

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

Proceedings

**Eighteenth
Annual Communication
April 8-9, 1999**





GENE R. FREEMAN
GRAND MASTER
1998

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PRAYER OF THE GRAND CHAPLAIN

No opening prayer by the Grand Chaplain recorded.

ROLL CALL

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Master	MW Gene R. Freeman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Grand Master	RW Raymond L. Beaver
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Warden	RW Don G. Chaffin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Warden	RW Charles E. Corbin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Treasurer	RW Steve Lee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Secretary	RW Richard D. Bender
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Chaplain	W Eugene M. Mockerman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Lecturer	MW Lloyd W. Triggs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Orator	W Robert R. Wiseman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Historian	W Joe H. Ashby
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Marshal	W Darrell C. McSpadden
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Deacon	W John P. Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Deacon	W Rocky V. Schank
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Standard Bearer	W Hazen R. Ricker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Sword Bearer	W Virgil L. Chrestman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Bible Bearer	W William A. Hendrick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Steward	W Donald E. Otis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Steward	W Terrence B. Quarton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Tyler	W C. Vernon Carlson

CONSTITUENT LODGES

(Would the most Senior Representative please respond?)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	White Pass Lodge No. 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anvil Lodge No. 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tanana Lodge No. 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Valdez Lodge No. 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seward Lodge No. 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matanuska Lodge No. 7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kodiak Lodge No. 9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Glacier Lodge No. 10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kenai Lodge No. 11
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eagle River Lodge No. 13
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aurora Lodge No. 15
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	North Pole Lodge No. 16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anchorage Lodge No. 17

- ☒ Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
- ☒ Ketchikan Lodge No. 19
- ☒ Iditarod Lodge No. 20

No recording of Roll Call was made on audio cassette tape. Credentials, however, in the first report, indicated that there were 10 members of Grand Lodge present, even though it indicates all present in table except for the Grand Treasurer who was noted absent in the Election Results and all Lodges were represented.

SOLEMN CEREMONIES

The public opening of the Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 8:00 AM on April 8, 1999, by Most Worshipful Stanley R. Foulke, Immediate Past Grand Master. The program for the public ceremonies included:

- Entrance of Grand Lodge Officers
- Flag Presentation by National Sojourners Heroes of '76
- Pledge of Allegiance
- U.S. and Canadian National Anthems
- The Alaska Flag Song
- Welcome to representatives of the Youth Groups

- International Order of Job's Daughters
 - Jenny M. Anderson, Junior Miss Alaska, Junior Princess, Bethel No. 1
- International Order of Rainbow for Girls
 - Liesl L. Muckey, Grand Worthy Advisor, Grand Assembly of Alaska
- International Order of DeMolay
 - Jason W. Smith, State Master Councilor, Alaska State DeMolay Congress

Welcome to representatives from North Star Borough and Governor Knowles' Office

Introduction of Representatives of Concordant Bodies

- Al Aska Shrine Temple**
 - Robert E. Cunningham, Potentate
- Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction**
 - Mitchell R. Miller, Sovereign Grand Inspector General
- Grand Court of Alaska, Amaranth**
 - Doris Miller, Grand Royal Matron

DeMolay International Supreme Council

Gerald R. Fairley, Executive Officer for Alaska

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alaska

David A. Hunt, Grand High Priest

General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Alaska

Russell A. Burnett, Grand Illustrious Master

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Ila Hammond, Supreme Inspector Alaska

Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle

Leonard E. Luchau, Executive Secretary

Order of Eastern Star

Mary L. Wallace, Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron in Northern Alaska

York Rite College

Gene R. Freeman, Grand Governor of Alaska

Presentation by Youth Groups

International Order of Job's Daughters

History and Heritage – Hand in Hand

Elizabeth Pinion, Miss Alaska, Past Honored Queen, Bethel No.1

Randi Aman, Senior Princess, Bethel No. 1

International Order of Rainbow for Girls

The Rose Lecture

Stephanie Cox, Grand Worthy Associate Advisor, Grand Assembly of Alaska

International Order of DeMolay

Ceremony of Light

Benjamin T. Hughes, State Senior Councilor

Distinguished Guests present included:

British Columbia & Yukon, A. F. & A. M

RW Thomas O. Mickey, Past District Deputy, representing

MW Harold C. Nordan, Grand Master

RW Donald P. Frizzell, Past District Deputy

Montana, A. F. & A. M..

MW Francis D. Hess, Past Grand Master, representing

MW Thomas R. Jordan, Grand Master

Nevada, F. & A. M.

W H. Wayne Kingsley, Grand Orator, representing

MW David J. Guinan, Grand Master

MW Roy S. Wilson, Past Grand Master

W Robert L. Behling, Past Master

New Jersey, F. & A. M.

MW Edward R. Woods, Past Grand Master

Oregon, A. F. & A. M.

RW John D. Livie, Senior Grand Warden, representing
MW Richard E. Surroz, Grand Master
MW Vern R. Garvin, Past Grand Master
W Lee E. Garvin, Senior Grand Steward

Pennsylvania, F. & A. M.

RW Edward O. Weisser, Past Grand Master, representing
RW James L. Emette, Grand Master
Bro. Thomas C. Librandi, aide to the Grand Master
Bro. William A. Wetterau, Master Mason

Vermont, F. & A. M.

MW Richard E. Fletcher, Past Grand Master

Washington, F. & A. M.

MW Carl B. Smith, Grand Master
MW William R. Miller, Past Grand Master
MW Wendel H. Kuecker, Past District Deputy

The formal opening of the Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 10:00 AM on April 8, 1999, by Most Worshipful Gene R. Freeman, Grand Master of Masons in Alaska in Ample form.

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

First Session

W Ronald J. Dupee (3)

Second Session

W Bradley C. White (12)

Third Session

W Jimmy J. Kay (16)

Fourth Session

W Johnnie L. Wallace (12, 17)

MESSAGE OF THE M.W. GRAND MASTER

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

Good morning, Brother Masons! I personally welcome you to the 18th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alaska, to our beautiful City of Fairbanks, and to our wonderful State of Alaska.

I am very pleased to have in attendance the Worshipful Masters and Wardens and the delegates from the Constituent Lodges throughout Alaska.

To the leaders of the Appendant and Concordant Bodies and the Youth Groups, we welcome each of you to this session. As Grand Master, I want to thank each and every one of you for your support during the past year. The Family of Freemasonry is alive and well here in Alaska and together we are keeping our great Fraternity prosperous.

It has been a privilege and honor to have served this grand Jurisdiction as a Grand Lodge Officer for these past four years. I have been especially honored to have served you as Grand Master of Alaska this past year.

To our special Guests and Visitors, I extend a hearty welcome and thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to travel to our great State of Alaska. May your visit with us be very enjoyable. Should there be anything more we can do for you, please feel free to ask. We will endeavor to do all in our power to honor your request.

May our heavenly Father be with us and guide us over the next two days as we make decisions which will affect the future of our Grand Lodge.

NECROLOGY

The most difficult report to make is the loss of our departed Brothers and Friends as they make their final journey to be greeted by the Supreme Architect of the Universe and to be invited into our Eternal Home. We will miss each and every one of them. And, we shall share the Celebration of their lives with their Loved Ones.

The Necrology report will be presented later in the session by our Grand Chaplain, Bro. Eugene Mockerman.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

As we begin to ready ourselves for the next Millennium, a question surfaces: Are we prepared and ready to enter the new century? Or, are we going to hang on to the 18th

century mentality? We CAN make the necessary changes to help our Great and Gentle Craft grow and prosper.

One of our Secret Weapons is our WARDENS CHARGE. The attendance at the seven sessions held so far has been poor – 25 of 60 possible officers is not a very good average. Many excuses are made, but where can you get a better LEADERSHIP Training course? If the new skills are put into use, the officers and members all benefit from it. And, brothers believe me – the candidates can and do recognize good degree work.

There are a few Brothers who can not afford the cost of this training. If this is so, then why can't those lodges help raise the necessary funds so that their officers can attend? This should be a three-year commitment, so the course will grow along with the needs of the lodges.

There is a great need for Fellowship and Friendship Nights. The most serious problem today is the continuing aging of our brothers in the Craft. Look around you and see the number of older brothers. If there is any doubt, ask your secretary to run a list of over 60-year old brothers. As the Lodges continue to struggle with the loss of membership, it also increases the financial impact. The Lodges should aggressively use membership development programs to help correct this.

Two new tools we should explore: 1) 18 year olds are now eligible, let's go get them. 2) Our Code now allows us one time to ask a potential candidate to join. 3) The "Facts for a Friend" program, when used in conjunction with the two above, will be very beneficial.

VISITATIONS

During the past year, I have visited all the Lodges except for one. Brothers, in early January 1998, my schedule was sent to all the Worshipful Masters and the Secretaries of each Lodge. Since I did not hear any objections to the scheduling, I proceeded to plan my travels and purchase tickets accordingly. Then to be called one week before a scheduled visit caused serious problems for myself and the other officers planning to attend. However, I was pleased with the visitations that were made.

With the blessing of Grand Master Carl Smith of the Grand Lodge of Washington, we visited the Washington lodges in Juneau and Ketchikan last October. We were well received with all honors and courtesies extended to us. Those who accompanied me were RW Ray Beaver, RW Don Chaffin, RW Chuck Corbin, VW Joe Dees, MW Lloyd Triggs, and MW Stan Foulke. We certainly hope we dispelled the myths and rumors that have been accorded this Grand Lodge since its inception. It was a pleasure to sit with our Southeastern BROTHERS, and I do hope we continue this communication. The complete list of visitations are included in the Appendix.

APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were made during the year:

- VW MONTIE ERVIN – Jurisprudence Committee
- Bro. VERN CARLSON – Grand Tyler
- Bro. SCOTT THOMPSON – Credentials Committee
- W TERRY QUARTON, JR – Grand Junior Steward

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There is a need for an Assistant to the Grand Lodge Secretary. There are no funds available to pay this VOLUNTEER until the finances of the Grand Lodge are able to afford a salary. Selection will be made by the Grand Secretary and the Grand Master.
2. Each District Deputy be furnished during his term, a copy of the Esoteric Work signed out from the Grand Secretary. The Deputy will be responsible to provide safeguards and security for this material, and will return it at the end of his term to the Grand Secretary.
3. The DeMolay Committee be renamed the Masonic Youth Committee to include DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, and Job's Daughters. As Masons, many of you already serve as leaders, Advisory Board members, and upper level managers for these youth groups
4. The Fairbanks area Masons be allowed to sponsor a Table Lodge, which will meet twice a year at any one of the three lodges.

APPRECIATION

I could not have accomplished a fraction of what I have done without the LOVE and support of my wife, Hilary. She encouraged, sacrificed, packed clothing, reminded me of meetings, dates, and names, answered phones, and all the time telling me I was great! THANK YOU LOVE!

To RICK BENDER, our Grand Secretary, for all your help and suggestions. I'm really glad you are healthy again and back in the Office. Rick, you are so valuable to me. Thanks a million!

To JERRY FAIRLEY, for all your tireless work on our *Light from the Great Land* newsletter, and for taking poetic license on many of the articles submitted. You did an outstanding job. And, when I asked you to help run the office while Rick was taking his unexpected and unscheduled vacation, you stepped in without any questions or hesitation. Also, during this time, Jerry organized the newly acquired Grand Lodge Office space. Thank you!

To DAVID & SANDRA DeLONG of Juneau for your assistance in coordinating our visit to our Capitol City. You both are very appreciated.

To MW JOHN GRAINGER and his wife FRANCES, of Ketchikan, who arranged for the joint visitation of the two lodges in your community. And, we had a pleasant surprise when 10 Canadian Brothers flew in from British Columbia, especially for this visit. We had a great time during the meeting, plus the ladies were invited to join us for presentations within the Lodge. The following morning, fellowship continued at breakfast with the entire group.

To all the Brothers who have supported me, especially during this past year. You know who you are. MY BROTHERS, YOU ARE AS GOOD AS THEY GET! And, you have my standing round of applause.

To my SESSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS Committee, especially GREG WYMAN, for your dedication and perseverance in accomplishing a huge task, It was a lot of fun, wasn't it? To everyone attending, if you are enjoying the session, Thank You. If not, speak to Greg. THANKS A MILLION, GREG!

And, last but not least, to JOHNNIE and MARY WALLACE, words fail me. You gave me a place to launch from during my stays in Anchorage. And, to Mary for all your help in making my Grand Master's Tea such a success. Please accept my heartfelt thanks.

IN CONCLUSION

This has been a fantastic and unique journey for Hilary and myself. And, now as the completion of my year as Grand Master comes to a close, there are so many great memories and associations with the devoted and dedicated Brother Masons and their Ladies across our State and the Nation. What a grand experience!

Finally as I go, I leave you with these words:

Through the toilsome world, alas,
Once and only once, I pass
If kindness I may show
If a good deed I may do
For a suffering fellow Mason or man
Let me do it while I can
For it is plain
I shall not pass this way again!

Fraternally,

Gene R. Freeman
Grand Master

APPENDIX

This Appendix lists the official acts of the Grand Master during the period of April 3, 1998 through April 9, 1999:

Proclamations

March 17, 1999 Proclaimed the month of April as Public School Month.

Special Actions

- April 14, 1998 Issued a ruling in reference to the Petition for Reinstatement of Brother Donald A. Ridlinger in Fairbanks Lodge No. 12. Brother Ridlinger was dropped NPD in Martinez Lodge No. 710 in Georgia on June 21, 1993. Although his dues were current in Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 at the time, Fairbanks was obliged to drop him as a Dual Member. He was reinstated in Georgia on September 19, 1994 This reinstatement occurred within the 24 month period as referred to in Section 17.14 of the Alaska Masonic Code. It was the Grand Master's understanding, that Brother Ridlinger asked to be reinstated in Fairbanks Lodge No.12 at that time. His current dues card in Martinez Lodge No. 710 should have been suitable proof of his reinstatement in Georgia. For whatever reason, he was not reinstated in Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 and the 24 month time limit passed. Upon his ultimate submission of a Petition for Reinstatement and balloting in Fairbanks Lodge No. 12, his Petition was rejected. Since the original request for Reinstatement was done in accordance with Section 17.14 of the Alaska Masonic Code, it was the Grand Master's decision that Brother Ridlinger's Petition for Reinstatement and subsequent ballot on that Petition be declared void. Any fees paid at the time of his Petition for Reinstatement were applied to his current year's dues and he should be reinstated to full membership in Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 as of April 16, 1998. Please report this Reinstatement on your next Monthly Report
- March 24, 1999 Approved Bylaws Change for Tanana Lodge No. 3 – Dues Increase & Life Membership Fee Increase.
- March 31, 1999 Approved financing for Anchorage Masonic Temple Renovation.

Dispensations Granted

- April 14, 1998 Permission for Kenai Lodge No. 11 to appear in public clothed as Masons for your Public Schools presentation on April 16, 1999
- April 17, 1998 Permission for Anchorage Lodge No. 17 to erect a Masonic sign at Anchorage International Airport.
- May 1, 1998 Permission for Glacier Lodge No. 10 to reinstate brother dropped NPD without investigation and balloting due to travel plans and wishing to sit in Lodge with family members during travel.

May 1, 1998	Permission for Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 to move May Stated Meeting to coincide with Grand Master's visit.
June 2, 1998	Permission for Tanana Lodge No. 3 to hold a Special Election for purpose of electing a Senior Warden.
June 19, 1998	Permission for Eagle River Lodge No. 13 to march in Bear Paw Festival Parade clothed as Masons.
September 21, 1998	Permission for Kodiak Lodge No. 9 to hold a Special Election to elect Master and Wardens for remainder of the year. All three previous officers were transferred out with the Coast Guard.
October 1, 1998	Permission for Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8 to hold a Special Election for purpose of electing Junior Warden.
February 18, 1999	Permission for Glacier Lodge No.10 to move April Stated Meeting to April 15 th .
March 10, 1999	Permission for Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18 to move April Stated Meeting to April 1 st .

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

1998

April

5	Nugget Rainbow Assembly No. 13
6	Eagle River Lodge No. 13
7	Matanuska Lodge No. 7
8	Al Aska Shrine Luncheon
9	Anchorage Scottish Rite
9	Glacier Lodge No. 10
10	Forget-Me-Not Chapter, High Twelve – Anchorage
11	Palmer O.E.S. - P.M. & P.P. Breakfast
13	Al Aska Shrine meeting
14	Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8
15	Anchorage Lodge No. 17
15	Al Aska Shrine luncheon
16	Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
17 – 18	York Rite Convocation
18	Red Cross of Constantine
19	Scottish Rite dinner
20	Palmer O.E.S. – 80 th Anniversary
20	Anchorage DeMolay Chapter
28 – 30	Grand Lodge of New Jersey

May

1 – 2	Fairbanks Scottish Rite
4	Fairbanks Rainbow Assembly No. 11
5	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 – Practice
6	Valdez Lodge No. 4
7	Glacier Lodge No. 10
8	Midnight Sun No. 6 O.E.S.

	12	Fairbanks Sojourners
	13	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	14	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	15	Polaris Court No. 2, Amaranth
	21	Atlinto Lodge No. 43 - Whitehorse
	22	White Pass Lodge No. 1 - Skagway
	23	Yukon Lodge No. 45 - Dawson, YT
	26	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	26	Farthest North Shrine Club Meeting
June		
	3 – 5	Grand Lodge of Oregon
	10 – 12	Grand Lodge of Washington
	17 – 19	Grand Lodge of British Columbia
	25 – 27	Grand Lodge of Montana
July		
	6	North Pole Lodge No. 16
	7	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	8 – 11	Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly
	12	Floyd Saltz Funeral – Anchorage
	18	Red Cross of Constantine
	22	Al Aska Shrine Lunch
	22	Nugget Rainbow Assembly No. 13
	25	Fairbanks Golden Days Parade
	26	Fairbanks Shrine Picnic
	29	Al Aska Shrine Lunch
August		
	1	Anchorage Shrine Clown Meeting
	5	Al Aska Shrine Lunch
	12	Nugget Rainbow Assembly No. 13
	13 - 14	Amaranth Grand Court
	20	Aurora Lodge No. 15
	21 – 25	Palmer State Fair
	25	Anchorage Sojourners
	26	Nugget Rainbow Assembly No. 13
September		
	3	Fairbanks Lodge No. 3 Picnic
	8	Seward Lodge No. 6
	9	Sterling Masonic Club
	10	Kenai Lodge No. 11
	12	North Pole Lodge No 16 – Picnic
	14	Al Aska Shrine Meeting
	16	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	17	Iditarod Lodge No. 20
	18 – 20	Warden’s Charge
	20	Grand Master’s Tea – Anchorage
	20	Rainbow Girls Tea

	21	Kodiak Lodge No. 9
	23	Tanana Lodge No. 3
October		
	1 – 3	KYCH Convent General – Tulsa
	6	Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 124
	7	Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
	9	Tongass Lodge No. 19
	9	Ketchikan Lodge No. 159
	13	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	14	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	15	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	16	Al Aurora Club OV Dinner – Daughters of the Nile
	19	Fairbanks Rainbow Assembly No 1
	20	Fairbanks York Rite
	21	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	23	Fairbanks Chapter No. 18, O.E.S.
	24	Red Cross of Constantine – Anchorage
	26	Arctic Chapter, DeMolay
November		
	2	Pioneers of Alaska Meeting
	3	Farthest North Shrine Club Meeting
	4	Lafayette Lodge No. 241 – Washington
	8 -10	Grand Lodge of Nevada
	18	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	19	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	24	Arctic Chapter, DeMolay
	27	Fairbanks Chapter No. 18, O.E.S.
	30	North Pole Lodge No. 16 – Practice
December		
	1	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	2	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	3	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	5	Iditarod Lodge No. 20 – Installation
	5	Matanuska Lodge No. 7 – Installation
	5	Glacier Lodge No. 10 – Installation
	7	North Pole Lodge No. 16 – Installation
	9	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	9	Tanana Holding Company Meeting
	10	Sojourners Chapter No. 369
	12	Al Aska Shrine Temple Meeting
	12	Shrine White Christmas Ball
	15	Farthest North Shrine Club Meeting
	15	York Rite Installation
	16	Tanana Lodge No. 3
	17	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	19	Tanana Lodge No. 3 – Installation

	19	Midnight Sun Chapter No. 6, O.E.S. - Installation
	20	Polaris Court No. 2, Amaranth – Installation
	21	Fairbanks Rainbow Assembly No. 1 – Installation
	22	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	22	Arctic Chapter, DeMolay
1999		
January		
	3	Emory Chapple Memorial
	6	Anchorage Lodge No. 17 - Installation
	9	Palmer Rainbow Assembly No. 7 - Installation
	9	Shrine Potentate's Ball
	10	Hillbilly Clan Initiation
	10	Anchorage Job's Daughters Bethel No. 1 - Installation
	12	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	16	Fairbanks Lodge No.12 – Installation
	16	Fairbanks Chapter No. 18, O.E.S. – Installation
	17	York Rite Practice
	19	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
	21	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
	22	Fairbanks Chapter No. 18, O.E.S.
	26	Farthest North Shrine Club Lunch
February		
	4 – 6	Grand Lodge of Nebraska
	3 – 7	Grand Lodge of Utah
	19	Western Conference – Honolulu
	21 – 23	Grand Masters Conference – Honolulu
March		
	4 – 6	Grand Royal Arch Session – Fairbanks
	12 – 17	O.E.S. M.W.G.M. OV Northern Alaska
	18 – 21	DeMolay Conclave '99 – Fairbanks
	26 – 27	Red Cross of Constantine NW Regional Assembly –Richland
April		
	7 – 9	Grand Lodge of Alaska - Fairbanks

Communications Attended by Others as Representatives of the Grand Master

June 5 – 6, 1998	Grand Lodge of Alberta, by VW William H. Lefferson
September 28 – 29, 1998	Grand Lodge of Missouri, by MW Stanley R. Foulke
November 2-10, 1998	Grand Lodge of Alabama, by VW Novis L. Eady

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 Section 3.05 of the Alaska Masonic Code.

This past year has been one for learning patience, appreciating hard work by many brothers, and learning to re-prioritize your life. Obviously, you never “plan” a hospital stay but the infection that hit me last July really caught me by surprise. I was in the hospital for two separate stays for a total of three weeks and then recovering at home for another month. At one point, I faced the possibility of losing my right leg to a very ugly infection. Thanks to the power of prayer, this was avoided and I came away from the whole experience only missing a little toe. If anything good can be viewed in my recovery, it was wonderful to see the care and concern of the countless brothers around the State putting true Masonic principles to practice. The list of brothers and sisters who helped in so many ways is really endless. I know I will forget some people but a special thanks to Michael and Marcia Kean, Van and Alice Chaney, Steve and Sandy Lee, Hank and Becky Dunbar, Gene Freeman and Stan Foulke. Again, I apologize for not naming everyone specifically but I do appreciate the thoughts, prayers, and phone calls from all during my recovery. A very special thanks to Jerry Fairley. His endless hours to keep things running at the Grand Lodge Office are truly an example of Masonic ideals. I could spend this entire message listing everything you did and are still doing for me. A simple “THANK YOU” and my deepest gratitude is all I can offer to you for everything.

This has been a year of getting caught up. One bright spot in the year was the move to bigger quarters last April. Thanks to Steve Lee, Hank Dunbar, Lloyd Williamson, and Jim Griffith for their assistance with the move. I look at how everything fits into the new space and wonder how I ever got anything done in the old quarters.

Most of the Lodge paperwork was submitted in a very timely fashion. To those secretaries, you have my thanks for a job well done. Unfortunately, there were three Lodges that did not file any Reports for most or all of the year, and I was required to instruct those Lodge to file “No Change” Reports regardless of the activity so I could close the Grand Lodge Records. Any activity that did occur will be reported in future Reports. I don’t like to do this because it gives a slight slant to the statistics but this is the only way I have of closing the books at the end of the year.

You will find the Status of Lodges Report in the Grand Master’s Message book which will be available right after lunch. The Lodge showed a net loss of 15 for the year. Any loss is not good, but this is the fewest brothers we have lost in a number of years. The Grand Lodge Award for the most Master Masons raised was a good competition this year. The winner raised 5 Master Masons. The competition was close as one lodge raised four Master Masons and three Lodges raised three Master Masons, each. Our deaths and NPD were less than past years, five of our Lodges had a net gain for the year and five Lodges “broke even.”

I will only echo what the Grand Master said regarding the Warden's Charge. We need to encourage the brothers attendance in any way possible. I honestly believe that this weekend is truly the future of our Fraternity in Alaska.

The Financial Section is self-explanatory. Our various funds continue to grow. Although the month-by-month activity is a real roller coaster ride. Our Life Membership returned a total of 6.1%, after the deduction of the Grand Lodge fee. Some of you may feel that this is not the best, but I did do a comparison with a couple of other Grand Lodges and we are paying the same basic return as other Jurisdictions. Our Investment Policy is one that will get us the best return with the least amount of risk to our investments.

I close this report by offering my thanks to the rest of the Grand Lodge Elected Officers. It has been a pleasure to work with each of you this past year. MW Grand Master, I mean this in the best sense of the word, "It's been a real Mickey Mouse of a year." Thank you for your efforts. I could not have made the recovery from my illness I did without the constant and daily care from my wife, Linda and daughter, Katie. Thank you to both, for the privilege you have given me to serve you and Masonry in Alaska.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Richard D. Bender

Grand Master, I ask this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Grand Master, I move that this report be adopted.

Grand Master, It's been moved, seconded, and adopted.

STATUS OF LODGES

	Lodge No,	Elected Only	Initiated	On File EOY	Passed	On File EOY	Raised	On file EOY	Members 1-1-97	MM Proficiency	Affiliates	Dual Members	Reinstated	Consolidate	Other	Total Gain	Deaths	Dimits	NPD	Suspensions	Expulsions	Other	Total Loss	Net Gain / (Loss)	Members 12-31-97
White Pass	1			4			1	1	92	1		1				2	3		4				71	(5)0	87
Anvil	2		2		2				44				1			1		2					2	(1)	43
Tanana	3	1	6	16	7	7	3	9	308	3	1	1	4			9	10	2	3				15	(6)	302
Valdez	4	1	1	8		5		2	68	1		1	1			3	2		2				4	(1)	67
Mt. McKinley	5			3					45							0	1						1	(1)	45
Seward	6			1					43							0							0	0	43
Matanuska	7		1	18	1	1	1	9	120	1			1			2	1	1					2	0	120
Mt. Susitna	8		1	11		1		11	157	1						1	2	3					5	(4)	153
Kodiak	9	1	1	5		1		1	76			1	6			7	1	3	3				7	0	76
Glacier	10	1	4	20	1	6	2	5	249	3	1	5	2			11	4	2	3				9	2	251
Kenai	11		3	10	4		3	2	119	2	2	1				5	4	1					5	0	119
Fairbanks	12	2	5	7	1	3	1	5	93	2			21			4		1	1				2	2	95
Eagle River	13	1		13		3		3	78							0							0	0	78
Aurora	15		3	5	2	3	3	4	51	4						4	1						1	3	54
North Pole	16		3	1	5	41	5	7	39	2		3				6							0	6	45
Anchorage	17		3	15	3	2	4	4	297	3		1	1			5	9	1	3				13	(8)	289
Mr. Verstovia	18	1	2	3		1	1		66	2						2			3				3	(1)	65
Tongass	19		1		1	4			31							0	1		1				2	(2)	29
Iditarod	20	4	2	3	2	2	2	2	124	2						2		1					1	1	125
Totals			12	38	143	29	43	26	65	2100	28	4	14	18		64	39	17	23				79	(15)	2085

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master.

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

The report of the Fraternal Relations Committee. This Grand Lodge has received no requests for recognition from any other grand lodge since our last annual communication. We were hoping to receive a report from the Grand Master's Conference Commission on Information for Recognition. However, this report has not arrived since the Grand Master's Conference. We do, however, have one report that the Grand Master received yesterday in the mail that I am going to go over. It will require no action though at this time. This is kind of an addendum to what I had. I thought I was going to have a totally negative report this time. We do have this one thing.

This letter I have here is a request for our Grand Master and Grand Lodge to be represented at a World Conference of Grand Lodges. This is something relatively new. In fact, I didn't even hear about it until this week. They apparently have met four times in the past and to get some agendas lined out and what have you. The next scheduled meeting is November 13th through the 15th in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

This is a report of a special ad hoc committee of the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges and this report is dated Sunday, May of 1998, and there is about a page and a-half of this, but, just so that you have an idea of what it is all about it's double spaced and will just take a minute to read it.

An ad hoc committee was formed at the meeting of the 1998 World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges in New York City on Saturday May 2nd, 1998. The members of the ad hoc committee represent grand lodges from all of the continents of the world. The contents of this paper summarizing the recommendations of the ad hoc committee to the World Conference has the unanimous support of all the members of the ad hoc committee who signed their names to the original document of this paper. This ad hoc committee recommends that the following purposes and rules of the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges be adopted.

Recommendation Number 1, The Name of the Organization

The name of the organization will be the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges.

Recommendation 2, Purpose and Rules of the World Conference

The purpose of the conference is to share information and to discuss issues which promote the stability, progress, and universality of Craft Masonry. No actions taken by this conference will have a binding effect on any sovereign and independent member grand lodge. The Grand Master or his representative and the Grand Secretary will be the only ones to speak and be seated at the conference table. Only those grand lodges who have been acknowledged as legitimate and regular by the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges will be members. This article will serve as a temporary rule until such time the World Conference decides otherwise. The World Conference will be open to Masonic Grand Lodges only. The World Conference will not discuss political matters. The World Conference will not discuss religious matters. All grand lodges attending the conference will have an equal voice and vote. No grand lodge should attempt to use the World Conference as a platform to seek special favors or financial assistance from any of the participating grand lodges. Conclusions of the World Conference will be printed and distributed to all members of the conference. Every attempt will be made to rotate the World Conference to each continent. The World Conference will be scheduled every eighteen months unless otherwise decided by a simple majority vote of the members present. The time and place of the next meeting will be decided by a simple majority vote of the members present.

Recommendation Number 3, Organization and Structure of the World Conference

The Executive Secretary must be a Grand Secretary, Past Grand Secretary, Grand Master, or Past Grand Master. The said officer is to be elected by simple majority vote of the World Conference. It shall be the proposed duties of the Executive Secretary to:

- propose the date and place of the next World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges based upon applications received in writing from those grand lodges desiring to host the conference.
- select and designate the agenda and speakers for the next World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges, consider and make recommendations previously referred to the World Conference member grand lodges.

Recommendation Number 4, Suggested Topics for the next World Conference

To study and propose means and ways to improve the quality and quantity of Masonic membership.

To study and propose means and ways to provide assistance to emerging grand lodges.

To study the potential value of the establishment of a universal charitable objective of Freemasonry, such as a Masonic foundation for children.

To study the establishment of a world commission on information and recognition following the successful implementation of the policies set forth by the North American Commission.

Recommendation Number 5, Date and Place of the next Conference

The World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges of 1998 should adopt and approve November of 1999 as the period of the next World Conference. Applications have been voluntarily received and accepted from the Grand Lodge of India, and the Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo, Brazil to host the next conference.

Recommendation Number 6, Executive Secretary

The ad hoc committee recommends that the 1998 World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges elect Brother Thomas W. Jackson, the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to serve as Executive Secretary until a successor is duly elected.

Some notes: The following motions were made and seconded by the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges after the reading of the report of the ad hoc committee. The document as presented will be accepted and in effect until the World Conference elects to change it at some future date.

Results: Passed unanimously

The second recommendation that the Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo, Brazil to host the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges in 1999 passed with 53 votes in favor.

This report was read for information purposes only and will be passed on to our elected Grand Lodge Officers and they will decide if they want to attend the next one or not.

But, any way, Grand Master that concludes my report and I request that this report be received for the record.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, Chairman

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Final Report of the Credentials Committee did not itemize the number of ballots per each lodge. The Final Report indicated that 130 ballots were signed for, 128 for voting, and 2 ballots were mis-signed and voided. So, 128 votes to be cast.

The following are the number of votes available by lodge, as provided in the first report of the Committee on Credentials. There was no recording of the 2nd Report of the Credentials Committee and the 3rd Report was the same as the 4th and Final Report

	Total Number of Ballots
Grand Lodge	10
White Pass Lodge No. 1	4
Anvil Lodge No. 2	4
Tanana Lodge No. 3	16
Valdez Lodge No. 4	3
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	4
Seward Lodge No. 6	4
Matanuska Lodge No. 7	7
Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8	3
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	4
Glacier Lodge No. 10	13
Kenai Lodge No. 11	7
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	12
Eagle River Lodge No. 13	4
Aurora Lodge No. 15	2
North Pole Lodge No. 16	6
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	6
Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18	6
Tongass Lodge No. 19	3
Iditarod Lodge No. 20	5
Voided Ballots	
Total Voting Ballots	123

Respectfully submitted,

Howard McElrath, Chairman

APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Jurisprudence

- MW Leslie R. Little (10, 15) Chairman
- MW Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
- VW John W. Casey (3, 12)
- MW Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
- VW Monte R. Ervin (3, 12)
- MW John C. Ingram (6, 11)

Grievance & Appeals

- MW Howard N. Hobbs (10, 13, 15, 20) Chairman
- VW Fred L. McGuire (3, 12)
- W Raymond W. Wagener (3, 12, 16)

Finance

- Bro. S. Michael Johnston (15) Chairman
- RW Steve Lee (15)
- W James W. Morton (17)
- Bro. Harry A. Odden (15) Advisor
- Bro. Patrick R. Williams (15) Advisor

Fraternal Relations

- MW Henry T. Dunbar (10, 17, 20) Chairman

Masonic Research & Education

- W Ronald E. Epperson (3, 8) Chairman
- W Gerald E. Browning (6, 11)
- W Ken R. Creamer (9, 18)
- W Thomas V. Houser (8, 13)

Credentials

- W Howard R. McElrath (4) Chairman
- W Stephen L. Cox (3, 12)
- VW Robert L. Fulton (6, 10, 11)
- Bro. D. Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17) Advisor

Masonic Public Relations

- MW Charles I. Gregg (10)
- W Raldo C. Estridge (17))
- Bro. Frank R. James (7) Advisor

DeMolay

- W Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20) Chairman
- W Frank H. Bird (7, 20)
- Bro. Vernon C. Hughes (3) Advisor

Bylaws

- W Russell A. Burnett (11, 19) Chairman
- W Harold G. "Bud" Moore (5)
- VW Arthur A. Rindahl (6, 8, 11)

Public Schools

- Bro. John B. "Jack" Coghill (3) Chairman
- W George W. Earp (3, 16)
- W Douglas W. Ooms (12)

Long-Range Planning

- MW Gene R. Freeman (3, 12, 16) Chairman
- RW Raymond L. Beaver (3, 10, 15))
- RW Don G. Chaffin (3, 12, 16)
- RW Charles E. Corbin (7, 20)
- RW Steve Lee (15)
- RW Richard D. Bender (10)
- MW Stanley R. Foulke (2)
- VW Gregory E. Wyman (12)
- VW Novis L. Eady (6, 11)
- VW Loyd G. Williamson (10, 15, 20)
- VW L. Tom Smotherman (18, 19)
- VW V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

Sub Committees

Charters & Dispensations

- VW Milton M. Routzahn (9) Chairman
- W Robert E. Cunningham (5)
- VW Alfred B. Cratty (9)

Sessions & Arrangements

- W Gregory E. Wyman (12) Chairman
- W William B. Clucas (3, 12, 16)
- VW John P. Johnson (3)
- W John J. Lincoln (3)
- VW William E. Oldham (12, 16)
- W Charles E. Rhea, III (10)
- Bro. Donald W. Sutton (12) Advisor

Drug and Alcohol Abuse

RW Raymond L. Beaver (3, 10, 15) Chairman
W James M. LeFlore (16)

Publications

W Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20) Chairman
W Glen E. Josey (8, 17)
W Charles E. Rhea III (10)
Bro. D. Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17) Advisor

Warden's Charge

W Stephen L. Cox (3, 12) Chairman
W Robert E. MacArthur (17)
W Fred H. Newton (11)
W Marty W. Parsons (1, 19)
RW Don G. Chaffin (3, 12, 16) Advisor
RW Raymond L. Beaver (3, 10, 15) Advisor

Russian Relations

MW John Grainger (1, 19) Chairman

Awards

MW Stanley R. Foulke (2) Chairman
MW Gene R. Freeman (3, 12, 16)

Segregations and Reference

MW Fred V. Angleton (2) Chairman
MW Wendell H. Kuecker, HPGM (11)

Deputies of the Grand Master

District 1 VW Gregory E. Wyman (12)
District 2 VW Novis L. Eady (6, 11)
District 3 VW Loyd G. Williamson (10, 15, 20)
District 4 VW L. Tom Smotherman (18, 19)
District 5 VW V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

REPORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

MOTIONS

Right Worshipful Brother Raymond L. Beaver, Grand Master-elect, made motion to hold an open installation for the ensuing year for the Grand Lodge of Alaska
Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Carryover Resolution 98-3

To Amend Sections 14.03 and 14.04 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To permit Lodge business and balloting to be transacted when open on any degree.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, newly initiated Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons have energy and enthusiasm toward Masonry and are assets to a Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, it generally takes several months before newly initiated Masons are passed to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason and their enthusiasm wanes as they languish in obscurity; and,

WHEREAS, with the present arrangements there is little time for Lodge members and the new members to get acquainted; and,

WHEREAS, it is very desirable to have new members attend Lodge meetings and to get involved in the workings and programs of the Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, this would encourage more participation in Masonry and Lodge activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 14.03 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 14.03 Bylaw

BUSINESS ON THIRD DEGREE AT STATED COMMUNICATION.

Business is transacted and balloting is done only when a Lodge is open on the Third Degree at a Stated Communication. Proceedings while open on the First and Second Degrees may only be such as appertain to the work and lectures of those degrees, or the taking of testimony upon charges preferred against and Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft.

be amended to read:

Section 14.03 Bylaw

LODGE BUSINESS. Lodge business may only be transacted and balloting may only be done at a Stated Communication. The Worshipful Master may open the Lodge and transact the business of the Lodge on any Degree. Master Masons who are members in good standing of that Lodge are the only members present who may vote on lodge business.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 14.04 which now reads:

Section 14.04 Bylaw

VOTING BY ALL MEMBERS. All members present must ballot on the following questions:

1. A petition for the degrees or for affiliation;
2. The acceptance or rejection of charges for a Masonic trial; and
3. The expulsion or suspension of a member.

A member, by unanimous consent, may be excused from balloting on No. 1. A vote of all members present is not required on other business matters.

be amended to read:

Section 14.04 Bylaw

VOTING BY ALL MEMBERS. All Master Masons present who are members in good standing of the Lodge must ballot on the following questions:

1. A petition for the degrees or for affiliation;
2. The acceptance or rejection of charges for a Masonic trial; and
3. The expulsion or suspension of a member.

A member, by unanimous consent, may be excused from balloting on No. 1. A vote of all members present is not required on other business matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter T. Williams, PM (7)
Henry R. Ferguson, PM (7)
Russell W. Sanders, PM (7, 20)
Stanley Woodin, PM (3, 7, 8, 20)
Charles C. Corbin, PM (7, 20)
Roger Hansen, PM (7, 20)

Terrence B. Quarton, PM (7, 17, 20)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As a Carryover Resolution to amend a Bylaw, it will require a simple majority vote for adoption.

Note: This Carryover Resolution 98-3 failed to receive a majority vote (42 for and 53 against) and was rejected.

Resolution 99-1

To Amend Chapter 20 - Conferring of Degrees

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE : To allow the Grand Master to hold a One-Day Ritual Class.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the rush, rush pace of today's society is very demanding on our time; and,

WHEREAS, most of our Lodge have experienced a dramatic decline in their membership of the past two decades; and,

WHEREAS, many of our candidates have been unable to complete their degrees in a timely manner; and,

WHEREAS, many Grand Lodges throughout the United States have started having One-Day Ritual Classes to help build their membership; and,

WHEREAS, many professional people, business leaders, political leaders, etc., do not have time in their busy work schedules to learn the Posting Lectures of our Ritual;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 20.01 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 20.01 Bylaw

DEGREES, LIMIT ON CONFERRING. A Lodge may confer degrees upon not more than fifteen candidates in any one calendar day. It may not confer a degree or portion of a degree upon more than one candidate at a time except that the Lectures, including the Middle Chamber Lecture, and the Charges may be delivered to more

than one candidate at a time. The first and second sections of each degree must be conferred on the same calendar day.

be amended to read:

Section 20.01 Bylaw

DEGREES, LIMIT ON CONFERRING. A Lodge may confer degrees upon not more than fifteen candidates in any one calendar day. It may not confer a degree or portion of a degree upon more than one candidate at a time except that the Lectures, including the Middle Chamber Lecture, and the Charges may be delivered to more than one candidate at a time. The first and second sections of each degree must be conferred on the same calendar day. **The provisions of this paragraph may be waived by the Grand Master for the purpose of conducting a “One-Day Ritual Class.” (See Section 20.12)**

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 20.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 20.06 Bylaw

DEGREES, INTERVAL BETWEEN. Without dispensation, a Lodge may not confer either the Second Degree or the Third Degree on a candidate in less than two weeks from the time of conferring the preceding degree. The Grand Master may grant a dispensation to confer the Second Degree or Third Degree within less than two weeks upon a member of the Armed Services of the United States, including the Air Force and Coast Guard, or upon a Brother changing his home to a distant locality. No such dispensation is effective unless the Master of the Lodge asking for such dispensation is satisfied the candidate is proficient in the preceding degree; as is provided in Section 20.11.

be amended to read:

Section 20.06 Bylaw

DEGREES, INTERVAL BETWEEN. Without dispensation, a Lodge may not confer either the Second Degree or the Third Degree on a candidate in less than two weeks from the time of conferring the preceding degree. The Grand Master may grant a dispensation to confer the Second Degree or Third Degree within less than two weeks upon a member of the Armed Services of the United States, including the Air Force and Coast Guard, or upon a Brother changing his home to a distant locality. No such dispensation is effective unless the Master of the Lodge asking for such dispensation is satisfied the candidate is proficient in the preceding degree; as is provided in Section 20.11. **The provisions of this paragraph may be waived by the Grand Master for the purpose of conducting a “One-Day Ritual Class.” (See Section 20.12)**

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

Section 20.11 Bylaw

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

be amended to read:

Section 20.11 Bylaw

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

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

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

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

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

(1) immediately following the examination if the Brother was examined in open Lodge: or,

(2) at the next Stated Communication of the Lodge if the Brother was examined by a committee or if he selected the written Study Guide.

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

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

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 20.12 of the Alaska Masonic Code be added to read:

Section 20.12 Bylaw

One-Day Ritual Class. The Grand Master may, at his option, authorize a One-Day Ritual class(es), using the following guidelines:

1. All candidates for the class must have petitioned and been elected by a Lodge in this Jurisdiction as outlined in Chapter 19 of the Alaska Masonic Code;

2. One Blue Lodge will be selected, by the Grand Master, to act as Host Lodge for the One-Day Class. Candidates from Lodges other than the Host Lodge will be handled as courtesy candidates;

3. All three degrees (E.A., F.C. & M.M.) will be presented in full form during the One-Day Class;

4. Proficiency at the conclusion of the One-Day Class will consist, minimally, of the modes of recognition (step, due guard and sign, grip and word) of each Degree. A candidate who passes said minimal proficiency will be declared proficient by the Worshipful Master of his Lodge. The candidate must sign the Bylaws of his Lodge and pay the current year's dues. He then becomes an enrolled member of that Lodge. (A candidate who wishes to go

beyond the minimum requirement and complete the entire Posting Lecture or Alternate Proficiency per Section 20.11 should certainly be encouraged to do so.

5. Any member who receives his degrees in a One-Day Class and opts for the minimal proficiency, and who, at a later date, wishes to progress through the “chairs” of his Lodge will demonstrate proficiency in each of the three Degrees, in accordance with Section 20.11, prior to being installed in the office of Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden or Worshipful Master.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PM (10, 17, 20)
Charles E. Corbin, PM (7, 20)
Philip S. Lee, PM (15)
Dennis R. Thayer, PM (17)
Leonard R. Young, PM (10, 17)
James W. Morton, PM (17)
Russell W. Sanders, PM (7, 20)
D. Scott Thompson, SW (10)
Donald A. Witsoe, SW (20)

David C. Pratt, PM (10)
Gerald R. Fairley, PM (10, 20)
Fred V. Angleton, PM (2, 11)
John P. Grady, PM (17)
Paul A. Godwin, PM (8)
Hazen R. Ricker, PM (10, 13)
James R. Griffith, WM (13)
Raymond A. Gallant, SW (15)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend a Bylaw, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive the required three-fourths vote but did receive a majority vote (64 for and 41 against) and is a Carryover Resolution

Resolution 99-2

To Amend Section 19.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To change the number of Black Cubes required to reject a petition.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, we have seen or heard of cases where a petitioner has been rejected by one dissenting vote because of a private pique or quarrel or for revenge; and,

WHEREAS, if a candidate has a serious flaw in his character, it is usually known by more than one member of the Lodge: and,

WHEREAS, the merits and/or demerits of a petitioner are usually discussed among several members of the Investigating Committee; and,

WHEREAS, any member of a Lodge who has knowledge about a petitioner that should be brought to the attention of the Lodge is free to share this knowledge with the Master and/or Investigating Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 19.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 19.06 Bylaw

BALLOTING. A ballot on a petition for the degrees or for affiliation may be taken only at a Stated Communication. The ballot must be unanimous in its favor or the petition is declared rejected.

be amended to read:

Section 19.06 Bylaw

BALLOTING. A ballot on a petition for the degrees or for affiliation may be taken only at a Stated Communication. **Two or more Black Cubes are required for a petition to be declared rejected.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry T. Dunbar, PM (10, 17)
Philip S. Lee, PM (15)
Hazen R. Ricker, PM (10, 13)
David C. Pratt, PM (10)
Richard D. Bender, PM (10)
Frank H. Bird, PM (7, 20)
Robert B. Molloy, WM (20)
Raymond A. Gallant, SW (15)

James W. Morton, PM (17)
David A. Hunt, PM (17)
Walter T. Williams, PM (7)
Russell W. Sanders, PM (7, 20)
Stanley L. Woodin, PM (7, 20)
Jerry R. Arthur, PM (7)
William J. Goodwin, WM (7)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend a Bylaw, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive a majority vote and was rejected (39 for and 68 against).

Resolution 99-3

To Amend Sections 3.08 and 4.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To better define the duties of the Grand Lecturer.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the duties of the Grand Lecturer are defined only as giving needed instruction to the Lodges under the direction of the Grand Master; and,

WHEREAS, the Duties of the Grand Master are too numerous and time consuming to allow time to give this direction to the Grand Lecturer; and,

WHEREAS, the instruction in the Standard Work has been given to the District Deputies, under the direction of the Grand Master; and,

WHEREAS, the instruction of the Standard Work should be under the direction of the Grand Lecturer; and,

WHEREAS, the need for instruction of the Standard Work to the Constituent Lodges is of the utmost importance;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 3.08 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 3.08 Constitution

Grand Lecturer, Duties. The Grand Lecturer gives needed instruction to the Lodges under the direction of the Grand Master.

be amended to read:

Section 3.08 Constitution

Grand Lecturer, Duties. The Grand Lecturer **will disseminate and impart the Standard Work and Lectures to members of each Lodge, and give them such general instructions as they may require concerning their duties, and perform like services on special occasions at the request of the Grand Master.**

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that paragraph 2 of Section 4.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code be deleted and section 4.06 be renumbered accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Lloyd W. Triggs, PM (3, 16)
Don G. Chaffin, PM (3, 12, 16)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend the Constitution, it will require a 90% majority vote for adoption.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive the required ninety percent vote but did receive a majority vote (61 for and 34 against) and is a Carryover Resolution

Resolution 99-4

To Amend Section 2.02 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To establish an optional Statement of Availability for the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

WHEREAS, campaigning for elected office is not permitted; and,

WHEREAS, the voting members may not be aware of whether the currently elected Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary are interested in continuing for another term; and,

WHEREAS, the voting members may not be aware of qualified candidates for the Offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary; and,

WHEREAS, the voting members need time to evaluate the credentials and qualifications of possible candidates for the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary; and,

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are extremely numerous and too important for the voting members not to be given a choice during the annual election of officers:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 2.02(2) which now reads:

Section 2.02 Bylaw

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

2. A person desiring to serve as Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge may, at least 120 days preceding the Annual 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. All such Statements must be duplicated and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all Constituent Lodges for study at least 75 days prior to the next Annual Grand Communication. This action does not preclude the right of the Grand Lodge to elect an eligible member without such statement.

Be amended to read:

2.02 Bylaw

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

2. A person desiring to serve as **Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary or** Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge may, at least 120 days preceding the Annual 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. All such Statements must be duplicated and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all Constituent Lodges for study at least 75 days prior to the next Annual Grand Communication. This action does not preclude the right of the Grand Lodge to elect an eligible member without such statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Lloyd W. Triggs, PM (3, 16)
Don G. Chaffin, PM (3, 12, 16)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend a Bylaw, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Note: this Resolution received the required majority votes (82 for and 19 against) and was adopted.

Resolution 99-5

To provide funding for the Student Assistance Training Program

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To provide funding for the Student Assistance Training Program of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, our Nation, as well as the Masonic Community, has at long last come to recognize the devastating effects on our country's future of ignoring the problematic behaviors of our youth - such as chemical abuse and dependency, physical and sexual abuse, pregnancy, depression and suicide of even very young children; and,

WHEREAS, a national Masonic Foundation has been created to address this problem by assisting local school districts to target students who are at risk; and,

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska recognizes this problem among the youth of our state and has joined hands with the national Foundation by becoming a member of this organization; and,

WHEREAS, Freemasonry has, as one of its basic tenets, charity, in its widest meaning, and has existed since time immemorial and is among the first lessons taught in the Entered Apprentice Degree, "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth; and,

WHEREAS, a Grand Lodge Program to battle Drug Abuse among our youth is direct evidence that, as Masons, we are ready to live up to these Masonic ideals and principles in our daily lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Grand Lodge provide an annual contribution of five dollars (\$5.00) per year for a period not to exceed two years from each member of this Grand Lodge for the purpose of funding the Student Assistance Training Program. These contributions are subject to the restrictions of Section 9.04 Bylaw, subsection 3 of the Alaska Masonic Code.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond L. Beaver, PM (3, 10, 15)

Don G. Chaffin, PM (3, 12, 16)

Charles E. Corbin, PM (7, 20)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. This Resolution does not propose to amend the Code, but does propose an assessment on each Constituent Lodge. It is therefore, referred to the Committee on Finance for report at Grand Lodge.

The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend the Lodge Assessment, it will require a simple majority vote for adoption

Note: This Resolution was withdrawn.

Resolution 99-6 Emergent

(See the 8th report of the Jurisprudence Committee)

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence

1st Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution 98-3 Carryover, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is a carryover from the 17th Annual Communication. This Committee does not express an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend the Bylaws, it will require a simple majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

John W. Casey (3, 12)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)

Monte R. Ervin (3, 12)

John C. Ingram (6, 11)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be accepted.

MW Grand Master, I move the adoption of this Resolution.

Note: This Carryover Resolution 98-3 failed to receive a majority vote (42 for and 53 against) and was rejected.

2nd Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution 99-1, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is in proper form to be considered by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend the Bylaws, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

John W. Casey (3, 12)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)

Monte R. Ervin (3, 12)

John C. Ingram (6, 11)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be accepted.

MW Grand Master, I move the adoption of this Resolution.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive the required three-quarter vote but did receive a majority vote (64 for and 41 against) and is a Carryover Resolution

3rd Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 99-2, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is in proper form to be considered by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend one or more Bylaws, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this Resolution.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive a majority vote and was rejected (39 for and 68 against).

4th Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 99-3, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is in proper form to be considered by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend the Constitution, it will require a ninety percent majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman
Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this Resolution.

Note: this Resolution failed to receive the required ninety percent vote but did receive a majority vote (61 for and 34 against) and is a Carryover Resolution

5th Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 99-4, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is in proper form to be considered by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee does not express an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted.

As it proposes to amend one or more Bylaws, it will require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)

Stanley R. Foulke (2)

V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master, I move for the adoption of this Resolution.

Note: this Resolution received the required majority votes (82 for and 19 against) and was adopted.

6th Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

This would have been the 6th Report of Committee on Jurisprudence. Since Resolution 99-5 was withdrawn, it is not necessary to give you a Jurisprudence Report.

7th Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

To whom was referred paragraph number 2 of the Grand Master's Recommendations, the Committee does not approve this Recommendation as it requires multiple copies of the master copy of the Esoteric Work. Section 8.01 does not permit more than the Master Copy.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)

Stanley R. Foulke (2)

V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master: It's received.

MW Grand Master, I move the adoption of this Resolution.

MW Grand Master: It is a failure (vote taken)

Leslie R. Little, Jurisprudence Chairman indicated, "Sorry about that Grand Master."

8th Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

This is actually in the form of an Emergent Resolution my Brothers and deals with paragraph number 3 of your Grand Master's Message under Recommendations.

Resolution 99-6 Emergent

The purpose of this Resolution is to facilitate the implementation of that portion of the Grand Master's Message entitled Recommendations, paragraph number 3.

WHEREAS: The youth groups connected with the Masonic Fraternity are more than the DeMolay, and

WHEREAS: The Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters are equally important to the future of Freemasonry.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 5.10 Bylaw, which is now titled **DEMOLAY** be renamed Section 5.10 Bylaw, **MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE**.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman

Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)

Frank W. Erie (3, 12)

Stanley R. Foulke (2)

V. Clifford Darnell (8, 13, 20)

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master: It's received.

MW Grand Master, I move the adoption of this Resolution.

MW Grand Master: Motion made, seconded, and passed

Grievance and Appeals

According to the Grand Master, the Chairman of the Committee on Grievance and Appeals is in the hospital and for what he understands there is a negative report on it and that is the report.

Finance

Report of the Finance Committee

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Report presented by W James W. Morton

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Members of the Organization.

The Finance Committee has two documents. The first one is the proposed budget for next year. You will find that at the back of the document. You will find the Finance Committee document inside your blue book. If you have any questions on the proposed

adoption or if you have any questions about the proposed budget, I will be happy to try to answer them for you.

After some discussion by MW Gunnar Flygenring and clarification by Rick Bender, Grand Secretary, a motion was made for the report to be received and adopted.

Budget was approved.

Brothers, the next thing to come up is Resolution 99-5 (discussion stopped by Grand Master and report of Finance Committee is completed).

Respectfully submitted,

S. Michael Johnston Chairman

Steve Lee

James W. Morton

Harry A. Odden, Advisor

Patrick R. Williams, Advisor

Report of an Audit Committee

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

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1998

ASSETS

Cash in General Fund			
Checking - First National Bank	\$ 17,654		
Savings – First National Bank	1,063		
Money Market – Dean Witter	1,046		
Total General Fund Cash		\$ 21,126 *	(\$19,762) **
Cash in Permanent Fund			
Savings – First National Bank	\$ 1,364		
Total Permanent Fund Cash			
Inventories – Masonic supplies	\$ 13,858		
Prepaid Expenses	575		
Total Current Assets		\$ 14,433	
Investments			
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. -Access Account	\$150,000		
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. US Growth Access	150,000		
Individual Investments	133,211		
National Bank of Alaska -166 Shares	1,330		
Total Investments		\$434,541	
Fixed Assets –Net of Depreciation		\$ 6,507	
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 478,051 *	(\$476,607) **

LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY

Member's Equity			
General Fund Balance	\$122,293 *	(\$120,849) **	
Permanent Fund Balance	226,445		
Life Membership fund	59,510		
Dedicated Travel Fund	22,555		
Proceedings, Transcription, Printing, & Binding	38,500		
Arts scholarship Fund	2,461		
Martinez Education Fund	454		
Charity Fund	2,471		
Equipment Fund	1,808		
Russian relations Fund	1,554		
Total Members Equity		\$ 478,051 *	(\$476,607) **
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY		\$ 478,051 *	(\$476,607) **

* As indicated in Blue Book

** As corrected as noted from Blue Book

STATEMENT OF INCOME – CALENDAR YEAR 1998

INCOME

Grand Lodge Assessments *	\$37,963
Sale of Masonic Materials - Net	463
General Fund Contributions	45
Interest / Dividend Income	28,907
Contributions and Donations – Permanent Fund	12,164
Contributions to Dedicated Travel Fund	2,589
Contributions to Martinez Education Fund	100
Grand Lodge Dispensations	40
Life Membership Fund	10,780
TOTAL INCOME	\$93,051

EXPENSES

Grand Master’s Expense Allowance	\$1,000
Grand Master’s Travel Allowance	1,000
Grand Lodge Bulletin *	3,507
Masonic Research and Education Committee	(179)
Arrangements Committee – Annual Communication	3,144
Printing and Binding - Proceedings	-0-
Insurance	5,788
Reception for Visitors	1,000
Past Grand Master’s Regalia	677
Charity	50
Grand Master’s Award Program	175
Grand Secretary’s Expense Allowance	3,474
Grand Secretary’s Travel Allowance	590
Grand Lodge Expenses	
Office Salaries	10,000
Payroll Taxes	1,058
Office Rent	8,560
Office Supplies and Expenses	1,030
Taxes	15
Postage	697
Transcription of Proceedings	-0-
Warden’s Charge	1,331
Telephone	1,164
Printing Expense (Masonic Forms)	1,300
Committee on Fraternal Relations	15
Masonic Service Association	300
George Washington Memorial Association *	1,217
Grand Master’s & Grand Secretary’s Conference	1,298
Depreciation Expense	1,850
Miscellaneous Expense	376
Life Membership Fund Dividend	2,594
Other Funds Dividend	1,242
Grand Lodge Officer’s Travel	
Grand Master	2,989

Deputy Grand Master	1,196
Senior Grand Warden	598
Junior Grand Warden	598
Grand Secretary	598
Total Expenses	<u>\$60,252</u>

* These are offsetting items that are financed through assessment to the individual Lodges

OPERATING BUDGET – GENERAL FUND CALENDAR YEAR 1998

	ACTUAL BUDGET 1998	ACTUAL EXPENSES 1998	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
EXPENSES			
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -0-
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000	1,000	-0-
Grand Lodge Bulletin	3,507	3,507	-0-
Masonic research and Education Committee	250	(179)	(429)
Arrangements Committee – Annual Communication	3,000	3,144	144
Printing and Binding - Proceedings	2,500	-0-	(2,500)
Insurance	6,000	5,788	(212)
Reception for Visitors	1,000	1,000	-0-
Past Grand Master's Regalia	800	677	(123)
Charity	100	50	(50)
SUB TOTAL I	\$19,157	\$15,987	(\$3,170)
Grand Master's Award Program	\$ 1,200	\$ 175	(\$ 1,025)
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	3,400	3,474	74
Grand Secretary's Travel Allowance	600	590	(10)
Grand Lodge Expenses			
Office Salaries	10,000	10,000	-0-
Payroll Taxes	1,500	1,058	(442)
Office Rent	8,600	8,560	(40)
Office Supplies and Expenses	900	1,030	130
Taxes	15	15	-0-
Postage	900	697	(203)
Transcription of Proceedings	1,000	-0-	(1,000)
Warden's Charge	1,000	1,331	331
Telephone	1,300	1,164	(136)
Printing Expense (Masonic Forms)	2,000	1,300	(700)
Dues Expense			
Committee of Fraternal Relations	15	15	-0-
Masonic Service Association	300	300	-0-
George Washington Memorial Association	1,217	1,217	-0-
Grand Master's & Grand Secretary's Conference	400	1,298	898
Depreciation Expense	1,850	1,850	-0-
Miscellaneous Expense	200	376	176
Life Membership Fund	2,594	2,594	-0-
Other Funds Dividend	1,242	1,242	-0-
SUB TOTAL II	\$40,233	\$38,286	(\$1,947)
Grand Lodge Officer's Travel			
Grand Master	\$2,989	\$2,989	\$ -0-

Deputy Grand Master	1,198	1,198	-0-
Senior grand Warden	598	598	-0-
Junior Grand Warden	598	598	-0-
Grand Secretary	598	598	-0-
	<hr/>		
SUB TOTAL III	\$ 5,979	\$ 5,979	\$ -0-
	<hr/>		
GRAND TOTALS	\$65,369	\$60,252	(\$ 5,117)
	<hr/>		

OPERATING BUDGET – GENERAL FUND CALENDAR YEAR 1999

	ACTUAL BUDGET 1998	1999 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
EXPENSES			
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -0-
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000	1,000	-0-
Grand Lodge Bulletin	3,507	3,507	-0-
Masonic research and Education Committee	250	250	-0-
Arrangements Committee – Annual Communication	3,000	3,000	-0-
Printing and Binding - Proceedings	2,500	2,500	-0-
Insurance	6,000	6,000	-0-
Reception for Visitors	1,000	1,000	-0-
Past Grand Master's Regalia	800	800	-0-
Charity	100	100	-0-
SUB TOTAL I	\$19,157	\$19,157	\$ -0-
Grand Master's Award Program	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ -0-
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	3,400	3,400	-0-
Grand Secretary's Travel Allowance	600	600	-0-
Grand Lodge Expenses			
Office Salaries	10,000	10,000	-0-
Payroll Taxes	1,500	1,500	-0-
Office Rent	8,600	8,600	-0-
Office Supplies and Expenses	900	900	-0-
Taxes	15	15	-0-
Postage	900	900	-0-
Transcription of Proceedings	1,000	1,000	-0-
Warden's Charge	1,000	1,000	-0-
Telephone	1,300	1,300	-0-
Printing Expense (Masonic Forms)	2,000	2,000	-0-
Dues Expense			
Committee of Fraternal Relations	15	15	-0-
Masonic Service Association	300	300	-0-
George Washington Memorial Association	1,217	1,217	-0-
Grand Master's & Grand Secretary's Conference	400	400	-0-
Depreciation Expense	1,850	1,850	-0-
Miscellaneous Expense	200	200	-0-
Life Membership Fund	2,594	2,594	-0-
Other Funds Dividend	1.242	1.242	-0-
SUB TOTAL II	\$40,233	\$40,233	\$ -0-
Grand Lodge Officer's Travel			
Grand Master	\$2,989	\$6,111	\$3,122

Deputy Grand Master	1,198	2,444	1,248
Senior grand Warden	598	1,222	624
Junior Grand Warden	598	1,222	624
Grand Secretary	598	1,222	624
SUB TOTAL III	<u>\$ 5,978</u>	<u>\$12,221</u>	<u>\$6,243</u>
GRAND TOTALS	<u>\$65,368</u>	<u>\$71,611</u>	<u>\$6,243</u>

Masonic Research and Education

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Masonic Research and Education Committee chair is embarrassed to report that unbeknown to the other members of the Committee the education material that was to be transferred into our hands was missing and presumed lost until discovered late February. Once the missing items were in our possession, we sent out a letter notifying all lodges of the books and brochures available as well as a price list. Fortunately, during the past year we were able to work with the Tanana Lodge No. 3's Library Committee and their endeavors to set up the Glenn Pruitt Memorial Library. The project is completed. The Library is in place and available to all Masons in Alaska. All they have to do is to contact George Ziegler or the current Secretary of Tanana Lodge No. 3 to check out the books. The only fee that will be is the postage.

Sincerely and in Brotherly Love,

Ronald E. Epperson Chairman
Gerald E. Browning
Ken R. Creamer
Thomas V. Houser

MW Grand Master, I request this report be received and accepted

MW Grand Master: it is received and accepted

Masonic Public Relations

According to the audio tape recording, the Grand Master indicated that the Public Relations report is in and the Secretary has it. However, no report was found in file.

DeMolay

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

To Grand Master Freeman, Distinguished Guests, and Brethren,

This report of the Grand Lodge Committee on DeMolay is presented as a progress report amplifying on the report of a year ago. We continue to have great enthusiasm and hope. Enthusiasm over the progress over the Order of DeMolay in Alaska during the last few years and hope that this progress will continue. A look at DeMolay as recently as 1996 would have shown that the Order was almost dead. There were four Chapters, one of which was in forfeit status and the remaining three were struggling to meet. Of the three

so-called active Chapters, none had more than three participating members. Their meetings were held infrequently without the benefit of DeMolay ritual and activities outside the chapter room were almost non-existent. The State Association had a bank balance of only one-hundred forty-nine dollars and six cents on which to run a statewide program.

This situation began to turn around in 1997 when, for the first time in ten years the State hosted a conclave. This convention was held over three days, was attended by nineteen young men and advisors who indulged in competitions, business sessions, and a rock dance. A newsletter was published and sent to all members, advisors, Masonic Lodges, and to several other interested individuals and organizations. New advisors were recruited and participation in Chapter activities increased as did the number of initiates.

Work with the Chapters continued throughout 1997 and 1998 and is still an on-going effort. Membership increased and participation in large numbers of activities dramatically moved upward. Alaska participated in both the 1997 and 1998 International Supreme Council and International Congress with our DeMolay State Officers in attendance. Work in this Jurisdiction was recognized at the International level by being the recipient in 1997 of the very coveted Golden Eagle trophy presented by DeMolay's Grand Master. Alaska was also represented at the PacWest Ritual Competition held in Reno, Nevada and at the DeMolay Leadership Conference for the last two years. We will again be represented at the Supreme Council Session and the Leadership Conference in 1999. Each of these activities is made with the idea of improving leadership skills of DeMolay members.

Twenty-nine young men and their advisors attended Conclave 98. This was an increase in over fifty percent from the preceding year. But, our Conclave 99 exceeded that figure with thirty-four DeMolays, seven advisors, and several parent's club members present. When you include our Sweethearts, members of Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls, and other interested individuals, the final evening had an assemblage of a hundred-twenty-five crowded into the Fairbanks Masonic Hall. We've been told that this was the largest crowd in that building in a long time.

Our Conclave's guests included the State Master and Junior Councilor of Nevada along with their State Sweetheart and two very special guests were Samuel L. Cole Jr., the Grand Master of DeMolay International and Jeffrey L. Speaker, Executive Director of DeMolays Service and Leadership Center. It is a pleasure to have Jason W. Smith from Wasilla as the new State Master Councilor. He is a very capable young man who addressed you Thursday morning and we both have expectations of even greater activity in the coming year. The Conclave this year also featured twelve new members initiated in honor of two Grand Masters, Samuel L. Cole, Jr., Grand Master of DeMolay and our own Grand Master, Most Worshipful Gene Freeman. As before, there were many activities for members and advisors alike. The Representative DeMolay Award was presented to our new State Junior Councilor, Joe D. Humphreys, who also is DeMolay of the Year for 1998/1999. The presentation of this award and trophy is indicative of our efforts to recognize the accomplishments of individual members.

On another note, the International Supreme Council at its regular session last June, voted to honor six Alaskans with their highest honor, the Legion of Honor. These were Henry T. Dunbar, Howard N. Hobbs, Vernon T. “Butch” Hughes, Clarence E. Keto, Mitchell R. Miller, and Russell W. Sanders. These six have each had distinguished Masonic and professional careers and have been instrumental in the rebirth of DeMolay in Alaska. And, while DeMolay has honored Masons, Masonry has attracted DeMolays. I am pleased to announce that the two State Master Councilors have taken advantage of the new ruling permitting eighteen year olds to become Masons. One was raised to the degree of Master Mason just last Monday. It’s great to have new Masonic Brothers who will work as Masons for Masonry and for DeMolays for years to come.

During this last year particular recognition must be paid to the loyal and dedicated advisors without whom the DeMolay program would be impossible. Certainly it is not practical to list them all here, but Stan Woodin and Russell Sanders both of Matanuska No. 7 and Iditarod No. 20 deserve special commendations for their activities with Mat-Su Chapter. Their work was largely responsible for that Chapter leaving Conclave 99 with almost a clean sweep of trophies including Chapter of the Year and bowling trophies. Also, to be commended for their work with Arctic Chapter in Fairbanks are: Butch Hughes, Jim Kay, and Don Winters. Patrick Williams is also doing an excellent job with Anchorage Chapter. We all owe a big thanks to our dedicated advisors who spend long hours and use their own funds to promote the Order.

During this coming year, the DeMolay administration staff will continue its emphasis upon the development of both DeMolay chapters and members. One area of emphasis will be to continue the attempt to restart the old DeMolay chapter in Ketchikan and the recently forfeited chapter in Kenai. To accomplish this, however, it will require the assistance of interested individuals in both of these communities. Even though DeMolay is an organization of young men and run by them, dedicated advisors are an absolute necessity for a successful chapter. In addition to this effort, the DeMolay staff will attempt to strengthen the advisory councils of existing chapters. Several of our key advisors have been working for a long time with little assistance and need some relief from the need-to-do everything themselves.

To accomplish these goals, it is recommended that the Grand Lodge Committee on DeMolay work closely with the DeMolay administration and that they visit as many lodges as possible to speak on the DeMolay program. In turn, the DeMolay Executive Officer has pledged to be available for speaking engagements at lodges or other organizational functions.

Why do adults spend their money and all-to precious time working with young men? Well first, it’s a lot of fun. You not only get to relive some of the things you did in your own youth but trying to keep up with DeMolay members is a sure way of keeping yourself young. More important, however, is the opportunity to take a raw untried youth and help him develop into a mature, self-confident leader and an adult to whom we can proudly say “I knew him when he was an active DeMolay.” Three weeks ago, I witnessed a new initiate fall in love for the first time. He was twelve years old, she was eighteen and

a foot and a-half taller, and we thank the young lady for being so patient and understanding. They may never see each other again, but since that Conclave's dance, that boy is now a young man and that weekend is an experience he probably will never forget. It is this kind of experience watching and helping boys transform into young men and then into adults that makes being an advisor one of the most satisfying things a man can do.

Again this year, three DeMolays will be attending the DeMolay International in Kansas City and other activities are planned as well. It looks as if DeMolay activities are continuing to be an important part of the member's lives. DeMolay in Alaska has come a long way in the last few years, but there is still a long way to go. Anchorage Chapter in particular is in need of Masonic support. Your assistance is as important to Masonry as it is to DeMolay. By continuing to promote Masonic ideals in a manner appropriate for young men we are building the future. DeMolays are the future, not only of Masonry but of our country and therefore of all the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald R. Fairley Chairman
Frank H. Bird
Vernon C. Hughes

Grand Master, I ask that this report be accepted.

Grand Master: It will be accepted.

Public Schools

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am Sam Medsker, Past Master of Tanana 3 and I am standing in for Jack Coghill, Chairman of the Public Schools Committee. Bylaws of the Alaska Masonic Code provide for a standing committee on public schools. The Committee on Public Schools shall maintain a continuous program throughout the year of educating Lodge members on the importance of the American system of tax supported public schools and the preservation of its inviolability.

Your Committee did not meet as an active committee during the 1998/1999 administration of the Grand Lodge. We did, however, survey all nineteen lodges in the Jurisdiction and find that most have a program of contact with a public school system. It is our recommendation that the Grand Lodge directs this Committee to be more active with the Lodges in the promotion of programs at the Lodge level to enhance Masonry and its dedication to a free society through the public school system.

As of this report we find six Lodges that provide recognition awards to a student or a teacher, three provide school scholarships, and two award school excellence programs. Some Lodges are not active at all in this area and it is to these Lodges we wish to direct the attention of the 1999/2000 year administration.

We recommend closer communication with their area schools through elected school boards that a policy be adopted for outside Americanism programs and a vigorous cooperative agenda for a school year between each Lodge and their school district and that in order to advance Masonry into a sound public school education system and to ensure a free society of free men. That very foundation is our public schools. The founding fathers of our Fraternity and that of our nation were dedicated to this principle and it is in our duty to carry it forward.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. "Jack" Coghill Chairman
George W. Earp
Douglas W. Ooms

MW Grand Master, I ask this report be received.

MW Grand Master: It is received.

Bylaws

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master,

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the great State of Alaska from the Bylaws Committee we had two Bylaw changes for Tanana Lodge No. 3. One was to raise the life membership structure and the other one was to raise the dues. We the Committee on Bylaws find the resolutions in proper order and wish them to be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Burnett Chairman
Harold G. "Bud" Moore
Arthur A. Rindahl

MW Grand Master, I move this report be accepted.

MW Grand Master: It is accepted.

MW Grand Master, I move it becomes part of the record.

MW Grand Master: Moved, seconded, passed and is part of the record.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)

We remember these brethren who have laid down their working tools, as reported by the Constituent Lodges in their monthly reports for 1998.

*When the door of life closes, another door opens;
but often we look so long at the closed door
that we do not see the one that has been opened.*

*May his life beyond that door
Be even more fruitful and rewarding
Than the life he led while on this side.*

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

White Pass Lodge No. 1

Marvin Paul Tayler	February 5, 1998
Erik Nielson	September 2, 1998
Mark Harry Lee	September 10, 1998

Tanana Lodge No. 3

James Alexander Wallace	??, 1996
Harold Laverne Williams	??, 1996
Howard Hamilton Prince	January 2, 1998
Paul Macy Packard	January 4, 1998
Nathan Wolfe Jacobs	January 18, 1998
Harold Samuelson	February 3, 1998
Urho Astor Jurva	May 15, 1998
Newton Jenkins	May 24, 1998
Raymond Charles Pittman	June 22, 1998
Charles Joseph Awe, Jr.	October 6, 1998

Valdez Lodge No. 4

William Pearson Cameron	March 22, 1998
Vernon Lee Roberts, Jr., PM	August 5, 1998

Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5

Arthur Proctor Knight	May 7, 1998
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Matanuska Lodge No. 7

Robert Dean Caffrey	December 30, 1998
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Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8	
Kenneth Robert Haynes, PM	June 30, 1998
Neal David Cooper, PM	September 1, 1998
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	
Robert Graham Storms	??, 1996
Glacier Lodge No. 10	
Richard Tristram Coffin, PM	June 10, 1998
Sam Nathan Scardi	August 19, 1998
Dick Cook	September 7, 1998
Thomas Joseph Belli	September 19, 1998
Kenai Lodge No. 11	
Leslie Duane Paynter	May 29, 1998
Sherman Wayne Jones, PM	June 17, 1998
Floyd Saltz, Jr., PM	July 7, 1998
Charles Richard Hill	September 22, 1998
Aurora Lodge No. 15	
Newton Jenkins	May 24, 1998
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	
Joseph Frank Piala	December 4, 1998
Henry Pratt Cate	January 7, 1998
Donald M. Lundstedt	May 23, 1998
Robert Deloit Jaynes	May 24, 1998
Ward Irving Gay	July 13, 1998
Alton Bryant Pressley	October 6, 1998
Ernest Owen Williams	October 18, 1998
Paul Franklin Donley	December 20, 1998
Tongass Lodge No. 19	
Charles Raymond Hendricks	January 20, 1998

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Just a few things I want to say that I've been saying all year long for our Grand Master. He has spoken about your will being prepared and I have spoken about having your soul prepared and some of you may have gotten bored with it. But I'd like to tell you once again that this Holy Book that we have on this altar says that in the twinkling of an eye, there will be a change.

And, as I think each year we lay to rest our friends that are in this Grand Lodge and in all of our Lodges, in all of our homes, in all of our acquaintances, and in all of our

communities God is truly calling people home in clouds. Add to this number today two-hundred thousand more in Kosovo or ... break in tape... but each year we see more and more golden bowls that are broken, more grinders low in the field. We pray, our Father as the grasshoppers become burdened to some of us, that we might know you love us and we're going off to a far better place than this world has to offer.

Bless the families of all these men and bless the friends that have lost their loved ones. We pray that each day that we draw closer to Thee and that the seriousness of our life as Brother Masons might be shown in our confidence and in our faith and in the fact that we love you as you have loved us, because we ask it all in Thy Holy Name. Amen.

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

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

W Eugene M. Mockerman
Grand Chaplain

Report of Grand Lecturer

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Members,

This report is from the Grand Lecturer. It has been a pleasure to serve as Grand Lecturer this past year and I had the pleasure of visiting again with most of the Brethren of Alaska and my circle of friendship has really grown and continues to grow.

Brethren, part of the duties of the Grand Lecturer is to impart the Standard Work under the direction of the Grand Master, of course. It is my opinion that the need for this is still very great. I had made comments concerning this on every visitation that I've been able to make. My Brethren it is our duty to follow the rules laid down by our Alaska Masonic Code which states "that we should do our work and our work only." We have monitors, and ciphers to follow. All we need to do is read them. It's all written out there for our purpose.

We have an old and respected fraternity and I am going to ad lib a little bit here and remind you what Most Worshipful Brother Fletcher just related to you in part, we need to be proud of this Fraternity. We need to do good work that we can be proud of and I believe we owe it to those have gone before us. Remember what he said about history, I believe we owe it to those who have gone before us to do our very best, remembering that we are Masons outside the Lodge as well as inside.

In closing, it is my opinion that we should try to encourage the Grand Lecturer to remain in office for more than just one year. This would give him an opportunity to acquaint himself with both the Brethren of this Jurisdiction and our Masonic Code.

I would like to ad lib a little bit Most Worshipful Grand Master, if we, it is my opinion and I have found this to be pretty much a fact, if we change our Grand Lecturer every year, my statements don't mean anything against our Grand Master. Of course I will support him wholeheartedly, but if we change our Grand Lecturer every year, at the whim of the Grand Master and he appoints someone that is a friend of his that doesn't know diddly about the Code, what good is it going to do for us? We really need somebody who is going to research the Code, be able to impart it to us as Lodge members so that we can get back on track and stay there as Master Masons.

In my travels around the Lodges, they've done very well, but a lot of people don't take the time to read our Masonic Code. And, Brothers if we're going to have a good lodge, a good Grand Lodge, a good Alaska Jurisdiction, we must if we're going to be leaders, we must know what's in that Masonic Code. You sit here in this assemblage and vote for those rules and regulations and if you don't like them come back here and change them. That's what it is, a working book for us to follow. But if you do vote for them, then by all means that's the rules we have to follow and in order to that we have to read that Masonic Code and continue our own personal Masonic education.

Respectfully submitted,

MW Lloyd Triggs Past Grand Master
Grand Lecturer

Grand Master, I move that this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Report of Grand Orator

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished visitors, and Brethren all, during this past year my topic to speak on was solicitation. Now, I am going to take a step sideways. I know we all listen with great anticipation when the Master says, Brother Secretary, do we have any petitions to read? We all like to see new members receive the degrees. We all like to do the work of conferring the degrees. However, I do not believe that that number one challenge facing us in Alaska is getting new members.

Masonry in Alaskan enjoys a unique position in several ways. This past year I took the opportunity to attend the Grand Lodge sessions of the four northwest states. Each of them reported that their membership was still on a steady decline. This also seems to be the

norm nationwide. So, their number one challenge maybe different from ours. We in Alaska have been able to maintain a fairly steady membership in the Fraternity.

I take the word challenge from the Warden's Charge, which I feel is one of the best things introduced to Freemasonry in Alaska. Each year when we open the Warden's Charge, we ask what do you think the most important challenges you will face as a Warden or as a Master of your lodge will be? The top fifteen or so will be put on the board. The members present will address these challenges and try to come up with solutions to them.

Brethren, I believe that if we could find the solution to the number one challenge, the solutions to the others would come automatically. This is only one challenge but the solution will be many faceted.

The experience of attending these out-of-state grand lodge sessions was great. The fellowship was all you could hope for. However, there was one thing that I found was missing. In each session, I noticed not all of the constituent lodges were represented. It ranged from fifteen percent on up and in one case thirty percent of their constituent lodges were not represented at the grand lodge communication. Again, we in Alaska seem to enjoy a unique position. Particularly in view of the fact that few, if any of these members, face the logistical problems getting to their grand lodge session that many of us in Alaska do. Maybe their number one challenge is not so different from ours.

The lodge that I was initiated, passed, and raised in no longer exists. When it was forced to merge with another lodge, I was given the opportunity to belong to this new lodge and be a dual member of Kenai No. 11 or dimit and make Kenai No. 11 my home lodge. I chose to make Kenai No. 11 my home lodge.

The membership in Kenai No. 11 has held quite steady over the past years with the 120 to 125 members. However, we only average about fifteen to eighteen members attending each stated communication. This is only twelve to fifteen percent of our members participating on a regular basis. I'd be surprised if this number varies much in the constituent lodges. Even if we take into consideration that as many as fifty percent of our members do not live close by, or their work schedules, or something else prevents them from attending lodge regularly, this is still only thirty to thirty-five percent of our Lodge's members who regularly attend lodge.

Brethren, I ask that all of you join me in this challenge in finding the solutions to it. As I said in the beginning this is but a single challenge, but the solutions are many faceted. In fact, the solution maybe be a different one for each of those individuals that we need to get back to attending lodge on a regular basis. I ask as I leave this Grand Lodge Communication, we all promise to get back at least one member back to lodge that has not been there in a while. In accomplishing this task, it is imperative that we show this Brother all the fun he has been missing. In other words, he must have fun at this and every meeting. For I believe one of the most frequent reasons that the brothers quit

coming to lodge was that they were not having fun. They made a decision that they could have more fun or their time was better spent doing something other than attending lodge.

One of the things I've truly enjoyed this past year is this necktie that I wear as part of my Grand Lodge uniform. Our Grand Master proclaimed that one of the things that Mickey stood for was to have fun. He wanted us to not lose sight of the fact that what we do and what we stand for is very serious. We should always do our very best, not only in our lodge work and ritual but also the image we project to our candidates and to the public. But, just as importantly we should have fun doing it.

Brethren, by now you are saying to yourselves, he's preaching to the choir for I'm here, I'm doing, I'm participating. Well, I will remind you that we all read the obituary of someone else in the *Light from the Great Land*. Someone else is dead. We can no longer leave it to someone else. If we do not do it, it will not get done.

Thank you for your time and attention and for joining me in this challenge. Most Worshipful Grand Master, before I ask you to accept this, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to have been one of your Grand Lodge Officers and for giving me one of the best years I've known in my twenty-eight years in Freemasonry. Thank you very much sir.

Grand Master, I've given a copy of this to the Secretary and ask you receive this address.

Grand Master: It is received.

Grand Master, will you accept this address?

Grand Master: It is accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Wiseman
Grand Orator

Report of Grand Historian

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

This is the Grand Historian's report for the Eighteenth Annual Communication for The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska, held in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Gene R. Freeman, Grand Lodge of Alaska Officers, Visiting dignitaries, and Brothers all, I wish to express my gratitude for the honor of serving another year as Grand Historian for The Most Worshipful Lodge of Alaska.

I 'm sad to relate that the progress this past year has been slow due to personal medical problems and to the personal time demands on our volunteer computer experts. However, that problem is worked out with the lodge becoming active this fall with a computer committee turning out some beautiful announcements and Easter programs. We are not ready to proceed with a recording on computer disks of what we have on hand for distribution to interested parties. The main acquisition this year was an original copy of a booklet written by a past grand master of Missouri in 1936 entitled *Masonry South of the Arctic* which covers every lodge in existence at that time in Alaska with a picture of the lodge building. Many of which are no longer in existence. I have written to the Grand Lodge of Missouri to find out the background on this grand master and his reason for being in Alaska at that time.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I respectfully request this report be accepted into the record.

Grand Master: It will be accepted

Respectfully submitted,

Joe H. Ashby
Grand Historian

Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

Subject: The Annual Report

The Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation met bi-monthly during the past year. Various topics were discussed. The office space donated by Anchorage Lodge No. 17 was painted and new carpeting installed. Several new items of memorabilia were received from various sources. Now that storage space is available, all lodges, other Masonic organizations, and individuals are encouraged to keep their eyes open for any articles of Masonic memorabilia especially those with historical significance. Any donation to the Library or Museum will be greatly appreciated.

I might say that while I've been here, I've discussed informally with some of the officers of the foundation that we will have a couple of different fundraisers going this year and everyone will be notified of those at a little bit later date.

Funds on hand as of December 31st, 1998, in the foundation were \$23,412 and that is a grand total of two separate accounts, we have a checking account and a savings, but the grand total of all of them would be \$23, 412.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I, just ad libbing a bit, if any of you are in Anchorage and would like to visit the Masonic Library and Museum we have a curator but he's not there full time. We just go in as we're called, so it's open by appointment and I am going to read the list of our officers here and if you call either one of us we will try to make arrangements to have someone open that up for you so you can see it. Currently I am the President, Most Worshipful Stan Foulke is the Vice President, Most Worshipful Howard Hobbs is our Secretary, Very Worshipful Bob Van Huss is our Treasurer, and Brother Douglas Teninty is the appointed curator of our library and museum.

And with that Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report be accepted for the record.

Respectfully submitted,

MW Henry T. Dunbar
President

Charters and Dispensations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We, your Committee on Charters and Dispensations are pleased that the Most Worshipful Grand Master granted a dispensation on September 23, 1998 at Kodiak Lodge, Alaska. The circumstances leading to this event were as follows. During June and through August, dark period for Kodiak 9, the Worshipful Master and the Junior Warden had both been transferred to areas from which return to Kodiak was impractical, the Worshipful Master to California in response to military orders and the Junior Warden to Fairbanks as required by State change of work site. The Senior Warden was in the East when the Worshipful Grand Master made his official visit on the 23rd of September. He requested, as was granted, a dispensation to elect to both vacant chairs for the interim until the regular election in November. The election was held and the Most Worshipful Grand Master installed the newly elected officers.

This report is respectfully submitted and signed by

Milton M. Routzahn
Robert E. Cunningham
Alfred B. Cratty.

Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

And since any action that would devolve from this has already been taken, I recommend that it be made a part of the record.

Grand Master: It is made upon the record.

Warden's Charge

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished Guests, Grand Lodge members, Friends and Brethren all, I bring you greetings from the Warden's Charge Committee and present this report for your information. Our annual Warden's Charge was held last September at the International Airport Inn in Anchorage. The Wardens and Senior Deacons, along with their ladies began their training in Masonic leadership on Friday the 18th and continued their studies through Sunday the 20th

We were pleased that twenty-one Masons and seventeen of their ladies attended this years seminar. After group introduction, the ladies were ably led to their own sessions by Mrs. Roxie Little who was assisted by Mrs. Hilary Freeman. These wonderful instructors took the ladies in attendance on a journey through the means of helping their Masons through their year as Masters of their Lodge. Roxie and Hilary also broadened the horizons of these ladies in Masonic teachings and philosophy. Comments after the ladies rejoined the Masons indicated a renewed vigor and their support of the Lodges and their men. The influence of these two grand ladies on their students is an important section of our charge and we cannot thank them enough for their efforts for the Grand Lodge.

Right Worshipful Brother Rick Bender instructed the brethren in particulars of the support they can receive from the Grand Lodge. He cleared up many aspects of communication with the Grand Lodge from many of the brethren and Very Worshipful Lloyd Williamson spoke to the men about the important resource the District Deputy can be in his duties and support of their lodges.

This year the Brethren were instructed in the use of time lines to prepare a calendar, protocol and the Grand Masters visitations, the Masonic funeral, and many other subjects. The Brethren displayed the most interest in one aspect of the training manual, the Alaska Masonic Code. Their questions and discussions on the Code were so heartening. The Code is the area of most misunderstanding among the worshipful masters in our jurisdiction.

The critiques indicated the pleasure of the Brethren had with the training and reinforced the decision to give more time to the Alaska Masonic Code. The ladies critiques indicated a desire for more inclusion of the ladies in fundraising and other lodge activities. The suggestions indicated by the critiques have been discussed and may be included in future seminars.

The members of the Warden's Charge Committee are to be commended for the fine training session they produced. Two of our members were unable to assist in the seminar due to health and employment conflicts but their thoughts and messages of encouragement were well received.

Worshipful Brother Robert McArthur was a great help in his first Charge. He is a good instructor and an asset to the Committee. Right Worshipful Raymond Beaver was an inspiration and presided over the Charge with good humor and fellowship. I would like to especially thank Right Worshipful Brother Don Chaffin for jumping in at the last minute and teaching classes on short notice.

Thank you Most Worshipful Brother Freeman for allowing me the honor of sharing this Committee during your term. I stand ready to offer services to our incoming Grand Master in any matter he may desire.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen L. Cox Chairman
Robert E. MacArthur
Fred H. Newton
Marty W. Parsons
Don G. Chaffin Advisor
Raymond L. Beaver Advisor

And on a personal note, we had one-third of the people that were eligible to attend this year. I would love to see two-thirds or full count sometimes. This is so important. Up here in the Fairbanks area, three Lodges have been active in the Warden's Charge since its inception. Tanana 3 has a backlog of candidates, Fairbanks 12 is going to a point where we have Saturday degree work, and you saw what North Pole 16 did. The Warden's Charge works and will help every lodge to get involved.

MW Grand Master, I respectfully ask that you receive this report.

George Washington National Memorial

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

Russian Relations

Establishing Masonry in Eastern Russia is a challenging and exciting venture. Masonry has been outlawed in Russia since 1922. It will take personal contact – a comprehensive

educational program – together with much support to establish a viable Masonic presence.

A visit has been made by Brother John Richardson and MW John Grainger to the 4th Session of the Russian Grand Lodge in Moscow. Full cooperation has been received to establish Russian lodges in Eastern Russia as a courtesy for the Russian Grand Lodge

Plans to be Initiated

1. Two Masons will visit three cities in Eastern Russia (Khabarovsk, Blagoveshensk, and Vladivostok). Travel will be made in April or early May depending on Alaska Airline's schedule.

Personal contact with English-speaking Russians in these cities has been established. The subject of Freemasonry will be introduced to men of high character whom we feel would make good candidates for the degrees of Freemasonry.

Later a second visit is to be made to Magadan, Sakhalin, and Irkutsk.

2. Once a petition has been submitted, it will be sent to Aurora Lodge No. 5 in Moscow (an English-speaking lodge) for approval. Afterwards a degree team will be sent to Eastern Russia to confer all three degrees in a weekend session. The one - day degree program has been designed by the Grand Lodge of Washington and approved by the Russian Grand Lodge
3. After lodges are established, other Masonic Jurisdictions could be invited to adopt and assist newly formed Russian Clubs/Lodges.

A grant presentation to the California Scottish Rite Foundation requesting funding to cover the enclosed two year budget has been submitted. It appears it will be possible our grant will be received favorably.

Respectfully submitted,

John Grainger Chairman

Grand Master, I ask this report be received and adopted.

Long-Range Planning

No report from the Long-range Planning Committee was received at the time of publication.

Publications

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, and Brethren

This is the 1999 Report of the Committee on Publications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska.

As has been the case for the past three years, this annual report is very brief. The reason for this is that all members of lodges under the Grand Lodge of Alaska as well as various other individuals and organizations receive a full report of the Committee's activities four times a year. The Committee's full report is submitted in the form of quarterly publications of the *Light from the Great Land*. The most recent issue of this Grand Lodge publication was mailed approximately four weeks ago and should have reached its destination before Grand Lodge convened. As usual we have tried to include notices of future events, articles on Masonry and related topics, and a little humor to increase the publication's readability. Member's letters and articles are always given top priority. I might add parenthetically, I get very few letters from other people, so your letters are always welcome but I'm not getting them.

The editor of our Grand Lodge newsletter has resigned as of the end of the current Masonic year. After five years in this position, he thought it was time to let someone else do the talking to our membership. He has enjoyed the position immensely and tried to use humor to make the material sufficiently interesting so that the more serious articles would also get read. But other people also have ideas for our *Light from the Great Land* and it's time they be heard. He offers his best wishes to whoever will carry the torch in the coming year. It's a great job, enjoy it to its fullest.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on this Committee.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Gerald R. Fairley Editor
Charles E. Ray III
Glenn E. Josey
D. Scott Thompson

Grand Master, I request this report be received

Grand Master: It will be received

Report of Segregations and Reference Committee

1st and 2nd Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, Brethren all

This is Report No. 1 of the Committee on Segregations and Reference.

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

We the Committee on Segregations and Reference to whom was referred the Grand Master's Message have reviewed the same and find as follows:

That Recommendation 2 be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and be also that, if the Committee on Jurisprudence looks on favor of said recommendation that it then be referred to the Committee on Finance for an estimate of a probable cost of its implementation and the requisite amendment to the proposed budget for 1999/

This is Report No. 2 of the Committee on Segregations and Reference.

We the Committee on Segregations and Reference to whom was referred the Grand Master's Message have reviewed the same and find as follows:

That Recommendation No. 3 be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence as if implemented would appear to require an amendment to the Bylaws. Cost associated with implementation of this recommendation would appear to be minimal and hence this item not referred to Committee on Finance.

Other than items contained in reports one and two with respect to the Grand Master's Message, we propose no other referrals.

Signed by both members of the Committee,

Henry T. Dunbar
Gunnar Flygenring

Grand Master, I ask this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Grand Master, I move that this report be approved.

Grand Master: It's been moved, seconded, and approved.

3rd Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We the Committee on Segregations and Reference to whom was referred the Grand Secretaries Report have reviewed the same and find as follows:

That nothing contained in the Grand Secretary's Report other than the financial statements and proposed budget for the ensuing year, which will be voted on directly by the eligible voters of Grand Lodge, be referred to any committee for consideration.

Signed by both members of the Committee,

Henry T. Dunbar
Gunnar Flygenring

Grand Master, I ask this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Grand Master, I move that this report be approved.

Grand Master: It's been moved, seconded, and approved..

Report of Deputies of the Grand Master

District 1

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

District 2

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

District 3

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

District 4

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

District 5

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

Drug and Alcohol Abuse

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Most Worshipful Sir. Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren, Raymond L. Beaver (3, 10, 15) and Chairman of Drug and Alcohol Committee of the Grand Lodge and I have been serving in that capacity for about three years, I suppose. What I basically want to talk to you about, I am here to kind of report on the Committee of Drug and Alcohol and its conclusion I will have an additional remark to make.

First of all this Committee has two official members, myself and Brother Jim LeFlore, Past Master of North Pole 16. However, there are numerous brothers such as Worshipful Brothers Don Chaffin and Chuck Corbin who have been very, very helpful and encouraging and generally giving me a lot of assistance during my tenure as the Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden and making my presentations at different lodges regarding the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program and I'm referring to the national program for children, the Student Assistance Program of which we are a member as a Grand Lodge. I would like to thank all of you who have been assisting me in this endeavor to achieve our goals which primarily has been to establish a program with the Grand Lodge of Alaska to assist these children who are at risk and all of my efforts have gone towards that end.

This also involves a commitment to the community and I'm not talking about Anchorage and Fairbanks but I'm talking about every community within the State of Alaska, more particularly those communities that have lodges and it's my goal and will continue to be my goal to help those lodges establish or reestablish or to improve the current school program that now exists in that lodge. That has been one of my most well loved, if you want to put it, an idea that I have thought about and forcefully stressed to the members that I visit them, not only, because they run hand-in-hand with community affairs, public schools, and children at risk. They're all part of the same numbers. And. I won't take up all of your time today by giving a blow-by-blow description of the Committee's activities, the seminars, symposiums, and meetings with officials of the Anchorage School District. There have been numerous meetings and the countless presentations to our constituent lodges and the discussions and the meetings which the leaders of the National Foundations and activities of the Grand Masters Conferences.

I have attended conferences now in Tulsa, Philadelphia, and lately in Honolulu and each time I attend one of these Grand Masters Conferences I came away with new ideas, fresh ideas, ways to implement the program, and as a member of this Committee I felt charged with the responsibility of gleaning whatever information I get from whatever source and try to work within our goals and I have reams of paper, books, and magazines, and things

like that to many people who are managing a program within your jurisdiction and they have been very, very helpful particularly California, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington to name a few.

These programs are not a hundred percent guaranteed. They've made a lot of mistakes and what I've endeavored to do and one of the reasons that took so long to find out where we are at the moment. What I had to be very careful what I did. I didn't want to step on anyone's shoes. I didn't want to make the same mistakes that some of the other lodges have made and implemented in their program. Believe me they made some pretty big mistakes. So, anyway that was the whole idea, the whole picture I think most of you're familiar with the whole program and I have no intentions of discontinuing the programs, in fact I am going to pursue it very arduously. I have every hope and I would like to read a couple of letters. I just received these the other day, they are dated April the 5th, 1999 and both of them are from the Anchorage School District which I have been working with in the area of drug coordination at the district headquarters. They pretty well know who I am.

Dear Mr. Beaver,

Greetings and welcome to the Anchorage School District Safe and Drug Free Schools Advisory Council. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve on our council. I trust that you will find your time with us productive, (and they go on to say that they enclosed some material that I should look over for attending their meetings, so and so forth and they give the dates).

It says during the year occasional educational opportunities will present themselves for you to attend that will enhance your understanding of this area and models that can help. I will send you invitations to these trainings. Once again thank you and I hope to see you on May 20th, 1999. There is a symposium going on at the Prince Hotel in Alyeska a full one-day and I will attend that seminar. And, it is signed Mr. Michael Kerrosky, Coordinator, Anchorage School District Safe and Drug Free Schools.

These programs are all pretty much inter-related and I find them interesting because of two reasons: I get to know these people better and I learned a lot and I think that's important.

Now this next letter is the most important one of all.

Dear Mr. Beaver, (this is also from the Anchorage School District)

The Anchorage School District Safe and Drug Free School Program has the task of coordinating all the alcohol and violence prevention efforts throughout the school system (and they refer to the districts but each district has the same goals). In the past our program has done a great deal to train and implement student intervention teams and core teams (which is basically what our Student Assistant Program offered them). Indeed a certain percentage of our students (excuse me I got to back up a little). However, due to

federal funding cuts during the past few years and staff changes we have been limited in our ability to continue our effort in the implementation of these programs. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and the Grand Lodge of Alaska in revitalizing the important tool that we are proposing to do. Indeed with a certain percentage of our students the core team is the most effective strategy to get the young person assistance. The core team model helps the kids who need the help the most.

Brethren, this is for what I am all for doing away with the program. Now they have been closed, their doors have been closed for almost four years and I have my foot in the threshold about a year ago, but I didn't get any further, I'm inside the door and I intend to stay there. However, I will read further.

I pledge to have my professional prevention staff to assist with the scheduling, training, support, and implementation of these efforts (they're talking about the Student Assistance Training Program the National Foundation Student Assistance Training Program). We greatly appreciate all that the Grand Lodge has done and we will do, and what we can do to help us to help our students.

And it's signed by the same gentleman, Michael Kerrosky who is the coordinator for Anchorage School District Safe and Drug Free Schools.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I would like to have this report received.

I know that they didn't call for this and some of you are going to be disappointed but I am not going to allow this Resolution to come to the floor. It's my resolution and I'm going to kill it and I let you brothers know the one's that have helped and encouraged me, I really appreciate what you have done.

I do not want to terminate this program. I do not intend to terminate this program. I am going to take the program in a different direction. Because I took the wrong direction, I am asking for money, I can't get it, then we have to look to other sources and resources, so that's what we are going to do. What I want to do here this moment. I have never had this many people in a room at one time that I've talked about the program. Many of the responsible people who were the real workers in our Masonic Lodges are here, because they are officers, leaders and they are all good men, all good Masons and I know that in your heart you might be willing to support a program like this, but maybe not with your money and I think that is a big obstacle here so I'm going to withdraw the resolution.

What I would like to do, I would like to have a show of hands of the people who actually support the program. Not its implementation at this moment, but actually support, the proposal is to directly affect the drug and school alcohol programs that the schools are doing. And my goal is to have it in every school district that has a Masonic Lodge in it. Nothing wrong with that, that's a grand goal and if we run into an obstacle, we detour. So that's what I am doing right now. I've taken a detour. I do need your support. But all of you that would favor supporting a program of this nature either through helping in one way not necessarily with money. I'm not going to ask you for money, would you please

raise your hands. Oh that's wonderful, that's wonderful. You made me feel good and I just want to thank you again for all the advice that I've been given and it has just been a tremendous support for me and it has kept me going in a lot of different ways. Thank you Brothers.

Alaska Masonic Research Association

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I searched the schedule of events and could not find a spot on the report of the A. M. R. A. so I assumed that you weren't going to have one and I was out having my little snooze again. Now that is twice I have been disturbed when having my little snooze.

Anyway, we do have a little bit to report and the Alaska Masonic Research Association was founded to organize the groundwork for the formation of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. It is now mandated to raise funds for the benefit and financial stability of Grand Lodge. Sales of the Grand Lodge medallions have been assumed by A. M. R. A. At the present time this isn't a money maker. It is a program that should be continued, however, and a service that we can perform for Grand Lodge. Last year, A. M. R. A. wrote a check for \$2,082.15 for the 1998 coins. Coin sales since 1998 Grand Lodge amounted to be \$888.20. I have to qualify that a little bit, since 1999 Grand Lodge has commenced we have had further sales and sales are brisk in the 1999 coin. The plastic coin holders are offered for sale at the A. M. R. A. table. The amount of holes for the coins is a total, so now you have to buy a second set of holders to start your first ones.

The Gold Pan Program, sales for the gold pan, has continued to increase. A total of fifty-four gold pans have been sold. Fourteen of the nineteen current Lodges have purchased a gold pan and the gold pans sell for a thousand dollars each. They may be purchased at one-hundred dollars down and payments of one-hundred dollars a year and inscriptions on them vary. It's interesting to note we had this afternoon, we feel we have moved four gold pans, three of them within the last half hour. So, they are selling. Of course the Ten-Ten and the Pioneer Club Programs still bring in members each year.

All the income during the year is deposited each week in the bank in an interest bearing account. All current Master Masons are members of A. M. R. A. There is no more dues. You are automatically a member. Individual Masons are a vital part of A. M. R. A. Support by the membership is crucial to our success.

MW Grand Master, I ask that this report be received and that it be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

RW Thomas O. Mickey

Awards

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

The Awards Committee was established this past year by Most Worshipful Brother Gene R. Freeman to oversee and ensure the continuance of the Grand Lodge of Alaska's awards program which was started in 1997. There are three awards that have been established during this period. The Grand Lodge of Alaska Mason of the Year Award, The Grand Master's Award for Excellence, and the Lodge Service Award. The Grand Lodge of Alaska Mason of the Year award was presented to Worshipful Hazen Ricker in 1997. Very Worshipful Brother Fred L. McGuire in 1998, and just in case you weren't at the banquet last night, it's a pleasure to announce that this years recipient was Very Worshipful Brother V. Clifford Darnell.

Last year was the first year we awarded the Grand Master's Award for Excellence and it was presented to the Worshipful Masters of eleven of our nineteen Lodges. I put them down here but I won't read them, this is just for the record. This year the award was earned by the worshipful masters of nine Lodges:

Worshipful Brother Samuel K. Medsker Tanana Lodge No. 3
Worshipful Brother Michael D. Kean Glacier Lodge No. 10
Worshipful Brother Charles E. Wellong Kenai Lodge No. 11
Worshipful Brother George T. Weaver Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
Worshipful Brother Jimmie R. McGoldrick Eagle River No. 13
Worshipful Brother Wendel R. Kaiser North Pole Lodge No. 16
Worshipful Brother Robert K. Kelly, Jr. Anchorage Lodge No. 17
Worshipful Brother John E. Bart Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
Worshipful Brother Terrance B. Quarton Iditarod Lodge No. 20

The Lodge Service Award was received from the manufacturer and one award was distributed to each lodge in October of 1998 and I have heard that award has been presented by several lodges. A lodge may request this award from the Grand Secretary and there is no charge for this award. So, as you get ready to present this, just forward a request to the Grand Secretary and he will send you one award.

It is the request of this Committee that this Grand Lodge adopt the following recommendations pertaining to the criteria for awards as policy.

1. The Grand Lodge Mason of the Year Award is presented once yearly by the Grand Master of Masons in Alaska to one member of the constituent lodges of the Grand Lodge of Alaska for outstanding and exceptional service to Freemasonry in Alaska. Past or present Grand Masters and elected Grand Lodge Officers in the

advancing line are not eligible for the award. This award will not be awarded posthumously. Anyone may recommend a member for this award.

2. The Grand Master's Award for Excellence is presented by the Grand Master of Masons in Alaska to the Worshipful Master of a lodge who during his year as Worshipful Master completes the requirements for the award as prescribed and approved by the Grand Master. Anyone serving as Worshipful Master of a lodge in this Jurisdiction is eligible for this award.
3. Lodge Service Award is presented by the lodge to an individual for distinguished service. Normally the award is presented once a year. An exception may be made to present more than one award in a year under special circumstances. The award may be presented to anyone who has rendered outstanding exceptional service to the lodge or to Freemasonry in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley R. Foulke Chairman
Gene R. Freeman Member

MW Grand Master I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master: This report is received.

MW Grand Master since this does involve adopting policy, I move for the adoption of this report.

Motion voted on and passed.

James A. Williams Award

The recipient of the James A. Williams Award for honoring the Alaska Lodge with the largest number of Master Masons raised was presented to North Pole Lodge No. 16 for the year 1998.

Buckley C. Hazen Award

The recipient of the Buckley C. Hazen Award for the largest percentage membership growth was presented to North Pole Lodge No. 16 for the year 1998.

Mason of the Year

The Mason of the Year for the year 1998 is VW V. Clifford Darnell.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Special Presentations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master Freeman, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to present to you a check for \$4,000 dollars from the Alaska Masonic Research Association. And, I put in a little plug here that in our meeting on Wednesday morning that we passed a resolution to recommend to the Grand Lodge of Alaska that they introduce a \$10.00 registration fee on the registration forms. Not that, of course, comes through the Grand Secretary to the various (?). Strictly a recommendation.

One of the reasons for this is because we took over the coin distribution and last year it fell pretty short. But we are doing well. But, we did recommend to the Grand Lodge and it will be up to the body whether if they accept it. This will certainly help out this coin operation and as you know all of the results of the Alaska Masonic Research Association come right back to Grand Lodge. So with that, here is your money.

Respectfully Thomas Mickey

Worshipful Brad White from Fairbanks Lodge 12 had a fundraiser and raised \$275.00 but will cut the check later and give it to you.

Bro. Donald Chaffin indicated that Vern Carlson donated \$720.00 to support the Web page through the year. It costs the Grand Lodge \$60.00 per month and this donation will be for 12 months.

Presentations

Hank Hove, North Star Borough Mayor

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Worshipful Grand Master Freeman, Masons, Distinguished Guests, it's with a great deal of pleasure that I appear this morning and welcome you to the Fairbanks North Star Borough and community of Fairbanks. I wish you all a very excellent series of meetings this week and I have issued a proclamation which it is my pleasure to read to you this morning and it is as follows:

WHEREAS, the first Masonic Lodge in Fairbanks was chartered on June 17th, 1908 and is now in its ninety-first year of operation; and

WHEREAS, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alaska, there are nineteen lodges and more than 2,200 members; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Lodge reaffirms its ideals by maintaining high ethical standards in personal and professional life; respecting the basic human rights of all people; assisting in developing the fullest concept of patriotism and love of country; contributing to international understanding, universal friendship, goodwill, and peace; advocating Brotherly Love, community service, support of its coronet bodies in children and human development; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic fraternities of interior Alaska have engaged in activities beneficial and wholesome to the entire community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Hank Hove, Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and James Hayes, Mayor of the City of Fairbanks do hereby proclaim the week of April 4th through April the 11th of 1999 as Masonic Awareness Week and urge all citizens to join in this recognition by welcoming the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska to our community congratulating them for their accomplishments, sharing in their civic concern, and wishing them well in their future endeavors.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, we have unto set our hands this first day of April of 1999.

Thank you very much.

Proclamation from the Governor of the State of Alaska, Presented by Tim Walsh Representing the Governor

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, thank you for the invitation to be here today. I am very pleased to represent Governor Tony Knowles and on behalf of Governor Knowles give you a very warm welcome to Alaska's Golden Heart City. Welcome.

Both Governor Tony Knowles and Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer are pleased to salute members of an organization with such a strong commitment of building a better world for all of us. And, with this greeting comes a heartfelt thank you for efforts and a wish for continued success in your very important work.

The Governor has asked me to read today a proclamation that he issued and I'd like to do that at this time.

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest secular fraternal societies. The first Masonic Lodge in Alaska was chartered in 1869 and since then the organization has grown to nineteen lodges and over 2,220 members under the state's Grand Lodge. Masonry's long history originating during the Middle Ages in Europe represent the tradition of tolerance

and respect for the opinions of others, service to family and community, especially the care of our children, sick, and our elders, and on top of that achieving a quality of life reflecting the highest moral standards.

Freemasons practice a philosophy of justice, personal responsibility, citizenship, and love of God and country. Members are committed to building a better world for all of us both in Alaska and across the world.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tony Knowles, Governor of the State of Alaska do hereby proclaim April 7th through 9th, 1999 as Masonic Days in Alaska and encourage all Alaskans to recognize the accomplishments and ideals of Alaska's Masons.

And, that's signed by Governor Tony Knowles, dated March 11, 1999.

Thank you very much.

Richard E. Fletcher, Certificate Presentation to Most Worshipful Grand Master Gene R. Freeman.

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Masonic Service Association of North America, how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together and work together in unity, this is a Certificate of Appreciation presented to Gene R. Freeman, Grand Master of Alaska in sincere appreciation of his abiding interest in and his generous support of the M. S. A.'s programs, with this certificate go our best wishes for a continued success in service to our gentle Craft.

Grand Master, it's a pleasure to be able to present this to you and tell you what we know you said yesterday we've seen each other all around the country, and we have. He has represented Alaska Masonry all around this nation and he's done it very, very well and we are very proud of you and we want you to have this certificate to know how much we appreciate all you've done for us.

Thank you Grand Master.

Gerald R. Fairley, Order of DeMolay, Presentation to Most Worshipful Grand Master Gene R. Freeman.

(After delivering his report on DeMolay, Gerald R. Fairley asked the Grand Master to join him at the podium) Grand Master, would you please join me for just a moment. Brethren, recently I received some negative press from my own DeMolay boys when we had Conclave. We had our Grand Master there and he was one of the ritual judges, and he did an excellent job of that. He represented you very well, he worked for us, but we didn't give him a DeMolay t-shirt.

Grand Master, wear it in good health. We thank you for your support.

Speeches by Distinguished Guests

Jenny Anderson, Job's Daughters

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning, my name is Jenny Anderson. I'm Junior Princess of Bethel No. 11, Anchorage, Alaska, International Order of Job's Daughters. It is my pleasure and great honor to be the first to welcome all Master Masons assembled here to Grand Lodge 1999. It is also a great privilege and honor to be a representative and a member of the Masonic youth organizations (?) today. Each one of us has gained heritage from each of you in order to be part of the Masonic family, either DeMolay, Rainbow, or Job's daughters.

My own Masonic heritage begins with my grandfather, Chester Proudfoot, and my father, Duane Anderson is also a Mason. My mother is a Job's Daughter and I'm a third generation to continue this legacy.

Our heritage is a legacy that cannot be broken or taken away. This is the tie that binds regardless of where we are in our journey through life. In times of trouble, a Master Mason is just a phone call away.

Your continuing support of the Masonic youth organizations is greatly appreciated and always needed. But, support does not have to be monetary. Attending our meetings, helping us learn our ritual, lending a helping hand at fundraising, or even making a commitment to mentor one of our younger members helps us learn about you, because you do make a difference in our lives. It may not be realized now but as we become older, the difference you made and your contributions you made will be remembered. My mother was a Job's Daughter and she always talked about the Master Masons who made a difference in her life.

Recently I was asked the question what makes the Masonic youth organizations different from Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or 4-H? It's the ritual that makes us unique. There is a symbolism that is common in each of our organizations, a thread that ties the adult organizations to the youth organizations that defines the Masonic family.

So, as you go about the business of Grand Lodge 1999, give a pause to remember how important the heritage you have given us is to the youth, because your example is what we strive to achieve.

Liesl Muckey, International Order of Rainbow Girls

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished East, Masonic Family, and Friends, first of all I would like to say what an honor it is speaking to you this morning as a representative of Rainbow. I only hope I can express the feelings felt and shared by thousands of girls who have been lucky enough to join our wonderful order.

For the past ten years, I have shared an experience like no other, the experience of being connected to people all over the world yet perhaps never meeting them. As Grand Worthy Advisor for the State of Alaska, I have been lucky enough to meet girls and adults who continue to show me the good that Rainbow can do. Yet, I sometimes wonder what these people would be doing had Rainbow not been created. Would the girls be causing mischief and getting into trouble because when they could have been doing something Rainbow related? Would they have made all the Rainbow friends at school or at the mall?

Thankfully I just have to imagine these answers. I've seen extremely diverse people work for the good of Alaska and be proud of the beautiful results. And, it must not be the girls who work hard to accomplish these things. The adults, who fill our assembly advisory boards, those who fill state offices, as well as parents work hard or just as hard as the girls do to enjoy Rainbow.

This kind of adult support is what makes our order survive. Unfortunately, it's because of a lack of support in some areas of Alaska that we've seen declining members at the assemblies in recent years. In order to retain Alaska's individuality as a grand jurisdiction, we have to have 200 members. This year we are struggling to reach that number.

It is a sad situation to be in, but we are working everyday to solve this problem. We have been working to keep girls active in their assemblies as well as expand our advisory board with those adults who want to be more active to serve the Rainbow assemblies.

I don't know if some of you know this or not but at least two Masons must be on each assembly's board. My assembly, Nugget No. 13 has been fortunate enough to have the required amount for the past two years and we are celebrating the return of our Rainbow Dad, Dennis Morgan, who was absent from our meetings for what seemed an eternity. He has been affectionately known as Daddy Morgan since 1994 and we hope, continues for a long time. He, along with his wife, is just a few of the many adults who continue to support our assembly in our endeavors.

Along with these adults who have been on an advisory board there are many Masons who are on the Grand Executive Board for the Grand Assembly of Alaska including, Rick Bender, Ray Wagener, and your own Gene Freeman whose wife Hilary happens to be the

Grand Deputy in charge of Grand Officers. Please help me thank them for all the wonderful work they have done.

What I am trying to say is every effort should be taken to preserve our youth organizations for the future to enjoy. We've had the opportunity to enjoy them to make it possible for the future as well.

So, the next time you hear a Rainbow Assembly or a Rainbow girl that needs help, think about offering your help. You may just make all the difference in the world. Thank you.

Jason Smith, Order of DeMolay

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

... break in tape... this entry deals with TV commercials and computer web sites and promises to be a good investment by Order of DeMolay. We also have just received the 501 (c) 3 classification from the IRS.

Well, what does this mean, you ask? This new classification permits anyone who donates to our order to right off their expenses for tax exemption. We hope this will give an added bit of incentive to those individuals who want to donate to DeMolay. The Order of DeMolay is the first fraternal organization to receive this classification and we hope it spreads to others because it has helped us a lot.

Within the past three years DeMolay in Alaska has seen a great increase in both interest from the public knowledge and in membership. In 1997 at our first Conclave in ten years we had a total of nineteen DeMolay and advisors present. That was all the state had to offer at that time. In this past Conclave, a few weeks ago, we had a total of thirty-four DeMolay, their advisors, and a huge number of guests. Guests, such as the Grand Master of DeMolay, Samuel L. Cole Jr., guest speaker the head of DeMolay Leadership Center in Kansas City, Kansas, and many of the State's Job's Daughters and Rainbow girls, not to mention a couple of out-of-staters from Nevada and their State Sweetheart.

In fact, we had our installation at the Fairbanks Lodge with our numbers reaching as high as 130 guests. We were told this is the highest number of people that this building had seen in a long time, and yes we are very proud of that fact.

So, as you can see we are on the rise again. However, we won't be able to do it without your help. Frankly, we need advisors. We need all the support we can get from our sponsoring bodies. Without the adults, we can't do anything. The adults are our backbone, our support.

I'm here now asking you for your help in return we will help you. As it is now, we do what we can for you, be it removing chairs at installations, helping you serve food, or at

any function we can be of service we will do what we can whenever possible. We just ask the same from you.

Most Worshipful Sir, I thank you for the opportunity to address this most grand body.

Jack Coghill's Response to Governor and Borough Mayor's Proclamations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Worshipful Grand Master Gene Freeman, Mr. Mayor, and Tim don't run off with that proclamation. We want to thank you on behalf of Grand Lodge Masons in Alaska. We're honored by the recognition of the Chief Executive Officer of the State of Alaska. We ask you to convey to the Honorable Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska, our appreciation for his recognition. and to the Mayor, who I believe has already disappeared because he's presenting his Borough budget for this next year. But, on behalf of the Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska we are pleased to be in your community on the 18th Communication and find your hospitality warm and cordial. I wish the weather was the same. We appreciate your recognition for our Fraternity and the proclamation of Masonic Awareness Week. Thank you very much.

Mary Wallace, Order of Eastern Star

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning, since the Grand Master asked me to represent all these organizations and I think it is only fair since I have to stand up here, that all of you participants with me, since this message comes from all of you, so, will the members of the Order of the Eastern Star please stand, and Sir Knights, and Honored Ladies, L. O. S. members, and Daughters of the Nile. Thank you.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers, members, sisters, brothers, and friends, it is with great pleasure that I extend greetings and our best wishes on your 18th Annual Grand Lodge Communication and on behalf of all the members you see and at home that could not be here with us today, of the Order of the Eastern Star, Amaranth, and the ladies portion of the Shrine (L. O. S.), and Daughters of the Nile. Thank you so much for your support of the concordant bodies which was so very evident this year. Somehow Brother Gene you found the time not just to show up, but took an active part in our family organizations. Your heart, we always knew was gigantic and good.

Words cannot express how our hearts pounded with pride when you dedicated your year to Brother Forbes Baker and Brother Glenn Pruitt. They truly are the legends of the outstanding Masons in Fairbanks and I know they will be so proud of you Brother Gene

for you recognized these youth organizations because they too had a heart for our youth. All I can say is thank you and I know that their spirit is here with you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank this Grand Lodge for representing the Grand Lodge of Alaska at the last General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star Triennial Assembly held in Orlando, Florida. It was the first time that Alaska was represented by our own Grand Master. I know he's not in here, but I want you to give him this message for me. I would like to thank Brother Lloyd Triggs and we were mighty proud of him and I'd like to thank Brother Stan for permitting this to happen last year

Brother Gene, your motto this year, and we all know right, what was it, "Have Fun." It's my turn, Have fun and enjoy every minute of this session as have loved every minute of this year. Our love and gratitude to you and Sister Hilary, God bless you, and until we meet again.

There is one more thing, though. I'm going to let out a little secret with the permission of the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Florence Adair. We have secret signs and this is a message she wanted me to give Brother Gene. Brother Gene, come up here. So, I am going to show you, and let out a little secret, of our sixth sign.

Ted Cadman, Al Aska Shrine Temple

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Past Grand Master, District Deputies, Masters, and Brothers all, ladies and gentlemen. It's a great pleasure to address you today and talk about the Shrine of North America. I am the Potentate of Al Aska temple. My name is Ted Cadman. I started out a little bit first how I become a Mason, but I'll skip that. I said here in 1955 I was appointed in the line for Alaska shrine and was also appointed to the Board of Governors Shrine Hospital for Children in Portland. I have served on that line now for five years and it's very rewarding job. In fact, this past week I got involved with a little girl from Fairbanks who was run over by a truck and the Shrine stepped in and the Shriners in Seattle and helped that child and the mother, and I am very grateful for that.

There are about 545,000 Shriners now and there were about one million a few years ago. We've lost 21,000 Shriners in 1998 and I think most due to age. The average age of the Al Alaska Shrine is about 63 years. So, it is creeping up on us. So, we need new young members and we are working on that. We have a new slogan that says, "Another one in 2001." So everybody in the Shrine can bring in a member we will get our membership back up to where it should be.

There are 22 Shrine Hospitals and Shriners Hospital for Children, also known for the world's greatest philanthropy, have been in existence for more than three-quarters of a century. Through the years this meant work of 22 orthopedic specialty hospitals

responsible for improving the quality of life for more than 600,000 children up to the age of eighteen.

Since 1922 when the first hospital opened in Shreveport, Louisiana every patient had been treated at Shriner's hospitals have received the finest medical care totally free of charge. Located across America, twenty-two of the state-of-art facilities founded by the Shrine of North America International Fraternity are seeking new ways to improve the expert new medical care and treatment they provide to the children with orthopedic disabilities and burn injuries so they could build better lives.

I won't go into the rest of it here. I'll skip down a little bit. It says here through the 76 years Shrine hospitals here spent more than 4.1 billion dollars in operating costs during that same period. (?) cost around 892 million with nearly 95 % of has been spent since 1979. We have done 601,814 operations, 7,360 x-rays, 899,454 braces and prostheses applied, 5,497,090 out-patients and out-reach clinic visits, 12,710,611 physical therapy treatments. During 1998, 34,469 new patients for treatment and of those were 1,547 children accepted in Portland hospital for treatment.

So far this year we are up to, ah I will have to take a look back here. Well, I guess I misplaced that. Think it's about 284 children so far. There will be a board meeting this month, about the 26th.

Here's some statistics for Portland: we have 7,057 children under treatment now. We have admitted 1,396 children for 1998. Out-patient visits were 10,292. Out-reach clinics were 733 and in-patient waiting lists 469. That's pretty high, that's 18 weeks. And we are working on it to see if we can maybe have Saturday operations or something. We only have two O. R. units at Portland, so it's getting pretty tight, also the money is getting tight. And, I won't read all these to you, but the total budget for 1999 is 21,000,000 dollars for Portland.

Now, since I'm on the Board of Governors, I'll tell you a little bit about what's happening in Portland. The facility was a seven story building, the sixth floor was empty. They rebuilt that into a new research center. So, now it becomes a seven story building and the rules and regulations changed drastically. They thought the life-safety would be 1,500,000 dollars, but has come in at 10,000,000 dollars and that's from the City of Portland, Fed's, and all the hospital people that regulate hospitals. O. S. H. U. is next door. There is a walkway from our hospital to O. S. H. U., that's Oregon Health Science University and they take care of all the children that have to have intensive care. We don't have the facilities for that, so we wheel them over there. They would like to buy our facility and they would use it as offices or something else, and it's a very nice building and they don't want us to go and build a hospital someplace else in Portland or Vancouver maybe.

So, right now in the mill, the Imperial Shrine is, as a team, looking at the hospital realizing the value of it. O. S. H. U. is looking at the hospital, as a team, seeing what's it worth and O. S. H. U. says we've got property further upon the hill, you could build a

new facility and probably instead of seven stories, maybe make it three. So, that is all in the mill. I don't know what's going to happen with the life-safety and remodeling they want to do is going to come in around twenty to thirty million dollars. So, that is why Imperial is looking at it. There is a committee appointed to see what could be done. Something has to be done. So, we'll know a little further on what happens.

And, I thank you very much Sir.

Lloyd Triggs, PGM, Response to Youth Group Presentations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it was a pleasure to respond to these youth groups. Brother Masons, sisters, you heard this morning. I want to remind you in particular, the response of the thoughts of this youth organization, particularly Rainbow of a couple of Master Masons who had worked with them for many years. I too have worked with the youth for quite a few years but I think there is nothing, there is, I'm going to have trouble with this, there is no award greater for a Master Mason to receive than accolades of these young people whom you have served and helped to establish their lives.

My brothers and sisters if you have not visited their chapters and their assemblies, you're missing something. These young people can heap onto you awards you can't believe, awards for your soul. They're beautiful, they're wonderful to work with. But, I'm getting too old now so I have to sit back and I can't do what I used to, but I still miss it a lot.

Many years Brother Don Winters, Brother Wallace, Sister Wallace all of these people have worked and our Grand Master, to raise the families of DeMolay and Rainbow as their own. You've become attached to these young people.

I've just met one yesterday that I knew fifteen to twenty years ago, two in fact. I went out to the airport to meet one. They still remember what Dad Triggs told them – might have been wrong or right, but Dad Triggs told them anyhow.

If you have not become acquainted with these organizations, please do. They are our future as much as all your finances and your politics and everything else. These young people are our future, maybe not me, so much any more, but yours out there, you young people, you young men, and Masons, help them do good.

Thank you Grand Master, I appreciate this honor.

John Ingram, PGM, Response to Past Grand Masters of Alaska

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Masters, Distinguished visitors, Brothers one and all, I was asked and honored to give the response for the Past Grand Masters of Alaska and I don't do it lightly.

That distinguished group of Past Grand Masters all feel the way I do. It's certainly been a honor and a joy to serve this Grand Jurisdiction during our term of office. We have offered our assistance that still stand true today. True, we don't know all of you, but we are willing to meet your acquaintance. We're ready to serve you brethren as we have over the past eighteen years.

Grand Marshal said that the oldest Grand Master-John Ingram, ha, look at all them grey-headed fellers out there. Some of them don't have no hair. But they done their best. Some do their best one way or another.

It's been a pleasure and the years are starting to take it's toll on your rank of Past Grand Masters. That saddens us all. Many have served under those Past Grand Masters that are no longer with us. But, we that are still here are as still ready to help you brethren as we were during our term of office.

As we were standing out there in the semi-circle, golly wouldn't it be fun if we went to the other end of the line and just starting to serve this Grand Jurisdiction. But that's not the way it works. We think of things that we remember, confidence we've had in you brethren make me think of a few lines.

When your luck is running low and you're feeling kind of blue and the clouds
seem dark and heavy and won't let the sunshine through,
It's so easy for a feller just to gently lay his hand upon your shoulder in a friendly
sort of way that makes a chap curious, might get the teardrops to start.
You kind of get a thumpin' in the region of the heart.
You look amid to his eyes 'cause you don't know what to say while those hands
are upon your shoulders in a friendly sort of way.
Yes this world is a busy campground, but it's honey and its gall,
with its trials and sufferings yet a good world after all,
For a good God must have made it that is what we say when our hand's upon your
your shoulders in a friend sort of way.

Brethren, we encourage you to come to us especially our new Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers. We are willing to assist, not to tell you anything.

Pleasure, Grand Master, and thank you for allowing me to respond to my colleagues.

Monte Ervin, Response to Grand Representatives Introduction

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to respond for the Grand Representatives. I'm sure each and everyone of them, as you can see out there, really enjoys the pleasure of serving this Grand Lodge and corresponding with their counterparts in the other Grand Lodges. It's probably one of the more representative forms of brotherhood that we have and it definitely gives these brothers the opportunity to experience the variety that exists in Masonry.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond Grand Master.

Tom Smotherman's Response to Introduction of the District Deputies

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Brethren all, on behalf of the Deputies of the Grand Master, I would like to thank you for the trust you have imposed upon us. It's been a pleasure and an honor serving this Grand Lodge. Grand Master, the Secretary read a list awhile ago of the Brother's who have passed leaving a void. I'm told by my counterparts that Masonry is alive and well in Alaska, but we are not quite filling that void. We're down I hear, twenty people throughout the State. But, if you would notice the Masters of the Lodges that got up, we have youth on our side. We have a younger group of Worshipful Masters and if we take these young people with willing hands, put those hands to a good cause, supervise them with the Deputies there, and enforce them with all you past masters out there, our numbers will increase and our lodges will thrive.

Thank you Grand Master.

Thomas Mickey, Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I was actually having a little snooze, out there at the A. M. R. A. table and if Most Worshipful Brother Grainger hadn't come back, I don't think maybe your Grand Marshal would have found me.

Anyway, I would certainly like to extend to you congratulations on an excellent session so and I am sure it's going to continue that way. Your Arraignments Committee by all means is excellent and I've certainly enjoyed myself and I think my traveling compadre has, and I want to bring greetings from the Most Excellent or the Most Worshipful Grand

Master Harold C. Nordan of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of British Columbia with jurisdiction over the Yukon Territory. I can get away with saying that up here. I can't back home too much.

But, I was up here last month, you know, and I'll be up here again for International Days and we always enjoy coming to Alaska and we enjoy the way we get treated here. In fact, being as there are not too many here from British Columbia, I can probably say we get treated better here than we do back in our own jurisdiction. And, you won't tell, I'm sure! (Grand Master said, no we won't tell.). Your incoming Grand Master won't tell either (Grand Master said, no we won't tell.). I'm sure!

But, we have certainly enjoyed it and it's just a great pleasure to be here and I'm not going to take up a whole bunch of time with speeches 'cause you're rolling things right along good and I like that. Thank you very much.

Francis Hess, Past Grand Master of Montana

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I don't think I have any say in this since you are my Grand Master of Alaska. I think I have to obey what you want me to do. But, it is my pleasure to bring personal greetings from Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Jordan, Grand Master of Montana. He sent his regrets but he hoped you would have a very successful session. I will be very happy to report back to him that so far everything is good.

Brethren, I am happy to report that Masonry in Montana is no longer fighting. We solved our problem last year at Grand Lodge. We had past masters who hadn't been to Grand Lodge for several years that went there especially to vote in favor of the Masonic Home. Peace and harmony is prevailing. One of the Grand Lodge Officers who was pushing for the closing of the Home, after the ballot was taken, he repeated the words of Chief Joseph when he surrendered to the cavalry, "I will lay down my weapons, I will fight no more."

At the time of Grand Lodge, we had twenty-six guests in the Home. It's a small Home. We only have room for forty-three. The Home is full and has a waiting list and peace and harmony is prevailing.

It's a relief to me. I was on the Masonic Home Board for seven years but from the time I became a Mason, I always thought that the purpose of the Masonic Home was to take care of our, part of our obligation in Masonry, to help aid and assist all poor distressed Master Mason's, their widows, and orphans.

After Grand Lodge, the president of the Masonic Home Board called a meeting. They had a retreat with the Grand Lodge Officers and after a day and a-half of discussions, they

came up exactly what I thought the Home was supposed to be, to help our poor distressed Master Masons, the widows, and orphans.

Most Worshipful Jordan is doing a really good job. On his visits to the local lodges, he inducts all the past masters into the Past Master's Club and it's a really short induction. He has all of them stand, form a semi-circle around the altar. We form, I don't know how you press it, we more-or-less put our hands in a belt, have them out like this, and we repeat the words, "This isn't the way we did it my year."

Most Worshipful Sir, it is a pleasure to be here again and I'll be happy to take back a very favorable report to my Grand Master in Montana.

Richard E. Fletcher, Past Grand Master and Executive Secretary of Masonic Service Association

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good Morning Brothers, I've been saying when I've been asked to address at Grand Lodge, "hello, I'm from Washington D.C. and I'm here to help you. Oh well.

My Brothers, we meet here openly before the world. What, if I tell you that there are Lodges today with Americans as members who have to meet in homes, draw the shades, move the furniture, and set up a lodge because they can't meet openly today. Just two weeks ago, it was my privilege to be with a group of these Masons in San Antonio, Texas, where they came for, what they call the Stateside Excursion of the Noble Ninth District. Three lodges under the American/Canadian Grand Lodge meet in Saudi Arabia.

When, we at M. S. A. mail information to these lodges, we do it in a plain envelope with no hint of Masonry on the envelope, because if we do, the Saudi security will seize it and will take these men into custody for questioning, and they are an ally of this country. We take our Masonry so much for granted. When we listened so much to those beautiful words today about the Constitution and how much it meant to Freemasons and how much Freemasons were part of the adoption of that noble document and how much Freemasonry has meant to the development of this country, and how much it meant in the development of the nation of Canada. And when you stop and think about it whether we are Americans or whether we are Canadians as Freemasons we are older than both nations and had a vital role to play in the development of those countries.

We have to be aware of our past so that we understand and what we as Freemasons are. Fifty years from today, when someone is addressing this Grand Lodge, what will they say about us? What will they say about our stewardship in the development of Freemasonry in the times we are active. And, I would suggest to you one of our greatest problems as a Fraternity is our own lack of knowledge about our Fraternity. And, that is why we are uncomfortable discussing it, and that is why anti-Masons can have a field day with many of us because we simply do not know enough about our Fraternity to be comfortable in

discussing it. You and I can talk to each other as Masons because we know where we are coming from but when we are talking to a third party sometimes we are not very comfortable to do that. And, that's why we have organizations like M. S. A.

That's why we have grand lodge programs to help us become better understanding and knowledgeable about Freemasonry. That's why we put out a "Short Talk Bulletin" every month on a matter of Masonic interest. That's why we have visitors in 157 V. A. hospitals around the United States and are the seventh largest contributor of volunteer hours in that system out of 57 volunteer groups in the V. A. That's why we put out disaster relief appeal to help the people in El Salvador and Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua recover from hurricane Mitch. That's why we have a Masonic information center so that we can work with Freemasons to become more knowledgeable about the Fraternity because my Brothers no matter how we look at it Freemasonry can only function at the lodge level. It is those in the trenches of the lodge that carry the message of Freemasonry into the communities and when the community knows the Freemasons in their midst it is very, very difficult to attack us, because you don't attack those you know because you know that good work is being done. That's why it is so critically important, and I heard the term the phrase yesterday, "preaching to the choir," of course, you're the choir.

If you are not the active Freemasons in Alaska then who on earth is? And, if you're not the ones that carry the message of Freemasonry home into the lodge and use the lodge as an oasis to refresh us, and then go out into the world and practice what we have been taught in our lodges and in Freemasonry.

Never in the history of our nation has Freemasonry been more needed than it is today. Unless you can see something differently going on, I would suggest to you we have a terrible lack of leadership, strong positive leadership in our nation and it is up to organizations like Freemasonry to be there to be the strong leaders in the community. Those who are charged with the responsibility to make sure our communities are a better place in which to live, and that's what this Fraternity, my Brothers, is all about. It is about us being in the forefront of leadership, being there when we are needed, when we are called upon, and being there to make sure our communities are more vital, stronger.

We don't need Paul Revere to ride to warn "the British are coming." That was done at a time and a place when that deed was necessary. But the role of Freemasonry, my Brothers is just as vital today as it was then and fifty years from now. Who were our Paul Reveres that stood forward and were counted when the Nation needed us?

If you can't walk out of here six feet tall, not even walking on the floor so proud of being a Mason, something is wrong. This is one of the most wonderful institutions that ever came forth and it is up to us to act that way and to live that way.

God bless my Brothers and thank you very much for letting me have a chance to address you.

Edward R. Woods, Past Grand Master of New Jersey

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Officers of the Grand Lodge of Alaska, when you are around your Grand Master you always expect the unexpected. I'm a Past Grand Master of Florida. I don't believe that, but I think so because it is COLD up here. No, I'm a Past Grand Master of New Jersey and now I reside in Florida.

Observations, been there, done that. I hear the conversations that are going on and everyone has the feeling that Masonry is in trouble. But, it's not. You hear Dick Fletcher and his comments about how we apply Masonry to our everyday lives and that's the best things we can do. We shouldn't be bogged down with guidelines that we must follow strictly. Would that Freemasonry come into effect today out of the blue with all of its good reasons for being ethical and moral and all of that, would we apply those principles of Freemasonry into today's world the way we are doing it?

Do we use the technological advantages that we have that our forefathers didn't have for promoting Masonic teachings? Do we use the video? Do we use our computer? Are we cognizant of our people's times? How precious they are in this world today. I had an occasion a few years ago to be a part of that Masonic renewal that was going on through the Grand Masters Conference. Another past grand master and I were on a plane coming from Tulsa to Chicago and you know who else was on that plane, about 6:30, 6 o'clock at night, they were young men of the ages that we would expect being in our Masonic Lodges but they weren't there. Why? Time constraints. There's mostly two bread winners in the family today. In our times it probably wasn't. They need precious time with their children, to be good fathers and good husbands. Are we in our lodges cognizant of that today? And, are we willing to change to accept these young men today that are probably better qualified and capable of being Masons than we are? This is what we should be thinking about for our future.

If the future of Freemasonry is to be secure, it's got to be with these younger people. The way that we apply principles of Freemasonry, it helped me in my life. I was not from a Masonic background. I was young and went into the service and came out and went to work, was married. But, in my work experience, I saw those men who were Masons. They didn't have to tell me, I saw by their everyday actions in business and I tried in my life and in my business life, I owned my own business, to apply those principles of Freemasonry. That's where it is. It's not within the Lodge rooms. You learn within the Lodge rooms and apply those principles to your lives is the best example we can ever be of what Freemasons should be and could be. If we are going to fall, it will be coming from within. We've got to talk about the universality of Masonry and the important duties of being a Mason and proud of being an American as Dick was saying that there are many, many countries, and I visited a few, where men were put into prison for being no more than a Mason. They had a sprig of acacia under their lapel as a sign of recognition. What a wonderful land we live in and are we appreciative of those benefits that are ours.

The future of Freemasonry is ours. We're not going to enjoy it in our later years as much as you younger people are but we hope the examples that we have given to you will give you reason to think this Fraternity is the greatest thing that ever happened to our world today. Apply those principles of Freemasonry Brethren. It's not a bell until you ring it and you're not a Mason until you live it. And live it up my Brethren. It's a wonderful world out there. Thank you Grand Master.

Carl B. Smith, Grand Master of Washington

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Distinguished Brethren in the East, and my Distinguished Brethren all, this is a real treat for me to be able to come to the Grand Lodge of Alaska once again. Not my first visit, but the first in a couple of years, and I bring you greetings from the Brethren of Washington and hope the remainder of your annual session be a productive one.

You don't have to answer this one question out loud. I think it's something you can relate too. How many times, when you leave somewhere, Lodge meeting, or some kind of meeting with your brother, do they tell you to drive carefully? Seems like everywhere I go this year, whenever I leave, someone says drive carefully. My wife even says DRIVE CAREFULLY when I leave the house. Now what do they think I am going to do? They think I am going out on the freeway and recklessly run up and down the freeway banging into everybody? Well, I want to tell you the other day I got a call on my cell phone, was from my wife and she had just heard on the radio that somebody was driving the wrong way on I-5 in Seattle and she wanted to let me know DRIVE CAREFULLY! I says sweetheart someone is not driving on I-5 the wrong way there must be a hundred and fifty of them. I guess that's why she tells me to DRIVE CAREFULLY.

On the way up here, from Seattle, I had a opportunity to sit next to a young lady and as soon as she got on the airplane she began to read and so I finally, trying to strike up some conversation, I said what book are you reading and she said well I am reading the Bible. And I didn't say too much for a while and finally I said to her, do you believe everything you read in the Bible? She said why certainly I believe everything I read in the Bible, I'm a nun. And I didn't know what to say, sat for awhile and finally I said do you believe that story of Jonah and the whale. She said yes I believe that story and so I asked her, well do you believe Jonah lived in that whale's belly for three days and three nights? She said yes, I believe that. And so then I asked her what do you think Jonah ate while he was in that whale's belly for three days and three nights? And, she looked at me in somewhat of a disgust and said well I have no idea, when I get to heaven I will ask him. And I said well, what if he's not in heaven? And I must have annoyed her pretty good because she turned to me and said "you can ask him."

Brethren there are exciting things happening in Washington this year and it is so gratifying to travel throughout the State to the various lodges and our district meetings

and see the enthusiasm that seems to be catching on amongst our brethren and amongst the lodges. Our theme this year has been "Let Our Light Shine" and they are doing that. Brethren are letting people know that they're Masons, by the deeds and by their actions. Lodges are letting their communities know of their presence. They're becoming involved in school programs, community projects, and just making a difference in the community that they live in.

There is a new pride that I see in Masonry. I've not only seen it in Washington, I've seen it here at Grand Lodge. The enthusiasm seems to be catching. We've heard two or three other visitors speak about Masonic pride, being proud to be a Mason. Do you remember, if you are associated with a youth group it wouldn't have been too long ago, do you remember when you were going to high school and the cheerleaders would come out and say if you are proud to be, whatever the school mascot was, I'm going to say Huskies, because I went to the University of Washington. If you're proud to be a Husky, clap your hands! Remember that? If you're proud to be a Husky, stomp your feet! And, if you're proud to be a Husky shout hooray! Brethren, are you proud to be a Mason (some clapping)? Grand Master, I thought I saw a lot of enthusiasm but I think we can generate more than that. Let's try clapping our hands together again. Brethren, are you proud to be a Mason (lot of clapping)? If you're really proud to be a Mason, stomp your feet (feet stomping). All right! Now if you're super proud to be a Mason, shout hooray! (lot of shouting), ...(break in tape)... All right! Now let's take that enthusiasm Brothers and go back to our Lodges and share it with our Brethren because it is infectious and Masonry once again is going to become that same visible and viable force that it once was in this country of ours. We can make a difference and with that kind of enthusiasm and if we let our light shine the whole world is going to know that there is a fraternity that cares and there are many, many good men that would want to be a part of it.

Brethren, Grand Master, I want to thank you for all of the courtesies and hospitality that has been shown to my wife and for the great fellowship I've had these past two days. Thank you Brethren.

Leonard Luchau, Executive Secretary Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Brethren, it is indeed a pleasure and an honor to be here today. I'm the Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Bureau in Seattle. Down there I am your contact in the event you have or want me to do anything for you down there. For instance, just recently we had this one little girl, she was run over by a pickup truck and they got her down there and we got a call from up here requesting me to go over and investigate and find out exactly what had taken place. I went over there and found out that the little girl had been operated on and that she was taken care of. Brother Ray Gallant was the one that called me. At any rate she did not have any money. She didn't have any clothes, but I went over there and I

talked to her; she didn't impart this to me. So, I asked Worshipful Brother Dale Collier, I says, can you possibly look in on this lady and see if she needs anything. Please let her have anything that she can use. She's from Alaska and she definitely needs something, go ahead and do it.

Dale is a businessman and he can practically ask you any question and get the information out of you. He found out that the lady did not have any money. She was sharing half of the meal with a child. The child would not eat until the mother ate. We gave her enough money so that she could go out and get something to eat. We bought her some clothes and that's where it is at.

The thing about it was they were not Masons. That did not make any difference to us. That's what we are there for. We're there for charity. Our charity rolls has to be fulfilled, that's part of our obligation. So, that is what we do.

Many of you in this room have or know of someone in your family that has heart problems. I'm an open heart patient myself. The Grand Lodge of New York has a research laboratory on Bleaker Street. It researches, it's a Masonic research laboratory, excuse me, it researches on the heart. There's other different things that they do.

I was honored and privileged to tour that institution. I met two Spanish speaking doctors, a French doctor, and a Russian doctor. They all explained what they were doing and it was relating to the heart. I later on learned that the Royal Arch put on another floor for them. This enabled them to bring more doctors in there to do more research. Doctor Antzelevitch is in charge of that particular laboratory. Any contributions made to that laboratory are tax deductible. It was a pleasure, like I say and an honor to go through that particular laboratory.

We are there, down at the, and if you want that information as to send your contributions you can contact me after the Grand Lodge session or lunch here. We are indeed privileged and honored to have with us a companion, or so forth, actually had an experience of being able to be helped through this laboratory. And, he's at the present time on vacation in Hawaii.

We are, like I say, down there, to assist you in any way that we humanly can. All you have to do is call me on my 800 number. It's 1-800-600 5544. And when you're up here, I am going to tell you one thing you run out of air speed, altitude, and ideas so Grand Master, that's my report.

Wayne Kingsley, Grand Orator, Grand Lodge of Nevada

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master it is indeed a pleasure to be here at your grand session. As usual your hospitality is outstanding and I want to thank Lloyd Triggs for pursuing you until you got me up here.

I was particularly impressed yesterday with your Grand Lodge Public Opening, Grand Master. All the jurisdictions that I've been in pay lip service to the youth groups, but few of them give them the attention at their grand sessions that you do. And, if the executive officer, and I haven't seen him this morning but I'm sure he's here, would go back to the grand youths and, or those youths and, tell them that at the least the Representative from Nevada was very impressed with their performances. If you can take those young people around the state, I'm sure that your numbers will increase. It is important that we support the youth. They are our future and you should be commended on the way you treated them yesterday.

I bring you the greetings of our Grand Master, David J. Guinan. He is sorry that he was unable to be here but kind of double-booked himself and he's making visitations around his state. So, again, Grand Master I appreciate the hospitality that you've shown us, shown me, and the other people from Nevada.

Thank you for your opportunity.

Lee E. Garvin, Senior Grand Steward, Grand Lodge of Oregon

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren you did sneak up on me, I wasn't expecting this. It's a pleasure to be in Alaska and to represent my Grand Lodge of Oregon. We're a little bit larger in numbers but I don't think we have a bigger heart than you do in Alaska. It's interesting to me to know that almost everybody knows everybody or knows where they are from. There's a lot of brotherhood and brotherhood that goes on here.

It's been nice to witness that and I would like to reiterate what the last speaker just said so it gets done well. I've been a Rainbow Girl since I've been about this big. My grandmother was a Mother Advisor. My mother was a Mother Advisor. My sister was a Grand Worthy Advisor in the jurisdiction of Oregon. Those were the finest talks I think that I've heard yesterday. I learned more about Job's Daughters than I've ever learned and I really did enjoy them greatly.

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master.

John R. Cline, Remarks on Student Assistance Program

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am John Cline, Matanuska No. 7 and Iditarod No. 20.

The Student Assistance Program will assist our children in our schools to achieve parity with their peers and the world. This is accomplished not only by the children but as society as a whole. My work with our Masonic youth these past few years, I come to recognize that they need our help. A portion of these people as in society as a whole come from broken and dysfunctional families. Many have trouble both academically and socially. We as advisors are well equipped to help them deal with their problems.

My wife is a second grade teacher in the Matanuska School District and admits she too is not generally aware of the sources of support within our community to help her respond to the children at risk she sees passing through the school system yearly. The Student Assistance Program will address these deficiencies.

I have heard the detractors who say that is inappropriate to tax or put a burden on our lodges for another "My Program." They view the program as a "flash in the pan" like the other "My Programs" promoted by our Grand Lodge Officers to support their agendas during their tenure in the Grand Lodge. I would argue first, five dollars per member is not a burden. I've seen that much or more spent by the Brethren for drinks these last couple nights. Secondly I would argue that this is not a "My Program" but an "Our Program." Masonry has a rich tradition of supporting our public schools.

The Public Schools Committee is a standing committee within Grand Lodge. As we heard from that Committee's report, six of our lodges have programs recognizing achievement in their public schools. We teach in our DeMolay ritual that the public schools are the foundation of our country's greatness. I believe it is time for a greater focus on support for our public schools and the children therein. I believe that focus should first come from our Grand Lodge but untimely be recognized nationally.

When I tell people that I am a Master Mason I'm often asked what does your lodge do? I usually fumble for the answer and allude to the nationally recognized efforts of our concordant bodies like the Shrine and Scottish Rite. I long wish for a national program for which the Blue Lodge can be equally proud. I believe the Student Assistance Training Program is just such a program. Therefore, I urge the support of this program and finally I would ask, what does your lodge do? Thank you.

John D. Livie, Senior Grand Warden of Oregon

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Brethren all, it is nice to be home again in my home state for I also belong to Glacier Lodge No. 10. When you opened your lodge, you honored youth of your state and the work they did was fantastic. Sometimes it is hard for us and our lodges to do our work as well as some of these kids do. They do a fantastic job and we all need to support them as well as we can. If elected two years from now, I, as your Worshipful Master, or Grand Master, my theme is going to be the support of our youth in Oregon. And, for all members out there who have not worked with youth please work with them it's great.

This has been a really great Grand Lodge. There's been a lot of fun, a lot of good business taken care of, and the comradeship has been great. I'd like to tell you a little story about comradeship and friendship that comes from the Masonic Lodge. In July of last year six of us, four Master Masons, a grandson, and a son went to Sitka, Alaska on a fishing trip with a brother from this Grand Lodge and what a fantastic time we had and the friendship and comradeship that we had on that trip you can not buy. It's only given by the heart. And one of your past grand masters was our bait boy that day. We have a new name for Most Worshipful Grand Master Lloyd Triggs. We call him in Oregon now, the four of us, Most Worshipful Brother Bait Boy and I tell you we never had so much fun with these two Masons of the great State of Alaska.

I bring you greetings from our Grand Master, Richard E. Surroz. He could not be here because he is a CPA and right in the middle of tax season. Most Worshipful Grand Master, I thank you for all the courtesies that have been extended to the three of us from Oregon and I thank you very much.

Edward O. Weisser, Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren, and Friends of Pennsylvania and also of this great Jurisdiction, it's my pleasure to be here and I enjoyed the other night going to Lodge No. 16, my lodge now that I have dual membership there. Pennsylvania wouldn't allow dual membership until just about two years ago.

I just like to say brethren I would like to bring a couple of things in retrospect that happened when I was Grand Master two years ago that I think is important for Freemasonry. Brothers, as Grand Master of Pennsylvania, which has about 157,000 Masons, I took it upon myself to contact any brother who was sick as Grand Master and talk with him. Our District Deputies supplied his names and telephones to me. You ask as you're a Grand Master how you have time to call that many brethren I'll tell you but

don't tell my wife though. All I do is say to my wife we're going some place and I have an hour to call Brethren so you know how that goes.

Brethren, during these calls I became aware that it was most important that I visit the Veterans Hospitals in our great state. I took it upon myself to go to Coatesville and Pittsburgh hospitals. I want to relate one story, while really two, that happened in Coatesville brethren. We walked in with my whole Grand Lodge line in our collars and aprons and they would not tell us at the hospital who were the Masons. They said that's confidential information, we can't give it to you. As I was walking down the hallway, I saw a small room, the lady with grey hair was sitting there with a spoon feeding a man, one spoon at a time. I walked into the room and I said to her I'm the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, is this your husband? She said it is. I said to her, can you tell me if he is a Mason. She said he was until he was put out for non-payment of dues when he couldn't read his notice any more. We will look after our brethren. I immediately went back to Grand Lodge and restored him to Freemasonry. She said to me, I'm not allowed to read his Masonic information. She didn't know his dues were due and the Lodge didn't care.

We went down the hallway a little further and we had two brethren who were up in age. one man ninety-eight years of age, the other man, not quite so old but a little bit more mobile. The man who was ninety-eight, the small bedroom he had we couldn't get into the room, so the nurse got him into the wheelchair and wheeled him out to the hallway. We talked with him for a little while and kind of, general conversation with those standing around. We were about to leave and this elderly gentleman said to me, who did you say were? I said I'm the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and brethren he threw his hands in the air and starting yelling out, "Get me out of this chair! Get me out of this chair! Get me up as I must stand up for the Grand Master!" He knew what Freemasonry was brethren and had it in his mind at all times.

Brethren I could tell you I called fourteen-hundred men many of them sad stories, men who didn't know where to go. It was just so happened I called. We got them into our Masonic homes and tried to take care of them. Brethren, what I am trying to say to you is make that personal contact. Be concerned about your brethren and our Fraternity will take care of itself. Thank you Grand Master, it's our privilege to be here.

Donald P. Frizzell, British Columbia and Yukon

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, Visitors, Brethren all, it's not really great to come up here un-announced with no plan of attack, however, I will take this opportunity to give you a bit of information.

While we are visitors from Canada, we are also members of White Pass No. 1, so sometimes we like to be called visitors and sometimes we like to be called Brothers. However, International Day last year held over in Dawson City and we had a large

attendance by your Grand Lodge Officers and a lot of visitors from Alaska. We also had the Grand Lodge of British Columbia there and Whitehorse Lodge No. 46.

There's been a lot of interest over the years in the old lodge building in Dawson City. It's a unique structure. It's one of only six of that design in Canada and about three weeks ago RW Mickey and myself went to Dawson City for a meeting with Parks Canada, the City of Dawson, and other members of our lodge. The particular lodge building in Dawson has been designated a Canadian Historical Site and work will now progress over a period of years that the lodge building will be restored. The Yukon 45 Lodge will retain ownership of the building. The only thing that will change there, because the building will have to be maintained year round, we will have to rent out the bottom floor to get some revenue. However, it is very gratifying to know that building will stand forever. It was built in 1912, I believe. Masons got it in the early thirties and it looks like its future has now been confirmed that it will stay a Masonic Lodge for sometime to come. So, those of you who have an interest in Dawson, as we do, give you that for your information.

Thank you Grand Master for an excellent time. You and your wife are most gracious hosts and we've enjoyed ourselves immensely. Thank you.

ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

Grand Master:

Blank	3 vote
W Jerry Fairley	3 votes
VW Fred McGuire	1 vote
MW Lloyd Trigg	1 vote
RW Don Chaffin	6 votes
RW Chuck Corbin	3 votes
W Bob Alexander	1 vote
RW Ray Beaver	103 votes (Station accepted)

Deputy Grand Master:

Unreadable	1 vote
Blank	2 votes
RW Ray Beaver	1 vote
RW Chuck Corbin	3 votes
MW Lloyd Trigg	1 vote
RW Don Chaffin	114 votes (Station accepted)

Senior Grand Warden:

Blank	3 votes
Joe Dietz	3 vote
W Steve Cox	1 vote
RW Chuck Corbin	114 votes (Station accepted)

Junior Grand Warden

1st Ballot

Blank	2 votes
RW Steve Lee	4 votes
W Gene Mockerman	1 vote
W Bob Alexander	1 vote
VW Joe Dees	3 votes
W Ken Stedman	52 votes
W Billy Harris	13 votes
W Steve Cox	46 votes

2nd Ballot

RW Steve Lee	1 vote
W Joe Dees	2 vote
W Billy Harris	1 vote

W Bob Alexander	1 vote
W Ken Stedman	48 votes
W Steve Cox	54 votes (Station accepted)

Grand Secretary

Blank	2 votes
MW Lloyd Triggs	1 vote
RW Fred Angleton	1 vote
W Steve Cox	1 vote
VW Rick Bender	117 votes (Station accepted)

Grand Treasurer:

W Mike Johnston	2 votes
W Jerry Fairley	1 vote
VW V. Clifford Darnell	3 votes
RW Rick Bender	1 vote
RW Steve Lee	110 votes (Grand Secretary has a signed statement from RW Steve Lee indicating if elected, he would accept the position as Grand Treasurer. Steve Lee was called out of town for a medical emergency.)

INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

An open installation for the 1999-2000 officers for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was conducted in Fairbanks, Alaska on April 9, 1999.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome and Introduction

By MW Gene R. Freeman

INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing Master	MW Hank T. Dunbar
Installing Marshal	MW Leslie R. Little
Installing Chaplain	MW Lloyd Triggs
Installing Secretary	MW John Ingram

ELECTED OFFICERS

Grand Master	MW Raymond L. Beaver (Marilyn)
Deputy Grand Master	RW Don G. Chaffin (Char)
Senior Grand Warden	RW Charles E. Corbin (Kathy)
Junior Grand Warden	R.W Stephen L. Cox (Gayle)
Grand Treasurer	R.W Steve Lee (Sandy)
Grand Secretary	RW Richard D. Bender (Linda)

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Grand Chaplain	W Dale S. Cain (Karen)
Grand Lecturer	VW Samuel K, Medsker (Michele)
Grand Orator	W J. Marc Williams (Olga)
Grand Historian	W Joe H. Ashby
Grand Marshal	W William B. Clucas
Senior Grand Deacon	W David W. DeLong (Sandra)
Junior Grand Deacon	W Douglas W. Ooms (Rhonda)

Grand Standard Bearer	W Donald E. Otis
Grand Sword Bearer	W David A. Hunt (Karen)
Grand Bible Bearer	W Robert E. Cunningham
Senior Grand Steward	W Harold G. "Bud" Moore
Junior Grand Steward	W Emil F. "Fred" Lentz (Joan)
Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris (Deanna)
Grand Tyler	W Frank H. Bird (Shirley)

DEPUTIES TO THE GRAND MASTER

District 1	VW Gregory E. Wyman (Barbara)
District 2	VW Russell A. Burnett
District 3	VW James W. Morton (Billie Jean)
District 4	VW Ken R. Creamer (Norma)
District 5	VW Harry J. Koenen (Maggie)