
Tyrian No. 243, Oak	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	June 9, 1972
Mystic Tie No. 166, Tilden	Trowel No. 71, Neligh	June 12, 1972
Roman Eagle No. 203, Pender	Bancroft No. 145, Bancroft	April 20, 1973
Amethyst No. 190, Stapleton	Cable No. 225, Arnold	April 20, 1973
Prudence No. 179, Beaver Crossing	Utica No. 96, Utica	April 20, 1973
Fairfield No. 84, Fairfield	Clay Center No. 139, Clay Center	January 24, 1974
Ramah No. 275, Bertrand	Elwood No. 167, Elwood	February 14, 1974
Sterling No. 70, Sterling	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 20, 1974
Mt. Hermon No. 231, Cook	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 15, 1974
Winnebago No. 309, Winnebago	Olive Branch No. 274, Walthill	December 3, 1974
Temple No. 175, Filley	Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	March 26, 1975
Beemer No. 253, Beemer	Wisner No. 114, Wisner	June 17, 1975
Signet No. 193, Leigh	Northern Light No. 41, Stanton	February 20, 1976
Plumbline No. 214, Adams	Beatrice No. 26, Beatrice	October 1, 1976
Cubit No. 237, Douglas	Union No. 287, Palmyra	December 13, 1977
Bancroft No. 145, Bancroft	Olive Branch No. 274, Walthill	December 17, 1978
Litchfield No. 278, Litchfield	Mason City No. 170, Mason City	July 1, 1979
Hartington No. 155, Hartington	Relief No. 219, Coleridge	August 10, 1979
Creighton No. 100, Creighton	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	May 17, 1980

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Star No. 88, Decatur	Pilot No. 240, Lyons	January 22, 1981
Gladstone No. 176, Ansley	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	November 4, 1981
Eminence No. 223, Giltner	Keystone No. 62, Phillips	October 26, 1981
Antelope No. 276, Elgin	Trowel No. 71, Neligh	January 1, 1982
Bladen No. 319, Bladen	Charity No. 53, Red Cloud	May 6, 1982
Oak Leaf No. 312, Lynch	Orman No. 261, Spencer	April 22, 1983
Crofton No. 273, Crofton	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	April 17, 1984
Harlan No. 116, Alma	Melrose No. 60, Orleans	April 17, 1984
Hardy No. 117, Hardy	Superior No. 121, Superior	April 17, 1984
Merna No. 171, Merna	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	April 17, 1984
Lee P. Gillette No. 272, Dunbar	Western Star No. 2, Nebraska City	January 18, 1985
Occidental No. 215, Cedar Bluffs	Fremont No. 15, Fremont	March 28, 1985
Siloam No. 147, Stuart	Atkinson No. 164, Atkinson	November 20, 1985
Ponca No. 101, Ponca	Alpha No. 316, South Sioux City	City, June 1986
Boaz No. 185, Danbury	McCook No. 135, McCook	September 16, 1986
Curtis No. 168, Curtis	McCook No. 135, McCook	February 15, 1986
Clay Center No. 139, Clay Center	Mid-West No. 317, Hastings	March 5, 1986
Unity No. 163, Greenwood	Pomegranate No. 110, Ashland	December 30, 1986
Gothenburg No. 249, Gothenburg	Platte Valley No. 32, North Platte	January 14, 1987
Granite No. 189, Gibbon	Cement No. 211, Wood River	April 1987
Amity No. 169, Rushville	Hay Springs No. 177, Hay Springs	May 1987
Golden Sheaf No. 202, Randolph	Plainview No. 204, Plainview	December 31, 1987
Faith No. 181, Crawford	Sioux No. 277, Harrison	December 1987
Potter No. 313, Potter	Frank Welch No. 75, Sidney	October 1988
Western No. 140, Western	DeWitt No. 111, DeWitt	December 1988
Zeredetha No. 160, Reynolds	Fairbury No. 35, Fairbury	December 1988
Right Angle No. 303, Omaha	Papillion No. 39, Papillion	December 31, 1988
Trowel No. 71, Neligh	Diamond No. 291, Orchard	January 1990
Alpha No. 316, South Sioux City	Omadi No. 5, South Sioux City	March 1, 1990
Shelton No. 99, Shelton	Cement No. 211, Wood River	April 27, 1990
Nehawka No. 246, Nehawka	Western Star No. 2, Nebraska City	June 20, 1990
Anselmo No. 258, Anselmo	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	August 28, 1990
Globe No. 113, Madison	Mosaic No. 55, Norfolk	August 28, 1990
Harmony No. 321, Dalton	Frank Welch No. 75, Sidney	November 28, 1990
Silver No. 266, Silver	Osceola No. 65, Osceola	April 25, 1991
Cable No. 225, Arnold	Custer No. 148, Broken Bow	May 17, 1991
Grand Island No. 318, Grand Island	Ashlar No. 33, Grand Island	August 9, 1991
Orient No. 13, Rulo/Falls City	Falls City No. 9, Falls City	August 21, 1991
Rawalt No. 138, Oxford	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	October 9, 1991
Beaver City No. 93, Beaver City	Monument No. 293, Arapahoe	January 30, 1992
Meridian No. 188, Cozad	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	February 20, 1992
Hampton No. 245, Hampton	Aurora No. 68, Aurora	February 21, 1992
Crystal No. 191, Scotia	Ord No. 103, Ord	March 10, 1992
Edgar No. 67, Edgar	Nelson No. 77, Nelson	March 10, 1992
Gavel No. 199, Carleton	Lily No. 154, Davenport	March 23, 1992
Cambridge No. 150, Cambridge	Bartley No. 228, Bartley	April 20, 1992
Mt. Zion No. 161, Shelby	Composite No. 81, Rising City	November 11, 1992
Endeavor No. 262, Indianola	Bartley No. 228, Bartley	December 3, 1992
Fraternity No. 235, Winside	Wayne No. 120, Wayne	April 28, 1993
John S. Bowen No. 23, Kennard	Washington No. 21, Blair	May 4, 1993
Minatare No. 295, Minatare	Scotts Bluff No. 201, Gering	January 24, 1994
Pilot No. 240, Lyons	Tekamah No. 31, Tekamah	June 6, 1994

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Bayard No. 301, Bayard	Camp Clarke No. 285, Bridgeport	September 12, 1994
Upright No. 137, Burchard	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	September 6, 1995
Golden Rod No. 306, Lodgepole	Golden Fleece No. 205, Chappell	December 6, 1995
Bassett No. 254, Bassett	Silver Cord No. 224, Ainsworth	December 29, 1995
Chester No. 298, Chester	Hebron No. 43, Hebron	February 24, 1997
Ornan No. 261, Spencer	Garfield No. 95, O'Neill	February 27, 1997
Stella No. 105, Stella	Humboldt No. 40, Humboldt	April 7, 1997
Melrose No. 60, Orleans	Jachin No. 146, Holdrege	July 21, 1997
St. Johns No. 25, Omaha	John J. Mercer No. 290, Omaha	March 6, 1998
Fairmont No. 48, Fairmont	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	May 14, 1998
Ionic No. 87, Niobrara	Bloomfield No. 218, Bloomfield	November 11, 1998
Tecumseh No. 17, Tecumseh	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	December 23, 1998
Sutherland No. 299, Sutherland	Platte Valley No. 32, North Platte	February 15, 1999
Gilead No. 233, Butte	Atkinson No. 164, Atkinson	March 17, 1999
Mt. Nebo No. 125, Genoa	Cedar River No. 89, Fullerton	April 7, 1999
Auburn No. 124, Auburn	Nemaha Valley No. 4, Brownville	June 23, 1999
Sioux No. 277, Harrison	Mitchell No. 263, Mitchell	December 2, 1999
James A. Tulleys No. 267, Overton	Thistle No. 61, Lexington	June 26, 2001
Perkins No. 308, Grant	Ogallala No. 159, Ogallala	December 19, 2001
Republican No. 98, Republican City	Franklin No. 264, Franklin	December 31, 2001
Mason City No. 170, Mason City	Porter No. 106, Loup City	July 16, 2004
Relief No. 219, Coleridge	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	October 29, 2004
Oasis No. 271, Morrill	Mitchell No. 263, Mitchell	December 1, 2004
Crescent No. 143, Primrose	Albion No. 78, Albion	September 27, 2005
Table Rock No. 108, Table Rock	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	June 26, 2006
Culbertson No. 174, Culbertson	McCook No. 135, McCook	January 19, 2007
Palisade No. 216, Palisade	McCook No. 135, McCook	January 19, 2007
Lotus No. 289, Ravenna	Porter No. 106, Loup City	October 10, 2007
Polk No. 311, Polk	Solar No. 134, Clarks	December 14, 2007
Humboldt No. 40, Humboldt	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	December 27, 2007
Evening Star No. 49, Sutton	Geneva No. 79, Geneva	August 8, 2008
Bloomfield No. 218, Bloomfield	Wausa No. 251, Wausa	October 17, 2008
DeWitt No. 111, DeWitt	Blue Valley No. 64, Wilber	March 13, 2009
Composite No. 81, Rising City	Fidelity No. 51, David City	February 26, 2010
Trestle Board No. 162, Brock	Pawnee No. 23, Pawnee City	February 26, 2010
Hay Springs No. 177, Hay Springs	Arcana Lodge No. 195, Gordon	May 27, 2011
Canopy Lodge No. 209, Elmwood	Euclid Lodge No. 97, Weeping Water	June 7, 2011
Golden Rule Lodge No. 236, Allen	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wakefield	July 21, 2011
Pomegranate Lodge No. 110, Ashland	Comet Lodge No. 229, Ceresco	November 1, 2011
Wymore Lodge No. 104, Wymore	Beatrice Lodge No. 26, Beatrice	February 20, 2012
Nelson Lodge No. 77, Nelson	Superior Lodge No. 121, Superior	April 27, 2012
Ord Lodge No. 103, Ord	Blazing Star Lodge No. 200, Burwell	November 2, 2012
Wisner Lodge No. 114, Wisner	Northern Light Lodge No. 41, Stanton	February 25, 2013
Atkinson Lodge No. 164, Atkinson	Garfield Lodge No. 95, O'Neill	March 11, 2013
Jordan Lodge No. 27, West Point	Oakland Lodge No. 91, Oakland	September 27, 2013
Elwood Lodge No. 167, Elwood	Thistle Lodge No. 61, Lexington	January 3, 2014
Mitchell Lodge No. 263, Mitchell	Scotts Bluff Lodge No. 201, Gering	March 3, 2015
Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	November 11, 2015
Wayne Lodge No. 120, Wayne	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wakefield	June 9, 2016
Cedar River Lodge No. 89, Fullerton	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	October 7, 2016
Golden Fleece Lodge No. 205, Chappell	Oshkosh Lodge No. 286, Oshkosh	November 17, 2016
Hiram Lodge No. 52, Arlington	Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair	September 15, 2017
Purity Lodge No. 198, Imperial	Ogallala Lodge No. 159, Ogallala	September 23, 2017

CONSOLIDATED LODGE	CONSOLIDATED WITH	DATE
Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57, Syracuse	Union Lodge No. 287, Palmyra	December 15, 2017
Bennett Lodge No. 94, Lincoln	College View Lodge No. 320, Lincoln	January 9, 2018
Cement Lodge No. 211, Wood River	Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island	January 9, 2018
Harvard Lodge No. 44, Harvard	Mid-West Lodge No. 317, Hastings	April 19, 2018
Charity Lodge No. 53, Red Cloud	Franklin Lodge No. 264, Franklin	June 7, 2018
Diamond Lodge No. 291, Orchard	Plainview Lodge No. 204, Plainview	October 8, 2018
Wood Lake Lodge No. 221, Wood Lake	Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth	October 26, 2018
Oakland Lodge No. 91, Oakland	Olive Branch Lodge No. 274, Rosalie	December 4, 2018
Albion Lodge No. 78, Albion	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	May 8, 2019
Wallace Lodge No. 279, Wallace	Platte Valley Lodge No. 32, North Platte	August 21, 2019
Solar Lodge No. 134, Clarks	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	November 20, 2019
Northern Light Lodge No. 41, Stanton	Corinthian Lodge No. 83, Wayne	January 9, 2020
Garfield Lodge No. 95, O'Neill	Long Pine Lodge No. 136, Long Pine	January 24, 2020
Landmark Lodge No. 222, Herman	Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair	October 27, 2020
Guide Rock Lodge No. 128, Guide Rock	Hastings Lodge No. 50, Hastings	December 18, 2020
Robert W. Furnas No. 265, Scottsbluff	Scotts Bluff No. 201, Mitchell	June 23, 2021
Falls City Lodge No. 9, Falls City	Pawnee Lodge No. 23, Pawnee City	September 16, 2022
Aurora Lodge No. 68, Aurora	Lone Tree Lodge No. 36, Central City	September 16, 2022
Scribner Lodge No. 132, Scribner	Hooper Lodge No. 72, Hooper	September 21, 2022

LODGES ORGANIZED IN TERRITORIES OTHER THAN NEBRASKA

Summit No. 7	Parkville, Colorado - Instituted May 6, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Rocky Mountain No. 8	Gold Hill, Colorado - Instituted May 21, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Central City, U.:D.:	Central City, Colorado - Instituted 1860 or 1861.
Bannack City, U.:D.:	Bannack City, Idaho - Instituted April 1863 or June 21, 1863.
Monitor Lodge, U.:D.:	United States Army - Instituted July 30, 1863. Became extinct prior to 1867.
Idaho Lodge, U.:D.:	Nevada City, Idaho - Instituted November 17, 1863. Became extinct June 23, 1864.
Wyoming Lodge No. 28	South Pass City, Wyoming - Instituted November 24, 1869. Chartered June 23, 1870. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Wyoming, December 15, 1874
Swisher Lodge U.:D.:	Kabul, Afghanistan – Instituted September 12, 2005 Kabul, Afghanistan – Instituted December 1, 2011

EXTINCT LODGES

NAME AND LOCATION	DATE OF BECOMING EXTINCT
Decatur No. 7 – Decatur	June 18, 1873
Columbus No. 8 – Columbus.....	June 25, 1868
Nebraska City No. 12 – Nebraska City.....	March 10, 1903
Eureka No. 16 – Arago.....	December 23, 1875
Ashland No. 18 – Ashland.....	August 17, 1881
Rock Bluff No. 20 – Rock Bluff.....	July 16, 1884
Macoy No. 22 – Plattsmouth.....	December 31, 1877
Lafayette No. 24 – Lafayette Pct. (later Grant).....	March 27, 1877
Palmyra No. 45 – Palmyra.....	November 20, 1901
Salem No. 47 – Salem.....	June 18, 1891
Lebanon No. 58 – Columbus.....	June 6, 1928
Livingstone No. 66 – Firth.....	June 5, 1907
Fortitude No. 69 – Ulysses.....	June 14, 1887
Waco No. 80 – Waco.....	January 31, 1885
Doniphan No. 86 – Doniphan.....	May 12, 1966
Steele City No. 107 – Steele City.....	August 13, 1902
Arapahoe No. 109 – Arapahoe.....	June 8, 1904
Brainard No. 115 – Brainard.....	September 5, 1903
Doric No. 118 – Dorchester.....	June 4, 1930
Jasper No. 122 – Odell.....	April 24, 1901
Indianola No. 123 – Indianola.....	June 8, 1904
Minden No. 127 – Minden.....	October 27, 2003
Ark & Anchor No. 131 – Ainsworth.....	September 2, 1890
Summit No. 141 – Johnson.....	February 5, 1900
Anchor No. 142 – North Loup.....	June 5, 1901
Square No. 151 – Valparaiso.....	October 9, 1962
Evergreen No. 153 – Pierce.....	September, 1989
Lily Lodge No. 154 – Davenport.....	January 31, 2020
Barneston No. 165 – Barneston.....	June 12, 2013
Grafton No. 172 – Grafton.....	December 31, 1948
Hesperia No. 178 – Shickley.....	September 9, 1905
Plumb No. 186 – Grant.....	November 15, 1897
Israel No. 187 – Ulysses.....	December 18, 1956
Gauge No. 208 – Arcadia.....	May 29, 1965
Square & Compass No. 213 – Miller.....	June 6, 1918
Wauneta No. 217 – Wauneta.....	December 31, 1991
Ithmar No. 238 – Crab Orchard.....	February 9, 1903
George Armstrong No. 241 – Craig.....	December 29, 2020
Orion No. 242 – Ravenna.....	July 6, 1904
Sincerity No. 244 – Battle Creek.....	June 6, 1928
Holbrook No. 257 – Holbrook.....	June 11, 1959
Springview No. 260 – Springview.....	August 6, 1920
Huntley No. 270 – Huntley.....	June 7, 1939
Swastika No. 280 – Sargent.....	December 31, 1988
Mullen No. 282 – Mullen.....	December 17, 1998
Exeter No. 283 – Exeter.....	December 16, 1952
Monument No. 293 – Arapahoe.....	December 9, 2014
Cowles No. 296 – Cowles.....	December 31, 1946
William E. Hill No. 307 – Otoe.....	December 15, 1964
Cairo Lodge No. 324 – Cairo.....	January 27, 2020
Roscoe Pound Lodge of Research No. 329 – Lincoln.....	September 10, 1993
St. John the Baptist Lodge of Research No. 330 – Geneva.....	June 3, 1998
St. Paul Lodge No. 82—St. Paul.....	December 20, 2022

MASONIC CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

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

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Nebraska 1	Matthew Parker	Matthew Beahn*	Sean Reed	Eric Jones
Western Star 2	David Wetrosky	Michael Njus	Thomas Hemmer*	John Grant
Capitol 3	Michael Parkinson	Christopher Edwards	Charles Alback*	Dalton Bichlmeier
Nemaha Valley 4	Kevin Wheeler*	Gayle Martin*		Stephen Kennedy
Omadi 5	Mike Newcomb	Wayner Benson*	Scott Garwood	Chris Knudsen*
Plattsmouth 6	Dennis Newman	Frederick Polling	David Norton	Jay Speck
Solomon 10	Rick Burmeister	Jerry Emmons*	David Tanga	Phil Lorenzen
Covert 11	Tod McConahay	Curtis Hauber*	James Huebner	Bernard Hauber
Peru 14	David Pease*		Ed Raper	
Fremont 15	Grady Wells	Jeremiah Baier	Bernie Rolfs	Larry Jirsak*
Lincoln 19	David Nolte		Mark Roper*	Reginald Kuhn
Washington 21	Trent Hansen	Chris Ray	Kent Van Horn	Brian Sandall
Pawnee 23	Ed Raper	Rick Helms	Ron Leitschuck	Gary Bedea*
Beatrice 26	Lance Brinkman	Clayton Wells*	Paul Redwine, Jr.	
Blue River 30		Dwaine Fosler	Douglas Rosekrans	Gary Brhel
Tekamah 31	Randall Hart*			Charles Goll
Platte Valley 32	Jerry Morgan	John Steele	Corban Heinis	William Whitlow
Ashlar 33	William Carson		David Zlomke	
Acacia 34				
Fairbury 35	Jeremy Engelman*	Ray Schultz	John Lammers	James Mahaffey
Lone Tree 36	Trent Tyler	Michael Coleman	Kenneth Schultz*	Craig Taylor
Crete 37				
Oliver 38	Jeff Buhrman	Robert Stokes*	James Stull	
Papillion 39	Daniel Marr	Jonathan Paz	Abraham Garcia*	Carl Highman
Hebron 43		John Lange		
Rob Morris 46	Dustin Limbach	Kevin Johnson	William Killian	Delmar Jones
Hastings 50	Richard Johnson	Randall Jones	Monte Malouf II	Michael Small
Fidelity 51	Michael Jones		Charles Eberle*	Larry Griffiths*
Lancaster 54	David Bloomquist	Greg Prosocki		Adam Thayer
Mosaic 55	Ryan Ginn	Christopher Thompson*	Vince Guzman*	Marcus Bond*
York 56	Kevin Leapley			
Wahoo 59	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Thistle 61	Lauren Dabenkow	Scott Krieger, Sr.	Scott Stoll*	Kent Fischer
Keystone 62				
Blue Valley 64	Stephen Ourecky*	Mark Tachovsky		Ronald Cerveny
Osceola 65	Scott Anderson*			
Aurora 68	Consolidated 9/16/2022			
Hooper 72	Kevin Larson	Andrew Huntman		Roger Huntman
Friend 73	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Frank Welch 75	Christopher Drake*	Levi Escobar*	Robert England*	Sean Sutherland*

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Geneva 79	Victor Smith	Thomas Ortgies*	Dan Scarborough*	Kevin Bonin
St Paul 82	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Corinthian 83	Robert Schellpeper	Robert Schellpeper		
Utica 96	Mitchell Vavra*	Robert Rhodes	Merle Robinson*	Kevin Scheele
Euclid 97	Jon Oliver*	Chad Mayfield	John Meredith	Matthew Mogensen*
Waterloo 102	Kraig Prange	Brooks Call	Kevin Loontjer	Brad Petersen
Porter 106			Jerry Karl	
Springfield 112	Eric Hadcock	Brian Jones	Alex Fangman*	Gary Unger
North Bend 119	Eric Johnson	Sean Mullally	Blake Nelson	Doug Rasmussen
Superior 121				
Stromsburg 126				
McCook 135	Chris Smith	D Greg Fyn	Adam Wolford*	Steve Lyne
Long Pine 136	Stanley Weidner	Barry Frerichs	Donald Coash*	Alvin Benemerito
Jachin 146	John Konzack	Doak Doolittle	Bruce Raddatz	
Custer 148	Kirk Bruno	Danny Schall	Chet Wales*	Kevin Lindly
Samaritan 158				Donald Foulk
Ogalalla 159			Thomas Elder	
Robert Burns 173				
Justice 180	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Alliance 183	Jock Faris	Mike Fritzier*	James Karell*	Christopher Baas
Bee Hive 184	David Workman	Austin Dueling	Joseph Evan III	David Workman Jr
Minnekadusa 192	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
Highland 194	Bryan Grove	Michael Gray	Justin Grusing*	
Arcana 195	Ian Meng*	Michael Russell*		George Meng
Blazing Star 200	Chandler Larsen	Stephen Senn*	Chris Marshall*	Howard Fairbairn
Scotts Bluff 201	Dave Thomas	Dennis Meyer*	Roger Peister*	Kelly Sandberg*
Plainview 204	Gale Retzlaff	Kelly Hodson*	Wayne Andreasen	Dick Hemmingsen*
Parian 207	NO ELECTION REPORT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BALLOTS			
East Lincoln 210	Mark Reece	Adam Homan*	Karl Vierkant*	Jeff Buhman
Magnolia 220	Bryan Olson*			Darryl Olson*
Silver Cord 224	Wilber Saner*		Randy Stolcpart*	Evan Evans*
North Star 227	Adam English	David Sierks	Dennis Mundt	Steven Wetzel
Bartley 228	Greg Fyn		Adam Wolford*	Gary Newcomb*
Comet 229				
Zion 234	Brett Nason*			Devon Walker
Laurel 248				
Geo. Washington 250	David Sierks	H. John Kirby	Gary Jorgens, Jr.*	Mark Poston*
Wausa 251				
Hickman 256	Mike Kovarik	John Willis	Brad Tuch	Jeff Eggerling
Franklin 264	Michael Ingram	Robert Money*		Jerrell Gerdes

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

* Denotes proxy

Lodge	Worshipful Master	Senior Warden	Junior Warden	Secretary
Robert W Furnas 265				
Geo. W Lininger 268	Nicholas Warner	George McMullin	Mario Buda	Ronald Stites
Olive Branch 274	Michael Tomasiewicz	Grady Wells	James Buck*	Kent Neumann
Florence 281	Charlie Odorizzi*	Anthony Herbert	Roy Bradburn*	Micah Evans
Seneca 284	Russell Licking*	Albert Fisher*	Dennis Dubry	James Jones
Camp Clarke 285				
Oshkosh 286		Russell Simmons		
Union 287	Dennis Brydl	Galen Crawford*		Dale Rood*
Omaha 288	Kevin Peatrowsky	Curtis Pennewell	Theodor Pool	Carlisle Conolley
John J Mercer 290	Benjamin Zaayer	Michael Barnes	Celio Santos	Eric BenSalah
James L Eatmon 294	Tommy Yung*	John Rahl	Ephraim Gillming*	Kevin Wynne
Cotner 297	Gary Olsen	Don Albrecht	Troy Myers*	Mark Rossignol
Liberty 300	Andrew Seachord	Lance Neeman*	Thomas Lagerstrom	Mark Rossignol
Mizpah 302	Thomas Brumfield III	Patrick Smith	Terry Winter	Jeremiah Jones
Newman Grove 305				Raymond Herbert
Victory 310	James Cope	Mark Smith*	David Dust*	Dennis Rix
Craftsmen 314	Myron Coleman	Eugene Sibley*	Byron Moss*	Mark Rossignol
Mid-West 317	Roger Deininger	Tyson Wademan	Warren Christensen*	Dan Nonneman*
College View 320	David Johnson	Scott Buck*	Bruce Gubser	Curtis Wolbert
Lebanon 323			Robert Jones	
Bellevue 325	Bill Zipse	Jeff Blocklinger*	Daniel Alati	Hal Cottrell
Centennial 326	Brett Jendro	Rick Mason	Bryan Gregory	Daren Kizlin*
Shiloh 327	Dale McGregor*	Matt Vandergriff	Christopher Ferrero	Alan Anderson*
Miloma 328	Jeffrey Grisby	Terry Ullsperger	Tony Johnson	Mark Huss
Tabula Rasa 332	Mohan Krishna	Jeffrey Buhman		Patrick Barger
Albert Pike 333	Wayne Stuberg	Gary Unger	David Carrig	Micah Evans

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Unrestricted Net Assets
December 31, 2022

Description	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - UNRESTRICTED -			
GS FIN SQUARES TREAS OBLIG		<u>260,613</u>	<u>260,613</u>
BONDS			
Government Bonds			
U.S. Treasury Note 0.125% Due 01-31-23	100,000	98,853	99,698
U.S. Treasury Note 0.125% Due 04-30-23	100,000	98,192	98,625
FHLB Multi-Cpn-4%-4/23; 8%-4/24, 2.000% Due 04-28-25	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>97,818</u>
Total Government Bonds	<u>300,000</u>	<u>297,045</u>	<u>296,142</u>
TRANSPORTATION, INDUSTRIAL, AND MISCELLANEOUS BONDS			
Charles Schwab Perp, 5.375%, 6-1-2025	50,000	55,245	48,900
Hexcel Corp., 4.700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,182	48,818
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	47,393
Qvc Inc., 4.375%, 3-15-2023	50,000	50,762	49,167
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	48,179
Total transportation, industrial, and miscellaneous bonds	<u>250,000</u>	<u>258,140</u>	<u>242,458</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>550,000</u>	<u>555,185</u>	<u>538,600</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
1,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc.	4,266	55,930
950	Aflac Inc	48,943	68,343
175	Alibaba Group Holdings ADR	25,795	15,416
360	Arthur J Gallagher & Co	15,143	67,874
300	Berkshire Hathaway Inc Cl B	19,634	92,670
150	Boeing Co	6,895	28,573
319	Brookfield Asset Management LTD	5,577	9,139
1275	Brookfield Corporation	23,483	40,111
432	Canadian Pacific Railway	2,122	32,223
225	Cato Corp Cl A	5,397	2,099
1,100	Constellium SE	20,926	13,013
1,625	Crimson Wine Group, Ltd	14,703	9,116
350	Cullen/Frost Banker, Inc.	34,278	46,795
450	DaVita Inc.	36,207	33,601
550	Disney Walt	28,116	47,784
250	Dominion Energy, Inc	9,472	15,330
1,000	Gildan Activewear, Inc	27,535	27,400
350	Gilead Sciences	29,948	30,047
250	Hershey Foods Corp	22,478	57,892
250	Johnson & Johnson	16,035	44,162
100	Keysight Technologies Inc	8,245	17,107
550	LKQ Corporation	16,103	29,375
300	Lincoln Electric Holdings Inc	3,360	43,347
650	MarineMax, Inc.	25,917	20,293
200	Microsoft Corp	5,024	47,964
1,500	Orion Engineered Carbon	33,407	26,715
900	Pfizer	14,676	46,116
575	Phillips 66	33,363	59,846
75	Texas Pacific Land Corp	2,061	175,817
150	Vulcan Materials Co.	6,167	26,266
675	Warner Bros Discovery, Inc	20,946	6399
640	Weyerhaeuser Co.	<u>11,882</u>	<u>19,840</u>
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>578,098</u>	<u>1,256,607</u>
TOTAL PORTFOLIO		<u>1,393,897</u>	<u>2,055,820</u>

Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of Nebraska
Supplemental Schedule of Temporarily Restricted and
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
December 31, 2022

DESCRIPTION	Face Value	Carrying Value	Approximate Market Value
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - RESTRICTED U.S.			
GOVERNMENT MONEY MARKET FUNDS		<u>582,188</u>	<u>582,188</u>
BONDS			
GOVERNMENT Bonds			
U.S. Treasury Note 0.125% Due 01-31-23	100,000	98,853	99,699
U.S. Treasury Note 0.125% Due 04-30-23	200,000	195,983	197,250
U.S. Treasury Note 0.125% Due 07-31-23	100,000	97,027	97,367
FHLB Multi-Cpn-4%-4/23; 8%-4/24; 2.00% Due 4-28-25	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>97,819</u>
Total government bonds	<u>500,000</u>	<u>491,863</u>	<u>492,134</u>
CORPORATE BONDS			
CA Inc., 4.500%, 8-15-2023	50,000	51,169	49,662
Charles Schwab Perp, 5.375%, 6-1-2025	50,000	55,245	48,900
Halliburton Co., 6. 750%, 2-1-2027	25,000	24,325	25,780
Hexcel Corp., 4. 700%, 8-15-2025	50,000	51,183	48,818
Old Rep Intl Corp., 3.875%, 8-26-2026	50,000	50,950	47,394
QVC Inc., 4.850%, 4-1-2024	50,000	51,108	46,250
Sherwin Williams Co., 3.300%, 2-1-2025	50,000	50,000	48,179
Zurich Reins Centre Hldgs., 7.125%, 10-15-2023	<u>50,000</u>	<u>54,510</u>	<u>50,713</u>
Total corporate bonds	<u>375,000</u>	<u>388,489</u>	<u>365,696</u>
TOTAL BONDS	<u>875,000</u>	<u>880,352</u>	<u>857,830</u>

COMMON STOCKS		Carrying	Approximate
Shares	Description	Value	Market Value
2,000	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc.	8,533	111,860
1,800	Aflac Inc.	92,734	129,492
350	Alibaba Group Holdings ADR	51,590	30,831
600	Arthur J Gallagher & Co	25,344	113,124
500	Berkshire Hathaway Inc Cl B	31,842	154,450
300	Boeing Co.	13,789	57,147
581	Brookfield Asset Management LTD	10,166	16,664
2325	Brookfield Corporation	42,808	73,144
865	Canadian Pacific Railway.	4,249	64,520
475	Cato Corp Cl A	11,393	4,432
2,300	Constellium SE	48,372	27,209
2,600	Crimson Wine Group Ltd	23,593	14,586
650	Cullen/Frost Bankers, Inc	63,660	86,905
850	DaVita Inc.	68,392	63,469
1000	Disney Walt	46,351	86,880
650	Dominion Energy, Inc.	24,627	39,858
1,800	Gildan Activewear, Inc.	49,563	49,320
600	Gilead Sciences Inc	51,600	51,510
425	Hershey Foods Corp	38,803	98,417
475	Johnson & Johnson	30,447	83,909
200	Keysight Technologies Inc	16,489	34,214
1,000	LKQ Corporation	29,278	53,410
575	Lincoln Electric Holdings Inc	6,434	83,082
1200	MarineMax, Inc.	47,846	37,464
400	Microsoft Corp	11,029	95,928
2,500	Orion Engineered Carbon	55,249	44,525
2,000	Pfizer	47,279	102,480
1,000	Phillips 66	58,022	104,080
175	Texas Pacific Land Corp.	4,810	410,240
275	Vulcan Materials Co	11,305	48,155
1300	Warner Bros. Discover, Inc.	40,340	12,324
960	Weyerhaeuser	17,824	29,760
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		<u>1,083,757</u>	<u>2,413,389</u>
TOTAL PORTFOLIO		<u>2,546,298</u>	<u>3,853,409</u>

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The Next
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
of the
GRAND LODGE
A.:F.: & A.:M.:
OF
NEBRASKA

Will Be Held

FEBRUARY 2 & 3, 2024
at the
YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

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