

ANNUAL ADDRESS

of the

GRAND MASTER

Ronald J. Eggers

The Grand Lodge of Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons
of Oregon

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

One Hundred and Seventieth
Annual Communication
June 4, 2020

SALEM, OREGON

Reports received prior to the Grand Lodge Session, which are printed in this booklet, are all for your review. Those reports which do not require adoption by the delegates assembled will not be read and may be found on pages 25-70.

The Grand Master has ordered that all reports printed in this booklet be received.

Those reports requiring action by the Grand Lodge will be presented for discussion and adoption or rejection and can be found on pages 71.



Ronald J. Eggers

GRAND MASTER
2019-2020

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS - June 4, 2020
To the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Oregon

Brethren:

Paragraph 6 of Section 107 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon requires the Grand Master "To present at each Annual Communication a written address, setting his official acts, the general condition of Masonry within this Jurisdiction, and to make such recommendations as he may deem necessary." Therefore, on behalf of the Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputies, and committeemen, I welcome you to this 170th Annual Communication by fulfilling the Constitutional requirement to address you. Thank you for attending and thank you for allowing me to serve as your Grand Master for the 2019-2020 Grand Lodge year.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in January 2020 and at the time this address was prepared, the United States recorded nearly 1,000,000 persons infected with the virus and approximately 75,000 that have died from it. The Governor of Oregon issued a strict separation/stay at home order on March 23, 2020, necessitating an extension of our Lodge closures and cancellation of events until at least the end of April 2020. It is not known whether the closures and other restrictions will be lifted by the first of June 2020. At this time, we have cancelled all receptions and banquets associated with our Annual Communication. However, we have developed a plan to allow conformance with the Oregon Masonic Code should the closures continue.

OFFICIAL ACTS

A list of approved By-Law Amendments, Dispensations, Proxies, Edicts and other decisions made are included in the following pages.

SPECIAL ACTS

The Grand Lodge Officers and I had the honor of participating in the 150-year anniversary celebration of Washington Lodge No. 46, receiving their charter.

Seventy-five-year jewels are rarely awarded in this Masonic Jurisdiction. I had the honor and pleasure to award a seventy-five-year jewel to Brother Earl Swenson, member of East Gate Lodge No. 155, who was also celebrating his 97th birthday.

DISTRESSED MASONS OF OREGON RELIEF FUND

The DISTRESSED MASONS OF OREGON RELIEF FUND was created by the Grand Lodge of Oregon Trustees and will be managed by our OutReach Program. On Saturday, April 4, 2020, at the regular meeting (via video conference), the Trustees voted to set aside \$200,000 as a charitable relief fund for distressed Masons of Oregon who are affected by the COVID-19 shutdown orders. This is in addition to other charitable fraternal relief programs operated by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Oregon. You can learn more about this program by visiting www.masonic-oregon/relief. The goal of the program is to help Master Masons who may have been laid off from work and are unable to provide food for their families or pay rent during this pandemic.

CONDITION OF FREEMASONRY IN THIS GRAND JURISDICTION

The state of Freemasonry in Oregon is in need of immediate action by all Masons. This report is a Call to Action for all Oregon Freemasons to take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly. Lodges that can barely assemble a quorum for a Stated Communication are in trouble and need to take action to improve membership or consider consolidation with a nearby Lodge.

As your Grand Master, I find it difficult to believe that your town or neighborhood has no qualified men who are interested in joining your Lodge. Many people in our communities may not even be aware that a Lodge exists, let alone know what we do as Masons. I also know that many Lodges are missing the opportunities for new members by ignoring inquiries from the internet, the Grand Lodge office, or other sources. Forming a Lodge committee with a chairman, who is not an elected member of the leadership, is highly recommended.

Some older members show disdain for finding new members and discourage following up on leads they do receive. Some may believe that new members disrupt their comfortable place in the Lodge by offering new ideas. At the same time, new members crave information about Masonry and are frustrated by the same old reading of boring minutes and reports. Many new members are seeking some social time with Brothers. This includes going out for dinner, having a beer and pizza night, or a cigar and scotch evening.

New members desire Masonic education regarding almost any item of Masonic History, Lodge History, or a wealth of esoteric research about Masonry. This desire is what revitalizes and refreshes our minds. For a start, take a look at the Short Talk Bulletins, published by the Masonic Service Association, and assign a Brother to present a brief talk on one

of the bulletins.

This address should be considered the State of the Union for Freemasonry. Our founding fathers wrote that our goal is to form “a more perfect union.” This is in our Masonic Code and applies to all Freemasons and citizens of our nation. When you become a Master Mason, you know that you are carrying on a tradition that has existed for over 300 years. In the lessons accompanying the conferral of the degrees, you learned the origins of the principles and tenets of our ancient Craft which has deep roots in history and tradition. You also assume responsibilities which make you a Mason; this is different than your life prior to assuming these obligations and responsibilities. You have opened the oyster and found a pearl that will be with you henceforth. While the expectations are high, and the challenges many, you have been gifted with endless opportunities in Freemasonry.

The opportunity you have been given by this fraternity is here waiting for you. You must, however, actively pursue it. I have read in previous Grand Master reports that apathy and inaction present the worst threat to Freemasonry. While I agree with their view, it occurred to me that no one may have addressed how to achieve a goal. With any goal, you must actively pursue it.

In the great tradition of our Past Grand Masters, each of us has adopted a theme to move us from where we are to a better state of the fraternity. This year I set my theme as *Renew, Build and Serve*.

I encourage you to *Renew* your commitment to your Lodge, your faith and yourself and to make an active attempt to change and improve your ritual and your engagement in Lodge activities to make things better than last year. As leaders in our communities, we have the opportunity to demonstrate our commitment by giving back to our schools, our church and our communities. This does not have to be grand and glorious, but even small and thoughtful is good if it is something that makes a difference by helping others. Many Lodges continually support projects in their local towns or neighborhoods. *Renew* the efforts of what you are already doing and improve your exposure in your town or neighborhood.

Next, you should think about how you might *Build* on what you have already done. We are builders at heart and practice. In my travels around the state this year, I have visited many Lodges that suffer from faltering Ritual. I believe that one should strive for excellence in Ritual. Starting from a positive attitude, you need to work hard and apply yourself to getting it down flawlessly. If you don't set a goal of perfection, you will not achieve success. Ritual practice can take place at many times, including before or after Lodge and at officer meetings.

Serving our Brothers, our communities and our families is easy to understand. You must actively serve in order to be identified in your communities. In a literal sense, your presence at a local event in your community will help identify yourselves as a Masonic Lodge and will “spread the word” about Freemasonry. Volunteering at food and clothing drives, fun runs, and food banks, with your Lodge shirt identifying who you are will also let you be recognized for the Lodge’s good works and community support.

The state of Masonry in Oregon is strong in our Lodges but could use more qualified members to better serve our communities. It is up to each of us to make an effort to replace ourselves in our Lodge at least once each year. Remember that it takes two to three years to educate a new Brother in our Ritual and procedures before you can consider him ready for an appointive office. Another option is to consider consolidation with a nearby Lodge. In the future, I believe that the number of Lodges in Oregon will decline by consolidation or a lack of quorum. For this to happen, all you have to do is treat the Lodge as a passive activity.

TRAVEL AND VISITATIONS

In my travels this year, I had the opportunity to visit many of our Lodges in Oregon and to visit the Grand Communications in other Jurisdictions. In June, we traveled to Bremerton to attend the Grand Communication of Washington. Later in June, the Grand Lodge of Oregon hosted the annual meeting of the Masonic Communities and Services Association, a national association that provides help to support Masonic Retirement facilities and homes. The last week in June we attended the Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana in Billings.

From Billings, we traveled to Nashville, TN, where we were hosted at the Imperial Shrine’s annual meeting. Thanks to Illustrious Sir Todd Weedman and the Al Kader Shriners for the good time had by all Nobles, without exception.

In July, I attended a barbecue at Beaverton Masonic Lodge No. 100, put on by the Oregon Chapter of the Widows Sons Motorcycle group. Visitors from California and Washington clubs were also present. I also visited the DeMolay Leadership Conference in Sheppard, WA. The annual OMCF/MMSAP Golf Tournament was held on July 26 at the Stone Creek Golf Course. The next day I attended a parade with other Shriners in Dallas, Ore.

The first week in August I attended the East-West Shrine Football Game in Baker City, Ore. This trip was hosted by the Potentate of Al Kader Shrine

and fun was had by all. We traveled to Washington, D.C. in mid-August to attend the Biennial Session of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction. We attended several banquets and dinners with Sovereign Grand Inspector General Garry Kuney, who hosted us at this session. I also attended the Malheur Cave Degree in Harney County.

In September, I was honored at the Portland Valley Scottish Rite, made an Official Visit to Multnomah Lodge No. 1, attended the DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow Fun Day at Oaks Park, hosted by the Grand Lodge. The MESH and Grand Lodge Trustees held their Annual Retreat in Florence, Ore. this year. This was followed by a visit to the Grand Lodge of Idaho, in Idaho Falls, and the Grand Lodge of Missouri, in Columbia. The DeMolay Grand Master's Class was held on the last weekend in September.

October began by meeting with the District Deputies on the North Coast. I visited the following Lodges in October: Evergreen Lodge No. 137, Portland Lodge No. 55, Enlightenment Lodge No. 228, Kenton Lodge No. 145, and Rainier Lodge No. 24. We also visited the Grand Lodge of California in San Francisco for its Annual Communication. The month concluded with the Grand Master's Reception held on October 26 at the Al Kader Shrine Temple.

On November 6, I met with the District Deputies in the Eugene area. Eugene Lodge No. 11 had an officer's meeting, which I attended. I visited the Grand Lodge of Nevada for their Annual Communication. On the 13th and 14th, I visited Esoterika Lodge No. 227 and Newberg Lodge No. 104, respectively. On the 16th, an Occasional Grand Lodge Communication was held at Washington Lodge No. 46. On the 25th, I visited East Gate Lodge No. 155 for their annual Oyster Stew Dinner.

In December, I visited Medford Lodge No. 103 and met with the Worshipful Masters of seven Lodges in the immediate area. I also visited Fidelity Lodge No. 54. I performed three installations at Beaverton Masonic Lodge No. 100, Champoeg Lodge No. 27 and Research Lodge No. 198.

January started with the Salem Scottish Rite's reception honoring the Grand Master. This was followed with the Medford Scottish Rite Grand Master's reception on the 20th. I made an official visit to Tuality Lodge No. 6 for one of their great breakfasts and excellent ritual work. It is with sadness that I attended the funeral of Right Worshipful Mitch Cugley, District Deputy No. 15, in Roseburg. On January 26, we attended a scholarship dinner for the youth groups, sponsored by the Amaranth and Eastern Star, to raise funds for college scholarships.

February was spent visiting Fairbanks, AK for their Grand Lodge Annual Communication. The Conference of Grand Masters of North America was held from February 15-19 in Louisville (pronounced Loo-a-vul) Kentucky.

Events in March 2020 went along well until March 10. In that period, I visited Union Lodge No. 3, Rickreall Lodge No. 110, my home Lodge, Beaverton Masonic Lodge No. 100, and Ainsworth Lodge No. 201. Beginning on the 9th, serious concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of all meetings for the remainder of March and April 2020. It is likely that the shelter at home order from the Governor will continue until June. Due to this, all Masonic meetings, including the public portion of the Annual Communication have been cancelled. The Grand Lodge Trustees have met by phone several times and developed a plan that will ensure the smooth transition of leadership for the next Masonic year in conformity with the Oregon Masonic Code.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS AND DISTRICT DEPUTIES

The work of the Grand Lodge Officers and District Deputies is essential to the success of our fraternity. Your dedication and devotion to duty as an Officer or District Deputy is critical to our mission. You honor me, and the fraternity, by your devotion and patient roles in improving my relations with each Lodge in your District.

RECOMMENDATIONS

If you have been reading the Oregon Masonic News, you already know what my recommendations are going to be. Simply stated, the Lodge has two major functions: fraternal business and financial duties. The fraternal business is contained in the Masonic Charges, which usually occurs in March, but had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most financial duties are contained in the Secretary's Seminar training, which usually occurs in January.

The duties of the Grand Master, all Officers, and District Deputies are to make the information and training readily available to you so you will have a successful year in your Lodge. Of course, this is not all that the Trustees are responsible for carrying out. The focus is on encouraging practices in Lodge that result in perfect Ritual opening and closings. Other trainings, such as the Secretary Seminar, are intended to improve the skills of the Secretary, but are open to all to enable every officer to understand the important duties the Secretary must perform.

If you are having a problem in opening and closing, going from Labor to Refreshment and back again, or obtaining new members, you must take action to improve your situation. Many Lodges need to schedule

regular practices, before and after Stated Communications, at the officer's meeting, over lunch, on a video platform, or on your own time.

We intend to continue the Worshipful Masters and Warden's Charges for at least another year while the Secretary Seminar is held every year. These training sessions are poorly attended by the upcoming officers, who should know the material presented at these sessions. The more you know as an officer, the better you are as a Masonic leader. Attendance should be mandatory for you if you are an officer or intend to become an elected officer in your Lodge.

This year I have emphasized the importance of filing financial reports with the Grand Lodge and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Several Lodges have had their 501C(3 or 10) status revoked. This is because of failure to file a 990 with the IRS. This is not complex. If you have under \$50,000 in your annual income and expenses, you must file a 990-N return online. If you are not aware of how this process works, reference the Secretary's Handbook, attend training, or call the Grand Lodge office to obtain help. Each Lodge should circulate a monthly Treasurer report which, when aggregated for the previous year, would enable an annual financial document for completing Form 71 and 72. It will simplify the Treasurer's annual report and provide the information for the Audit Committee.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to M.W.B. Don Stapleton, P.G.M. and his wife, Pat, for appointing me to the position of Senior Grand Deacon. It has been an interesting and, at times, challenging appointment. I earnestly hope that I have fulfilled your hopes and aspirations as I have made my journey to the Grand East. Thanks and appreciation is noted to both M.W.B. Ed Bousquet, P.G.M. and R.W.B. Rick Komraus, past and current Grand Secretaries, respectively, who have provided wise counsel and been available to answer my endless questions. Brothers, every Grand Master realizes that, although we are endowed with great wisdom and power, we would be nothing but for the women on our staff who provide information and assistance in all that we do. So a big THANK YOU to Danielle, Erin, Heidi, Kristen, Marissa, Molly, Tammy and Tiffany.

I would also like to thank the Past Grand Masters who have helped and encouraged me through the last year. It is through your guidance that I am able to stand here today and present this address to you.

My journey to the Grand East could not have been successful without the help, aid, and assistance of my wife, Kathy. I hope you have had a

chance to talk with her at some point in the last four years. If you have, you have received some of the love and affection she gives to everyone she meets. You may have also sensed the strong and compassionate core she has with respect to making the world a better place for us all. She has also given me the encouragement, or admonishment, I periodically require. Thank you for your support.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Freemasons of Oregon for their support this year. Without it, none of this would have been possible. I appreciate the opportunity to have served as your Grand Master this year. I look forward to seeing you "down the road," as we say; safe travels. Wear a mask, wash your hands, and elbow bumps are OK.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald J. Eggers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Ronald J. Eggers
Grand Master of A.F. & A.M. of Oregon

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS APPROVED

2019

- Oct 17 JOSEPH LODGE NO. 81 — ARTICLE III
Stated Communication day changed from the second Thursday of each month to the second Wednesday of each month.
- Oct. 17 MILWAUKIE LODGE NO. 109 — ARTICLE V-B
Changed name of Temple Management Board to Building Management Board to coincide with Article XI.
- Oct. 17 MILWAUKIE LODGE NO. 109 — ARTICLE VII
Annual dues raised from \$65 to \$90 per year.
- Oct. 17 MILWAUKIE LODGE NO. 109 — ARTICLE IX
The reporting month of the Treasurer's Report to the Lodge was updated from January to January or February of each year.
- Oct. 17 MILWAUKIE LODGE NO. 109 — ARTICLE X
The reporting month of the Secretary's Report to the Lodge was updated from January to January or February of each year.
- Oct. 17 MILWAUKIE LODGE NO. 109 — ARTICLE XI
The Special Trustees "Temple Management Board" changed to "Building Management Board." Section 8 was added to include Treasurer as ex-officio non-voting member of the Board.
- Dec. 27 BEND LODGE NO. 39 — ARTICLE VII-A
Life Membership fees added new age bracket 70-80 at \$400 and 81-Over at \$250. Memorial Life Membership to remain the same.
- Dec. 27 FRIENDSHIP MASONIC LODGE NO. 160 — New set to amend Articles V, V-B, VII-A, and X-I.

2020

- Feb. 11 CRESWELL LODGE NO. 112 — New set to amend Articles III, VII, and VII-A.

- Feb. 11 PACIFIC LODGE NO. 50 — ARTICLE II
Adoption of a new Lodge seal.
- Feb. 11 REDMOND LODGE NO. 154 — ARTICLE VI
Fees for conferring the degrees changed from \$150 to \$600.
Fee to accompany the petition changed from \$50 to \$200.
Amount paid before conferring the Fellowcraft and Master
Mason degrees was changed from \$50 to \$200 each.
- Feb. 11 REDMOND LODGE NO. 154 — ARTICLE VII
Annual dues raised from \$50 to \$120 per year.
- Feb. 11 REDMOND LODGE NO. 154 — ARTICLE VII-A
Life Membership fees increased according to age bracket.
Memorial Life Membership increased from \$200 to \$500.
- Apr. 6 BEAVERTON MASONIC LODGE NO. 100 — ARTICLE VI
Fees for conferring the degrees changed from \$150 to \$300
to accompany the petition.
- Apr. 6 BEAVERTON MASONIC LODGE NO. 100 — ARTICLE VII
Annual dues raised from \$65 to \$100 per year.
- Apr. 6 GRESHAM MASONIC LODGE NO. 152 — ARTICLE III
Stated Communication location changed from the
Cornerstone Hall in Portland to the Milwaukie Hall in
Milwaukie.
- Apr. 6 VISTA MASONIC LODGE NO. 215 — ARTICLE V
Amended to align with the Lodge Investment Policy
Statement and Article V.
- Apr. 6 VISTA MASONIC LODGE NO. 215 — ARTICLE V-B
The term Stated Meeting changed to Stated
Communication as a housekeeping item.
- Apr. 6 VISTA MASONIC LODGE NO. 215 — ARTICLE XI
Previous language regarding building was removed and
replaced with instructions upon resignation, inability or
unwillingness to serve in the position.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

2019

- June 13 WASHINGTON LODGE NO. 46 — to move the time of the July, August, and September Stated Communications from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., to allow the membership more time for fellowship after the meeting and an earlier departure from their evening activities.
- June 19 MARYS RIVER LODGE NO. 221 — to hold a tyled meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 29, 2019, at the Regency Albany Rehabilitation and Nursing Center located at 805 SE 19th Avenue in Albany, Oregon to allow the membership to visit and recognize an elder Brother who is receiving care at that location, who wishes to attend a tyled meeting, as he is physically unable to participate in a meeting at the Lodge hall.
- June 19 SUNNYSIDE LODGE NO. 163 — to move the date of the Saturday, September 14, 2019, Stated Communications to Saturday, September 7, 2019, as the Worshipful Master will be out of town and moving the date will ensure his attendance, as his leadership is critical, since the Lodge will be returning from being dark July and August.
- June 19 WAVERLY LODGE NO. 174 — to move the time of the July and August Stated Communications from 7:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to allow the membership more time for fellowship after the meeting and an earlier departure from their evening activities.
- June 20 LYON LODGE NO. 29 — to hold a joint Stated Communication on Wednesday, July 3, 2019, with Rickreall Lodge No. 110, at 7:30 p.m., at Weldin Farms, located at 4767 Viewcrest Road South, in Salem, Oregon. Each Lodge is to open and close and each Secretary is to record the minutes of the meeting.
- June 24 CRESWELL LODGE NO. 112 — to allow the membership to march in the Creswell Independence Day Parade on July 4, 2019.

- Aug. 9 HERMISTON LODGE NO. 138 — to move the time of the Tuesday, August 20, 2019, Stated Communication from 7:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to allow the membership time to confer an Entered Apprentice Degree and a Proficiency.
- Aug. 15 MULTNOMAH LODGE NO. 1 — to hold the September Stated Communication at the residence of W.B. Bill Anton, located at 13443 South Spangler Road in Oregon City, Oregon, on Saturday, September 7, 2019, at 3:00 p.m., to allow the membership to participate in an outdoor meeting.
- Sept. 6 VISTA MASONIC LODGE NO. 215 — to move the date of the Tuesday, October 1, 2019, Stated Communication to Wednesday, October 2, 2019, to allow the membership to welcome the Grand Master for an official visit.
- Sept. 23 RICKREALL LODGE NO. 110 — to move the Wednesday, October 2, 2019, Stated Communication to Wednesday, October 9, 2019, at Lyon Lodge No. 29, located at 303 South Main Street in Independence, Oregon, to allow the membership to attend a joint Stated Communication with Lyon Lodge No. 29 and welcome the District Deputy for an official visit. Each Lodge is to open and close and each Secretary is to record the minutes of the meeting.
- Sept. 27 LENTS LODGE NO. 156 — to hold a joint Stated Communication on Thursday, October 10, 2019, with East Gate Lodge No. 155, located at 4812 NE 102nd Avenue in Portland, Oregon. Each Lodge is to open and close and each Secretary is to record the minutes of the meeting.
- Oct. 7 BELT LODGE NO. 18 — to move the Thursday, December 5, 2019, Stated Communication to Thursday, December 12, 2019, to allow the membership to attend the Grand Master's official visit of Medford Lodge No. 103.
- Oct. 11 BLUE MOUNTAIN LODGE NO. 34 — to move the Thursday, October 17, 2019, Stated Communication to Thursday, October 24, 2019, to allow the Baker Valley Scottish Rite to use the Lodge facilities for the fall reunion, October 17-19, 2019.

- Oct. 25 HOOD RIVER LODGE NO. 105 — to move the date of the Wednesday, November 13, 2019, Stated Communication to Wednesday, November 6, 2019, to ensure the membership's attendance and participation for the election of Lodge Officers for the 2020 year.
- Oct. 29 WASCO LODGE NO. 15 — to move the location of the Monday, November 11, 2019, Stated Communication to Bargeway Restaurant located at 1535 Bargeway Road in The Dalles, Oregon, to increase the membership's attendance and participation as some of the members cannot physically use the stairs to attend Lodge at the normal meeting location. A safe and suitable Lodge room will be provided.
- Nov. 1 JENNINGS LODGE NO. 9 — to move the time, date, and location of the December Stated Communication to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at Rickreall Lodge No. 110, located at 270 Hwy 99 in Rickreall, Oregon, to allow the membership to attend a joint installation of officers with Lyon Lodge No. 29 and Rickreall Lodge No. 110.
- Nov. 11 HEPPNER LODGE NO. 69 — to move the date of the Tuesday, December 3, 2019, Stated Communication to Wednesday, December 4, 2019, to allow the membership to attend the Grand Master's Official Visit of Hermiston Lodge No. 138 held on the Lodge's normal meeting night.
- Nov. 12 LA GRANDE LODGE NO. 41 — to move the date of the Tuesday, December 3, 2019, Stated Communication to Thursday, December 5, 2019, to allow the membership to attend the Grand Master's Official Visit of Hermiston Lodge No. 138 held on the Lodge's normal meeting night.
- Nov. 15 RICKREALL LODGE NO. 110 — to move the time of the Wednesday, December 4, 2019, Stated Communication from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., to allow time to host a joint installation of officers with Jennings Lodge No. 9 and Lyon Lodge No. 29.

- Nov. 20 LYON LODGE NO. 29 — to move the time, date, and location of the December Stated Communication to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at Rickreall Lodge No. 110, located at 270 Hwy 99 in Rickreall, Oregon, to allow the membership to attend a joint installation of officers with Jennings Lodge No. 9 and Rickreall Lodge No. 110.
- Nov. 26 MULTNOMAH LODGE NO. 1 — to elect a Secretary for the 2020 year on Monday, December 2, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Portland Scottish Rite Center, located at 709 SW 15th Avenue, in Portland, Oregon. This is in compliance with Section 205 of the Oregon Masonic Code, for failure to elect at the prescribed time.
- Nov. 30 CASCADE LODGE NO. 208 — to elect the Lodge officers for the 2020 year at the December 17, 2019, Stated Communication at 6:30 p.m., to allow the membership to elect its officers with the appropriate quorum. This is in compliance with Section 205 of the Oregon Masonic Code, for failure to elect at the prescribed time.
- Dec. 2 PORT ORFORD LODGE NO. 170 — to elect the Lodge officers for the 2019 year at the December 11, 2019, Stated Communication, to allow the membership to elect its officers, as the Lodge failed to elect at the prescribed time and has been unable to meet due to a lack of quorum.
- Dec. 2 PORT ORFORD LODGE NO. 170 — to elect the Lodge officers for the 2020 year at the December 11, 2019, Stated Communication, to allow the membership to elect its officers following the 2019 Lodge elections, as the Lodge has been unable to meet due to a lack of quorum.
- Dec. 4 BLUE MOUNTAIN LODGE NO. 34 — to elect a Secretary for the 2020 year at the December 19, 2019, Stated Communication. This is in compliance with Section 205 of the Oregon Masonic Code, for failure to elect at the prescribed time.

- Dec. 12 SEAPORT LODGE NO. 7 — to elect the Lodge officers for the 2020 year at the January 8, 2020, Stated Communication. This is in compliance with Section 205 of the Oregon Masonic Code, for failure to elect at the prescribed time.
- Dec. 30 FIDELITY LODGE NO. 54 — to install W.B. Thomas A. Hedgecoke as the 2020 Worshipful Master at the January 9, 2020, Stated Communication to allow time for W.B. Hedgecoke to recuperate from a recent illness, which made him unable to attend the previously scheduled installation.

2020

- Jan. 24 WALUGA LODGE NO. 181 —to elect a Treasurer for the 2020 year at the February 19, 2020, Stated Communication, to allow the Treasurer position to be filled since the Lodge failed to do so at the prescribed time.
- Jan. 31 SEAPORT LODGE NO. 7 — to install W.B. Sean D. Morgan as the 2020 Worshipful Master at the February 13, 2020, Stated Communication as the Lodge was unable to install the Worshipful Master at the prescribed time.
- Feb. 11 SALEM LODGE NO. 4 — to move the time of the March 4, 2020, Stated Communications from 7:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., to allow time for the membership to attend the Past Master's event held at Rickreall Lodge No. 110 that evening.
- Feb. 12 FRIENDSHIP MASONIC LODGE NO. 160 — to move the time of the March 4, 2020, Stated Communication from 7:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., to allow the membership more time in the evening to hold a festive dinner.
- Feb. 13 HOLBROOK LODGE NO. 30 —to move the date of the March Stated Communication from Tuesday, March 3, 2020 to Wednesday, March 10, 2020, to allow the membership to attend the State Communication of Union Lodge No. 3 in McMinnville for the Grand Master's Official Visit and the Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner.

- Feb. 25 ESOTERIKA LODGE NO. 227 — to move the location of the Saturday, March 21, 2020, Stated Communication to the Portland Scottish Rite Center, located at 1525 Yamhill Street in Portland, Oregon, to allow the Order of the Eastern Star to use the Lodge facilities for an event and attend a joint Stated meeting with the members of Research Lodge No. 198.
- Feb. 25 WALUGA LODGE NO. 181 — to move the location of the March, April, and May Stated Communications to Milwaukie Lodge No. 109, located at 10636 SE Main Street in Milwaukie, Oregon, to allow the membership to conduct business while the Lodge building is being remodeled.
- Feb. 25 RESEARCH LODGE NO. 198 — to move the time of the Saturday, March 21, 2020, Stated Communication from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to welcome the members of Esoterika Lodge No. 227 for a dual stated meeting. Each Lodge is to open and close and each Secretary is to record the minutes of the meeting.
- Feb. 28 HERMISTON LODGE NO. 138 — to move the date of the April Stated Communication from Tuesday, April 7, 2020 to Wednesday, April 1, 2020, to allow the membership to attend the Annual Oyster Feed at Heppner Lodge No. 69. **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and per Grand Master's Edict, the April Stated Communication did not take place.*
- Mar. 6 RICKREALL LODGE NO. 110 — to open the April 1, 2020, Stated Communication at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m., to allow the membership time to also attend the Grand Master's official visit of Salem Lodge No. 4 that evening. **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and per Grand Master's Edict, the April Stated Communication did not take place.*
- Mar. 10 LA GRANDE LODGE NO. 41 — to move the April 7, 2020, Stated Communication to April 16, 2020, to allow the membership to visit Heppner Lodge No. 69, as the regular meeting dates coincide. **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and per Grand Master's Edict, the April Stated Communication did not take place.*

EDICTS

2020

March 13 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO ALL LODGES -COVID-19
HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Brethren,

Effective immediately, I have declared a suspension of Masonic meetings due to the Health Emergency declared by the Governor and President. Because the spread of COVID-19 is occurring at an exponential rate and the number of Oregon Masons over the age of 60, exposure to the virus could have a significant effect on all Masons in Oregon. The health and safety of all of our members is of utmost concern to me. I suggest that all Oregon Masons over the age of 60 consider whether they should attend any events which could result in their exposure.

I am acting today to cancel all meetings which are not absolutely essential through March 31, 2020. Beginning with the currently scheduled Masonic Charges, all Masons are advised to stay home unless they are absolutely needed elsewhere.

The decision with regards to Stated Communications is that they are cancelled through March 31, 2020. By that date, we will inform you of the extension of the closures into April or further, if necessary. The Grand Lodge Trustees will evaluate the progression of the number of cases in Oregon and any further measures we may need to implement. In the meantime, please reduce your outside contacts and wash your hands. We should also avoid handshakes and replace them with fist bumps.

Several Appendant and Concordant bodies have been considering whether to cancel their meetings. Since the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Oregon includes all Masonic bodies, this order extends to those bodies, as well. Ultimately, it is the choice of each Mason to consider the risk of exposure and the consequences of being exposed for themselves.

The Grand Lodge Trustees are seriously concerned about the current health risks. We have decided, at this time, to err on the side of caution to protect the health of our members and the surrounding community.

Furthermore, the Grand Lodge office will remain open, however the office will be closed to visitors. You will be able to contact the Grand Secretary and staff via phone or e-mail.

March 27 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO ALL LODGES -COVID-19
HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Brethren,

Effective immediately, the cancellation of Lodge Meetings and Events is extended to April 30, 2020. This action is in compliance with Executive Order No. 20-12, issued by the Governor of Oregon on March 23, 2020. This Order is found on-line on the Governor's website.

The COVID-19 virus is still expanding rapidly in Washington, California and New York and surrounding states. In Oregon today, we have 318 cases with 11 mortalities. The Governor's actions will continue to keep numbers low in our state, to stem the increase noted in other states. The health and safety of all of our members is of utmost concern to me. I strongly recommend that if you are over 60, to reduce your exposure to everyone by staying home. During this period there will be no penalties for not holding a stated communication.

This Edict applies to all Appendant and Concordant Masonic bodies in the State of Oregon.

This order by the Governor has caused the Grand Lodge Trustees to act now regarding our upcoming Annual Communication. No one has the ability to foresee the future. In the face of this uncertainty, and to make sure that we are taking proper actions should things become worse, we have chosen to cancel the public portion of the Annual Communication scheduled for June 3-5, 2020. There will be no banquets or receptions held and we will not meet at the Grand Hotel in Salem. The Grand Lodge Trustees are developing a plan to hold an Annual Communication which complies with the Masonic Code while minimizing risk of infection. As soon as the plan is finished, it will be released to you. The Grand Lodge office will continue to be closed until further notice. Contact by phone or e-mail is always ok.

My Brothers, many of you are concerned about how you might carry out Lodge business in the interim. The rule is that there will be no stated communications. Usual expenses should be covered in your annual budget, approved in January 2020. If not, in the interim, and for limited business, bills for utilities, taxes and services should be approved by

the Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer during the time this Edict is in effect. Remember that the ability of this group is limited - other business which requires the consent of the Master and members of the lodge, or the Lodge Trustees can only occur at a stated communication.

Phone, video conference and e-mail are all acceptable modes of communication and should be recorded by the Secretary and placed into the permanent record of the Lodge. Annual returns are still due to Grand Lodge by April 10 as specified in section 213.9 of the Oregon Masonic Code. The minutes of these meetings should refer to this Edict and the Executive Order of the Governor of Oregon.

The use of electronic media provides Masons with the ability to reach out to Brothers, neighbors and friends during this unprecedented time. I encourage use of *GoToMeeting* or *Zoom*, e-mail or text messaging during the period of separation. This is a great opportunity for us to continue our service to our communities by extending our Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth to our Brothers and Neighbors. I recommend you organize a phone tree to contact Lodge Brothers, widows and especially elder Masons who may be in need of some help. Just a phone call will let a Brother know of your concern and ability to help. Many older Brothers and friends may need help in obtaining groceries, or prescription refills. These can be left on the front porch, with no physical contact.

This period of isolation also provides us with an opportunity to spend time learning our ritual, learning a new part in a degree, or expanding our knowledge through online learning. There is a great amount of information online of Masonic material including podcasts. You might also desire to write an article for the Oregon Masonic News; prepare a brief talk on a subject of interest or expand upon ideas presented in the Short Talk Bulletins published by the MSA.

My Brothers, this is an opportunity to make lemonade out of the lemons we have been given. While each of us first have to take care of ourselves and our families, we can also reach out in a variety of ways to make things better for our Brothers and friends.

Apr. 29 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO ALL LODGES -COVID-19
HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Brethren,

Effective immediately, the cancellation of Lodge Meetings and Events is extended through June 1, 2020. This action is in compliance with Executive Order No. 20-12 issued by the Governor of Oregon on March 23, 2020. This Order is found online on the Governor's website. During this period there will be no penalties for not holding a stated communication. Should the situation change at the state-level, we will modify this Edict as necessary.

The COVID-19 virus is still impacting our nation and in Oregon today, we have 2,354 confirmed cases with 92 mortalities. The health and safety of all of our members continues to be of utmost concern to me.

This Edict applies to all Appendant and Concordant Masonic bodies in the State of Oregon.

Additionally, this order by the Governor has caused the Grand Lodge Trustees to adjust to an abbreviated Annual Communication, scheduled for June 4, 2020, as previously announced. Stay up to date on this plan by visiting www.masonic-oregon.com/annual-communication.

The Grand Lodge office will continue to be closed until further notice. Contact by phone or e-mail is always ok.

My Brothers, many of you are concerned about how you might carry out Lodge business in the interim. The rule is that there will be no stated communications. Usual expenses should be covered in your annual budget, approved in January 2020. If not, in the interim, and for limited business, bills for utilities, taxes and services should be approved by the Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer during the time this Edict is in effect. Remember that the ability of this group is limited - other business which requires the consent of the Master and members of the lodge, or the Lodge Trustees can only occur at a stated communication.

Phone, video conference and e-mail are all acceptable modes of communication and should be recorded by the Secretary and placed into the permanent record of the Lodge. The minutes of these meetings should refer to this Edict and the Executive Order of the Governor of Oregon.

The use of electronic media provides Masons with the ability to reach out to Brothers, neighbors and friends during this unprecedented time. I encourage use of *GoToMeeting* or *Zoom*, e-mail or text messaging during the period of separation. This is a great opportunity for us to continue our service to our communities by extending our Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth to our Brothers and Neighbors. I recommend you organize a phone tree to contact Lodge Brothers, widows and especially elder Masons who may be in need of some help. Just a phone call will let a Brother know of your concern and ability to help. Many older Brothers and friends may need help in obtaining groceries, or prescription refills. These can be left on the front porch, with no physical contact.

The Grand Lodge has recently announced the establishment of the Distressed Masons of Oregon Relief Fund. You can find information about this program by visiting www.masonic-oregon.com/relief. This program is intended to help Oregon Masons and their families facing uncertainty in this upheaval caused by the pandemic.

This period of isolation also provides us with an opportunity to spend time learning our ritual, learning a new part in a degree, or expanding our knowledge through online learning. There is a great amount of information online of Masonic material including podcasts. You might also desire to write an article for the Oregon Masonic News; prepare a brief talk on a subject of interest or expand upon ideas presented in the Short Talk Bulletins published by the MSA.

My Brothers, this is an opportunity to make lemonade out of the lemons we have been given. While each of us first have to take care of ourselves and our families, we can also reach out in a variety of ways to make things better for our Brothers and friends.

PROXIES

2019

- June 12 to M.W.B. James L. Morgan, I.P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on June 20-22, 2019, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, A.F. & A.M.
- June 13 to R.W.B. Michael J. McGuyer, Deputy Grand Master, to represent the Grand Master on June 27-29, 2019, at the Grand Session of Oregon's Job's Daughters in Wilsonville, Oregon.
- June 13 to M.W.B. R. Michael Wick, P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on June 20-22, 2019, at the Grand Assembly of the Oregon International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Pendleton, Oregon.
- Sept. 16 to R.W.B. Michael J. McGuyer, Deputy Grand Master, to represent the Grand Master on September 21, 2019, at the reception for the Oregon Order of the Eastern Star's Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron in Salem, Oregon.
- Sept. 17 to M.W.B. James L. Morgan, I.P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on September 27-28, 2019, at the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of North Carolina.
- Oct. 11 to M.W.B. James L. Morgan, I.P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on November 8-10, 2019, at the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Oklahoma.
- Oct. 14 to M.W.B. Arthur L. Borland, P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on October 27, 2019, during the visit of the Supreme Queen to Zuleima Temple No.13, Daughters of the Nile.

2020

- Jan. 3 to M.W.B. Richard E. Surroz, P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on January 23-25, 2020, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Colorado.

- Jan. 6 to M.W.B. W. Myles McMillan, P.G.M., to represent the Grand Master on January 30, 2020 to February 1, 2020, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Utah.
- Mar. 5 to R.W.B. Mark L. Posler, Junior Grand Warden, to represent the Grand Master on March 12, 2020, at the Masonic Family Celebration held during Oregon Amaranth's Grand Court in Lebanon.

GRAND ORATION

of

The Grand Lodge of Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons
of Oregon

Theodore J. Balestreri
GRAND ORATOR

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

**Address to the One Hundred and Seventieth
Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge
of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon**

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipfuls, and fellow Masonic Brothers; I am honored to be allowed to speak before you as your Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Oregon's One Hundred and Seventieth Annual Communication.

I have been honored to serve our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Ron Eggers, and the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Oregon. It has been a great learning experience for me, both as a man, and a Freemason. When I became a Master Mason, I became confident in what I thought Freemasonry was. This confidence grew in 2008, when I was tasked to help establish a new Lodge, Esoterika No. 227. However, this all changed in 2018, when I found myself in a new town. I learned a very important lesson, that was reinforced monthly during my travels throughout Oregon.

I learned there is more than one type of Freemasonry practiced in our Jurisdiction, in fact, there are several forms. I am not referring to our Rites or Rituals but our roles within the Lodge as well as within the communities in which our Lodges reside. This is nothing new, but appears to have existed from the time of our earliest existence. I say "appears", because anyone who explores the history of Freemasonry will see that it is made up of legends, traditions, and a little history all painted with the personality and perspective of the person who is writing the history.

According to our historical legends, men of "letters" began entering Scottish Lodges of Operative Stone Masons early in the 16th century. As legend goes, these men were seeking secure places to meet and discuss their ideas with like-minded men. To understand this, one needs to consider the social upheavals that were occurring in Europe at the time Freemasonry developed. In George Franklin Fort's (1809-1872) *The Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry*, he attempts to describe what was happening in Europe. He states that in the 17th century, when society began to liberalize, its hold of the common people began to slip or relax. As these new ideas began to circulate throughout the various towns and villages, conflicts arose with those who wished to hold on to the status quo.

These progressive thinkers had to find new and secure places to discuss their societal changing ideas. They found secure places in guilds/Lodges because they were offered a place where they could go to get

away from the intrigues and violence of the religious and political strife which was occurring all around them. It is in these Lodges that men could socialize as “equals” and have serious conversations concerning science, politics and philosophy of the day. It is here the term “*speculative*” began to designate the difference from the “*thinkers*” and the stone workers who were referred to as “*Operative Masons*.” The first known use of the term “speculative” to distinguish a Mason from full practical working or “operative” Stone Mason was used in a letter from Dr. Thomas Manningham (unknown-1794), Deputy Grand Master of England (1752-1756) written to a fellow Brother on July 12, 1757; thus indicating the term was in use at that time.

As more non-stone workers joined these Lodges, they began to expound on the central tenets of the Rosicrucians and/or seekers of the “new ideas of enlightenment.” They discussed the general Rosicrucian ideals of universal reformation obtained by the individual development of the “self.” The idea of self-development was a radical idea frowned on by those who wished to keep the idea of “classes” in place. “Speculative” referred to when “old Freemasonry was the exclusive patrimony of men of a philosophic turn of mind.” They were people who “speculated”, which then referred to those who did not “just” accept what had been told them, particularly by the church, who, at the time, influenced all aspects of European life. Of course, the intensity of these ideas and ideals varied from Lodge to Lodge.

Each of these Lodges developed their own personalities, much as our current Lodges do now. In time, some of these Lodges began educating their members, not only on the “new ideas of enlightenment,” but also on the new sciences of chemistry, astrology, mathematics and so forth which would become the Seven Liberal Sciences.

These men of letters, who were often the community leaders, started infiltrating various other guilds throughout England and Europe. These guilds, in turn, attracted other men who sought affiliation with these men, but also the knowledge they were sharing. An example was given in Fort’s book, where he discusses how even King Edward III became a member of the Linen Armorers in London. He did this as a means to support his popularity as the monarchy began to lose its power. This became a common practice for many of the nobility as they transitioned from the “nobility” to that of holding offices as “representatives” of their communities. Fort states, “There is no reason to doubt the assertion of the record, referred by William Preston (1742-1818), the Scottish author, editor, and lecturer, that at the time alleged, persons of social standing, ie. the sheriff and other civil officers, were accepted as

members of the Masonic fraternity.” Thus, beginning a long tradition of our fraternity attracting community leaders into our Lodges.

But like everything in Freemasonry, nothing was truly universal or smooth. Many of the Lodges differentiated themselves due to the location of urban guild/Lodges versus country guild/Lodges. As today, where we try to unify our Lodges, so did our early Brothers. As early as 1598, a set of standards were created to assure “the preserving of the traditions of the Craft”. They are called the Schaw Statutes, written by William Schaw (1550-1602). The basic tenets are practiced today in our Lodges in the form that each member of the Lodge has to master the art of memorization of our Degrees and Rites.

Over time, as our fraternity began to mature, we changed once again. A third definition appeared, that of a “Craft Mason.” This changed after Inigo Jones’ (1573-1652), famous work, called the “Inigo Jones Manuscript,” was made public around 1607. It took Freemasonry from the “Speculative” to a more social “Craft Masonry”. Craft Masonry, being closer to what is referred to as “Blue Lodge Masonry,” or “Modern Freemasonry,” in our current Masonic dictionary. These Craft Lodges were concerned with “living a good Life.” The Lodges offered men a place where they could get away from the intrigues and violence of the religious and political strife which was occurring all around them. It is in these Lodges that men could socialize, as equals and have serious conversations concerning science, politics and philosophy. They taught by action, rites and rituals, the individual development of the “self”. This was a radical idea which often caused open conflicts with those who wished to keep the idea of “classes” in place. But in our Lodges, we are taught the principles of “controlling one’s passions”, equality of “standing on the level” with one’s Brothers, the art of memory, or ordering of one’s mind. This leads to a more positive outlook and relationship, with one’s Brother, family and community. It was a time of greater acceptance of what was not normal, such as accepting those of other Christian denominations, their religious views and those of different social statues into the Order.

The move to Craft Masonry was not smooth. One example was when Andrew Michael Ramsey (1686-1743), often referred to as the “Chevalier Ramsay,” came along during one of our Order’s more political times. Ramsay was a Baronet in the Jacobite Peerage. This was a time when the Jacobines, who were a group of mostly Scottish people in the late 17th and 18th centuries, believed that the Catholic James VII of Scotland (James II of England) and his Stuart descendants should be restored to the throne of Scotland and England. At the time, many Ma-

sonic Lodges became centers of this political intrigue on both sides. It is alleged that many Lodges actually formed military units to battle for their favorite. These actions may have led to our current “non-political” stance which we honor today in our Lodges.

Ramsey is credited as being the first person to suggest that Freemasonry extended past the three basic Craft Degrees, or “Blue Lodge” Degrees, to those of “High Degrees,” also referred to as the “Red Degrees”. This occurred at the Grand Lodge in Paris on March 21, 1737, where Ramsey stated, “Freemasons did come not from the literal medieval guilds of cathedral builders, but from the Kings and Nobles of the Crusades. They were not actual builders, but instead, those who had taken vows to restore the Temple of Jerusalem.” Due to Ramsey’s oration, an entire legend developed that discredited the idea that the guilds were meeting places for those interested in the Liberal Arts and Sciences, instead alleged to be places where seventeenth century alchemists and Rosicrucian practiced their ideas which led to Rosicrucian imitators and nay-sayers propagating the ideas of “hidden adepts” with “secrets” that were a part of Freemasonry.

This idea of Masonic secrets is still propagated today in many printed and digital descriptions of our fraternity.

Our Lodges had a lot of differences due to how they were formed. There was what is called the *immemorial right* of Masons to form Lodges. Lodges could be formed without warrants, which meant they often had no allegiance to any Grand Lodge. This caused more problems as rouge Lodges developed their own governances, all under the name of Freemasonry. This added to the chaos of what, and how, a true Masonic Lodge is because there were so many different variations. Henry Wilson Coil listed in his famous Masonic Encyclopedia, at a minimum, twelve different types of Lodges from *Just* and *Perfect*, *Immemorial Rights Lodges*, *General Lodges*, *Table Lodges* to *Mother Lodges*, just to name a few. Each one operated independently, often with different Degrees and programs.

These differences of originality helped to develop various groups that called themselves Masonic Lodges. Historically, like now, the various Grand Lodges tried to standardize not only the Lodge degrees conferred in their geographic area, but also the governance of them. However, the differences continued, in not only the actions of such men as Inigo Jones, William Schaw, Sir Andrew Ramsey, but also the political intrigue between monarchs, and what I call the development of “*Lodge personalities*.”

Lodge personality is the reflection, usually of the dominate males in the Lodge. Generally, they are the current Lodge Masters or a promi-

nent Past Master. Sociologists call them “Alpha males.” We often call them “Sirs.” They are often those in our Lodges that are looked up to due to their knowledge, activity or past leadership, and at times, social status in the outside community. They are described as “real Masons” in contrast to other Lodge members who merely follow their lead.

These “Alpha Masons” control the path of their Lodge, whether for the good or bad. When a positive Alpha Mason is in control, you often see an influx of activity in the Lodge. More degree work is done as the result of a growing membership; activity in the community, in the form of charity work, school and Veteran support is seen, as well as an overall increase in attendance at Lodge meetings.

In contrast to the positive Alpha Mason, there is the leader whose personality exhibits uncertainty, misdirection, or negative thought patterns. The results of this is often manifested with low Lodge attendance, few new members and a general inactivity of the Lodge’s functions and interaction with its members and the community. The effects of this negative Lodge personality can last for years, often ending in the Lodge retiring its Charter due to poor attendance.

No matter what the Alpha’s Mason’s personality, his impact is felt in the Lodge often through multiple Masonic years. This also applies to the general path of the Lodge as a “Craft” or “Speculative Lodge”. If the Lodge’s personality is focused as a place of social meetings, “Brotherly Love”, fellowship, and communal support, it could be called a “Craft of Operative” Lodge. In contrast to this, today’s “Speculative” Lodge is often one of having a time, or even special evenings, when education and learning occurs. They may take the form of talks, both Masonic, as well as general betterment, with topics such as health, finances, work; or even degree work.

Lodge personalities are somewhat like human personalities and may vary in their direction and intensity. When visiting various Lodges, one generally cannot tell which type of Lodge they may be associating with, until they’ve spent time in the Lodge. Just like meeting a fellow Brother, you can not tell a book or a Brother from his cover.

We, as Masons, often seek out Lodges for different reasons. Of course, the easiest reason is that one has a family connection. A father, brother or perhaps an uncle are members; maybe a friend or classmate. When that man becomes a Mason, he usually maintains his membership and activity due to the support of his connection.

A second reason, which is usually the greatest problem and often causes Lodges to lose their newest members, is the work of the Lodge itself. Typically, the new member joins the fraternity due to his under-

standing of the legend that Masons are socially active. This means the candidate has heard, or seen, Freemasons actively involved with schools or in charitable works. These new men want to “give back” to society. If upon joining, they find the Lodge only meets for dinner, business meetings and degree work, they often stop attending.

Thirdly, there are those who join to learn the “secrets” that have been, and still are, alluded to by social media, books and movies. They often are seeking the excitement of the unknown and mysterious. These are the men who usually become active in degree work and Masonic research. If they do not find a satisfying educational component in their Lodge, they too lose interest, and seek other sources for their satisfaction. If they do complete the Degrees, they are often lost to the Scottish and York Rites and not seen again in their Blue Lodge.

Finally, there is also a group who join that want to be involved in something bigger than themselves. In the past, most people belonged to their local churches, synagogues, temples, or mosques. The commonality of these groups is that they each profess a doctrine for something bigger than individuals. They also share the trait of representing a time-honored tradition that has lasted over hundreds of years. In 2013, it was reported only 24 to 39 percent of Americans attend church weekly, versus nearly 50 percent in the 1950s. Today’s young men often join us, not as a religion, but something with longevity, and in our case, over 300 years of tradition. They are looking for something that helps to supply boundaries in what may be a chaotic world of work and outside life, a place of safety with those who have the same or similar values. Values that, to them, are based on common sense and provide safety, camaraderie, and commonality with others who they have chosen to be around.

Of course, these are not the only or sole reasons men join our fraternity. It is sometimes a combination of reasons. The point is, each man joins for his own reasons, and if you ask each Mason here why he joined, you will get a different answer. There are a lot of excuses to try to differentiate the uniqueness or discriminate against a specific Lodge, but the bottom line is they are all made up of Brother Masons who share the same fraternal background.

I want you to look around the room now. Take a moment to see if you can tell which Brothers are Alpha Masons, who joined their Lodges to work on charitable projects, or those who are seeking the “secrets” of Freemasonry. I bet you cannot tell who is who, EXCEPT, perhaps you are sitting with those who have similar interest.

By this I am referring that Lodges of similar interest tend to gravitate

toward each other. As I have traveled around, my concept of what a Masonic Lodge is has changed radically. I believed they all were like my Mother Lodge, in an urban area, full of Alpha Masons seeking enlightenment through excellent Degree work, education and memory work. What I found as I moved into a rural area, is that Lodges became more of a place of community socialization and gathering.

These Lodges seem to be what was referred to in the past as Craft Lodges. They are the social hub of the community, rather than being the old-fashioned Masonic Temples, where men met only to perform their rites and rituals. They became places that the youth and ladies met, and often groups like Girl and Boy Scouts, and even churches. It is here that they met and were often offered a good bowl of homemade chili or a hearty stew or meaty sandwich.

As one travels around, you will see other minor differences in Lodges, such as the placement of Lodge furniture, positions of where administrative officers sit, such as the Treasurer. Some traditions have settled in and become a traditional part of the rites of the Lodge, such as having the candidate and coach sitting in chairs, versus standing, west of the Altar giving their proficiency, as done in other Lodges. These are little things that add to each Lodge's individual personality.

What I am trying to point out, is many, if not all of our Lodges, have their individual personalities as a result of their traditions, location in the state and the spirit of their past and present Alpha Masons. The Grand Lodge does try to standardize Lodges to unify us throughout its Jurisdictions, but Lodge personalities are hard to change.

Just as you saw when you looked around, it is virtually impossible to tell what kind of Brother Mason you are looking at from their appearance. The one thing we should all know, is that everyone in this room is a member of the Grand Lodge of Oregon and we are all Alpha Masons to some degree. Yes, some are more Alpha than others, but we are all leaders in our fraternity. As leaders, we need to ensure the uniformity of Degree and governances to continue our unified march into the future. For this uniformity literally provides the warmth of knowing when we visit other Lodges, or meet fellow Masons, that we all share the same basic backgrounds, ritual experiences and Masonic legends, traditions, and history that makes us Freemasons. It truly does not matter what our Lodges personality is, as long as it promotes the Masonic virtues we all have sworn to uphold.

Respectfully submitted,
Theodore J. Balestreri, Grand Orator

ANNUAL REPORT

of

**THE MASONIC &
EASTERN STAR
HOME BOARD**

James L. Morgan
I.P.G.M., CHAIRMAN

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

REPORT OF THE MASONIC & EASTERN STAR HOME BOARD

The MESH Board is comprised of three representatives of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the five Grand Lodge Trustees. The 2019-2020 representatives include:

James L. Morgan	Immediate Past Grand Master Chairman	A.F. & A.M.
Melissa Metz	Junior Past Grand Matron Vice Chairperson	O.E.S.
Ronald J. Eggers	Grand Master	A.F. & A.M.
Mary Drushella	Worthy Grand Matron	O.E.S.
Michael J. McGuyer	Deputy Grand Master	A.F. & A.M.
Leslie Van Etten	Associate Grand Matron	O.E.S.
Gregory A. Jenkins	Senior Grand Warden	A.F. & A.M.
Mark L. Posler	Junior Grand Warden	A.F. & A.M.

One of the duties of the Immediate Past Grand Master is to serve as the Chairman of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home Board. It has been my pleasure and honor this year to fulfill that duty, and now submit this report of the board's activities for the past Grand Lodge year.

I have had the privilege of serving with the very best of our fraternity as well as the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star. It has been my pleasure to serve with Sisters Melissa Metz, Mary Drushella, Leslie Van Etten and Brothers Ronald Eggers, Mike McGuyer, Greg Jenkins and Mark Posler. Sister Laura Fry and Brother Craig Sipp have attended our meeting this year as guests. In addition to these Brothers and Sisters, the board has had the assistance and counsel of Brother Rick Komraus, Grand Secretary, who also serves as the secretary for the MESH Board.

While we wish things would always run smoothly at the Jennings McCall Center (JMC), that is seldom the case. However, we are very fortunate to have the assistance of Aidan Health Services and Mr. Mark Remley to guide our facility. As I am writing this report, we are in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic which has placed an extra burden on the staff at JMC. It is another reminder how fortunate we are to have such dedicated and capable people managing this facility. They are constantly working with our residents, as well as State agencies, to ensure that everything possible is being done to promote the safety of our residents and staff.

This year has seen several smaller projects at Jennings McCall, which has been a welcome change for the board and the residents. We have been required by the State of Oregon to replace heating units in the building. This project was started shortly before the “lock down” but will finish later this year.

Another very welcome addition to Jennings McCall is an in-house nurse practitioner. We are fortunate to have this wonderful lady working in our building. Having her services available to our residents has meant a decline in the number of residents that have to leave the building for routine medical care. She also provides laboratory services on-site, which also reduces the need for residents to travel outside the facility. This is proving to be very well received by the residents, as well as their family members, who have also taken advantage of the services she provides. The services have become so popular that we plan to expand the clinic area as soon as possible so more residents can take advantage of this opportunity to have the care they need in our facility.

We currently have two Life Care Members and 13 MESHCare members. Of the 13 MESHCare members, 11 reside in JMC with the other two residing in Independent and Assisted Living facilities near their homes. Ms. Tammy Vanderzanden continues to lead our MESHCare program. She works with current, as well as prospective, members to complete applications and determine eligibility for admission into the program.

Our OutReach program, led by Mrs. Danielle Christopherson, is currently serving approximately 70 Masonic and Eastern Star members. During the 2019 – 2020 Grand Lodge year, over \$92,000 has been allocated to help our members.

OutReach has proven to be a very beneficial program for our members and the MESH Board is looking to expand this program in the coming years. Through the use of ongoing financial assistance, the board feels they can assist members that do not qualify for the MESHCare program. The board is looking forward to having a program that can serve more members, helping them remain in their homes or transition to an Independent or Assisted living facility regardless of where they reside. Along with the Children’s Financial Outreach Program that was approved last year, the board is finding more ways to care for our members and their families. This is another way to continue our greatest philanthropy and give back to our members who now need our assistance.

My recommendation to the board would be to continue to develop programs and services for our members to meet our vision, “to be

recognized as the leading resource for our members and their families in accessing quality care. This is why we meet and work so hard to find ways to aid and assist those that need our help.

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank all the Grand Lodge office staff for their tremendous support this year and for all the years I have had the honor of serving the Grand Lodge of Oregon and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home. Without your help we would not be able to accomplish all that we do for our members. Tiffany, Molly, Marissa, Kristen, Tammy, Danielle and Erin, you are an amazing staff that we are most fortunate to have the opportunity to work with. Thank You.

As this is my last official report as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home Board, I would like to again thank M.W.B. Mike Wick, P.G.M., for giving me this opportunity, and to the Brothers of the Grand Lodge of Oregon for having the faith in me to serve you over the last six years.

Fraternally,



James L. Morgan, Immediate Past Grand Master.
Chairman, Masonic and Eastern Star Home Board

ANNUAL REPORT

of

**THE JENNINGS
McCALL CENTER**

Crystale Harding
Administrator

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JENNINGS MCCALL CENTER

Looking back on this year, it almost happened in two parts: pre- and post-COVID-19. The year began with the hosting of the annual Masonic Communities & Services Association event. This was a wonderful way to speak about our community and the changes that have taken place. A lot of work went into the planning of this event, and we appreciated the leadership and guidance throughout, as it was a new experience for us. The event was well received by all.

The final remodel, which took place in the dining rooms, as well as the space above the dining areas has been wrapped up. Office space has always been a premium, and we were fortunate to be able to add multiple offices above the Assisted Living dining area, as well as some much needed storage. Prior to COVID-19, we began work to replace heaters throughout the Assisted Living apartments to aide in the comfort of our residents during the winter months. This project will continue once restrictions are lifted.

This year will be looked at primarily through the lens of COVID-19 and how the pandemic has continued to evolve. The state guidance and regulations continue to change and the staff has done a wonderful job adapting to the new procedures.

As a priority, essential visitors only have been allowed into the Jennings McCall Center (JMC), which do not include family or friends, unless we encounter an end-of-life situation. While the residents do not have the visitors they are used to, it did allow staff to become more creative, ensuring our residents have fun activities available throughout the day. We expanded the capability of video chatting with their family and friends, as well as created an online platform to communicate with activity directors trying to share different ideas during this time. The longer this goes on, the more we will need to be doing.

From a health services perspective, we have begun assessing our residents daily, to ensure we catch any symptoms related to COVID-19 quickly. As isolation continues, we are paying particular attention to our residents' weight and overall mental health. A simple check-in is going to give us valuable information if there are additional needs to be met for each resident.

During this time, we also worry about our staff. We screen every staff member on a daily basis, prior to the beginning of their shift. If a temperature is noted, or if they answer "yes" to a particular question, they are immediately sent home and asked to get a COVID test.

The Board approved additional PTO time in cases associated with COVID-19, to set the employees mind at ease so that time away from work will not cause a financial hardship.

Overall, we have decided the best plan as we move forward, is to send a resident who may test positive, to the Oregon COVID (+) Recovery Site. This will enable the team at JMC to focus on the residents and decrease the chance of further exposure. This will also alleviate any pressure on the facility to keep up with personal protective equipment demands required to care for these individuals.

While operating in these times can create fear within the residents, as well as the staff, it has been wonderful to have the outpouring support of the Board to provide whatever is necessary to ensure everyone has anything they might need. Masks being made and donated, thank you note campaigns to the staff; it all helps to show the appreciation for everyone making things happen. After all, that is what we are here for.

Sincerely,
Crystale Harding, Administrator

LIFE CARE MEMBERS OF THE
MASONIC & EASTERN STAR HOME OF OREGON
April 30, 2020

NAME	AFFILIATION	AGE	ADMIT DATE	YEARS OF RESIDENCE
Evans, Margaret	Holbrook Lodge 30	91	03/24/1997	23.30
Hall, F. Arinda	Esther Chapter 11	65	12/12/2003	16.58

MASONIC AND EASTERN STAR HOME OF OREGON
COMPOSITION OF LIFE CARE MEMBERS OF THE HOME

LODGES AND CHAPTERS	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
1 Lodge sponsors two members	0	1	1
1 Chapter sponsors one member	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS	0	2	2

RECAPITULATION	
Census April 30, 2019	3
Admitted during fiscal year	0
Released to Self	0
Released by Death	<u>1</u>
Census April 30, 2020	2

MESH-CARE MEMBERS

April 30, 2020

SEX	AFFILIATION	AGE	APPROVED DATE	YEARS OF RESIDENCE
Female	Beaverton Masonic 100	94	08/11/2012	7.91
Female	Holbrook Lodge 30	90	07/11/2015	5.00
Female	Tualatin Chapter 31	88	07/09/2016	4.00
Female	Mt. Scott Chapter 10	97	02/11/2017	3.42
Female	Friendship Rose Chapter 148	91	05/13/2017	3.17
Male	Washington 46	88	06/03/2017	3.11
Female	Reames Chapter 66	92	07/29/2017	2.96
Female	Wayfaring Emeralds Chapter 213	84	02/10/2018	2.43
Female	Columbia 114	87	10/12/2019	0.79
Male	Pacific 50	91	11/09/2019	0.71
Male	Washington 46	83	12/13/2019	0.62
Female	Doric Chapter 53	68	12/13/2019	0.62
Female	Forest Chapter 42	85	04/04/2020	0.31

RECAPITULATION

Census April 30, 2019	13
Admitted during fiscal year	5
Released to Self	2
Released by Death	<u>3</u>
Census April 30, 2020	13

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

**SENIOR & JUNIOR
WARDENS**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons
of Oregon

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

REPORT OF THE SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

The Grand Lodge By-Laws Sections 109 and 166.3 read that the duties of the Senior Grand Warden shall serve as a member of the Grand Lodge Trustees and represent the Grand Lodge on the Oregon Masonic and Eastern Star Home Board (MESH), to serve as an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee, review and report Educational Assistance applications to the Trustees, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Master, or required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the Customs and Usages of Masonry.

The Trustees and MESH Board meet every month at the Grand Lodge office in Forest Grove, except after the Grand Lodge Session and the annual Training Retreat. I attended and participated in all meetings.

MESH meetings are busy. Finances, as well as future improvements of the Jennings McCall Center (JMC), are discussed in detail before any action is taken. This really brings to light the overall operation and financial aspects of the Home. With the construction and remodel complete, the dust and noise has subsided, and the residents are enjoying a new kitchen, dining area and room remodels. It was well worth the effort!

At the Trustee meetings, it was my duty to present the Educational Assistance cases for consideration and review. This year 67 youths, K-12 representing 39 families, have received assistance for a total of \$88,200. More detail can be found in my report on Educational Assistance. We also review the monthly finances and operations of the Grand Lodge and Robert M. Richmond Memorial Library. With the guidance of the Grand Master, actions are taken as necessary. Blue Lodge questions about Code procedures are also discussed.

The first event on the itinerary this year was hosting the 89th annual Masonic Communities & Services Association (MCSA) conference, held in Portland Oregon, which showcases the operations of other Jurisdictions' retirement homes and discusses problems and solutions each face.

I attended numerous official visits in support of M.W.B. Ron Eggers as well as the East-West Shrine football game in Baker City, had the honor of participating in the 150th anniversary celebration of Washington Lodge No 46, and participated in both the Turner Ranch and Malheur Cave Outdoor Degrees, as well as the corned beef and cabbage annual dinner at Union Lodge. The Past Master's night and oyster stew dinner was held at my home Lodge, Rickreall No. 110.

I was active in my home Lodge, as well as other local Lodges, along with the Shrine, York Rite and Scottish Rite. I traveled to other Jurisdictions and attended their Annual Communications, including the Grand Lodges of Alaska, California, Missouri, Nevada and Washington. In February, I, along with the rest of the Trustees, attended the Western Conference of Grand Masters, consisting of most of the Western Jurisdictions, including Mexico, and also attended the North American Conference of Grand Masters, held in Louisville, Kentucky. This annual gathering of Masons from all around the world is by far a very interesting and educational meeting as it brings most of our Grand Lodge counterparts from all Jurisdictions, including leadership from the Scottish Rite and Shrine, together to communicate, share our ideas and problems, as well as try to improve and strengthen Masonry as a whole. The highlight was the leadership of the Scottish Rite and Shrine coming together to work with the Grand Lodges to help grow our membership.

I was given the task of working with the Brothers from Port Orford Lodge No. 170 to help save their Charter. The Lodge found, what a few of our Lodges may also be experiencing, themselves becoming *age locked*; meaning the majority of the members have reached an age that no longer permits them to attend meetings. The Lodges are unable to have a quorum, nor hold a Stated Meeting. With the help of Deputy Grand Master R.W.B. Michael McGuyer, we made four trips to Port Orford. Working with the Brothers of the Lodge by phone, texts, and e-mail, along with the help of their District Deputy, we were able to get enough members together, and with a dispensation on December 11th, conduct a meeting to elect officers for 2019, install them and hold a Stated Meeting to conduct business and then elect and install the officers for 2020. We also enlisted the help of five Brothers from Sidney Croft No. 206, who dual membership with Port Orford to make this happen. At the writing of this report, Port Orford has voted to start the process of consolidation with Sidney Croft. Letters have been sent out notifying the membership that a vote will be taken at the next Stated Meeting, once the pandemic restrictions have been lifted.

As Senior Grand Warden, it is my duty to pay wages if aught be due. The Brothers worthy of wages are numerous, and I thank all of you for your support and guidance. I would like to pay wages to my mentor, traveling partner and roommate during my year as Senior Deacon. Always there when I need some wise counsel, companionship and guidance, as well as help throughout the year being the designated

driver on the trips to Port Orford and back, these words are offered as payment for what is due to R.W.B. Mike McGuyer. Well done my friend, thank you.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be your Senior Grand Warden for this Masonic year. It has been an experience I will treasure forever. I would like to thank M.W.B. Ron Eggers, the Grand Lodge Trustees, the Grand Secretary and Grand Lodge staff, as well as all the Ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star for the help and guidance they have provided this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory A Jenkins, Senior Grand Warden

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

Upon my election as Junior Grand Warden, I felt honored and wish to thank all the Masons of Oregon for their confidence in me. During my year in the Grand South, I have attempted to perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability, and to meet the expectations of the Brethren.

In my capacity as a Trustee of the Grand Lodge, I have attended the meetings of the Trustees and the Masonic & Eastern Star Home (MESH) Board. One primary task I completed each month, with the assistance of the Senior Grand Deacon, was review of the monthly bills and payments made by the Grand Lodge and the Jennings-McCall Center. During the year, the review process was changed from paper documents to an electronic format, which should make the review less time consuming in the future. In addition to the scheduled meetings, I also participated in subcommittee meetings to research and address specific areas of concern to the MESH Board. The work product of the subcommittees was made available to the MESH Board for consideration of adoption. Participation in these processes has provided valuable insight to me regarding the business aspect of Grand Lodge operations. I can safely report the Grand Lodge expenses this year were properly paid upon receipt of verified invoices and billing.

The Grand Master appointed me to be a member of the Budget Committee, the Code Committee, and Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. I actively participated in the deliberations of the three committees and invested a substantial amount of time in the Long Range Planning Committee work. Please read the reports of these committees for further details.

I was also appointed to be a member of the Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation (OMCF) board. I regularly attended meetings and participated in the activities of the board. The board oversees the Masonic Model Student Assistance Program and reviews the Creating A Partnership (CAP) applications for approval, as well as other activities.

Pursuant to my duties related to the Penal Code, I have carried out investigations of various situations which arose during the year. One investigation resulted in the preferment of charges against a Master Mason for Un-Masonic Conduct. My efforts in this area were significantly hampered by the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting restrictions placed upon all Oregonians by the Governor to protect public health. I expect these matters will be resolved following removal of the restrictions when the virus risk has abated.

I was pleased to have several opportunities to represent the Masons of Oregon by visiting the Annual Communication events held by other Grand Lodges in the United States. I also had the pleasure of accompanying the Grand Master at these visits. In June, I attended the Annual Communications in Montana and Washington and in September, Idaho and Missouri. In October, I attended the Annual Communication of California, and in November, the Annual Communication of Nevada. Each of these visits afforded me excellent opportunities to acquire ideas and exchange information with our Brothers from other jurisdictions. The experience was valuable to me and widened my horizons on Masonic topics.

In June, I also had the opportunity to attend and help host the annual Masonic Communities & Services Association (MCSA) Conference, which was hosted in Portland this year by the Grand Lodge. This conference attracts attendees from across America and was another great learning opportunity. The focus was on current issues related to Masonic long-term care facilities.

In February, I attended the Conference of Grand Masters of North America in Louisville, Kentucky, along with the Grand Master and other elected officers. In conjunction with this event, I delivered a presentation titled "Approaches to Lodge Security" to the Western Conference of Grand Masters. This was another valuable experience, with opportunities to learn about current issues in Masonry and strategies to address them. Many of the challenges we face in Oregon are being experienced in other jurisdictions as well.

Throughout the year, I attended various Official Visits and special Masonic events within our jurisdiction. These included the 150th anniversary celebration at Washington Lodge No. 46, outdoor degrees,

golf tournaments, receptions, and an Occasional Communication of the Grand Lodge. I especially enjoyed these opportunities to spend time with my Oregon Lodge Brothers.

In March, I had the honor and pleasure of representing the Grand Master at the opening of the Grand Court of Oregon, Order of the Amaranth, held in Lebanon. I enjoyed meeting several members of the Order and participating in their opening ceremonies. Their hospitality was superb.

Throughout the year, I have been impressed with the quality and service of the staff at the Grand Lodge office in Forest Grove. I greatly appreciate their support and assistance.

I commend the District Deputies, who have demonstrated great zeal in their commitment to the fraternity and have kept the Grand Master and Trustees apprised as to the condition of the Lodges in their districts. I have carefully reviewed each report they submitted during the year.

I truly appreciate this opportunity to serve the Craft in Oregon, represent my Brethren to other jurisdictions, and participate in efforts to improve the future of the fraternity. Mere words cannot convey my feeling of gratitude for this chance to meet the challenges of leadership. In accordance with M.W.B. Eggers' theme for this year, I leave you with his words: "*Renew * Build * Serve*".

Respectfully submitted,
Mark L. Posler, Junior Grand Warden

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

**GRAND LODGE
COMMITTEES**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons
of Oregon

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

APPEALS & GRIEVANCES

At the time of this report, there have been no appeals to our committee. Due to all Lodge activity being suspended for the remainder of this Lodge year, there will be no new trials or appeals presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomey R. Greer, H.P.G.M.

Gregory A. Hinkelman

James R. Belshe, P.G.M., Chairman

David D. Fuller

Darrell G. Maple

William A. Taylor

BUDGET

The duties of the Budget Committee are delineated in section 130A of the Oregon Masonic Constitution & By-Laws which reads:

1. To prepare and present to each Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge, an operating budget covering all proposed expenditures from the general fund for the ensuing fiscal year.

2. During the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge all proposals for the expenditure of moneys in excess of \$100 except the payroll, shall be referred to the Committee on the Budget for report.

The following is a summary of the expected income and expenses of Grand Lodge for the 2020-2021 Masonic year.

INCOME

INVESTMENT EARNINGS.....	\$193,439
SALE OF SUPPLIES.....	\$5,673
ANNUAL DUES.....	\$32,000
ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES.....	\$ 1,095,347
JMC LEASE INCOME.....	\$1,128,000
McMENAMINS LEASE INCOME.....	\$337,656
CAPITAL INVESTMENT INCOME.....	\$336,704
OTHER INCOME.....	\$33,107
TOTAL.....	\$3,161,926

EXPENSES

SALARIES.....	\$512,066
GRAND SECRETARY SALARY	\$102,022
ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY SALARY	\$30,000
GRAND TREASURER SALARY.....	\$14,000
SOCIAL SECURITY	\$45,000
WORKERS COMP	\$2,000
MEDICAL INSURANCE	\$49,228
FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT.....	\$500

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT.....	\$2,342
LOCAL TAXES	\$1,921
DISABILITY INSURANCE	\$7,808
PENSIONS & 401(K)	\$25,352
ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS.....	\$94,300
COMMITTEE EXPENSES.....	\$60,000
GRAND LODGE OFFICER EXPENSES.....	\$124,740
PRINTING.....	\$10,393
OFFICE & BUILDING EXPENSES.....	\$260,607
MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION.....	\$6,000
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE CONTINGENCY	\$20,000
MASONIC BOARDS OF RELIEF.....	\$1,000
JMC INTEREST EXPENSE.....	\$151,956
PROPERTY TAX EXPENSE.....	\$291,000
GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL.....	\$7,800
GRAND LODGE PROGRAMS.....	\$132,471
LODGE RESTORATION.....	\$125,000
FRATERNAL SUPPLIES.....	\$20,000
GRAND LODGE TRIALS.....	\$5,000
OREGON MASONIC NEWS.....	\$28,000
SEMINARS.....	\$2,000
CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS.....	\$20,000
LODGE EDUCATION EXPENSES.....	\$27,070
DEPRECIATION.....	\$740,021
ARRESTED CHARTERS.....	\$500
GRAND MASTER PINS/GIFTS	\$4,000
DEPUTY GM FUNDRAISING /GIFT EXPENSE.....	\$3,000
HOME BOARD.....	\$1,000
ADVERTISING/MARKETING.....	\$121,000
MCMENAMINS INTEREST.....	\$115,023
MASONIC CONTESTS	\$1,000
MISCELLANEOUS.....	\$2,363
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$3,114,281
NET REVENUE OVER INCOME	\$47,645

The Grand Lodge office staff monitor expenses throughout the Masonic Year. They provide financial reports at the monthly Trustees meeting comparing the monthly expenses against the budgeted amounts.

We would like to thank our Grand Master, M.W.B. Ron Eggers for the privilege of working with him during this Masonic Year and his inputs to the budget process. I also want to personally thank the other members

of this committee for their assistance and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Ball

Richard C. Komraus

Michael J. McGuyer, Chairman

Gregory A. Jenkins

James L. Morgan, I.P.G.M.

Mark L. Posler

CLOTHING, JEWELS & FURNITURE

In compliance with Section 143 of the Masonic Code of Oregon, we hereby submit a report on the condition of the clothing, jewels, and furniture required for Grand Lodge ceremonies.

In reviewing the report on Clothing, Jewels and Furniture from the previous Masonic year, we noted the recommendation to purchase new aprons for all of the Grand Lodge Officers. We are pleased to report that new aprons have been purchased and distributed to the Grand Line to be used during the upcoming 2020-2021 Masonic year.

We also note that the District Deputy aprons that were purchased last year are still in good repair and appear new.

The Grand Lodge Officer collars and jewels were individually assessed, and new collars were purchased for ones that showed extensive wear or were in need of significant repair. These were for the Senior and Junior Grand Steward, the Grand Marshal and Grand Pursuivant. It is the recommendation of this committee that the remainder of the collars be assessed individually and replaced as necessary. As some of the collars are used more frequently by officers, this will likely be an on-going process and should be repeated annually.

The apron cases are also in good repair, although a few issues with the zippers were noted this year. It is likely that if these issues continue, some investigation by this committee will need to happen to procure replacements as the zippers wear or break.

We continue to clean and repair the Grand Lodge Officer aprons and collars, as well as the District Deputy aprons, on an ongoing basis when needs are identified and brought to our attention.

The Working Tools and Vessels of Consecration were used during the 150th anniversary Lodge ceremony for Washington Lodge No. 46. All are in good repair and are in possession of the Grand Marshal.

All other equipment necessary for the ceremonies of the Grand Lodge is in good condition and in possession of the Grand Marshal. An inventory of the same is on file at the office of the Grand Secretary.

Respectfully Submitted,

George L. Dickie IV

Eric Headley, Chairman

Christopher C. Warren

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS

Section 132 of the Oregon Masonic Code, *Duties of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters* reads, "It shall be the duty of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters: to examine the records, work, and returns of Lodges under dispensation and to report to the Grand Lodge the character and merits of each case, together with its recommendations, and to consider such other matters as shall be referred to it, including cases in which Charters have been arrested."

No Lodges were under dispensation for the 2019-2020 Masonic year. No cases where Charters were arrested have been referred to the committee. Therefore, we have nothing to report this year.

We wish to thank M.W.B. Ronald J. Eggers for the opportunity to be of service.

Respectfully Submitted,

M.W.B. David H. Friday, P.G.M.

M.W.B. Joseph Jarvis, P.G.M.

Warren R. Gray, Chairman

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Educational Assistance is for resident or nonresident children or grandchildren of a Master Mason in good standing {living or deceased} of a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction. The financial assistance is provided to aid the students in obtaining an education in public schools, kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) or post high-school through age 22. Each application is reviewed by the Grand Lodge Trustees to determine eligibility.

The funding for Educational Assistance comes entirely from the irreducible Educational Fund to aid the families. Not a "scholarship" program, Educational Assistance was put in place to help families that are struggling to make ends meet, to try and assure the child {or children} receives an education in a wholesome environment. The amount awarded to each eligible student is based on the total income and expenses of the household in which the student resides.

This year we approved applications from 39 families, representing 67 children, and spent \$88,200. Additional cases were unfortunately denied due to eligibility and paperwork not being turned in on time. A breakdown of Educational Assistance for the 2019-2020 year is on the following page.

Kindergarten through 12th grade		
Kindergarten through 12th grade		
Case No.	Lodge Name & #	Total Award
870A	Blanco No. 48	\$2,700
870B	Blanco No. 48	\$2,700
832A	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
832B	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
832C	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
842B	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
842C	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
842D	Blanco No. 48	\$1,800
849A	Florence No. 107	\$1,800
849B	Florence No. 107	\$1,800
850	Florence No. 107	\$2,700
863B	Florence No. 107	\$2,700
863C	Florence No. 107	\$2,700
866	Florence No. 107	\$2,700
846A	Grande Ronde Vly No. 56	\$2,700
846B	Grande Ronde Vly No. 56	\$2,700
767C	Hiram No. 67	\$2,700
828A	Hiram No. 67	\$2,700
828B	Hiram No. 67	\$2,700
855	Hiram No. 67	\$2,700
858	Hiram No. 67	\$2,700
869A	Hiram No. 67	\$1,800
869B	Hiram No. 67	\$1,800
869C	Hiram No. 67	\$1,800

Case No.	Lodge Name & #	Total Award
864	Holbrook No. 30	\$2,700
867A	Holbrook No. 30	\$1,800
867B	Holbrook No. 30	\$1,800
861	Jennings No. 9	\$1,800
840A	La Grande No. 41	\$1,350
840B	La Grande No. 41	\$1,350
840C	La Grande No. 41	\$1,350
840D	La Grande No. 41	\$1,350
859A	La Grande No. 41	\$900
859B	La Grande No. 41	\$900
838B	Research No. 198	\$2,700
838C	Research No. 198	\$2,700
819C	Tuality No. 6	\$2,700
Subtotal		\$78,300

Post High School through age 22		
Post High School through age 22		
Case No.	Lodge Name & #	Total Award
865	Columbia No. 114	\$1,800
860	Friendship Masonic No. 160	\$1,800
804C	St. Johns No. 17	\$900
868	Tigard-Orenomah No. 207	\$2,700
819B	Tuality No. 6	\$2,700
Subtotal		\$9,900
Total Disbursement		\$88,200

Prior to May 1st, applications are sent to every current and previous recipient for Educational Assistance, as well as the Worshipful Master of the sponsoring Lodge. A Lodge may submit a new form beginning May 1, but remember, time is of the essence so get the request in as soon as possible in order for the paperwork to get started and the reports back to Grand Lodge on time so monies can be distributed. If you know of a family who is in need, and if qualified, would be eligible for Educational Assistance, notify your Lodge and ask them to contact the Grand Lodge for the necessary paperwork and follow up. If you know of a family who is in need, and if qualified, would be eligible for Educational Assistance, notify your Lodge and ask them to contact the Grand Lodge

for the necessary paperwork and follow up. Don't let the paperwork sit on someone's desk. This assistance could change the life and outlook of a child by allowing a family to send their children to school with new clothes and not hungry, allowing the children to focus on education.

I would like to thank the Trustees for their diligence and understanding, and Ms. Tammy Vanderzanden at the Grand Lodge office for all her work and assistance in making this program a success this Masonic year.

Prior to May 1st, applications are sent to every current and previous recipient for Educational Assistance, as well as the Worshipful Master of the sponsoring Lodge. A Lodge may submit a new form beginning May 1, but remember, time is of the essence so get the request in as soon as possible in order for the paperwork to get started and the reports back to Grand Lodge on time so monies can be distributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory A. Jenkins, Senior Grand Warden

ENDOWMENTS

The Endowments Committee continues to work on many of the fundraising vehicles we utilize in order to build a cash reserve for the Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation. The giving and program emphasis from the Grand Lodge has ensured that many of our programs can continue to flourish, including Raising A Reader, Bikes for Books, Kindles for Books, and the Masonic Model Student Assistance Program.

The Grand Lodge has further developed two additional funds that can be utilized by Lodges, and Masons, to help with specific projects and personal financial relief for Brothers that are in distress.

The Creating A Partnership (CAP) program matches 50 cents on the dollar for Lodges that propose efforts to boost community-focused projects. Lodges identify a need, or a particular project, and apply to Grand Lodge for financial support to leverage the local Lodge's efforts.

Considering the recent COVID-19 pandemic, Grand Lodge launched the Distressed Masons of Oregon Relief Fund. The fund was put in place to help Master Masons who have been impacted by the coronavirus. There are many members, and their families, who have been directly impacted and the fund aims to help with related medical needs, rent, groceries and utility payments.

As demand continues to outstrip the resources allocated to the various programs, it is incumbent on all Masons who can help build the endowment for current and future needs.

Moving forward we are hoping to touch on the following areas for potential sources of new revenue:

- Develop and implement Masonic family fundraising
- Individual Lodge and district fundraisers
- Direct mail campaign to membership
- Outside grants will be explored and sought
- Create partnerships with businesses for sponsorship and matching donations
- Further develop the Planned Giving campaign (wills, trusts, appreciated stock and qualified charitable distributions)

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Respectfully submitted,
Warren S. Burkholder, Jr.
Melvin H. Drews
Zachary A. Blalack, Chairman

Zachary K. Cohen
Tomey R. Greer, H.P.G.M.

EXAMINATION OF VISITING BRETHERN

The purpose of this committee, according to Section 139 of the By-Laws is, "to examine all visitors not properly vouched for." It is our goal, therefore, to ensure that each visitor to a Lodge in this Jurisdiction is properly examined and that he provides proof of membership in good standing in a just and regularly constituted Lodge of Master Masons in a Grand Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Oregon.

There were no issues brought before the committee during the current fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,
Stanley C. Miller
Robert L. Fountain, Chairman

John T. Turner, H.P.G.M.

FELLOWS OF THE CRAFT

The strength of a Lodge is dependent on the foundation upon which it is built. By having qualified mentors, we will be laying a foundation bonded together by the cement of friendship and Brotherly Love. It is encouraged that all interested Brothers take advantage of the Fellows of the Craft (FOTC) mentorship program. By participating and completing this Masonic educational program, our Lodges will be stronger and more successful in having an active membership.

For all mentors, an updated *Standard Manual for Mentors* has been released. There is new, updated material relating to each of the degrees, which will guide you when working with a candidate. This is available, upon request, to replace sections 1-3 of the Mentor Manual materials. The new version is “V2.0 (2020).” Please e-mail me your request and I will send it to you as an attachment for printing. Sections 4-6 are for the candidate and did not require revisions.

To date this year, 19 Brothers have received FOTC training and are actively working with candidates. I would like to request Lodges to please report how many candidates have been mentored through the program during this Masonic year. This information will be helpful in determining the effectiveness (success rate) for the advancement of the candidate, as well as the program. All programs and educational tools need sharpening, and this information will aide in achieving this goal.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerald D. Schierling, Chairman

Wayne K. Ford

FINANCE

The investments of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Oregon again had a strong showing in 2019. The Finance Committee maintained the conservative model with 75% of the funds invested in stocks and 25% in cash, notes, or bonds.

After a dismal December 2018, with a precipitous drop of 7% in one month and concerns for the overall health of the US stock market, the extraordinary showing in 2019 was impressive. The S&P came in with a gain of 28%, the Nasdaq, dominant in technology stocks, performed even better with a 35% gain.

As of this writing, the coronavirus pandemic, and the economic crisis it has spawned, have thrown into question all predictions about the stock market and other investable assets. The Finance Committee will employ the call writing strategy it has used and will cautiously approach each transaction.

Looking at our account Year to Date 12/31/2019:

Account Value December 31, 2018.....	\$49,722,431.96
Account Value December 31, 2019	\$58,867,722.11
Total Withdrawal by Lodge 2019	\$1,830,000.00
<i>(does not include McMenamins investment)</i>	
Total Deposits 2020.....	\$0

Year to date 12/31/2019 income as follows:

Income from interest and dividends.....	\$1,342,396.26
Income from call writing activity.....	\$3,107,272.80

On behalf of the committee, I would like to offer our thanks to the Trustees for your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Bousquet, P.G.M.
Bruce A. Kent
Bob M. Keller, Chairman

Dennis L. DeSanno
Peter Morrison

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

This report will be given verbally during the 2020 Session then printed in the Proceedings.

HISTORY

At the Grand Communication of 1894, outgoing Grand Master J.C. Mooreland said, "Consciously or unconsciously we are making history. The scenes through which we have passed have been stirring ones. Great things have been accomplished. There ought to be a full record of them. Each Lodge ought to keep a record of its members, a short history of the important events of their lives, and, if possible, a photograph. This will form an interesting feature and prove of great value in the future."

At the last Annual Communication, June 2019, legislation requiring the Masters of each Lodge to submit at least a paragraph concerning the history of his year, was passed. It passed by only one vote, and upon the contention of one member whose voting device failed, that vote was subsequently deemed void. At the beginning of the day the Grand Master allowed members to reclaim their voting devices after many had been turned in with only half the voting completed. When the anomaly in the History vote was relayed to the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge went to refreshment while it was sorted out. It was then announced that the vote for Recording Lodges Histories had been nullified. A hand vote was then taken and the legislation passed by a wider margin. After the initial vote many Brothers headed home early and weren't present for the hand vote. This calls attention to a couple of important points: we need to pay attention to proposed legislation, the work we do here determines the future of Oregon Masonry, and it is incumbent upon us, as members of this Grand Lodge, to remain at work until the work is complete. The passage of this legislation, and

the way it passed, was historic in itself. For 150 years, various Grand Masters have exhorted the Craft and the Lodges to record and retain their histories. These efforts have resulted in some amazing treasures but have always been heeded only by a small percentage of the Lodges.

Over the year, the History Committee offered several articles in the Oregon Masonic News and additional forms on the Grand Lodge website, to promote and offer ideas for creating a yearly Lodge history. In addition, advice and resources were available upon request. Research Lodge of Oregon No. 198 has put forth the idea of a Lodge History competition and can aid and instruct the Craft in methods of compiling these histories. The minimum will add something to the story. *Why do More?* Past Grand Master Mooreland summed up the potential reward in these words, "The desire to be remembered by those whom we love here, after we have passed away, is one of the strongest of our moral natures; and it is a pleasant thought that we may thus leave behind us remembrances by which our friends and successors shall call our being to mind, long after we have become common clay."

This year, due to the coronavirus pandemic, we will not be able to vote to have the Lodge Historian as an official officer of the Lodge. Legislation is to be held over until the 171st Annual Communication. Your endorsement of this initiative will have a lasting effect on Masonry in Oregon. This member can be a great asset to your Lodge; helping the Master record the Lodges history and taking responsibility for the Lodges documents and photos, so they can be recorded, preserved, protected and shared with the Craft. His work will remind us of our past, while orienting new members to the fact that we walk in the footsteps of giants, Honorable men of renown.

Recommendations for Lodges: That each Lodge continue to collect the pictures of their Masters. Lodges that have ceased this practice should revive it. That said, Past Masters pictures should be scanned and digitized at 600 dpi to be retained in the archives of the Lodge and Grand Lodge. It should be noted that hanging on our walls is not only the history of Oregon Masonry, but the history of Oregon itself. The old papers, members records, Minutes, sign-in books, ledgers and death books should be digitized, and the originals placed in archive-safe conditions. This will give future historians and curious members the ability to search our records from home or online and provide a backup in case of disaster. (Originals must be retained). And finally, seek competent advice before getting rid of things. Too much of our irreplaceable history has gone out the door to end up in private

collections, dumpsters and thrift stores.

Recommendations for Grand Lodge: That the Grand Lodge continue to scan the yearly Proceedings, and like many other Grand Lodges make those Proceedings available online. Funding should be provided for that scanning, continuing on to include the Portland Directories, yearly Rosters which were bound separately from the Proceedings from 1923 to 1964, and the digitizing of the Masonic Analyst, which first transitioned into the Oregon Freemason and then the Oregon Masonic News. A record of Masonic activities and history in Oregon starting in 1923 and running to the present day. This is an incredible resource that few even know exists and should be made available to all. Grand Lodge should continue to expand and improve its capacity to store and make available a digital database where the records and history of Oregon Masonry can be stored and accessed. In conjunction, Lodges need guidance to figure out the best ways to protect and store the originals. Since the beginning, from 1851, for the most part, until 1964, the Grand Lodge of Oregon had produced yearly rosters of all Masons for the Proceedings. This has been a great tool for Oregon Masonic history, and I suggest we revive it digitally, even if only limited copies are published.

In December 2019, a new virus crept out and began to spread around the world. Many countries dragged their feet in hopes COVID-19 would just go away, but the virus cared not for human plans. On March 11, the World Health Organization proclaimed a worldwide pandemic. On March 13, 2020, Grand Master Ron Eggers, in an unprecedented act, closed all of Oregon Masonry. The shutdown of the entire country, and the world, happened soon after. As Grand Historian, it seemed worthwhile to look into my files and see what might be offered to those restricted to their homes. To that end, e-mail lists were cobbled together and articles featuring Oregon Masonic history were sent out every couple days. Perhaps these can be considered "Tales of Light in a Time of Darkness". It is hoped that these stories aid and inspire the Brethren as we travel through this veil of tears.

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to contribute to the work of the Craft.

Respectfully submitted,
James S. Akers
Daniel K. Gray
Nathan R. Neff
Michael D. Robinson, Chairman

Daniel R. Bauer
John W. Tucker
Ryan R. Whittenberg

HOSPITAL VISITATION

As Chairman from June 2019 through February 2020, I made 36 trips to the hospital to visit our Masonic family for a total of 4032 miles. A breakdown of trips including hours and mileage will be published in the Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis L. DeSanno

Terry J. Harris

David L. Miller

Norman P. Griffin, Chairman

John C. Donner

Richard A. Martin, P.G.M.

John L. Nerski

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The Information and Education Committee was tasked with developing and implementing training sessions per the Grand Master's direction. This included the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Warden Charges, Occasional Grand Lodges (OGL), numerous Schools of Instruction, and Torchlight study sessions.

The Charges, scheduled for March, were cancelled due to COVID-19 virus, and the Grand Master's Edict, in regard to concerns and the safety risk to our members.

Two OGLs were planned for this Masonic year. The first was held in Portland, at Washington Lodge No. 46, on Nov. 16, 2019. There was a good turn out with 66 Masons in attendance. The second was scheduled to be held in Medford on April 25, 2020 but was cancelled due to the coronavirus and the Grand Master Edict.

As Chairman of the Information and Education Committee, I thank the members of the committee for their work and support. Thanks to W.B. Jerald D. Schierling for his work on the Torchlight and Fellows of the Craft programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary K. Cohen

Jerald D. Schierling, Torchlight

Craig A. Sipp, Chairman

Forrest L. Hatch

Cary R. Pugh

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Grand Lodge of Oregon Library and Museum Committee has been busy as usual. In the last 12 months, we accomplished a monumental undertaking of entering more than 5,000 books into the Alexandria Li-

brary Automation Software (ALAS). We are currently affixing spine labels to all of these books, with about half now complete.

The next big undertaking will be for the ALAS program to be turned on for the world to see soon after the Grand Lodge Session in June. This exciting time will provide a patron the ability to search through the holdings of the Robert M. Richmond Memorial Library from the comfort of their own home. The ALAS also has the capability of searching for documents, manuscripts, and pictures. These features will become available in 2021.

The majority of the committee's time has been spent in the library this year, but starting in 2021, a reversal of energy will be implemented, and the museum will be the committee's focus.

Starting on historically significant documents, manuscripts and pictures will be digitally scanned and archived. Each time a historically significant item is archived, a decision will be made whether that item will be added to the ALAS. Stay tuned for updates on all of this in the near future.

Lastly, also starting in 2021, the museum will start a yearly rotation of exhibits. The first year might focus on George Washington, the next may be our growing collection of textiles. Medals, coins, jewelry and pictures are all part of the plan. A focus on an important Freemason of our Jurisdiction could perhaps be another exhibit. The possibilities are endless.

I can't express how excited and proud of the Robert M. Richmond Memorial Library and Museum I am. It is my hope that you also will find excitement and pride within our Library and Museum by visiting soon.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Ling, Jr.
Johnny J. Edwards, Chairman

Michael D. Robinson

LODGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY

Section 146B of the Code describes the duties of this committee as ensuring effective leadership, improving knowledge and interest of the members, ensuring financial integrity of the Lodge and enhancing community relations and the public image of Masonry and other duties as may be assigned by the Grand Master.

Lodge Management and Advisory assisted R.W.B. Greg Jenkins, Senior Grand Warden, with Lodge issues pertaining to Port Orford No. 170. The membership had not been able to reach a quorum due to aging membership and the inability to attend State Communications. This

will become a more prevalent problem with more Lodges in the future. We are now using the term *age locked Lodges*. This will occur when the membership reaches an age that it can no longer bring in new members and its own core membership reduces below the specified number for a quorum. Section 207 of the Code states, "A quorum in a Lodge for the transaction of any business except voting on the formation of a new Lodge, or the conducting of funerals, shall consist of five or more Master Masons, members of the Lodge, one of whom shall be the Master or a Warden, and a Tyler." After three trips, in as many months, we were able to assist the Lodge in putting together a quorum, which allowed them to vote on officers. We installed them, and they then voted on petitions for plural membership on five Brothers from Sidney Croft Lodge No. 206. They now have 10 members available for a Stated Meeting. This is a temporary measure, but other Lodges can learn from it. Members in a district could, and perhaps should, have dual memberships with other Lodges. This mutual assistance could give a Lodge that is needing to consolidate, or take other measures, the ability to act because they need a quorum to do business.

There were no other concerns brought to this committee's attention.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas F. Burke
Michael J. McGuyer, Chairman

Hunt M. Compton, P.G.M.
Tomey R. Greer, H.P.G.M.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has been meeting on a monthly basis with an exclusive focus to generate long-term goals for Masonry in Oregon. The meetings are facilitated through web-based online conferencing software, which allows an excellent exchange of information without travel. The long-term goals are being developed under the umbrella of the Grand Lodge vision and mission statements provided by the Trustees, including the identified *Values* and *Priorities*. Areas of focus include Membership Development, Lodge Reform, Community Involvement, Member Services, Marketing, and Ambitious Projects. The committee has identified specific goals in each area of focus and created benchmarks which are necessary steps to achieve the goals. The process has resulted in the creation of a "*Strategies*" document which will be provided to the Trustees for consideration of implementation. It is expected the committee will be involved in the implementation process going forward, including ongoing refinement of the strategies.

The committee has already implemented some of the identified benchmarks, as opportunities arose. The committee has integrated some initiatives from prior years into the set of identified benchmarks, such as the security of Lodge buildings and meeting places. The digital imaging project has been revised due to advances in both hardware and software, and the committee now plans to leverage the Grand View platform to facilitate intake of digital documents. A member of the committee met with Grand View staff and verified the viability of the proposed process. The intake process will see submitted documents, photos, and additional media reviewed by selected gatekeepers (such as the Grand Historian and the Chairman of the Library Committee) before the submissions are deemed worthy of addition to the archive of Grand Lodge historical documents and records.

The committee identified a need for coordination of efforts with other committees, Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge staff. During the year, the committee met with and/or consulted with the Membership and Publicity Committee, the Endowments Committee, the Library and Museum Committee, the Grand Lecturer, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge Trustees, the Grand Lodge Senior Program Manager, and the Grand Lodge Marketing Manager.

The committee created a subcommittee this year, which has been working on the creation of documentation and materials for a new program. The new program will attempt to reduce the number of Brothers suspended each year due to non-payment of dues, and to improve the experience of joining the Fraternity in Oregon. The committee plans to provide the documentation and materials to the Grand Lodge Trustees for review and consideration of implementation.

All members of the committee have regularly participated in the meetings, and all members are actively engaged in the work of the committee. Chairman Mark Posler commends the members of the committee for their dedication to the improvement of the Craft.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy J. Best
James V. Munson
Richard S. Nowacki
Thomas D. Pierce
Mark L. Posler, Chairman

John L. Nerski
Robert G. Olson
William A. Taylor

MASONIC INSTRUCTION

From April 21, 2019, through April 20, 2020, Basic Schools of Instruction were taught by Bill Taylor, Bob Fountain, Cary Pugh, Dale Palileo, Eric Headley, Ken Anderson, and Rich Martin, P.G.M., hosted by Lodges in a variety of locations around the state.

In addition, Bob Fountain and Eric Headley taught an Intermediate School of Instruction in July 2019, hosted by Redmond No. 154.

From April 21, 2019, through April 20, 2020, there were 38 individual Basic Proficiencies, 3 Intermediate Proficiencies, and 1 Advanced Proficiencies completed.

Special recognition should go to the instructors and assistants in the Basic Schools of Instruction, and to those Brethren who earned their proficiencies this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Headley
Robert L. Fountain, Chairman

Robert L. Richardson
All Deputy Instructors

MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLICITY

The 2019-2020 Masonic year saw continued involvement from the Membership and Publicity Committee as we have continued to work with the Grand Lodge staff to promote Freemasonry in Oregon. This year included television advertisements, Lodge visits, and the promotion of community involvement. As in previous years, we have enjoyed the hard work and dedication of Ms. Marissa Douglas, from the Grand Lodge office, as she continues to outdo herself in providing outstanding service to our great fraternity.

The television advertisements aired on multiple stations in all different markets, including a special Super Bowl spot, and have continued to produce new inquiries, meetings with potential candidates, and an influx of petitions to Lodges from viable men that desire to join our fraternity. There is still work to be done identifying advertising markets in the rural areas of the great State of Oregon, but strives have been made in this area with positive results.

The committee has made several visitations to Lodges throughout the state to answer questions and educate our members about the programs we offer. We have met with the membership committees for the Shriners, York Rite and Scottish Rite, and have started a venture to meld the efforts of each of the programs.

During our conversations with Lodge members and their officers, we have promoted community involvement and have learned there are numerous Lodges that are doing a very good job of being involved within their communities. An excellent example is a program that Bend Lodge No. 139, Redmond Lodge No. 154, and Prineville Lodge No. 76 together have operated for the last several years, distributing much needed meals at Christmastime through cooperation with the local school districts. Other Lodges have also created programs showing their communities the fraternity is alive and active, such as holding public dinners, having billiard tournaments, membership drives at sporting events, and participating in local parades. All of these are excellent examples of promoting the fraternity.

We thank you, and the Grand Lodge Trustees, for the opportunity to expand our membership and we pray that the fraternity continues to grow and prosper.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian T. Canady
Terry L. Griffith
John L. Nerski, Chairman

Dennis L. DeSanno
Nathan R. Neff
Dale B. Palileo

NECROLOGY

Again, we come to that time during Grand Lodge when we pay tribute to those who departed this world to be at home forever with the Great Architect of the Universe.

If we could examine the lives of each of our departed Brethren, we would find a great cross section of our society. They were professionals, those who worked with trades, delivery men, and others of the working world. However, we are all on the level, each sharing the same fraternity.

All contributed to their country, community, family, and to our fraternity. They will be missed, but the fond memories will wipe away the sadness of their departure.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory A. Hinkelman
Carson Bailey II, Chairman

Brian S. Tipsword

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

These are challenging times for our country. Our educational system has been thrown into a situation that has proven to be disruptive to the students, as well as families. The events over the last months have limited the activities of our Brothers and Lodges. The Brethren has been limited in the roles of supporting the many activities normally carried out in support of educational and student involvement. As our Lodge meetings have been limited, our opportunities have paid a price. The Lodges with contribution reports have been delayed. Things will get better and we, again, will return to our active role in supporting our schools.

The following Lodges were able to report:

Lodge	Lodge Total/Service Performed	
		<i>— \$10 in "service time" = 1 hr. of service</i>
<i>Lyon #29</i>	Bikes for Books	\$4,285
	Lunch Buddy Program	
	Meet the "Master's" Program	
<i>Molalla #178</i>		\$6,280
<i>Cascade #208</i>	Teachers Awards	\$4,470
	Easter Egg Hunt	
	Kids Christmas Party	
	Volunteer Hours	
<i>Vista Masonic #215</i>	Awesome 3000	\$7,280
	Angel Fund	
	Child I.D.	
	Raising A Reader	
	Title I Christmas Party	
	Central Valley Band Festival	
	Salem/Keizer Foundation	
	Robotics Program	
<i>Marys River #221</i>	Reading Program	\$740

Respectfully submitted,
 Jerald D. Schierling, Chairman

Wayne K. Ford

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The Technical Standards Committee members attended the 2019 Annual Communication as usual and operated the cameras, overhead projection, and e-voting system. As in years past, this was a very successful session.

This coming year, we will be looking into a teleprompter to see if it could potentially be beneficial to presenters.

There does not seem to be any equipment that needs replaced at this time.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark D. Cook, Chairman

Kent L. Dyer

TRUSTEES

Section 108.2: It shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master: Annual Report of Trustees: *To prepare and present annually to the Grand Lodge a summary of the transactions of the Trustees since the preceding Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.*

The Trustees, as defined by section 18.1 Personnel: *The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden and Immediate Past Grand Master shall be the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.* The Grand Secretary attends the meetings to make a record there of and although the Senior Grand Deacon is not a Trustee his attendance is required.

The first Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, the 8th of June, 2019, in Salem. The following appointments were made: R.W.B. Mike McGuyer, Chairman of the Budget Committee; R.W.B. Greg Jenkins to review and report on Grand Lodge Educational Assistance applications, R.W.B. Mark Posler to review Grand Lodge disbursements and Grand Lodge Officer travel expenses.

The Grand Lodge Trustees meet on a monthly basis to address administrative issues that relate to the operation of the Grand Lodge, including our financial condition, local Lodge issues, committee reports, and one of the most important duties - to review and approve Educational Assistance applications and Grand Lodge programs. Each application was carefully reviewed by the Senior Grand Warden R.W.B. Greg Jenkins. Once complete, he presented them, along with his recommendations, to the Trustees so they could be acted upon.

The Trustees attended several Annual Communications in other Jurisdictions. One of the few times a year all the Trustees travel to the same venue is the Conference of Grand Masters. This year it was held in Louisville, Kentucky. The weather was considerably more hospitable

than in Rapid City, South Dakota, where it was held the previous year. The Western Conference was held on Friday, the day before the Conference of Grand Masters begins. R.W.B. Mark Posler, Junior Grand Warden, gave a presentation on *Lodge Security*, a timely topic that was very well-received. During the COGM, a variety of breakout session topics included: “*Developing a Grand Lodge Budget*,” “*The Future of Masonic Membership*,” “*Marketing the Craft*,” and “*Dealing with Difficult Masonic Issues*,” just to name a few. Still one of the most beneficial aspects of this gathering is being able to talk at length with your Masonic counterparts from all over the United States.

Educational Assistance is one of the most important issues the Trustees discuss. This year, the Educational Assistance Fund started with a balance of \$118,337, and at the time of this report, qualified Masonic families will have been awarded with just over \$88,000 in assistance.

Functioning as a Trustee is one of the more challenging facets of being a Grand Lodge officer. This spring, with the outbreak of the coronavirus, aka COVID-19. The Trustees had to meet online via *Zoom* and *Go to Meeting* in order to maintain “Social Distancing” as required by the governor and endorsed by the Grand Master.

Many extraordinary decisions had to be made by the Trustees. Led by M.W.B. Ronald J. Eggers, the Trustees were able to make difficult decisions, some of them unprecedented. One of the most challenging issues was deciding what to do about Annual Communication. The Grand Lodge Trustees had to try and develop a plan to hold the Annual Communication which complies with the Governor’s orders and the Masonic Code, while minimizing the risk of infection. To that end, it was decided to cancel the public portion of the Annual Communication, all banquets and receptions, as well as the venue at the Salem Convention Center. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge have placed the health and well-being of its members as the highest priority when making these complications decisions.

The Trustees travel many miles, and spend many hours, in service to the Craft. Nevertheless, without the assistance and hard work of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Lodge staff, the Trustees could not perform their jobs. This spring, the staff went above and beyond normal duties to keep things on track!

The Grand Lodge Trustees would like to thank our Chairman, M.W.B. Ronald J. Eggers, for his dedication and leadership throughout this year and congratulate him on a job well done!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. McGuyer, Deputy Grand Master

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Wow! What a year this has been. Our youth groups trying to grow and rebuild was short circuited by the COVID-19 virus. We had no choice but to watch as our entire Masonic Family struggled.

The coronavirus wreaked havoc on the committee's plans since February. It was impossible to sell pins during a time Lodges and individual Masons were in dire straits.

The Grand Lodge Masonic Youth Picnic was held on September 8, 2019, at Oaks Amusement Park. M.W.B. Ronald J. Eggers was in attendance and the Al Kader Shrine grilled hot dogs and burgers for our Oregon Masonic Youth. What a wonderful day for our Masonic family. Our thanks to the Grand Lodge for sponsoring this wonderful day, with an extra special thank you to our Grand Secretary, Rick Komraus, for his excellent contributions to the committee.

This committee has always been fortunate to have past and present adult youth group leaders as members. It is extremely important that this continue. Their input is always invaluable.

Although we will not be purchasing and selling Masonic Youth pins, nor sponsoring the annual Oregon Youth Day this year, we will still be making scholarship monies available to the Masonic Youth Groups and presenting the Grand Master's Youth Support Award next year's Annual Communication.

While the Masonic year may have ended quite abruptly due to coronavirus, we are all following our governor's orders and the Grand Master's Edicts by staying home and staying safe. We thank the Oregon Masonic Lodges for their continued support of the Grand Lodge Youth Activities committee this year and our fundraising efforts.

We thank the Grand Master for our appointment to this committee and we sincerely hope we have served the Craft to his satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,
Morgan A. DeClercque
James C. Lamb
Wayne E. Metz
Michael J. Thompson
Paul A. Blackburn, Chairman

David D. Fuller
Marlin D. Lovelin
J. Alberto Martinez
James P. Van Anda

REPORTS REQUIRING ADOPTION

CODE

Per the Grand Lodge Trustees, Legislation is held over until the 171st Annual Communication. Therefore, this committee has nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,	Mark C. Phillips
Hunt M. Compton, P.G.M.	Mark L. Posler
David H. Fryday, P.G.M., Chairman:	Gregory A. Hinkelman

JURISPRUDENCE

Per the Grand Lodge Trustees, Legislation is held over until the 171st Annual Communication. Therefore, this committee has nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,	
David R. Anderson, P.G.M.	D. Arthur Bush, P.G.M.
Arthur L. Borland, P.G.M.	R. Michael Wick, P.G.M.
Lyle C. Logan, P.G.M.. Chairman	

RECOGNITION OF OTHER GRAND LODGES

Your Committee on Recognition of Other Grand Lodges would report that since out last Annual Communication we have received no requests for action or consideration.

The members of this committee thank you for the opportunity to serve this Grand Lodge during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,	
D. Arthur Bush, P.G.M.	Craig A. Sipp
L.L. "Vern" Beito, P.G.M., Chairman	Steven A. Marcarelli

RESOLUTIONS

Per the Grand Lodge Trustees, Legislation is to be held over until the 171st Annual Communication. Therefore, this committee has nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,	
Edward A. Meyer	William P. Russell
W. Lee Ransdall	Michael D. Sullivan
Thomas F. Burke, Chairman	

