

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

Proceedings

**Third
Annual Communication
February 2-3, 1984**





JOHN C. INGRAM
GRAND MASTER
1983

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROLL CALL	1
SOLEMN CEREMONIES.....	2
MESSAGE OF THE MW GRAND MASTER	4
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY	11
Status of Lodges	14
REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL CORRESPONDANCE COMMITTEE.....	15
REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE	17
APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.....	18
REPORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS.....	20
MOTIONS	20
RESOLUTIONS.....	20
Resolution No. 1-84	20
Resolution No. 2-84	22
Resolution No. 3-84	23
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES	25
Jurisprudence.....	25
1st Report.....	25
2nd Report.....	26
3rd Report.....	27
4th Report	28
5th Report	28
6th Report	29
Grievance and Appeals.....	29
Finance.....	30
Report of the Finance Committee	30
STATEMENT OF INCOME CALENDAR YEAR 1983	31
BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1983.....	32
OPERATING BUDGET - GENERAL FUND CALENDAR STATEMENT –	
ACTUAL vs. BUDGET	33
COMPARISON OF ANNUAL BUDGETS CALENDAR YEARS 1983 AND	
1984.....	34
PRO-FORMA STATEMENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS, ANTICIPATED	
AND EXPENSES FISCAL/CALENDAR YEAR 1984	35
Masonic Research and Education	36
Masonic Public Relations	36

Public Schools.....	37
DeMolay	38
Bylaws	39
REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.....	40
Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)	40
Report of Grand Lecturer	43
Report of Grand Orator	44
Report of Grand Historian.....	47
Charters and Dispensations	50
Report of Segregations and Reference Committee	50
1 st Report.....	50
2 nd Report.....	50
Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.....	51
Awards	51
James A. Williams Award.....	51
Buckley C. Hazen Award	52
MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS	54
Grand Master Biographical Sketch	54
Presentations	55
To: Anvil Lodge No. 2.....	55
To: Grand Lodge from AMRA.....	55
To Jesse P. “Cotton” Moore.....	56
To MW John C. Ingram.....	57
To Worshipful Masters.....	58
To Appointees.....	58
Speeches and Remarks by Distinguished Guests	59
Address of Welcome by Honorable Justin Maile, Mayor of Soldotna.....	59
Elizabeth Musick, Grand Worthy Matron, International Order of Rainbow for Girls.....	59
Ben Holly, Past Master Counselor, Order of DeMolay	61
Jennifer Stewart, Past Honored Queen, Job’s Daughters.....	62
MW Wiley F. Smith, Grand Master of Idaho	63
Welcome to Grand Representatives of Other Grand Lodges.....	64
Welcome to Grand Representatives of the Grand Lodge Near Other Grand Lodges	65
Reception of the Deputies of the Grand Master.....	66
MW Claire L. Finlayson, Grand Master of Oregon	67
MW Byron C. Jenkins, Past Grand Master of Nebraska	69
MW Robert R. Stevens, Grand Master of Indiana.....	70
MW C. Donald Brons, Grand Master of Washington.....	70

MW William M. Brass, Grand Master of Montana	71
MW A. R. Johnson, Past Grand Master of New Mexico.....	73
MW George R. Bordewick, Past Grand Master of Washington	75
MW M. Monroe Robinson, Past Grand Master of Arkansas.....	76
RW George W. Baldwin, Senior Grand Warden of British Columbia.....	77
RW Stewart M. L. Pollard, Executive Secretary, Masonic Service Association.....	79
MW E. Gene Ross, Grand Master of Illinois	81
MW Wilson B. Haney, Past Grand Master of Oklahoma.....	83
RW John Driskell, Senior Grand Warden of California	84
RW Harlan C. Benedict, Deputy Grand Master of Wyoming.....	85
End of Year Comment by MW John C. Ingram.....	86
ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.....	87
INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS	88
SPECIAL COMMUNICATION	90

ROLL CALL

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Master	MW John C. Ingram
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Grand Master	RW Hubert B. "Jack" Bentley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Warden	RW Glen W. Pruett
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Warden	RW Gunnar Flygenring
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Secretary	RW Neil R. Bassett
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Chaplain	W Rev. Patrick J. Donadio
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Lecturer	VW David J. Thomas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Orator	VW Fred L. McGuire
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Historian	VW William H. Lefferson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Marshal	W Charles I. Gregg
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Deacon	VW Floyd Saltz, Jr.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Deacon	VW William D. Athas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Standard Bearer	W Sidney W. Moore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Sword Bearer	W Henry R. Ferguson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Bible Bearer	W Marvin A. Harned
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Steward	VW Charles F. Lewis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Steward	VW Harry A. Lewis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Organist	W Lawrence W. Nelson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Tyler	W Jesse P. Moore

CONSTITUENT LODGES

(Would the most Senior Representative please respond?)

- White Pass Lodge No. 1
- Anvil Lodge No. 2
- Tanana Lodge No. 3
- Valdez Lodge No. 4
- Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
- Seward Lodge No. 6
- Matanuska Lodge No. 7
- Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8
- Kodiak Lodge No. 9
- Glacier Lodge No. 10
- Kenai Lodge No. 11
- Fairbanks Lodge No. 12

MW Grand Master, all Grand Lodge Officers, and all Lodges are represented and we, therefore, have a Constitutional quorum to open Grand Lodge.

Neil R. Bassett
Grand Secretary

SOLEMN CEREMONIES

Organ music for the Third Annual Communication was provided by Brother Lawrence W. Nelson (8), Grand Organist

The Third Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska convened in the Central Peninsula Sports Arena, Soldotna on the Second Day of February, A.D. 1984, A.L. 5984. It was called to order by W. Jerry T. Sims, Worshipful Master of Seward Lodge No. 6, F. & A. M., at 9:00 AM, Alaska Standard Time. The Grand Officers entered in procession and assumed their respective stations and places.

Invocation by Grand Chaplain
Presentation of United States, Canada, and Alaska flags by the Soldotna Detachment of the Alaska State Troopers
Pledge of Allegiance
Singing of: United States and Canada National Anthems, and Alaska Flag Song
Welcome address by Honorable Justin Maile, Mayor of Soldotna
Roll Call of Officers and Lodges
Opening of Grand Lodge in by Most Worshipful John C. Ingram, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska in Ample Form

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

Second Session
W. John W. Elmore (2)
Third Session
W Billy W. Harris (11)
Fourth Session
W Glen A. Neel (9)

Distinguished Guests in Attendance

Alaska

MW James A. Williams, Past Grand Master

Arkansas

MW M. Monroe Robinson, Past Grand Master

British Columbia, Canada

RW George W. Baldwin, Senior Grand Warden, representing MW Robert A. Kitchen, Grand Master

RW Thomas O. Mickey, District Deputy

California

RW John Driskell, Senior Grand Warden, representing MW James L. Johnson, Grand Master

Idaho

MW Wiley F. Smith, Grand Master

Illinois

MW E. Gene Ross, Grand Master

Indiana

MW Robert R. Stevens, Grand Master

Japan

RW Arthur S. Thomas, Grand Historian, Washington, representing MW James L. Johnson, Grand Master

Montana

MW William M. Brass, Grand Master

MW Francis D. Hess, Past Grand Master

Nebraska

MW Byron C. Jenkins, Past Grand Master

New Mexico

MW A. R. Johnson, Past Grand Master

Ohio

MW Jerry A. Rasor, Past Grand Master

Oklahoma

MW Wilson Haney, Past Grand Master

Oregon

MW Claire L. Finlayson, Grand Master

RW Herman C. Kuppler, Deputy Grand Master

MW Wendell Patch, Past Grand Master

Washington

MW C. Donald Brons, Grand Master

RW Matt Martin, Deputy Grand Master

RW Jefferson J. Ensworth, Junior Grand Warden

MW Alden H. Jones, Past Grand Master

MW James O. Wood, Past Grand Master

MW Roy Foss, Past Grand Master

MW Herbert M. Edman, Past Grand Master

MW George R. Bordewick, Past Grand Master

RW Harlan E. Benedict, Deputy Grand Master, representing MW Ernest J.

Goppert, Jr., Grand Master

Masonic Service Association

RW Stewart M. L. Pollard, Executive Secretary

MESSAGE OF THE MW GRAND MASTER

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

Welcome to Soldotna and the Third Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge. Your presence with us today is positive proof that warm Fraternal feelings will prevail throughout your visit to this part of Alaska. As members of the thirteen Constituent Lodges, you have taken time from your busy lives to be here for the advancement of our beloved fraternity, and it is hoped that on your return home you will carry the congratulations from this Communication for a job well done.

To our distinguished guests that are with us, what words are adequate to convey the feeling of pride you shower upon this meeting, so far from your homes? The distance you have traveled to bring your warm friendly greetings from our sister jurisdictions is equal to the distance I traveled to be with you the last time we were privileged to meet together. We hope your stay with us will be filled with pleasant memories and you will convey our fraternal greetings to the Brethren back home. Thank you for attending.

The honor bestowed on me of serving this Grand Lodge as Grand Master will be forever cherished and stored as one of many happy memories. To single out one specific honor would not be right. For everything, I give you my heartfelt thanks.

The powers, duties, and responsibilities of Grand Master will soon be turned over to another, and I offer him my assistance in any way I may be of service.

This past year was a busy time for your Grand Master, with the many meetings attended and distances traveled. A partial list of the meetings attended is attached to this report for your information. On my visitations at several jurisdictions out of Alaska it was gratifying to hear the familiar greetings, "How are things going with our new Grand Lodge?" Many, many messages were conveyed to me from your friends and Brothers with whom I visited. If I failed to pass them on to you, while visiting your Lodge, I now do so. At all Grand Lodge Communications I attended by invitation, I attempted to express the Alaska Brothers for the support given us as we got our new Grand Lodge operating and heading towards many fruitful years of Masonic harmony. All Lodges in this Jurisdiction were visited as planned and every attempt was made for your Grand Lodge Officers to accompany me. You know which officers visited your Lodge, and we assisted you as requested. I know peace and harmony prevails throughout all Lodges and it is hoped the same spirit will forever prevail among you. For all the many extra favors you offered, thank you.

There were two events that especially stand out in memory. During my official visit to Anvil Lodge on November 19, we dedicated the first new Masonic Temple in Alaska in many, many years and the first under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. On December 12, a Dispensation was issued to 24 very hard-working, enthusiastic Brothers in Eagle River to form a new Lodge, the first under this Grand

Lodge. Eagle River Lodge UD is jointly sponsored by Glacier Lodge No. 10 and Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8. The impressive ceremony was attended by a number of Grand Lodge Officers, representatives of the sponsoring Lodges, and Brothers from several other out of town Lodges.

It is so nice to report that it was not necessary to heal errors, issue edicts, make unfavorable decisions, or issue rulings for the craft during 1983. I felt many times those truly Masonic verses: "How good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in Unity." I think quite often of the quote on the stamps received, as cards are mailed to all of us, "He is not heavy, he is my Brother." So may this spirit long continue.

The Necrology report, following this message, by Reverend Brother Patrick J. Donadio, Grand Chaplain, contains many names of those who have laid down their working tools of a busy life and passed on to their Heavenly Workshop. They will be sadly missed by all of us; we offer our condolences to their loved ones.

The Conference of Grand Masters of North America held in Dallas, Texas, February 19-23, 1983, was attended by all five elected Grand Lodge Officers. At that conference the Grand Lodge of Alaska was officially granted "its seat among the Brethren." Ninety-seven jurisdictions have officially recognized our Grand Lodge. I ask you to write your new Grand Master if you desire to be a Grand Representative to another jurisdiction; there are still some openings. We have asked your Past Masters, by both letters and verbal communication, to assist us in filling these appointments, but the response has not been what we hoped for. I might add that during the past year, twelve of you did ask for one certain jurisdiction. The privilege of serving as Grand Representative is a cherished appointment and most rewarding.

Last February in Fairbanks, I had the privilege of installing all the Grand Lodge Officers to serve with me during 1983. I also installed the Deputies for three districts. No deputy was appointed for District No. 4, as that district presently has only one Lodge in it. I felt that this district could be served by the Grand Master after the Brother I selected notified me he was leaving the district to accept employment elsewhere.

I had the honor this year of installing the officers of Seward Lodge No. 6 for the twentieth consecutive time. Thank you Seward Lodge for another chance to assist my Mother Lodge. I will forever be grateful to you.

It was indeed my honor to confer on my son, John C. Ingram, Jr., the obligations of the three degrees of Masonry and to raise him in Kenai Lodge No. 11. Thank you, Kenai for allowing me the privilege. John, Jr., passed his open Lodge proficiency three days after receiving his Third Degree.

Brethren, again I urge you to take advantage of the Short Talk Bulletins available to you through the Masonic Service Association. Many educational programs can be planned in the Lodges to increase attendance from the guidance these bulletins offer.

General Information

The transition of changing Grand Secretaries this past year was handled smoothly by Right Worshipful Neil Bassett. Our former Grand Secretary, Right Worshipful Gunnar Flygenring, assisted every time he was asked to help. Keep up the good work, it is appreciated by all.

This year, the Alaska Masonic Research Association (AMRA) will contribute to the Grand Lodge \$10,000 through the Dudley Pocket Watch raffle. Worshipful Richard Coffin as Secretary and Worshipful Fred V. Angleton as President, worked extremely hard and diligently to make a success out of this endeavor. Your support of that worthwhile program was outstanding. Keep AMRA busy.

Appreciation

It is not possible to single out all of the individual Brothers that have helped make my term of office run smoothly, however, I must especially thank:

Worshipful Brother Jerry C. Holly, Jr., and the Arrangements Committee for their hard work and dedication for making this Third Annual Communication the success it has been;

Most Worshipful Sirs Roy Foss, Byron Jenkins, Francis Hess, and Charles Moulthrop, Jr., for again installing the Grand Lodge Officers, the third time in a row;

Most Worshipful Donald Brons, Grand Master of Washington for again bringing the Research and Education Committee Seminar to Alaska;

The truly dedicated Brethren from all parts of Washington State that traveled to Alaska to further strengthen the bonds of Brotherly Love and Affection between us;

Grand Lodge Officers and Deputies, your travels with me to the Lodges and instructions offered were well received and appreciated by the Brethren; and,

Last, but not least, my understanding Lady Dottie; your encouragement, love, and patience has indeed helped make the past year a rewarding experience.

Sincerely and fraternally,

John C. Ingram
Grand Master

APPENDIX

This appendix contains data official acts of the Grand Master, Most Worshipful John C. Ingram, during the period of February 5, 1983 through February 3, 1984.

Proclamations

On March 1, 1983, I proclaimed the week of March 13-20, 1983, to be DeMolay Week. I noted DeMolay's 64th Anniversary and called on all citizens to recognize these fine young men.

On April 1, 1983, I proclaimed the week of April 11 – 18, 1983, to be Masonic Public schools Week in which I encouraged all Lodges to support public school programs.

Permission Granted for Change of Meeting Place

Permission was granted for Tanana Lodge No. 3 to confer an "open air" Third Degree out of the city of Fairbanks on June 4, 1983, and to confer a Third Degree in Whitehorse Lodge on September 3, 1983.

Permission was also granted for Anvil Lodge No. 2 to permanently change its meeting location to its new Masonic Temple effective December 15, 1983.

Lodge Bylaws

On change in the bylaws, from White Pass Lodge No. 1, was granted after referral to the Bylaws committee. Meeting dates were changed.

The bylaws of Eagle River Lodge UD have been approved after referral to the Bylaws Committee.

Special Representative to Other Jurisdictions

June 9-10, 1983 Right Worshipful Glen W. Pruett, Senior Grand Warden, to represent me at the Annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

June 22-24, 1983 Right Worshipful Gunnar Flygenring, Junior Grand Warden, to represent me at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

August 5, 1983, Right Worshipful Gunnar Flygenring, to represent me at the grand Assembly of Rainbow for Girls in Anchorage.

October 10-12, 1983 Right Worshipful Gunnar Flygenring, to represent me at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California.

Grand Master's Itinerary

1983

February

- 5 Official Visit of Washington Grand Master George R. Bordewick to Anchorage Lodge No. 221
- 6- Joint Reception of Masonic Bodies Leaders in Masonic Temple at Soldotna
- 7 Special Meeting of Kenai Lodge No. 11, honoring Grand Masters of Alaska and Washington
- 17 Conducted Masonic Funeral Service in Kenai Lodge No. 11 for Brother Buchanan
- 19-24 Conference of Grand Masters, Dallas, Texas

March

- 3-4- Alaska State DeMolay Conclave, Soldotna
- 5 Kenai-Soldotna Shrine Ceremonial
- 10 MM Degree at Kenai Lodge No. 11
- 18 Scottish Rite Reunion, Soldotna
- 19 Installation, Waheed Court L.O.S.N.A., Anchorage
- 31 Scottish.Rite Maundy-Thursdays Ceremonies, Soldotna

April

- 2 AMRA Meeting, Anchorage
- 7 MM Degree at Glacier Lodge No. 10, Anchorage
- 9-11 250th Anniversary of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Boston
- 14 KYCH Dinner, Soldotna
- 15-16 York Rite Conclave
- 18 First Meeting of Soldotna Lodge of Perfection
- 19 School Awards Program - Kenai Lodge No. 11
- 21 School Awards Program - Glacier Lodge No. 10, Anchorage

May

- 3 Official Visit - Matanuska Lodge No. 7, Palmer
- 4 Official Visit - Valdez Lodge No. 4, Valdez
- 5-6 Meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory with Canadian Brothers and Most Worshipful Philps, Grand Master of British Columbia
- 7-9 Official Visit - White Pass Lodge No. 1, Skagway
- 14 Al Aska Shrine Ceremonial - Anchorage
- 15-18 Grand Lodge of Indiana, Indianapolis
- 19 Attended MM Degree, Brownsburg Lodge No. 241, Brownsburg, IN

22-25	Grand Lodge of Michigan, Flint
29	MM Degree, Mystic Circle Lodge, Lawrence, IN
June	
6-9	Grand Lodge of Oregon, Portland
10-11	Pacific Northwest Shrine Association, Spokane
12	Met Shrine Hospital patient at Portland Airport and transported to Portland Shriner's Hospital
13	Board of Governors Meeting, Portland S.C.C.H.
20-22	Grand Lodge of Washington, Seattle
23-25	Grand Lodge of Montana, Great Falls
27	Annual Strawberry Fellowship Dinner, King Solomon Lodge, Auburn, WA
28	Visit - Masonic Home Washington, Zenith
July	
9	Masonic Picnic, Anchorage
22-24	R.O.J - Polar Court, Anchorage
29	Kenai/Soldotna Shrine Club
30	Soldotna Rodeo Parade
August	
3	Stated Meeting, Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8, Anchorage
5-12	Grand Lodge of Wyoming, Casper
13	Scottish Rite Circus - Soldotna
September	
1	Special Meeting, Kenai Lodge No. 11
6	Official Visit - Matanuska Lodge No. 7, Palmer
7	Official Visit - Valdez Lodge No. 4, Valdez
8	Official Visit - Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5, Cordova
9-11	Official Visit - Tanana Lodge No. 3 and Fairbanks Lodge No. 12, Fairbanks
12-13	Official Visit - Kodiak Lodge No. 9, Kodiak
14-22	Grand Lodge of Idaho, Burley
27	Official Visit - Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8, Anchorage
29	Official Visit - Glacier Lodge No. 10, Anchorage
October	
4	Stated Meeting, Seward Lodge No. 6, Seward
6-9	Grand Lodge of Illinois, Springfield
15	Fellowship Dinner Meeting, Mystic Circle Lodge. Lawrence, IN
16-18	Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Louisville
19-22	Grand Lodge of Ohio, Cleveland
22	R.O.J. Indianapolis Court, Indianapolis, IN
27	Conferred EAM on my son, John, Kenai Lodge No. 11

November

- 1 Official Visit - Seward Lodge No. 6, Seward
- 3 Past Masters Night, Kenai Lodge No. 11, Soldotna
- 5 Al Aska Shrine Ceremonial, Anchorage
- 10 Official Visit - Kenai Lodge No. 11, Kenai
- 11 Scottish Rite, KCCH Investitures, Anchorage
- 12-16 Grand Lodge of Nevada, Las Vegas
- 17 Official Visit - Kenai Lodge No. 11, conferred FCM on my son, John, Jr.
- 18-20 Official Visit - Anvil Lodge No. 2, dedicated new Masonic Temple
- 22 Meeting with G.L. Arrangements Committee, Soldotna
- 26 Kenai Chapter DeMolay Special Meeting
- 28-29 Prudhoe Bay Masonic Club, Prudhoe Bay
- 29 Installation, Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8, Anchorage

December

- 1 Installation, Glacier Lodge No. 10, Anchorage
- 5 Conferred MM on my son, John, Jr., Kenai Lodge No. 11
- 6 Installed Officers, Seward Lodge No. 6
- 8 Stated Meeting - Election of Officers, Kenai Lodge No. 11
- 10 Red Cross Constantine Dinner, Anchorage
- 12 Issued Dispensation at Eagle River Lodge, UD
- 13 Fellowship Dinner, Anchorage
- 15 Installation, Kenai Lodge No. 11
- 16 DeMolay Honors Dinner Meeting, Soldotna
- 17 Executive Meeting Anchorage with Brothers Williams, Bassett and Flygenring
- 17 Installation, Matanuska Lodge No. 7, Palmer
- 27-28 Installation, Tanana Lodge No. 3, Fairbanks Lodge No. 12, and North Star Chapter, O.E.S., Fairbanks

1984

January

- 3 Stated Meeting, Seward Lodge No. 6
- 4 Grand Lodge Arrangements Committee, Soldotna
- 5 Special Meeting, Kenai Lodge No. 11 (FCM)
- 7 Installation of Officers, O.E.S. Chapter No. 17, Kenai
- 9 Al Aska Shrine Temple Election, Anchorage

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

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

The following report is submitted pursuant to Article 17 of the Alaska Masonic Code.

The transition from Right Worshipful Flygenring to myself went very well, due mostly to the professional and thorough manner in which he established, stocked, and operated the Grand Lodge office during our first two years. Changes to suit personal preference or experience have been minimal and I feel considerably more comfortable and knowledgeable as Grand Secretary now than I did a year ago, especially since the mail flow in and out of the Grand Secretary's Office is increasing noticeably.

With only two weeks in office, I was privileged to attend the Grand Secretaries Conference in Dallas. As an attendee and critic of innumerable government sponsored meetings over the last thirty-plus years, I judge the Grand Secretaries Conference to be very beneficial to me and to the Grand Lodge.

During the year, the Grand Lodge of Montana put its recognition of us in writing. Subsequently, we also received written recognition from Luxembourg and Finland, for a total of 97 Grand Lodges with which we have fraternal relations. Two others are "in the mill." Certificates of Appointment were issued to six Grand Representatives near other Grand Lodges and two received for Grand Representatives near the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

The Proceedings covering the Constitutional Convention and First Annual Communication were printed and distributed in April. However, we will probably stay temporarily behind an acceptable schedule for regular issuance of Proceedings because of a recording failure during the Second Communication. Reliance on memory and only a partial recording presents unusual time-consuming editing problems.

I am attempting to identify Brethren who were awarded 25 and 50 Year Membership recognition by this Jurisdiction since February 1981. A partial listing of Lodge affiliations and enrollment dates follow:

50 YEARS ANVIL LODGE NO. 2

William H. Cameron, PM	December 8, 1920
Donald J. Lyle, PM	December 18, 1928
Andrew Sather, PM	February 5, 1931
Lester E. Elkins, PM	September 3, 1931
Kenneth D. Rude, PM	November 3, 1932

Frank L. Paus	July 1, 1958
Russell R. Settle	July 1, 1958
Alfred M. White, PM	July 9, 1958
Jack E. Bennett	October 7, 1958
Ernest A. Lanthier	November 4, 1958

I was able to accompany the Grand Master on his official visits to seven Lodges. I enjoyed each trip and the tremendous hospitality which always seems to be shown to visiting Brethren. Travels also included attendance at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington in June.

Financially, we continue to operate at an acceptable level. Maximum effort was made to keep costs down, but income and outgo totals are too close together because the hoped-for donations, which were included in estimated income, did not materialize. Summary and detailed information on our financial condition is found on the following pages.

A chart showing the membership status of the Constituent Lodges immediately follows this report. The number of members dropped for NPD is considerably less than last year. As predicted, we show a membership increase and this would be true even without the addition of the Eagle River Brethren. Hopefully we are on the way back up, thanks to the hard work of the Lodges.

Lastly, I appreciate the support of all the Brethren generally and the Lodge Secretaries particularly during the past year. I also thank the Grand Lodge for honoring me with the office of Grand Secretary.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Neil R. Bassett
Grand Secretary

Status of Lodges

	Lodge No.	Elected Only	Initiated	On File EOY	Passed	On File EOY	Raised	On File EOY	Members 1-1-94	MM Proficiency	Affiliates	Dual Members	Reinstated	Consolidate	Other	Total Gain	Dimitis	Deaths	Suspensions	Expulsions	NPD	Other	Total Loss	Net Gain / (Loss)	Members 12-31-97
White Pass	1	4		8		4	1	3	52				2			2	1						3	(1)	51
Anvil	2		1	13	1	3	1	3	64	1						1		1			2		3	(2)	62
Tanana	3	12	22	108	16	36	12	15	495	21			3			24	4	16			10		30	(6)	489
Valdez	4	6	1	28	3	5	1	3	56	3	1	4	1			9					6		6	3	59
Mt. McKinley	5		2	15	1	1	1	1	62	1	1					2	2	1			3		6	(4)	76
Seward	6	2		10		7		4	107			3				3		3					3	0	107
Matanuska	7	4	9	33	1	8		1	105		1					1		3			2		5	(4)	101
Mt. Susitna	8	3	7	86	5	16	5	20	272	4		2	2			8	3	6			11		20	(12)	260
Kodiak	9	7	2	52		7		4	130	1			3			4	1	61					2	2	132
Glacier	10	5	11	95	13	24	8	22	294	5	1	5	1			12	6	4	0		6		16	(4)	290
Kenai	11	1	5	22	3	1	4	3	141	4	1	3	1			9		6					6	3	144
Fairbanks	12	1	6	17	8	5	6	1	6	10	1	2				13		1					1	12	81
Eagle River	UD		6	3	3		3	2	24	1		16				17								17	41
Totals		41	72	490	54	117	49	82	1871	51	6	35	13			105	17	44			40		101	4	1875

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL CORRESPONDANCE COMMITTEE

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

A review of the report of the Commission on Information For Recognition of the Conference of the Grand Masters of Masons in North America seems appropriate for this report.

The Grand Lodge of Belgium has been recognized by 82 Grand Lodges around the world.

Two Grand Lodges in Brazil have merged. Grande Laja do Estado Rio de Janeiro and Grande Loja do Guanabara" combined into one named the United Lodge of the State of Rio De Janiero.

The Grand Lodge of Iran was destroyed and its members have dispersed throughout the world.

The Grand Orient of Italy is recovering from the P-2 scandal which involved many of its members in 1981, and new officers have been elected.

No further information has been received about the formation of a Grand Lodge of Nigeria.

A new Grand Lodge was formed in Madrid. Spam, on November 6, 1982, and appears to have been formed in a regular manner. As this new Grand Lodge has not been recognized by many regular Grand Lodges; it is therefore, the recommendation of this Committee of Fraternal Correspondence that the Grand Lodge of Spain be granted Fraternal Recognition by this Grand Lodge, and further, that the exchange of Grand Representatives be implemented.

In belated response to a proper request for the exchange of Grand Representatives and Fraternal Recognition from the Grand Lodge of Santa Catarina, Brazill, we recommend that this request be granted. This recommendation is based on examination of their Statement of Principles and recognition by over 100 other regular Grand Lodges including over forty Domestic Grand Lodges.

Respectfully Submitted.

Leslie R. Little (10)

Report received for the record and report and recommendation adopted.

Future Reports on Fraternal Correspondence

MW Grand Master Ingram called on RW Junior Grand Warden Gunnar Flygenring to render information on another Grand Lodge seeking recognition. RW Flygenring responded as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Brethren, Brethren All: The fact that the Chairman of Fraternal Correspondence does not report this is no reflection on him. He had no information on what I'm saying. On January 4, 1983, while I was still the Grand Secretary, [received a letter from the Grand Lodge of Goias in Brazil. In essence, it acknowledged the first letter we wrote requesting recognition from that Grand Lodge back in either late February or early March 1981. Between the time of our formation and the letter in January 1983, we received a couple of letters in Portuguese from Brazil. We had a Brother translate portions of it and it indicated that if we would request recognition it would be granted. Obviously, there had been a problem in the transmittal of the letters.

To bring you up to date, at 5:00 AM this past Sunday, I received a phone call from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Goias in Brazil asking that I bring Fraternal greetings from that body to this and specifically inform the Grand Master that the letter dated January 4, 1983, had not been acknowledged by this Grand Lodge. The fault might very well be mine. There was a notation on the bottom of the letter dated January 4, 1983 by me, that I had made a copy of the letter and transmitted it to Fraternal Correspondence, but apparently I never followed it up nor did my successor. In any case, the letter indicates that the Grand Lodge of Goias in Brazil, and he claimed in his phone call, that it was recognized by all the other 49 Grand Lodges. I checked back on the last statistics from the Masonic Service Association in September of 1982 and it indicated that only two Grand Lodges in the U.S., specifically North Dakota and Wyoming, had not recognized Goias Grand Lodge in Brazil. So it is possible that in the intervening year and a half those two Grand Lodges may have recognized. In any case, the letter indicates that they would very much like to have fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Alaska and strongly recommend the exchange of representatives. That, in essence, is the sum and substance of it. They do seem to qualify in all respects. Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Verbal report received for the record and by regular motion duly made, seconded, and passed, the Grand Lodge of Goias was fraternally recognized by the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

The MW Grand Master then described a contact with the Grand Lodge of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, and said that this Grand Lodge is very anxious to be recognized by the Grand Lodge of Alaska. He requested a motion to accomplish this.

By regular motion duly made, seconded, and passed, the Grand Lodge of Nuevo Leon was fraternally recognized by the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

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

	Total Number of Ballots
White Pass Lodge No. 1	4
Anvil Lodge No. 2	10
Tanana Lodge No. 3	11
Valdez Lodge No. 4	3
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	5
Seward Lodge No. 6	3
Matanuska Lodge No. 7	8
Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8	10
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	11
Glacier Lodge No. 10	13
Kenai Lodge No. 11	14
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	7
Total	98

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

We the Committee on Credentials fraternally report that all twelve Lodges holding Charters in the Grand Lodge of Alaska are represented at this Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

We further report that the following members of this Grand Lodge are present and entitled to seats and to vote in the Grand Lodge to wit: Grand Lodge Officers, 19; Deputies of the Grand Master, 3; Past Grand Masters, 3; Worshipful Masters and Wardens, 21; Past Masters, 40; Proxies, 12; Total entitled to vote, 98.

Respectfully submitted

Jerry C. Holly, Jr. (11) Chairman
Cecil Clift (8)
Mitchell R. Miller (12)
Billy W. Harris (11)
Jerry T. Sims (6, 11)

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence

MW James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
VW Harry A. Lewis (2)
VW Milton M. Routzahn (9)
W Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Bro. Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Grievance & Appeals

MW Roy Foss PGM (11) Chairman
W Troy D. Hodges, Sr. (6, 11)
W Fred V. Angleton (2)
W Wayne M. Basket (7)

Finance

W Orrin S. Felmley (8, 11) Chairman
VW John W. Underwood (3)
W John Reynolds (10)
W Walter C. Church (11)

Bylaws

W Alfred M. White (8, 10) Chairman
W Lewis E. Garrett (9)
VW Charles F. Lewis (2)
VW Ralph Kavorkian (3, 12)

Credentials

W Jerry C. Holly, Jr. (11) Chairman
W Cecil Clift (8)
W Jerry T. Sims (6, 11)
W Mitchell R. Miller (12)
W Billy W. Harris (11)

Fraternal Correspondence

W Leslie r. Little (10)

Masonic Research & Education

W John W. Casey (3, 12) Chairman
VW Wendell F. Long (11)
W Joseph T. Cline (8)
W Alfred B. Cratty (9)
W Robert E. Cunningham (5)
W Richard t. Coffin (10)

Masonic Public Relations

W Gene R. Freeman (3, 12) Chairman
W Charles E. Wellong (8, 11)
W Daniel J. Lawn (4)
W Edward H. Lincoln (6, 11)

DeMolay

W Lloyd W. Triggs (3) Chairman
W Clifford E. Roberson (8)
W Stanley E. Herman (11)

Public Schools

W Ronald H. Moore (11) Chairman
W Edward L. Murdock (2)
W Philip P. Kepler (3)
W Ray G. Williams (9)

Charters and Dispensations (special)

W John L. Dolenc (7)

Sessions and Arrangements (special)

W Jerry C. Holly, Jr. (11) Chairman
W Ronald H. Moore (11)
W Billy W. Harris (11)

Segregation & Reference

MW Roy Foss (11) Chairman
VW Ben H. Roberson (10)
W Harold Dinkel (7)

Deputies of the Grand Master

District 1 VW Robert E. Morse, Sr. (2)
District 2 VW Milton M. Routzahn (9)
District 3 VW Robert M. Parkins (8)
District 4 (No Appointment)

REPORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

MOTIONS

A motion was regularly made, seconded, and passed to hold an open installation of the new Grand Lodge Officers February 3, 1984.

A motion was regularly made, seconded, and passed to hold the Fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in Fairbanks on February 6 and 7, 1986.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1-84

To Amend Section 104 of the A. M. C.

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to allow for plural membership.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, a Master Mason may be a member of not more than two Lodges in this Jurisdiction at the same time: and.

WHEREAS, a single or dual member in this Jurisdiction may hold membership in a Lodge or Lodges of a foreign jurisdiction if that jurisdiction also permits dual membership; and.

WHEREAS, a provision for plural membership would allow a Master Mason to help form a new Lodge without having to dimit from one of the two Lodges he may be a member of:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 104 of the Alaska Masonic Code be amended to read as follows:

Section 104. Dual or Plural Membership:

1. A Master Mason may become a member of two or more Lodges of this Jurisdiction at the same time, but he may not be a Master of more than one Lodge at a time and may not exercise the powers of Acting Master of any Lodge during his incumbency as Master or Acting Master of another Lodge. Involuntary loss by expulsion or suspension of membership or by being dropped NPD in one Lodge constitutes loss by expulsion or suspension or by being dropped NPD, as the case may be, of membership in the other Lodge or Lodges.

2. A Master Mason may become a member of a Lodge or Lodges in this Jurisdiction while holding membership in a Lodge or Lodges of a foreign jurisdiction provided the foreign jurisdiction permits dual or plural membership. Involuntary loss of membership by expulsion or suspension in a Lodge of foreign jurisdiction for any cause recognized as a Masonic offense in this Jurisdiction constitutes loss by expulsion or suspension, as the case may be, of membership in the Lodge or Lodges of this Jurisdiction.

3. A petition for dual or plural membership under the provisions of this section must be as prescribed by a form supplied by the Grand Secretary.

4. This section does not apply to Honorary Membership provided for in Section 95 of these Bylaws.

5. A member holding dual or plural membership is eligible to hold the proxies of, and represent in Grand Lodge the officers of, only one Lodge.

6. A dimit granted from dual or plural membership shall be issued only on a form supplied by the Grand Secretary.

7. Immediately upon the election of a Brother to dual or plural membership, the Secretary of the Lodge electing the Brother to dual or plural membership notifies the Secretary or Secretaries of the Lodge or Lodges in which the Brother holds membership of such fact. That Secretary, or those Secretaries, will then record this information upon the membership register or registers and advise the Grand Secretary on forms provided that this has been done.

8. Immediately upon the granting of a dimit from dual or plural membership, the Secretary of the Lodge granting such dimit notifies the Grand Secretary on forms provided, who in turn notifies the Secretary or Secretaries of the other Lodge or Lodges in which the Brother holds membership of such fact. That Secretary, or those Secretaries, will then record this information upon the membership register or registers and advise the Grand Secretary on forms provided that this has been done.

9. In the event a dual or plural member is expelled, suspended, or dropped NPD by a Lodge, the Secretary of such Lodge notifies the Grand Secretary on forms provided, who in turn notifies the Secretary or Secretaries of the other Lodge or Lodges in which the

Brother holds membership of such fact. That Secretary, or those Secretaries, will then record this information on the membership register or registers and advise the Grand Secretary on forms provided that this has been done.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecil H. Clift WM (8)	Willie R. Josey PM (8)
Clifford Darnel PM (8)	Orrin S. Felmley PM (8)
Melvin A. Porter PM (8)	Robert M. Parkins PM (8)
Reuben K. Alleman PM (8)	Alfred M. White PM (8)
Paul A. Godwin JW (8)	

Carryover Bylaw amendment: Requires majority vote for passage.

Report by Committee of Jurisprudence: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge.

Note: This Resolution received a majority affirmative vote, but less than the required three-fourths vote and is a carryover resolution.

Resolution No. 2-84

To Amend Section 172 of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to clarify the intent of Section 172 of the Bylaws.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, it is not clear whether or not a new ballot would also require a new investigation prior to said ballot; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 172 of the A.M.C., which now reads:

Section 172. **One Ballot for Degrees:** A Lodge may not have more than one ballot for the three degrees, except as provided in these Bylaws. When a candidate has been elected to receive the degrees, and for any reason fails to receive the first degree within six months from the date of such election, a new ballot must be cast at a Stated Communication with a favorable result before such degree can be conferred. If the failure be due to the Lodge, the Grand Master may issue a Dispensation extending the time period not exceeding six months.

Be amended to read:

Section 172. **One Ballot for Degrees:** A Lodge may not have more than one ballot for the three degrees, except as provided in these Bylaws. When a candidate has been elected to receive the degrees, and for any reason fails to receive the first degrees within six months from the date of such election, a new ballot must be cast at a Stated Communication with a favorable result before such degree can be conferred. However, prior to a new ballot a new investigation must also be made. If the failure be due to the Lodge, the Grand Master may issue a Dispensation extending the time for a period not exceeding six months.

Respectfully sbmitted,

Leslie R. Little PM (10)
Peter E. Nilles SW (10)

Bylaw Amendment: Requires $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote for passage.

Report by Committee of Jurisprudence: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge.

Note: This Resolution failed to receive the required majority vote and was rejected.

Resolution No. 3-84

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE. The purpose of this resolution is to eliminate Statements of Availability.

RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, when this Grand Lodge formed in 1981, we adopted the time-honored tradition of our Mother Grand Lodge that Brothers aspiring to Grand Lodge office may be nominated for such office; and,

WHEREAS, campaigning for office is repugnant to the principles and philosophy of Masonry as practiced in this Jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, in 1982 this Grand Lodge adopted a second paragraph to Section 6 of the Alaska Masonic Code which reads as follows:

Any person desiring to serve as Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge may on or before the first day of October preceding the Annual Grand Communication, file with the Grand Secretary a Statement of Availability containing a resume of his service to his Symbolic Lodge and to the Grand Lodge. Prior to December 1, all such Statements shall be printed and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all Constituent Lodges for study prior to the next Annual Grand Communication. This action does not preclude the right to the Grand Lodge to elect any eligible member without such Statement; and,

WHEREAS, any Brother who files a Statement of Availability is actually nominating himself for election as Junior Grand Warden; and,

WHEREAS, the incentive or inducement to campaign will increase if Statements of Availability continue to be used; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 6 of the Alaska Masonic Code be amended by deleting the above quoted second paragraph.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little PM (10)
Peter E. Nilles SW (10)
Cecil H. Clift WM (8)

Charles I Gregg PM (10)
Aves D. Thompson JW (10)

Report by Committee of Jurisprudence: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge.

Note: This Resolution received a majority affirmative vote, but less than the required three-fourths vote and is a carryover resolution.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence

1st Report

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

This is a Special Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence in response to several Brothers' questions on the proper distribution and use of the Standard Work Ciphers. These questions arose because of reported divergent customs among the Lodges of this Jurisdiction with regard to Ciphers.

The Committee first notes that Masonry has been traditionally taught Mouth-to-Ear and that this is one of the Masonic Usages that we have all obligated ourselves to comply with.

The Committee also notes that paragraph 1 of Section 39 of the Alaska Masonic Code states that Ciphers are printed for the purpose of "insuring uniformity in the Standard Work and Lectures." Nothing is said about their use for learning the Work. This indicates their purpose is for reference to prevent changes in the Work from occurring rather than for learning or teaching aids.

The Committee notes further that paragraph 5 of Section 39 states that Ciphers are sold only to Lodge Secretaries "for distribution to members." Strictly interpreted, this indicates Ciphers may not be given to Brothers prior to the time they sign the Bylaws and pay their dues.

However, the Committee recognizes the fact that as a practical matter, the Lodges and their Coaches are not going to abide by such strict interpretations because of:

(1) the additional time and work required for Mouth-to-Ear teaching, and
(2) the increased numbers of drop-out Candidates that would result. Therefore, the Committee recommends a more lenient interpretation of the Code as the work progresses with the possible exception of one prompter.

In consideration of the foregoing, the Committee on Jurisprudence recommends the adoption of the following as Grand Lodge policy:

Policy on Ciphers

1. Ideally, coaching should be Mouth-to-Ear as it has been done since time immemorial. If a Candidate demonstrates that he cannot memorize by this method, or is separated from his Coach so that they cannot work together, the Coach may loan a Cipher

to the Candidate, which Cipher remains property of the Lodge or Coach and must be returned. Ciphers may be sold or given only to Lodge members in good standing.

2. Ciphers should not be used by Lodge Officers and others when opening and closing Lodge, conferring Degrees, or taking proficiencies except under unusual or extenuating circumstances. Ciphers are not to be read on the sidelines while the ritual is rendered except for one prompter, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record.

Report rejected.

2nd Report

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

This is a Special Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence pursuant to Section 46 of the Alaska Masonic Code. Section 46 requires permission of the Grand Lodge for a group of Masons to organize an incorporated body for a Masonic purpose unless the purpose is for holding Lodge property or for administering scholarships.

During the past year, the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation was formed and incorporated by the five elected Grand Lodge Officers and the two chairmen of the Committees on Jurisprudence and Finance. The main purpose of this nonprofit Corporation is:

- (1) to establish and operate a library and museum for the collection and exhibition of Masonic literature and articles, and
- (2) to encourage donations of items, property, and money to the library and museum. We have been verbally notified that the IRS has granted tax exemption for the Foundation and tax deductibility for the donors.

This incorporation was approved by MW Grand Master Ingram in the interim. The Committee on Jurisprudence has examined the Articles of Incorporation and finds the Corporation and its purposes to be consistent with Masonic Law and Usages. The Committee therefore recommends Grand Lodge approval of the incorporation of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record.

Report adopted.

3rd Report

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

This is a Special Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence in response to expressed differences of opinion on whether an Honorary Member of a Lodge should be allowed to sign a prospective candidate's petition as one of the three original recommenders.

Section 95 of the Code provides that an Honorary Member has all rights and privileges of regular membership except that of voting. The Committee is of the opinion that voting includes balloting on candidates, and therefore the Honorary Member may not ballot.

In signing a petition as a recommender, a member only signifies that he knows the petitioner and believes, if elected, he will be an asset to the Fraternity. The Committee does not consider this a ballot and so has decided that the Honorary Member may sign a petition as a recommender.

The Honorary Member may not; however, be appointed to the Investigating Committee on a petitioner because he would then, in effect, be voting for or against the petitioner in his investigation report.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record and adopted.

4th Report

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 1-84 have considered the same and report as follows:

The Committee has examined Resolution No. 1-84 and finds that it is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. It will require a three-fourths affirmative vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record.

Resolution failed to receive the require majority vote but did receive a majority vote and is a carry over resolution until the next annual communication.

5th Report

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 2-84 have considered the same and report as follows:

The Committee has examined Resolution No. 2-84 and finds that it is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. It will require a three-fourths affirmative vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record.

Resolution failed to receive a majority vote and was rejected.

6th Report

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 3-84. have considered the same and report as follows:

The Committee has examined Resolution No. 3-84 and finds that it is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. It will require a three-fourths affirmative vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Williams PGM (3) Chairman
Harry A. Lewis (2)
Milton M. Routzahn (9)
Franklin W. Erie (3, 12)
Richard N. Sutliff (9) Advisor

Report received for the record.

Resolution failed to receive the require majority vote but did receive a majority vote and is a carry over resolution until the next annual communication.

Grievance and Appeals

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

We the members of the Grievance and Appeals Committee, are happy to report that we have not had any items for consideration for the year or since the Grand Lodge of Alaska has been formed.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Foss (11) Chairman
Troy D. Hodges, Sr. (6, 11)
Fred V. Angleton (2)
Wayne M. Baskett (7)

Report received for the record.

Finance

Report of the Finance Committee

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

Money taken in by the Grand Lodge last year totaled \$29,237. Operations of the Grand Lodge cost \$17,026. This made a net amount of \$12,211 more than we spent. The net worth of the Grand Lodge as of the end of 1983 was \$83,174.

Respectfully submitted,

Orrin S. Felmley (8, 11) Chairman

John W. Underwood (3)

John Reynolds (10)

Walter C. Church (11)

Verbal report by John W. Underwood, received for the record.

STATEMENT OF INCOME CALENDAR YEAR 1983

INCOME

Operating Income - Assessments/Dues & Fees		
Income - Per Capita Assessments	\$18,280.00	
Fees for Degree Conferrals	925.00	
Fees for Affiliation	185.00	
Fees from Petitions/Degrees	<u>4,050.00</u>	
Total Income - Assessments & Fees		\$23,540.00
Operating Income - Other		
Contributions/Donations – Gen'l Oper.	\$1,627.00	
Contributions/Donations - Memorials	<u>400.00</u>	
Total Contributions and Donations		2,027.00
Fundraisers – General Operating (AMRA)		0.00
Sale of Medallions and AMRA Pins		400.00
Sale of Masonic Materials - net		<u>397.45</u>
Total Operating Income		\$26,364.45
Non-Operating Income		
Interest on Savings and Short-term Investments		<u>2,872.97</u>
TOTAL INCOME - CALENDAR 1983		29,237.42

EXPENSE

Operating Expenses		
Committee on Arrangements - G/L Communication	\$ 1,300.38	
Conference on Fraternal Recognition	15.00	
Entertainment of Visitors	569.75	
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	1,000.00	
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000.00	
Grand Lodge Temporary Typing Services	0.00	
Grand Secretary's Allowance	2,622.86	
Past Grand Master's Gift (Regalia)	464.06	
Depreciation	1,539.75	
Masonic Service Association Dues	115.02	
Insurance - General Liability	1,990.00	
Office Supplies & Other Expenses	1,565.45	
Postage	378.42	
Printing Expense – proceedings (1981)	3,500.00	
Telephone	550.67	
Miscellaneous	414.43	
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR YEAR		-17,026.01
NET FOR YEAR - INCOME over EXPENSE		<u>\$ 12,211.41</u>

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1983

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash in Bank – First National of Anchorage	\$ 4,248.99	
Short-term Investments	<u>32,674.63</u>	
Total Operating Funds – Avail. Cash		\$36,923.63
Cash in Bank – “Trust Savings”		4,752.29
Investments – 133 Share National Bancorp		1,330.00
Accounts Receivable – Const. Lodges	\$ 300.00	
Per Capita & Fees Rec. – Const. Lodges	<u>23955.00</u>	
	\$243,255.00	
Less: Allowance for uncollectibles	0.00	
Total Receivables - net		\$24,255.00
Inventory – Masonic Supplies – at cost	2,974.33	
Misc. Deposits – Prepaid Items	<u>52.50</u>	
Inventory and Deposits, etc.		<u>3,036.53</u>
Total Current Assets		\$ 70,287.44

Fixed Assets

Office Furniture and Fixtures (donated)	\$0.00	
Office Equip. – Tel. answering Service	299.95	
Office Equip. – Copying Machine	<u>5,000.00</u>	
Furniture and Equipment - at cost	\$5,299.95	
Less: Allowance for Depreciation	<u>-1,475.00</u>	
Furniture and Equipment - net		\$ 3,824.95
Grand Lodge Regalia – at cost	\$11,804.58	
Less: Allowance for Depreciation	<u>-1,958.97</u>	
Grand Lodge Regalia – net		9845.61
Total Fixed Assets		13,670.56
TOTAL ASSETS		\$83,958.00

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable – Trade and Other	\$ 369.00	
Geo. Washington Masonic Nat'l Mem. Fund	<u>415.00</u>	
Total Accounts Payable		<u>784.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>784.00</u>

Net Worth:

Net Worth – January 1, 1983	<u>70,632.59</u>	\$83,174.00
Adjustment of Stock Valuation/Stock Div.	<u>330.00</u>	
Net Worth - as adjusted		70,962.59
Plus: Excess of 193 Income over Expense:		<u>12,211.41</u>

TOTAL NET WORTH – 12/31/83

\$ 83,174.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

\$83,958.00

**OPERATING BUDGET - GENERAL FUND CALENDAR
STATEMENT – ACTUAL vs. BUDGET
Calendar Year 1983**

	1984		
	BUDGET	EXPENDED	VARIANCE
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0.00
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Committee on Fraternal Correspondence	250.00	0.00	(250.00)
Committee on Masonic Research & Education	250.00	0.00	(250.00)
Committee on Arrangements – G/L Comm.	2,000.00	1,300.38	(699.62)
Representatives' Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Printing and Binding Proceedings	3,000.00	3,500.00	500.00
Comprehensive Liability Insurance	2,000.00	1,990.00	(10.00)
Entertainment of Visitors	1,000.00	569.73	(430.25)
Past Grand Master's Gift (Regalia)	750.00	464.06	(285.94)
Fund to acquire new G/L Regalia	5000.00	0.00	(500.00)
	<hr/>		
SUB – TOTAL I	\$11,250.00	\$7,442.68	\$ (3,807.32)
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	\$3,000.00	\$ 2,622.86	\$ (377.14)
Grand Secretary's Travel Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Office Salaries, Stipends	6,000.00	0.00	(6,000.00)
Grand Lodge Payroll Taxes-all	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Fees/Legal and Audit	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Temporary Typist Services	3,600.00	1,565.45	(2,034.55)
Grand Lodge Postage	1,200.00	378.82	(821.18)
Grand Lodge Transcript of Proceedings	500.00	0.00	(500.00)
Grand Lodge Telephone	750.00	550.67	(199.33)
Grand Lodge Printing Expense, misc.	0.00	3,999.95	3,999.95
Grand Lodge Dues (Conf. Frat. Recognition)	25.00	15.00	(10.00)
Grand Lodge Dues (Masonic Service Assoc.)	125.00	115.02	(9.98)
Grand Lodge Dues (Masonic Relief Assoc.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Depreciations Expense:	1,500.00	1,539.57	39.57
Miscellaneous	900.00	414.43	(458.573)
	<hr/>		
SUB – TOTAL II	\$17,600.00	\$7,201.82	\$ (10,398.18)
GRAND TOTAL	\$29,350.00	\$17,026.01	\$(12,323.99)

**COMPARISON OF ANNUAL BUDGETS CALENDAR YEARS 1983
AND 1984**

	1983 BUDGET	PROPOSED 1984 BUDGET	+ INCREASE - DECREASE
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$0.00
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Committee on Fraternal Correspondence	250.00	250.00	0.00
Committee on Masonic Research & Education	250.00	250.00	0.00
Committee on Arrangements – Ann. Comm.	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Representatives' Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Printing and Binding Proceedings	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
Comprehensive Liability Insurance	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Entertainment of Visitors	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Past Grand Master's Gift (Regalia)	750.00	750.00	0.00
Fund for Acquisition of new G/L Regalia	500.00	0.00	- 500.00
SUB – TOTAL I	\$11,750.00	\$11,250.00	\$ - 500.00
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	3,000.00	3,000.00	\$ 0.00
Grand Secretary's Travel Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Temporary Typist Services	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Payroll Taxes-all	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Fees/Legal and Audit	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Office Supplies & Expenses	3,6200.00	4,200.00	+ 600.00
Grand Lodge Postage	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Transcript of Proceedings	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00)
Grand Lodge Telephone	750.00	750.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Printing Expense, misc.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Dues (Conf. Frat. Recognition)	25.00	25.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Dues (Masonic Service Assoc).	125.00	125.00	0.00
Grand Lodge Dues (Masonic Relief Assoc.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Depreciations Expense:	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	900.00	900	0.00
SUB – TOTAL II	\$17,600.00	\$18,700.00	\$+1,100.00
GRAND TOTALS	\$29,350.00	\$29,950.00	\$+ 600.00

**PRO-FORMA STATEMENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS,
ANTICIPATED AND EXPENSES FISCAL/CALENDAR YEAR 1984**

ESTIMATED INCOME

Grand Lodge per capita tax	\$20,000.00
Fees or degrees conferred and dual/affiliate memberships	1,000.00
Contribution to General fund from Petitioners for Degrees	5,000.00
Sale of merchandise – excess income over cost of sales	750.00
Interest income on investments	3,200.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED FUNDS \$9,950.00

Estimate of funds on hand at the beginning of year-carried over from previous period	<u>35,000.00</u>
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ESTIMATE OF TOTAL AVAIABLE FUNDS FOR YEAR 1985 \$64,950.00

EXPENSES

As per the Proposed budget for Fiscal/Calendar Year 1982	-29,950.00
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ESTIMATED EXCESS OF AVAILABLE
FUNDS OVER PROPOSED EXPENSES **\$35,000.00**

Masonic Research and Education

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

The Committee on Research and Education has no report to present for 1983.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Casey (3, 12). Chairman

Wendell F. Long (11)

Joseph T. Cline (8)

Alfred B. Cratty (9)

Robert E. Cunningham (5)

Richard t. Coffin (10)

Report received for the record.

Masonic Public Relations

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

The Committee for Masonic Public Relations finds it has become increasingly more difficult to get articles printed in any of the newspapers, other than in columns of a public service nature, listing only dates and times for meetings. It is hard to sell Masonry to the media because we are not considered "news worthy." Bad news only seems to make the papers these days. Paid advertising might work but this is not something we wish to consider.

All previous Masonic Public Relations Committees have labored long and arduously hard, but with limited success. It is now time to rethink strategies for enhancing our public image. This process was begun with receipt of permission for public display of meeting notices on streets leading into our cities and for use of city news brief columns in local newspapers. However, these methods do not provide all of the coverage we seek.

One simple solution might be the use of large lighted trestle boards in front of the Lodges with easy-to-read print providing more detailed meeting information than is now given, i.e., special meetings such as friendship night Past Masters' night, widow's night, or George Washington's night. However, in order to be effective, this board must be kept current and must give enough detail to interest the sojourning Brother.

Another area for consideration might be use of the local Chamber of Commerce. A great number of people use a Chamber as the source for all local information. Names, phone numbers, and meeting dates placed on file at these locations might be of great help.

Other avenues, not yet explored, might be to place meeting notices in hotels, motels, and trailer courts and to use bold type listings in local phone books for ease in location of Lodge addresses and phone numbers.

The above suggestions are submitted as recommendations for ways in which Masonry might further enlighten our Alaskan communities as to its activities.

Fraternally submitted,

Gene R. Freeman (3, 12) Chairman

Charles E. Wellong (8, 11)

Daniel J. Lawn (4)

Edward H. Lincoln (6, 11)

Report received for the record.

Public Schools

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

We, the Committee on Public Schools, submit the following report:

The MW Grand Master, John C. Ingram, proclaimed the week of April 11-16, 1983 as Masonic Public Schools Week. In addition, he attended the School Awards Programs for Glacier Lodge No. 10 and Kenai Lodge No. 11.

As with last year, we commend the following Lodges for having some type of program to support the public school system:

Anvil Lodge No. 2

Kenai Lodge No. 11

Valdez. Lodge No. 4

Fairbanks Lodge No. 12

Glacier Lodge No. 10

We would like to reemphasize to all Lodges the need for some type of Masonic School Awards Program for three reasons:

1. The need for all Americans and all Masons to support our public schools system; it is the foundation of our great nation.
2. Our public schools system has been deteriorating year by year to a point where an alarming percentage of our youth are graduating without the ability to read or write the English language.
3. At a time when the overall membership in our fraternity is dwindling, we have an excellent opportunity to go before the public and educate it about Masonry, utilizing the Masonic School Awards Program.

We the Committee on Public Schools want every Worshipful Master of an Alaska Lodge to know we are available to assist him in every possible way if this Lodge would like to conduct a Masonic School Awards Program. Let's get involved and support our public schools and take Freemasonry to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald H. Moore (11) Chairman
Edward L. Murdock (2)
Philip P. Kepler (3)
Ray G. Williams (9)

Report received for the record.

DeMolay

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

This has been a very active year for DeMolay in Alaska. The membership goals have not been reached; however, a growth in membership has been recorded by Arctic Chapter with eight and Kenai Chapter with seven. Many of the members who have reached the age of twenty-one have petitioned and joined the fraternity and then become advisors for their Chapters.

The first major state-wide activity of the year was the Conclave held at Soldotna. We are very grateful to the members and advisors of Kenai Chapter for the generous hospitality that has become tradition for their community. In the area of ritual competition it seems that Kenai Chapter just can't be beaten. They've won all their team events and walked away with the coveted (best over all) trophy. The Committee agrees this was due a great honor and privilege towards having the Most Worshipful Grand Master in attendance during the events. We wish to thank him for taking the time from his busy schedule.

Many successful activities were held during the year, starting with representation to the International Supreme Council in San Antonio, Texas, attended by four DeMolays and two advisors, including the Executive Officer, Stan Woodin. DeMolays from all chapters attended the Rainbow Grand Assembly in Anchorage. Kenai Chapter was one of the winners in the international competition for DeMolay week. Anchorage Chapter assisted the Shrine Temple in their annual football game. A leadership training camp was held at Wasilla. Those who attended improved their DeMolay education and had a week of fun swimming, boating, and playing ball. The State Master Counselor, Randy Beck, made his official visit to all the chapters in November. He was pleased with all the work and again Soldotna outdid the rest. Grand Master Ingram was present here in Soldotna. He spoke of the need for DeMolay and the continued support of the Masonic Lodges.

The advisory participation in DeMolay activities is one of the best. Kenai Chapter lists five active advisors, Arctic has ten and Anchorage has five. These Master Masons should be commended for their time and money spent in furthering the cause of the Order. It is a great feeling to have had a part in developing the leaders of tomorrow. The Mothers' clubs are active in all three Chapters. These ladies are always there to urge these young men forward and to support them in all their activities. They are greatly appreciated.

Finally, it has been a great privilege to have been able to serve on this committee for the year 1983. Being associated with these young men keeps a person alert to this changing world, and if we can help them in accomplishing their goals, then we have attained ours.

Respectfully submitted,

Lloyd Triggs (3) Chairman
Stanley E. Herman (11)
Clifford E. Roberson (8)

Report received for record.

Bylaws

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

The Committee received a request from White Pass Lodge No. 1. The request was made to better accommodate the members in order not to conflict with other civic and fraternal meetings for a change of day for their Stated Communication meetings.

We recommend approval of the Grand Master. The bylaws of Eagle River Lodge UD were also referred to this committee. We found them to be consistent of Masonic Law and not in conflict with the Alaska Masonic Code. We, therefore, recommend approval by the Grand Master.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred M. White (8, 10) Chairman
Lewis E. Garrett (9)
Charles F. Lewis (2)
Ralph Kavorkian (3, 12)

Report received for the record.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)

To The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Maons of Alaska:

The Bible, which we have chosen as Free and Accepted Masons to govern our lives, indicates to us that life is but a vapor that appeareth for a moment and then vanishes away. It is our duty as Masons to live our life to please Almighty God. The Bible says that the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away ... in His own mysterious way. He has summoned 33 of our Brethren to their eternal home. While this brings sadness to our hearts, we know that these Brother Masons have finished their course. They have run the race, and as the Apostle Paul says "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." The Supreme Architect of the Universe has traced upon the trestle board of eternity the design of our spiritual building and in his infinite wisdom has included a door through which each of us must pass. At this time a transition takes place from our mortal existence into the excitement of immortal living.

I would encourage all of us to realize that we are born to die. It is my prayer that we live our lives during our short span of life here on earth and that we may be pleasing in His sight.

Brethren, know this, we should not neglect the opportunities our God gives us to serve Him and our worthy Brother Masons. I will close my report with the exciting news that gives us hope to rise again to live eternally in a grand fellowship meeting with our loved ones who have gone before. The Bible says, "Grave, where is your victory; death, where is your sting?" Yes, it is true, the grave has lost the victory and death has lost its sting . . . this, my Brother, we can rejoice in forever.

Let us remember with delight the 23rd Psalm:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want,
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me besides still waters.
He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his name's sake.
Ye, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil:
For thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Eternal God

We praise you for the great company of all those Masonic Brothers who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor. We praise you for those dear to us whom we name in our hearts before you. Especially, we praise you for whom you have graciously received into your presence, to all of these grant your peace.

Let perpetual light shine upon them: and help us so to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us through our ears, into the joy of your home not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens.

Amen

White Pass Lodge No. 1

**Frank George Wilson
Arthur Evelyn Tunley**

**November 5, 1982
January 12, 1983**

Anvil Lodge No. 2

George Marshall Phillips

October 18, 1983

Tanana Lodge No. 3

**Robert Edward Sheldon
Donald Edward Harper
Charles Russel Huber
Oliver Lee Swisher
Peder Nilsen
Wallace Stanley Orcutt
Ernest Eugene Hubbard
Roger Vernon .Gull.
Wayne Dickson Jones
Trygve M Grasto**

**January 4, 1983
January 14, 1983
February 8, 1983
February 20, 1983
March 11, 1983
June 21, 1983
October 1, 1983
October 4, 1983
November 21, 1983
November 25, 1983**

Valdez Lodge No. 4

Robert Leon Meller

December 20, 1983

Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5

**Harley Baines King
Martin Samuelson
John Ferdinand Ekemo**

**March 1, 1983
October 28, 1983
December 16, 1983**

Seward Lodge No. 6

**Dalton Ward Buchanan
Edgar Emanuel Engle**

**January 24, 1983
October 24, 1983**

Matanuska Lodge No. 7

**Howard Ernest Campbell
Thomas James Lammon
Weymeth Edward Long**

**March 26, 1983
April 3, 1983
December 29, 1983**

Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8

**Ancil Andrew Avre
William Frederic Bordwell
Win Ewing Booher
Norbert John Muller**

**February 16, 1983
July 9, 1983
September 28, 1983
November 1, 1983**

Kodiak Lodge No. 9

**Lee Roy Taylor
Jan Beukers
George Arba White**

**July 16, 1982
January 14, 1983
June 30, 1983**

Glacier Lodge No. 10

**J. C. Drennan
William Howard McCollum
Robert Christopher Dalton**

**January 24, 1983
May 22, 1983
October 18, 1983**

Kenai Lodge No. 11

Dalton Ward Buchanan

January 24, 1983

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

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

Let us pray.

Father, we do want to thank you for this privilege and opportunity we have once again to stand in your Divine Presence. Lord, remember these Brethren that have gone before us Lord, on their lives and on the Trestle Board, Lord we pray that they have moved forward in your plan. And now Father we remember their families that you would continue to strengthen them because we know that they have suffered the loss also. And Lord we know that only your Divine Holy Spirit can comfort us in a time of bereavement. The Bible tells us your word, the Great Lights, that your strength and grace are sufficient for us in a time of need. And Father we know that each member of this bereaved family could look into your book, into your word, and find strength to carry them through a time of bereavement. For in Your name we pray. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Dr. Patrick J. Donadio
Grand Chaplain

Report of Grand Lecturer

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

Most Worshipful John C. Ingram, Grand Master, I thank you for the appointment as Grand Lecturer. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve you, and an enlightening and meaningful experience for me.

I have traveled with the Grand Master on his official visits to all the Lodges in the Alaska Jurisdiction and to the Grand Lodges of Washington and Montana. We also attended the official visit of the Grand Master of British Columbia at Whitehorse, Yukon. At all times we were received graciously and treated royally.

There were two outstanding events that I'll never forget. One was the dedication of a new Temple at Nome, and the other was a Dispensation given at the first Lodge formed in the Alaska Jurisdiction - Eagle River UD.

As Grand Lecturer, it has been my duty to see that Lodge work was done properly and according to our rituals, ancient usages, and established customs, and that they are contained within the due bonds of the Great Lights, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and the Bylaws of the Lodge.

At the Lodges visited, assistance was granted when requested, irregularities, when found were corrected, and proper procedures explained.

I found the Lodge work in most Lodges acceptable, in some excellent, and sadly to say in a few, wanting. But as a whole, the Lodges in Alaska are doing great.

It has been the practice of the Grand Master this year to have his officers speak at the various Lodges without a prepared script, but off-the-cuff, so to speak, or as he put it, "from the heart."

I pray that my messages were received in the manner in which they were intended. I have endeavored to explain our working tools, symbols, and emblems, and how to apply them in our daily lives that we may be wiser, better, and consequently happier. I have explained the importance of impressing our candidates and visitors by our decorum and pride, and continue to impress them by our sincerity, brotherly love, and friendship. Remember, we do not get a second chance to make a good first impression.

Why are we here? What prompted us to attend this Annual Communication in such an out-of-the-way place as Soldotna, in the middle of winter? Why do we travel to distant places at financial expense to ourselves and face the hazards of transportation in fair weather or foul? Is it to receive more Light in Masonry as we seek further Light, or are there other reasons?

These are questions that only we as individual Masons can answer. We are reminded of the first question asked of us prior to being received into the Lodge, "Is this of your own free will and accord?" Everything we do in Masonry is done of our own free will and accord, whether it be to prepare the tables for refreshment, enter into the chairs of office, or prepare ourselves to deliver the rituals, numerous lectures, and charges. These are all done by choice and instill in us a sense of fulfillment, self-satisfaction, and accomplishment. These are the qualities that show we have an interest in the Lodge.

If the Lodge work is carried on in a casual and slipshod manner, these are reflected as a lack of interest and a negative attitude. I have found that the most successful Lodges have a positive attitude and a decorum, dignity, integrity, and pride that generates interest in Masonry and the Lodge. The dignity and pride of the members are not only contained within the walls of the Temple, but this attitude is carried into the very heart of the communities in which we live.

So many times these attributes are shown to us by a great many good men as they state their reasons for wanting to join in our great order, and the respect and esteem given as they answer, "It is the high regard I have of the reputation and character of Masons I know."

This is a compliment paid us unknowingly by a petitioner. It is a tribute in its finest and makes us proud to be Masons.

Again, I thank you Grand Master and appreciate the confidence reposed in me by appointing me to this position.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Thomas
Grand Lecturer

Report received for the record.

Report of Grand Orator

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

My heartfelt thanks to you, Most Worshipful Sir, for offering me the office of Grand Orator for this past year, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve you and this Grand Lodge.

So much has already been written on Freemasonry in general that it is somewhat difficult to find anything fresh to say on the subject.

It has been truthfully and frequently said that there is nothing wrong with Freemasonry that Freemasonry itself cannot cure.

For example, let's take declining membership. What are the reasons for it and how can we prevent it? The loss by death is beyond our control, but the loss in NPD can be greatly lessened. How do we get members and keep them? This is something that should concern every Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and in any Grand Jurisdiction. We talk of our four million Masons, yet only about ten percent are active in the Lodges. That means we have only 400,000 real Masons in America. Why nine out of ten get initiated and stay away is worth study by Grand Lodges. Something is wrong; decidedly wrong when we lose ninety percent of our initiates.

What can we do? In some instances, special efforts have been recommended to attract prospective members in holding an open meeting of the Lodge at which time the aims, purposes, and accomplishments of Freemasonry would be brought to the attention of those present with the thought and hope that the interest of the prospective members would be aroused to cause them to petition for membership.

Many think Freemasonry should be brought more in step with the jet age thinking of the present day, and that we should modernize and thus improve Freemasonry, that it might become active in the affairs of the day and thus become more effective and appealing to active, thinking men.

No, my Brothers, Freemasonry will not make any lasting appeal to men of character and good will by means of cheap publicity, second class entertainment, or participation in the controversial issues of the day.

Freemasonry neither desires nor requires any innovations or modernization. Its symbols teach the same truths today as they did in the dim ages of the past.

In our great modern world, we seem to live in a world of demonstrations. A bunch of college students can demonstrate for anything, whether in Latin America; Berkeley, California; Kent State; or any of a half dozen other campuses. They will have their demonstrations and the newspapers and television stations will have a field day. One thing you will not see them demonstrating is that they are ready, willing, and able to assume the responsibility of citizenship. You never see the television stations out showing the Rainbow Girls and DeMolay picking up garbage along the highway.

The views of the nonconformists are carried in headlines in our newspapers, radios blare forth their opinions and demands, while television portrays their too-often lawless and "public-be - damned antics" without a work from the great majority of those peaceful law-abiding citizens, young and old alike whose character, integrity, applied talents, and efforts have brought honor and prestige to our nation and made possible for us a way of life that is the envy of the entire world.

This trend for change appears infectious, and its effects are being felt in every segment of our society. Therefore, it is expected that our order would be exposed to this trend for change. I think the great majority of the members of our craft are convinced that Freemasonry neither desires nor requires any change.

There is a small minority among the members who seldom attend a meeting of their Lodge and who take no active part in its affairs, yet they consider themselves eminently qualified to predict nothing but rum arid bad days ahead unless we change the procedures and rituals to conform to their ideas.

The "remedies" which they propose would have our craft assume the functions and purposes of social groups and service clubs, thus making our fraternity something that it was never intended to be. Our decline in membership will stop when petitions are given only to those who are fully capable of understanding and living in accordance with the time-honored principles of our Craft; who are dedicated to a belief in the dignity of the individual; who believe in the Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God; who are unbiased by the improper solicitation of friends; and who, uninfluenced by mercenary motives, voluntarily seek membership in our Craft because of a favorable opinion conceived of the fraternity and a sincere desire to serve their fellow man.

Undoubtedly, many of those dropped had been improperly "persuaded" by some well-meaning Brother or had expected to receive social, business, or other benefits by reason of their membership. All such were disillusioned. They devoted their time and efforts to other interests more to their liking.

We deplore the loss of those who had come of their own free will and accord with a sincere desire and proper motives, but found that the ritualistic work was poorly conducted and their coach too uninformed as to the aims and principles of Freemasonry to give an intelligent answer to the candidates reasonable questions in his search for light.

These can be retained as active interested members when and only when the Master recognizes and appreciates the honor and dignity of the office he occupies and measures up to its requirements by planning his meetings, by appointing as officers only those who can and will demonstrate their interest, ability, and proficiency by taking a fraternal and personal interest in the well-being of every member of his Lodge, and by a diligent study of the history, laws, rules, regulations, principles, and purposes of Freemasonry that he may be a guide and counselor at all times and thus be Master in fact and deed. Never be satisfied just with the work you do in your Lodge. You must be leaders in the community; transform into actions and deeds all that you have acquired within your Lodges. Only through action can we prove ourselves worthy heirs of our heritage. Only through deeds can we merit being free and accepted Masons. There is nothing wrong with Freemasonry. It is just that some of us are not always good Masons.

There are too few of the staunch and faithful souls, and too many of the procrastinators. Of course, none can be perfect, but we can all try a little harder for that perfection. Will you join with me?

Respectfully submitted,

Fred L. McGuire
Grand Orator

Report received for the record.

Report of Grand Historian

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

VW William H. Lefferson, Grand Historian presented to the Grand Secretary a bound volume of material pertaining to histories of Lodges in Alaska. This volume has the following foreword:

"This history, written in 1967 when I was Grand Historian for the Grand Lodge of Washington, was lost after it was turned over to the Grand Lodge and never found its way into print. An original "very rough" copy was found 15 years later in some old records and from this copy I have reconstructed the paper. "I am indebted to the many Alaskan members who supplied information from memory, lodge records, and so on. Because so much of the supporting correspondence and notes were lost in the 1967 flood. I will not attempt to single out individuals for recognition as the list would not be complete. You know who you are, and I thank you.

Therefore, future Historians, in using this to update the Alaska History, will do well to refer to the papers written by the two Historians of the Grand Lodge of Alaska, VW Brother G. W. Pruett, 1982, and Worshipful Brother Neil R Bassett, 1983, and of course, the Proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, which contain the detailed information regarding these Lodges for the past century while they operated under that jurisdiction. Fairbanks, Alaska 1967 and 1983"

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, Officers and Members of this Grand Lodge:

As we meet for this, our Third Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge, one of the most important things that we will do in our lives will take place again, the selection of a new Grand Master; the peaceful transition of power. As we pause and reflect on how this transition of power has taken place in other societies, organizations, and in governments, we begin to realize what a truly wonderful thing we are dealing with. In having become heir to this thing called Masonry. I think of an answer given by a very famous sculptor when he was asked, "How do you create such marvelous works of art with the simple tools that you have to use?" He replied, "You have a block of suitable

stone, a hammer, and a chisel. You remove the stone that you do not want and when this is done you have a beautiful work of art." It was there all the time.

As with the sculptor, the historian would only take the information at hand and handle it wisely. Ideally, he will write a minor classic. It would be limited in length and probably contain its fair share of grammatic weeds, but as the decades pass, everyone in the world who ought to have read that paper has done so. And only then will he have completed his task. The history we write, in a sense, is the same as the tools used by the sculptor. Therefore, for the benefit of future historians, we must never see our work as Masons become an example of the damage done when our broad ideas of what life can and ought to be are no longer a part of a young man's education.

This leads us to report of a birth of a Lodge, Eagle River Lodge UD, our very first born. It matters not where or when it was conceived: as in the world of commerce, measure what comes out at the end of the pike. I had the pleasure and the honor to be present when the dispensation was placed in the hands of the new Worshipful Master by the Grand Master of our young Grand Lodge. What a joy that was!

When we speak of the joy of life, the relative merits of youth, manhood, and of old age I'm reminded of the story of an elderly man in a rest home who enjoyed a game of golf but reached a point where he could play no more due to his failing eyesight. The director of the rest home had a solution. Another member of the home had excellent eyesight and was confined to a wheelchair. The fellow with the poor eyes would be directed and instructed by the one in the wheelchair who would be wheeled from hole to hole by the golfer. Between the two would be a game of golf by the one, an outing for the other. All went well. Instructions, directions were given; the golfer shot his ball long and true down the fairway. The man in the wheelchair complimented the golfer who then asked where the ball had gone. He was told, "I forgot."

Lest we forget the excellent account of the history of the formation of the Eagle River Lodge, beauty is included in this report and is itself a minor classic. The paper I submit for the record was written in 1967 by the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Washington. It stands before you now. It never found its way to print and most of the notes and so on were destroyed in a costly flood that year. However, a rough copy containing enough material to write this paper was found in 1982 and will find a home as a part of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for future historians. It deals with the chartering of Alaska Lodge No. 14 in 1869, and Jamestown Lodge No. 33 in Sitka, both of which failed. With White Pass Lodge No. 113 which exists today as No. 1, if you will. And the paper carries through to 1968, 100 years.

I know that when a man finishes some important task like writing a report as Grand Historian, when the last word was written, he wants to start over, he wants to do the job right. It's like life itself. Oddly enough I had this chance and as of this moment I feel exactly the way I felt in 1967. In like manner, historians who follow me in years to come, will feel the same. Who might reflect on where we as Masons of Washington and Alaska stand today. Each generation very quickly becomes the pioneers. Rudyard

Kipling expressed this well, and Masonry teaches us regularly the value of gaining knowledge during the advancing years.

As Alaska (we're speaking in '67 now), begins to make sounds of a Grand Lodge of their own, we find thinking in some areas of the nation somewhat different than that of 100 years ago when Masonry was very young in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington and about to begin in Alaska. The majority and the minority of our nation were out of tune. Freedom of speech becomes the right to riot and not the privilege to argue sensibly. There are problems which we see today and must be resolved by we who have assumed the preservation of the work. The degree of difficulty in this respect, however, is much more than predecessors were faced with. However, these are not insurmountable problems, and inspired by the words heard by Masons some 83 years ago, the way for us was made easier.

So in closing, in my research, I found nothing more appropriate than the words of Most Worshipful Brother Stephan J. Chadwick. As he spoke them 83 years ago to the Masons of Washington and Skagway, and I quote. "It is not my purpose to speak at length of the pioneer Mason. His work is done. He was the builder who labored in the quarries and in the forest and wrought and fashioned the foundations of the Temple. And, where I can suggest a memorial which would be emblematic of his work and influence, I would say it should be the column of strength. But it is to you, my Brethren, that I would say a word. Those of us who have assumed the preservation of their work and who have undertaken to adorn the structures, the design of which is in the hearts of those patriarchs, I would admonish to a deeper concern and to an ever increasing regard for the importance of the trust which we have assumed. Our only endeavor should be to so guard our landmarks so as to abide by the precepts of the Order and so yield to its influence and teaching, that when our time shall have come to lay aside the insignia of labor that we may yield the charge adorned by our efforts as perfect in its structural parts as when we received it. Then indeed, will our fellow men be impressed with the idea that Masonry is symbolic of character and devotion to the interest of humanity and of peaceful inclinations to the state." The peaceful transition of power, that another historian can do no better than to commend them to Masons in the years to come.

Members and visitors of this Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alaska, I thank you for your forbearance. Most Worshipful Brother John, I thank you for the privilege of seeing the work done in 1967 find its way into the hands of those who might find this sort of thing of interest, and probably more important, provide a foundation for individual Lodge historians to refine, improve upon, and add to as the years go by.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Lefferson
Grand Historian

Report received for the record.

Charters and Dispensations

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

I had hoped to report the addition of more Lodges. I am happy to report that the members of Eagle River Lodge are now operating under dispensation granted by our Grand Master on December 12, 1983.

It is this committee's recommendation that they continue to work under dispensation until the next Grand Lodge Communication.

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Dolenc (7) Chairman

Report received for the record and adopted.

Report of Segregations and Reference Committee

1st Report

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

We, the Committee on Segregation and Reference, to whom was referred the Grand Master's Message, have considered the same and recommend approval as printed.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Foss (11) Chairman

Ben H. Robertson (10)

Harold Dinkel (7)

Report received for the record and adopted.

2nd Report

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

We, the Committee on Segregation and Reference, to whom was referred the Grand Secretary's Report have considered the same and recommend approval as printed with the financial charts referred to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Foss (11) Chairman
Ben H. Robertson (10)
Harold Dinkel (7)

Report received for the record and adopted.

Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

The Grand Master spoke of the forming of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation and described how donors can make contributions to it which will be tax exempt. He said he hoped the Brethren would approve this project.

Awards

James A. Williams Award

At the request of MW Grand Master Ingram, MW James A. Williams presented the James A. Williams Award with the following words:

Brethren all, last year Most Worshipful Brother Charles S. Moulthrop, Jr., Grand Master of Michigan, who was one of the four Most Worshipful Sirs that got us on the road and installed us, presented us with two trophies to get some competition started among the Lodges in the matter of increasing membership and raising candidates. These are the two trophies, and he honored me highly by putting my name on one of them and our second Grand Master Buckley C. Hazen on the second one. They're now known roughly as the James A. Williams and Buckley C. Hazen Awards. In a telephone conversation with him, he said, "I would appreciate it if you would present the James A. Williams Award this year on my behalf." He wanted very much to be here to do this himself as well as present those Master pins that were passed out yesterday, but of course, he was unable to attend. He did say, though, that everything being equal, he is going to be here next year. So, we look forward to seeing him next year.

At any rate, the James A. Williams Award is the award that is made each year to the Lodge that raised the largest number of Master Masons. This might look like a put-up job because this year it has been won by Tanana Lodge No. 3. I would like now to present this to a representative to Tanana Lodge No. 3. The Master isn't here so would some representative of that Lodge please come forward. The trophy reads. "Largest Number of Master Masons Raised." With real pleasure I present this trophy to Tanana Lodge for 19, the number of Master Masons raised in 1983, on behalf of the Most Worshipful Charles Moulthrop, Jr.

Brother Keith Herve responded with:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it gives me great pleasure to come up here and receive this for Tanana Lodge No. 3, but I would like to call up the Brother that had the hammer for 1983; that's Worshipful Brother Lloyd Triggs.

Worshipful Triggs responded with:

It's a great pleasure to accept this from you on behalf of Most Worshipful Chuck Moulthrop. However, it's due to the efforts of the Master Masons of Tanana Lodge and through their great help and enthusiasm for Masonry that all of these candidates came through during the year that I happened to be Master. I just happened to be in the right place at the right time. However, I hope that Tanana Lodge can continue that enthusiasm and continue to gain in membership. Thank you.

Buckley C. Hazen Award

MW Williams having reported that it was also the wish of MW Moulthrop that RW Gunnar Flygenring present the Buckley C. Hazen Award on his behalf. RW Flygenring fulfilled this request with the following words

Most Worshipful Gland Master, Distinguished Brethren. Brethren All:

It is certainly a great privilege and a distinct honor for me to have been selected by Most Worshipful Brother Moulthrop to present the Buckley C. Hazen Award. I suppose, fittingly enough, it goes back to Fairbanks. When I say, "back," Buckley C. Hazen was from Fairbanks. Strangely enough, it is not the same Lodge, so the suspense is already over with as to which Lodge it's going to be. I would just like to explain the reason for the difference in measuring the accomplishment of the Lodges. The Buckley C. Hazen Award is based or geared to the net increase in membership by the Lodges in Alaska Jurisdiction, thus giving the smaller Lodges an equal, maybe better, chance of receiving this award. There was some competition this year, not really between first and second places, but between second and third places. At this time I would like Worshipful Brother Lloyd Ives to come forward, as the Master of the Fairbanks Lodge No. 12, and as the recipient of this award.

While he is making his way up here, I'd like to say that their net increase of membership was 16.9 percent this year. A relatively small Lodge, Valdez. No. 4 was second with 7.7 percent, and Kenai Lodge No. 11 was third with 6.9 percent. So it isn't impossible for some of the small Lodges to get right in there and obtain one of these awards. An extra one or two net increase in membership would make all the difference in the world. Worshipful Brother Ives, it gives me great pleasure on behalf of Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Charles S. Moulthrop, Jr., from Michigan, to award you the Buckley C. Hazen Award for the year 1983 for your accomplishments and increase in membership. Would you like to say a word?

W Lloyd Ives responded as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brother Gunnar, it gives me great pleasure to be here to have the opportunity to receive this award. I am sure that Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 is going to continue their efforts to expand the enthusiasm of Masonry among the new members and petitioners that express their desire to be counted among us. I am sure that something like this is going to inspire all of us regardless of how big a Mason, whether your Lodge has fifty or five-hundred; Masonry is just as big. It is my hope and prayer that Masonry will continue to be that way. Thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Grand Master Biographical Sketch

Most Worshipful Brother John C. Ingram is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, having been born there on March 14, 1929 to William and Grace Ingram. He received his schooling in Indianapolis, graduating from Arsenal Technical in 1946.

Intent on homesteading in Alaska, MW Brother John came north in the spring of 1949. returning to Indianapolis a year later to elope with his high school sweetheart, Dorothy Jean Branam, known to their friends as Dottie. They were blessed with a daughter, Candace, and two boys; John Jr., and Thomas.

MW Brother John served four years in the Marine Corp and began homesteading at Cooper Landing upon his discharge in 1954. Seasonal construction work as a heavy equipment mechanic/operator allowed time for family life and improving the homestead. In 1966 the family moved to Soldotna to be near the high school, and began a business with a garage and service station. When the business was destroyed by fire in 1981, John and Dottie moved back to Cooper Landing.

He was enrolled a Master Mason in Seward Lodge No. 219 (now No. 6) on May 2, 1961, and became its Worshipful Master in 1965. Under the Grand Lodge of Washington, he served as Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 2 (1967-1969), Grand Sword Bearer (1969-1970), and on several committees, including being Chairman of the Committee on Credentials for several years. When Kenai Lodge No. 307 (now No. 11) received its dispensation in 1971, he was elected its first Master (1971 - 1972), having served as such in 1970 and continuing on through 1972 (1971 - 1972). He was elected Senior Grand Warden when the Grand Lodge of Alaska was formed in 1981. Upon passing of MW Buckley C. Hazen in June 1982, MW Brother John assumed the duties of Acting Grand Master and was elected Grand Master in 1983.

He is a member of both the York and Scottish Rites and is currently the Orator of the Soldotna Lodge of Perfection. He is a 33rd Degree Mason; was awarded the DeMolay Legion of Honor, and served as Potentate of the Al Aska Shrine Temple in 1977. Other memberships include: Order of the Amaranth; Red Cross of Constantine, Alaska Conclave; and Royal Order of Jesters.

Brother John is also the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Indiana, Ohio, and Washington near the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

Presentations

To: Anvil Lodge No. 2

The Grand Master asked the Grand Marshal to form the members of Anvil Lodge No. 2 west of the Altar. He recounted the cornerstone laying at the Anvil Lodge Temple in Nome on November 19, 1983, and called on W Jerry C. Holly, Jr., to make a presentation to the Brothers of Anvil Lodge No. 2. W Brother Holly spoke as follows:

Thank you Most Worshipful Sir. Brothers in Nome, it was a highlight for me as the Master of Kenai Lodge to have been on that trip with most Worshipful Brother John and Brother Fred Angleton and enjoy the hospitality and the good time that you showed us in Nome. I'll never forget that, and I thought of something maybe that would be a little more lasting impression for all of us, and maybe something that we could leave behind. We have put together a portrait for you of the dedication of that beautiful Temple and for the Grand Master's visitation at your Lodge. At this time we'd like this to go back to your Lodge with all the best of luck from Kenai Lodge No. 11 and your Most Worshipful Grand Master. Thank you.

To: Grand Lodge from AMRA

The Grand Master requested W Brother Harry D. Case to make a presentation. Brother Case spoke as follows:

Brothers, I have, as President of AMRA, received a check for the first of the Gold Pan Awards to be given away, and I have with me a certificate for that. The check will be deposited in the Buckley Hazen Memorial Permanent Fund, the dividends of which will be used for the Grand Lodge of Alaska. At this time I would like to call Most Worshipful Brother Roy Foss, to please step forward and receive this award.

Brother Roy, it's with great pleasure that I present to you this certificate of award for donating \$1,000 to the Alaska Masonic Research Permanent Fund and for this award, or for this certificate we will give you this gold pan. This gold pan has a No. 1 on it which signifies at what time you got up and said, "I've got it for you." Brother Roy we thoroughly appreciated this, and you can even have the box.

MW Roy Foss made the following response:

Thank you Brother President. Most Worshipful Grand Master, for three years I've been holding this check for a permanent fund; I've been drawing interest on it. I was kind of sorry that the Grand Lodge of Alaska wasn't going to draw that interest, but it paid for itself. I believe in the Grand Lodge of Alaska or I wouldn't be up here each and every time. I come up in the summer time to play, and come up in the winter time for fellowship and Masonic activities. I think that maybe with this and other awards I have received from Alaska, I will continue to come up here like Most Worshipful Brother

Byron Jenkins says, "As long as his physical ability permits him to return." I will be here for the Grand Lodge sessions wherever they may be. Most Worshipful Brother James Williams gave me one similar to this the first year, along with the other three who were the installing officers of the Grand Lodge, and in my home I have quite a few memorabilia from the Masonic Fraternity throughout the world. This gold pan that I have has a prominent place in the living room of my house on the mantle of the fireplace along with a diamond willow walking stick that was presented to me by Brother Jack Laub the year that Lucie Williams broke her hip. Lucie Williams is Most Worshipful Brother Jim Williams' wife. So we each got a walking stick. I'm proud of that as well. I thank you and I hope that this will just be the seeds for more, because the Grand Lodge of Alaska is slower, far behind the Grand Lodge of Washington in our Masonic Home Endowment Fund. We are receiving over a million dollars a year in interest from that nine million dollars that's on deposit in various money-making projects. I hope that in the very near future Alaska is the same as we in Washington; where we let the money work for us. Thank you.

MW James A. Williams made a second presentation as follows:

This presentation won't be quite so long. Brothers, but as you know, Brother Harry D. Case was elected President of AMRA for the ensuing year, and although Most Worshipful Brother Roy Foss came in with the first check. Brother Harry wasn't far behind him with the second. So it gives me pleasure at this time to present our new AMRA President with his certificate and his gold pan. These gold pans are numbered serially, and this pan, by Brother Harry's wish, is symbolically numbered No. 10 in honor of Glacier Lodge No. 10 of which he is the Junior Past Master. Congratulations! I'm looking forward to you doing a great job with AMRA during the next year. W Richard T. Coffin (10), AMRA Secretary-Treasurer, then presented the Grand Master with two checks totaling \$1,750 for the Buckley C. Hazen Permanent Fund.

W Fred V. Angleton (2, 11), Junior Past President of AMRA, made this presentation:

I think maybe, Most Worshipful Sir, I may have in my pocket what you're looking for. It makes me very proud and pleased to be able to present to the Grand Lodge of Alaska this small token of \$10,000 and it took the assistance and help of all of you in supporting our Watch Program raffle, and Dick, tell your wife thanks a lot for all her help too. Nobody's mentioned her but she did a lot of work for us. Tell her thanks, Dick. Congratulations on getting the money.

To Jesse P. "Cotton" Moore

Grand Master Ingram had W Jesse P. "Cotton" Moore escorted to the Altar and asked the other elective Grand Lodge Officers to surround W "Cotton" while he made the following presentation:

Brethren, it is the desire of the Committee that created this memorable print to make a presentation to you at this time. Grand Lodge Officers, there's no need to add to what has been said about the fine job that you've done. But our friend and Brother, "Cotton" Moore, for your expertise in whatever you're good at, mainly for the hard work you did for the session, and your entertaining, we thank you. For that you receive your personal copy. We hope that in 1986 Gunnar is the Grand Master. That is your number. We hope Jack that 1984 is your number. We hope Glen that 1985 is your number, and we hope, Neil, that you keep up your good work as Grand Secretary.

To MW John C. Ingram

W Jerry C. Holly, Jr., explained the creation of a special print that had been made for this Communication as follows:

Most Worshipful Sir, Brethren, as brief as I can make this, this idea was thought up by several of the Kenai Lodge Brethren to come up with something special to commemorate this Communication in Soldotna, for our beloved Brother John, something that we'd have around for a long time. Several of us had some ideas of historical significance to what ended up as a poster and historical brochure. So many people worked hard. Brother Palmer, the one in the brown suit that's been running around here like a jack rabbit for four days, those are his poems and he's quite the poet. Very Worshipful Brother Dave helped, and Bobby also does much writing in regard to historical significance. We gave him the books with the help of the Grand Lodge of Washington's "Not Made With Hands" from which came the historical part of the brochure. And then a short summary on Kenai. Then came this print, and we wanted something that would be symbolic, that would symbolize the Kenai Peninsula. Every item in here is on the Kenai Peninsula,, and every item in here I'll guarantee you'll see one of them every day that we've lived here.

My wife was chosen in the short period of time we had to do this, to do the work and the two of us sat down and laid out many different ideas on how to get it to flow together. With her excellent talent, superb thinking, and a lot of hours, she came up with this. Worshipful Brother Fred took the whole ball in his hands and lined up the printers and here we have it. The one thing that I think was really remarkable was that we counted 41 groups or 41 individual items on the poster. Next, and I haven't told anybody this yet; I wanted to save it for when we presented this, I added every item on the poster including the three, five, and seven on the geese, the dogs, and the caribou and never counted anything more than once, but counted each individual item, and came up with 81, the year our Grand Lodge was formed. So the mystery of the Masonry seems to have played another hand on us again. At this time, Very Worshipful Brother Fred would like to make a presentation.

VW Fred Angleton spoke as follows:

We had 300 of these prints made and 300 of the brochures and our Grand Master as well as the artist, Velma Holly, signed every print. But I notice the one that I'm holding here in my hand, which is No. 1, is not signed by the Grand Master. There is a reason for that. We didn't want him to sign his own print. Most Worshipful Grand Master, we'd like to present you with this print.

MW Grand Master Ingram responded with these words:

Brethren, as you look at this print, it moves the same way that the sun moves around the earth, in one continuous circle It's a story that's portrayed by the craftsmanship of Velma and under the direction of Fred and Jerry. The names of you Brethren are on the back. What can I say? I'll treasure it forever. Thank you.

To Worshipful Masters

The Grand Master asked the Grand Marshal to escort the Worshipful Masters of the Constituent Lodges or their representatives to the Altar. The Grand Master then introduced each of them to the assembled Grand Lodge members and guests as per the roll call of Lodges. He also introduced the Master of Eagle River Lodge UD, W V. Clifford Darnell. The Grand Master then presented distinctive pins that MW Charles S. Moulthrop, Jr., Past Grand Master of Michigan, had made especially for the Masters of the Alaska Lodges. MW Brother Moulthrop was recovering from a heart attack and could not attend this Annual Communication.

To Appointees

MW Grand Master Ingram presented a Certificate signed by the Grand Master of North Dakota to VW Robert M. Parkins appointing him Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota near the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

MW Grand Master C. Donald Brons then presented a Certificate to MW Grand Master Ingram appointing him Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Washington near the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

Speeches and Remarks by Distinguished Guests

Address of Welcome by Honorable Justin Maile, Mayor of Soldotna

The Honorable Justin Maile, Mayor of the city of Soldotna, was introduced. He spoke as follows:

Hello. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I, as the Mayor of the City of Soldotna and a representative of the Central Kenai Peninsula area, am able to welcome this distinguished gathering of Free and Accepted Masons, a fraternal society of men bound together by brotherly affection. An organization that believes in the concept of the brotherhood of man. It stands for separation of church and state and is supportive of free public education. You've cultivated social virtues and promoted the general good of society. It is the very backbone of a very strong society and a strong country. We are fortunate that your organization exists. Again, welcome to Soldotna and the Central Kenai Peninsula. Thank you.

RESPONSE

RW Gunnar Flygenring, Junior Grand Warden responded as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Visitors, and Brethren, and the Honorable Justin Maile, Mayor of Soldotna:

On behalf of the Grand Lodge of Alaska and all the distinguished visitors to our Third Annual Communication here in the City of Soldotna in the heart of the famous Kenai Peninsula, it is an honor and a privilege for me to thank you for your most cordial welcome and your most gracious hospitality. We are delighted to be here and trust that we will enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship. As Mayor of the City of Soldotna, gateway to superb salmon and trout fishing and next door to the oil capital of Alaska, we do sincerely appreciate you taking the time to come here to the Central Peninsula Sports Center to welcome us this morning. Again, thank you so very much for inviting us to your community and for the efforts and preparations made to make our stay a happy, memorable, and enjoyable one. Thank you.

Elizabeth Musick, Grand Worthy Matron, International Order of Rainbow for Girls

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished East, Friends:

Thank you for the warm reception. I have looked forward to this visit in Kenai to share with you a little about myself and the organization I represent.

I have lived in Alaska for ten years, and I am a 1982 graduate of Ben Eielson High School. I am currently a sophomore at William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri, where I am majoring in Accounting and Computer Science. I have chosen to remain home this semester to fulfill my responsibilities as Grand Worthy Advisor.

At the age of 12, I was initiated into this organization, which has played a large part in the molding of the person I am now.

The Order of the Rainbow is open to girls between the ages of 12 and 20; the formidable years. During these eight years every girl houses a struggle within herself, and at the end of these years will emerge a woman. William Mark Sexon, the founder of the Rainbow, sought a way to enhance the formidable years with an organization to build leadership, citizenship, self-confidence, and public speaking, and to ensure that the woman who emerges will develop feminine virtues and qualities.

The organization was named Rainbow because the Rainbow was God's symbol of hope for the future-Colorful, Bright, and Promising-just like young women. They are our hope for the future.

The ritual is fashioned largely after that of the Masons and Eastern Stars. Each station represents a lesson of initiation. The Altar is surrounded by seven stations in the seven colors of the rainbow. When you look at the rainbow in the sky, you see red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. The Rainbow Girl sees love, religion, nature, immortality, fidelity, patriotism, and service.

Rainbow is an International Organization with assemblies all over the World. We are governed by the Supreme Assembly, and each state has a Grand Assembly. Alaska has thirteen assemblies in ten towns - Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer, Kenai, Kodiak, Cordova, Juneau, Sitka, Wrangell, and Ketchikan. These assemblies will gather in Juneau for our twenty-second Grand Assembly on June 14, 15, and 16. You are cordially invited to join us.

Although each of you may not be personally involved with a Rainbow Assembly (I know many of you are), but even if you aren't, I would like to thank this body as a whole. Your perception of the Masonic tradition has enabled me to participate in your youth organizations. I am not only a Rainbow, but also a part of DeMolay Royalty on both the local and state level. I am a Job's daughter in Fulton, Missouri, and I am a member of Midnight Sun Chapter No. 6, Order of the Eastern Star.

In recent travel I have experienced a phenomena - a common bond between all those involved in the Masonic family. It starts right here with our local involvement with each other and carries throughout the world.

I look forward to seeing each of you as I visit the assemblies in the state. I hope to talk with you on a more personal level during the next few days.

Most Worshipful Grand Master I extend my best wishes to you and your fellow Masons for the remainder of Grand Lodge.

Ben Holly, Past Master Counselor, Order of DeMolay

Most Worshipful John, Grand Lodge Officers, Master Masons, Friends, Guests, and Brethren All:

My name is Ben Holly. I'm the Past Master Counselor of Kenai Chapter, Past State Junior Counselor, and I am a member of the Chevaliers.

In the past seven years that I have been in DeMolay, I have seen a lot of progress in chapter organization, such as the strive of the three chapters in the state to be ritual perfect in the Three Degrees. My own chapter in Kenai has achieved a lot in the past seven years of its existence, as have the other two chapters in the state. In the past three years, the Kenai Chapter has won first place in the three degrees, which consists of the opening and closing, initiatory, and the DeMolay Degrees. The past two years our Chapter has won the best overall Chapter Trophy. But I must say because of the dedication, time, help, and guidance of Dad Lloyd Triggs of Fairbanks, Dad Cliff Darnell of Anchorage, Dad Jerry Holly, Jr., and the Master Counselors of the three chapters, our ritual work has been becoming more and more precise, which has strengthened DeMolay, given us pride, and made us all more aware of what DeMolay really means.

The organization of DeMolay in Alaska has also jumped in great leaps and bounds in our own state organization, which is similar to your own Grand Lodge, and is just about as young. With the able guidance of State Master Counselor, Randy Beck, we are getting stronger and growing fast. I only wish he was here to greet you himself.

In my seven years in DeMolay I have seen our state organization grow. We now have our own state paper, which is called *The Pipeliner* and is distributed to the members of the three chapters in the state. We have a great group of young men leading our state organization. In the past four years, our State Master Counselor has gone out to the International Supreme Sessions for DeMolay Congress to represent our state. I was fortunate to attend the session in San Antonio, Texas, last April representing our chapter.

DeMolay has taught me a lot in the past seven years, but most of all it has given me a destination to Masonry. I have two more years in DeMolay, and I'm planning on petitioning Kenai Lodge No. 11. All I'm waiting for now is to reach my 21st birthday.

In closing, I would also like to thank you all for inviting me to come here and speak about an organization that means a lot to me. But most of all, thanks for supporting us and making DeMolay what it is today. Thank you all.

Jennifer Stewart, Past Honored Queen, Job's Daughters

Good afternoon Grand Master, Master Masons, Distinguished Guests, Ladies, and Gentlemen:

What is Job's Daughters? The object of this organization is to band together girls, in hereafter designated for the spiritual and moral up building. To seek knowledge, to teach the love of God, love for our country and its flag, love for the home and family, and reverence for the teachings of the Holy Bible.

Being in this beautiful organization has lead me to many adventures. I have been to three of our Supreme Sessions, but can honestly say that the last one was most adventurous.

My family and I traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, this past summer. There I learned much on how all of the girls are very proud of their Masonic heritage.

A motion was brought upon the floor that we drop our Masonic heritage. That motion was vetoed almost unanimously. One girl stood up and quoted from the book of Job, "And in all the land were no woman found so fair as the daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their Brethren." She said that was the most important thing about Job's Daughters, because all of the girls sitting in the room were related.

The benefits of this organization for the girls with Masonic relationships are too numerous to relate. Therefore, we all hope the question of dropping our Masonic heritage will never be brought up again, because we are very proud of it. Not every girl can be a Job's Daughter.

In the six years I have been in Job's Daughters, I have seen maybe two or three Masons sitting on the sidelines of our meetings. Are you aware that a Job's Daughters meeting cannot open unless a Master Mason is present? When was the last time you attended a Bethel meeting?

There are two Job's Daughter Bethels in the state of Alaska. They are both located in Anchorage. Bethel No. 1 meets every first and third Monday of every month. They meet at the Masonic Temple on 15th and Eagle Street.

The International Order of Job's Daughters was founded in 1920 by Ethel T. Wead Mick. She is also the author of our ritual that was adopted in 1921. She was the First Supreme Guardian, and since she is so special to us we have a Mother Mick ceremony every year.

There is nothing more fitting to a young woman than the beautiful sentiment expressed in the Book of Job, as exemplified in our ritualistic work. It indicated to us that through life, from early childhood to old age, we encounter trials and tribulations which must be met and overcome.

Our meeting place is called "Bethel," which means "Holy Place." The Grecian Robes that we wear in our meetings were worn by the people in the days of Job. The official regalia suggest a forward, upward, and onward trend toward higher ideals.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for inviting me here this afternoon. I hope you have learned something new about Job's Daughters. Maybe as we journey through life our paths will cross again.

MW Wiley F. Smith, Grand Master of Idaho

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother John. Thank you. Brethren and Distinguished Guests:

I would like to offer the most sincere thanks possible to Brother John and his wife, Dottie, and to the Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren of Alaska for your hospitality, meeting us at the airport, the reception, and the banquet last night; that was really good. It was something outstanding. The whole evening was terrific. I don't know really how to make the comment about Alaska. It's not the Dark Ages, but it kind of looked that way this morning because in Idaho the sun comes up just a little bit earlier. You've got to work awfully darn hard to get enough time in the daylight hours to get a days work done, or there are a lot of night owls around, one or the other. If it had been daylight earlier, I might have had a chance to see that peeping Tom that was by the hotel because there was. I would like to get a glimpse of him. The second we looked out the window it was a thrill to see the moose tracks go right around the end of the hotel.

We're not very big city, but it's a different atmosphere. It's not like the big cities in the lower states. If you say hello to somebody on the street, they turn around and look at you and wonder what's wrong with you. You say it right here to these people in Alaska, and they'll say hello back to you.

I bring you greetings from the Brothers of Idaho. We're not a big jurisdiction; 10,500. We're making some turn-arounds this year. We're taking some ideas from some of our neighbor jurisdictions, coming up with a few ideas of our own. It's time we act like Masons, and not just say we're Masons. The Grand Orator of Utah pointed out to us how beautiful a sunset can be. There's a lot of color there. But, Brethren, the darkness follows. In other words that's the end. Look to the dawn that's so much more refreshing. You've got all of the day to do your work and that's where the Mason better be standing, is at the dawn. We say we're Masons and we're charitable. But if we look from the inside because we say we're charitable, and we know that's the heritage of this organization.

The lady that had her hair fixed and was going to get a taxi and go home, couldn't get a taxi, so she decided she would ride the city bus. After getting on the bus, she found out that there was only one seat left. Nothing else to do but to take that seat. Beside her was a cowboy slouched down in the seat and passed out, and he looked awful. He had tied a really good one on, and he was stone drunk. She could hardly take it. That was way

below her dignity. She finally elbowed him and when she woke him up she said, "You're disgusting." He just nodded to her and went back to sleep. A little farther down the road she poked him again in the ribs and woke him up. She said, "You're just a stupid drunk." He just nodded and went back to sleep. Come to the stop for the cowboy to get off and the bus driver stopped the bus and went back to wake him up and told him, "This is where you're supposed to get off." So he did. He excused himself, stepped into the aisle, crossed in front of the lady and out he went. He walked back along the bus, and stopped to tap the window. She ignored him. He tapped harder. He finally got her attention, and she turned around. He motioned her over to the window. She did. And he told her, "Lady," he said, "I might be disgusting and I might be drunk, but you're plain ugly and I'll be sober tomorrow."

Brothers, maybe that's where we stand in Masonry. We know how we think we look, and we're great, and we are. But that's only if we protect our image and portray it right. We need to look at ourselves before we go picking on somebody else. We need to look at ourselves to see if we are what we should be. We don't need to go out and ask advice on how to create an image. We need to create an image by doing, by being charitable, by helping, not just by dollars, but by action. There are so many ways that we can enjoy ourselves and get back on track. We need to be careful about what we're doing. We need to know what we want to do so we can look for an answer of how we need to do things, and then we wait and just give it some good thought. The most disgusting part is the well, sitting there just dry as it can be, and I've had that happen many times because the last one there didn't fill the can back up so you can prime that pump. Masonry is that way. If you don't put anything into it, you're not going to get anything out. But if you put a little bit in and get that thing primed you can run that pump for days with little effort and it continues to bring forth water. You'll enjoy it thoroughly if you just put a little bit into it. You get a lot better reward back than the efforts that you put forth.

Worshipful Master, Brother John, thanks ever so much for a great time here and continue to put forth for the Brothers that the most important tool they've got is the fuel on the Altar. You can continue to enjoy God's blessing for all. Thanks ever so much.

Welcome to Grand Representatives of Other Grand Lodges

At the request of the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary called the roll of the Grand Representatives of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Alaska. The Representatives formed a semicircle west of the Altar. MW Grand Master Ingram addressed the Grand Representatives as follows:

Brethren, on behalf of the members of our Grand Lodge, we appreciate the correspondence you are creating between you and your counterpart and jurisdiction that you are in communication with. I would ask that you take a copy of the Grand Master's Message and Annual Report and mail it to your counterpart along with any other topic of Masonry in Alaska that they can get. One of you make it a practice each year to send to your counterpart a copy of the *Alaska Magazine* as kind of a Christmas present. I think

that's very good and appropriate. That's a nice magazine. I get Indiana's several publications from my counterpart in the Grand Lodge of Indiana. But it's up to you to make that close tie with your Brother that you correspond with. And if you get back there, notify your Grand Master that you're going back there. Since I mentioned in my Grand Master's Message that we're still waiting for some to come forward, I ask you Brothers on the sidelines, get it down in writing to your Grand Master or get it to me. Brethren, thank you for the good job that you've done. I ask you to assist me in considering such an appointment. We thank you very much for accepting the responsibility you have. Brethren, give a welcome for our Grand Representatives.

Response by MW Roy Foss

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, and my Brethren: When I arrived here in Soldotna, I got a chance to peek at our Grand Masters program and saw that I was going to respond to the Grand Representatives throughout the room. It is indeed a joy for me to represent the Grand Lodge of New South Wales because I have made contact. Some of us who have these appointments have not done a thing. Some of us wrote a couple of letters or a letter. Some of us have yet to contact the jurisdiction we represent. Some of us have gone twice to represent the Grand Lodge of Alaska and according to my schedule, I have to be back again next week. When I was initiated into this organization, I had it not. My conductor had it for me. Now I'm scheduled to go around the world and show that I have it. If anybody wants to go down, this would be an opportunity to help represent the Grand Lodge of Alaska in Australia. Most Worshipful Sir, I thank you for the privilege of being here to respond for representatives of other jurisdictions. Thank you Most Worshipful Sir.

Welcome to Grand Representatives of the Grand Lodge Near Other Grand Lodges

The MW Grand Master asked the Grand Marshal to escort the visiting Grand Representatives of this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges to the Altar for introduction. Those present were introduced as follows:

Washington	RW Matt Martin
Nebraska	MW Byron C. Jenkins
Japan	VW Arthur S. Thomas
Montana	MW Francis D. Hess
Arkansas	MW M. Monroe Robinson

The Grand Master then addressed them as follows:

Brethren, we ask that you continue to keep us informed of the happenings at your Grand Jurisdictions. I hope that your counterparts will do as good a job for you as you have done for us. We appreciate the time you have taken to be here at this Grand Communication.

Response

MW Francis D. Hess, Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Montana, made the following response:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished East, and Brethren:

I know speaking for my cohorts down there that we're all pleased and honored to represent our jurisdictions in this great Jurisdiction of Alaska. Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Byron and I have been in this from the start, and I'm sure that he will concur with me when I say that when you had a dream and decided to put it into practice, you were experts in the use of the trowel, and you were using very tempered mortar. It will last forever. Most Worshipful Grand Master, I can assure you that your appointment of your Representative to Montana is very active. I might say there have been very few letters sent. There have been some phone calls, and it doesn't cost very much to call from Demon, Montana, to Soldotna, Alaska, if you remember to shut up and quit talking. But I've had very good relations with Worshipful Brother Jerry and wish to thank him and your better half for the hosting that they've done for us this year.

Brethren of my Grand Lodge of Alaska, can you realize the mental and physical tension I've been under the last two days to make sure that I didn't bring the wrath of either of my Grand Masters down upon me while I was enjoying myself in this Grand Jurisdiction. Brethren, it is a pleasure to be here again, and I can assure you that I will be back again and again. As I was telling one other Brother last year or this last night, if you get tired of me and make it unpleasant for me up here, I'm just going to come up here for pure obstinence. Otherwise, I'll be up here just for Brotherly love and friendship. Thank you.

Reception of the Deputies of the Grand Master

The Grand Master asked his Deputies to form at the Altar as follows:

VW Robert E. Morse. Sr. (2)	District No. 1
VW Milton M. Routzahn (9)	District No. 2
VW Robert M. Parkins (8)	District No. 3

The Grand Master gave words of praise and thanks to the Deputies for their work. The response was given by VW Robert M. Parkins. Then the Grand Master explained why there was no appointment for District No. 4, but emphasized that an opening remains for an appointment of a Deputy from that district.

MW Claire L. Finlayson, Grand Master of Oregon

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, and My Brethren:

Before I proceed I think I'd best describe the primary duty. My thanks to Most Worshipful Brother John Ingram, his wife, Dottie, and to all others who have been responsible in part for the reception of my wife and myself to the great State of Alaska. We have been well accommodated, we're having a wonderful adventure, and I think that's about the only word that serves this particular occasion. For both my wife and myself I'm sure that this will be one of the great high points in my year as Grand Master of Oregon, this trip we took to Alaska. We're not going to forget it for years to come. I think that is expressing any individual philosophy of Masonry.

You might be interested in hearing from me a little bit about what's gone on in the past year in Oregon. In the last two or three years we seem to be entering a period of activity at the Grand Lodge level which we hope will serve as an example for all of our Lodges in Oregon. We hope to exert a positive type of leadership and we hope to reinforce our communications with each of our Lodges. We hope to initiate the program that will help bring Masons in Oregon into the Twenty-first century. The thing that is against the Masonry is the apathy of certain individuals and the apathy that seems to be in some of our Lodges. We must defeat this defeatism because that's exactly what it is. I think the time for complaining is over and for optimism is at hand; we should grab the future and not be afraid of it.

In our Grand Lodge, we have many things going. We have aggressive types of Trustees on our Board. About the greatest thing that we have going on right now is the creation of a condominium type of retirement village at our Masonic Masons' and Stars' Home. Two and a half years ago the Brethren of our Grand Lodge gave us the permission to go ahead and create the retirement housing and village for our elderly. Now Brothers, I hope that if you ever embark on such a program, you allow plenty of time for development. I don't know how some of our developers this day and age can continue to serve on the various government bodies - planners, legislators, councilmen, and commissioners - because you have to go through so much. The last two and a half years have been just to wade through the legal swamps of getting such a village started. The time lost has been most disheartening.

You've got to pay more attention to our public image and our recognition as Masons; what we do and what we stand for. Because where we've been for over 60 years, and with all those years, it's been a major industry. Yet there are many, many people in Forest Grove that did not want to see us merely start as a Masonic retirement village. They bring in four hundred to five hundred new people in their community. We didn't want those. So these are some of the things that we've learned in the last two and a half years. They're tough lessons. And I'm glad to report we have won the battle. We're ready to start digging dirt and we hope to have 48 units with people living in them after this year. Our entire program will call for about 304 living units. But in view of our

experience thus far, we're trying to be realistic and say we're looking ahead probably five, six, seven, or more years before this village is completed.

Another thing we've done is join the computer age. And I think that this is going to be one of the biggest payoffs that we've endeavored this year. We didn't invest too much in the computer program, but we're already beginning to reap benefits from it. As we get more use out of it, it'll be of much greater service and information retrieved with all of our Constituent Lodges. Last June, our Grand Lodge for the first time in its 134-year history had a publication. Bringing it out into publication and the acquisition of our computer helped to make this possible because we can do our own typing and save \$20 a page. So just now in the mail is our second edition of the *Oregon Masonic News*. It's not the greatest paper of all times, but it is a start, and by giving the Brothers another issue, they'll have six issues by which to judge whether or not we're performing well, and we'll know whether the *Oregon Masonic News* appropriation is coming in June. The Grand Lodge will vote on it. I think this will be a great improvement in our communications.

So many of our problems in fraternal work stem from the lack of communication- And I hope above all that we will reactivate some of our inactive Masons on our roles. This year after much study and working with the Masonic Service Association for background, we dive into the proposition of what makes up our Masonic family. We can't find records of any of the Masonic Assemblymen in Oregon that have ever been given the sanction of the Grand Lodge. This sanction is called for by our Code. And so in early January, I made a proclamation in which the Grand Master recognized 26 organizations working under the Masonic umbrella in the State of Oregon. We feel that this will be an improvement in organization communications and a better feeling that we have a real Masonic family.

We are not even prepared to possibly do something about the rituals. We're going to be very cautious in this approach because we have asked for three years and there's been no input to this familiar situation in Oregon. We may find out in June that the rituals should not be changed by the will of others. If so, we'll drop the committee. But as of this year we hope to give an exemplification of the proposed new and modified rituals. We try to avoid some repetitions, we tried to especially take care of a few things and shorten our proficiency lecture. We are also trying to see what some possible objections are to the language used in our obligation. It will not be changed, but it may be modified and explanatory sentences added to it.

The change in our law in Oregon last year about eighteen-year-olds being eligible to apply has not resulted in any great rush of eighteen-year-olds. As we are now completing our district meetings, we are finding out that what happened was that the eighteen-year-old applicants were getting us more people than the twenty to twenty-five year old class. We're finding our applicants are getting younger. I think it was a step in the right direction, I'm encouraged. These young people are one of the great things we need in Masonry. I'm glad we have the wonderful backbone of all our Past Masters, but I want to see younger people go to work. I think we need to bring in the Twenty-first Century. I look back to find the Grand Masters we've had, the Grand Masters and their

help, and I think that it's time that we had more of that. We need more of the enthusiasm and vigor of youth in every one of our Lodges. This, I think, will ensure us to be a viable and a great institution with membership of force and vigor. Thank you very much my Brethren and Most Worshipful Grand Master.

MW Byron C. Jenkins, Past Grand Master of Nebraska

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Officers, Distinguished Guests, and more particularly, my Brethren:

The gavel has been mentioned a couple of times here today and maybe I should give you a little history of where that gavel came from. We first saw it in the State of Nebraska. It was in Bellevue, Nebraska, which I claim as my home town now. It was formed out of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. The State of Nebraska at that time was Indian Territory and probably a total of 75 white population in the whole territory. The site was formed in Bellevue at what was Sarte's Trading Post. There were about twelve Masons among the government people and the fur traders in that small community. In a few years, yellow fever swept the town as if it was in the bottom lands of the Missouri River, and they had to move the town up into the hills. The Peter Sane Trading Post was destroyed. They moved the logs up and built homes on top of the hills with the logs of the trading post. One of those log cabins still exists. The Brethren have possession of some of those logs from that original trading post dating back to 1855, when the first site was formed. And this gavel that John has been talking about is cut from one of the original logs from Peter Sarte's Trading Post. So it is a rather significant item, at least to me, and I hope it will be to you Brethren here in Alaska.

I've been amused at the topics of conversation as I meet with the Brethren around the room, around the area. The first topic is always Masonry. The second thing is that wonderful football team. Brethren, I'll tell you Big Red isn't dead. Everybody has been wondering what the people in the State of Nebraska thought about their football team. We're prouder of that football team than we are of the one that was the national champion. That's what the Nebraskans are all about, we go to win. I think you people up here go to win too. You've got it in your mind to work on, I have a Grand Lodge and you've got your Grand Lodge, your winner. Of course, I think all Masons are winners. You wouldn't be here if you weren't a winner.

I know that you Brethren up here enjoy the nature and the beauty of this great State. This is the fourth time for me. Brethren, but when I come to your Grand Lodge sessions I never get to see any part of your State, so my wife and I came up last September. We came up the Inland Water Way, and took the bus from Skagway to Whitehorse to Fairbanks, just a little part of the state, Brethren, but I enjoyed it immensely. I should tell you I was over in the Inland Water Way and we were in this one jewelry store (my wife loves jewelry), and we got to talking to the proprietor and like most of them with tourists, he says, "Where are you from?" Well, normally we say, "Omaha," because people do recognize that city and we said, "Omaha." He said, "Oh, I'm

familiar with the area," and so we told him we were actually from Bellevue, and he thought, "Oh," he said, "Neat! Do you know coach James at the high school down there?" Now about Bill James, he's a member of my Lodge. And he says, "Obviously, he coached football up in that city and we played Bellevue." And I said, I didn't realize that. I've seen some of the games. He says, "Do you know Morris Long?" And I said, "Of course, I know Morris Long, he's a very, very good friend of mine and he's Secretary of the Grand Lodge in the State of Nebraska." He said, "Well, see. I'm originally from there and Morris is from there. I left my home a number of years ago and I've been trying to find a Secretary of the Lodge so I can get reinstated. Would you carry the message to Morris and have him get a hold of the Secretary and write me." So Brothers, my help had to come clear to Alaska to get a reinstatement for Nebraska.

Brethren, the welcome I receive every time I come up here, the courtesies of the Grand Master extended to my wife and myself, the courtesy, friendship, and Brotherly love that each and every one of you extend to me every time I'm here. Iconic up here for one thing and that's to get my batteries recharged. And you Brethren do that for me. I will be here every year as long as the good Lord permits me. I thank you.

MW Robert R. Stevens, Grand Master of Indiana

Thank you. Thank you very much. Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:

I do bring you greetings from the State of Indiana. One hundred forty-three thousand Masons and we have some similarities, some correlations that I've been thinking about. My Lodge was founded in 1809 on a dispensation from Kentucky, and when it came time to form the Grand Lodge of Indiana in 1818, we only had about twelve Lodges, just a few hearty souls on the frontier. If you think about that for a moment, there is a correlation between what you Masons are doing here in Alaska and what we've been doing in Indiana Lodge No. 165. One hundred-seventy years ago, as the frontier has expanded and moved to the west and northwest, my reasons for coming to Alaska, I suppose include your Grand Master because he's honored us in Indiana so much. While he's been an Ambassador for you, he's also been a native and we're awfully proud of him. Also my reason for coming was to fulfill kind of a personal ambition I've had since I was a little fellow and always wanted to come to Alaska and I'm thrilled to be here. I think you offer something that the rest of us can't offer. You offer adventure. I think that is one of the reasons that I decided to make this trip all the way from southern Indiana. I think it would be the high point of my tenure as Grand Master, certainly as far as visitations are concerned. It's great to be here and I thank you very much for the hospitality that you've shown me. Thank you.

MW C. Donald Brons, Grand Master of Washington

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, and Brethren. Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Alaska:

What a pleasure it is to be with you today. Most Worshipful Grand Master, first of all on behalf of my wife and on behalf of the delegation from the Grand Lodge of Washington. I do want to thank you, officers, members of each Grand Lodge of Alaska for the many courtesies that you have extended to us. It's been great and I appreciate it for a rather special reason. This year we kind of feel lucky to observe your Third Anniversary. We're just so happy to come and check on your health and your welfare. What a thrill that is! How many of the other jurisdictions can do that? You know I have met your Grand Master on several occasions at the different Grand Lodges in the past several years. I can report to you, but I think you already know, that he is probably the most friendly Grand Master, at least that I know of. Not only that, but I've heard him say a number of times, "I'm getting sick and tired of listening to these people here complaining." And that is true. If we can just get that message across to all of our members, there's nothing wrong with Masonry that you and I can't repair.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, you did mention a few moments ago that possibly I might say something about our work in establishing a Washington Grand Lodge Library and Museum and office building. We too have had some stumbling blocks in getting tax-exempt status for this and it has taken us far longer than we'd expected. This project started about two and a half years ago and had been approved by the Grand Lodge. Two or three months ago the Deputy said that they had been granted this tax status and in December I believe it was, gave the Committee permission to go ahead. Sometime during this session, if you have the time, you have a member of that committee here. You might be interested in hearing from him. Thank you.

MW William M. Brass, Grand Master of Montana

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished East, Distinguished Guests, and Brethren All:

There really aren't enough words in the English language to express how I feel at this moment. I would like first of all to thank our Most Worshipful Grand Master for the hospitality, for the gifts, for all of the fun, and for the many enjoyable experiences that my wife, Maxine, and I have had. I have no complaints at all with perhaps one exception, and that was remedied in a very natural way and perfectly normal thing when I arrived here somewhat out of schedule. Your good Most Worshipful Grand Master greeted me with a warm hand shake and a, "Bill, I'm glad you're here." And that made me feel very good, but a few moments later, his lovely wife, Dottie, came up to me and threw her arms around me and gave me a great big hug and I felt like I had really come home. I appreciate that. I've had many gifts and laughs and experiences and I'm going to take home with me some of the most valuable gifts that you men can give. First of all, I've been here something over 36 hours and this is my first trip to Alaska and I already feel at home. I think that's tremendous. I wonder how many of you Brothers know what home is. That's the place you go when you're tired of being lost.

You know life is a series of experiences that develop into memories, kind of like inverted pyramids. You start out small at the bottom and it begins to grow. And in that 36 hours I have stored up enough memories I think that the pyramid is terribly much broader than it was a short time ago. I have partaken of the, what was that, the "Memorable Munch of the Muk Tuk." I have eaten of walrus and seal and flipper and other things that I am afraid to ask what they were. I'm just as happy that they tasted good and I didn't know what they were. I found out what the secret of muk tuk is. You chew it for a while longer and by the time you finally get it to where you can swallow it, you're too tired to eat any more. I think that's a magnificent meal.

You know my Brothers, in my experiences in the Grand Lodge line and traveling throughout Montana and many of the other jurisdictions. I've heard a couple of words that seem to be kind of buzz words, or key words if you will, when we discuss the situation in Freemasonry. One of them is that we have to do something about our image. The Sosha Fire Department took care of its image but they kind of forgot to take care of the things that were important and those are the things that are down inside, the things that really make all that shiny outward appearance worthwhile. We tell a man when we take him into this institution that we are interested not in the external qualities but in the internal qualities of man. And if there are any problems in Freemasonry today, it's because too many of us are neglectful of the brakes. We're pretty concerned with the outward appearance with the pins and the jewels and the suits and the ties and the other uniforms we wear but we sometimes forget that it's the man inside that counts. And we need only to remember that in order to begin to practice what we've learned at that Altar that Freemasonry will not have any problems. The image of our Order can be cured only by you and me. It cannot be cured by publicity in the newspapers, it cannot be cured by large acts which attract a great deal of attention, it has to be done by each one of us. There is no other way.

I've heard another word that seems to be a kind of buzz word and that word is "apathy." It's quite often given as the reason why. I think someone mentioned yesterday that there were four million Masons and only four hundred thousand of them were active. I didn't know that the percentage was that high, but I guess that's all right because it's been my experience in most of my life associations that two percent of the people do ninety-eight percent of the work and the other ninety-eight percent take all the credit for it. I think that's true in our Order. But apathy is only part of the problem. You know, in our journeys through the Degrees we met with three rather distinguished and rather rough characters and they were given names and the names are all familiar to you. but they have other names. Apathy was only the first of them. He was not totally involved in what he set out to do because the Grand Master escaped from him.

The name of the second ruffian, he was a little more dangerous, is "complacency." Complacency is a fearful enemy for an Order like this. That's the man who says we never did it that way before. That's the man that says you can't change that because we've always done it this way. That's the man who is completely satisfied with the status quo. with the way things are and there is nothing you can do to shake him, he will not change. But if my memory serves me right, there were three ruffians, weren't there? Brothers, the

thing that you and I have to be most concerned with is that the name of the third ruffian is not our own. Because it is our actions that determine whether or not this institution will survive, not the actions of those persons. What we do here doesn't amount to much here inside the Lodge. It's what we do outside the Lodge that counts. We're all proud to be Masons, and all we need to do is start telling the world about it and tell them why. And some of our problems will begin to disappear.

Most Worshipful Brother John, again my deepest and grateful thanks for all of the things that have happened to me here and to all of you Brethren. This is hospitality on a Montana scale and it has been absolutely delightful. Thank you my Brothers.

MW A. R. Johnson, Past Grand Master of New Mexico

Most Worshipful, it's a fine pleasure:

I always enjoy coming to a group of Masons. I tell you the hospitality here in Alaska's fine. I was going to say distinguished guests but you see why I didn't say that? That's the reason. I would like to say though, my Brother, the pleasure that I've had here in Alaska and if I've made one friend, my trip's worth every minute of this thing because that's what I thrive on: friendship. Before I get into this real serious talk I've got lined up here I would like to ask Right Worshipful Brother Jack to please come forward. Brother Jack I have two books here that were given to me by one of the greatest friends I consider I have and by one of the Masons that I have more respect for. Sincerely Brother, I've learned to love this man and I would like to present these to you. It's the story of Oklahoma Masonry and also a monitor of Oklahoma, Jack (Presents books to RW H. B. "Jack" Bentley, Deputy Grand Master.)

But Brethren a little hit on the serious side, if there's such a thing as getting serious for me. We have several words in our Masonry that mean a great deal. We talk about faith, hope, and charity: Faith in God, Hope of immortality, and Charity to all mankind. Our good Brother Wiley talked yesterday on charity. But I guess the three greatest words to me in Masonry are friendship, morality, and brotherly love. Brother, your Grand Master, if anyone has ever displayed this, he has. I want you to know Brethren, not only here, but everywhere I've run across Most Worshipful Brother John it's been this way. He never changes. I'm just happy and my life is richer to know such a man as John Ingram. I feel as though Brethren, that every man in this room is someones example of Freemasonry. You may not think so, but Brother you are being watched. You're an example, and this is what is going to make this great fraternity of ours flourish, is how we act as Freemasons. I believe this.

I have also said many times, it makes no difference how much money you've attained, it can never buy one friend. Money can't buy friendship. Where else in the world could you go and have the friends that we have in this great fraternity of ours? To me, it's great. This is what I live for is the friends I have. Like I say, if I made one since I've been in Alaska, my trip was well worth every inch of it. Most Worshipful, with your

permission I have a little something I'd like to read to the Brethren. I like poetry, and to me this explains exactly what Freemasonry really means to me. Incidentally, too, American Association of Railroads, I worked for the railroad. I've got to put that plug in. That's something else. My good friend from Oklahoma has got an airplane. He's a pilot, but I can tell him one thing. We wouldn't have sat down there two hours in that fog if we would have been on a train.

The title of this little verse. Brethren, is ,”Building for the Future.”

When I'm through with this old play house of mine,
And no more guide lights through the windows shine.
Just box it up tight and lay it away,
With the other clay houses of yesterday.
And with it my friend do try as you can,
To bury the wrong since first I began.
To live in this house very deep and forget,
I want to be square, and out of debt.
When I meet the Great Architect Supreme,
Face to face, I want to be clean.
I know it's too late to mend
The bad filled house when we come to the end.
But to you who are building just look over mine,
And make your alterations while there is still time.
Just study this house, no tears should be shed.
It's like any play house when the tenant has fled.
I lived in this house many years all alone,
Just waiting an awful long to go home.
Don't misunderstand me this world is divine,
With love, birds, and flowers and glorious sunshine.
It's a wonderful place and a wonderful plan,
A wonderful, wonderful gift to man.
Yet somehow I know or somehow I feel, when the cycles complete,
There are dear ones across whom we're anxious to meet.
So we close up the books, we check out the past,
No more forced balances this is the last.
Each item is checked, each page must be clean,
That's the passport we carry to the Builder Supreme.
So when I'm through with this old house of clay.
Just box it up tight and lay it away.
For the Builder has promised when this one is spent,
To have one all furnished with timber I've sent.
While I lived here in this one of course it will be.
Exactly as I have filled it here you see.
It's the kind of material we each send across,
If we build poorly then of course it's our loss.
You ask which material is the best to select.

It was told you long ago by the Great Architect.
A new Commandment give I unto you,
That you love one another as I have loved you.
So the finest material to send up above is clear.
Straight-grained timber of brotherly love.

Brethren, thank you. Thank you Most Worshipful Sir.

MW George R. Bordewick, Past Grand Master of Washington

Most Worshipful Grand Master, my Brothers and my friends of Alaska and Washington and way points as far away as New Mexico:

You've been told that I'm going to preside over the Conference of Grand Masters which is a respected institution but it's probably no coincidence that the first time I met friend Swede was about midnight in a Committee meeting and since he was a railroad man, I wasn't surprised to see him there. This is my fourth time in Soldotna. The first time I was taken hunting and it was the thrill of my life. On each of the other three occasions we have seen our Grand Master, John Ingram, at work. Each of those three occasions was a Friends Night, a Community Night the like of which I have never seen anywhere else. If each of our Lodges could at least once in its year put on a night like we had last night, and it's within your power to do it, we wouldn't have to worry about the future of Freemasonry.

I'm reminded of a traveling salesman in the early days who was driving a Model T up the back roads near Mt. Vernon. The back country, there is a little hilly, and at 2:00 in the morning he had a flat tire. He got out the equipment, and he tried to jack the car up. hut he couldn't find the handle for the jack. So he looked up the hill, through the rain and the wind, and he saw this light up on the hillside. So he started walking through the fields, crossing fences and stumbling, and he said. "That guy will kill me, waking him up at 2:00 in the morning, but I've just got to borrow a jack handle." So he continued mumbling and complaining and trying to work up his courage, and finally he got up to the house, and there was a light on up in the second story of this old farm house. He picked up some gravel, and he threw it up at the light. The man looked out and said, "What do you want?" He said. "Keep your jack handle!" Isn't that the way that some of us approach life? We approach it with a lack of confidence and inability to believe that we're on the right track and we're afraid of what's going to happen to us.

A man's friendships are one of the best measures of his worth. That was said by the same man that promulgated the theory of evolution. Another great one was Brother Emerson, who said, "The only way to have a friend is to be one. And he also said something that is very dear to me. I'm like the fellow who is worried about the jack handle. I've gone through life and have been thrust into leadership positions for reasons which I don't understand, and I'm not your most courageous fellow. I don't like getting up and speaking in public because I'm always nervous doing it, and I know that there are

many of you in this room who feel the same way. Yet I am compelled to speak about something that I love. I'm compelled to speak of Freemasonry and about Brotherly love. So I remember something else that I read in Emerson's works. "Always do that thing which you are most afraid of." Because I'm a Freemason, because I took the Three Degrees, because with the First Degree I learned to go forward into life without fear.

For one reason or another I have achieved some small success and I surprise myself continually. We're going to have the Grand Masters Conference in Seattle. We have succeeded in getting it out of the hotel in Washington, D.C., which has probably seen better days. It's an important meeting. It's a place where Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, and those who wish to come can meet people from all over the world. I have met a Past Grand Master from Brazil who told me of the troubles of the small frontier town in Brazil surrounded by jungle, not by snow. But they have the identical problems we do and they get the same identical solutions in the end. I've met a leader of the French Resistance, if you remember the famous photo of General DeGaulle and the others marching down the main street under the Arc de Triumphe in Paris, an occasion in the liberation. The man on DeGaulle's right hand side was a Grand Master of France a year or so ago. I've met a Deputy Grand Master from Germany, tall, thin man. So they come from all over the world to meet and to try in some small way to improve Freemasonry. So if you're around, just drop in.

There's a Brother in the back of the room who's kind of sun burnt and he had the effrontery to come here by way of Hawaii. Stand up Mark, isn't that a beautiful tan? Just look at him. He's been a friend of mine for a long time. He really won his way into my heart one night when he was a Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 6 a long time ago. His farewell address to Delta Lodge had this for its final thought: "We've done the Degrees, we've done all the things to manage our Lodge, we come to meetings, now comes the hard part. The hard part is when you go out and try to live it.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, you have been a true friend and a great Mason and an example that we could all follow. I've been talking to a few Senior Wardens here and there, without your permission, telling them they ought to plan their year. I think that if we all planned a night like you gave us last night, within the scope of our resources, we would do a heck of a lot for Freemasonry. Thank you.

MW M. Monroe Robinson, Past Grand Master of Arkansas

Anybody here that thinks they're going to hear anything intelligent might as well leave. You know Brother John, we don't have any strangers in Alaska or anywhere we go. We just have friends we haven't met yet. That's been a policy of mine. I think that's the way we're supposed to be in life. Life's too short to have it any other way. Alaska, the last frontier. My Brother, it's been my pleasure to sit here and to listen to your great communication and to witness some of the very first things in my Masonic career. Number one you had 100 percent participation representation from your supporting Lodges. Number two you had an increase in your Lodges with a Lodge under

dispensation. Number three, what was the third one, Swede? You had an increase in membership. Right? That's unusual, very unusual. These things are things that I have not seen. You have operated in the black this year with money put in reserve into your general fund. You, my Brother, ought to be commended for your efforts and dedication to Masonry in the great State of Alaska.

You know, our good friend. Brother John Ingram, without knowing it has imparted some words of wisdom on those of us who do listen. Brother John said at the Grand Masters Banquet that the Indian scalps his enemy and the white man skins his friends. And that's the truth. Early in life, you'll learn that you have to make your living or your profit from your friends because your enemies won't trade with you.

As we came into Kenai Lodge the day before yesterday, it's customary in our country to see the Charter, to see that we're not in a clandestine Lodge. It's customary to see that the Lodge is in proper form. Certainly in this particular case everything wasn't in proper form, I see here that you have your Old Glory. The Canadian flag, and the flag of Alaska. Now I have a presentation to make at this time for our Brother. Brother John Ingram, and for that Lodge left in improper form. So, John, would you assist me. Will you hold it any way you like my friend. You're big enough to do as you please. (Presents MW Ingram with a Confederate Flag.)

When I was elected Grand Master of Arkansas, I had membership in Blocker Lodge No. 247 in Booneville, Arkansas, and dual membership in Paris No. 378. They authorized me at that time to make Honorary Members of some of my Grand Masters. It is my pleasure to present you Brother John with Honorary Membership in each of my Lodges. In Paris, Arkansas, and Booneville, Arkansas. And I hope that you will accept these in the true spirit that they were offered. (Grand Master Ingram accepted.)

Thank you Brother John. You know, I had the distinction of appointing myself as the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Alaska in Arkansas. I may be the only one here representing from another state and it is certainly my pleasure. I would have been here last year my Brothers, but your Grand Lodge conflicts with my Grand Lodge and I had to preside last year but I had to be here with you this year.

RW George W. Baldwin, Senior Grand Warden of British Columbia

Most Worshipful John Ingram, Most Worshipful, Right Worshipful, Very Worshipful, Worshipful Brethren, Brethren All:

I wrote some notes down because I had some very serious business to attend to here today. First of all, of course, I bring you the greeting of Most Worshipful Brother Bob Kitchen and all the Freemasons of the Grand Jurisdiction of British Columbia. Now that jurisdiction, of course, encompasses the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory. No, I'm no stranger to Alaska. I first came here 35 years ago. We heard

somebody yesterday talk about being here 35 years. Now he came to stay. I went up to Fairbanks, worked out on the creeks for the summer, and I had sense enough to go back outside and go and get some education. But then following that, and following my graduation from the university, I got embroiled with Uncle Sam, the same as Most Worshipful Brother John did In 1951. I went down to Texas to serve the United States Air Force. I know that there are no Texans here, or at least I gathered that from the way the stones were going this morning, but I still consider myself partly Texan, and I know that Texas is still the largest glacier-free state in the nation. Now, we're the next door neighbors and we're the boys that can drive over. The rest of you fellas coming from rather far away, you've got to fly in. You've got to fly low, and you've got to take a long time to get here. But we just get in the car, just come over the border and we're here.

Yesterday the Grand Chaplain quoted some scripture. He said how good and how beautiful it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity. I hope in peace, and I hope in harmony. But I have another verse of scripture and I defy the Grand Chaplain to find it. It goes something like this: "Verily thou is taking from thy neighbor, that which is not thine. Then thy neighbor may come to thy Grand Lodge and. recover it." And today I am here to protect my Brethren from the Yukon and I want to do just that. I know that neighbors have a habit of borrowing from one another. We see it with Dagwood and his friend. Herb, and they're always borrowing and not returning. Of course, it's been a long time, a long history of trade between Canada and Alaska, going back to the days of the Russians and the Hudson's Bay Company. But I want to take back from you people what does not belong to you here today.

I have with me Exhibit A, the Alaska crossword puzzle that was in the handout that I found when I registered here. I particularly draw your attention to the clues 16 across and 1 down. These clues imply that our late Brother Sam McGee, who came up from Peachtree, Tennessee, where the cotton blooms and glows, was in Alaska. Brothers, it isn't so. Sam McGee was on the Dawson Trail near Lake Lebarge in the Yukon Territory when he got so perishing cold that he met his strange end. He's somewhat like that Nebraskan we heard about yesterday. He scarcely even saw Alaska. We know he stepped off the boat in Skagway and thanks to the Brother from White Pass Lodge, he got out of Alaska as fast as he could go, over that Chilkoot Trail and up into the Yukon. Because that's where the gold was.

So Most Worshipful Sir, I come here today to recover and take back to Canada Sam McGee who was a famous Yukoner, not an Alaskan. I hope by doing so that I've not in any way impaired the wonderful Masonic Fraternity and friendship that exists over the border. I hope that our neighborliness will always continue, and that now we have our own Sam McGee back, that we can continue to be Brothers and friends and live together in unity, peace, and harmony. On that note I would like to extend to you the hand of friendship to prove that we still are friends.

RW Stewart M. L. Pollard, Executive Secretary, Masonic Service Association

Most Worshipful Grand Master, for the record, my name is Stewart Pollard. Past Master of Alt Heidelberg Lodge No. 821 in Heidelberg, Germany:

The Masonic Service Association is celebrating its 65th birthday this year, 65 years as the servant of American Freemasonry. It's been 65 busy years, 65 happy years, 65 years of hard work and dedication by a great many people, but primarily it's been 65 years of service to the Masonic Fraternity. We were so pleased that within days after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Alaska that this Grand Lodge chose to join the Association and become one of the 45 member jurisdictions that support the Association and benefit from its services.

Just to give you a quick outline as to what some of those services are, maybe I'd better explain first how the Association was originally formed. Now there are very few of you here that remember World War I. In those days, there were many of our Brethren that were serving in the trenches in France, and they wanted to know why the Knights of Columbus, the Salvation Army, so many of the other organizations were able to provide them with service centers, canteens, and such things to cheer up the service man. Why the Masonic Fraternity didn't do anything. Well the various Grand Masters contacted their Congressmen and the War Department. They tried to get permission to set up canteens for the American doughboys in France. The War Department refused. They said that they just couldn't deal with 49 different Grand Lodges, 40 different Grand Commanders. 40 different Grand Chapters; that if there was one spokesman for the entire Fraternity, yes they would consider it.

Well, the Grand Masters got together in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and formed the Masonic Service Association. It was a hard battle because they were afraid of such things as losing their sovereignty. They very carefully wrote into the Constitution of the Association that it would never become a super Masonic body, that it would always be an arm of the member Grand Lodges. It would never participate in any movement to form a general Grand Lodge. This seemed to satisfy the majority of the jurisdictions and they formed the Association on Armistice Day. Well, they realized that they'd gone to a lot of hard work in vain. But they also realized that the potential of having such a thing available in case of need was there. That it could be a means of exchanging communication. It could be a means of providing information, and so they decided to keep it.

Well, it's been a long, hard struggle. They put out a great many papers over the next couple of years. Then the Executive Secretary came up with the idea of the *Short Talk Bulletin*, the first issue of which was printed in January of 1923, and has been published each and every month since then. There are now 733 issues of the *Short Talk Bulletin*. We maintain all of them in print. To have them is to have the basis for a veritable Masonic library - an encyclopedia practically, of Masonic information; Masonic knowledge written in simple terms so even Swede Johnson can read it. The *Short Talk*

Bulletin is written in very readable language. It's written in such a way that you could use it to help prepare other speeches. It's written in such a way that it can be read in the Lodge; it can be extracted; it can be used in your bulletins. Basically, it's a means of providing information.

It soon turned out that the *Short Talk Bulletin* was not just available. You couldn't just cover enough in one of them. So, the Association started putting out larger books which are referred to as *Masonic Digests*. And over the years, we've put out a number of them on a great variety of subjects. They expand on some of the information that is in the *Short Talk Bulletins*. They are more for the Masonic student, the Masonic scholar, where the *Short Talk Bulletins* can be used by every Mason. The others provide a great deal of good information for you.

Among other things that the Association does is to serve as a gathering point for information relating to national disasters, or localized disasters, and catastrophes such as earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, and hurricanes. We're able to assess the situation, and when we are requested by a Grand Lodge, to issue appeals to all of the other Grand Lodges in the United States. Over the years since the formation of the Association, more than \$11 million has been raised for Masonic relief. When that money is raised it is sent to the Grand Master of the requesting jurisdiction and not one cent of it is retained by the Association for administrative costs. That is covered in the dues that our member Grand Lodges pay so each of you subsidize it through your dues.

Then we answer questions. Any Mason in the country can write to us with a question on a Masonic subject, and we make every effort to respond to those questions, and we get some weird ones. Frequently many of them can be answered just by a referral to the Code of that particular jurisdiction. Many times it takes a great deal of research. But we are usually able to at least steer the individual into a place where he can find that information. Another important and entirely separate function of the Masonic Service Association is our hospital visitation program, which is supported entirely by the voluntary contributions of Grand Lodges, Masonic bodies, and individual Masons. It now operates in 134 of the 172 Veterans Administration Hospitals throughout the country. It operates in 14 of the 44 State Veterans Homes, and it operates in many of our military medical facilities. It's a way of showing that Masons care and will always be there. It's your Association; you're a part of it. We want to be of service to you, to Masonry in Alaska, to Masonry throughout the world. We have such a great Fraternity, and it's just in a great stage of growth at this present time. An exciting time. What a joy it is to be a part of it.

I was raised many years ago. In fact 40 years ago, in a small lodge in the State of Maine. That's way on the other side, way up in the northeast. Of course, that's southeast from here, but it's a long ways away, and the luncheon this noon reminded me of home. I was raised in a small fishing community; of course our brand of fishing there is lobster fishing. There is always a battle that goes on between the lobster fishermen and the people that operate the lobster pounds where they sell their lobsters. One night in our Lodge, we had a lobster fisherman that was the candidate. He was properly prepared and

escorted into the Lodge room, caused to kneel and he was asked, "In whom do you place your trust?" Well, the Master owned the fishing pound where Charley Fairbrother sold his lobsters. Although he was blindfolded he did recognize the voice and he said. "Not you by God, Earl Speer." And the Master said, "Your trust being in God, arise, follow your conductor, and fear no danger."

Brethren, it is time for us all to arise and follow our conductor and fear no danger. We have heard frequent illusions the last couple of days to problems. In fact, the word "problem" according to my count has been made 71 times. Brother Neil, you might want to check on that when you go over the recording, but I think it 's been used 71 times. About three years ago I was down in Australia. They were forming an organization similar to your Masonic Services Association. And I sat there hearing from representatives of all of the Grand Lodges in Australia as they discussed what was happening in their jurisdictions. I listened to it for about seven hours, and finally they called on me and asked me what the situation was in the United States. And I said, "After listening to you, I seem to feel that you have the same problems, the same situations that we do. We have the problem of small attendance, we have the problem of losses through NPD, and we have the problem of lack of interest." About that time, the Grand Master of Victoria got up and in his very British tones (incidentally, he was a Supreme Court Judge) he said, "Brother Pollard, you know Australia, we do not have problems, we have challenges."

Brethren, think about it. If you look at a problem, you're looking at something just like a stone wall. But if you look at it as a challenge, you're going to find a way of getting over, under, or around that stone wall. It's a matter of attitude. Of course coming from the Washington, D.C., area. I have to listen to a lot of bureaucratic stuff that comes out of there. Just this last week they announced that the unemployment rate in the United States had dropped to 8.9 percent. Boy, isn't that great! Brethren, the unemployment rate in the Masonic Fraternity is about 93.2 percent. Think about it. We need to put our Brethren to work. There is plenty of work to do. Let's be up to the task of doing it. Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master for this opportunity.

MW E. Gene Ross, Grand Master of Illinois

One of the first lessons that I remember receiving as I began my progress in Masonry some 27 years ago was a piece of ritual in our first degree which went somewhat like this: Masonry conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. Like most of you here today, as I heard those words spoken in the lecturing and subsequently as I heard them spoken time after time in my own Lodge, I didn't quite comprehend just exactly what those words had to mean. As I begin to visit around my home State of Illinois, I began to become a little more enlightened as to what that meant when Masonry conciliated true friendship. As my scope of friendship, my scope of people that I came in contact with became broader and broader, I began to understand more and more just exactly what it meant. And then as I was blessed to become a member of the Grand Lodge line in Illinois and privileged to

travel around throughout the great jurisdictions of these United States and Canada, the meaning really came home to me that Masonry truly conciliates friendship.

When you stop to think that in this room among the distinguished guests here assembled, including Swede Johnson, there would have been no way possible that any of us who have met and become good friends could ever have done so without the vehicle of Freemasonry. I never will forget when I had the great privilege of meeting your Grand Master for the first time. I was designated as a representative of my Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Washington and they met in the city of Walla Walla of course, at that time I was Junior Line Officer - Senior Grand Warden, and John, I believe, was Senior Grand Warden at that time as well. The Grand Master was entertained at that time, if I remember rightly, by the Grand Master of Washington, and Brother George Bordewick, who was the Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Washington, was assigned as our host. Along with John and the other Junior Line Officers of this great Grand Lodge and several others, we all met for dinner that evening. But as he said from then on, it got to be a game that every time that Doris and I would go to a Grand Lodge, we'd look at the list to see if John was going to be there. And we have been privileged to be with him many, many times as he visited the jurisdictions, what do you call it, "the Lower 48?" The rest of the world?

It has been a lot of fun, and John, I want to thank you and Dottie for the hospitality that has been extended to Doris and me as we have visited, not only here with you, but also throughout the various jurisdictions that we've had the great pleasure to be together. Masonry does conciliate true friendship. Many of the things that you Brethren, here in Alaska are doing, you're growing, you're young. And as Stew told you, you don't have problems; that fellow in Australia doesn't have a thing on me. Stew. I never did like the word and I've always used challenges because I believe that a challenge is something we can do something about.

I have a program in Illinois this year and for the lack of a better word, I've termed it, it's as simple as pie to do Mason's work. And "P-I-E, PIE" stands for Positive attitude, Incentive, and Enthusiasm. With those three ingredients there's no reason in the world that every Lodge in Freemasonry can't have a progressive year. Our attitude must be that no matter what the consequences, no matter what the outcome, we've got to maintain a positive attitude, and we've got to keep striving. We've got to keep ourselves remembering that we're winning. That we're winning!

We've got to provide the incentive, they'll provide the enthusiasm. But seriously, the underlying thing, the common denominator of all of it is positive attitude, incentive, and enthusiasm. Brotherly love is that one simple word, love, the love that we have for one another. You know the greatest Teacher of all mankind, no matter what your religious beliefs may be; we must remember that that was His commandment to us when He said, "This is My commandment that I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you." And if we practice that love, not just in our Lodge rooms, not just in our respective jurisdictions; but if we let that love spring forth from us into a universal feeling for all mankind there's not a thing in this world, there's not a challenge in this

world that we can't overcome. Masonry conciliates true friendship, and the greatest gift we have is the gift of friendship. It is certainly a great pleasure, a great honor for me to be here with my friends from other jurisdictions, this my friend, your Grand Master and you, my new friends of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Thank you Most Worshipful Sir.

MW Wilson B. Haney, Past Grand Master of Oklahoma

Thank you Most Worshipful Master. Distinguished Brethren, Brothers All:

Brother John, it seems a little strange, we can either say, "cow country," or "Indian country," to hear your Brothers use the "Lower 48." We're not used to being referred to down there as the "Lower 48." Of course, if we're up here, we are the Lower 48. That lady yesterday who stopped to buy some gasoline, and I didn't understand what she said. I wasn't sure: anyway I said Tulsa. Oklahoma. She said. "Well, you are in the "Lower 48." She had asked me if I was from the "Lower 48."

Most Worshipful Grand Master, your hospitality and the friendliness of the Brethren assembled here is without equal. You know. I've never attended a Masonic function, whether it be a Constituent Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction or a Grand Lodge session, where I didn't feel welcome. Masonry is one of the greatest organizations that we're privileged to be a part of. I'm not going to stand here and tell you good people a lot of things about Masonry. Probably most of you know more about Masonry than I do. I've only been a Master Mason for about 13 years. I recall when I went into Masonry at the age of 57. My neighbor was a member of the Lodge that I joined. He said. "Slim, you're too old to go into Masonry. You'll never memorize anything." Well, the good Brother passed away before I actually was appointed in a line of my constituent Lodge, but I did prove him wrong in that respect.

I've enjoyed every bit of the things that I have been involved with in Masonry. Now I feel as though, and I told one of your Past Grand Masters, that I felt as though I knew him. We had a little correspondence; he served in 1981, the same year I did. We did have some conversation over the telephone, and I mailed him some information that he had requested. So Brother Jim, if you will come forward at this time. I want to give you something. I have here one of our *Oklahoma Monitors*. Now this is not a key to the memory work or anything of that nature, it's just something that we publish down there that is part of Masonry and part of our lectures are in there. There's nothing secret in here so anybody could look at it, any of your family. There's a lot of good information and I thought that you might like to have it. (MW Williams thanked him.)

Also, I have a book for you. *The Story of Oklahoma Masonry*. Now this covers 75 years. I think it only goes up to about 1959. The Brother who wrote this book, or gathered the information to write it, is our oldest living Past Grand Master. He's better than 90 years old, but he gets around like a fellow of about 50 years old. A lot of you good Brethren know him. He served as our Grand Secretary for about 15 or 16 years and his name is Brother Jay Fred Latham. I know a lot of you Good Brethren know him. Brother

Jim, I would like to present you this book, there s a lot of information in there about Oklahoma Masonry. It goes back to Indian Territory, when the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma was first formed. It was Indian Territory at that time. Brother Jim, it's been a pleasure being here with you, meeting you, and fellowshiping with you. (MW Williams responded again with thanks and an expression of pleasure.)

Brother John, I have a Monitor here for you, and there's something in here that I would like to read with your permission. I have this memorized, but I'm not going to give it from memory for the simple reason there's a little more goes with it than what I'm going to say here. So with your permission, I'd like to read it. We give the sign now when we do this in Lodge. This is given after the Master Mason degrees. It says that the Masons' Lodge was darkened and . . .

(Material missing from tape.)

Brother John, I believe that pretty well sums up Masonry. And it's with great pleasure that I present this to you also; *The Story of Oklahoma Masonry* on this day, February 3, 1984. You are still the Grand Master, so I have in there, "To Most Worshipful John C. Ingram, Grand Master of Alaska by the Most Worshipful Wilson B. Haney, Past Grand Master of Oklahoma, 1981. Thanks for a wonderful Communication, Slim."

RW John Driskell, Senior Grand Warden of California

Most Worshipful John, and the members in the Distinguished East, Members of the Grand Lodge of Alaska:

I wish to thank you very, very much for your courtesies extended to me on my visit to Alaska. I fell in love with the place. Now I come from a little town in California called Twin Bridges. If you blink your eyes once when you go by, you've missed it. We have ten residents there, eight people, and two garbage bears. Most of you who live in the country up here have seen how garbage bears open garbage cans. They walk up, they sit down, and they grab it and they squeeze it, and it all pops up. So that's the size of the town that I live in. If you ever come through Twin Bridges, stop at the Post Office and they'll tell you where I'm at. Usually some place in California, and they'll tell you whether I'm home or not. I'll welcome each and every one of you. It's a beautiful mountain town such as you would experience around here, and we do get a little bit of snow once in a while.

Now, I want to tell you a little story about Swede. I met Swede in Las Vegas a couple of years ago. I walked by the cemetery and I saw this fellow standing there reading the tombstones. Now on this tombstone, it said, "My friend, stop and think, as you are now so once was I, and as I am now so you will be, so prepare yourself, my friend, to follow me." Now Swede being an enterprising gentleman he takes out a piece of chalk and he writes beneath that and he says. "To follow you, I am content, until I know which way you went."

We have a Masonic Home in California and we have 364 residents at the present time and these people are very, very energetic. Some great knowledge comes out of there. One of the members who is a resident wrote me a note. He sent me a little poem, and I would like to share it with you. But first I'd like to tell you about our Home. We have 364 residents. We have a square dance club there, and the average age of our residents is 85.4 years of age. So this square dance club became very exclusive. They will not allow anyone in the square dance club that is not 85 years of age. They're quite an active group. They put on little shows around for the Lodges, off and on, about 10-minute skits, and then they sleep all the way home.

But I would like to share with you this small saying and it says, "A smile costs nothing but gives much. It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of one sometimes lasts forever. It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the counter sign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it's nature's best antidote for trouble. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it. And none is so poor that he can't be made rich by it, yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something of no value until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile, so give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give." And that's signed by "Anonymous." It was written and developed by one of our residents at our Home. And now I want to express that the members of the Grand Lodge of Alaska have certainly shared their smiles with me since I've been here. So thank you very much.

RW Harlan C. Benedict, Deputy Grand Master of Wyoming

Most Worshipful Sir, I've been kind of keeping a low profile so that you wouldn't call on me, but it is my pleasure to be here and certainly Brother John made a great impression in the great State of Wyoming when he was visiting our Grand Lodge. I have had association with quite a few of these distinguished guests today and in the past, and it's always a great pleasure to be with quite a few of them.

You know, several times the statement has been made about what is wrong with Masonry. I have a great big long speech here and if Brother John would have called me a little bit sooner, I would have given it to you in its entirety. This is a speech that I have given quite a number of times to my Constituent Lodges. Because of something that I think we too often forget; there's nothing wrong with Masonry. There's something wrong with us. We have been given the working tools in each of our Degrees and I think sometimes we fail to really interpret the meaning of those working tools and carry out their full meaning. We heard mention of the breaking off of the rough parts of stone here yesterday to fit them for the builder's use, and of divesting our minds and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life. Sometimes I wonder are we doing that personally, are we doing that ourselves? A 24-inch gauge with this one eight hour time; part devoted to the service of God and the distressed worthy Brothers. Are we doing that?

Then of course we go into the plumb, square, and level of the Fellowcraft Degree. Are we walking upright before God and man, really? Are we squaring our actions every day? Are we going to be proud that we are traveling on that level of time so that we can go into that Celestial Heaven knowing that we've been good men, good citizens, and good Masons? Then our last working tool, my Brothers, that all-important trowel that spreads that cement of Brotherly love. Are we really spreading this cement of brotherly love to our friends, to our neighbors, and above all to our Brother Masons? Yes, my Brothers, there's nothing wrong with Masonry. We are given the tools to carry on and build and strengthen Masonry, if we will only use them. Thank you.

End of Year Comment by MW John C. Ingram

MW John Ingram closed his year as Grand Master with the following:

My Brethren, in 35 years of traveling throughout Alaska, especially in remote areas, I have learned some of the ancient traditions of the Eskimos. When the old chief was replaced by a new, vigorous one, that old chief was placed on an ice flow with sleeping bag and some dried fish, to drift away, being of no more use to the villagers.

I ask of you, my Brethren, to please not place me on an ice flow, but allow me to pick up my working tools and return to the quarries of Masonry, to serve with you and the other hard-working Craftsman.

ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

The election of Grand Officers for 1984-1985 was conducted and the ballots counted. The results were announced by W Jerry C. Holly, Jr., (11) Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, as follows:

Grand Master

H. B. "Jack" Bentley

Deputy Grand Master

Glen W. Pruett

Senior Grand Warden:

Gunnar Flygenring

Junior Grand Warden

Fred V. Angleton

Grand Secretary

Neil R. Bassett

INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

An open installation for the 1984-1985 officers for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was conducted in Soldotna, Alaska on February 3, 1984

OPENING CEREMONIES

INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing Grand Master	MW James A. Williams
Installing Grand Master	MW John C. Ingram
Installing Grand Marshall	MW Alden H. Jones
Installing Grand Chaplain	MW James O. Wood
Installing Grand Secretary	MW Roy Foss

ELECTED OFFICERS

Grand Master	MW H. B. "Jack" Bentley
Deputy Grand Master	RW Glen W. Pruett
Senior Grand Warden	RW Gunnar Flygenring
Junior Grand Warden	RW Fred V. Angleton
Grand Secretary	RW Neil R. Bassett

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Grand Chaplain	VW David J. Thomas
Grand Lecturer	W Leslie R. Little
Grand Orator	W Charles I. Gregg
Grand Historian	W V. Clifford Darnell
Grand Marshal	W Jerry C. Holly, Jr.
Senior Grand Deacon	W Charles E. Wellong
Junior Grand Deacon	W Ray G. Williams
Grand Standard Bearer	W Harold C. Dinkel
Grand Sword Bearer	W Lloyd W. Ives
Grand Bible Bearer	W Adam McDermott

Senior Grand Steward	W Lewis E. Garrett
Junior Grand Steward	W Mitchell R. Miller
Grand Organist	W Lawrence W. Nelson
Grand Tyler	W Marvin A. Harned

DEPUTIES TO THE GRAND MASTER

District 1	VW Gene R. Freeman
District 2	VW Milton M. Routzahn
District 3	VW Robert M. Parkins
District 4	(None Appointed)

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

A Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska convened in the Old Masonic Temple, Nome, Alaska, on the Nineteenth day of November, A.D. 1983, A.L. 5983, at 3:00 p.m. with the following Grand Officers and Acting Grand Officers present and in their respective stations and places:

Grand Master	MW John C. Ingram (6, 11)
Acting Deputy Grand Master	VW Harry A. Lewis (2)
Senior Grand Warden	RW Glen W. Pruett (3, 12)
Junior Grand Warden	RW Gunnar Flygenring (10)
Acting Grand Secretary	W Jerry C. Holly, Jr. (11)
Acting Grand Chaplain	VW Charles F. Lewis (2)
Grand Lecturer	VW David J. Thomas (6, 11)
Acting Grand Orator	Bro. Paul Merkouris (2)
Acting Grand Historian	W Lloyd W. Ives (3, 12)
Grand Marshal	W Charles I. Gregg (10)
Senior Grand Deacon	VW Floyd Saltz, Jr. (6, 11)
Acting Junior Grand Deacon	Bro. Robert Yates (2)
Acting Grand Sword Bearer	Bro. John W. Elmore (2)
Acting Grand Bible Bearer	W Thomas Johnson (2)
Acting Grand Standard Bearer	W Harry Case (10)
Acting Senior Grand Steward	Bro. John Knudsen (2)
Acting Junior Grand Steward	Bro. Fred O. Lancaster (2)
Acting Grand Tyler.	W Robert K. Lewis (2)
Messenger	W Fred V. Angleton (2)
Architect	W Robert E. Bean, III (2)
District Deputy of District No. 1	VW Robert E. Morse, Sr. (2)

The Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Lodge Officers, opened the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska, on the Third Degree, in Ample Form, and announced this Special Communication had been called for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Temple of Anvil Lodge No. 2.

By order of the Grand Master, and under the direction of the Grand Marshal, the Grand Lodge was formed in procession and preceded to the new Masonic Temple.

The Grand Lodge Officers assembled in the entrance room, whereupon the Messenger, Worshipful Brother Fred V. Angleton, requested the Grand Master to dedicate to Masonic purposes the meeting place of the Lodge, agreeable to Ancient Forms and Usages.

Under the direction of the Grand Marshal, the Grand Lodge was formed in procession and marched into the Lodge room.

The Architect surrendered the Implements committed to his care, and the Grand Master, assisted by his Officers, with dignity and impressiveness then dedicated the Temple in Ample Form to the purposes of Masonry.

The Proclamation was made by the Grand Marshal.

The Oration for the occasion was delivered by the Grand Master.

W Brother Robert E. Bean, III, Worshipful Master, introduced the Officers of Anvil Lodge No. 2 and the visiting Brethren, and thanked the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Officers for their impressive ceremony.

By order of the Grand Master, and under the directions of the Grand Marshal, the Brethren returned to the Old Masonic Temple.

The Grand Master expressed his sincere gratitude to the Grand Lodge Officers who traveled many miles to be in attendance on this occasion. He then thanked the Officers and members of Anvil Lodge No. 2 for the hospitality and many courtesies extended to him and the other Grand Lodge Officers. We also complimented the Brethren for their interest in furthering the Light of Masonry in the community.

The purpose for which this Special Communication was called having been accomplished, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at 5:05 p.m., peace and harmony prevailing.

John C. Ingram
Grand Master