

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

Proceedings

**Nineteenth
Annual Communication
February 3-4, 2000**





RAYMOND L. BEAVER
GRAND MASTER
1999

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PRAYER OF THE GRAND CHAPLAIN

No prayer recorded.

ROLL CALL

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Master	MW Raymond L. Beaver
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Grand Master	RW Don G. Chaffin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Warden	RW Charles E. Corbin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Warden	RW Stephen L. Cox
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Treasurer	RW Steve Lee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Secretary	RW Richard D. Bender
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Chaplain	W Dale S. Cane
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Lecturer	W Samuel K. Medsker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Orator	W J. Marc Williams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Historian	W Joe H. Ashby
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Marshal	W William B. Clucas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Deacon	W David W. DeLong
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Deacon	W Douglas W. Ooms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Standard Bearer	W Donald E. Otis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Sword Bearer	W David A. Hunt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Bible Bearer	W Robert E. Cunningham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Steward	W Harold G. "Bud" Moore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Steward	W Emil F. "Fred" Lentz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Tyler	W Frank H. Bird

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 their final report, indicated that there were 15 members of Grand Lodge present (even though it indicates all present in table) and all Lodges were represented.

SOLEMN CEREMONIES

The public opening of the Nineteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 8:00 AM on February 3, 2000, by Most Worshipful Gene R. Freeman, Immediate Past Grand Master. The program for the public ceremonies included:

- Entrance of Grand Lodge Officers
- Address by former Governor Walter Hickle
- Flag Presentation by National Sojourners Heroes of '76 (not performed).
- 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, Miss Alaska Honored Queen, Bethel No. 1
 - International Order of Rainbow for Girls
 - Stephanie L. Cox, Grand Worthy Advisor Grand Assembly of Alaska
 - International Order of DeMolay
 - Joe Humphreys, State Junior Councilor, Alaska State DeMolay Congress
- Welcome to Anchorage, Mayor's Office
- Welcome by representatives from Governor's Office
- Introduction of Representatives of Concordant Bodies
- Presentation by Youth Groups-DeMolay Flower Talk

Representatives of Concordant Bodies present included:

- Al Aska Shrine Temple**
 - Ronald 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 of Alaska

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alaska

David A. Hunt, Grand Illustrious Master

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

Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America

Judy Kelly, High Priestess of Waheed Court No.81

Distinguished Guests present included:

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

RW Jacques G. Boily, Past District Deputy

RW Donald P. Frizzell, Past District Deputy

RW Thomas O. Mickey, Past District Deputy

Michigan, F. & A. M.

MW Charles S. Moulthrop, Past Grand Master

Nevada, F. & A. M.

W H. Wayne Kingsley, Senior Grand Deacon, representing
MW George P. Williams, Grand Master

MW Roy S. Wilson, Past Grand Master

Oregon, A. F. & A. M.

MW Aaron W. Harvey, Grand Master

MW John D. Livie, Deputy Grand Master

MW Herman C. Kuppler, Past Grand Master

MW Vern S. Wertz, Past Grand Master

Pennsylvania, F. & A. M.

RW Edward O. Weisser, Past Grand Master

Washington, F. & A. M.

RW Richard A. Mecartea, Deputy Grand Master representing
MW Bill R. Wood, Grand Master

MW Sydney Kase, Past Grand Master

MW William R. Miller, Past Grand Master

MW Wendel H. Kueker, Past District Deputy

Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska F. & A. M.

RW Sterling R. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master

MW Michael Boone, Most Worshipful Grand Master

The formal opening of the Nineteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 10:00 AM on February 3, 2000, by Most Worshipful Raymond L. Beaver, 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

VW Dennis R. Thayer (17)

Second Session

W Raymond A. Gallant (15, 17, 20)

Third Session

W Donald A. Witsoe (17, 20)

Fourth Session

W John R. Cline (7, 20)

MESSAGE OF THE M.W. GRAND MASTER

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

On behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska, I extend to you a very warm and sincere welcome to our Nineteenth Annual Communication, here in the City of Lights, Anchorage, Alaska.

To those who reside elsewhere and to our distinguished guests who are with us this morning, we have endeavored to make your stay with us as pleasant as possible and we hope that your visit will be an enjoyable one. Thank you for being here and if we can be of service to you, please feel free to make your wishes known to us.

NECROLOGY

This is a report that is the least desirable but a necessary one to remember those who have passed to a better life beyond. A full report will be presented at a later time in the program by W. Brother Dale S. Cain.

VISITATIONS

We visited every Lodge in the state except for one, which may possibly be brought up during our proceedings. In nearly all of my visits, other Grand Lodge Officers were present and except for one occasion, my lady, Marilyn, was always with me. Aside from the formalities of the Grand Master's Visit, the social aspects were of great significance. Of particular importance was our visit to Mt. Juneau - Gastineaux Lodge No. 124, a joint meeting with Ketchikan Lodge No. 159 and Tongass Lodge No. 19, as well as an informal meeting in Petersburg.

Our Schedule was rather hectic at times but more than offset by the very warm reception accorded us wherever we traveled.

The rewards of seeing old friends and making new friends and brothers make these events a lifetime experience.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

The numbers of our Jurisdiction show a loss in membership, which is typical nationwide. But, it is the growth in leadership and the maturing of our Grand Lodge that impresses me most. The challenges we face as we go into the twenty-first century may seem insurmountable but we will find ways to solve these challenges and to overcome whatever obstacles we encounter.

As we put Y2K behind us and enter the Twenty - First Century, let us reflect upon our past accomplishments of the last twenty years.

As Grand Lodges go, we are one of the two youngest Jurisdictions in this nation. Only Hawaii is younger than us. Being one of the “new kids on the block” should be a good reason to critique the past accomplishments and to look forward to the future. To take positive steps and establish new goals that will enable us to cope with the challenges that are troubling to the craft, to a reaffirmation of the Ancient Truths upon which our splendid order owes its existence. We no longer can afford the luxury of, in a manner of speaking, hiding behind our apron strings while we are conducting the affairs of our great institution. This is not to imply, by any stretch of the imagination, to allow non-members to attend our Tiled Meetings, as others do. But, we should endeavor to aggressively promote to the public the principles upon which our Ancient Order exists and the tenants and values by which we should conduct our lives when we are without the Tiled recesses of our Lodges. As Master Masons, we are admonished that every human being has a claim upon our kind offices and we should display to the public at large these tenants and values that Freemasonry adheres to, hoping to enhance our image which should, in turn, create a favorable impression and encourage men of worth to come before us and to give him the opportunity to seek self-improvement.

Once the candidate has entered the Sanctity of our Lodge, he should be approached and treated in the most dignified and professional manner possible. This is what he has paid for and his expectations are that he will receive something that should leave a lasting impression. We should not have to read our ciphers while conducting rituals or opening or closing the Lodge. But, if it is an absolute necessity, do it in the most dignified and solemn manner. Practice is the key, my brethren – practice. We should impart to our candidates such a meaningful experience that he will want to return to our Lodges again and again so that we will have the opportunity to share with him our experience and our knowledge of Freemasonry. Each of us must generate, as soon as possible, enough enthusiasm that will carry him forward through his education of our Craft.

SPECIAL EVENTS

It was with a great deal of pleasure that we were fortunate enough to participate in the dedication of the huge Square and Compasses at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial and to memorialize our revered Brother George Washington on the two hundredth anniversary of his death. It was an impressive gathering of Freemasons from all across our great country and a grand tribute to this remarkable man.

With us were Worshipful Brother Brad White from Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 and Past Grand Masters, Most Worshipful Brother Lloyd Triggs and Most Worshipful Brother Stan Foulke. Both Brothers Triggs and Foulke were dressed in the Heroes of '76 Militia Uniforms and represented the Alaska Chapter No. 355 of the National Sojourners.

On August 14th, the Grand Lodge performed a Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at the Challenger Learning Center in Kenai. Again, members of the Heroes of '76 participated in the program wearing their colorful militia costumes.

We received many compliments on this impressive ceremony, which was attended by dignitaries from the State as well as representatives from the Challenger Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

My special thanks to Most Worshipful Brother Fred Angleton, the Soldotna Shrine Club, and to Brother Bob Summers for coordinating this event, which would have been impossible without their able assistance.

The next important event was the implementation of the Student Assistance Training Program in Anchorage. This event took place at the King Career Center in Anchorage and consisted of sixty-two staff members from the Anchorage and the Matanuska\Susitna School Districts. The three day seminar was conducted by Newman and Associates, two professional trainers, from the East Coast and was, from all accounts, very well received.

One especially important event was the conferring of the Degrees to a Brother from Eastern Russia. Most Worshipful Brother John Grainger will make a full report later in the program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Revisit the Visitation Program to make it less costly for Grand Lodge Officers to travel.
2. Support of the Student Assistance Program. This is a long term project and needs your continuing support.
3. Find ways to increase the assets of the Grand Lodges.
4. Examine the status of our Constituent Lodges. Some of them are in dire straits.
5. Create a new format for the Grand Lodge Bulletin.

SPECIAL THANKS

1. To the Cornerstone Laying Committee for a job well done.
2. To Very Worshipful Brother Tom Leslie and Most Worshipful Brother John Grainger for all the great help in planning my visit to Ketchikan.
3. To Worshipful Brother Dave DeLong and Very Worshipful Brother Oscar Jones for arranging my special visits to Juneau and Petersburg.

Fraternally,

Raymond L. Beaver
Grand Master

APPENDIX

This Appendix lists the official acts of the Grand Master during the period of April 9, 1999 through February 4, 2000:

Special Actions

August 1, 1999 Issued a ruling in reference to the Election of Pablo Martinez to receive the Degrees in Tanana Lodge No. 3. Mr. Martinez had petitioned Tanana Lodge No. 3 but after his election, questions arose as to if he had previously been a member of a Prince Hall Lodge in Fairbanks. He did not remember receiving any Degree work in Prince Hall but thought he might have been elected. A temporary hold was placed on his advancement until his status could be verified with Prince Hall. Upon contact with the Prince Hall Grand Secretary, it was verified that he had been elected to receive the degrees in Midnight Sun Lodge No. 3 but he was never initiated. According to the Prince Hall Masonic Code, their Lodges have no claim over any brother until his is a proficient Master Mason. Prior to that time, he is considered a "free agent" and may change his membership if he so desires. Following this determination, the temporary hold was lifted and the candidate was subsequently initiated into Tanana Lodge No. 3

January 5, 2000 Approved request from Los Angeles Fraternal Supply Company to manufacture special Scottish Rite Apron for V.W. Brother Mitchell R. Miller, newly created Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Alaska for Scottish Rite. This apron will only be worn during Scottish Rite meetings and is not to be worn in Blue Lodge. This approval was required by the manufacturer before proceeding with the making of the apron.

Dispensations Granted

April 10, 1999	Permission for Kenai Lodge 11 to appear in public clothed as Masons for your Public Schools presentation.
August 13, 1999	Permission to allow Iditarod Lodge No. 20 to open Lodge at the Masonic Temple in Palmer on August 17th for the purpose of holding a 1st Degree.
August 20, 1999	Permission for North Pole Lodge No. 16 to hold a degree in Karl Amundson's airplane hanger.
August 30, 1999	Permission for Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 to form a corporation for the purpose of establishing a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt entity.
September 1, 1999	Permission for Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 to move September Stated Meeting to September 23rd to allow the principle officers to attend the Warden's Charge and still be in attendance at the Stated Meeting.
October 1, 1999	To allow Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 to move their regular place of meeting to a new building they have purchased.
October 8, 1999	Permission for Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18 to appear in public clothed as Masons for the planting and dedication of a Cherry Tree

honoring Brother George Washington on October 23, 1999 in Sitka.

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

1998

April

12 Eagle River Lodge No. 13
13 Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8
14 Anchorage Lodge No. 17
15 Kenai Lodge No. 11 Public Schools Awards Program
20 Seward Lodge No. 6
21 Sterling Masonic Club
22 Kenai Lodge No. 11

May

3 Kodiak Lodge No. 9
4 Matanuska Lodge No. 7
5 Aurora Lodge No. 15
10 Valdez Lodge No. 4
11 Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
13 Glacier Lodge No. 10
17 North Pole Lodge No. 16
19 Tanana Lodge No. 3
20 Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
22-23 International Days, Fairbanks
30-31 Grand Lodge of Florida, Orlando

June

9-11 Grand Lodge of Oregon
16-18 Grand Lodge of Washington
24-25 Grand Lodge of Montana
26 Dedication – George Washington Masonic Memorial, Alexandria, VA
27-30 Shrine Imperial Sessions, Dallas, TX

August

11-12 Pacific Northwest Shrine Association, Calgary, Canada
14 Cornerstone Laying - Kenai
27-31 Alaska State Fair - Palmer

September

1-6 Alaska State Fair - Palmer
16 Iditarod Lodge No. 20
17-19 Wardens Charge

October

7-9 Student Assistance Training Program - Anchorage
16 Miss Alaska Job's Daughter Pageant
29 White Pass Lodge No. 1

November

1 Informal Visit to Petersburg
2 Informal Visit to Juneau
4 Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18

5	Tongass Lodge No. 19
7-9	Grand Lodge of Nevada, Reno
20	DeMolay Investiture Ceremony
23	Anchorage School District Safe & Drug Free Council
December	
3-4	Scottish Rite Honors Ceremony, Anchorage
11	Christmas Ball, Farthest North Shrine Club, Fairbanks
19	Christmas Toast, Anchorage York Rite
2000	
January	
2	Amaranth Installation
5	Veterans Affairs Committee, Anchorage
5	Anchorage Lodge No. 17 Installation
8	Shrine Potentate's Ball
9	Shrine Breakfast
9	Anchorage Job's Daughters Bethel No. 1 Installation
10	Denali Chapter No. 16 OES Installation
15	Mat-Su Chapter DeMolay Installation
15	Red Cross of Constantine Elections
20	Anchorage School District Safe & Drug Free Council
25	Alaska Chapter No. 355, National Sojourners
28	Scottish Rite Fair Workshop
February	
3-4	Grand Lodge of Alaska - Anchorage

Communications Attended by Others as Representatives of the Grand Master

January 26-28, 2000 Grand Lodge of Colorado, by V.W. William H. Lefferson

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.

I have come to the conclusion that anything with the word “Grand” in it is going to cause problems. My hospital stay two years ago was after attending Rainbow Grand Assembly. Then, I was back in the hospital after Grand Lodge last year. Again, I must offer my grateful thanks to W. Brother Jerry Fairley for keeping things going at the Grand Lodge while I was out of commission. In many ways, Brother Jerry embodies the true ideals of Freemasonry. Thank you again, Brother Jerry.

One bright spot to the year, we were able to upgrade the Grand Lodge computer and are now also “online.” I have e-mail at the office and can access the Internet when needed.

Although, changing our Annual Communication back to February meant for some very late nights, the Lodges did their best to get their paperwork to me by the deadline. I must report that White Pass Lodge No. 1, Anvil Lodge No. 2, and Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8 did not submit all their paperwork by the deadline and I was required to instruct those Lodges 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. As usual, my thanks goes out to all the Lodge Secretaries for the great job that most of them are doing. Until you’ve sat at the Secretary’s desk, you don’t realize all that the Secretary is responsible for in order to keep the Lodge running smoothly.

Regarding the Status of Lodges, our losses continue but those losses are offset by some Lodges showing some strong growth. As the Grand Master said, we need to focus on more than just the numbers. Many of the Lodges are showing the benefit of our Warden’s Charge and the leadership potential that it provides.

The Financial Section is self-explanatory. Our various funds continue to grow. We showed some outstanding Capital Gains this year. Our Life Membership returned a total of 6.1%, after the deduction of the Grand Lodge fee. Although we show a deficit for the year, this is due, in part to my hospitalization. I was very late in getting the Lodge Assessments out this year and some of the Lodges did not get them paid before December 31st. This loss will be offset this year by additional income shown from those receipts in 2000. The current Assessments are basically ready to go now and should be in the mail in the next couple of weeks.

I say thanks to the Elected Grand Lodge Officers for the opportunity to work with you this year. Once again, I also offer my thanks to my wife, Linda and my daughter, Katie. Thank you to both of you. Brothers, this concludes another year as your Grand

Secretary. Thank you, once again, for the privilege you have given me to serve you and Masonry in Alaska.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Richard D. Bender
Grand Secretary

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	Dimitts	NPD	Suspensions	Expulsions	Other	Total Loss	Net Gain / (Loss)	Members 12-31-97	
White Pass	1							87		1													0	87	
Anvil	2							43															0	43	
Tanana	3		3	13	3	4	5	4	302	5	1	2			8	10	2					12	(4)	298	
Valdez	4	1		8	1	5	1	1	67		1				1	1		1				2	(1)	66	
Mt. McKinley	5			3					44														0	44	
Seward	6			1					43		3				3	2						2	1	44	
Matanuska	7		1	17				1	120							5						5	(5)	115	
Mt. Susitna	8			11				1	153														0	153	
Kodiak	9	1	1	4		1	1		76	1		1			2		1					1	1	77	
Glacier	10		4	16	4	2	5		251	4	2	2			8	5	4	6				15	(7)	244	
Kenai	11			10	1	1	1	1	119		3				3	2		5				7	(4)	115	
Fairbanks	12		2	5	5	1	4		95	4	1	6			10	3	2	6		1		12	(2)	93	
Eagle River	13	1	4	9	3		1	1	78	1	2				3	1	1					3	0	78	
Aurora	15		6		3		3	1	54	3	1	3			7		1	1				2	5	59	
North Pole	16		6	3	7	1	3	4	45	4	1				5	1	2	3				6	(1)	44	
Anchorage	17		6	3	1	1	1	3	289	2	1	1	1		5	8		2				10	(5)	284	
Mr. Verstovia	18	1		2				1	65						1	1	1					2	(1)	64	
Tongass	19		1		1	3	3		29	1	1				2		2					2	0	29	
Iditarod	20		4	1				2	125		1	2			3	1	3					4	(1)	124	
Totals		4	38	110	29	24	28	38	2085	24	4	26	7	0	0	61	41	19	24	0	1	0	85	(24)	2061

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Weather different, reports different. Usually takes eighteen minutes to fly in the airplane from Kenai to Anchorage, today, forty-eight minutes. Things are different. This weather makes me think of a Brother who was new to Alaska. He said to brother Gunnar Flygenring, Gunnar what do I do if I get caught in one of them snowstorms. Gunnar says, no problem Brother, just find a snowplow and follow it He'll lead you on to a good road.

A few days went by and sure enough weather came, bad snow, and that Brother's caught out there in the snow. But he remembered what brother Gunnar said-follow the snowplow. Sure enough good road, snowplow stopped and driver went back and said can I help you friends. No, you're doing a good job. A good friend of mine, Gunnar Flygenring told me if I ever get caught in a snowstorm just follow the plow. Snowplow driver said, we just finished Wal-Mart and we're going to Kmart next. That's an example of my report, not much there

This is the Report of the Fraternal Relations Committee.

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

The assignment of the Fraternal Relations Committee is to examine the printed or written proceedings or other documents emanating from other grand lodges and report at the annual communication whatever may seem of sufficient importance and interest to the Craft. The Fraternal Relations Committee shall leave a copy of his report with the Grand Secretary prior to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge. It's coming Bender. Also, the Fraternal Relations Committee shall review all requests for recognition from other grand jurisdictions and as appropriate recommend the recognition of the petition of grand jurisdictions or rejection of the same.

Having agreeably accepted the assignment, the Fraternal Relations Committee did examine all correspondence and reports as follows;

The most important what we received was the annual report of the Conference of Grand Master of North America with their recommendations of recognition by this Grand Lodge. We get the recommendations of this Committee of Past Grand Masters and they advise us very strongly.

Most Worshipful Bob Dillard, Grand Secretary, who has been in that office for thirty-two years, some of you know Brother Bob Dillard fine, fine gentleman and very dedicated to Masonry around the world.

In this report, we learned there is confusion among the Craft throughout the world,

mainly Guinea, Mali, Peru, and Portugal. I won't go into detail what the confusion is, too much other than one of the Grand Master's of these jurisdictions is due to fraud, embezzlement, threatened to be in jail, removed from office, and so forth.

But Brothers, some of these requests for recognition that your Fraternal Relations Committee receives takes time. I have one that is 142 pages in length, all in a foreign language and I can't pronounce a word of it. It's difficult to find a knowledgeable Brother to help you understand their requests. We rely heavily upon the recommendations of the Commission for Recognition of the Grand Masters of North America.

But, we have not received any requests this year requesting recognition. I'm not going to jeopardize anything or anybody by recommending that we recognized some of the jurisdictions before the Committee Report from the Grand Master's Conference recommends. But, I will say we've got fraternal recognition from eighty-one grand lodges throughout the world and I have here a draft of all the grand lodges that we're in fraternal recognition with, from Most Worshipful Dick Fletcher, Masonic Service Association.

But he asked that this be updated. I just got it and I know I haven't burdened the Grand Secretary with extra load to get us all up to date. But Brother Dick, I have two copies of this, I will get it to you so we can get up to date.

I think I said we're recognized by eighty-one and brethren when your Grand Lodge of Alaska got underway Brother Gunnar Flygenring and Most Worshipful Jim Williams took it upon themselves to contact every grand jurisdiction in the United States, Canada, and Mexico asking for fraternal recognition. What a tremendous job, but they got it done, and our recognition was equally good for their diligence. But, we got to get updated and I will get that to the Grand Secretary.

I was in the Grand Lodge office a few days ago and the Grand Master was there and the Grand Secretary and I picked up some proceedings of some of our sister jurisdictions and I'm not going to stand here before you Brethren and try to tell you what Grand Lodge of Oregon, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Grand Lodge of Arizona, Washington. I don't want to take any fire out of them Brothers messages if they want to tell you something that happened. I'll leave it up to them. But it takes time to read those proceedings, which are very important to the Fraternal Relations Committee to review.

This is an important committee of the Grand Lodge. Several times you've heard different reports from different jurisdictions, which some Brothers find very interesting to hear. I don't want to take the thunder out of your message. Brothers, I enjoy hearing these Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters tell us about their jurisdictions. So, I'm not going to give that kind of report.

But, I do have a thing very important upon being a grand representative. We've got grand representatives of this Jurisdiction that are represented in Scotland, Denmark, Russia, and all over the world and there's a job to be a grand representative for equally important they

can report back to this Grand Lodge Session some of the most interesting aspects of Masonry throughout the world if the grand representatives contact them. I don't know how many are in this room are grand representatives. I don't know how many grand representatives have made personal contacts to other grand representatives if you haven't contacted your counterpart so to speak.

I would like to take time to read you this pamphlet but it's too lengthy some of you are going to have to make a potty stop before too long. You won't appreciate me talking too much longer. But it's available to you from the Grand Lodge office. It's available to you if you will contact Dick Fletcher, Masonic Service Association. He has thousands of these pamphlets for you grand representatives and you might want to be a grand representative.

We've got grand representatives appointed but have deceased. But, if you have any likely to be a grand representative, I know a grand master and a coming grand master will be glad to hear from you.

I've talked long enough. It says here, thank you for allowing me to serve as your chairman of Fraternal Relations Committee. It's been a pleasure. I wish the Brothers to follow next year to and so forth the best of luck, but right now I move for the acceptance of this report.

Grand Master: Your move is accepted sir.

I also move for the adoption of this Fraternal Relations Committee.

Moved, seconded, and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

MW John C. Ingram, Sr

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

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

	Total Number of Ballots
Grand Lodge	15
White Pass Lodge No. 1	5
Anvil Lodge No. 2	2
Tanana Lodge No. 3	8
Valdez Lodge No. 4	4
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	1
Seward Lodge No. 6	2
Matanuska Lodge No. 7	6
Mt. Susitna Lodge No. 8	5
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	3
Glacier Lodge No. 10	16
Kenai Lodge No. 11	6
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	5
Eagle River Lodge No. 13	6
Aurora Lodge No. 15	3
North Pole Lodge No. 16	7
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	10
Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18	6
Ketchikan Lodge No. 19	4
Iditarod Lodge No. 20	6
Voided Ballots	3
Total ballots accounted	123
Total voting ballots	120

Respectfully submitted,

Howard McElrath, Chairman

APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Jurisprudence

- MW Leslie R. Little (10, 15) Chairman
- RW Bobby W. Alexander (13)
- MW Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
- MW Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
- W Frank G. Weiss (13)
- MW Stanley R. Foulke (2) (added to committee per tape)

Grievance & Appeals

- MW Henry T. Dunbar (10, 17, 20) Chairman
- W Theodore M. Cadman (10)
- MW Stanley E. Foulke (2)

Finance

- Bro. Michael Johnston (15) Chairman
- W Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
- MW Stanley E. Foulke (2)
- RW Steve Lee (15)
- W G. Rex Plunkett (7, 10)
- W Leonard R. "Bud" Young (10, 17)
- Bro. Patrick R. Williams (15) Advisor

Fraternal Relations

- MW John C. Ingram (6, 11) Chairman

Research & Education

- W Robert E. MacArthur (17) Chairman
- W Thomas V. Houser (8, 13)
- W Samuel K. Medsker (4)
- VW Arthur A. Rindahl (6, 8, 11)
- W Neil J. Trautman (5)

Credentials

- W Howard McElrath (4) Chairman
- W John F. Bahrt (18)
- W James A. Bogart (10)
- W Thomas V. Houser (8, 13)

Masonic Public Relations

MW Charles I. Gregg (10) Chairman
W Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
W Michael D. Kean (10)
W J. Marc Williams (15, 20)

Masonic Youth

W Russell W. Sanders (7, 20) Chairman
W Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20)
W James M. LeFlore (16)
W Rocky V. Schank (15)
Bro. Patrick R. Williams (15) Advisor

Bylaws

W James M. LeFlore (16) Chairman
W Gerald E. Browning (6, 11)
VW Charles F. Lewis (2, 11)

Public Schools

Bro. John B. "Jack" Coghill (3) Chairman
W Glenn E. Josey (8, 17)

Long-Range Planning

MW Raymond L. Beaver (3, 10, 15) Chairman
RW Don G. Chaffin (3, 12, 16)
RW Charles E. Corbin (7, 20)
RW Stephen L. Cox (3, 12)
RW Steve Lee (15)
RW Richard D. Bender (10)
MW Gene R. Freeman (3, 12, 19)
VW Gregory E. Wyman (12)
VW Russell A. Burnett (11, 19)
VW James W. Morton (17)
VW Ken R. Creamer (9, 18)
VW Harry J. Koenen (7, 20)

Sub Committees

Charters & Dispensations

W Charles E. Wellong (8, 11) Chairman
W Walter T. Williams (7)
W Donald W. Winters (3)

Sessions & Arrangements

- W John P. Grady (17) Chairman
- W William B. Clucas (3, 12, 16)
- VW Marvin R. Harned (4)
- W Warren Pruitt (6)
- W Charles E. Rhea, III (10)
- W Leonard R. "Bud" Young (10, 17)
- Bro. Harry A. Odden (15) Advisor

Chemical Dependency

- RW Don G. Chaffin (3, 12, 16) Chairman
- W Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
- RW Charles E. Corbin (7, 20)
- W Glen E. Josey (8, 17)
- W James M. LeFlore (16)
- W Donald E. Otis (1)
- W Hazen R. Ricker (10, 13)
- VW Loyd G. Williamson (10, 15, 20)
- W Robert R. Wiseman (11)

Publications

- VW. Dennis Z. Morgan (8)
- W Charles E. Rhea, III (10)
- Bro. Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17)

Warden's Charge

- MW Leslie R. Little (10, 15) 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)

Russian Relations

- MW John Grainger (1, 19) Chairman
- RW Charles E. Corbin (7, 20)
- VW Mitchell R. Miller (3, 12)
- Bro. John R. Richardson (19) Advisor

Wills and Endowments

- Bro. C. Vernon Carlson, Jr. (12) Chairman

George Washington Masonic Memorial

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

Cornerstone Dedication

MW Fred V. Angleton (2, 11) Chairman
VW Robert L. Fulton (6, 10, 11)
MW John C. Ingram (6, 11)
W Robert R. Wiseman (11)
Bro. Robert W. Summers (11) Advisor

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 Russell A. Burnett (11, 19)
District 3 VW James W. Morton (17)
District 4 VW Ken R. Creamer (9, 18)
District 5 VW Harry J. Koenen (7, 20)

REPORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

MOTIONS

Brother Vern Carlson, Junior Warden, Fairbanks 12.

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Jurisprudence addressed a request and made an exception of saying that they could not recognize the request that Fairbanks 12 has given because it was not in proper form. The request was for the Fairbanks Lodge 12 to be able to form a corporation to establish a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt entity. The reason for this being is many of us feel that this will be a salvation of each and every lodge and the Grand Lodge and being able to progress into a tax exempt entity for us to be able to donate or give charitable gifts and write them off as tax deductions.

So, I would like Most Worshipful Grand Master to make a motion that Fairbanks Lodge No. 12 be able to form a corporation to establish a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt entity.

Grand Master: Motion made, seconded to form a 501 (c) 3 corporation as approved by Grand Lodge Code for Fairbanks Lodge No. 12. Is there any discussion? Motion carried.

Vern Carlson made the following motion.

I would like to propose one further motion for the betterment of the Grand Lodge and all the Lodges and that motion reads: That all Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Alaska be allowed to establish a corporation for the sole purpose of establishing a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt entity.

Grand Master: Motion has been made for permission for all Lodges within the Grand Lodge's Jurisdiction of Alaska create their own 501 (c) 3 charitable operations foundation. Motion has been seconded, are there any discussions? Discussion followed by several Brothers and motion passed

Right Worshipful Rick Bender, Grand Secretary

Due to the poor weather conditions and the potential of closing the Seward Highway, some brothers would like to vote early and leave for the Kenai Peninsula.

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

I would like to make a motion to:

Suspend the Rules of Order to allow the Credentials Committee to issue them a ballot to allow them to immediately vote for Grand Lodge Officers prior to closing the ballot.

Grand Master: Motion has been made, seconded, and no discussion, it passed.

Right Worshipful Don Chaffin, Grand Master-elect

Motion made to hold an open installation of officers at 4:00 P.M.

Grand Master: Motion made, seconded, and passed

Motion made to hold Grand Lodge session in Fairbanks next year.

Grand Master: Motion made, seconded, and passed

RESOLUTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

He then becomes an enrolled member of 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 Cipher of this Jurisdiction; or,
2. by completion of a written Study Guide provided by the Grand Secretary as an education in Freemasonry and the memorizing and recital of the obligation of each degree as the Brother progresses through the degrees.

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

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

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

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

He then becomes an enrolled member of 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)	David C. Pratt, PM (10)	Charles E. Corbin, PM (7, 20)
Gerald R. Fairley, PM (10, 20)	Philip S. Lee, PM (15)	Fred V. Angleton, PM (2, 11)
Dennis R. Thayer, PM (17)	John P. Grady, PM (17)	Leonard R. Young, PM (10, 17)
Paul A. Godwin, PM (8)	James W. Morton, PM (17)	Hazen R. Ricker, PM (10, 13)
Russell W. Sanders, PM (7, 20)	James R. Griffith, WM (13)	D. Scott Thompson, SW (10)
Raymond A. Gallant, SW (15)	Donald A. Witsoe, SW (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 received a simple majority and was adopted (48 for, 28 against)

Carryover 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 whether this resolution should or should not be adopted

As a Carryover Resolution to amend the Constitution, it will require a 2/3 majority vote for adoption.

Note: This Carryover Resolution received the two-thirds majority vote and was adopted.

Resolution 2000-1

To Amend Sections 27.06 and 28.03 Bylaws of the Alaska Masonic Code.

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To allow the Worshipful Master of a Lodge to request the Grand Master to issue summary judgment upon a Mason who pleads Guilty or No-Contest to a Felony.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, Masonic Trials create rifts within the Lodges, regardless of their outcome; and,

WHEREAS, a pleading of Guilty, or No-Contest is an admission of guilt to an offense; and,

WHEREAS, the Grand Master can issue the punishment of an offending Mason fairly, and without undue pressures from the members of the Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, the Masonic Fraternity needs to quickly and discretely eliminate from our rolls those among us who break the laws of our land;

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that section 27.06 which now reads:

Section 27.06 Bylaw

SUMMARY PUNISHMENT, WHEN. If a flagrant offense is committed by a Mason present while the Grand Lodge is at labor, the rules requiring notice and delay are dispensed with, and the Grand Master may order the offending Brother to show cause immediately why he should not be punished.

be amended to read:

Section 27.06 Bylaw

SUMMARY PUNISHMENT, WHEN

1. If a flagrant offense is committed by a Mason present while the Grand Lodge is at labor, the rules requiring notice and delay are dispensed with, and the Grand Master may order the offending Brother to show cause immediately why he should not be punished; or

2. If a Mason pleads Guilty, or No Contest, to a felony, the Worshipful Master may request the Grand Master to immediately Suspend or Expel the member in lieu of a Masonic Trial by the Lodge. The Grand Master may impose such sentence on the Mason as is appropriate to the offense.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 28.03 which now reads:

Section 28.03 Bylaw

SUMMARY PUNISHMENT.

If a flagrant offense is committed by a Mason present while the Lodge is at labor, the provisions of this Code requiring formal charges and notice may be dispensed with by the Master, and he may order the offending Brother to show cause immediately why he should not be punished for such offense.

be amended to read:

Section 28.03 Bylaw

SUMMARY PUNISHMENT.

1. If a flagrant offense is committed by a Mason present while the Lodge is at labor, the provisions of this Code requiring formal charges and notice may be dispensed with by the Master, and he may order the offending Brother to show cause immediately why he should not be punished for such offense.

2. If a Mason pleads Guilty, or No Contest, to a felony, the Worshipful Master may request the Grand Master to immediately Suspend or Expel the member in lieu of a Masonic Trial by the Lodge. The Grand Master may impose such sentence on the Mason as is appropriate to the offense.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen L. Cox, PM (3, 12)
Don Chaffin, PM (3, 12, 16)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is not in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. Chapter 27 addresses “Original Jurisdiction in Grand Lodge”. Grand Lodge has jurisdiction over an accused if the offense has occurred on the floor of Grand Lodge during open session, or when the Grand Lodge has been formally requested by a Lodge to try the accused, (see Section 31.01), or when charges have been filed in accordance with Section 27.01.

It does not address where the accused has pled guilty, such as in a civil court or on a public street. Section 30.03 Bylaw already provides for an accused pleading guilty.

Resolution 2000-2

To Amend Section 2.01 and 2.02 of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To change the office Grand Lecturer to an elected position.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the Grand Lecturer should be one, if not THE most proficient person of the Standard Work and Lectures of this Jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, the duties of the Grand Lecturer are too important to risk losing continuity from year to year as each Grand Master appoints a different person to this position; and,

WHEREAS, the brethren should be given the opportunity to select, by way of election, the most qualified person for this important duty; and,

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

WHEREAS, the Grand Lecturer is an elected position in other Jurisdictions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 2.01 which now reads:

Section 2.01 Constitution

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS. The officers of this Grand Lodge are:

1. Elective:
 - Grand Master
 - Deputy Grand Master
 - Senior Grand Warden
 - Junior Grand Warden
 - Grand Treasurer
 - Grand Secretary

be amended to read:

Section 2.01 Constitution

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS. The officers of this Grand Lodge are:

1. Elective:

Grand Master
Deputy Grand Master
Senior Grand Warden
Junior Grand Warden
Grand Treasurer
Grand Secretary
Grand Lecturer

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Grand Lecturer be removed from Appointive list in Section 2.01.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 2.01 which now reads:

Section 2.01 Constitution

Titles of the Grand Officers are:

1. Grand Master: “Most Worshipful”;
2. Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary: “Right Worshipful”; and
3. Appointive Officers: “Worshipful” or higher previous title.

be amended to read:

Section 2.01 Constitution

Titles of the Grand Officers are:

1. Grand Master: “Most Worshipful”;
2. Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, **Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer**: “Right Worshipful”; and
3. Appointive Officers: “Worshipful” or higher previous title.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 2.02 which now reads:

Section 2.02 Bylaw

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1. The following Grand Lodge Officers are elected by ballot at each Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge: a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer and a Grand Secretary. A majority of the votes cast is necessary for election.

be amended to read:

Section 2.02 Bylaw

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1. The following Grand Lodge Officers are elected by ballot at each Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge: a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer, **a Grand Secretary and a Grand Lecturer**. A majority of the votes cast is necessary for election.

Respectfully submitted,

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 whether this resolution should or should not be adopted.

As a Resolution to amend the Constitution, it will require a 90% majority vote for adoption. This Committee also recommends referral to the Committee on Finance for consideration of financial impact.

Report of the Finance Committee: In its present form, this Resolution has no financial impact upon Grand Lodge. If some form of financing is proposed in the future, it will be discussed at that time.

Note: This resolution failed to receive a majority vote and was rejected.

Resolution 2000-3

To Amend Sections 17.09 & 17.06 Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To reduce the number of members who are dropped for Non-Payment of Dues (NPD).

WHEREAS, each member is required to pay dues, which are payable on or before the first day of each year; and,

WHEREAS, individual Lodge Secretaries spend a great deal of time and energy working to get all members to keep their dues current; and,

WHEREAS, the Lodges have the authority to remit dues for the Brethren who are temporarily unable to pay their dues; and,

WHEREAS, each year, there are a few members that the Lodge either loses touch with or the Brother just refuses to pay his dues and are required to be dropped NPD;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 17.09 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 17.09 Bylaw

DROPPING FROM ROLL. The annual dues of Lodge members are payable in advance before the first day of January of each year for that calendar year. A member who has not paid his dues for the calendar year before December 31 of that year ceases to be a member of the Lodge and his name must be dropped from its roll unless on or before that date the Lodge remits his dues or grants him an extension for a definite period in which to pay his dues.

be amended to read:

Section 17.09 Bylaw

DROPPING FROM ROLL. The annual dues of Lodge members are payable in advance before the first day of January of each year for that calendar year. A member who has not paid his dues for the calendar year before December 31 of that year ceases to be a member of the Lodge and his name must be dropped from its roll unless on or before that date the Lodge remits his dues or grants him and extension for a definite period in which to pay his dues. **With the permission of the Lodge, the Secretary may issue a dimit for the delinquent brethren.**

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 17.06 which now reads:

Section 17.06 Bylaw

DIMITTING. A member of a Lodge (except the Master or Warden) who is in good standing and who is not charged with a Masonic offense and not indebted to the Lodge, is entitled as a matter of right to withdraw from membership therein at pleasure. Upon the written application of such member at a Stated Communication, the Master shall order that a Dimit be issued to him. If such member files his application with the Secretary after the December Stated Communication but prior to the end of that month, the Dimit shall be granted at the following January Stated Communication, and no dues for the elapsed time after January 1st shall be required by the Lodge. The Dimit is dated and takes effect as of the date of the order and terminates his membership. **(Section revised 1994)**

Be amended to read:

Section 17.06 Bylaw

DIMITTING. A member of a Lodge (except the Master or Warden) who is in good standing and who is not charged with a Masonic offense and not indebted to the Lodge, is entitled as a matter of right to withdraw from membership therein at pleasure. Upon the written application of such member at a Stated Communication, the Master shall order that a Dimit be issued to him. If such member files his application with the Secretary after the December Stated

Communication but prior to the end of that month, the Dimit shall be granted at the following January Stated Communication, and no dues for the lapsed time after January 1st shall be required by the Lodge. The Dimit is dated and takes effect as of the date of the order and terminates his membership. **With the permission of the Lodge, the Secretary may issue a dimit for delinquent brethren who are to be dropped NPD. The date of the Dimit will reflect the last date the brother was in good standing.**

Respectfully submitted,

Philip S. "Steve" Lee, PM (15)

James W. Morton, PM (17)

Charles E. Corbin, PM (7, 20)

Richard D. Bender, PM (10)

Report of Jurisprudence Committee: This Resolution is not in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. A dimit may not be issued to a Mason who is indebted to the Lodge (Section 17.06). This Revision would require the issuing of a dimit, retroactive to the date of a Brother last being in good standing. This then would have a Brother dimitted as much as a year before the action by the Lodge.

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 99-1 Carryover, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is a carryover from the 18th 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 to pass.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman
Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Frank G. Weiss (13)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
Bobby W. Alexander (13)

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

MW Grand Master: Your report is so accepted

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

Note: Grand Master moved for the adoption of the resolution, seconded, and was adopted

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 99-3 Carryover, have considered the same and report as follows.

This Resolution is a carryover from the 18th 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 Constitution, it will require a two-thirds majority vote to pass.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman
Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Frank G. Weiss (13)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
Bobby W. Alexander (13)

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

MW Grand Master: Your report is so accepted

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

Note: Grand Master moved for the adoption of the resolution, seconded, and was adopted

3rd Report

NOTE: There is no recording made of the 3rd Report of the Jurisprudence Committee for Resolution 2000-2. However, a printed recording of the result was found and a standard format is shown below for this resolution

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

We, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution No. 2000-2, 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 the Constitution, it will require a ninety per cent majority vote for adoption.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman
Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Frank G. Weiss (13)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
Bobby W. Alexander (13)

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 majority vote and was rejected (26 for and 38 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 the Grand Master's Message have considered the same and make the following report and resolution.

That all portions of the message be approved with the following exceptions:

- The portion of Dispensations Granted, August 30, 1999 is not approved because in accordance with Section 12.06, the Grand Master does not have that authority.
- That portion under Dispensations Granted, dated October 1, 1999 must be referred to the Bylaws Committee for approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie R. Little (10, 11, 15) Chairman
Fred V. Angleton (2, 11)
Frank W. Erie (3, 12)
Frank G. Weiss (13)
Stanley R. Foulke (2)
Bobby W. Alexander (13)

Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

Grand Master: This report will be received.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I don't want to upset your Bylaws Committee, but there is a question on your report from Fairbanks 12 to move to their new facility. The question is, did they make a Bylaw change to do that?

Answer, Yes by Bylaws Committee

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

Grand Master, it has been motioned, seconded, and passed.

NOTE: THERE IS NO RECORDING OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE.

Grievance and Appeals

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

We were very fortunate this year we were not required to take any actions. Therefore, I submit a negative report for the Grievance and Appeals Committee.

I was the chairman of the Committee. We also had Most Worshipful Stan Foulke and Worshipful Brother Ted Cadman, members of that Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Theodore M. Cadman (10)

Stanley E. Foulke (2)

Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Finance

Report of the Grand Treasurer

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

Report of the Finance Committee

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good afternoon Brothers.

Sorry for the fux paux in the protocol here.

Your Finance Committee has met several times this past year over a number of issues. You will recall two or three years ago, we started a rather active investment program on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. During the year we managed to have again in one of the funds which, actually in both of the separately managed funds under the wing of Dean Witter, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter now.

We realized a net gain of approximately \$51,550 for the current year that was allocated to your Permanent Fund, Life Membership Fund, Dedicated Travel, and General Fund, and appropriate percentages that had been established by a previous Finance Committee directives. The net result is that we had a 6.1% return on interest and dividends and a 6.4 % return on long term capital gains for a total return on your investments of 12.5% for the year.

The Committee met yesterday afternoon to review the financial statements for 1999 and the budget for the year 2000 and respond to recommendations of the Grand Master, Raymond L. Beaver. The Deputy Grand Master, Don Chaffin, was in attendance at this meeting at the invitation of the chairman.

The meeting was a follow-up to a work session on budget held on January 21, 2000, 6:00 P.M. at Aurora Lodge No. 15 prior to their meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. The chairman reported, what I have reported on the investments committee. I might add on the course of the year, we eliminated one of the fund managers because their performance was not up to standards. We switched one of them out, who had virtually a year and a half of little or no growth in the fund and it didn't match our projections or the goals we have here of growing the fund for the Grand Lodge. So, in late November early December, one of the fund managers was eliminated and a new one appointed and we picked a fund that is more attuned to the technology which the real growth is growing in the current market.

Yesterday, at your Grand Lodge Finance Committee meeting we had a considerable discussion regarding the allocations of Grand Lodge Officers travel. The way the formula in the past worked is that we have peaks and valleys from year to year in this fund. We

decided almost unanimously to change the formula for calculating the Grand Lodge travel and set it at \$10,000 a year with a 50/20/10/10/10 split between the Grand Lodge Officers until such a time as the invested funds stabilize and we can re-evaluate the percentages that used to be used in calculating the Grand Lodge Officers travel.

The Committee also had referred to it in the report from the Grand Secretary of which we found was that there was no financial impact.

The Finance Committee then moved and approved the 2000 budget as amended for the Grand Lodge Officers travel and the item of business was to address the recommendations of the Grand Master pertaining to the Finance Committee as follows:

He recommended that we re-visit the visitation program to make it less costly for the Grand Lodge Officers to travel. Our response was to set a higher travel budget for the ensuing year or two until we have better data available as to the actual costs.

The second item was the support of the student assistance program or the drug prevention program on a long-term project requiring continuing support was his recommendation. The Committee's response is to establish a non-profit entity, an IRS section 501 (c) 3 umbrella organization to group all charitable activities of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Finance Committee needs a comprehensive mission statement before the Grand Treasurer and Finance Committee can proceed with the necessary paperwork to complete the Internal Revenue Service application for a non-profit entity.

The third recommendation of the Grand Master was to find ways to increase the assets of the Grand Lodge and the Committee recommends that an emphasis be placed on will and bequests to various Grand Lodge publications and correspondence, and to exam the status of our constituent Lodges, some of them are in dire straits as you heard this afternoon in the prior resolution. The Committee felt this item should be referred back to the Grand Master and his deputies as we did not have enough specifics to act upon as a committee.

And, then create a new format for the Grand Lodge bulletin, Committee response is to recommend that the Grand Lodge publication continue in one form or another since the members are assessed for the publication. We returned it to the Publications Committee for implementation.

In closing, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee and our Grand Treasurer for the work he's done putting together the budget and helping with the financial statements. It's been a very interesting year for all of us on the Committee and we look forward to assisting the Grand Lodge in the future as needed.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Johnston (15) Chairman
Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
Stanley E. Foulke (2)
Steve Lee (15)
G. Rex Plunkett (7, 10)
Leonard R. "Bud" Young (10, 17)
Patrick R. Williams (15) Advisor

Grand Master, I ask that the report be received

Grand Master: The report is received.

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

Grand Master: It is moved, seconded and after some light discussion, motion adopted.

Report of the Audit Committee

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

Balance Sheet December 31, 1999

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash in General Fund		
Checking - First National Bank	\$ 8,752	
Savings – First National Bank	1,095	
Money Market – Dean Witter	1,096	
Total Cash in Bank		\$ 10,943
Cash in Permanent Fund		
Savings – First National Bank	\$1,406	
Total Permanent Fund Cash		\$1,406
Account Receivable	\$5,905	
Inventories – Masonic Supplies	13,317	
Total Current Assets		\$19,222
Investments		
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. – Access Account	\$150,000	
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. – U.S. Growth Account	150,000	
Fixed Income Securities & Preferred Stocks	190,507	
National Bank of Alaska – 166 Shares	1,330	
Total Investments		\$491,837
Fixed Assets – Net of Depreciation		<u>\$6,152</u>
Total Assets		\$501,887
 LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY		
Member's Equity		
General Fund Balance	\$112,749	
Permanent Fund Balance	259,852	
Life Membership Fund	81,985	
Dedicated Travel Fund	25,970	
Proceedings, transcription, Printing, & Binding (1)	39,950	
Arts Scholarship Fund	2,769	
Martinez Education Fund	511	
Charity Fund	2,780	
Equipment Fund	625	
Drug Prevention Fund	2,325	
Russian Relations Fund	494	\$529,560
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY		\$529,560

Statement of Income – Calendar Year 1999

INCOME	General Fund
Grand Lodge Per Capita *	\$33,623
Fees for Degree Conferrals	465
Fees for Affiliation	540
Fees for Petitioners for Degrees	2,000
George Washington Memorial *	1,237
Sale of Masonic Materials - Net	303
Interest and Dividend Income	28,624
Long Term Capital Gain	30,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$96,792

EXPENSES	
Arrangements Committee - Annual Communications	\$3,328
Capital Gain Distribution	30,000
Committee on Fraternal Relations	15
Depreciation Expense	1,538
Dividend Income Distribution	13,031
Expenditure of Prepaid Expenses from Prior Years	575
George Washington Memorial Association *	1,237
Grand Master's & Grand Secretary's Conference	480
Grand Master's Award Program	53
Grand Master's Expense Allowance	1,000
Grand Master's Travel Allowance	1,000
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	3,510
Grand Secretary Travel Allowance	600
Insurance	5,788
Investment Management Fees	8,216
Life Membership Dividend	5,163
Masonic Service Association Dues Expense	300
Office Rent	8,565
Office Salaries	10,000
Office Supplies and Expenses	872
Past grand Master's Regalia	788
Payroll Taxes	1,096
Postage	845
Printing Expense	674
Reception of Visitors	540
Research and Education Committee	(246)
Telephone Expense	575
Warden's Charge	1,146
Grand Lodge Officer's Travel	
Grand Master	6,110
Deputy Grand Master	2,445
Senior Grand Warden	1,222
Junior Grand Warden	1,222
Grand Secretary	1,222
Total Expenses	<u>\$112,910</u>

NET INCOME (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR

(\$16,118)

* These are offsetting items that are financed through assessments to the Lodge

Operating Budget – General Fund Calendar Year 1999

	1999 Budget	ACTUAL EXPENSES 1999	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	0	(3,507)
Masonic Research and Education Committee	250	(246)	(496) *
Arrangements Committee – Annual Communication	3,000	3,328	328
Printing and Binding - Proceedings	2,500	0	(\$2,500)
Insurance	6,000	5,788	(212)
Reception for Visitors	1,000	540	(460)
Past Grand Master's Regalia	800	788	(12)
Charity	100	-	(100)
 SUB TOTAL I	 \$19,157	 \$12,198	 (\$6,959)
 Grand Master's Award Program	 \$1,200	 \$53	 (\$1,147)
Grand Secretary's Expense Allowance	3,400	3,510	110
Grand Secretary's Travel Allowance	600	600	0
Grand Lodge Expenses			
Office Salaries	10,000	10,000	0
Payroll Taxes	1,500	1,096	(404)
Office Rent	8,600	8,565	(35)
Office Supplies and Expenses	900	872	(28)
Taxes	15	0	(15)
Postage	900	845	(55)
Transcription of Proceedings	1,000	0	(1,000)
Warden's Charge	1,200	1,146	146
Telephone	1,300	575	(725)
Printing Expense (Masonic Forms)	2,000	674	(1,326)
Dues Expense			
Committee on Fraternal Relations	15	15	\$0
Masonic Service Association	300	300	0
George Washington Memorial Association **	1,217	1,237	20
Grand Master's & Grand Secretary's Conference	400	480	80
Depreciation Expense	1,850	1,538	(312)
Miscellaneous Expense	200	575	375
Life Membership Fund Dividend Distribution ***	2594	5,163	2,569
Other Funds Dividend Distribution ***	1,242	13,031	11,789
Capital Gain Distribution ***	<u>0</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
 SUB TOTAL II	 \$40,233	 \$88,491	 \$48,258
 Grand Lodge Officer's Travel			
Grand Master	\$6,111	\$6,110	(\$1)

Deputy Grand Master	2,444	2,445	1
Senior Grand Warden	1,222	1,222	0
Junior Grand Warden	1,222	1,222	0
Grand Secretary	1,222	1,222	0
SUB TOTAL III	<u>\$12,221</u>	<u>\$12,221</u>	<u>\$0</u>
GRAND TOTALS	\$71,611	\$112,910	\$41,299

* Editor's. Note: Totals \$4.00 under spent not \$496 under spent.

** These expenses are a part of the annual assessments of the Lodges

*** These expenses are based on investment income and Fund Balances

Operation Budget – General Fund Calendar Year 2000

	<u>1999 BUDGET</u>	<u>2000 PROPOSED BUDGET</u>	<u>INCREASE (DECREASE)</u>
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	3,500	(7)
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	 \$19,150	 (\$7)
 Grand Master's Award Program	 \$1,200	 \$500	 (\$700)
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	1,200	200
Telephone	1,300	1,800	500
Printing Expense (Masonic Forms)	2,000	2,000	0
Dues Expense			
Committee on Fraternal Relations	15	15	0
Masonic Service Association	300	300	0
George Washington Memorial Association *	1,217	1,250	33
Grand Master's & Grand Secretary's Conference	400	480	80
Depreciation Expense	1,850	1,500	(350)
Miscellaneous Expense	200	200	0
Investment Management Fee	0	8,500	
Life Membership Fund Dividend	2,594	6,000	3,406
Other Funds Dividend – Dividends & LTCG	<u>1,242</u>	<u>46,000</u>	<u>44,758</u>
 SUB TOTAL II	 \$40,233	 \$96,660	 \$56,427
 Grand Lodge Officer's Travel			
Grand Master	\$6,111	\$3,714	(\$2,397)

Deputy Grand Master	2,444	1,486	(958)
Senior Grand Warden	1,222	743	(479)-
Junior Grand Warden	1,222	743	(479)-
Grand Secretary	1,222	743	(479)-
SUB TOTAL III	\$12,221	\$7,429	(\$4,792)
GRAND TOTALS	<u>\$71,611</u>	<u>\$123,239</u>	<u>\$51,628</u>

* This is a portion of the Grand Lodge Assessment and no additional expenditures above that assessment will be made.

Masonic Research and Education

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you very much Most Worshipful Grand Master. this is the report from the Masonic Research and Education Committee. However, before I start, I had a little problem with my car this morning and while I was waiting for it to get ready to go, I had an opportunity to watch the news on television. I don't know how many got to see the news this morning. There was a story that kind of touched my heart. It involved the tragic crash of the Alaska Airlines plane in California.

It seems there was a gentleman on board who had talked with his daughter before they went on vacation to Mexico. In the course of the conversation, he said if anything happens I'll get in touch with you. Of course the plane went down.

It seems in the recovery of things from the aircraft, one of the items brought up was a Masonic ring. How was this done? I don't know but they traced that Masonic ring to the Poulsbo Lodge in Washington. From there they traced it to an individual, the same individual who had told his daughter if something happens I'll get in touch. That kind of touched me this morning.

The Masonic Research and Education Committee, I'm sorry did not meet this year and that was my fault, sort of. I had some medical problems and was down for most of the year. Also, I took it upon myself to do a little research during my recovery time and also a little bit, the idea of education which is not only educating others but educating ourselves.

In modern times, it's been called outdated, outmoded, archaic, and difficult to comprehend. Many have suggested it be drastically changed. Some have even tried to eliminate it entirely. Masonic candidates often have difficulty trying to associate these words with the ideas that we are going to teach.

Now the "it" that I am referring to, in this case, is our Second Degree. Before any man can be made a Mason he's informed that Freemasonry consists of a course of symbols and moral instruction, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. Now while this point applies to all of the degrees, its probably least understood and least explained in the ritual of the Second Degree.

We inform candidates that we work in speculative Masonry, but our ancient brethren wrought or worked in both operative and speculative. We explained that operative Masonry refers to the useful rules of architecture whence a structure derives figure, strength, and beauty, and just correspondence in all parts of the building.

We say that this demonstrates the fund of science and industry is planted in man for the best most salutary and beneficence purposes. Taken literally these words probably don't have a lot of meaning today. But, in speculative Masonry they're extremely powerful.

If we have educated our candidates properly, they learn in the First Degree that the ancient builders or Masons were the extremely learned people of that era. They had the ability to design and build the beautiful structures which were so much desired in every city and every country existing at that time.

We also learned that our Fraternity is concerned more with building a spiritual than a physical building. In the Second Degree, we teach that we Masonically apply the architectural terms and principles from temporal or physical buildings to spiritual structures which each of us must build ourselves.

How easy it is to look at the physical body as being where the spirit lives but this is really not the case. Just about everybody has met someone who is extremely beautiful or overly handsome but, when we get to know these people, we find that they lose that beauty or that happiness. Now while their physical features have changed, we looked a little bit beyond that and we've seen that spiritual house that person built and discover it is a broken down mud shack.

Conversely, we've met people who were probably not so physically beautiful. As we got to know them, we found an inner hidden beauty the spiritual building they constructed is a grand and beautiful cathedral.

We're teaching that if we are going to build that beautiful structure, there are spiritual rules of architecture which we must follow. There are as many rules for building a spiritual temple as for building a physical one.

If we follow or live by these rules our spiritual buildings will have figure, strength, and beauty. There will be just correspondence in all of its parts and when once built it will protect us from the vicissitudes and inclemencies of this life.

We learned that a fund of science and industry is at birth planted in each of us. Not only does this give the ability to know the laws and rules of the physical sciences, but we understand the rules of spiritual architecture.

In the Second Degree, we teach to subdue the passions, act upon the square, keep a tongue of good report, maintain secrecy, and practice charity. Now all of these are duties and we recognize them as such. But notice as we assume and practice these Masonic duties, they become very much more of a pleasure, this is reflected by the attitudes we face in daily life.

In six days God created the heavens and the earth and rested on the seventh day. This seventh day gave our ancient brethren as it gives us the frequent opportunity to contemplate the works of creation and to adore our great creator. If we are to grow to full mental and spiritual maturity, we must take this time to contemplate and to meditate and time to adore.

Then we direct our attention to twin pillars, which we find surmounted by globes, terrestrial and celestial, or in other words worldly and spiritual. These globes teach that we must learn to blend that which is worldly with that which is spiritual. The two pillars are the same size, the same height, and the same importance. And, from them we learn to add strength to our lives for as we are told in strength will I establish my kingdom.

We learn the pillars were cast in the clay grounds on the plains of Jordan between Succoth and Zeredathah where all the brazen vessels of King Solomon's temple were cast by Hiram Abiff. Thus we have one clay and one artist. So, it is with the human race, we're all cast of the same clay and designed by one Supreme Architect. We may have different colored skins, different religions, different politics, and different backgrounds. But, we're all brothers under God. That is one of the most important lessons of Masonry and is repeated every time we close our Lodges-for every human being has a claim on our kind office. The ability to reason, to plan, to dream, and to work toward the fulfillment of these plans and dreams, we have the obligation to teach others to do the same.

The pillars are cast hollow the better to serve as safe repositories for the archives of Masonry. Brothers, we too are symbolically hollow. When the truths of Masonry are lodged within the repository of our breasts and minds, they're safe from inundations and conflagration.

The temple of Solomon was destroyed for many centuries. But, yet these great truths have come down to us. They've been kept safe in the hearts of our Brothers before us as we keep them safe for the Brothers who follow.

When we have the tenants of Masonry in our hearts, the welfare of any Brother is of deep concern, thus brotherly love and relief help to motivate our lives and our actions. Probably the hardest part of the Second Degree is to understand why we present five orders of architecture. We learn in the lecture that three of the orders are original while two others have nothing but what is borrowed. So, it is with us, no matter where you are, what field you choose, there are only three broad categories of human nature. We have the wealthy, we have the middle class, and the poor. Just as we have the truly good, the mediocre, and the bad. Everybody will fit generally in these categories.

Two of the orders, the Tuscan and the Composite had to borrow and so it it with us. Most of us must borrow, be it ideas, inspirations, or knowledge, but if borrow we must, borrow from someone who has something to offer. The Tuscan borrowed from the lowest order, thus became lower than the Doric. The Composite borrowed from the upper order and became more beautiful than the Corinthian.

Our first most excellent grand master had to borrow. King Solomon could not build his temple all by himself. Thus, he searched for someone to help and he found Hiram of Tyre. Hiram furnished not only the materials, but the architect who could construct so great a temple. King Solomon was not afraid to borrow, but he borrowed from someone who could help build his temple.

The Tuscan was short with few decorations. The Composite tall, stately, and beautiful. We can't all be tall, handsome, and curly haired. Some of us, and I know personally, can be short, dumpy, and bald. But the Tuscan was just as solid on the inside and could support the structure built upon it, be it a humble shack or a large cathedral.

So, it is with us, regardless of the statue the Lodge has given us. We can be solid on the inside and support whatever spiritual structure we build.

Hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, and tasting, all of these are senses and candidates know them just as we do. So why spend time reminding them of these abilities? Another hidden lesson in the Second Degree, it's because no one is fully capable of understanding or explaining. So, we think we can, but as I speak to you, you cannot tell me how I speak or how you are going to hear. Science, of course, says my vocal cords send out sound waves, they strike your eardrums and cause impulses to go to the brain and register as words. But how I choose to raise or lower my voice and the intonation I use can leave a different impression on each one of you. Thus, the brother across the room can hear something totally different from what you are hearing and it'll leave a totally different impression on his mind.

Who can explain when you see alpenglow on Mt. McKinley or a bear on the river bank, or your child asleep in the crib? Who can define your feelings each time you kissed your wife? Tell me what happened when you smell and taste an exotic meal. Now we take all things for granted but their gifts to be appreciated are gifts beyond the ability of man to understand. Now what better way to show appreciation for the gifts, than to continually thank God who gave us the gifts, that we may have life and have it more abundantly.

Find we the seven liberal arts and sciences. We all know there are four more that seven. But, these seven alone, to one degree or another, belong to all of us and are used by all of us. But, more, they invite Masons to study, to industriously improve their minds in the containment of useful knowledge.

Since the beginning of time, if man is to advance he must gain knowledge. This is the message of the seven liberal arts and sciences and the Masonic lesson for our candidates. And, these from my research, are some of the hidden lessons of the Second Degree. You build your spiritual house; you appreciate the gifts of God; and remember your responsibility to gain knowledge one day at a time. And, we as Master Masons need to spend time and effort understanding this degree and teaching its symbolic lessons.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. MacArthur (17) Chairman
Thomas V. Houser (8, 13)
Samuel K. Medsker (4)
Arthur A. Rindahl (6, 8, 11)
Neil J. Trautman (5)

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master: This report is received.

Masonic Public Relations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, brethren all,

Prior to talking to you about Public Relations, I'd like to read to you, for about three minutes, from the Grand Oration which took place before this lodge in 1983.

If I were to ask who you are, the response would undoubtedly be your name. If I were to ask you what you are, you would probably tell me what you do for a living. If I were to ask you why you are what you are, it is pretty hard to tell what I might expect for an explanation.

Unless you are retired, you probably do what you do 'cause it pays well and offers a security we all find desirable. Quite possibly, it is a challenge to your imagination and something that allows you to create. Any number of things is possible. But, what if I were to propose that what you are, is because you are a victim of circumstances. Ponder that one for a second. After all, our daily lives depend directly upon the circumstances we are surrounded by.

If you are in the business of selling gizmos and no one wants to buy gizmos this week, you quickly prepare an advertisement campaign extolling the virtues of your particular type gizmo and circulate it as widely as possible. Of course, trying to reach the guy that might need a gizmo and of course if you run out of money in the process and no one seems interested, you direct your energy to something else.

We are what we are because of the conditions that surround us. Our lives are directly influenced by actions of those who we are surrounded by. Quite honestly "birds of a feather flock together." That is of course until our situation changes, then we have a tendency to look for a new coop to rest in but if we are Masons, we always have a vital ingredient in our makeup, a bond which defies description.

The precepts of Freemasonry are a sound foundation on which to build. The tools are provided and as individuals, if we apply them as prescribed by the volume of the sacred law, we will not materially error and our actions will induce others to want to imitate what they see as good in us.

Every good salesman knows that before he can sell his product, he must first sell himself. Thus, if we practice the precepts which we find one so universally acceptable we will find ourselves as a best advertisement available. Be warned, however, that Masonic

jewelry does not a Mason make. Adult humans quickly recognize what is good or bad in other adults. If they see a person represent himself as something he is not, their first impulse is to run. And, also remember that while they are running, their mouth is usually going much faster than their feet.

Masonry should be first and foremost in our lives. It should come about all else because by practicing the basic precepts of Freemasonry, we are enhancing the value of everything we hold dear. Practicing the precepts takes neither time nor money and adds a dimension to our lives that cannot be measured.

You can be rest assured that your friends and neighbors will not recognize you as a Mason for what you do behind the closed doors of your Lodge. They only know you as a Mason by the actions you display, not words, but remember that actions have long spoken louder than words.

It has been said that by the practice of the principles of Freemasonry, we are building our own moral and spiritual edifice. No problem with that you say. But, it kind of sounds like we aren't supposed to worry about what our Brethren do so long as we keep our own house in order. If any of our Brothers plant bad seeds and get a rotten crop, we all have to share the blame for it 'cause after all we are all part of the same Fraternity.

You say that we have ways to deal with the problems and you are right. We were told somewhere back there in the recesses of time that it was a duty incumbent upon us all to whisper in the ear of an erring Brother, to remind him of his faults, and to endeavor to aid in his reformation. There is no doubt we need to occasionally direct a Brother who has become misaligned.

But what point in time does a whisper become a shout? Most of you are probably thinking it depends greatly upon the manner in which you say what you have to say, and I won't disagree with your reasoning. You are right. But, in this day of worrying of losing a member because we don't want to hurt his feelings, many of us have a tendency to say nothing at all. And, it isn't just we worry about hurting his feelings we frequently find us worrying about other wrath that might descend upon us.

An Alaska judge recently spelled it out pretty clearly when he said "This is the land of the free and home of the brave. Whisper the truth and they call you a bigot. Suggest the obvious and you are a fascist." Lawyers and judges control every facet of our lives, public and private. No one is safe from a lawsuit, no matter how ridiculous. Policemen cannot arrest, teachers cannot teach, bureaucrats cannot administer without the fear that they will soon answer to somebody's lawyer or for some half-forgotten mistake. And, in some cases, they do nothing at all out of fear of lawyers and their friends.

Is there any chance of you finding yourself in the category of nothing at all? Maybe you could think we should look into the wheel theory. You know how it goes "What goes around comes around." Well, that little bit of wisdom covers a vast amount of area. But I

personally doubt it would come as much comfort to the dog that is buried in the back yard because he got ran over by it.

Did I make you think? Good! Keep it up! It is like a jogging session to the brains cells and Lord only knows exercise seldom hurts us. The ball is in your end of the court, the question is, you want to move it, or just stand there and dribble?

Now, I want to talk about public relations. If that didn't wake you up and make you mad, this one will.

For much of my adult live I have either been directly or indirectly involved in the process of making other people look good. first, for twenty years in the "Air Force, then as editor and public relations director for the Al Aska Shrine. I've attended a great number of public relations seminars and working closely with some pretty important people. So, i feel I am fairly well qualified to pass along some of the things I have learned.

Number one.

We are our own first enemy unless we, each and every one follows the rules as set forth in the ritual and Masonic Code of our Jurisdiction. Bury that one in your minds Brothers 'cause that's why we are losing Masons. We've got rules, we don't follow them. How frequently have you heard the Junior Warden in a lodge say Worshipful Master, I could bring charges against said Brother, but he's my friend..

Number two.

As what we said from the Grand Oration of 1984 (ed. note: 1983), your neighbors will judge the entire fraternity of what they see in you as a Mason.

Number three.

If your facts are accurate and you continue to speak, once the bell has been rung, the more you talk, the deeper the hole you dig for yourself and the fraternity.

Number four.

If you commit yourself to a task, for God's sake do it! There is almost never redemption for a slacker. Of course, the slacker can always blame any problems on somebody else and he almost always does.

Number five.

We almost always lose the people who we want to keep the most. Why? Simply because many of our members engage in thoughtless conversation when should be listening. And those we want most to retain have little or no patience with devil's advocate trivia and when their integrity is questioned or if they have made commitments that now must be reversed because the membership cannot agree. Brothers, you can count on it! They are gone and you won't get them back.

Number six and most important to remember.

People do what they want to do, and don't you ever forget it. If you want to do something badly enough, you will find a way. If someone tells you that they don't have enough time you can basically count on the fact they don't want to do it. If a person volunteers and the does not accomplish the mission assigned, the first time you were fooled, the second time you were the fool for taking him at his word.

Brethren this will be my swan song. Many of you are familiar with my situation over the past year and I am now about to move from Alaska. I've worked for the Grand Lodge of Alaska from its inception as the Alaska Masonic Research in Seattle, Washington in June of 1976. I served in many of the chairs with great pride. Much to my regret, I missed a considerable reduction in membership and that trend will continue, unless we re-double our efforts and practice the basic precepts of Freemasonry every single day and God help me if there's a Mason in this room that do not understand what the basic precepts of Freemasonry are. I would hope he go out that door, right now, go to his Lodge, pick up some of the literature there, read it, and find out exactly what it is that makes a man a better man.

Thank you Grand Master for the privilege of allowing me to serve this Grand Lodge and I respectfully request this report be received for the record.

Charles I. Gregg (10) Chairman
Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
James W. Morton (17)
Michael D. Kean (10)
J. Marc Williams (15, 20)

Grand Master: Your report is received.

Masonic Youth

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, my Brethren all,

I just came back from a DeMolay education operation committee meeting yesterday. Came in on the same plane with some of our good Brothers. But, the one that came in with me did not wind up with much muck in their driveway. That's why I missed this morning and that is why I am so dressed so casually.

I don't have a prepared speech. I just would like to tell you about DeMolay, where it stands and I'm speaking about DeMolay International as well as DeMolay in Alaska. Chuck Gregg said that this may be his swan song because he is moving outside of Alaska. This may also be my swan song for a simple matter that my eyes are going and therefore I'm not able to continue as executive officer for too much longer. I've had a ball, I've loved every minute of it and I will hate to leave it.

I'll hate to leave it particularly because in the five years DeMolay has gone from nine members to several times that. They have activities, they are getting stronger. On the other side, this last year, they're slowing down. Members are dropping off. We do not have the leadership in the form of advisors that we must have.

DeMolay is an organization that says to their members, you can do anything you want. If you want to come down and rent this room and have a dance, you can do that. Now, you tell that to six boys between the ages of twelve and fifteen and they don't have any idea what you're talking about. Yet it's true. They can come down, rent this room, and have a dance provided that they have the plans in place to make sure that it's a successful event.

There's going to be some costs. Do they have funds available, and no we are not taking any of it out of any foundation? We're talking about them going out and raising the funds. Do they have proper advisors? Do they have the various things you need to make that event a success? And, that's where the advisors come in.

They say ok, you want to have a dance? You want to have it on that magnitude? But, are you really ready, and maybe you better take something that's a little more toned down. Ok, if you really want that, here's what we have to do to accomplish that. Without those advisors and the experience they can share with our youth, the kids can't do anything and they know it unfortunately.

It's taken Anchorage Chapter a long time, just as one example, to come from just two members up to six. Wow! Yet, I had six enthusiastic gung-ho kids that they are going to make a success of what they do.

It was only recently that we got some other advisors on our board. Patrick Williams was one who had to drop off. Maybe some day he will come back, because he was good. But now we have a couple of strong advisors. Fairbanks has a problem, in effect, of having a single advisor. There are several people on the advisory board, and Bill Clucas, I'm not trying to belittle you, but Butch Hughes has been running the chapter now for four years and Bill Clucas is starting to come out quite a bit. But, their Chapter is static. There's not much they can do, just because one man cannot handle all the activities that must be done.

Mat-Su Chapter, we now have a new chairman and a new Chapter Dad. The two gentlemen that were in the position before are still on the board and they do a marvelous job. I cannot speak too highly of either Stan Woodin or Russ Sanders. But, it is time for new leadership, new blood, and we now have that. I am most pleased that we have Mike Kroner, who several of you met at the airport because he was doing transportation for you and Bill Goodwin, the Immediate Past Master of Matanuska Lodge. They are going to lead this Chapter further. But, gentlemen, even two men cannot do the job.

Now, I hope you realize that I have not mentioned the word money, once, nor will I again. That's not what we need. We need the most valuable thing that you can give, your time. I hesitate to say this, because I don't want you to feel complacent. We are not alone.

We have the same problem nationwide, that there is inadequate Masonic representation and inadequate advisory support.

Just because the other guys are doing it, doesn't give us the excuse. Gentlemen, the Order of DeMolay, the two girls organizations, they are the future. If you look around at yourselves, we're the old ones. We're going to die off. I hate to say that, but its true and you all know it. The future is the youth! And, unless we support them and unless we show them the proper way according to Masonic principles, then Masonry and our country may be in trouble. Thank you Grand Master.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell W. Sanders (7, 20) Chairman
Gerald R. Fairley (10, 20)
James M/ LeFlore (16)
Rocky V. Schank (15)
Patrick R. Williams (15) Advisor

Public Schools

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I'm Cliff Vidal from Mt. Susitna No. 9. as of yesterday you asked me to step in as acting chairman. I tried to get hold of the other two members of the Committee on Public Schools and I was unable to do so. So, I must at this time submit a negative report, even though I know many of the Lodges do have tuition programs and recognition programs for both students and teachers.

Respectfully submitted,

Cliff Vidal, (8, 10) Acting Chairman
John B. "Jack" Coghill (3) Chairman
Glenn E. Josey (8, 17)

Most Worshipful Grand Master Raymond Beaver asked for those Lodges giving awards to the schools to please report on their activities.

John Cline, Matanuska Lodge No. 7 has had a pin program where we recognize honor students with all the schools in the Matanuska Valley.

Patrick Williams, Aurora Lodge No. 15 annually presents an award for excellence in teaching at Benny Benson Elementary School

John Barclay, Eagle River Lodge No. 13 has been able to present the "Teacher of the Year Award" at Chugiak High School.

Darrell Windsor, Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18 gives a scholarship every year.

Bud Moore, Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5 gives an annual six year scholarship to the graduating elementary grade school for the outstanding student of the year.

Bob Wiseman, Kenai Lodge No. 11 this January 20th will be Kenai Lodge's 35th Annual Outstanding School Awards Program. Also, the Lodge has been handing out three \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Dennis Thayer, Anchorage Lodge No. 17 in the past has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship annually to a student going to college. This year the awards will be \$500 per year for four years and thereafter \$2,000 annually.

Scott Thompson, Glacier Lodge No. 10 gives \$1,000 per year for four years to each student who wins the award.

Jim LeFlore, North Pole Lodge No. 16 gives a \$500 scholarship every year to a North Pole High School student.

Bylaws

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master this is the report of the Bylaws Committee.

Two lodges submitted bylaw changes. Glacier Lodge No. 10 submitted a bylaw change to establish a dedicated scholarship fund. Fairbanks Lodge no. 12 submitted three changes. One was to reconfigure their life membership fund and management. The second was to increase their dues and the third is a change of place of their meetings.

The Committee has met and approved recommendations of these changes.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. LeFlore (16) Chairman
Gerald E. Browning (6, 11)
Charles F. Lewis (2, 11)

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

Grand Master: The report is received and accepted.

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

Grand Master: It has been moved and seconded and adopted.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report of the 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 1999

*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.

Tanana Lodge No. 3

William Franklin Kelleigh	March 3, 1998
James Russell Graham	October 15, 1998
Horace Russell Blood	February 18, 1999
Edward Carlton Guin	May 16, 1999
Evans Edward Howk	May 18, 1999
Howard Leo Jones	June 3, 1999
William Doyle Green	June 6, 1999
Fred Arthur Kubon	June 6, 1999
Duane Ford Garret	October 31, 1999
Fred Law McGuire, PM	November 3, 1999

Valdez Lodge No. 4

Carl Ward Bartig	December 27, 1999
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Seward Lodge No. 6

Lester Bradfoot Baker	March 27, 1998
Leroy Wakefield Bryson	April 28, 1998

Matanuska Lodge No. 7

Vesta Lee Collins	October 18, 1998
Henry Dexter Bacon, PM	January 23, 1999
Lew Edward Hanks, PM	March 23, 1999
Melvin Edward Burgan, PM	June 6, 1999

Glacier Lodge No. 10

Vernon Lee Smith	February 26, 1999
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William David Athas, PM	March 4, 1999
John Ellsworth Weisler	April 2, 1999
Jean Floyd McLane, HPM	April 13, 1999
Albert Henry Simpson	June 17, 1999
Kenai Lodge No. 11	
Charles Davis Lamb	February 28, 1999
Ralph Eugene Bradford.	December 21, 1999
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	
William Davis Graves	May 13, 1986
Raymond Eugene Zirgir.	January 25, 1999
Eagle river Lodge No. 13	
Vernon Lee Roberts, PM	August 5, 1998
Delbert Eugene Smith	August 21, 1998
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	
Allan Eric Rice	June 14, 1999
James Franklin Mason	February 1, 1999
Elbert Lee Pittman	March 19, 1999
Herbert Ackley Gerald	April 13, 1999
Clifford Franklin Uzzell	June 19, 1999
Robert Donald Wenzel	August 5, 1999
Robert Raymond Rowe	August 13, 1999
Almer J. Peterson	September 8, 1999
Sidney Walker Woods	November 19, 1999
Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18	
Ardine H. Hitchcock	October 16, 1999
Iditarod Lodge No. 20	
Clement Paul Jones, PM	April 4, 1999

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master. Several of our Brethren have reached the end of life. The brittle thread which bound them to earth has been severed. The liberated spirit has winged its flight to the unknown world. The silver cord is loosed. The golden bowl is broken, The pitcher is broken at the fountain and the wheel is broken at the cistern. The dust has returned to the earth as it was and the spirit has returned to the God who gave it.

This says it well as always one of the members of our Fraternity reached the end of his earthly days. We are grieved. We share with his loved one the grief comes at parting but we recognize that that grief is not ours. For the soul that wings its way to the world's

unknown, there is a liberation and an adventure that we cannot know until that day comes that we are called to join the host of friends and loved ones who have gone on before. We know we will join them, their experience is an extension of our earthly days when, in a way, not known or experienced before, we stand in the presence of the God of all our days and lives. We believe our Brethren have reached this goal of life.

I think that our Brethren would echo the words of Alfred Lord Tennyson who wrote,

Sunset and evening star and one clear call for me and may there be no mooning of the bar when I put out to sea. But such a tide is moving, seems asleep too full for sound and foam. When that which drew from out of the battlest deep, turns again home. Twilight and evening bell and after the dark, may there be no sadness or farewell when I embark. For tho from out of our borne of time and place, the flood may bear me far, I hope to see my pilot face to face when I have crossed the bar.

Brethren let us always remember the Brother who sat next to us in Lodge. Let us always remember the Brother who shared a cup of coffee or story with us. Let us always remember the Brother who is willing to assist at a moments notice. Let us remember that our Brother had a family. Let us remember that one day, hopefully, there will be a Brother to remember us.

Please observe a moment of silent contemplation for our departed Brethren.

Amen. So Mote It Be.

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

Dale S. Cane,
Grand Chaplain

Report of Grand Lecturer

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, visitors, and Brethren, is a pleasure to address you at this communication.

Most Worshipful, when you appointed me to this position you charged me to attend the Grand Master visits in the Lodges of the district of where I live. I was unable to visit Valdez Lodge No. 4 due to short notice change in our schedule. I would have enjoyed traveling with you to Valdez and Cordova but unfortunately I was unable to change my schedule. However, I made official visits to the three Lodges in the Fairbanks, North Pole area in addition to attending the Grand Master's visit to these Lodges.

I reserved numerous requests for assistance from these same three Lodges. I presumed this is because that I am known that these Lodges are therefore easy to contact me. I received no requests from other lodges in this Jurisdiction. I am sure that the District Deputies are well qualified in answering questions from their Lodges.

On January 13th of 2000, I conducted a Grand Lecturer's meeting at the Masonic Temple in Fairbanks. Notices were sent to all Lodges in District One, the Deputy of the Grand Master, and to the Grand Lodge office. Sixteen Master Masons attended and participated in lively discussion of our ritual for one and one-half hours without a break or refreshment, and that includes smoking.

As it turns out, this was the coldest day so far this winter and the temperature was a minus forty-eight degrees, so I am very pleased to have sixteen men to come to Lodge meeting to discuss ritual.

Some of those in attendance have traveled more extensively in the Jurisdiction and therefore, we discussed some of the more obvious differences in our ritual as practiced within the Grand Lodge. From my discussions throughout the district, and from discussions in my meeting, I believe that the ritual in the Grand Lodge is good. However, some refinement is needed.

My recommendations are that the next Grand Master place more emphasis on uniformity of our ritual within our nineteen Lodges. Our Code requires our ritual and only our ritual to be used in our Lodges and that an effort be made to resolve major differences in procedures used in our constituent Lodges.

In closing, let me say it has been a pleasure to serve you in the capacity of the Grand Lecturer. I feel that the ritual is the tie that binds us together into one Fraternity and I have enjoyed working on that bond. I thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel K. Medsker
Grand Lecturer

Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

Grand Master: It is received.

Report of Grand Orator

No report of the Grand Orator was received at the time of publication.

Report of Grand Historian

No report of the Grand Historian was received at the time of publication.

Charters and Dispensations

No report of the Warden's Charge Committee was received at the time of publication.

Warden's Charge

No report of the Warden's Charge Committee was received at the time of publication.

Alaska Masonic Library and Museum

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

Annual Report: Dated February 4, 2000

The Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation met quarterly during 1999. Various topics were discussed at the meetings. Most notable among these topics were fundraising projects.

In June of 1999, we started a fundraising project of distributing child identification kits. These kits were paid for by various businesses throughout the community and subsequently distributed to schools and other places where children might congregate. As of 31 December 1999, the Foundation had realized \$11,867 from this project for the sale and distribution of these kits.

The Foundation continues to collect and store items whom people donate and these items are being stored in the office space provided by Anchorage Lodge No. 17. Again we would like to thank Anchorage Lodge No. 17 for providing us with some office space to store our different items of memorabilia and whatever the people are donating to the Foundation.

As of the end of the year, the total assets available to the Foundation in both accounts, investment account and a bank account, total of \$34,249. That's up from about something over \$23,000 that's last years. We did have a very good year this past year in fundraising activities.

This report is Fraternally submitted by

Most Worshipful Henry T. Dunbar, PGM, President.

Grand Master, I ask that this report be accepted.

Grand Master: The report is accepted.

Chemical Dependency

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

I already reported in the message from the Grand Master about the Student Assistant Program that we initiated here in Anchorage in October. It was a very successful program. We hope to be able to repeat it soon. The Committee is finding some difficulty in raising funds to pay for the program. But, I am confident we will be able to continue.

We have tentatively set up a schedule for another class in May, the first week of May. I really got to go out and hustle in order to get this done. I've been working on the program since a year before I was elected to Junior Grand Warden. Those of you who are not aware of it, the program is active in 27 states and in fact, is growing so rapidly that the national foundation is having difficulties administering the program because of the lack of people available who are qualified to train these core groups from the different school districts. It's very important that they find the right type of person to do that, not just anyone can do it. They are paid professionals and they are very selective about who they choose. They only have about a handful now.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania initiated a program in 1986 which has been programmed into every school district in the state and is mandated to be done by the State Board of Education. It's a huge organization. We never dreamed even to be as large or as complex an organization as it is there in Pennsylvania.

The problems that are facing the Foundation are complex problems but, they are working things out and it's a new ball game for them as it is us, and it is hoped I will be able to attend the Grand Master's Conference in Savannah, Georgia. I will meet with some of the other Past Grand Masters or Grand Masters who are initiating this program into the public school system.

It is a wonderful thing. I've been doing a lot of speaking at different times to different groups about the program and I will continue to do so. One of the things I would like to do perhaps, we have an organization in Anchorage called Commonwealth North. Governor Wally Hickle, who was here yesterday, is one of the organizers of this group. Their primary purpose is to seek ways to make this a better State in the future. Their programs are varying to all types of organizations. We hope to make a presentation some time at Commonwealth

North meetings. Most of them are very prominent businessmen in town. We need to keep in touch with these people to impress on them the fact that Masons are doing something and will continue to do so.

I have a couple of letters. I'm not going to read them but I received them from two of the teachers of the Anchorage School District and I want to say they are very complimentary. They read: I'm glad to see this happened. I did not realize Masons were so involved in the community. We thank you very much. This is one of the best courses we have ever attended of this nature.

What we are doing in the Anchorage School District, hopefully some day will evolve to the point where we will be able to go to Fairbanks and even South East.

I've been talking to people, some long-range planning goes into this kind of situation because Alaska's such a large state. It's not possible, financially or otherwise to travel to each school district within the State to present the program. So, we are developing a program at the moment whereby we broadcast via satellite television into every school district in the State, and ultimately I hope to see. I don't know if I'll live long enough to see that all take place. But, it's worthwhile to go. I have to take it step by step.

After this next class here in Anchorage, we are planning on moving up into Fairbanks North Star Borough and working with the school district up there and then down into South East. Once we get large towns involved in it, I think the word is already spread. Two days after I had the meeting, this lady called me from Juneau and she is in charge of all the drug and alcohol abuse coordinators for "Safe and Drug Free Schools." A "Safe and Drug Free Schools" is a program that is mostly funded by the U.S. Government. They place these coordinators in each school district. These are the people I work with.

We appeared on the Norma Goodman Show. Those of you from "Outside Anchorage" may not know, she's had a little talk show every morning about 10:00 A.M. and she's been doing that for 45 years. It's very interesting and she has a very wide audience and we got out to as many people as we can. We intend to return there.

The Drug Free program is operated by the coordinators and they are responsible to the local school district administrators as well as the federal government. What we don't do is get involved with the administrators. We don't do that, because it is not a very practical way of doing things. So, we have to work with people at a different level.

I think that the program is working out good. It took me over three years before I got the school people to admit they had problems in the schools. They've had programs in the past but they have now for about five or six years, have not any

programs at all in the schools. They were just tickled to death we were able to do something with them. I am pleased to report to you that we will continue with the program. Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond L. Beaver, GM for
Don G. Chaffin (3, 12, 16) Chairman
Charles O. Ashcraft (10)
Charles E. Corbin (7, 20)
Glen E. Josey (8, 17)
James M. LeFlore (16)
Donald E. Otis (1)
Hazen R. Ricker (10, 13)
Loyd G. Williamson (10, 15, 20)
Robert R. Wiseman (11)

George Washington National Memorial

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

Russian Relations

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

This is a report that was written by myself and Brother Ben Angel from Tanana No. 3, wrote the report jointly. It will appear in the March issue of the Scottish Rite Journal and will also include a picture of four Past Grand Masters and Most Worshipful Ray Beaver when they were in Palmer initiating a candidate from Russia..

The raising of a Vladivostok importer/exporter to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on Saturday, September 11, 1999 marked the opening of a new chapter in Russian Masonic History. Pacific Rim Lodge UD of Vladivostok, Russia, authorized by the Grand Lodge of Russia, met for the very first time in Palmer, Alaska for the purpose of initiating Nikolai Lusganov on Friday, September 10th. It again met the following day for the purpose of passing and raising the new Russian Mason. Masons from several Alaska Lodges performed the courtesy degree work for Brother Lusganov. The ceremonies were attended by 35 Master Masons and including Most Worshipful Raymond Beaver, Grand Master of Alaska and four Past Grand Masters.

This was really an historic event. The reason we brought the candidate to Palmer was because he spoke English, so once he was made a Master Mason then we were able to go back to Russia and he could interpret our work to the non - English speaking Russians.

On October 18, eight Master Masons from Alaska followed up on this historic event by flying to Vladivostok and conferring all three degrees on eight other candidates from the Russian Far East. I might mention the candidates said there were two doctors in the group. Ages in the group were 35 to 45 years of age. They were all young business men and well qualified to be initiated.

Officers of the new Lodge were installed April 18th in an open ceremony. All eight Alaska sojourners petitioned the new lodge for membership as charter members. Incidentally, charter members can still be included until the Lodge is constituted this Fall, possibly October. Seven additional petitions from Alaska for charter membership are pending.

The history of these events began in 1993. I won't go into all of them. They started with the French starting to do with the Grand Lodge of Russian and then Russia in turn had twelve lodges that they started. Then the next four years seven new lodges were consecrated and the Russians have an English speaking lodge called Aurora in Moscow. They have one, the Northern Lights, Fraternal Love, the Fraternal Love in Moscow is a traveling lodge and brethren from Russia, Turkey, France and Lebanon work together holding their meetings from different countries.

The Russian Grand Lodge today has twelve lodges in Russia including Pacific Rim Lodge UD in Vladivostok. Two additional lodges are schedule to be consecrated by the Russian Grand Lodge. Most Worshipful Dergachev, Grand Master of Russia has chose to proceed slowly with creating new lodges so that we may be certain those whom we do accept as candidates are worthy and not those desiring to use the Craft for their own purposes.

I might mention that their dues are \$300 to \$400 a year in Moscow. They allowed us to set our own dues and we set them at \$22 for Far East Russia. They are having a rough time as far as low wages and inflation.

Before we started the new Lodge, a trip was made to Eastern Russia to Magadan, and was accompanied by myself, Worshipful Master Roger Barnstead, Very Worshipful Mitch Miller, who now is the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Scottish Rite from Alaska, and myself, and Very worshipful Owens from Kentucky. He observed that the Russian people were gracious hosts and we were treated to the best they could provide.

The Russian people have strong family values. They have many problems with high inflation, high taxes, high prices, and low wages. They are unable to afford many of the things we take for granted. Russians face many problems as they change from a socialistic to a capitalistic economy.

They look to the United States as a model and they are eager to learn English and develop American friendship. There should be many opportunities for Masonry and enterprise if, both they and we can develop a mutual trust between our people.

I might add we were sort of following in the steps of Rotary and Rotary has twenty-four clubs in Eastern Russia. Some of the cities are a million and a half population, so opportunities for Masonry expanding in Eastern Russia are tremendous. The people know very little about Masonry, nothing at all. There are many misconceptions about Masonry and its importance that we let them know what Masonry is all about.

In August 1999 myself and Right Worshipful Charles Corbin, co-chair of the Alaska Russian Relations Committee visited the Far East cities of Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Blagoveshensk, and the Siberian city of Novosibirsk. The two discussed Masonry with men of high character and were perceived to make good candidates. Petitions were received from Vladivostok and Blagoveshensk. That's when we followed through initiating new members.

I'll conclude with saying Freemasonry is an International Brotherhood united in building a better world. The Russian Far East offers a unique opportunity to establish the Fraternity in an area where its precepts and principles are unknown. Only by enlightening the public about its true purposes and principles and dispelling their misconceptions will Freemasonry be able to grow. With its traditions of Brotherhood and caring, Masonry can be a vital force for good in Eastern Russia.

Respectfully submitted,

John Grainger (1, 19) Chairman
Charles E. Corbin (7, 20) Co-chairman
Mitchell R. Miller (3, 12)
John R. Richardson (19) Advisor

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

Grand Master: Your report is received. and accepted.

Grand master, I move that this report be adopted.

Grand Master: Motion, seconded, and passed

Wills and Endowments

No report of the Wills and Endowments Committee was received at the time of publication.

Long-Range Planning

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

Publications

No report of the Publications Committee was received at the time of publication.

Alaska Masonic Research Association

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

The Alaska Masonic Research Association was founded to organize the groundwork for the formation of the Grand Lodge. It is now mandated to raise funds for the benefit and financial stability of Grand Lodge.

Gold pan sales have been our most successful fundraising program. Over \$50,000 has been pledged for gold pans. In 1999 sales were \$7,850. This compared to \$4,250 in 1998. Gold pans may be purchased for \$100 down and payments of \$100 a year. The purchaser has a choice of four different inscriptions for his gold pan.

Sales of the Grand Lodge coin medallion has been assumed by AMRA. At the present time, this program is not a money maker. Coin sales last year amounted to \$1,720. Coin expenses were \$2,228.36. Sales of Grand Lodge coins is a service to AMRA that can perform for Grand Lodge and will be continued.

Income from the 10-10 and Pioneer Club memberships last year was \$3,215. Expenses were \$1,723.78. This program has been productive with sales over \$35,000 and pledges over \$10,000.

It is time to move on to new sources of income. Membership applications, however, in the 10-10 and Pioneer Clubs will be available at Grand Lodge. Previous pledges will continue to be processed. We have a large surplus of plastic coin holders. A coin holder will be given with each sale of a ten dollar coin at Grand Lodge. It is hoped that this years coin sales will show a profit.

Needed are new ideas for fundraising programs. It would be most desirable if we could come up with a fundraising program that would be of interest to the public at large.

AMRA has discontinued membership dues. All members of the Grand Lodge of Alaska are members of AMRA. Individual members are a vital part of AMRA. Support by the membership is crucial to our success.

A complete collection of Grand Lodge coins will be raffled this year at 1:15 P.M. Friday afternoon. Tickets are available at five dollars each at the AMRA table.

During the year all income collected by AMRA is deposited each week into an interest bearing account. A check from AMRA will be presented to the Grand Secretary at the end of Grand Lodge.

Sincerely and fraternally,

John P. Johnson,
Second Vice President

Grand Master, I ask that this report be received.

Grand Master: Your report is received.

Grand Master, I move that this report be accepted.

Grand Master: Your report is accepted.

Report of Segregations and Reference Committee

1st Report

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

Your Committee reports that the Recommendations of the Grand Master's Message have been sent over to the Finance Committee. The Special Actions and Dispensations Granted have been turned over to the Jurisprudence Committee for their recommendations and report.

Respectfully Submitted:

Fred V. Angleton PGM Chairman
Wendell H. Kuecker, HPGM

Grand Master I move that this report be accepted.

Grand Master: The report is accepted.

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 refer the Grand Secretary's report to the Finance and Jurisprudence Committees.

Respectfully Submitted:

Fred V. Angleton PGM Chairman
Wendell H. Kuecker, HPGM

Grand Master I move that this report be accepted.

Grand Master: The report is accepted.

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

Awards

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

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

This Committee is pleased to report that this is the third successful year of the Grand Lodge Awards Program. The Lodge Service Award is available for all Lodges to present to an individual for distinguished service to someone who has rendered outstanding or exceptional service to the Lodge or to Freemasonry. Lodges may request this award from the Grand Secretary at no charge. We do have some here. If Masters or representatives would like to take one back to your Lodge to present this year, see Brother Rick.

The Grand Master's Award for Excellence was earned by the Worshipful Masters of ten Lodges

Ronald J. Dupee	Tanana Lodge No. 3
William J. Goodwin	Matanuska Lodge No. 7
Charles E. Ray III	Glacier Lodge No. 10
Michael Eady	Kenai Lodge No. 11
Bradley C. White	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
James R. Griffith	Eagle River Lodge No. 13
Jimmy J. Kay	North Pole Lodge No. 16
Johnnie L. Wallace	Anchorage Lodge No. 17
Roger A. Barnstead	Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
Robert B. Molloy	Iditarod Lodge No. 20

The Grand Lodge Mason of the Year for the year 1999 was Very Worshipful Milton M. "Tim" Routzahn, Kodiak Lodge No. 9.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master: Your report is received..

James A. Williams Award

The recipient of the James A. Williams Award for honoring the Alaska Lodge with the largest number of Master Masons raised was presented to Glacier Lodge No. 10 for the year 1999.

Buckley C. Hazen Award

The recipient of the Buckley C. Hazen Award for the largest percentage membership growth was presented to Aurora Lodge No. 15 for the year 1999.

Mason of the Year

VW Milton M "Tim" Routzahn for the year 1999

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Contributions to the Grand Lodge

The only contribution recorded on the audio cassette tapes was from the Alaska Masonic Research Association donation to Grand Lodge Permanent Fund in the amount of \$10,000.

Presentations

RW Ed Weisser Presentation to Grand Master

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, My Brethren,

It's my pleasure to represent, Brother Robert L. Dluge, Very Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons and he has asked that I present one of his medallions to the Grand Master and Brethren. Our Medallion this year is quite different from any of those in the past. Because of the millennium, the Grand Master thought he should have something from the old and something from the new.

In Pennsylvania, anthracite coal was a very, very important commodity, or at least it was like, oil was to Alaska. Our Grand Master developed a medallion this year that is made from the old and the new. We have the shape of the keystone which is made of anthracite coal with the Grand Master's medallion on it. Of course, the keystone being so important in Freemasonry, it's the symbol of the State of Pennsylvania. So I present half of this to you and I'll talk about the rest.

To represent the new, our Grand Master has said that the world is so important to Freemasonry that he has made in a sphere the world with the map of the world on it. By the way, Alaska is on here and I'd say to you this is made from the newest space-age material that we could find. So, we incorporate the old and the new.

It's my pleasure to bring this from the Grand Master to you and I trust that each will have an opportunity to see it and say to you Grand Master, don't allow it to get to far out of your hands as someone might need some heat and burn up the coal. So, I present this to you.

Also, Brethren, I feel very, very privileged to be here today. This is my fourth trip here. Of course, some of you know that I am a member of North Pole Lodge and it's very interesting when I'm in Pennsylvania and I go to visit, I always fill out a visitor's slip and I put North Pole Lodge, Alaska on it and that really gets them, especially if I'm coming in and the Master stands up and pulls out the visitor slips and all at once he reads my

name and says “What do you mean, you’re a visitor?” I. well, I’m a member of North Pole Lodge in Alaska.

So, It’s my privilege to belong to that Lodge and last year I was so overwhelmed to have the Master of that Lodge have a a special meeting and also confer the degree upon his son, the Third Degree, and I said to some of the Brethren there, now if we can arrange it, I would like to come here with some of the Brethren, in the future and we would show you the conferral of the Third Degree in Pennsylvania. Much different than it is in this Jurisdiction, in fact the Master does all the Work and it’s quite an extensive degree. But it’s quite a privilege to be here and I congratulate all of you on a fine year.

I must say to you, that the weather where I come from was colder yesterday than it was here. We left home, it was eight degrees and probably fourteen inches of snow on the ground. Now, we won’t measure the snow, but the temperature when we arrived was forty-one. So, I think we get a little cold weather there.

Thank you.

W George Kavorkian, from Grand Lodge of Michigan

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Sir, I am here to make a little presentation.

As you know, everybody knows, here in Detroit we make automobiles and we also have a Masonic temple there which is the largest Masonic temple in the world. We have fourteen stories. We have an auditorium that will hold 4,000 people. We have a dining room that will hold 2,000. We have a Scottish Rite auditorium that will hold 1,500 and this booklet is a tour booklet of our Masonic Temple. Also on the sixth floor of the Masonic Temple, we have the Scottish Rite Valley of Detroit and in the Lodge room we have a picture (ed. note: rather large in size) of one of the greatest Masons that we’ve ever had in the United States, Brother George Washington and I would like to present you with this picture.

If you ever come down to Detroit, look us up and we’ll see that you get a little tour of the Masonic Temple. Thank you very much.

Speeches by Distinguished Guests

Walter Hickle, Former Governor of the State of Alaska

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Welcome everybody, Grand Master Ray, and all distinguished guests. It's really my pleasure to see you here this morning and I know there are many things that you'll try to accomplish.

I'd like to salute all of you for your dedication for service, service to others, not just to yourself, and service to your community. Because, in reality that's what life is all about. And, I salute the youth federation involved because you're an excellent example for others. I should know, I married a Rainbow girl and she's had rainbows around me all my life.

So I'd like to welcome you today with a simple message. Be optimistic about the future and keep pioneering, because pioneering is what it is all about. There is so much left to do.

People complain, they blame government, price of oil, the shortage of cash in the state budget. But, I think they have it backwards. They remind me when I first arrived in Alaska, sixty years ago this year and I met people who were leaving. They told me, young man, everything that needs to be accomplished up here is over with. It's already happened. In their minds, the frontiers were over. But there will be frontiers as long as human beings are on earth.

But, I believed otherwise and so did a lot of you, your moms and dads. In a pioneering country like Alaska, you have to build a culture, and that's what we've done. We won statehood where we secured 100 million acres of land. That's where we discovered Prudhoe Bay on that land. We built the Trans Alaska Pipeline, the biggest private project on earth. Helped win the Native Land Claims Settlement and build this unique owner State of Alaska.

Wherever citizens have an obligation of ownership, to get involved and make a difference, like you're doing here. Unfortunately, you know some people have replaced that "Alaska First" with "me first." They only care about the size of their dividend, while it is good that's what they care about. Where, if they are in some kind of business, they just might care about the bottom line, and some of the social responsibilities, They don't care, maybe, if some of the roads need repair or the schools need improving.

But, we need to do more exploring, more inventing, and more pioneering to keep this country going. When I hear that, I say "oh, to be as rich as we were before Prudhoe Bay, when we were rich in spirit." Today we have 25 billion dollars in the bank and we can't get across town.

I think the key goes back to one of the tenants of your organization, your strong belief in God. Alaska and America cannot lose that thought. Our founding fathers wanted God in their hearts. They even put God on the money so that we wouldn't forget. But we've let ourselves become confused. You know, it's reached the ridiculous when a minority of a minority convinced the courts to expel God from the classrooms. I'm not an attorney, sometime I'm glad of that, but I wished I could have argued that case because there's a world of difference between separating church and state and separating God and state. We must never remove God from our hearts and our motivations. With God in our hearts pioneering will never stop and we'll build a better State, a better world, a better family, and a better individual.

So, just keep up the good work and God bless you all. Thank you.

Joe D. Humphreys, International Order of DeMolay

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. Let me thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about the subject I hold dear, close to my heart.

The Order of DeMolay was founded in March of 1919 in Kansas City of the State of Missouri by Frank S. Land. At that time there were only nine members and through the next eighty-one years, DeMolay has grown into the international organization of thousands of members, both past and present.

The namesake of the Order of DeMolay was Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar. On October 13, 1307, he and thousands of brethren were imprisoned, that being Friday the 13th, the unlucky thirteenth. From that day until his death on March 13, 1314, he remained steadfast to the ideas and principles of his order. It is in his example reminding true principles that we hope each member of our order follows in his regard to his own oath, to become better brothers and citizens.

Many of our brothers have gone on to become great national community leaders. Many have continued their journey in development by becoming Masons, like yourselves. It was Masons, like yourselves who founded the Order of DeMolay. It is Masons who act as our advisors, both in and out of the chapter. Without you and those like you, we should not and could not exist. For that we owe you more than words could say. Thank you for being a good man that you are. God bless you.

Jenny Anderson, International Order of Job's Daughters

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, members and honored guests. I'd like to wish you a good morning and my name is Jenny Anderson and I am the Honored Queen of Bethel No. 1 of the International Order of Job's Daughters in Anchorage, Alaska

It is my pleasure to welcome you here this morning to Grand Lodge 2000. It is a great honor to be asked by Mr. Beaver to speak to all of you, and it is also a great honor to be a representative of the youth groups.

Each one of us has gained our heritage from you, in order to be part of the Masonic family, either you, or DeMolay, Rainbow, or Job's Daughters. 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 or in our times of trouble. A Master Mason is only a phone call away, and he is the cornerstone that provides us all the strength that we need.

Over the years, I've seen a change here, especially in the last year. You have begun to support the youth groups more than ever and this started back at Grand Lodge of 1999. I was very proud to see and very honored to see five Worshipful Masters and the Grand Master attend my installation. And, this says a lot about how you care about the youth and how much you support us, because we will always need your support and I hope that you continue to support us in the future.

Your active involvement lets us learn about Masonry and about Eastern Star, about all the other organizations in the Masonic family because you help us and we also are your future. Whether you know it or not everyone of you make a difference when you help one of the youth, either by attending our meetings or help at our functions, or helping fundraising. You make an impact that will last. We may not realize it now, but in the future you will make the difference that will make our lives, that will make us become mature adults that can face life, that can become the leaders of tomorrow.

In too many times, I've heard our own girls complain about the ritual. Why does it have to be perfect? Why does it have to be just so? The ritual is our organization and it is what gives us our structure. When you change the ritual, you change the organization. But most importantly the ritual is the thread that ties us all together. It is the ritual that never changes, that keeps our organizations the same they were always.

Masonry has endured for centuries with the ritual and allows us to go anywhere in the world and have a common thread. Because, everywhere you go, the ritual will be the same. Whether we speak the same language or not, you will have something in common, you will have the ritual, and you will have Masonry. If I go to the Philippines, I am sure to find a Job's Daughter who knows exactly who I am and what I stand for.

So, as you go around the business of Grand Lodge, I hope you pause to remember the youth and how much you have helped us. And, I hope you continue to support the youth in the future. Thank you.

Stephanie Cox, International Order of Rainbow for Girls

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, distinguished Masonic family, friends, good morning, all right! I bring you greetings on behalf of the Supreme Inspector, Mrs. Ila Hammond, the Grand Assembly of Alaska, and of course, myself, Stephanie Cox, the Grand Worthy Advisor.

Rainbow has been a huge part of my life the past nine years, which is becoming more and more apparent since my time within this wonderful organization seems to be slipping away from me. Growing up with Rainbow and the teachings of love, religion, nature, immortality, fidelity, patriotism and service made it really easy to converge with the Army values of loyalty and duty, respect, selfless service, honor and integrity, and personal courage. And, while it was difficult go from big hoop dresses to be used, the drill sergeants were always there to help you cope with such difficulties.

But, there's more to be learned than just the lessons of Rainbow to be learned. It's a network of sisters accepting faults and imperfections, achievements and disappointments and each is met with friendly faces and loving smiles. Though Rainbow has been an irreplaceable chapter in my life, as well as many other young girls within the State, we, like many of the other youth organizations are becoming an endangered species, going from a State with seventeen active assemblies to a mere five, with even some of those struggling to hang on. But, the girls and the advisory boards are working hard to maintain and grow for the future of Rainbow.

So, at this time I would like to ask all advisory board members to please rise. You should know who you are and I would like to thank these individuals. Will you please join me (clapping). Ok, now anyone attending a youth organization with the past year please rise. So, I know that has to be the same people. Please also join me in thanking them (clapping).

For those of you looking for an opportunity to attend any of the youth organizations, there are three, two, and myself, who would love to give you any information you would like. I encourage you all to seek them out, as well as attend Grand Assembly in June of 2000 in Fairbanks.

The Masons in the State have always supported us in so many ways for so many years that no words of appreciations could ever fully express our gratitude for what you have done for us. And, so I would like to thank each and every one of you for all what you have done. Thanks.

Ron Cunningham, Potentate Al Aska Shrine Temple

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful, Brethren, Nobles, ladies. It's my pleasure to have this opportunity to participate in the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Our heritage in the Shrine emanates from the youth, the Blue Lodge – our Mother Lodge, and the pre-requisites of the Scottish Rite and York Rite.

This year, my goal is to improve membership. The only way I can see to improve membership in the Shrine this year is to support your groups, our Mother Blue Lodge, and the pre-requisite bodies. That's where our Shriners come from. You must be one of those, before you can become a Shriner.

So, the only way we can increase that membership is to start at the bottom and increase the bottom membership. My goal this year is to communicate that to all the Shriners. Let's support the youth. Let's support the Blue Lodge. Let's support the pre-requisite bodies. I am working with the Scottish Rite and York Rite to try to do that this year. Hopefully, we can improve the membership throughout all of the Masonic organizations.

I would like to take this opportunity from Al Aska Shrine Temple to wish you the very best Grand Lodge and ask for God's guidance and your business actions while you convene the Grand Lodge of the State of Alaska. Thank you Most Worshipful.

Doris Miller, Grand Court of Amaranth

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Grand Worshipful Master. I am here to represent our Grand Royal Matron and all the Sir Knights and Ladies of Amaranth around the world and of course Alaska and our Grand Royal Matron Deanna Morris. She apologizes she can't be here and asked me to represent her and if it wasn't for you our Sir Knights (Masons) we wouldn't have our beautiful order.

Yea, we have been number one for these years for our philanthropy. We have donated, I think \$1,700 (ed. note: \$17,000) which again made us number one again this year. We have quite a few members but locally we have about forty people that did all the work and worldwide we almost made \$500,000 that we donated to the Diabetes Foundation. That is our main philanthropy.

I'm Deputy Supreme Royal Matron and I am also Royal Matron Alaska Court No. 1. I don't think they thought I did it right, it's my fifth time. I hope that anyone who wished to join, we are a beautiful order and we are definitely open ... break in tape.

Leonard E. Luchau, Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Sir, Distinguished Guests, Very Worshipful Sirs, Brethren.

It is a pleasure and an honor to be here. The Masonic Service Bureau of Seattle is your service bureau. It is one that where we are there, proud and honored, to say that when you need assistance, we are there to help you in any way we can.

This year one lady who was a member of Eastern Star got into a little bit of difficulty so we helped her out. When I say difficulty, I mean it was monetary. We helped out that way.

We had another brother who is the Master of White Pass No. 1 and he was down there for to see the doctor, of course, and I got notified by Brother Mulvihill, who was the Secretary and he said, could you possibly go over and see if he needs any help or anything. I stopped everything we were doing there in the office, went over and saw him there, took some Masonic literature over to him. Also asked him if there's anything I could do, any phone calls, I could make, or anything I could do? And, he said no. He had another doctor's appointment on Wednesday. He went there Wednesday and of course I'm here. At any rate, he's doing very well.

There's another brother very close to my heart and that's Brother Russ. And, he's doing pretty good, but at any rate I'll be seeing him Friday and Saturday and your cards, letters, and support will be most appreciated.

If you need me for anything, or want to call me for anything, I have an 800 number. It's 1-800-600-5544. Please don't hesitate to call me if you need anything or want me, if you need anything for any brother or sister down there. Thank you very much.

MW Lloyd Triggs, Cryptic Masons International

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning ladies and brethren, I was chosen, not any fault of my own, to be the representative of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International, for our Northwest Region, which includes several northwestern states. I don't know how many of you are aware of the Council of Cryptic Masons. For a long time, the Council was not a pre-requisite of either of the other two York Rite bodies, the Chapter and the Commandry. Then, several years ago they started the Council and finally it worked up into a quite an organization now and most jurisdictions have fit it between the Chapter and Commandry so that it becomes a pre-requisite to the Commandry. A lot of jurisdictions still have so that it's a voluntary organization.

I was very proud to be chosen, I think I'm the first regional representative for the Council. We've had regional representatives for the Chapter and for the General Grand Council. I'm happy to say that our General Grand Master, Charles Vanetta and I were privileged to be invited to travel to Portugal with him with a group of General Grand Council Masons and we are going to do some international degrees in Lisbon in March and I am looking forward to that.

But, the Council is a very informative part of our York Rite and if, any of you have any of those aspirations, I'd be very happy to talk to you about it, at a different time. I thank you for inviting me Grand Master. It's been a privilege.

Mary Wallace, Order of Eastern Star

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning sisters, brothers, officers, friends, and Worshipful Grand Master, I am so excited to bring you greetings from our Most Worthy Grand Matron Florence (?) and our Most Worthy Patron Leonard Johnson of the Juneau Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and the members throughout the world to bring greetings and wish you a successful session. I'm so excited especially this year because we are on a threshold for the Order of the Eastern Star in Alaska. I think most of you know what that is. We are now eligible to have our own Grand Chapter in our State. I believe we are the last to form a Grand in the State.

We are so fortunate that we have Grand Assembly and DeMolay Conclave. We have Grand Court. We have Ladies Oriental Shrine. We have all these things but the Eastern Star do not have a Grand Chapter. I know that some of you in this room can remember when this Grand Lodge was formed. You remember some of the new beginnings, the challenges that there was. But, if you are proud of your Grand Lodge, be proud for us and I ask your assistance and see that Alaska has our own Grand Chapter for the Order of the Eastern Star.

Eastern Star is still the largest fraternal organization in the world. We do earn millions to help with out fraternal organizations. We do not have a set function. We support the Masonic efforts, such as Knight Templar Eye Foundation, we support the Shriner's hospitals, whatever the Masons are involved in, in their Scottish Rite benefits, York Rite. All of it, we support you. We are the background, giving you millions and we are proud.

Grand Master, thank you for the honor of being the spokesperson and will the Eastern Star members stand so that we can see you. Oh, look here, three of them, four of them, five of them! Look at this line of Grand Lodge being Eastern Star members! Isn't this just wonderful? Thank you.

MW Gene R. Freeman, York Rite College

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, Ladies, and Guests, I like to bring greetings to Brother Ray from the head of the York Rite College of North America. I'm not going to use names because I don't remember, so I'm going to save myself the problem.

York Rite College is probably the newest entry in the State of Alaska as far as organizations, the baby of them all. However, their main function is to service the Masonic community and it's like when you walk into a store and say May I help you? That's exactly the function of the York Rite College is supposed to be. It's to help the Masonic bodies. If you need help in ritual, supposedly, we have brothers who have the skill and ability and the capacity to form this.

Now, whether they will come forward is another story, but that's what they are out there to do. Now, I highly encourage this because the person I enjoy the most is Brother Jim Morton because he's really the expert in the Anchorage area if you really want to get things done. He's the guy to go see. So, if anybody needs help in Masonic bodies and degrees, or doing other Masonic functions, he's the person to see. Of course in Fairbanks, I hide out up there. So we're well distributed throughout the State.

It's certainly my pleasure to be here this morning and Most Worshipful Sir, thank you for the privilege of addressing the audience.

Judy Kelley, Ladies Oriental Shrine

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Master, Distinguished East, friends, family, I belong to Ladies Oriental Shrine; I belong to Eastern Star; I belong to Amaranth, but I represent Ladies Oriental Shrine and my year is almost over, But, this year I have impressed upon the officers, to support our Shriners because without the Shriners, without you Masons, we wouldn't exist. Therefore, I would like to give you a little bit of history on the Ladies Oriental Shrine.

We were formed in 1914. We're not a new organization and we were formed in Wheeling, West Virginia and to become a member all you have to be is a wife of a Shriner. So, push your husbands to become either a Scottish Rite, York Rite, and a Shriner. And, also I am impressed to support youth groups, because, without them, we will continue to grow.

I would like again to welcome you all to Anchorage to this Grand Lodge Session for 2000 and hope you will have a great session. Thank you Most Worshipful Master for inviting me to speak.

Mitchell R. Miller, Scottish Rite

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master, Greetings Sir and Distinguished Guests, Brethren all, I bring you greetings from our Supreme Council and on behalf of the Supreme Council and hope that you have a very productive session.

We're number one in a lot of ways and one of the ways we're number one is, and probably part of the reason I'm here in this position, that the highest percentage of Masons in the Scottish Rite, State of Alaska is number one.

Several years ago, the Scottish Rite recognized that the organizations were suffering a decline in membership and that the Scottish Rite must become the leader in making this change, and in making us a Masonic family, involving all of the family and the younger members in Masonry into the Scottish Rite and the Blue Lodges. We're continuing this endeavor with our workshops we hold throughout the United States and I thank you for the privilege of coming up here and being here and again Most Worshipful Sir, I wish you a very productive session. Thank you.

RW Donald P. Frizzell, British Columbia & Yukon

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren all, on behalf of the Brethren from Whitehorse, who accompanied me over here, and those Brethren in White Pass No. 1, who we represent, I would like to thank you for inviting us to your Grand Lodge Session. I'd like to say how much we enjoyed coming and the fellowship of the Brethren here. We plan to come back again and again and we wish you well and all your endeavors. Thank you Worshipful Sir.

MW Michael Boone, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, I have a captive audience. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your Craft for the assistance that you provided my Grand Lodge and one of our most outstanding Brothers during the month of October, and his passing, and his family, Past Grand Master Arthur C. Williams.

Because, I haven't had the opportunity to formally thank you in public for everything you did for us and more especially his family during the hour of need, I thank you and my hat's off to you.

MW Stanley R. Foulke-Response to Reception of Alaska Past Grand Masters

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, thank you and Fred just asked me to do that because of the state of his vocal cords. He needs to save all he can for jurisprudence reports.

On behalf of the Past Grand Masters, thank you for the honors accorded us and thank you for your service. We've all been there. We know what it is to wear that hat. Let me assure you when you take that off, your service does not end. In fact, in some cases it may become even more demanding when your time.

So, we look forward to receiving you into our ranks and again, thank you for according us these honors.

MW Wendal Kuecker-Response to Welcome of the Grand Representatives

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Grand Master, Brethren. It is truly a delight for us, your representative to be able to represent the Masonic Fraternity around the world and throughout the United States. And, for that, we would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to represent Alaska Masonry throughout the rest of the jurisdictions. Thank you very much.

MW Aaron Harvey-Grand Master of Oregon

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished East, Brethren all,

What a distinct pleasure and privilege it is for me to be here today representing the 15,000 Masons in the great State of Oregon. And, I would like to bring you their greetings.

One of the great things about Freemasonry is that as you travel around both in your own Grand Jurisdiction or around the United States or around the world, you get to meet so many wonderful, wonderful Brethren. When you meet these Brothers, they may not know you individually but they offer you unconditional friendship and brotherly love and you also get to know them on a personal level after awhile. In my travels up here to Alaska over the last several years, I have gotten to know several Brothers. One of them is Most Worshipful Les Little and several years ago we were able to go down to Les and Roxie's place and spend a weekend after we were in Grand Lodge. We learned a lot about them. Les told us a story about himself while we were there. I would like to share with you a little bit, here this afternoon.

Les said that when he was younger, he had a little bit more hair than he has now. It had a tendency to be a little bit longer and when Les was about the age to get his driver's license, he went up to his dad and said, "Dad I've got my driver's license now and it's about time I got a car." His dad looked at him and said, "Well Les you know your mother and I have been talking about that and we think you're probably right but you have to do a couple of things first. First you need to bring your grades up to at least a C average, (because Les was not a tremendous student). You also must come home after school everyday and read the Bible for at least an hour. The third thing you have to do is you need to get a haircut."

Well Les kind of scratched his chin a bit and agreed to this and about six months later, he came back and said, "Dad, I want to talk to you about this car thing." He said I brought my grades up, not to a C average but to a B average. His father said yes your mother and I are very, very proud of that. You know you are doing a wonderful job. And, he said you know every afternoon I come home and study the Bible and his father said, yes, we are really amazed how devoted you have become to that. We are really happy about it.

But his father said there is one thing you failed to mention. He said, "What's that?" And his father said "your hair, you haven't got a haircut yet." Les said, "Well, with all the studying I've been doing with the Bible, I've come up with a couple new heroes, Moses and Jesus." And, he said they both had long hair. His father kind of scratched his chin a little bit and said, "Well, yes they did have long hair and they walked everywhere they went.

We, in Oregon, this year are celebrating our 149th year of existence as a Grand Lodge and on June 1st and 2nd this year in Portland, Oregon we will be having our 150th annual communication which will end our 149th year and begin our 150th year. What we hope to be a year of celebration throughout the state for Freemasonry and all of its dependent and concordant bodies. Like I said, one of the great things about Freemasonry besides the great moral teaching it offers us, is the fellowship and the brotherhood that we all share together.

Recently I was down in Brazil at the World Conference of Grand Lodges and we stayed an extra day and able to travel down to a small community on the coast of Brazil and as we were coming out of a fruit stand there was a car there and it had the square and compasses on the window. My wife pointed it out to me. And, as we were standing there looking at the car, a young gentleman came up, he was a little bit angry what we were doing around his car and everything, and then one of us showed a Masonic symbol we had, a ring or necklace, and all of a sudden this gentleman's attitude changed 180 degrees. He couldn't be more kind to us. Now, he didn't speak English, he spoke Portuguese and maybe a little Spanish. We didn't speak Portuguese and we had couple guys with us who spoke a little Spanish. But we stood there for almost a half-an-hour and communicated and the true feeling of friendship and brotherly love that existed there was very difficult to describe. You had to experience it.

Another Brother came up and tried to convince us to to attend their Lodge meeting that evening. They were so sincere about this, they wanted us to go and said they would have a big fiesta afterwards. They would make sure they would have an English interpreter there so that we would understand all their ritual and when they found out we weren't going to be able to attend, because our time didn't allow us, they were genuinely saddened, saddened to the point they almost had tears in their eyes.

My Brothers, that is one thing that is fantastic about Freemasonry, the unconditional friendship and brotherly love that you can experience virtually any place in the world. Grand Master I want to thank you and all the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Alaska for extending to me and the other Brothers from Oregon that joined with me this week, the same hospitality and friendship. It's heart warming to come up here every year.

I would like to leave all of you a couple of thoughts. One, I just thought of something I would like to mention also. You know another great thing about Freemasonry is that it can do wonderful things and make all things possible and happen. Most Worshipful Brother Weisser from Pennsylvania mentioned their Grand Master is an attorney by trade. Our Senior Grand Warden is an attorney by trade and I'm a retired policeman. Now, I'd like to let you know in the world most attorneys don't listen much to policemen or retired policemen. But, I found this year that Freemasonry finally caused at least one attorney to listen once in a while to a retired police officer. But, on a more serious note, I would like to leave you with a couple thoughts.

This year most of my meetings in Oregon, I have closed with a couple of thoughts and I would like to share them with you because they are very important. I developed a motto this year that we use in Oregon, every month our Masonic news has it right on the address page. It goes like this. Freemasonry, live it, love it, and share it with a friend.

Freemasonry is a tremendous gift that we really can only experience once we have shared it with someone else. I don't know who the author of this is, but my wife clipped it out of a publication recently.

Friendship:

- To realize the value of one year ask a student who failed a grade;
- To realize the value of one month, ask the mother who gave birth to a premature baby;
- To realize the value of one week, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper;
- To realize the value of one hour, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet;
- To realize the value of one minute, ask the person who missed the train;
- To realize the value of one second, ask the person who just avoided the accident;
- To realize the value of one millisecond, ask the person who won the silver medal in the Olympic one-hundred meters.

Treasure every moment that you have and treasure more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time with and remember time waits for no one. Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift that we call it the

present. My Brother's, Freemasonry is a wonderful gift. Live it, love it, and share it with a friend.

Now the last thought I would like to leave with you today. Many of you knew that Most Worshipful Marty Martinez, he and Vern came up a number of years ago and helped with your Charge program and when Marty used to speak about Alaska, he got this glimmer in his eyes. He loved it so up here. He loved the Brothers from Alaska so much. The one thing that I probably wished would have happened that has never happened and will not, is that I never got to come up to Alaska with Marty. But when he spoke of it, he had that glimmer in his eyes.

Shortly after I was installed as Grand Master, his widow, Cathy, sent me a congratulatory card. In it there was a passage from the Holy Bible, the sacred book that rests upon the altar of Freemasonry in this very room today. Cathy wrote that this was Marty's favorite Bible passage and it goes like this. I think it says volumes about our beloved Fraternity. "Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Thank you

MW George Moulthrop, PGM Grand Lodge of Michigan

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, brethren all, Grand Master, I hope you didn't bring me up here to take and drag out some time that you are wanting to do. If that's the case, many of you Brothers know from past experience, I am not the man to do just that.

Brothers, the weather we have today and yesterday reminds me in a bit of the last session of this Grand Lodge that was, should we say poorly attended because of the Brethren not being able to get in. The only difference is this, the weather is approximately forty degree up there. We have rain one minute, snow the next, sleet the next, and a bit of ice in between. That year Nancy and I arrived from Michigan Monday afternoon approximately 4:30 P.M. Fairbanks time and the weather was a balmy thirty-five below zero. Brothers, we were there until Sunday afternoon and that was the warmest it got

After we got to the motel, in fact, Most Worshipful John Grainger came out and picked us up at the airport, got us back to the motel and Nancy and I got checked in. We got everything unpacked and we said well we don't have anything on our schedule, let's go down and eat. Now, having been to that motel at least twice before, well we knew where we were going. So we walked into the motel and the first people we see sitting there at a table are John and Dottie Ingram and he very graciously offered to have us join them for dinner.

We were sitting there talking after dinner, because there wasn't anything else to do or place to go, we found out during the course of dinner, that that was only one of three restaurants in the whole city of Fairbanks that was open. He asked me a couple of

questions. Have you ever experienced ice fog? And, I said no. I said we have fog at home and I being a person who learned how to sail a sailboat when I was six years old. Started racing sailboats when I was eight and so every summer when the weather was nice and instead of chasing that little white agate around a bunch of hills or up and down a valley, I was out on the water sailing. Over a period of about fifty to sixty years, why you experience fog out on the Great Lakes that can be rather of a “pea soup” but the experience of a fog on the lakes, is Brothers, you can’t see in any direction.

When we got to Fairbanks and we looked up in the sky in a vertical position the next morning, I could see the blue sky up there and the sun shining but I couldn’t see my elbow when I put my arm out in front of me. I watched people walking like going through a beaded curtain doorway. This stuff goes around you and comes back behind you back together. Now, Nancy and I had never experienced anything like that and I have a great deal of friends back in Michigan and none of them have ever seen it.

The other thing I couldn’t comprehend is the fact when you throw a cup of coffee in the air, within about three and one-half feet, all you have is brown dust coming down. Not a big clunk of a hunk of ice, it’s brown dust. Because at that point in time, when that was 78 below zero, the humidity was about 15 to 18 per cent. Brothers, that’s instant freeze dry, I don’t care what you call it.

You know, that next morning, Nancy and I decided to walk downtown. Now Brothers this was a year after we had been to Nome. The year before we went to Nome, we were here in Anchorage, and the year before that we were supposed to be in Soldotna, but unfortunately the doctor wouldn’t let me out of the hospital until he knew it was too late to get up here. Because, he knew if he let me out of the hospital, I probably would have been here.

But at any rate, the year after that when we were in Anchorage, why I am a person that can’t take too much cold, particularly wind. Now not being from Alaska, I did some reading and understood everything I read. The next year we were going to Nome and Nome is noted for having a bit of wind. Now, not only that, but they have some cold temperatures. So, I took in and went over to a good Brother’s establishment and I bought a beaver parka. Now, when I came back to the hotel that night, I had all kinds of raspberries from at least ten or twelve different people from up here. You don’t need that big heavy parka when you go to Nome, you just take your regular overcoat. Well Brothers, let me tell you it didn’t matter what I paid for that coat.

The next year when we arrived here and we had to stay all night ‘cause of the connections in flight. Then the next morning we got out to the airport and there are twelve seats in the aircraft heading for Nome and all twelve of us are going to Nome for Grand Lodge. We arrived in time for a good Brother’s funeral. Now the weather was a balmy 22 to 25 below and the winds were blowing 30 to 35 knots off the Bering Straits. So you had a chill factor around 55 below. That’s not bad! A bit chilly for some people but that’s not bad.

That night, we got done with everything, we went to bed. Now, my wife never gets up before the alarm clock boots her out of the bed and she never wakes up on her own before noon. She'll stay up all night with you, but she'll never get up before noon if you let her. After about 20 after 7:00 A.M., she gave me an elbow and wakes me up and she says, you know I wish those darn fools would stop riding those snow machines around the building. Now our room is about twenty-five feet from the Bering Straits. The only thing between our room and that was a room in front of us. I laid there and became awake and heard this VAROOM, VAROOM. Well, I looked at my wife and said kid that ain't snow machines that's wind!

Well, I don't know if any of you have ever been in that hotel, you come downstairs on a stairway in an outside enclosed stairwell. So you got glass between you and the Bering Straits. You can see very nicely from up there. When we were coming down, she said, what's that yellow thing out there? I said what? She said, what's that yellow thing moving out there? I looked, sure enough, about a quarter mile off the dry beach there is a polar bear wandering out on the ice. She said that can't be a polar bear, they're white. I said well they may be white when you got them in the picture and they are mounded but they are a bit yellow otherwise. We went down stairs, had breakfast, Nancy said to the waitress, you know when we were coming down the stairs there was a polar bear out there about a quarter mile off the beach.

Brothers, I don't know again, like I say if you've ever been to Nome, but there's card games going on in all these restaurants twenty-four hours a day except when they kick them out in order to clean up the place for twenty minutes or half hour. That card game ended, instantly stopped. Four men exited the building and about fifteen minutes later we hear this KABOOM!!. The waitress said, well there was a bear out there.

But, getting back to the things when we were in Fairbanks that next year, we had the fog and the temperatures went down the second day and they were fifty to fifty-five below zero and as you Brothers who live up that direction know that that's not bad. Well, the biggest problem you had that year was it wasn't the weather for the people to get in. the problem you had was the barometric pressure that day went up to within one one-hundredth inch of an all time North American record. They grounded every aircraft, military or otherwise in the State of Alaska for almost 36 hours. I was a little unhappy because you changed the meeting from February to April.

Now the next year, in April we managed to make it to Sitka. But then my wife and I are active in the Amaranth. Two weeks later she got herself elected to the grand line in Michigan and so Brothers we didn't make anything from then through last April. I'm very glad that you came back to February. I hope you don't go back to anywhere else.

From an outsider's standpoint of view, the year we went to Sitka, our airline tickets cost as much to go from Bay city, Michigan to Sitka, Alaska as what I had paid for us to come up to Fairbanks and Anchorage three times. Because, Brothers, the week after Easter, you don't get any break from the airlines on an airline ticket. I don't care where you are going. So, as I an outsider, so to speak, hope that you don't let this little bit of weather

detour your thinking and try to go back to April. Because, I for one would have another hard time making it again in April.

Most Worshipful Sir, I wish to thank you and all the Brethren for all the hospitality that you always show Nancy and me. Brothers, as I said, the first year, if the good Lord's willing and the crick doesn't rise, I'll be back. Thank you

VW Ken R. Creamer, Response of Welcoming of Alaska District Deputies

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, we District Deputies wish to thank you for the honor and privilege you bestowed on us in appointing us District Deputies for the Grand Lodge of Alaska. It seems like the year has gone by so fast. Instead of twelve months, it seems like only ten. The year just whizzed by. It's been busy though and seemed to be able to take care of business.

Once again, we wish to thank you for the honor you gave to us.

MW Michael Boone, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Good morning Brothers, Grand Master, Officers, and Craft, ran into some unexpected difficulties this morning, but I thought you would be on break and I did arrive.

It is very inspiring to be here and see so many of our Brothers here and looking at all the problems you've had around the Anchorage area and in other locations. I'm happy to see that all of you arrived, smiling faces, and in good health, and the weather did not deteriorate your participation.

A lot of speakers got up to say things while we were here yesterday and I was talking to my deputy and I said these gentlemen must be reading my mind. Because, it is our goal and desire to get back to the basics, the basics that you learn coming into this great ancient Fraternity, prudence, temperance, truth, and brotherly love.

When we return to those basic principles of Masonry then we return to the very root and the things that got us excited about coming into this organization.

With the global economy being as it is and our desire to increase our membership, often times we forget about those basics and we wonder why we are losing so many men. Why can't we attract our youth to become a part of our organization?

We are looking at the forest but we are not seeing the trees. I read several documents from different jurisdictions and we're all suffering from the same problem, loss of membership. We have to get back to the basics and our roots. Once we return there, we can attract people to come into our organization, and we can keep more people in our organization.

In 1997, myself and Past Grand Master Foulke signed a document of recognition between the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska and your Grand Lodge of Alaska. It was a moment that touched me and we are still working on building that relationship. And, the other jurisdiction on the Prince Hall side, when we signed the document, we were the 23rd jurisdiction to do so. I hope many others will follow and not lose sight why we came into Masonry and why we are still here. I truly hope we can all get back to the basics and make our membership grow. Thank you.

RW Ed Weisser, Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, my Brethren, I bring you greetings again from our Grand Master Robert L. Dluge from Pennsylvania. Very interesting for me to be here, this is my fourth time to visit this Grand Lodge and of course, being a member of this Grand Lodge also gives me an opportunity to observe the differences between the two Grand Lodges.

For example, I would have never thought in our Grand Lodge to leave my place there and cross the altar without giving the sign to the Grand Master. Must also say that the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, we stand the entire time and we don't sit down, and believe me that expedites things in the Grand Lodge. I would strongly recommend you put that into your operation.

My brother and I listened to the talk that was given about education and how we need to look at that and I immediately listened to our brother from Prince Hall Lodge. by the way, we do recognize Prince Hall in Pennsylvania now. In my jurisdiction we did do that. But, I'd say to you brethren that each of us sit here and know what we are talking about and we know everything we think we need to know about Freemasonry.

The brethren we have we believe that all of us miss in Freemasonry and that's realizing the power of this great fraternity. I like to equate it to the airport we have over here. We all fly and we all fly into that airport and we depend on that gigantic horsepower in those engines to get us off the ground, and to take us to our destinations. But brethren, you realize those airplanes are nothing without that little tow motor that pushed them out. Because, all the power they have, they can't leave that station and that's the way Freemasonry is. We have all the power we need in our hands but we don't use it.

I thought yesterday, when we had the ex-Governor of this great state up here speaking. There is a man who should be a Mason! In my jurisdiction, I don't think he would have

gotten out the door without someone talking to him, not giving him a petition, not say to you we want you to join, but I would have certainly made it known to him that his ideals and ideas are what we stand for.

He almost set the stage for it brethren when he said his wife was a former Rainbow girl. Either she didn't do her job or maybe he got black-balled along the way. I don't know. But, brethren they are the kind of people that we need. We are supporting him basically. Here is a grand lodge for his business. I would think that he would support us as a Mason.

So, I say to each of you, what are you going to do when you leave here from this great session? Are you going back to your lodges and sit there and moan and groan about Grand Lodge. I don't know about this commonwealth here, we call Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, but I don't know about this great state but the Blue Lodges in our grand lodge, and we have about 498, most of the men there hate grand lodge. They say that all grand lodge does is take our money and they don't do anything for us. Well, I wrote a brochure of forty-eight things grand lodge does for the Blue Lodge. and, then I looked at what the Blue Lodge does for grand lodge, very little. They got us membership, they pay their dues, and they attend grand lodge and there is nothing else that they do. So, I say to each of you, don't be like that airplane sitting at the end of a runway and need a tow motor to push them out. Start raring your engines and carry Freemasonry to those who need it.

Brethren I find it very easy to get petitions. Be yourself, be in the right place, and I can say I have probably signed at least a minimum of fifty petitions for my lodge. Where did I get the members, from my church? I'm there, they are there. They believe what Freemasonry believes and they are people we need.

You know I have a goal. I don't know how I am going to accomplish it but without setting goals for myself in life, I would never have accomplished anything. My goal is to sign a petition for North Pole Lodge. I don't know how I am going to do it, I don't know how I am going to meet somebody, but it will happen brethren, God willing.

Right Worshipful Grand Master, I would say, it is my pleasure to be here again. I'm sorry our Grand Master couldn't be here. I trust it next year he may be here and may be quite a number of us here. So watch out, you may be invaded from the "Lower 48." Thank you.

MW Michael Boone, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Closing Remarks

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Grand Master, Past Grand Master, Junior Past Grand Master, Brethren, it really has been a unique experience for me and my Deputy Grand Master being here and experiencing your elections. Of course, every grand lodge operates a little bit different. We're all the same and I want to take this opportunity to thank Most Worshipful Don

Chaffin as your newly elected Most Worshipful Grand Master, other elected officers, and Deputy Grand Master, Brother Cox who I talked on a regular basis as your Senior Grand Warden and your newly elected Junior Warden.

Brethren, a lot of times we overlook the work and dedication that goes into this organization. And more importantly we forget the people that really make this organization run. And, once we get a person in those two positions, we kind of never really publicly thank them for the work they do. But, they put in a tremendous amount of hours and a tremendous amount of effort to keep your Grand Lodge and your Blue Lodge operational and functional. That is your Secretary and your Treasurer.

Gentlemen, my hat's off to you and I am sure your new Grand Master will appreciate the work and effort you put into those duties. Thank you.

RW John D. Livie, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Alaska, Glacier 10 is one of my lodges I belong to and it is great to be back in Alaska again. It's always a pleasure to come to the Grand Lodge of Alaska because there is always a friendly handshake, a slap on the back, and a hug. That's what we're all about my Brothers. We're all about friendship and brotherly love. ...break in tape... And to each and everyone of you, thank you and to Brother Don, Grand Master-elect, I look forward to working with you this next year and it will be fun traveling and seeing you, both you and your wife at different functions throughout the year. Thank you my Brothers.

MW William R. Miller, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington

(Transcribed from tape recordings of the Grand Lodge Communications)

Thank you Grand Master, good afternoon Brothers, had an interesting conversation over coffee this morning. The brother reminded me these are great times for the Masons in the Grand Lodge of Alaska. In the outside world, there is recognition that is happening for the hard working brethren of this jurisdiction. Yesterday you met Illustrious Brother Mitch Miller who has been elected to the Supreme council of the Scottish Rite. He is now Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the first one, I believe, ever from the jurisdiction of Alaska.

Within a couple of years Illustrious Burt Oien will be the Imperial Potentate, member of Al Aska Shrine Temple. And I am sure that it has been well advertised that your almost Grand Master, Don Chaffin, will be the Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters.

That will take place in just a couple of weeks. So, the Grand Lodge of Alaska is receiving a lot of recognition for the leadership it is providing for Freemasonry.

I was given pause to think that time though that it takes some groundwork to be laid for that to happen. I have the good fortune to travel quite a bit and I still hear reference to Most Worshipful Jim Williams and now Most Worshipful Gunnar Flygenring for the work they did at the very beginning, almost twenty years ago, I guess.

When they took your message out to the “outside” and the Grand Lodge of Alaska became known from those very early days. I tell you cannot go anyplace and not find somebody that knows John Ingram. Big John is absolutely known everywhere and the travels of the people like the sheriff and others too numerous to name really. But the groundwork for the Brethren going to provide the leadership now was laid by these Brethren.

I think that sometimes it’s easy to forget those who have gone past. When you get a title that’s past, that’s really past. But some of these people really need to be remembered and to be recognized.

I have the good fortune to see Most Worshipful Brother Jim Williams from time to time. He is an active member of the Goose and Gridiron Club in the Bellevue area and I know his greetings are brought to you through Gunnar and others from time to time. Jim would very much love to be up here but he is in his eighties now and travel is a hardship for him. But, he does want to be remembered and certainly wishes you the very best.

Grand Master, it’s always the pleasure for Marilyn and me to be here and thank you for all the hospitality that’s been extended to us.

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:

Invalid	1 vote
Lloyd Triggs	1 vote
Don Chaffin	115 votes (Station accepted)

Deputy Grand Master:

Invalid	2 votes
Chuck Corbin	116 votes (Station accepted)

Senior Grand Warden:

Gene Freeman	1 vote
Morton	1 vote
Joe Dees	1 vote
Steve Cox	112 votes (Station accepted)

Junior Grand Warden

Stan Foulke	1 vote
Medskler	1 vote
Friorley	1 vote
Steve Lee	2 votes
Joe Dees	51 votes
Stedman	58 votes (Station accepted)

Grand Secretary

Friorley	1 vote
Stan Foulke	1 vote
Triggs	2 votes
Worshipful Bender	110 votes (Station accepted)

Grand Treasurer:

Bobby Alexander	1 vote
LeFlore	1 vote
Rick Bender	1 vote
Steve Cox	2 votes
Steve Lee	112 votes (Station accepted)

INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

An open installation for the 2000 - 2001 officers for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was conducted in Anchorage, Alaska on February 4, 2000.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome and Introduction

By MW Raymond L. Beaver

INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing Master	MW Lloyd Triggs
Installing Marshal	MW Henry "Hank" Dunbar
Installing Marshal	MW Leslie R. "Les" Little
Installing Chaplain	MW Stanley R. Foulke
Installing Secretary	MW Gene R. Freeman

ELECTED OFFICERS

Grand Master	MW Don G. Chaffin (Char)
Deputy Grand Master	RW Charles E. Corbin (Kathy)
Senior Grand Warden	RW Stephen L. Cox (Gayle)
Junior Grand Warden	RW Kenneth E. Stedman (Bonnie)
Grand Treasurer	RW Steve Lee (Sandi)
Grand Secretary	RW Richard D. Bender (Linda)

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Grand Chaplain	W George W. Earp
Grand Lecturer	W Robert E. MacArthur
Grand Orator	W Marty W. Parsons
Grand Historian	W Joe H. Ashby
Grand Marshal	W Jimmy J. Kay
Senior Grand Deacon	W Bradley C. White
Junior Grand Deacon	W Johnnie L. Wallace (Mary)

Grand Standard Bearer	W Robert K. Kelly, Jr.
Grand Sword Bearer	W Robert E. Cunningham
Grand Bible Bearer	W Yvaneck I. Tremblay
Senior Grand Steward	W Harold "Bud" Moore
Junior Grand Steward	W Michael A. Eady
Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris
Grand Tyler	W C. Vernon Carlson, Jr.

DEPUTIES TO THE GRAND MASTER

District 1	VW Douglas W. Ooms
District 2	VW Robert E. Wiseman
District 3	VW Michael B. Swensen
District 4	VW Ken R. Creamer
District 5	W Harry J. Koenen (Maggie).