

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

Proceedings

**Twenty-Seventh
Annual Communication
February 7-8, 2008**





SAMUEL K. MEDSKER
GRAND MASTER
2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROLL CALL	1
SOLEMN CEREMONIES	2
MESSAGE OF THE M.W. GRAND MASTER	3
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY	12
REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE	14
1st Report	14
2nd Report	15
3rd Report	16
4th Report	16
5th Report	17
6th Report	17
7th Report	18
REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE	19
APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR COMMITTEES	20
Standing Committees	20
Sub Committees	21
REPORTS ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS	22
MOTIONS	22
RESOLUTIONS	22
Resolution 2008-1	22
Resolution 2008-2	25
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES	26
Jurisprudence	26
1st Report	26
2nd Report	27
3rd Report	27
4th Report	28
Grievance and Appeals	28
Finance	29
Report of the Grand Treasurer	29
Report of the Finance Committee	30
Audit Committee Report for 2008	31
Balance Sheet	32

Budget – 2008 vs 2007.....	35
Masonic Youth	37
Bylaws	37
REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.....	38
Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)	38
Report of Grand Lecturer	41
Report of Grand Orator.....	41
Report of Grand Historian.....	42
Leadership Training	45
Russian Relations	45
George Washington National Memorial.....	46
Long Range Planning	46
Segregations and Reference	46
Report of Deputies of the Grand Master	47
District 1.....	47
District 2.....	47
District 3.....	47
District 4.....	47
District 5.....	47
Report of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum.....	48
Awards	50
James A. Williams Award.....	50
Buckley C. Hazen Award	50
Military Recognition Award	50
Grand Master’s Award for Excellence	50
Mason of the Year	51
MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS	51
Annual Meeting Alaska Masonic Charities Foundation	51
Annual Meeting Alaska Grand Lodge Corporation.....	52
Contributions to the Grand Lodge of Alaska.....	53
Speeches by Distinguished Guests	54
ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.....	55
INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS	56

ROLL CALL

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Master	MW Samuel K. Medsker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Grand Master	RW Jared S. Decker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Warden	RW John R. "Bo" Cline
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Warden	RW Johnnie L. Wallace
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Treasurer	RW James D. Grubbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Secretary	RW Jerome P. Wasson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Chaplain	W Jack B. Coghill Sr.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Lecturer	W James R. Herrington
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Orator	W Ronald L. Ackerman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Historian	RW Gerald R. Fairley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Marshal	W Gerald B. Hughes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Deacon	W Harold L. Gray
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Deacon	VW Roger K. Hansen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Standard Bearer	W Robert L. Cartmill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Sword Bearer	W Emil F. Lentz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Bible Bearer	W James M. LeFlore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Grand Steward	W Roger A. Barnstead
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Junior Grand Steward	W Dona J. Rule
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grand Tyler	W Michael A. Starkey

CONSTITUENT LODGES

(Would the most Senior Representative please respond?)

- White Pass Lodge No. 1
- Tanana Lodge No. 3
- Valdez Lodge No. 4
- Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
- Seward Lodge No. 6
- Matanuska Lodge No. 7
- Kodiak Lodge No. 9
- Glacier Lodge No. 10
- Kenai Lodge No. 11
- Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
- Eagle River Lodge No. 13
- Aurora Lodge No. 15
- North Pole Lodge No. 16
- Anchorage Lodge No. 17
- Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
- Ketchikan Lodge No. 19
- Iditarod Lodge No. 20
- Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21
- Sterling Lodge No. 22
- Petersburg Lodge No. 23

MW Grand Master, all Grand Lodge Officers and 19 Lodges are represented and we, therefore, have a Constitutional quorum to open Grand Lodge.

RW Jerome P. "Jerry" Wasson
Grand Secretary

SOLEMN CEREMONIES

The public opening of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 8:00 AM on February 7, 2008, by Worshipful Doug Whorton. The program for the public ceremonies included:

Entrance of Grand Lodge Officers
Presentation of American and Canadian Flag
Pledge of Allegiance
Flag presentation performed by the Heroes of '76
Pledge of Allegiance
U.S. and Canadian National Anthems
The Alaska Flag Song
Welcome to representatives of the Youth Groups
Introduction of Representatives of Concordant Bodies

Representatives of Concordant Bodies present included:

Al Aska Shrine Temple

James H. Gattenby, Potentate

Grand Commandry, Knights Templar of Alaska

Don Chaffin, Grand Commander

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alaska

Russel G. Hintz, Grand High Priest

International Order of Job's Daughters, Bethel No. 1, Anchorage

Dwane Anderson, Associate Bethel Guardian

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Gabrielle Hazelton, Supreme Deputy in Alaska

Miss Tabbitha Cobb, Grand Worthy Advisor

The formal opening of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was opened at 10:00 AM on February 7, 2008, by Most Worshipful Samuel K. Medsker, 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

WB David Worel

Second Session

WB Jeff Elliott

Third Session

WB Harold Gray

Fourth Session

WB Kevin Tenant

Distinguished Guests present included:

California, F. & A.M.

RW Bill Bray, Junior Grand Warden representing
the Grand Lodge of California

Nevada, F. & A.M.

MW James Kelly, Grand Master

Oregon, A.F. & A.M.

MW Dennis D. Johnson, Grand Master
RW Ed Bousquet, Junior Grand Warden
MW John D. Livie, Past Grand Master

Pennsylvania, F. & A.M.

RW Edward O. Weisser , Past Grand Master

Washington, F. & A.M.

MW Wayne Smith, Grand Master

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

RW Stephen Godfrey, Grand Master
RW Richard Lenes, DDGM

Alaska, Prince Hall F. & A.M.

MW Edward A. Miller, Sr., Grand Master

MESSAGE OF THE M.W. GRAND MASTER

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

Welcome to the twenty-seventh annual communication of our Grand Lodge. I welcome all Masons to the business and social activities of these sessions. A special welcome to our visitors from other jurisdictions. I am honored that you could join us here in the North Country during mid-winter. It is our sincere hope that your winter visit to Alaska will be memorable and enjoyable. If there is anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable or pleasant please ask and we will do all we can to satisfy your needs.

APPOINTMENTS

Most Worshipful Leslie R. Little, Worshipful Brother Harold L. Gray, and Worshipful Brother Emil F. (Fred) Lentz were appointed to the committee on segregation and reference.

I appointed Right Worshipful Jerome P. Wasson as Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Texas.

NECROLOGY

My Brothers, this year sixty-five of our Brethren laid down their working tools and answered a call from the Supreme Architect of the Universe. They now reside in that Celestial Lodge above. We mourn their passing and share that sadness with their families. Worshipful Bro. John B. "Jack" Coghill our Grand Chaplin will conduct a memorial service later today.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

The State of the Craft in Alaska is excellent. The attitude and participation of Brethren in lodge is of the highest level. At least two lodges in this jurisdiction, that in the past, have been dark in the summer months, have been conferring degrees this past summer.

I have witnessed some excellent ritual work in our lodges. I have heard ritual practice announcements given at the end of lodge meetings. I have observed younger Masons occupying lodge officer chairs. Good ritual work is important as it is a basic tie that binds us into one Fraternity or Society. We need to continue to stress practice and striving for perfection. Remember that lodges normally charge more than three hundred dollars in initiation fees and the candidate deserves to receive good ritual work in the conferrals of his degrees.

I have been thoroughly impressed by the energy and eagerness of our younger brethren. These Masons are expressing an endless stream of ideas to improve and build their lodges. They have a very high respect and reverence for their lodges. One example of the reverence with which some hold this craft came during my visit to a lodge in Southeast Alaska. During the opening and closing of the lodge the Junior Deacon received several prompts for his part. The WM informed me that this was only the second time this brother had sat as Junior Deacon. After lodge was closed I complimented this Mason on his work. He responded that he did not think he had done well; he was so nervous that he could barely move or talk. Why, I ask and he said "Because the Grand Master is here." This story takes on new meaning when you learn that this Mason's avocation is spinal surgeon and he had performed three such surgeries earlier that same day. I pray that we never lose that awe and respect for this gentle craft and the whole fraternity. In another instance I waived the time between degrees for a soldier. He desired to be a Master Mason before returning to the combat zone in

Southwest Asia. He provided a memorized proficiency in one week and was raised. I believe that upon his return, he will be an active and motivated Mason for his lodge.

I made an official visit to each constituent lodge. My entourage and I were enthusiastically received at each lodge and every courtesy was extended to us. To all the lodges I extend a heartfelt thank-you. The officers and I were told many times that our visit was the most enjoyable visit in memory. I think that is because we did not speak or nor push Grand Lodge fundraisers. During visits to two of the lodges we invited the public to a Lodge of Table Instruction. We talked about and answered questions concerning Freemasonry for three hours at each of these table lodges. The reactions were very positive and in Cordova, the commander of the Coast Guard Cutter "USCGC Sycamore" invited us to tour the Cutter the next morning. A positive and educational trip.

We have dealt with some issues this year that are affecting our peace and harmony. The lawsuit filed against the Grand Lodge in 2001 continues; it has now evolved into a civil action against two Past Grand Masters for actions taken pursuant to their offices, one as the Grand Secretary. On February 1, 2007 a hearing was held in Anchorage, Alaska to hear and rule on the issues of the case; the judge ruled against the plaintiffs on all issues. However, the judge gave the plaintiffs more time and specific guidelines to resubmit their case. By September 25, 2007 the plaintiffs had failed to file complaints within the established guidelines and the judge issued an Order of Dismissal.

The plaintiffs in this case have now appealed that dismissal action to the Alaska Supreme Court. I have sought legal counsel and learned that in Alaska the Supreme Court will hear all civil cases referred to it. Further, that the losing side is responsible for the legal fees of the winning side. We are defending two previous officers of this Grand Lodge for their official actions and actions that this Grand Lodge approved at the time. I, therefore, assess each lodge ten dollars (\$10.00) for each Master Mason on their rolls as of January 1, 2008. I direct the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary to maintain separate accounting of this money and permit it to be used only for these legal fees.

You will hear the financial report later but, I will tell you that creating a reasonable prudent budget has been near impossible and this year has been no exception. All of our expenses have escalated, except rent for our office. For this we owe much appreciation to the Anchorage York Rite Bodies for their generous offer of office space with the rent well below market value. Also, my reluctance to spend visitation time to push fundraisers has had a negative impact on income. These conditions have made it necessary to increase the per capita dues that the lodges pay annual to Grand Lodge. My recommendation number one is that the per capita be increased by two dollars (\$2.00) per Master Mason.

Last year we adopted a Strategic Plan that contained an aggressive imperative for Masonic Youth. To set the example and encourage increased participation, I scheduled a visit to each youth organization in Alaska. I set down three rules for my visit: first that I would schedule the visit personally with the youth leader of the organization; I would

participate in the meeting and be introduced in any manner that the group desired; and finally that after the meeting was closed, I be permitted to have a private meeting with the youth of that group. (This meeting was clearly not to be alone behind closed doors but that other adults would not participate in that discussion.) This effort was largely a failure and the next Grand Master needs to try a different approach. The DeMolay never responded to my requests to schedule a visit. The Job's Daughters Bethel agreed to a visit but refused to permit my meeting with the girls. In fact, I was told that any comments I had to make to the Jobbies would need to be cleared through the adult leader in advance. That visit did not take place. The one success in this effort has been the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, I had lovely visits with three assemblies. I visited Fairbanks Assembly number one in Fairbanks, Nugget Assembly in Anchorage, and Juneau Assembly number three in Juneau. I received an "Ali Babbie" at Nugget Assembly because I uttered the words "You Guys". Apparently referring to Rainbow Girls as "You guys" is taboo. Juneau Assembly scheduled a special meeting while I was in Juneau for my visit. After the meeting we had a great time doing coloring book exercises and laughing. I am proud to tell you that my picture is posted on the internet with the Juneau Rainbow Girls. The three assemblies that I visited gave me positive assurance that we can be justly proud of the accomplishment of our youth.

In 2006 the Scottish Rite Valley of Juneau sold their building with the resulting loss of a meeting place for all Masonic organizations in Juneau. The brothers planned to join together and create a Title Holding Corporation to hold title to a new Juneau Masonic Family Center. They modeled their corporation after a similar holding corporation in another state that comprised several Masonic organizations including a Scottish Rite Valley. The Scottish Rite leadership summarily disapproved, without explanation, the new company and prohibited the Juneau Valley from participating in this effort. I met with the Sovereign Grand Inspector in May 2007 and ask for the reasons for disapproving Juneau's efforts. Scottish Rite had several concerns which we agreed to try to satisfy. I met several times during May and June to work out the details of their concerns. On July 20, 2007 we sent revised articles of Incorporation and By-Laws to Scottish Rite for their approval, no response has been received to this date. In his response to my December letter the Sovereign Grand Commander repeated the original concerns given me last May without acknowledgment of the revised documents which were submitted in July.

Let me point out that the Brothers in Juneau desire to join in a cooperative group to build a Masonic Family Center with a shared ownership. Of all locations within the territory of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, Juneau probably has the highest rate of common membership. Clearly ninety percent of Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge Master Masons are also Scottish Rite Masons. Juneau, Alaska Masonic organizations are highly homogeneous.

My recommendation number two is that the Grand Master appoint a committee of at least three as a fact finding committee to investigate the actions of all concordant organizations. Further, this committee be directed to report its finding to the Grand Lodge at the 2009 Communication. Those organizations found not in harmony with and

providing positive support to this Grand Jurisdiction should be declared Clandestine and Master Masons should be prohibited from participating in their activities.

One concordant organization supported this Grand Lodge in all aspects. The Potentate of Al Aska Shrine was a frequent member of the Grand Master's entourage and spoke of their activities at the lodge open meeting sessions. Illustrious Timothy Jellison spoke on his pride of being a Mason. He told the audience that his first allegiance was to Masonry but he also felt pride in being a Shriner and helping children. His presence, demonstrated cooperation, and talks were beneficial to both Freemasonry and the Al Aska Shriners.

While attending the Conference of Grand Masters of North America we learned of a schism in the Grand Lodge of Russia. This Grand Lodge had two elected Grand Masters. At the meeting of the Commission on Information and Recognition both present their case. The commission did not withdraw recognition but appointed two monitors to attend the next meeting in Moscow in June 2007. The last communication we received confirms that the schism while mitigating still exists.

Our Grand Lodge controls money given us for the support of the Pacific Rime Lodge Number 12 in Vladivostok, Russia. These funds are from the sale of honorary life memberships to the lodge and are intended to be used for the benefit of that lodge. Rumors were abound that the Grand Lodge of Russia was searching for money. With these facts in mind on February 23, 2007 I issued an edict to freeze the Russian Relations Committee money unless specifically authorized by the Grand Master on a case by case basis.

At the 26th Communications for the Grand Lodge a question was asked concerning our recognition of Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Much confusion seems to prevail. I report to you now that the files of the Grand Lodge office and the files of the Fraternal Relations Committee indicated that we recognize three Prince Hall Grand Jurisdictions. At our communication April 1997 we approved limited recognition of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska and its Jurisdictions Incorporated. A covenant was signed on May 10th of that year to allow shared territory and to permit visitations to our lodges. At our communication February 2004 we approved full Masonic recognition to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. My recommendation number three is that this Grand Lodge send a letter to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska and its Jurisdiction Incorporated; asking to maintain our treaty to share jurisdiction of the territory and discontinue the limited recognition in favor of full Masonic recognition. This letter must arrive at their offices early enough to be considered at their 39th Annual Communication commencing on April 19, 2008.

In this message I have reported on some issues that may not be pleasant to hear but, in my opinion as a member, you have a right to be informed and an obligation to be knowledgeable of those issues and events that affect our Grand Lodge. That said, I am impressed with the growth I have observed in our lodges the energy and eagerness of our younger brethren the high respect and reverence our brothers have for their lodges. Our craft is growing and has great potential.

APPRECIATION

This year would not have been survivable without the support, help, and counsel of my lady Michelle. I am deeply in debt to her, a debt that I am sure can never be fully paid. I will try.

A debt of gratitude to my best friend and brother V. W. Bob Homoleski who chaired my Sessions and Arrangements Committee. To W.B. Jim LeFlore for providing expert service in the sound and video recording functions for these sessions. To W.B. Mike Starkey for chairing the transportation committee that moves us to and from the airport and the hotel and elsewhere in the Fairbanks area.

This Grand Lodge Session is a tribute to the hard work and creativeness of Michelle and Bob. What you find that is good and shows beauty is due to their efforts. What is amiss is due to my failure to give good and wholesome instructions for their labors.

To the officers who never hesitated to whisper good counsel in my ear, thank-you for keeping me on track. By your vote last year you gave me the greatest team that could ever have been assembled.

IN CONCLUSION

It has been my highest honor and privilege to be your Grand Master. I have worked harder than any other time in my life yet it has been the most enjoyable time in my life. At the end of this communication when I pass the gavel and move aside, I will believe that I have stood on the highest pinnacle of manhood, you have conferred on me the greatest honor of any man or Mason.

May God bless each and every one of you. And, may God bless the two greatest bastions for Freedom and Liberty, the United States of America and Canada.

Respectfully Submitted

Samuel K. Medsker
Grand Master

GRAND MASTER'S EDICTS, ASSESSMENTS, & RECOMMENDATIONS

Grand Master Edict: February 23, 2007, I order that the funds known as the Russian Relations fund be frozen as of this date. The grand Treasurer is ordered not to disperse any of these monies without my permission for each case that might arise.

Grand Master's Assessment: I assess each lodge ten dollars (\$10.00) for each Master Mason their rolls. I direct the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary to

maintain separate accounting of this money and permit to be used only for legal fees in defense of civil suit 3SW-o4-85CIV.

Recommendation one: I recommend that the per capita authorized by Section 9.04(3) Bylaw of the Alaska Masonic Code be increased by two dollars (\$2.00). The dues paid by the lodges to Grand Lodge for 2008 will be twenty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$22.50) for each Master Mason on its rolls.

Recommendation two: I recommend that the Grand Master appoint a committee of at least three as a fact finding committee to investigate the actions of concordant organizations. Further, this committee is directed to reports its findings to the Grand Lodge at the 2009 Communication. Those organizations found not in harmony with and positive support of this Grand Jurisdiction should be declared Clandestine and Master Masons should be prohibited from participating in their activities.

Recommendation three: I recommend that this Grand Lodge send a letter to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska and its Jurisdiction, Incorporated; asking to maintain our treaty to share jurisdiction of the territory and discontinue the limited recognition in favor of full Masonic recognition. This letter must arrive at their offices early enough to be considered at their 39th Annual Communication commencing on April 19m 2008.

GRAND MASTER'S TRAVELS AND ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 2007 - FEBRUARY 2008

Feb 2 Installed as GM of Masons of Alaska.

Feb 3 Attended Al Aska Shrine Temple Potentate's Ball.

Feb 5 Visited Assembly #1 IORG in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Feb 12 Attended Stated meeting Al Aska Shrine in Anchorage, Alaska

Feb 12 Gave permission for Al Aska Shriners to wear apron and jewels with Fez in the Fur Rondy parade in Anchorage, Alaska.

Feb 16 Attended Western Conference of Grand Lodges in Portland, Oregon.

Feb 17 – 20 Attended Conference of Grand Masters of North America in Portland, Oregon.

Mar 1 – 3 Attended Grand York Rite Sessions in Anchorage, Alaska.

Mar 4 Marched in Fur Rondy parade in Anchorage, Alaska clothed as Grand Master.

Mar 5 Permitted Eagle River Lodge #13 to ballot for dual membership for M.W. Harry Koenen, without letter of good standing from two of four other lodges. Information was that missing letters of good standing would be in the hands of the secretary of Eagle River Lodge #13 with the next 30 days.

Mar 6 Visited Aurora Lodge #15.

Mar 7 Visited Glacier Lodge #10.

Mar 16 – 17 Attended Northeast Regional Assembly of Red Cross of Constantine in Richland, Washington.

Mar 24 Attended the installation of officers of Waheed Court of Ladies Oriental Shrine in Anchorage, Alaska.

Mar 28 Visited Nugget Assembly IORG in Anchorage, Alaska.

Mar 29 Conducted a Table Lodge for Mt. McKinley Lodge #5 in Cordova, Alaska. We spent two and a half hours discussing Freemasonry and touring the lodge room with more than forty non-Masons from the community.

Mar 31 Al Aska Shrine Ceremonial at Kenai-Soldotna Shrine Club in Soldotna, Alaska.

Apr 15 – 17 Attended Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska annual sessions in Anchorage, Alaska.

Apr 18 Attended a meeting of the Board of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum.

Apr 21 Conferred Entered Apprentice Degree for Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge #21.

Apr 22 Attended Lodge Leadership Training for Southeast Alaska lodges with instructor R.W. John R. “Bo” Cline.

Apr 23 Visited Juneau Assembly #3 IORG in Juneau, Alaska.

Apr 24 Visited Mt. Juneau- - Gastineaux Lodge #21.

Apr 25 Visited Mt. Verstovia Lodge #18.

Apr 26 Visited Ketchikan Lodge #19.

Apr 27 Visited Petersburg Lodge #23.

May 12 Finance Committee meeting in Anchorage, Alaska.

May 18 Opened a special Communication of Grand Lodge for the purpose of performing dedication of the new Edward B. Hardland Lodge Room for Tanana Lodge #3 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

May 19 Attended International Friendship Days between Tanana Lodge #3 and Whitehorse Lodge #46 in Fairbanks, Alaska. Received M.W. Issac Brower-Berkoven, Grand Master of British Columbia & Yukon A.F.&A.M.

Jun 6 – 8 Attended Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon in Welches, Oregon.

Jun 13 – 16 Attended Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington in Kennewick, Washington.

Jun 21 – 24 Attended Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon in Burnaby, British Columbia.

Jun 30 – Jul 6 Attended the Imperial Shrine of North America Annual Sessions in Anaheim, California.

Aug 9 Gave an opening address to the Grand Court of Amaranth in Anchorage, Alaska.

Aug 12 – 16 Attended the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming in Casper, Wyoming.

Aug 25 – 26 Attended the first Joint Sessions of the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Sep 1 Attended Ketchikan Lodge #19 Century anniversary.

Sept 4 Visited Seward Lodge #6 in Seward, Alaska.

Sep 5 Visited Sterling Lodge #22 in Sterling, Alaska.

Sep 6 Visited Kenai Lodge #11 in Soldotna, Alaska.

Sep 7 Attended Board Meeting of Alaska Masonic Library and Museum.

Sep 12 Visited Valdez Lodge #4 in Valdez, Alaska.

Sep 15 Visited White Pass Lodge #11 in Skagway, Alaska.

Sep 24 Conducted a Table Lodge for Kodiak Lodge #9 on Kodiak Island, Alaska. We spent three hours discussing Freemasonry more than fifty non-Masons from the Community, including the Kodiak Mayor and her husband.

Oct 1 Visited North Pole Lodge #16 in North Pole, Alaska.

Oct 3 Visited Tanana Lodge #3 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Oct 4 Visited Fairbanks Lodge #12 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Oct 8 Visited Eagle River Lodge #13 in Eagle River, Alaska.

Oct 9 Visited Matanuska Lodge #7 in Palmer, Alaska.

Oct 11 Visited Iditarod Lodge #20 in Wasilla, Alaska.

Nov 1 Attended International Night held in Lafayette Lodge #241 in Lynwood, Washington.

Nov 5 Finance Committee meeting in Anchorage, Alaska.

Nov 11 – 15 Attended the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of Nevada in Reno, Nevada.

Dec 3 Attended Installation of Officers of North Pole Lodge #16 in North Pole, Alaska.

Dec 8 Installed Officers of Tanana Lodge #3 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Dec 27 Attended Installation of Officers of Fairbanks Lodge #12 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Jan 5, 08 Attended Annual Meeting of Al Aska Shrine Temple in Anchorage, Alaska.

Jan 5, 08 Attended Al Aska Shrine Temple Potentate's Ball in Anchorage, Alaska.

Jan 12, 08 Attended Installation of Officers of Sterling Lodge #22 in Sterling, Alaska.

Feb 7, 08 Opened the 27th Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

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

This report is submitted pursuant to Section 3.05 of the Alaska Masonic Code.

Well another year come and gone and I am still learning things about this job. I am sure that this process will continue. We are still very fortunate to have V.:W.: Tom Schram as our office manager. Without being in the office you cannot imagine the assistance he

provides to others from this Grand Lodge on an almost daily basis. Stop by if you are in the area. Coffee is nearly always available.

I have initiated in-house backup for our computers and have made a tentative agreement with Anchorage Lodge #17 to attempt to set up off site backup to better insure us in case of catastrophic failure/damage. We all hope this does not occur and most of us do not take the necessary precautions.

We now have On the Threshold, the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason booklets updated and archived as electronic documents to aid in future publication. The Alaska Monitor is also an e'document and was reprinted at a considerable reduction in cost. Through the assistance of V.:W.: Roger Hansen, The Alaska Masonic Code was "cleaned up" meaning no changes made except correcting punctuation, spacing, and boldness of type. It looks much better now! Thank you Roger it was a huge job. I also scanned the Standard Work into an e'document and again with Roger's proof reading skills the Deputies and Grand Lecturer have a product that is legible.

I still applaud the Lodge Secretaries, most of whom are very diligent in that position. Many of these brothers have very busy work schedules and family obligations but they still put in the extra hours each week to keep the records of their Lodges up to date and make timely inputs to this office. As required by Section 3.05 of the Alaska Masonic Code, I must report that 10 Lodges did not submit their End-of-Year Reports by the January 10th deadline. Also 3 Lodges are delinquent in filing one or more monthly returns.

The Lodges who HAVE submitted the required annual returns and all of their monthly returns include:

Tanana #3	Fairbanks #12
Valdez #4	Eagle River #13
Seward #6	Anchorage #17
Kodiak #9	Iditarod #20
Glacier #10	Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux #21

Our numbers are down this year. We had a net loss of 40. Most of this decrease was due to identifying many deceased brothers on the rolls. I provided a source for this process by using Social Security Death Index Interactive Search. It is now automatic for us in the office to check this for missing or lost members. On the positive side from the table below you can see that 7 Lodges have a net gain in 2007.

A Lodge roster of members is required to be submitted with the End of Year report (AMC 16.16.6). This is quite often omitted from the report and requires phone calls, e-mails or letters to obtain. We use this roster to verify the Grand Lodge membership roster with the Lodges in an attempt to keep our discrepancies to a minimum.

Because not all Lodges made complete submissions these data may not be totally correct and current status of the condition of the Grand Lodge of Alaska may have errors.

It has been a pleasure working with this year's Grand Lodge officers and committeemen. The new Lodge Secretaries are learning their duties well and fast and the tenured ones are maintaining their proficiency. I hope that the brothers will recognize the key place of the Secretary on the Lodge Management Team. I have enjoyed my experience this year as your Grand Secretary, and I offer my appreciation to the members of this Jurisdiction for the honor of serving them.

I know that I do not get to have recommendations that can be adopted but if so I would recommend that the Grand Lodge fiscal year be backed up one month. Right now with the End of Year and December reports due in to Grand Lodge by 10 January it is crazy trying to get everything compiled, printed and ready to get to Grand Session in just 20 days. Please think about this my Brothers.

Respectfully submitted,

RW Jerome P. "Jerry" Wasson
Grand Secretary

REPORT OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1st Report

To The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.
Subject: 1st Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008
i.e.: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cyprus

This Grand Lodge has received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Cyprus, AF&AM. The Grand Lodge of Cyprus was consecrated on October 8, 2006 by the Grand Lodge of Greece.

It consists of six (6) Blue Lodges with less than 100 members collectively.

The United Grand Lodge of England has had a presence in Cyprus since 1888. It was the first Masonic authority on the Island and its District there has the largest group of Masons, consisting of nearly 1,000 members. The District Grand Master and more than half of his brothers are Greek Cypriot and there are also Turkish Cypriot, English and other nationalities. It has Greek-speaking Lodges, has meeting places in six of the main towns and is certainly not restricted to the British sovereign base areas on the Island as has been suggested.

The Grand Lodge of Cyprus has fewer than 100 members and in spite of the fact that the

United Grand Lodge of England was willing to share the territory with the Grand Lodge of Greece for over 100 years, the Grand Lodge of Cyprus, which has just been established, is claiming exclusive jurisdiction and is seeking to prevent the United Grand Lodge from forming any new Lodges. Therefore, the United Grand Lodge of England does not recognize the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Cyprus.

The Grand Masters conference states that the Grand Lodge of Cyprus was legally formed, works in regular Masonry and generally meets the standards for recognition. An agreement should be reached within the Grand Lodge of Cyprus that recognizes the rights of those Lodges chartered by the United Grand Lodge of England to co-exist within the jurisdiction of Cyprus.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, this committee recommends that recognition not be granted to the Grand Lodge of Cyprus until an agreement to share jurisdiction with the United Grand Lodge of England is negotiated.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move this report be received for the record.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar

W David C. Pratt

W David Worel

2nd Report

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

Subject: 2nd Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008

i.e.: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Slovenia

We have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Slovenia, formerly part of Yugoslavia. This Grand Lodge was constituted by the Grand Lodge of Austria on October 16, 1999. It consists of 4 member Blue lodges with 151 Masons collectively. The Grand Lodge of Slovenia has previously been recognized by 22 Grand Lodges located in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the USA.

The report of the Grand Masters conference in February 2000 was of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Slovenia is regular and entitled to recognition.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move the report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that full recognition be granted to the Grand Lodge of Slovenia.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar
W David C. Pratt
W David Worel

3rd Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.
Subject: 3rd Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008
i.e.: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Del Estado De Guanajunto, Mexico

We have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Del Estado De Guanajunto, Mexico.

This Grand Lodge appears in the book "List of Lodges Masonic" 2006 Edition and in the annual Report of the Conference of Grand Masters in 2004.

It is presumed that this Grand Lodge is regular and meets the standards for recognition.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that full recognition be granted to the Grand Lodge Del Estado De Guanajunto, Mexico.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar
W David C. Pratt
W David Worel

4th Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska
Subject: 4th Report-Fraternal Relations Committee- February 7, 2008
Re: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Ukraine

We received a request for recognition from the Grand lodge of Ukraine. The Grand Lodge of Ukraine was consecrated on September 24, 2005, by the Grand Lodge Nationale France and the Grand Lodge of Austria.

The Conference of Grand Masters, commission is of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of the Ukraine meets the standards for recognition.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that full Masonic recognition be granted to the Grand Lodge of the Ukraine.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry Dunbar
W David Pratt
W David Worel

5th Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.
Subject: 5th Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008
i.e.: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Malta.

We have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Malta. This Grand Lodge was established on November 18, 2005. It was consecrated by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, assisted by representatives of the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move the report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that full recognition be granted to the Grand Lodge of Malta.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar
W David C. Pratt
W David Worel

6th Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.
Subject: 6th Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008
i.e.: Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Bosnia & Herzegovina

We have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Bosnia & Herzegovina . This Grand Lodge was constituted on April 6, 2005, by the Grand Lodge of Austria.

The Grand Masters Conference, commission of Recognition is of the opinion that this Grand Lodge meets the standards for recognition.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move this report be received for the record.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that full recognition be granted to the Grand Lodge of Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar
W David C. Pratt
W David Worel

7th Report

To: The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Alaska.
Subject: 7th Report- Fraternal Relations Committee - February 7, 2008
Re: Miscellaneous Correspondence.

1. Received a letter from the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic. They sent their fraternal greetings and thank us for granting recognition to their Grand Lodge last year. They also said they would be happy to exchange Grand Representatives if we so desired.
2. A letter from the Grand Lodge of Federal Masonic District of Brazil stating that they approved a New Constitution at their last quarterly meeting and sent a new email address and web page.
3. We received several pieces of correspondence from various sources in Mexico concerning jurisdictional disputes. Some of these were in Spanish. Others had been translated to English but the translation was poor and could not be understood. This committee recommends no action at this time, pending further clarification.
4. There continues to be problems in the Philippines. Several Edicts have been issued by the Grand Master and subsequently approved by the brethren. The bottom line is—only those brethren who broke away from the Grand Lodge of the Philippines and subsequently attempted to form a new Grand Lodge, named “The Independent Grand Lodge of the Philippines of Cavite” are to be considered clandestine. They have since been expelled from Masonry. The original Lodges in that district are still in existence and should be considered regular.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Henry T. Dunbar
W David C. Pratt
W David Worel
Fraternal Relations Committee

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	33
White Pass Lodge No. 1	5
Tanana Lodge No. 3	10
Valdez Lodge No. 4	4
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	0
Seward Lodge No. 6	3
Matanuska Lodge No. 7	7
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	3
Glacier Lodge No. 10	4
Kenai Lodge No. 11	1
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	4
Eagle River Lodge No. 13	5
Aurora Lodge No. 15	5
North Pole Lodge No. 16	5
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	8
Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18	4
Ketchikan Lodge No. 19	0
Iditarod Lodge No. 20	4
Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21	6
Sterling Lodge No. 22	3
Petersburg Lodge No. 23	4
Voided Ballots	3
Total	118

Respectfully submitted,

VW Darrell E. Windsor
Chairman

APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Jurisprudence

- W Dan McCrummen (21) Chairman
- VW Timothy M. Smith (22)
- W John P. Johnson (3)
- VW Ken R. Creamer PDD (9, 18)
- W Thomas S. Westall (20)
- Bro. Philip N. Nash (11, 22) Advisor

Grievance & Appeals

- MW Thomas O. Mickey HPGM (1, 3) Chairman
- MW L.V. "Joe" Dees PGM (10, 13, 17)
- RW Jacques Boiley (1, 3)

Finance

- VW Michael Swenson PDD (17) Chairman
- W Edward Sarff (23)
- RW James D. Grubbs (7, 13, 20)
- W James R. Griffith (13)
- Bro. Daniel O'Connell (13) Advisor

Fraternal Relations

- MW Henry T. Dunbar PGM (10, 17) Chairman
- W David C. Pratt (10)
- W David Worell (3)

Credentials

- VW Darrell E. Windsor (18) Chairman
- W Sean R. McGrane (17)
- W D. Scott Thompson (10, 15, 17)
- W Frank H. Bird (7)
- VW Jim R. McMichael (17)

Masonic Youth

- VW William P. Kalbach (7, 13, 17, 20) Chairman
- Bro. Bobby A. Hines (3)
- W Robert L. Cartmill (21)

Bylaws

- W Karl G. Amundsen (16) Chairman
- W Keith E. Herve (3, 16)
- RW Jacques Boiley (1, 3)

Sub Committees

Long Range Planning

- RW John R. "Bo" Cline (7, 20) Chairman
- MW Samuel K. Medsker (3, 12, 16)
- RW Jared S. Decker (9, 13)
- RW Johnnie L. Wallace (12, 17)
- RW James D. Grubbs (7, 13, 20)
- RW Jerome P. Wasson (13)
- W Douglas C. Teninty (17)
- W John K. Bishop (15)
- MW Marvin B. Fitzpatrick, PGM (10, 17)

Sessions & Arrangements

- VW Robert G. Homoleski (3) Chairman
- W Michael A. Starkey (12)
- W James M. LeFlore (16)

Leadership Training

- Bro. Paul B. Brodale (16) Chairman
- W John P. Johnson (3)
- VW Thomas L. Schram (17)

Russian Relations

- MW Harry J. Koenan PGM, Chairman
- W James R. Griffith (13)
- MW John Grainger PGM (1, 19) Emeritus

George Washington National Memorial

- VW Monte R. Ervin (3, 12, 16) Chairman
- MW Charles E. Corbin PGM (7, 20)

Masonic Code Review

- VW Rex C. Hasty (16)
- VW Gerald E. (Gene) Browning (6, 11)
- VW Jerry W. Pinion (10)
- VW Russell D. Shivers (21)
- VW Donald A. Witsoe (17, 20)

Library and Museum Foundation

VW Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley (10, 20)
W Douglas C. Teninty (17)

Deputies of the Grand Master

DDGM #1 VW Rex C. Hasty (16)
DDGM #2 VW Gerald E. (Gene) Browning (6, 11)
DDGM #3 VW Jerry W. Pinion (10)
DDGM #4 VW Russell D. Shivers (21)
DDGM #5 VW Donald A. Witsoe (17, 20)

REPORTS ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

MOTIONS

W Brother Frank Weiss (13) made motion to have investigation waived by Grand Master for Martin Herman Bayer of Pennsylvania to join Eagle River Lodge No. 13. Motion seconded by Jared Decker. Motion passed.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2008-1

To Amend Sections or Repeal several Sections in Chapters 18 and 19 of the Alaska Masonic Code

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE To create a Statewide jurisdiction for petitioners.

RESOLUTION: WHEREAS, a Statewide jurisdiction would be less restrictive than Lodge jurisdictions on petitioners who move from one area within Alaska to another while accumulating residence time; and,

WHEREAS, a Statewide jurisdiction is desirable to attract petitioners who may wish to petition a Lodge other than the one near where they may live; and,

WHEREAS, the formation of a new District has changed some Lodges to make some Jurisdictional areas unrealistic for petitioners; and,

WHEREAS, most petitioners want to join a Lodge where their friends are members, regardless of any jurisdictional ruling;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the first sentence of Section 18.01 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 18.01 Bylaw

PREREQUISITE TO INITIATION. CONDITIONS. AND PROCEEDINGS UNDER. A Lodge may not initiate a person except upon his petition and may not knowingly receive a petition from, or initiate a candidate who is less than eighteen years old, or who has not been an actual resident within the jurisdiction of the Lodge at least six months preceding the date of such petition.

Be amended and a succeeding sentence be added to read:

Section 18.01 By-law

PREREQUISITE TO INITIATION, CONDITIONS, AND PROCEEDINGS UNDER. A Lodge may not initiate a person except upon his petition and may not knowingly receive a petition from, or initiate a candidate who is less than eighteen years old, or who has not been an actual resident within ~~the jurisdiction of the Lodge~~ this Grand Jurisdiction at least six months preceding the date of such petition. A qualified petitioner residing anywhere within this Grand Jurisdiction may petition any Lodge within this Jurisdiction.

the remainder of the paragraph remains the same continuing with (See Section 8.05 through 8.0') regarding residency) If a petitioner so etc

And, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the first sentence of Section 18.05 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 18.05 Bylaw

MEANING OF RESIDENCE. Masonic residence means the permanent or continuous abiding place and home of the petitioner for the six months next preceding the date of presentation of his petition to the Lodge.

Be amended to read:

Section 18.05 Bylaw

MEANING OF RESIDENCE. Masonic residence means the permanent or continuous abiding place and home of the petitioner for the Six months next preceding the date of ~~presentation of~~ his petition to a Lodge.

And, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Section 18.06 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 18.06 Bylaw

LODGE MAY REQUIRE LONGER RESIDENCE. A Lodge may by its Bylaws require more than six months of residence within its jurisdiction.

Be amended to read:

Section 18.06 Bylaw

LODGE MAY REQUIRE LONGER RESIDENCE. A Lodge may by its Bylaws require more than six months of residence within ~~its jurisdiction~~ this Grand Jurisdiction

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 18.07(2) of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 18.07 Bylaw

ARMED SERVICES.

2. A man in the Armed Services of the United States, who, while in such service, has maintained his continuous residence within this Jurisdiction for three months preceding the date of presentation of his petition, may petition a Lodge for the degrees of Masonry.

Be amended to read:

Section 18.07 Bylaw

ARMED SERVICES.

2. A man in the Armed Services of the United States, who, while in such service, has maintained his continuous residence within this Grand Jurisdiction for three months preceding the date of presentation of his petition, may petition a Lodge for the degrees of Masonry.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the second sentence of Section 18.08 of the Alaska Masonic Code which now reads:

Section 18.08 By-law

SEAFARING, NAVAL, AND MILITARY MEN. The requirement of six months' residence within this Jurisdiction does not apply to a seafaring man whose home is on board ship, but said seafaring men must petition a Lodge situated in a regular port of call for his ship. A person who is, and for three months preceding the date of petitions has been in the United States Naval or Military service, may petition a Lodge having jurisdiction over the place at which he is stationed.

Be amended to read:

Section 18.08 By-law

SEAFARING, NAVAL, AND MILITARY MEN. ~~The requirement of six months' residence within this Jurisdiction does not apply to a seafaring man whose home is on board ship, but said seafaring men must petition a Lodge situated in a regular port of call for his ship. A person who is, and for three months preceding the date of petitions has been in the United States Naval or Military service, may petition a Lodge having jurisdiction over the place at which he is stationed.~~ A person who is, and for three months preceding the date of petition has been, in the united state naval or military service, may petition any lodge in this grand jurisdiction.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sections 18.10 and 18.11 of the Alaska Masonic Code both of which apply solely to procedures for waivers of Lodge jurisdictions over petitions, be repealed.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 18.13 of the Alaska Masonic Code, which now reads:

Section 18.13 Bylaw

WAIVERS, PROCEDURE. A Lodge receiving an application for a waiver to allow a resident to petition another Lodge of this Jurisdiction or a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction shall process the application for waiver exactly as a petition for the degrees, as in Section 19.01 except that such application must be passed through the respective Grand Secretaries.

Be amended to read:

Section 18.13 Bylaw

WAIVERS, PROCEDURE. A Lodge receiving an application for a waiver to allow a resident to petition ~~another Lodge of this Jurisdiction or~~ a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction shall process the application ~~for waiver exactly as a petition for the degrees, as in Section 19.01 except that such application must be~~ passed through the respective Grand Secretaries.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sections 18.15, 18.16, 19.04, 19.05 and 19.14 of the Alaska Masonic Code, each of which apply solely to the measurement or workings of Lodge Jurisdictions, or to jurisdictional waivers, or to residential changes between Lodge jurisdictions, be repealed.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Clifford Darnell, PM (8, 13, 20)

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

Resolution 2008-2

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

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To amend Section 12.03 of the Alaska Masonic Code to reflect the change to Section 20.11 of the Alaska Masonic Code which no longer requires a Master Mason to stand proficiency before signing the bylaws and becoming a Master Mason in good standing. To also correct the redundant language in Section 12.03 as it currently appears in the Alaska Masonic Code.

RESOLUTION: WHEREAS, Section 20.11 of the Alaska Masonic Code states “After being Raised as a Master Mason the Brother shall pay his dues for the current year as established in the Lodge Bylaws and sign the Bylaws. He then becomes an enrolled member of that Lodge. If at a later date he wishes to progress through the “Chairs” of his Lodge he must demonstrate proficiency in the Master Mason degree in accordance with

Section 20.11 Bylaw paragraph 1 and 2 prior to being installed in the office of Senior Deacon, Junior Warden , Senior Warden , or Worshipful Master; and,

WHEREAS, Section 12.03 states” It is a Masonic offense for a Mason to solicit another Mason to solicit another Mason to accept or to petition membership in an organization requiring Masonic membership as a prerequisite prior to the time that the Mason so solicited has completed the ritualistic work in the Third Degree and passed his proficiency in the Lecture of the Third Degree”.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that Section 12.03 which now reads “It is a Masonic offense for a Mason to solicit another Mason to solicit another Mason to accept or to petition membership in an organization requiring Masonic membership as a prerequisite prior to the time that the Mason so solicited has completed the ritualistic work in the Third Degree and passed his proficiency in the Lecture of the Third Degree.”

NOTE: Redundant language in first sentence of Section 12.03

BE AMMENDED TO READ, “It is a Masonic offense for a Mason to solicit another Mason to accept or to petition membership in an organization requiring Masonic membership as a prerequisite prior to the time that the Mason so solicited has completed the ritualistic work in the Third Degree and is a member in good standing in his symbolic lodge.”

Respectfully submitted,

W Michael A. Starkey, WM Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
VW Monte R. Ervin, PM Tanana Lodge No. 3

Report of the Jurisprudence Committee: This resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. This committee does not offer an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted. This resolution requires a three-fourths majority to pass.

Note: This resolution received the required majority vote and was passed on February 7, 2008

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence

1st Report

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

This is the 1st report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred Resolution 2008-2

The resolution is in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge. This committee does not offer an opinion as to whether it should or should not be adopted. This requires a three-fourths vote of the members present to majority to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

VW Ken Creamer (9, 18)

VW Tim Smith (22)

W John Johnson (3)

MW Grand Master I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master I move that this resolution be adopted.

Note: This resolution received the required majority vote and was passed on February 7, 2008

2nd Report

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

This is the 2nd report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred parts of the Grand Master's Message have considered the same and report as follows.

The Grand Master's recommendation #3 is in proper form to be considered by Grand Lodge

Respectfully submitted,

VW Ken Creamer (9, 18)

VW Tim Smith (22)

W John Johnson (3)

MW Grand Master I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master I move that this report be adopted.

This motion requires a simple majority for approval.

3rd Report

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

This is the 3rd report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred parts of the Grand Master's Message have considered the same and report as follows.

The Grand Master's recommendation #2 is in proper form to be considered by Grand Lodge

Respectfully submitted,

VW Ken Creamer (9, 18)
VW Tim Smith (22)
W John Johnson (3)

MW Grand Master I ask that this report be received.

MW Grand Master I move that this report be adopted.

This motion requires a simple majority for approval.

4th Report

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

This is the 4th report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to who was referred Resolution 2008-1

This Resolution 2008-1 is not in proper form for consideration by Grand Lodge.

M W Grand Master I ask that this report be received

Respectfully submitted,

VW Ken Creamer (9, 18)
VW Tim Smith (22)
W John Johnson (3)

Grievance and Appeals

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

We the Committee on Grievance and Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of Brother Jonathan Winchester who was suspended for a time indefinite as a result of a Masonic trial by Juneau – Gastineaux Lodge No. 21, have considered the same and report as follows.

After careful review of the documentation provided, the committee finds that the Lodge failed to follow the procedures of Section 31.07 and 31.08 of the Alaska Masonic Code and recommends that the judgment be set aside for error and that the case be remanded back to Juneau – Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 for further proceedings.

Respectfully Submitted

MW Stanley R. Foulke (11, 17) Chairman
VW Monte R. Ervin (3, 12) Member
W Clarence E. Keto (10) Member

Finance

Report of the Grand Treasurer

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alaska, F. & A.M.
I herewith submit my report on the Financial Status of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

This year has been another very good one as things have been running smoothly. However, the lack of new revenue sources and minimal donations were a little concerning but our investments were growing and supplying the resources we required to meet expenses until September. Unfortunately the market took a severe down-turn and continued this trend through December.

The Grand Lodge has invested mostly in fixed assets and the bond Market which usually balances out when markets have volatile changes. However this was not the case during this last three months and the Grand Lodge sustained substantial losses in most accounts especially the Permanent Fund, General Fund, Life Membership Fund, and the Travel Fund.

Our Financial Advisor has confidence that this trend will slow and the Markets will once again begin to grow.

The Finance Committee has had three meetings this year. Keeping on top of our investments and staying cognizant of the changing market conditions. We are still being required to pay legal fees from the ongoing Law Suit. For 2007 we paid \$5,980.50.

Unfortunately there is still a possibility that it will continue on during the next year.

We have been working with our insurance Company to get our rates lowered. We did manage a small reduction in premium costs.

Since the cost of doing business has gone up each year and we have not raised our per capita rate since 2001, I have submitted a resolution to raise the Per Capita \$1.00 per member, please vote in favor of this increase.

I would like to thank the following for their support and guidance during this past year, my wife Tes, Grand Master MW Sam Medsker, Grand Secretary RW Jerry Wasson, Finance Committee Chairman VW Mike Swensen, the Office Manager VW Tom Schram, Bro Dan O'Connell our Investment Advisor. and to the other members of the

Finance Committee. All of our investments are doing well, and you can review the balance sheet for 2007.

Respectfully Submitted

RW James D. Grubbs
Grand Treasurer

Report of the Finance Committee

1st Report

Note: The 1st report cannot be found to publish.

2nd Report

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

We, the committee on Finance, to who was referred the Grand Master's message, have considered the same and report as follows.

That portion of the message entitled Grand Master's assessment have considered the same and recommend adoption of the assessment by this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

VW Michael B. Swensen Chairman
W Ed Sarff
W Jim Griffith
RW Jim Grubbs

3rd Report

We, the committee on Finance, to who was referred the Grand Master's message, have considered the same and report as follows.

That portion of the message entitled Recommendation one, have considered the same and recommend that the increase of the per capita tax so stated be adopted by this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

VW Michael B. Swensen Chairman
W Ed Sarff
W Jim Griffith
RW Jim Grubbs

Audit Committee Report for 2008

January 26, 2008

MW Samuel K. Medsker
Grand Master
Most Worshipful Lodge F&AM of Alaska
P.O. Box 190668
Anchorage, AK 899519-0668

Dear MW Sam,

We have reviewed the Grand Lodge Financial registers and find that all transactions are accountable. We wish to thank RW Jim Grubbs and VW Thomas Schram for the kindness and consideration they extended to our committee during the review.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

VW Jerry W. Pinion Chairman
RW Dennis V. Morgan
VW Jim R. McMichael

cc: RW Jim Grubbs
VW Thomas Schram

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2007

ASSETS

Account No.	CHECKING & INVESTMENTS	AMOUNT	TOTALS
	Current Assets		
1110	Checking - First National Bank	2,041.57	
1130	Money Market - 0551149	3,121.70	
1140	Petty Cash	100.00	
1205	Arts - Scholarship Fund	16,280.00	
1210	Travel Fund Acct 8851-4125	40,035.91	
1215	General Charity Fund	4,134.15	
1220	General Fund - 6327-9979	292,720.48	
1230	Permanent Fund 1651-6357	281,282.47	
1240	Life Membership - 1211-0782	156,168.10	
1245	GL Per Capita Fund	2,138.54	
1280	Russian Relations Fund	727.48	
	Total Savings, Checking & Investments		798,750.40
	ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
1401	White Pass No. 1	4.91	
1403	Tanana Lodge No. 3	22.17	
1404	Valdez Lodge No. 4	85.66	
1405	Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	6.69	
1406	Seward Lodge No. 6	(32.43)	
1407	Matanuska Lodge No. 7	18.02	
1409	Kodiak Lodge No. 9	(34.40)	
1410	Glacier Lodge No. 10	9.00	
1411	Kenai Lodge No. 11	9.02	
1412	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	13.96	
1413	Eagle River Lodge No. 13	25.30	
1415	Aurora Lodge No. 15	34.50	
1416	North Pole Lodge No. 16	4.91	
1417	Anchorage Lodge No. 17	29.50	
1418	Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18	4.91	
1421	Mt. Juneau/Gastineaux No. 21	85.00	
1422	Sterling Lodge No. 22	3.14	
1423	Petersburg Lodge No. 23	41.86	
	Total Accounts Receivable		331.72
	MASONIC SUPPLIES/INVENTORY		
1506	Ak Masonic Code w/Binder	161.00	
1511	AK Masonic Code w/o Binder	70.00	
1515	AK Monitor w/Binder	210.75	
1517	AK Monitor Binder w/o Text	412.50	
1520	Lodge Officer Hand Book w/Binder	172.80	

1521	Lodge Officer Hand Book w/o Binder	52.50	
1530	List of Lodges Masonic	69.54	
1540	Entered Apprentice Cipher	632.70	
1541	Entered Apprentice Booklet	271.80	
1542	GM Nickel Tokens 2007	1,404.00	
1543	GM Nickel Tokens 2007 – 08	6,244.00	
1550	Fellowcraft Cipher	661.38	
1551	Fellowcraft Booklet	486.41	
1560	Master Mason Cipher	593.46	
1561	Master Mason Booklet	401.94	
1570	Pamphlet - On The Threshold	18.92	
1571	Pamphlet - What I'd Like My Fr	222.12	
1575	Claudy Books – VOL I	314.50	
1576	Claudy Books – VOL II	108.00	
1577	Claudy Books – VOL III	133.00	
1580	Pins - 25 Year	236.25	
1581	Pins - 50 Year	178.20	
1582	Pins - 75 Year	99.20	
1585	Pins – Widow	150.75	
1590	Commemorative Coins	212.80	
1591	Bolo Ties	34.00	
1592	Belt & Belt Buckle	980.00	
	Total Inventory		14,532.52
	Total Current Assets		813,614.64
	Property and Equipment		
1810	Office Furniture & Fixtures	5,134.53	
1820	Accumulative. Depreciation - F & F	(4,620.00)	
1830	Office Electronic/Computer Equity	13,262.72	
1840	Accumulative. Depreciation - Elect.	(5,775.84)	
	Total Property and Equipment		8,001.41
	Total Assets		821,616.05
	LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
	Current Liabilities		
2230	Bank of America	462.14	
	Total Current Liabilities		462.14
	Capital		
3000	Equity/Retained Earnings	0.00	
3100	Arts - Scholarships	16,280.00	
3120	General Charity Fund	4,134.15	
3130	Travel Fund	40,035.91	
3140	Life Membership	156,168.10	
3145	GL PER Capita Life Membership	2,138.54	

3160	Office Equipment Fund	1,776.46	
3170	Proceedings - Transcript, P&B	25,690.32	
3180	Russian Relations Fund	927.48	
3190	General Fund	292,720.48	
3195	Permanent Fund	281,282.47	
	Net Income	0.00	
	Total Capital		821,153.91
	Total Liabilities & Capital		821,616.05

Budget – 2008 vs 2007

Acct #		2008 Budget	2007 Budget	2007 Dec Actual	2007 Budget Vs Actual
Revenues					
4100	Assessment - Per Capita	37,000.00	37,000.00	34,328.50	-2,671.50
4110	Assessment - Bulletin	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,384.50	84.50
4120	Assessment- Late Fee	50.00	50.00	0.00	-50.00
4130	GM Dispensations	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
4145	GWMNM Fund Contribution	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,239.00	739.00
4150	Assessment - Petition Received	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,900.00	-1,100.00
4160	Assessment - Degrees Conferred	750.00	750.00	1,070.00	320.00
4170	Assessment - Affils / Degrees	600.00	600.00	690.00	90.00
4175	Reinstatement for NPD	75.00	75.00	205.00	130.00
4180	General Contrib. / Donations	3,000.00	3,000.00	600.00	-2,400.00
4250	Fund Raisers - Other	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00	-3,500.00
4251	Fundraiser- 2005 Hats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4252	Fundraiser- 2006 hats	0.00	0.00	165.00	165.00
4253	Fundraiser- Jackets	500.00	500.00	58.00	-442.00
4254	Fundraiser-Clocks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4255	Fundraiser-Thermometers	0.00	0.00	(210.00)	-210.00
4400	Sale of Masonic Inventory	3,500.00	3,500.00	9,032.45	5,532.45
4810	Interest – Money Market	100.00	100.00	151.96	51.96
4815	Div -Interest - Charity Fund	140.00	140.00	201.25	61.25
4820	Div & Interest - Travel Fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,627.80	627.80
4825	Div-Interest- Permanent Fund	12,500.00	12,500.00	13,202.36	702.36
4830	Div-Interest – General Fund	4,785.00	4,785.00	4,683.39	-101.61
4835	Div-Interest- Arts Scholarship Fund	850.0	850.00	1,096.96	246.96
4840	Div-Interest - Life Membership	7,000.00	7,000.00	10,229.89	3,229.89
4845	Div-Interest – Per Capita Acct	60.00	60.00	104.13	44.13
4846	Div-Interest Russian Relations	20.00	20.00	59.74	39.74
4850	Investment Income Gains/Losses	22,000.00	22,000.00	(46,442.87)	-68,442.87
4900	Other Income-Misc.	100.00	100.00	40.00	-60.00
4950	Reimbursed Expense - Ann. Comm	22,000.00	22,000.00	20,590.76	-1,409.24
4960	Reimbursed Expense- Leadership Tng	3,000.00	3,000.00	410.00	-2,590.00
4970	Reimbursed Expense- West Conf.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Budget/ Gross Profit/Deviation		132,430.00	132,400.00	61,517.82	-70,912.18

EXPENSES

	Annual Communication Expense				
6005	Ann. Comm. - Banquet Expenses	18,350.00	18,350.00	19,657.80	1,307.80
6015	Ann. Comm. - Entertainment	800.00	500.00	494.00	-6.00
6030	Ann. Comm. – Printing	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,296.20	-103.80
6040	Ann. Comm. – Supplies	550.00	550.00	763.71	213.71
6045	Ann. Comm. - Transportation	500.00	100.00	282.82	128.82
6050	Ann. Comm. - Misc. Exp./Other	100.00	100.00	108.00	8.00
	Total Annual Communication	21,00.00	21,000.00	22,548.53	1,548.53
6100	Leadership Training	1,250	2,500.00	0.00	-2,500.00
6205	Advertising / Public Relations	1,550.00	300.00	0.00	-300.00
6220	Awards Program	200.00	200.00	0.00	-200.00
6225	Bank Service Charges	200.00	200.00	80.22	-119.78
6230	Contributions/Donations	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00

Acct #	Expenses	2008Budget	2007 Budget	Year to Date	BudgetVs Actual
4401	Inventory Cost of Goods	3,000.00	0.00	10,578.14	7,578.14
6227	Broker Commission/Foreign Tax	3,000.00	3000.00	6,133.62	3,133.62
6255	Internet Service Expense	600.00	600.00	732.48	132.48
6260	Depreciation	2,891.00	2,891.00	2,231.00	-660.00
6270	Dues & Subscriptions	1,200.00	1,200.00	2,136.64	936.64
6275	Equipment Rental	50.00	50.00	0.00	-50.00
6277	Equipment Repair	575.00	575.00	680.00	105.00
6285	Fees - Legal / Audit	5,000.00	10,000.00	5,980.50	-4,019.50
6301	GL Replacement Regalia	1,000.00			
6305	Gr. Master-Regalia	1,500.00	1,500.00	4,184.20	2,684.20
6310	GM Expenses-Misc Out of Pocket	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
6315	GM Travel-Discretionary	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00
6405	Travel - Grand Master	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
6410	Travel - Deputy Grand Master	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
6415	Travel - Senior Grand Warden	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
6420	Travel - Junior Grand Warden	1,500.00	1,500.00	15000.00	0.00
6425	Travel - Grand Secretary	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,300.00	0.00
6430	Travel - Grand Treasurer	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
6505	G. Master & G. Sec'y Conference	2,000.00	1,500.00	1,456.00	-35.00
6510	Gr. Secretary - Misc. Expenses	750.00	750.00	210.44	-539.56
6620	G. Washington Memorial Assoc.	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,239.00	739.00
6630	Liability Insurance	8,000.00	10,000.00	8,037.00	-1,963.00

6635	Workers Comp. Insurance	350.00	350.00	123.00	-227.00
6690	Masonic Service Assoc. Dues	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
6700	Office Salary	12,600.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00
6705	Office Accounting Salaries	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
6710	Office Supplies & Exp.	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,212.68	-287.32
6735	Grand Lodge Bulletin	1,600.00	1,600.00	0.00	-1,600.00
6730	Postage & Delivery	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,265.63	-734.37
6745	Printing - General Forms	1,000.00	1,000.00	69.50	-930.50
6750	Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,400.00	-600.00
6760	Property Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6765	Telephone	1,000.00	1,400.00	523.23	-876.77
6780	Web Site Fee	1,000.00	500.00	341.00	-159.00
6785	Western Conference	0.00	0.00	407.96	407.96
6790	Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,000.00	235.00	-765.00
6820	Payroll Taxes	50.00	50.0	0.00	-50.00
6821	Medicare	200.00	200.00	174.00	-26.00
6822	F.I.C.A.	800.00	800.00	744.00	-56.00
6823	State (S.U.I.)	380.00	380.00	298.80	-81.20
6830	Federal (F.U.T.A.)	100.00	100.00	56.00	-44.00
8010	Other Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00
8011	IRS Penalty	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Budget				
	Exp/Deviation	110,246.00	114,346.00	111,787.57	-2,558.43

Net Income	22,184.00	18,084.00	(50,269.75)
-------------------	------------------	------------------	--------------------

BUDGET & EXPENSE FOOTNOTES:

Masonic Youth

No report from the Committee on Masonic Youth was received at the time of publication.

Bylaws

1. During 2007, the Bylaws Committee received two requests for approval of by-law amendments from Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

2. Tanana Lodge and Matanuska Lodge both requested minor changes and administrative corrections to their by-laws.
3. All changes were found by the committee to be in proper form and acceptable according to the Alaska Masonic Code.
4. Both requests received unanimous approval and were returned to the Grand Lodge Secretary.

Fraternally,

WB Karl Amundsen, Chairman
 VWB Jacques Boiley
 WB Keith Herve

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report of Grand Chaplain (Necrology)

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

White Pass Lodge No. 1

Benny Gene Ballenger	1-28-2007
William A. Dickson	Unknown
Warren A. Ormasen	12-30-2007

Tanana Lodge No. 3

William Sabo	3-1-1978
Donald Alexander Fowler	7-16-1992
Dragoljub Nedic	5-25-2002
Ralph Meigs Colburn	9-11-2003
Walter Lee Jenkins	1-15-2005
Robert William Vreeland	10-10-2005
William Evertt Simpson	11-7-2006
Claude Casey Douglas	12-9-2006
Evertt Ira Blood	1-5-2007
W John James Lincoln	1-7-2007
James Andre Desmond	1-14-2007
Joe Lee Bush	1-22-2007
Jack Binford Walters	1-25-2007
V W John William Underwood	2-20-2007
Thomas Francis Kozul	4-3-2007
Curtis Malcolm Johnson	6-15-2007
Jewel Gaylord Jolley	6-27-2007

Jack Elliot Lambert	7-11-2007
Collie Dester Collins	8-19-2007
W Ronnie Eugene Epperson	9-14-2007
W Harry Martyn Bachelor Jr.	9-21-2007
W Wesley Earl Carpenter	9-21-2007
Celso Ramon Garcia	Unknown
Valdez Lodge No. 4	
Max Harris Wells	4-20-2007
Peter L. Loveseth	5-21-2007
Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5	
W John Lewis Josin	2-25-2006
Johann Soronsson	3-20-2005
Matanuska Lodge No. 7	
Milton Joseph Menard	4-14-2004
Richard Frank Kasper	10-21-2005
Gregory Dean Carpenter	6-15-2006
W Oliver Reino Onkka	12-10-23006
Norman Cornell	12-22-2006
W Milton Henderson Souter Jr.	2-16-2007
W William Bruce Zahradnicek	3-15-2007
V W Henry Reynolds Ferguson	5-9-2007
Ernest Edward Line	6-1-2007
W Denny Randall Sheldon	9-24-2007
Herbert Herman Belanger	Unknown
Kodiak Lodge No. 9	
W William Fred Kirk	7-8-2007
Elmer Lee Eller	8-2-2007
Glacier Lodge No. 10	
W Theodore Roy Caman	2-20-2007
W Charles Fredrick Johnson	5-30-2007
Edmond Franklin Joseph Rayburn	8-6-2007
Kenai Lodge No. 11	
Ronald Edward McMillan	1-6-2007
Fairbanks Lodge No. 12	
James Dewey Jackson	11-22-2001
Warren Delmar Classen	2-24-2007
Harvey William Davis	4-17-2007
John Gordon Fletcher	8-25-2007

Anchorage Lodge No. 17

Howard Shackford Laurence	7-29-1993
Russell Curtis Hart	3-26-2000
A. William Neve	5-31-2004
Adam Clouate	3-19-2005
Beverly Hodges Morris	9-6-2005
Earl Lewis Radtke	8-24-2006
Charles Harry Sells	11-1-2006
James George Sherry	12-17-2006
Max Bachman	5-27-2007
Thomas McMillan Brown	6-15-2007
Joe Russo	6-30-2007

Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18

Marvin Eugene Gillespie	3-6-2007
--------------------------------	-----------------

Ketchikan Lodge No. 19

Frank DeForest Tillotson	5-2-2002
Silas Daken Randall	10-31-2004
Howard Dodge Stevens	11-26-2004
James Bernard Elkins	4-2-2007
David Alan Ausman	12-19-2007
W John Gooding Falconer	Unknown

Iditarod Lodge 20

W Leonard Eugene Luchau	5-28-2007
--------------------------------	------------------

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21

W Earl Lloyd Fosse	5-28-2007
Homer Adam Sutter	4-15-2006
Albert William Gotcher	5-1-2006
James Edward Funk	8-23-2007

Petersburg Lodge No. 23

Arthur Willis Goldsberry	1-3-2007
W William Chester George Sr.	9-17-2007
W Ernest Verl Inman	Unknown

*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.*

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

W Jack B. Coghill Sr
Grand Chaplain

Report of Grand Lecturer

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Worshipful Masters and Brothers all. It has been a great pleasure to be the Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. I honestly can not tell you what a privilege it has been.

I accompanied the MW Grand Master to many of the lodges during his official visits and the brotherly love and friendship was one thing that impressed me. Everyone was happy that we were there and they did their best to recognize the Grand Lodge Officers and make us feel welcome. I want to thank everyone for your hospitality.

During my visits to the lodges, I talked to many of the Worshipful Masters and encouraged them to get their newly raised brothers off to a good start by asking him to begin learning a small part for their lodge. I brought to their attention that they should use the resources available to them by asking me, the Grand Lecturer, or their District Deputy to assist them in conducting degree work or just opening and closing the lodge. I also recommended that if you see your lodge is a little weak in one area, get the books out and learn to do it the right way. It is very important to do the work correctly. One important lesson I learned by my appointment as the Grand Lecturer, we all should continue to learn and don't ever think you know it all.

One parting thought I would like to leave with you. Every brother out there, you are a part of history, you belong to the oldest fraternity in the world. But most important, remember your obligations and do good unto all.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the Grand Lodge of Alaska. It has been a pleasure and indeed an honor.

Faternally,

James R. Herrington
Grand Lecturer

Report of Grand Orator

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master:

Brothers, let me read you some numbers starting with 1990 and working up to 2006: 4.9%, 4.4%, 3.7%, 3.9%, 3.9%, 4.1%, 3.6%, 3.5%, 3.8%, 5.1%, 6.2%, 5.8%, 5.4%, 4.9%, 6.0%, and 5.8a%. No, my brothers, they are not grade point averages. They are the

percentage of students that are dropping out of school each and every year. In the last year, I read the number of drop outs was 3,642. These years added together, come out some where around 42,727 kids that have not received an education.

If you know someone with a child, a young boy or girl, who has quit school, have a talk with the parents and see if, by chance, there is some way you can help to get the lost student back on track.

Thank you Most Worshipful Grand Master for giving me this time to speak.

Respectfully Submitted

Ronald L. Ackerman
Grand Orator

Report of Grand Historian

Grand Master, Distinguished Visitors and Brothers all - I call this report

Learn from History to Build Tomorrow

It has been said that he who would not learn the lessons of history is doomed to repeat its mistakes. With that in mind, I would like to share some of the things I have learned this last year as well as reflections on my experiences as a Mason over the last fifty-four years.

2007 was, as usual, quite busy - just ask your Grand Master. Many of the year's activities are outlined in his report, so they will not be repeated here. But, there are at least two items that are worthy of special mention: the dedication of Tanana Lodge's new Lodge room and the Centennial of Ketchikan Lodge.

The Grand Lodge officers gathered in this same room on May 19 to perform the ceremony of "Dedication of a Masonic Hall". According to tradition, corn wine and oil were offered as part of the ritualistic service. Also, as part of that ceremony, the Grand Lodge officers marched around the symbolic Lodge while singing the ancient Masonic ode "Old Hundred". All went quite well and there was a large crowd witnessing the ceremony. A barbeque followed and we all went away quite satisfied. Congratulations to Tanana on their beautiful new building! My only suggestion for similar ceremonies in the future would be to have a designated singer (or group) who both knew the words of the ode and who could sing. Some of us (myself included) were not noted for their musical expertise.

Ketchikan Lodge No. 19 celebrated 100 years of Masonic service on September 1. Visitors were warmly received at an informal dinner on Friday evening. The ceremony on Saturday was presided over by the Lodge's Worshipful Master (and our own Past

Grand Master) John Grainger. Again a large crowd was in attendance. Fortunately, the ceremony did not require singing. That evening there was a formal dinner attended by almost everyone who had been present that afternoon. Finally, in true Knife and Fork Mason fashion there was a breakfast the next morning before the visitors had to catch their transportation back home. Visitors came from all over Alaska and from Canada. Ketchikan Lodge deserves many more years of service.

Now, what else have I learned this year? Well, some of the old ways may be best, after all. As an example, take the Iditarod Masonic Club whose records span the period from 1910 to 1912. Not to be confused with our Iditarod Lodge No. 20, these were a bunch of Masons living in the wilds of Central Alaska off any road system. Obviously, they were mostly miners, but there was at least one lawyer. They banded together, wrote by-laws, and proceeded to hold meetings every week. Several times a year, either on their own or banded together with the Otter Masonic Club from Flat City, they held a dinner / dance. Here we have two self-appointed Masonic clubs meeting in Brotherly Love and Friendship. But there is no hint of formal ritualistic meetings in their minutes. There seems to have been a large active membership because the record of just one dinner / dance shows that a four man band was hired for \$60.00 to play from 10:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. The supper was catered by the local Merchants' Café at a charge of \$1.25 per plate with a guarantee of 150 people. (There was no record of where enough women came from so they could hold a dance, but there were some wives present.)

Fun wasn't the only activity recorded in the Iditarod minutes. There were fund raisers to help a needy widow. Two (unnamed) individuals were disciplined for un-Masonic conduct. A request was sent to Fairbanks for assistance in conferring the Scottish Rite degrees for the Iditarod Brothers. There are also comments concerning presentations of lectures by the Brothers on various aspects of Masonry. These presentations were almost a monthly occasion.

I bring up this isolated band of Brothers to show that activities made them successful. We know that our ritual teaches the Masonic lessons, but there is more to Masonry than ritual. I encourage you to have a varied program for your members. If you study successful Lodges you will find their activities are geared to the interests of the members, and those interests are changing in a major way almost on a yearly basis. And those Lodges make sure the members know the current schedule of activities. It is interesting to think what Masonry in Alaska would be like had this band of Brothers been located in an area that was not dependent on an elusive search for gold. Yes, the Iditarod Masonic Club folded - but it wasn't the fault of the Club.

In my work, I try to take the attitude of an historian. This means reading from the many publications that are available. One of my favorite quotes is from a book on leadership "The World is Flat" by Thomas Friedman. In it he said:

"Does your society have more memories than dreams, or more dreams than memories?"

By dreams, I mean the positive, life-affirming variety. ... “One thing that tells me a company is in trouble is when they tell you how good they were in the past. Same with countries. ... When memories exceed dreams, the end is near. The hallmark of a truly successful organization is the willingness to abandon what made it successful and start fresh.”

In societies that have more memories than dreams, too many people are spending too many days looking backward.”

With that in mind, maybe we ought to look at the real function of a Masonic Lodge. The monthly newsletter of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba suggests:

“It is not the primary function of masonry to initiate candidates, or to enlarge its membership. Were it so, there would be no basis for our laws against proselytizing. The ordinary function of a Masonic Lodge indeed, the primary function of our Craft, is to train its members to an understanding of the truths which its ritual and its ceremonies are calculated to inculcate, to develop its members as benevolent men, to cultivate the social virtues among men, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

The chief concern of the Lodge is with its welfare, the happiness and the Masonic development of its members - not with the admission of those who seek entrance to its doors. Its success as a Masonic Lodge cannot be gauged by the length of its membership roll or by the size of its accumulated funds.

The beauty of our ritual, and the good fellowship among the members of our Lodges cannot be conserved when the chief aim is to make Masons and money. A man's life consists not in the abundance of things which he possesses. And a Lodge's life does not consist in its acquisitions, but rather in the contributions which it makes to civilization and society. This is accomplished through the influence of those whom it has helped to train to what we call Masonic character. Therefore, it should be the duty of every Masonic Lodge to put in action a plan for the education of its members in Masonic history, symbolism and philosophy, devoting more of its meetings to this much neglected function”

I recognize that this has not been a typical “Report of the Grand Historian”. But my purpose has been to tell you that there is a large world out there. There are almost an unlimited number of opportunities for you to improve your Lodge and yourself. Many of those opportunities are available on the Internet. Many others are available in Masonic libraries. The best ones may be just talking with your members and listening to what they say. (Note that the key word is “Listening”.)

Learn from history so you and your Lodge can provide a meaningful history to those who follow your good example.

As Dr. Norman Vincent Peale once said:

“Change your Thoughts and you Change the World”.

Respectfully submitted,

RW Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley

Grand Historian - 2007 / 2008

Leadership Training

No report from the Leadership Training Committee was received at the time of publication

Russian Relations

Hello Brothers

This will be a Report on the Russian Relation Committee for the year 2007. The committee members are MW John H. Grainger PGM., MW Harry J. Koenen PGM., and W James R. Griffith.

The year started out with a bang as far as the Russian Relation Committee was concerned. Our Grand Master M.W. Samuel K. Medsker sent out an edict on February 23, 2007 that there is a schism within the Grand Lodge of Russia over who is the Grand Master. The funds that the committee has for Pacific Rim Lodge #12 and Alpha Omega Lodge #23 could not be used without written permission by our Grand Master.

The committee met and talk a number of times throughout the year. There some Honorary Lifetime memberships of Pacific Rim Lodge #12 and Alpha Omega Lodge #23, and money to be deposited into the Russian Lodges account.

A little information about what is going on at Pacific Rim Lodge #12 as of November 25, 2007 – the lodge has.

1. Master Masons – 12
2. Fellow Craft – 2
3. Apprentice – 2
4. Candidate – 2

Pacific Rim Lodge in 2003 started a philanthropic foundation and named it Nezabudka which means (Forget – Me – Not) and is dedicate to working with orphans and homeless children. Honorary Lifetime membership in Pacific Rim Lodge #12 and Alpha Omega Lodge #23 and donations given by brothers help support their charity. M.W. John Grainger has sent money to the Pacific Rim Lodge in past years. This year \$1000 dollars was sent with written p[ermission of our Grand Master M.W. Samuel K. Medsker. We do not know how the money was dispersed in 2007. In 2006 the funds were dispersed as follows:

1. In June 2006 fourteen personal computers along with fruit and sweets were given to the orphanage.
2. 27,000 rubles (US \$1000) for electricity, water supply and heat was paid.
3. 6,300 rubles bought school items like notebooks, pens, albums and so forth, for the beginning of the school year.
4. 5,100 rubles given in October for food and sweets.
5. 5,000 rubles given in December 2006 for the New Year of food and sweets.
6. Additionally 2 printers, 1 TV set and about 20 garments.

The Russian Relations Committee of Alaska Grand Lodge appreciates the interest and support received from Masons throughout the World with their Honorary Lifetime Membership in Pacific Rim Lodge #12 and Alpha Omega Lodge #23. It is this support that has helped make it possible in reviving Freemasonry in Eastern Russia after a period of 70 years of darkness.

Honorary Lifetime Membership is \$200 dollars. You will receive a colorful certificate – lodge pin – and a Lifetime Membership Card.

Let us all help people throughout the worked to understand our beloved Craft.

Your Brothers and Friends,
 MW Harry J. Koenen P.G.M. Chairman
 MW John H. Grainger P.G.M.
 W James Griffith

George Washington National Memorial

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

Long Range Planning

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

Segregations and Reference

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alaska of Free & accepted Masons of Alaska.

We the Committee on Segregations and Reference, to who was referred the Grand Master's message, have considered the same and report as follows.

That portion of the message entitled grand Master's edict, be referred to the Committee on Finance and the committee on Jurisprudence.

That portion of the message entitled Grand Master's assessment be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That portion of the message entitled Recommendation #1 be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That portion of the message entitled Recommendation #2 be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

That portion of the message entitled Recommendation #3 be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and to the committee on Fraternal Relations.

The remaining portions of the Grand Master's message be approved.

Respectfully Submitted:

MW Leslie R. Little PGM, Chairman
MW Harold R. Gray PGM
W Fred E. Lentz

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

Report of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum



ALASKA MASONIC LIBRARY AND Museum

P.O. Box 143413 Anchorage, AK 99514-3413
Phone - (907) 276-BOOK (907-276-2665)

RW Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley, Former Curator

December 29, 2007

Annual Report of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum

Grand Master, Distinguished Guests and Brothers All:

At the request of the President of the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation, it is again my privilege to report on the activities of your Alaska Masonic Library and Museum.

Obviously, the item of primary importance is the recent move to our new location. In late summer the Library and Museum moved from its location in downtown Anchorage to a new building across from the Anchorage Masonic Center's parking lot. This beautiful building was built at the direction of the York Rite. They offered the use of the entire second floor, plus a large part of the basement for archival storage. On behalf of the entire Foundation, I would like to extend our gratitude and thanks for York Rite's generous assistance, and a particular "thank you" to W.: David Hunt and R.: W.: Charles Ashcraft for their assistance.

Most of the year was spent in preparing for this move and then organizing the materials. The difference in size offered by the new facility, and the addition of more bookshelves gave us the opportunity to re-arrange the books by subject and to change the computer record for each book to show the new location information. The bulk of our collection is concerned with the Library, and that is where most of the effort has been concentrated. The Museum items are of equal importance, and it was hoped that we could attract an interested individual to assume the curatorial duties of the Museum. Therefore, most of those items still need to be properly displayed. Additional display cabinets will also be required for those items. The new Museum Curator will have a lot of fun putting these things in proper order and creating rotating displays.

A secondary item of interest is the recent publication titled "The Curator Considers". This booklet was created in response to the Grand Lodge Long-Range Plan. That Plan called for the use of Lodges. It was determined that the program could be expanded to include all of Alaska's Masons so those unable to attend Lodge could benefit. Accordingly, a publication was created to cover the basic question of "What is Freemasonry". It includes the thoughts of many Masonic scholars whose work might not be readily available to all of our members. This material was sent to over 2,000 of our members as well as to each US Grand Lodge and to each member of the national Masonic Library and Museum Association. The mailing covered every U.S. State as well as foreign addresses from Australia to Russia to Germany and many points in between. This was all done without cost to Grand Lodge.

The Alaska Masonic Library and Museum Foundation is a non-profit Educational Institution falling under the provisions of Internal Revenue Service Code Section 501 (c) 3. The value of your donation may qualify as a tax deduction according to this law.

The current status of your Library and Museum is that we are housed in a new facility that matches or may even exceed similar facilities in the several U. S. Grand Lodges. We are now known around the world for our ability and willingness to spread knowledge about our Fraternity. There is still a great deal of work to be done in detail cataloging the many pages of documents, books, periodicals and museum items. However the basic structure of the facility has been established and items can normally be found.

As you know, the Library and Museum started with the establishment of a Foundation even before this Grand Lodge was created. However, it wasn't until March, 2001 that an actual Library was created. At that time our inventory consisted of only five books and no useable furniture. The Foundation provided a computer and everything else has been donated. A particularly important donation was the office space provided by Anchorage Lodge No. 17. Without their assistance, there would be no Library / Museum.

During the last seven years, the collection has grown from the original five books to thousands of books, pamphlets, periodicals, videos, articles and a wide variety of museum items. We also have a new 400 gigabyte computer and can access the internet. A conservative estimate of the value of the total collection exceeds \$75,000.00, plus another \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 in furniture, equipment and supplies, all of which has been donated. Thank you to everyone who donated items whether they were large or small. Of particular note are Gene Freeman contributed many books, and Hank Dunbar and Doug Teninty who provided labor. I am grateful for all of you. You made the Library and Museum what it is today.

This will be my last report on the Alaska Masonic Library and Museum. My eyesight has deteriorated to the point where I can no longer be effective as AMLAM's Curator. Accordingly, a year ago, I submitted notice of my intention to resign effective the end of 2007. I have enjoyed this position, and will miss it. My best wishes go to whoever replaces me.

Respectfully submitted,

RW Gerald R. (Jerry) Fairley
Former Curator, Alaska Masonic Library and Museum

Awards

Report of the Committee on Awards
February 7-8, 2008

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 Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 for the year 2007

Buckley C. Hazen Award

The recipient of the Buckley C. Hazen Award for the largest percentage membership growth was presented to Sterling Lodge No. 22 16 for the year 2007.

Military Recognition Award

(No written report submitted or recorded audio of the recipients of the military recognition award)

Grand Master's Award for Excellence

The Grand Master's Award for Excellence was earned by the following Masters in 2007:

W. David Worel	Tanana Lodge No.3
W. John Paul Jones	Matanuska Lodge No.7
W. Frederick Young	Glacier Lodge No. 10
W. Michael Starkey	Fairbanks Lodge No. 12
W. James R. Herrington	Eagle River Lodge No. 13
W. John K. Bishop	Aurora Lodge No. 15
W. Joseph Anderson	North Pole Lodge No. 16
W. Thomas L. Schram	Anchorage Lodge No. 17
W. Robert D. Alexander	Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18
W. Ronald K. Bowen	Iditarod Lodge No. 20
W. Donald E. Hale	Mt. Juneau – Gastineaux Lodge No. 21

Mason of the Year

It is a pleasure to announce this year's recipient of the Grand Lodge of Alaska Mason of the Year Award: VW Harley A. Clough from Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Alaska Masonic Charities Foundation

January 31, 2007

Members present were: MW Harry Koenen (President), RW Jim Grubbs (Treasurer), RW John Cline (Secretary), MW Marvin Fitzpatrick (Director), RW Sam Medsker, RW Jared Decker, VW Johnnie Wallace, W Ed Sarff, W Mike Swensen, and Bro. Dan O'Connell.

MW Koenen called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM.

General discussion proceeded regarding the present make-up of the board of directors. The current make-up of the board of directors is:

President	MW Harry Koenen
Director	MW Joe Dees
Director	MW Marvin Fitzpatrick
Treasurer	RW Jim Grubbs
Secretary	RW John Cline

Those present suggest that the president of the board of directors should be a brother who has a keen interest in advancing the goals of the Masonic Charities Foundation. Additionally, they suggested that the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Alaska be elected the Treasurer and Secretary of the board of directors. And finally, they noted that all Master Masons in good standing in the Constituent Lodges within the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F&AM of Alaska are members of the Alaska Masonic Charities Foundation. MW Koenen indicated that VW Marvin Harned was one who has a keen interest in the Masonic Charities Foundation. As a result of these discussions the following brothers were nominated to be the officers of the board of directors:

	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominator</u>
President	VW Marvin Harned	RW John Cline
Director	RW John Cline	RW Jim Grubbs
Director	RW Jared Decker	MW Harry Koenen
Treasurer	Grand Treasurer	MW Harry Koenen
Secretary	Grand Secretary	MW Harry Koenen

W John Cline moved and RW Jim Grubbs seconded that those nominated be elected by unanimous acclamation. The nominees were so elected.

There be no further business, the meeting was adjourned by MW Harry Koenen at 9:50 AM

John R. "Bo" Cline
Secretary

Annual Meeting Alaska Grand Lodge Corporation

January 31, 2007

Members present were: MW Harry Koenen (President), RW Jim Grubbs (Treasurer), RW John Cline (Secretary), MW Marvin Fitzpatrick (Director), RW Sam Medsker, RW Jared Decker, VW Johnnie Wallace, W Ed Sarff, W Mike Swensen, and Bro. Dan O'Connell.

MW Koenen called the meeting to order at 9:50AM.

General discussion proceeded regarding the present make-up of the board of directors. The current make-up of the board of directors is:

President	MW Harry Koenen
Vice President	MW Joe Dees
Director	MW Marvin Fitzpatrick
Treasurer	RW Jim Grubbs
Secretary	RW John Cline

MW Koenen suggested that sitting Grand Master assume the chair of President of this Corporation. He also proposed that the sitting Grand Lodge officers become the board of directors of the Alaska Grand Lodge Corporation upon their election to the Grand Lodge line. MW Koenen made the following nominations:

	<u>Nominee</u>
President	Grand Master
Vice President	Deputy grand master
Director	Senior Grand Warden
Director	Junior Grand Warden
Treasurer	Grand Treasurer
Secretary	Grand Secretary

RW John Cline moved and RW Jim Grubbs seconded that those nominated be elected by unanimous acclamation. The nominees were so elected/

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by MW Harry Koenen at 9:58 am.

John R. "Bo" Cline
 Secretary

Contributions to the Grand Lodge of Alaska

On February 8, 2008, M.W. Samuel K. Medsker asked members present if anyone had any special presentations to make to Grand Lodge. The following is a list of contributions made by the Brethren at that time, either individually or in the name of their Lodge:

Contribution From:	To:	For:	Amount	Total
Glacier Lodge No. 10	Grand Lodge	Travel Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Aurora Lodge No. 15	Grand Lodge	Travel Fund	\$200.00	\$200.00
Iditarod Lodge No. 20	Grand Lodge	Travel Fund	\$250.00	\$250.00
Eagle River Lodge No. 13	Grand Lodge	General Fund	\$500.00	\$500.00
Anchorage Lodge No. 17	Grand Lodge	General Fund	\$1,470.00	\$1,470.00
Mt. Verstovia Lodge No.18	Grand Lodge	General Fund	\$2000.00	\$2,000.00
Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux No. 21	Grand Lodge	General Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Sterling Lodge No. 22	Grand Lodge	General Fund	\$250.00	\$250.00
Ed Weisser	Grand Lodge	Arts Scholarship	\$500.00	\$500.00
Unknown	Grand Lodge		\$200.00	\$200.00
Unknown	Grand Lodge		\$100.00	\$100.00
Unknown	Grand Lodge		\$100.00	\$100.00
Unknown	Grand Lodge		\$450.00	\$450.00
		Total:		\$8,020.00

Speeches by Distinguished Guests

Remarks of International Order of Rainbow for Girls in Alaska

Grand Master Mr. Medsker & Distinguished guests

On behalf of Mrs. Gabrielle Hazelton, our supreme deputy, Mrs. Lettie Bentz Grandmother Advisor, Myself, and all of rainbow, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the invitation to attend your opening session.

One of my major goals for my term is to encourage each of our girls to develop their own sense of individuality, and truly find themselves as a unique person. I'd like to share with you a story that many of our girls find themselves starring in and it is Rainbow that helps each of us grow and work our way through these defining times.

Trapped in conformity she remains picturesque. Daily wars result in the mega-death annihilation of blemished, fly-aways and those few last pounds. She posed for the camera with the hopes that the fluorescent flashed will hide the mascara tears and emotional fears. She strives to break away from the plastic clones that guard the hallways, longing to burn the Abercrombie Clothing which clings to her body and let her brunette waves spring from beneath the confines of blonde highlights and ceramic straightening irons.

For years I grasped at the thought of configuring my persona to that of the plastic molded clones which create the infrastructure of the teenage social hierarchy. To be perfect in the eyes of onlookers was what I had defined as happiness. To be one of them, lacking of all individuality, afraid that solitude would accompany uniqueness, However, as I entered into my junior year of high school my plastic smile began to fade.

Drudging down the hallway, sure to be in the constant company of, at minimum, one accomplice, she waved with false energy, flashed a *crest white strip* smile at everyone with social power, and interrupted her mindless gossip by altering her voice to become one of a much higher pitch in an attempt at emoting her feminine appeal as she squeaked a girly "hey!" to the *Barbies and Kens* passing by. She was a fake, a machine made doll complete with a stamp on her foot, "Made in China."

I was the assembly line model marching through the school as if it had been declared conquered territory. But borrowed personalities can only last for so long and even the strongest back can only withstand so many stabs. With one wrong mover every false smile flashed the day before can be instantly replaced with glossed over, pursed lips; and when those robotic "hey!"s began to fade I realized that I must become the prototype walking among these recycled ideas.

Perfection lies not in the eyes of the beholder, but in the heart of she who is beheld. Now with a raised head and sincere gaze she moves through the crowds, no longer a soldier marching under the rules of marshal strains, but rather a salmon swimming against the

current grasping onto the present challenge. Walking alone, but feeling surrounded by love as those whom she used to look past greet her with warm smiles/ Their welcome glance sinks far deeper into her soul than the shrill shrieks the cloned army used to regurgitate as she passed by. By whipping off a few pounds of cover-up and lip-gloss and redressing herself with clothing that reflects her personality rather than the matted posters in the mall, she intended to isolate herself but rather found herself embraced with sincerity and compassion.

I have learned that the past is full of regrets and the future will hold many disappointments. Life must be lived today, and each day, each experience, should develop not only a person but and individual.

Our organization offers a prime opportunity to develop oneself as a person through the charity work we perform. The grand assembly theme this year is ambition, and it is ambition that is going to be the focus of this year as it shines through the girl's endless desire to serve.

I believe the girls need to incorporate each of their unique talents to bring together one strong organization. Currently we are bringing together our talents to support the research efforts of breast cancer ribbon lollipops to sell. We are focusing on the several diverse talents that the girls may be able to offer in order to support breast cancer research in as many ways as possible.

By embracing their unique talents our girls are learning to use their individuality to create both a stronger sense of self and an all together stronger organization. It is with your help as a father organization that we have all of these diverse opportunities to help our community and our world and we cannot thank you enough for all of your support throughout our many endeavors.

Thanks you.
Tabbitha Cobb

ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

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

(No written report submitted or recorded audio of the election vote tallies)

Grand Master:
Jared S. Decker

Deputy Grand Master:
John R. “Bo” Cline

Senior Grand Warden:
Johnnie L. Wallace

Junior Grand Warden:
Ronald L. Ackerman

Grand Treasurer:
James D. Grubbs

Grand Secretary
Jerome P. Wasson

INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

An open installation for the 2008 - 2009 officers for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska was conducted at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel on February 8, 2008.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome and Introduction by M.W. Samuel Medsker

INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing Master	MW L.V. “Joe” Dees,
Installing Master	MW Henry T. Dunbar,
Installing Marshal	MW Gene Freeman,
Installing Marshal	MW Tom Mickey,
Installing Chaplain	W Jack Coghil Sr.
Installing Secretary	MW Harry Koenan
Keeper of Jewels	MW Don Chaffin

ELECTED OFFICERS

Grand Master	MW Jared S. Decker (Suni)
Deputy Grand Master	RW John R. "Bo" Cline (Beth)
Senior Grand Warden	RW Johnnie L. Wallace (Mary)
Junior Grand Warden	VW Jerry W. Pinion (Ginger)
Grand Treasurer	RW James D. Grubbs (Tes)
Grand Secretary	RW Jerome P. Wasson (Sandra)

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Grand Chaplain	W Van O. Chaney (Alice)
Grand Lecturer	VW V. Clifford Darnell
Grand Orator	VW Jerry W. Pinion (Ginger)
Grand Historian	W Roger A. Barnstead (Sheryl)
Grand Marshal	VW Robert G. Homoleski
Senior Grand Deacon	W John P. Jones
Junior Grand Deacon	W Billy W. Harris
Grand Standard Bearer	W Albert R. Schuerger (Joyce)
Grand Sword Bearer	W John K. Bishop
Grand Bible Bearer	W L.F. (Buck) Buxton
Senior Grand Steward	W Emil F. Lentz (Joan)
Junior Grand Steward	W Ronald K. Bowen (Kathleen)
Grand Organist	W Dwight E. Morris (Deanna)
Grand Tyler	W Richard L. Grant (Rosemarie)

DEPUTIES TO THE GRAND MASTER

District 1	VW Rex C. Hasty
District 2	VW Gerald E. "Gene" Browning
District 3	VW Jerry W. Pinion
District 4	VW Russel D. Shivers
District 5	VW Donald A. Witsoe