

THE



OKLAHOMA

MASON

THE GRAND LODGE OF
ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE
OF OKLAHOMA

October 2025



James Roderick

Grand Master

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks for the opportunity to serve as your Grand Master.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve the brothers of Oklahoma this year.

Once in the Grand Line, you begin setting your goals for what you hope to accomplish during your term as Grand Master.

Then you are installed, start to work on those mortal

plans, and the Grand Architect of the Universe smiles at you, laughs a little, and then shows you that those plans may not align with His. It is at that point you sit back, listen, and see what is next.

We may be made in God's image, but we lack His intelligence. Never let arrogance override the fact that we all require divine guidance. Sometimes we just need to listen, learn, and give it our best.

This year has been amazing with accomplishing many things I felt were essential to the integrity and longevity of OUR Craft and Oklahoma Masonry.



The Grand Lodge
of
OKLAHOMA

None of which I accomplished on my own. This year has definitely been a team effort with many people supporting the endeavors and challenges as they arose.

My pride is greatest in the success of the NEW DDGM program.

With the invention of Senior DDGMs and a well-trained group of 39 servant leaders, which we refer to as DDGMs, this group of men has not only met my expectations but has well exceeded them. All to the benefit of the lodges throughout Oklahoma. It's a new game out there with everyone supporting, assisting, and working together as a team this year. Both lodges and DDGMs, working together, have accomplished this monumental change in relationships and progress.

Your elected line of Grand Officers has done the same thing. Consistency and teamwork towards a solid goal are improving our finances and strengthening our foundation for sustainability. It is an ever-changing process that cannot be fixed in a single term, but the goals are clear, the drive is there, and those coming up behind me are well qualified to continue the financial progress that was started in 2022 under MW Scott Vincent. Progress and change are hard for most everyone, and that start was a tough one. No Pain, No Gain. The results have proven their worth.

This year has also had its rough spots. With Masonic Trials, expulsions for un-Masonic conduct, two lodges had to be shut down and restarted. The integrity of Oklahoma Masonry is paramount and must be foremost in our actions. There is no room in this Fraternity for disharmony or loss of the public's positive perception. We have proven for centuries that Masons are men of integrity and brotherly love. Anything less than that will never be tolerated or acceptable. Again - No Pain, No Gain. Progress has been made, and harmony is fast growing in Oklahoma Masons.

Lodges that have not been able to maintain attendance for many years have stepped up and, realizing they can no longer function, have gone through the Surrender process. The world has simply changed in terms of where they are located, and new people are not interested. Members stop attending, and there are simply not enough available to survive any longer. Most surrenders have had 30 – 50 members, with only 2-3 willing to come to lodge.

When the lodge announced to the membership that they would be taking a vote to surrender, only 4-5 even showed up to lay their lodge to rest. Sure, some cannot physically or medically attend anymore. But to those who just quit, that my brothers is sad.

Harshly put, if your lodge is struggling and you are not attending, the results are your fault.

Three to four members, hanging on for dear life for years, trying to keep the doors open, is not fair. It's not possible in the long run.

Those brothers staying for years after you left, hoping you would come back or others would fill your shoes, is simply not fair either. To those brothers who held on to the very end, struggling to survive for years, you are True Masons and did your dead level best. I am proud of you. You honor our Fraternity. To those who bailed out - these failures are on you.

In closing, I would like to thank those who came before me. Offering advice, listening to my rants, guiding me, and many times just listening to me talk through my challenges. To my DDGMs, thank you for your undying loyalty and all you have done for OUR Craft. To the many brothers who have stood with me, stood beside and behind me, worked with me, and had my back. You will always hold a special place in my heart.

As I stated earlier, a Grand Master's job is to improve masonry, to do what is right simply because it is the right thing to do. That takes support from others, the wisdom of others, and a different perspective to be able to discern what is best for the Fraternity as a whole and not just my singular perspective. Thank you, my brothers, for providing that.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to serve you. The respect and honor shown to the office of the Grand Master have been heartwarming and life-changing.

When the Roots are Deep, There is No Reason to Fear the Wind.



Freemasonry teaches not merely temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice, brotherly love, relief, and truth, but liberty, equality, and fraternity, and it denounces ignorance, superstition, bigotry, lust tyranny and despotism.

— Theodore Roosevelt —



The
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of Oklahoma

www.gloklahoma.com



Deputy Grand Master

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July 2025

Brethren:

Thank you for your continued support of Oklahoma Masonry. Each of us raises funds to support our community and our home Lodge. Your Grand Lodge has done the same with raffle tickets and merchandise. The Deputy Grand Master is responsible for raising enough funds to present a balanced budget.

This is an arduous task for a variety of reasons. Our annual decline in membership is the chief culprit. While every year is unique for your Grand Lodge annual budget, the one persistent issue we face is membership.

We need a call to action to address our membership. I am convinced that we must demonstrate to a new generation of young men the virtues of Freemasonry. This generation of men will typically respond to an active and dynamic social media campaign. Oklahoma Freemasons must assume the task of public relations. We have incredible stories to share with the public. Our home Lodges touch their communities in so many ways, why not share that story with the public? Could you name all the groups who benefit from our fraternal aid?

I am seeking your permission to tell our story. This is not a membership campaign. This is a campaign however to let a new generation of young men know that we are still relevant. That we seek to improve ourselves and our communities. With that improvement, we build a brotherhood of friendship. This new generation of young men need Masonry as much as we need them.

I am so convinced of the need to begin this campaign that I have contacted a highly regarded public relations and communications firm to craft our message. I am prepared to personally contribute \$20,000 and will sweeten the deal with non-reimbursed expenses. So here is my request:

Will you help match these funds and accept this call to action? As a fraternity, are you prepared to significantly contribute and impact our ability to allow our Masonic story to be heard?

The following QR code will allow you to make your donation. You can also mail your check to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma.

Make checks payable to the: Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Fund Raiser.

Again, thank you for your support of Oklahoma Masonry.

May Peace and Harmony Prevail,

Don H Stanton

Don H. Stanton
Deputy Grand Master



Donate Now

Your Vote Matters

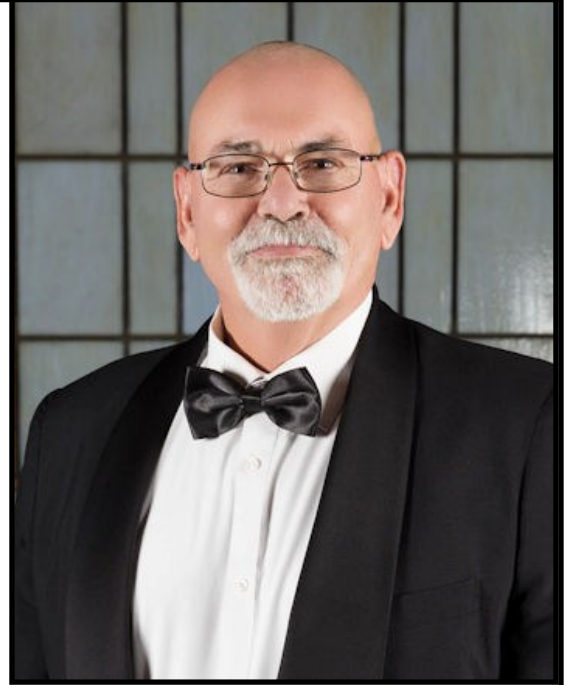
The Importance of Attending Grand Lodge and Voting

Freemasonry thrives on active participation, mutual responsibility, and the shared stewardship of its institutions. One of the most vital expressions of that stewardship is attendance and voting at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. This gathering is not simply a formality or a social occasion—it is a cornerstone of Masonic governance, ensuring that the fraternity remains accountable, progressive, and united in purpose.

First and foremost, the Grand Lodge Communication is where the voice of the Craft is heard. Every Master Mason in good standing has the right and privilege to attend, and delegates from constituent lodges—Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters—carry the solemn duty of casting votes that shape the future of Oklahoma Freemasonry. Whether it involves electing Grand Lodge officers, approving financial budgets, or debating proposed changes to Masonic law, each vote represents the collective will of the brethren. Failing to attend and vote allows a small minority to steer the fraternity, while broader representation ensures the decisions made reflect the diversity and values of all Oklahoma Masons.

Participation in Grand Lodge also fosters unity and fraternal connection. Brothers from across the state gather in a shared spirit of brotherhood, exchanging ideas, offering support, and building bonds that transcend lodge boundaries. Especially for younger or newly raised Masons, witnessing the rituals and deliberations at Grand Lodge deepens their understanding of Masonic principles in practice and strengthens their commitment to the Craft. It is here that the collective identity of Oklahoma Masons is formed and reaffirmed.

Moreover, attendance serves as a powerful symbol of accountability and transparency. When brethren are present and engaged, it affirms that leadership must remain responsive and answerable to the membership. Questions can be asked, reports can be challenged, and con-



James Oates III

Senior Grand Warden

cerns can be voiced. This democratic process protects the integrity of the fraternity and helps maintain trust in its governance.

The decisions made at Grand Lodge have lasting impacts—financial, structural, and spiritual. Resolutions affecting dues, charitable endeavors, lodge charters, and Masonic jurisprudence all originate in these sessions. An uninformed or absent electorate risks allowing decisions that may not align with the long-term well-being of the Craft. Conversely, informed, thoughtful voting helps ensure Masonic ideals are upheld and the needs of local lodges are addressed.

Attending Grand Lodge is an act of dedication. It demonstrates a Mason's commitment not just to his local lodge, but to the greater body of Freemasonry in Oklahoma. It honors the legacy of those who built the fraternity and helps secure its future for generations to come. Just as lodge attendance supports the health of the local body, Grand Lodge attendance supports the vitality of the statewide fraternity.

Attending and voting at the Oklahoma Grand Lodge is not merely a duty—it is a privilege and a vital responsibility. By engaging fully in this process, Masons uphold the democratic values of the Craft, ensure thoughtful leadership, and affirm their shared commitment to brotherhood, integrity, and progress.

I look forward to being with you on Saturday, November 8th, in Guthrie.

A Lodge that doesn't mentor its EAs is just waiting to close its doors.

Greeting from Grand South

Before I get started, let me first say what a continued honor and privilege it is to represent you, the Craft, as your Junior Grand Warden. Since the beginning of the year, your Trustees have recognized that the Craft is speaking, and we have done our best to listen and deliver the best solution possible. Masonry is still very much alive in our state, and our lodge numbers are continuing to grow, albeit at different speeds, due to everyone's hard work. Our membership is also on the rise because our lodges are going the extra mile to ensure we attract the best men to join our fraternity while guarding the WEST GATE. My brothers, it is not only about how many men we get into the Craft, but also about ensuring we get quality men who will stay, learn, and respect our work. Our Chance to Advance and Perpetual Pathway programs are bringing in new brothers to the Craft. If we continue to remember that getting a new Mason into the Craft is of great importance, then retaining them is something we all need to buckle down and work hard on. Remember, our new brothers need to feel needed within the Craft. I have had several brothers tell me that after completing an EA degree, they were given a job within the lodge. The brother's reply was, "Okay, but I'm not really sure what I'm doing". The Mentor's reply was "that's okay, I'm here to teach you". My brothers, I cannot overemphasize how important it is to get our new members actively involved in something.

In closing, it is my hope and desire that we all continue to work hard and go the extra mile to ensure other men have the same opportunity to be a part of our Craft. May they experience everything we have already done while walking into the future together with Peace and Harmony Prevailing. If there is anything I can do to assist you or if you have any questions, please reach out and let's talk.



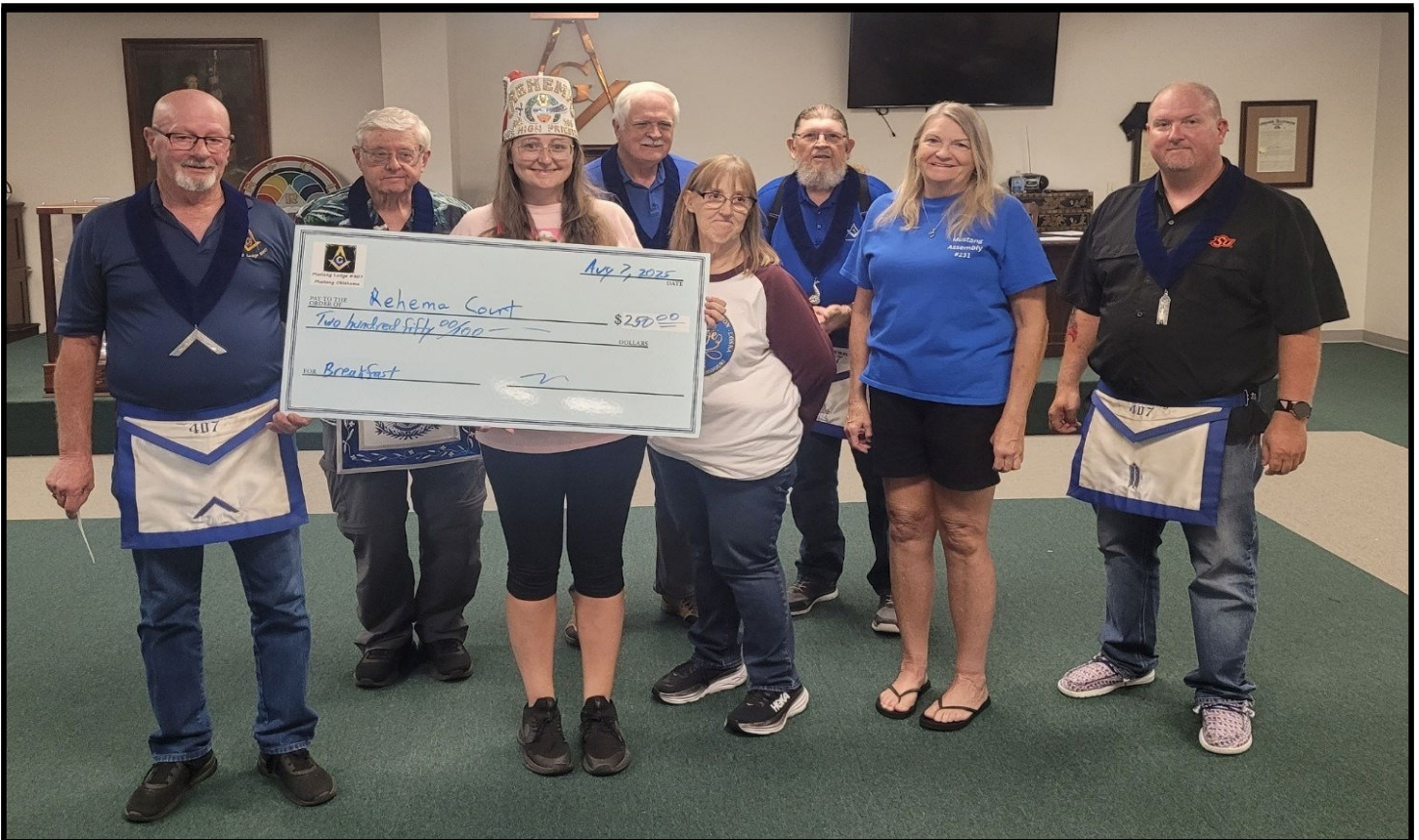
Michael Ray
Junior Grand Warden

Giving Back



Collinsville Lodge
#165
Raises funds
For
Wrestling team
With
Fundraiser
Breakfast





**Mustang Lodge #407
Raises fund for
Ladies of the Oriental Shrine
And local family**





**Myrtle Lodge #145
Raises funds for
Various school groups**



Igniting the Lodge

Every Lodge, large or small, carries within it the potential for remarkable growth and vitality. Yet too often, we fall into the trap of believing that membership increases and retention depend only on grand programs, statewide initiatives, or sweeping changes. In truth, the power to transform a lodge often begins with something far simpler—a spark.

That spark may be one Brother—or perhaps two—whose enthusiasm, ideas, and willingness to act ignite an energy that spreads throughout the Craft. The lesson is clear: engagement is contagious. When one man rises with vision and determination, others soon find themselves inspired to follow.

The strength of Freemasonry lies not only in ritual and tradition, but in the living fellowship we create. A single Brother who volunteers to organize a community service project, proposes a new social activity, or simply welcomes visitors with genuine warmth can set a standard that others naturally emulate. Before long, the Lodge is no longer defined by “what we don’t do,” but by “what we can do together.”

This ripple effect becomes the heartbeat of lodge culture. Meetings feel more meaningful, fellowship more genuine, and new candidates sense a vitality that encourages them to stay active. Retention improves, not through obligation, but because men want to be part of something alive.

When prospective members see a lodge where Brothers are laughing, working together, and actively building relationships, they are drawn to the experience. In this environment, men will want to join because they see a thriving Brotherhood in action.

Retention follows naturally. A man who feels needed, valued, and connected will rarely drift away. Lodges that find ways to involve each Brother—whether through ritual work, charitable projects, general fundraising, mentoring, or even light-hearted fellowship—become lodg-



Craig Simon

Grand Treasurer

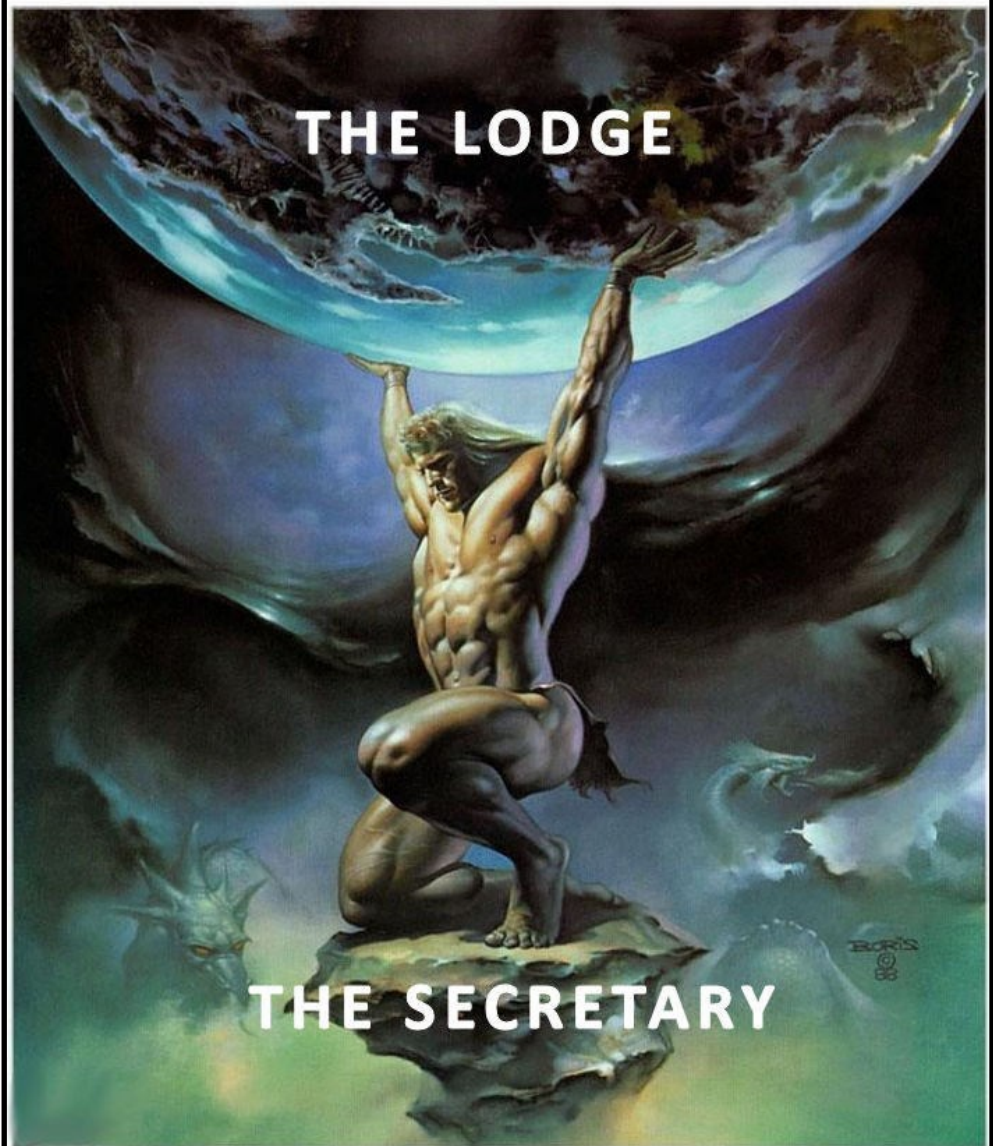
es where attendance is a joy, not an obligation.

Lodges can reignite their spark by encouraging members to share ideas, even small initiatives, and by supporting leaders and volunteers to foster progress. It is essential to celebrate efforts by acknowledging the contributions of others. Experienced members consistently exemplify active participation and display enthusiasm, thereby motivating their peers. A lodge does not need dozens of tireless workers to thrive. It requires one or two who are willing to light the fire—and a culture that fans the flame rather than smothers it.

Freemasonry has endured for centuries because it is built upon men of action—men willing to ignite change and inspire others. Today, the future of your Lodge may rest in the spark you choose to kindle.

Postscript – This article is more than a hypothetical—it is a case study of the remarkable turnaround Jenks Lodge No. 497 has experienced over the past two years. I am proud to be associated with these men and trust that their spark will inspire other lodges across the State, showing that membership and activity can be revitalized, and that the Lodge can once again be an enjoyable place for the Masonic fraternity to grow and thrive.

How the Lodge Secretary sees himself



Vital Attendance

Why You Should Attend the Annual Communication

The Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma is not merely a ceremonial gathering—it is the central event of our Masonic calendar. It serves as the governing body's official assembly, where vital decisions are made, leadership is affirmed, and the collective voice of Oklahoma Freemasonry is heard. For every Lodge across the state, this is the moment to stand united, to participate in shaping our future, and to ensure that the principles of our Craft are upheld with integrity and purpose.



Mike Dixon

Grand Secretary

Each year, the Annual Communication brings together hundreds of Masons from across Oklahoma. With 198 chartered lodges in our jurisdiction, the Constitution and Uniform Code require each Lodge to send its Worshipful Master, its Senior Warden, and its Junior Warden. Additionally, every Past Master has a vote, resulting in vast potential for representation. However, in recent years, attendance has fluctuated, and not all lodges have sent delegates. This absence can have a significant impact—not only on the decisions made during the session but also on the strength and unity of our fraternity. When lodges are not represented, their voices are not heard, their votes are not cast, and their perspectives are not considered. This absence undermines the democratic foundation of our Grand Lodge and weakens the bonds that tie us together.

Why Your Presence Matters:

Voice and Vote

Every Lodge has the right and responsibility to be represented at the Annual Communication. This communication is where resolutions are debated, budgets are approved, and leadership is elected. These decisions affect every Mason in Oklahoma, from the newest Entered Apprentice to the most seasoned Past Master. When your Lodge is present, you ensure that your

members have a say in the direction of our Grand Lodge. When your Lodge is absent, that opportunity is lost.

Consider this: if only 60% of lodges send representatives, then 40% of our jurisdiction is effectively silent during the most critical decision-making event of the year. That's nearly 80 lodges whose voices are missing. Imagine the impact if every Lodge were present—how much stronger, more inclusive, and more representative our decisions would be.

Brotherhood and Fellowship

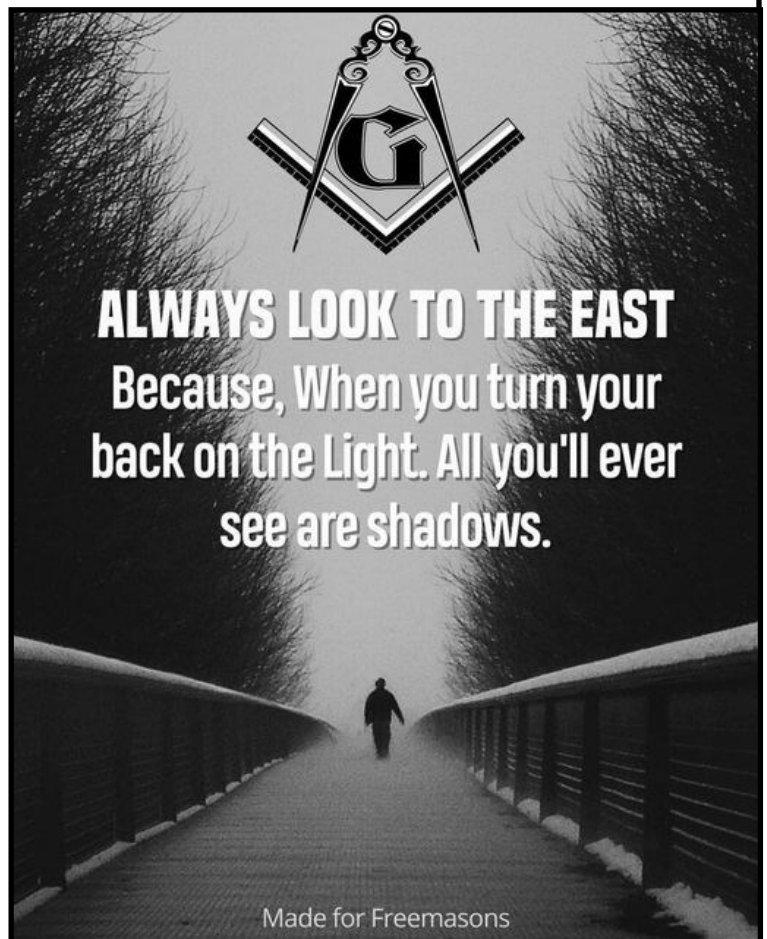
Freemasonry is built on the bonds of brotherhood. The Annual Communication is one of the few opportunities where Masons from all corners of the state can come together in person. It's a time to reconnect with old friends, meet new brothers, and share experiences that strengthen our fraternal ties. These moments of fellowship are not just enjoyable—they are essential to maintaining the unity and vitality of our Craft.

When lodges attend, they bring their unique perspectives, traditions, and energy to the gathering. This diversity enriches the experience for everyone and reinforces the idea that we are part of something larger than ourselves. The Annual Communication is a celebration of our shared values, and every Lodge contributes to that celebration.

Education and Inspiration

The Annual Communication is also a time for learning and growth. Grand Lodge officers share updates on programs, initiatives, and challenges facing our jurisdiction. Workshops and presentations offer insights into lodge management, member engagement, and Masonic education. These sessions are designed to equip lodge leaders with the tools they need to succeed and to inspire all attendees to deepen their commitment to the Craft.

Lodges that attend gain access to valuable information and resources that can be brought back and shared with their members. This ripple effect strengthens individu-



al lodges and enhances the overall health of our fraternity. When lodges are absent, they miss out on these opportunities—and so do their members.

Tradition and Legacy

Freemasonry is steeped in tradition, and the Annual Communication is one of our most enduring customs. By attending, you honor the legacy of those who came before us and affirm your commitment to preserving the values of our Craft. You also contribute to the legacy we are building for future generations.

Each Lodge has a role to play in this legacy. Your presence at the Annual Communication is a visible sign of your dedication to the principles of Freemasonry. It sends a message to your members, your community, and your fellow Masons that your Lodge is active, engaged, and committed to the future of our fraternity.

The Consequences of Absence

When lodges do not attend the Annual Communication, the consequences are more than symbolic—they are practical and far-reaching. Unrepresented lodges miss the opportunity to vote on matters that affect their operations, finances, and leadership. They miss the chance to network with other lodges, learn from shared experiences, and build partnerships that can support their growth. They miss the opportunity to be part of the collective voice of Oklahoma Freemasonry.

Moreover, consistent absence can lead to disengagement and decline. Lodges that do not participate in Grand Lodge activities may struggle to stay connected, informed, and motivated. This lack of participation can lead to lower member retention, reduced activity, and ultimately, the risk of closure. Representation at the Annual Communication is not just a duty—it is a lifeline.

A Call to Action

As we prepare for the next Annual Communication, we urge every Lodge to make attendance a priority. If any of your Officers cannot attend, please appoint proxies, plan your travel, and commit to being present. If your Lodge has not participated in recent years, let this be the year you return. If you have attended faithfully, encourage others to join you. Let us strive for full representation, where every Lodge has a voice and every Mason has a stake in our future.

The strength of our Grand Lodge depends on the strength of our lodges. And the strength of our lodges depends on their engagement, their participation, and their presence. The Annual Communication is where we come together—not just to conduct business, but to reaffirm

our commitment to each other and to the Craft we hold dear.

In Closing

Your attendance at the Annual Communication is not only appreciated—it is essential. It is a reflection of your dedication, your leadership, and your belief in the power of Freemasonry. Let us come together in strength and purpose, to uphold our values, to shape our future, and to ensure that every Lodge in Oklahoma is represented, heard, and empowered.

My best regards, in friendship and service.



Jenks L:odge #497—MM Degree—Indian Degree Team

Mustang Lodge #407—Two Entered Apprentices





Myrtle Lodge #145—Master Mason Degree

Pilgrim-Rock Lodge #522—Entered Apprentice Degree



Grand School

Brethren, we are fast approaching the time for Grand School and Grand Lodge. As per the Constitution and Code, Section 402, your Board of Grand Lecturers shall hold a Grand School of Instruction at the Grand Lodge Building in Guthrie, commencing at 9 a.m. on the Wednesday before Grand Lodge and closing at Noon on Friday. All Master Masons are welcome and encouraged to attend this year's school, which will be held from November 5th to 7th.

The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, 11/5, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
(lunch will be available for a donation).

Thursday, November 6th, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (lunch will be available for a donation).

On Thursday, 11/6, at 6:00 p.m., a Master Mason degree will be conferred by Jenks #497 in the Master Mason room at Grand Lodge.

Friday, 11/7 at 9 a.m. is the annual communication of the Certificate Lecturers' Association to be held in the Master Mason room at the Grand Lodge Building. Grand School continues at the conclusion of the Association meeting and runs until Noon.

Come and enjoy the fun, fellowship, and brotherhood while refining your ritual work. The Board will also be available to review and recheck new and existing A, B, and C Certificate Lecturers.

On a personal note, I hear a lot these days from the Craft in general, and members of our affiliated and appendant bodies in particular, who are bemoaning the lack of membership. In a recent Facebook post on the Oklahoma Masonic History



Charlie Babb
Grand Lecturer

page, Brother T.S. Akers lamented the closing of Grayhorse Masonic Lodge #124 in Fairfax, Oklahoma. He started the post by noting “When a lodge stops conferring degrees, its ultimate demise is set in motion. The success and continuation of Freemasonry rely on new Masons replacing the departed.” I concur.

I have also noted recent Facebook postings encouraging Masons to join the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, the Shrine, and other affiliated and appendant bodies. Fundamentally, the largest pool for new members to these organizations comes from the Master Masons in the blue lodges. In my December 2024 article in The Oklahoma Mason, I encouraged each reader to learn a new part of a degree, obtain their C certificate lecture certification, or both. It is only by conferring degrees in the Blue Lodge that we increase the pool of potential members in our affiliated and appendant bodies. If you don’t know a part, I encourage you to attend the degrees to support the lodge and get to know the new brother. Grand School is a great place to start, and I encourage you to attend. Hope to see you there.

Yukon Lodge #90—Entered Apprentice Degree



2025 CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

GRAND LODGE OFFICES UNOPPOSED

Don H. Stanton – Unopposed for Grand Master

Raised: 10/28/2008

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Broken Arrow No. 243; Vitruvian No. 557

Offices: Junior Steward, Broken Arrow No. 243; Junior Deacon, Broken Arrow No. 243; Junior Warden, Broken Arrow No. 243; Senior Warden, Broken Arrow No. 243; Worshipful Master, Broken Arrow No. 243; Treasurer, Broken Arrow No. 243

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master; Junior Grand Warden; Senior Grand Warden; Deputy Grand Master

Grand Lodge Committees: Fraternal Correspondence and Relations; Information Technology; Statewide Forum; Strategic Planning



James Oates, III – Unopposed for Deputy Grand Master

Raised: 08/13/2016

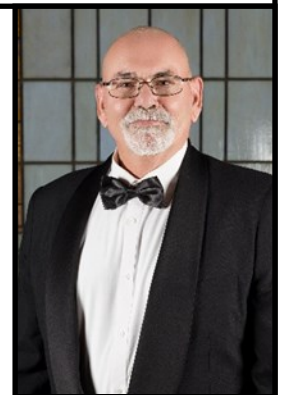
Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Cache Valley No. 530; India No. 551; Lawton No. 183; Oklahoma City No. 36; Providence No. 558; Triangle No. 548; Tranquility No. 2000 (Texas)

Offices: Junior Warden, Lawton No. 183; Worshipful Master, Lawton No. 183; Secretary Pro Tem, Lawton No. 183; Secretary, Lawton No. 83; Tyler, Lawton No. 183

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master; Grand Pursuivant; Grand Marshall; Junior Grand Warden; Senior Grand Warden

Grand Lodge Committees: Education; Statewide Forum; Fundraising; Strategic Planning



Michael D. Ray – Unopposed for Senior Grand Warden

Raised: 03/15/2008

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Siloam No. 276; India No. 551; Nicoma Park No. 541; Sand Springs No. 475; Albert Pike No. 162

Offices: Junior Warden, Albert Pike No. 162; Senior Warden, Albert Pike No. 162; Worshipful Master, Albert Pike No. 162; Treasurer, Albert Pike No. 162; Junior Steward, Nicoma Park

Grand Lodge Offices: Grand Pursuivant; Grand Bible Bearer; Junior Grand Warden

Grand Lodge Committees: Transportation



James R. Taylor, Jr. – Unopposed for Junior Grand Warden

Raised: 01/27/2007

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Owasso No. 545; Oklahoma Lodge of Research

Offices: Senior Deacon, Owasso No. 545; Senior Deacon, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Junior Warden, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Worshipful Master, Owasso No. 545; Treasurer, Owasso No. 545; Tyler, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Secretary Pro Tem, Owasso No. 545

Grand Lodge Offices: None

Grand Lodge Committees: None

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Taylor lives in Skiatook with his wife, Gage. They have two adult children. Worshipful James serves as the Chief Financial Officer at the Criterion Fund. His professional work has resulted in numerous leadership positions, including serving on the Board of Directors of the Family Life Assembly, as Secretary/Treasurer of the Copper Hill II Property Owners Association, and as a member of the Bethel College, Kansas, Student Government Association.



Craig S. Simon – Unopposed for Grand Treasurer

Raised: 08/26/1985

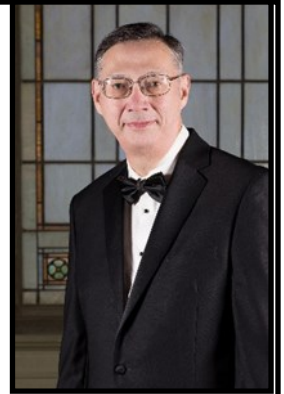
Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Pilgrim-Rock No. 522; Jenks No. 497

Offices: Junior Steward, Pilgrim-Rock No. 522; Junior Warden, Rock No. 513; Senior Warden, Rock No. 513; Worshipful Master, Rock No. 513; Secretary Pro Tem, Jenks No. 497; Secretary, Jenks No. 497; Treasurer, Jenks No. 497

Grand Lodge Offices: Grand Treasurer

Grand Lodge Committees: Award of Excellence; Public Schools



Charles K. Babb – Unopposed for Grand Lecturer

Raised: 06/03/1978

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Edmond No. 37; Oklahoma Lodge

of Research; Oklahoma City No. 36; Blanchard No. 395

Offices: Senior Steward, Broadway Circle No. 546; Senior Steward, Blanchard No. 395; Junior Deacon, Broadway Circle No. 546; Senior Deacon, Broadway Circle No. 546; Tyler, Broadway Circle No. 546; Senior Warden, Broadway Circle No. 546; Worshipful Master, Broadway Circle No. 546; Secretary, Broadway Circle No. 546; Junior Deacon, Edmond No. 37; Senior Deacon, Edmond No. 37; Worshipful Master, Edmond No. 37; Tyler, No. Edmond 37; Secretary, Oklahoma City No. 36

Grand Lodge Offices: Grand Lecturer

Grand Lodge Committees: Masonic Unity; Award of Excellence; Appeals and Grievances; Public Schools; Prevention of Blindness; Deputy Grand Lecturer Assistant; Statewide Forum; Fundraising; Deputy Grand Lecturer



Commitment

Pilgrim-Rock Lodge #522

50 Year Member

Celebration



Grand Lodge Offices Opposed

Michael L. Dixon – For Grand Secretary

Raised: 11/09/1968

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Adair No.99; Albert Pike No. 162; Altus No. 62; Composite No. 107; Edmond No. 37; Guildhall No. 553; India No. 551; Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Skiatook No.416; St. Alban No. 192



Offices: Junior Warden, Adair No. 99; Senior Warden, Adair No. 99; Worshipful Master, Adair No. 99; Senior Deacon, Edmond No. 37; Junior Warden, Edmond No. 37; Senior Warden, Edmond No. 37; Worshipful Master, Edmond No. 37; Tyler, Edmond No. 37

Grand Lodge Offices: Grand Marshall; Junior Grand Warden; Senior Grand Warden; Deputy Grand Master; Grand Master; Assistant Grand Secretary; Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge Committees: Child Identification; Grand Tyler; Law Enforcement Relief; Publications; Unity; Grand Master's Address; Charters and Dispensations; Fraternal Correspondence and Relations; Information Technology; Merchandise Marketing; Strategic Planning

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): M.W. Mike Dixon, of Edmond, Oklahoma, is a retired law enforcement professional with over 43 years of service. His career included leadership roles with the Pryor Police Department, Mayes County Sheriff's Office, and the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, where he served as Agent-In-Charge and was commissioned as a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal. He also held positions with the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission and the Oklahoma Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association. His military service includes the Oklahoma Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve CID.

He holds degrees from Connors State College, Northeastern Oklahoma State University, and Oklahoma State University. He has served on several law enforcement boards, including the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System and the Regional Organized Crime Information Center.

A dedicated Freemason, M^W Dixon is a Past Grand Master of Oklahoma (2018–2019) and a perpetual member of numerous lodges. He is active in the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine,

Eastern Star, and several Masonic research and honorary bodies. He has also supported Masonic youth organizations, receiving the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor and Rainbow Grand Cross of Color.

Why do you seek this office? I aim to continue serving Oklahoma Masonry and complete various projects in the Grand Lodge office, including automating multiple reporting requirements and streamlining daily staff duties.

What goals would you like to attain as the Grand Secretary? To continue the automation and workflow projects currently underway and planned for implementation.

Gaylord "Z" Thomas – For Grand Secretary

Raised: 03/29/1985

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Albert Pike No. 162

Offices: Worshipful Master, Albert Pike No. 162;
Secretary, Albert Pike No. 162

Grand Lodge Offices: None

Grand Lodge Committees: None

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Thomas lives in Guthrie with his wife, Linda. They have two adult children. "Z" is a twice-retired USAF Lt. Colonel. He has recently retired as the Executive Director of the Oklahoma State Board of Examiners for Long Term Care Administrators; in this leadership role, he trained, licensed, and sanctioned long-term care administrators in nursing homes and other adult care facilities in Oklahoma. During his work with this Board, Z led this non-appropriated agency to a status as one of the top 3 of its kind in the nation; he was elected as the National Association's Chairman and continues to serve as its Foundation Chair through 2026.

Worshipful Thomas has served in numerous leadership capacities at the local, state, and national levels, including the Guthrie City Council and as Vice Mayor, Chair of the National Association of Long-Term Care Administrator Boards, and on the board of the Governor-appointed Oklahoma Veterans Commission.



In addition to his continued service to the local lodge, Worshipful Thomas has served in various masonic appendant bodies in leadership roles, including Venerable Master of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection, Secretary/Treasurer of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Supernumeraries, and the International Shrine Clown Association.

Why Do You Seek this Office? Previously, I worked in the business office of the Grand Lodge, and I am quite familiar with the tasks associated with the position through that experience. My experience also includes drafting the original cypher key. As a resident of Guthrie, with pensions and other benefits, I am committed to this position full-time. The details of my personal financial situation could also prove beneficial to Grand Lodge programs.

What goals would you like to attain as Grand Secretary? First, I think we can leverage the use of Grandview as a viable tool more than we currently are, across the Craft. It has a lot of potential, and we need to tap into it considerably more, at both the GL level as well as the [local] Lodge level. I envision that all (or a portion) of the Grand Secretary's salary be used in different ways to improve the GL's position and capabilities.

Wife: A package is at the door...Did you order more Masonic stuff?

Me:



A. IT WAS AN ACCIDENT

B. I DO NOT RECALL

C. YOU LOOK PRETTY TODAY

D. YOU BET I DID!

Britton Lodge #434



TIME FOR SOME REPAIRS



Grand Lodge Museum and Library Board (All Unopposed)

Clyde Henry Schoolfield, Jr. – Unopposed

Raised: 07/13/1989

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Guildhall No. 553;
Oklahoma City No. 36



Offices: Secretary, Broadway Circle No. 546; Junior Warden, Broadway Circle No. 546; Senior Warden, Broadway Circle No. 546; Junior Deacon, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Worshipful Master, Guildhall No. 553; Senior Deacon, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Junior Warden, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Senior Warden, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Worshipful Master, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Secretary, Guildhall No. 553; Treasurer, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Vice President, Grand Lodge Museum and Library

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master; Grand Orator

Grand Lodge Committees: Publications; Education; Finance and Appropriations

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Museum and Library Board?

– I am a member of the Museum & Library Board, currently serving as Vice President, having previously served as Treasurer. I led the efforts to republish several books of historical interest: "History of Free Masonry in Oklahoma," "History of the Cryptic Rite of Freemasonry in Oklahoma," and Volume I of the "Oklahoma Lodge of Research." As chairman of the Education Committees of the Royal Arch and Cryptic Masons in Oklahoma, I have led efforts to emphasize Masonic education, particularly from a historical perspective.

How do you feel the Museum and Library Board can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? -- In addition to its primary duty of acquiring and preserving artifacts and texts of historical interest to Freemasonry in Oklahoma, the Museum and Library Board could better

serve the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma by making our Lodges and members aware of what items are in the collection of the Museum and Library and how those items might be used to promote an interest in Masonic history, both and out of the Fraternity.

Donnie Gene Higginbotham – Unopposed

Raised: 07/15/1986

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Roff No. 169; Amity No. 473; Oklahoma Lodge of Research, Morris No. 471



Offices: Junior Steward, Amity No. 473; Senior Steward, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Senior Steward, Amity No. 473; Junior Warden, Morris No. 471; Worshipful Master, Roff No. 169; Senior Warden, Roff No.169; Worshipful Master, Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Secretary, Roff No. 169; Treasurer Pro Tem, Roff No.169

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master

Grand Lodge Committees: Ambassadors; Youth Activities; Publications; Education

Master yourself.



What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Museum and Library Board? – I have extensive experience on Nonprofit boards.

How do you feel the Museum and Library Board can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? -- In the last few years, we have been reaching out to the local brothers with various programs. We introduced a scanner program in partnership with the Lodge of Research. We have also been creating displays for the Grand Lodge meetings.

Steven Edward Cox – Unopposed

Raised: 05/08/2007

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Bixby No. 359; Haskell No. 334; Muskogee No. 28; Okmulgee No. 199

Offices: Junior Deacon, Haskell No. 334; Senior Deacon, Haskell No. 334; Senior Warden, Haskell No. 334; Junior Warden, Haskell No. 334; Junior Steward, Muskogee No. 28; Junior Warden, Muskogee No. 28; Worshipful Master, Haskell No. 334; Tyler, Bixby No. 359; Treasurer, Haskell No. 334; Worshipful Master, Muskogee No. 28; Tyler, Muskogee No. 359; Worshipful Master, Bixby No. 359; Senior Warden, Bixby No. 359

Grand Lodge Offices: None

Grand Lodge Committees: None



Knowledge will
give you power,
but good character
will give you
respect.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Museum and Library Board? –

I bring an open mind and fresh perspective to the development of the Library and Museum. I have a strong passion for preserving and presenting our Exhibits. My greatest strengths are my interpersonal skills, which are of great value when deliberating topics of discussion among nine other people with varying degrees of knowledge and ideas.

How do you feel the Museum and Library Board can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma?

By completing our mission to preserve the history of our Fraternity in Oklahoma and accurately displaying our items, we can tell a profound story of our history and struggles in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Masonic Charity Foundation Board (3 Positions Available)

Yates Julio Canipe – Board of Directors

Raised: 05/18/2010

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Bokchito No. 253; Caddo No.3

Offices: Secretary, Caddo No. 3; Senior Warden, Caddo No. 3; Worshipful Master, Caddo No. 3; Worshipful Master, Bokchito No.253; Treasurer, Caddo No. 3; Secretary, Bokchito No. 253; Secretary Pro Tem, Bocchino No. 253; Chaplain, Caddo No. 3

Grand Lodge Offices: None

Grand Lodge Committees: None

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Canipe lives in Durant with his wife, Martha Sue. They have four adult children. Worshipful Yates is a retired Air Force Major with a Doctorate and two Master's Degrees. He is the author of two books available on Amazon. Worshipful Canipe served as an adjunct professor at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, where he taught courses in the School of Business. He also served as the Treasurer of the Bokchito Senior Citizens Center and led the center to achieve 501(c) (3) status.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?
Air Force Officer, Business Owner, COO of a manufacturing company. Professor in Business.



How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? Represent the Craft without holding GL office.

Robert James Ellison – Board of Directors

Raised: 05/12/2012

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Yukon No. 90; El Reno No. 50 (demit)

Offices: Senior Deacon, El Reno No. 50; Junior Warden, El Reno No. 50; Senior Warden, El Reno No. 50; Worshipful Master, El Reno No. 50; Secretary, El Reno No. 50; Secretary, Yukon No. 90; Prospect Manager, Yukon No. 90

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master

Grand Lodge Committees: Child Identification; FFA (inactive)

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Ellison lives in El Reno with his wife, Becky. Worshipful Ellison retired from the U.S. Army, where he completed three tours of duty overseas. He reports that he was a very adaptable soldier and "brought my team home." He worked in Civil Affairs, Human Intelligence, Munitions/Explosive Ordnance Demolition, and Artillery. Worshipful Ellison also served the DAV, Redlands Chapter 4, and the VFW.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?

For many years, as a Lodge Secretary, I have seen how the Masonic Charity Foundation can help make the process less stressful for lodges applying for matching funds. Simple communication is the best way to stop a lot of what has been happening.

How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? Remember our obligation as Master Masons. It sometimes feels that some on the committee have lost their way and need to be reminded of their obligations.



Gene McKelvey – Board of Directors

Raised: 06/14/1986

Time Missed: 0.0

Memberships: Siloam No. 276; Amity No. 473; Oklahoma Lodge of Research; India No. 551

Offices: Junior Steward, Amity No. 473; Senior Deacon, Amity No. 473; Senior Warden, Amity No. 473; Worshipful Master, Amity No. 473; Secretary, Amity No. 473; Chaplain, India No. 551; Treasurer, India No. 551; Senior Warden, Siloam No. 276; Treasurer, Siloam No. 276

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master

Grand Lodge Committees: Publicity and Public Relations; Masonic Unity; Membership; Public Schools

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful McKelvey lives in Warr Acres with his wife, Bonnie. For 30 years, Worshipful Gene has served as the Administrator for the India Shriners, where he manages budgets and supervises accounting employees; he is the Past President of the Shrine Recorder's Association. Worshipful Gene is currently Chairman of the MCFO Finance Committee.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?

As a Lodge secretary for 33 years, I have a good understanding of the programs that we offer, including Matching Funds & Promises Matter.

How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in

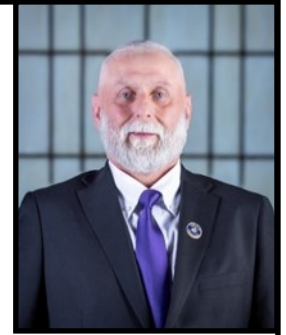
Oklahoma? Helping our members first and making them aware of the many programs that are available through the Foundation.



John Michael Manning – Board of Directors

Raised: 08/08/1992

Time Missed: 0.0



Memberships: Broken Bow No. 441; Wright No. 483; Valiant No. 301 (withdrawn)

Offices: Chaplain, Valiant No. 301; Junior Warden, Valiant No. 301; Senior Warden, Valiant No. 301; Worshipful Master, Valiant No. 301; Chaplain, Wright No. 483; Treasurer, Valiant No. 301; Junior Deacon, Broken Bow No. 441; Senior Deacon, Broken Bow No. 441; Junior Warden, Broken Bow No. 441; Trustee 2, Broken Bow No. 441; Senior Warden, Broken Bow No. 441; Junior Steward, Wright No. 483; Worshipful Master, Broken Bow No. 441; Trustee 1, Broken Bow No. 441

Grand Lodge Offices: District Deputy Grand Master

Grand Lodge Committees: None

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Manning lives in Broken Bow with his wife, Kelli. They have two adult children. Worshipful John is the owner of the Horse Trail-Riding Business. In 2024, he served the remainder of a Board term with the Masonic Charity Foundation.

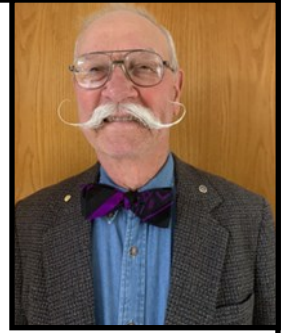
What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation? Business experience.

How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? Help the Craft help the communities. Help the Craft put their best foot forward in our communities by helping us with fundraisers. Allow Lodges to conduct one fundraiser per year to work on their buildings, and allocate a portion of that fundraiser to acquire matching funds.

Thomas Earl Uglean – Board of Directors

Raised: 12/08/1967

Time Missed: 0.0



Memberships: Frisco No. 24; Grove No. 187; Miami No. 140; Afton No. 76

Offices: Tyler, Afton No. 76; Junior Deacon, Afton No. 76; Junior Deacon, Grove No. 187; Senior Deacon, Afton No. 76; Senior Deacon, Grove No. 187; Senior Warden, Afton No. 76; Junior Warden, Grove No. 187; Worshipful Master, Afton No. 76; Trustee 1, Frisco No. 24; Junior Deacon, Afton No. 76

Grand Lodge Offices: None

Grand Lodge Committees: None

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Uglean lives in Afton with his wife, Linda. They have four adult children. Worshipful Thomas is a retired electrical contractor; during 41 years of electrical work, he contracted with Tyson Foods for over 25 years. He served as President of the LEMU Association, Zone 6. Worshipful Uglean is a Veteran and received a commendation medal while serving in Vietnam.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?

I joined Grotto in Southern California when I was 26 and have been involved in fundraising charity work for over 50 years.

How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? Let Lodges distribute the money with approval from the Charity Foundation.

William James Cloud – Board of Directors

Raised: 10/22/1981

Time Missed: 0.0



Memberships: Blanchard No. 395; Oklahoma Lodge of Research; Guildhall No. 553; Willow No. 553 (inactive); Magnum No. 61; Pontotoc No.136

Offices: Junior Steward, Blanchard No. 395; Senior Deacon, Blanchard No. 395; Senior Warden, Blanchard No. 395; Worshipful Master, Blanchard No. 395; Chaplain, Blanchard No. 395; Secretary, Blanchard No. 395; Treasurer, Blanchard No. 395; Chaplain, Guildhall No. 553

Grand Lodge Offices: Senior Grand Steward; Junior Grand Steward; Senior Grand Deacon

Grand Lodge Committees: Grave Marking; Ambassadors (inactive); Credentials; Pillar Club (inactive)

Candidate's Statement (paraphrased): Worshipful Cloud lives in Blanchard. Worshipful William retired as the #2 man and Production Shop Foreman of a local company managing over 50 employees. He is also a retired U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sergeant and Budget Analyst. Worshipful Cloud also served as a USAF Funds Manager for the C-21 and B-2 aircraft programs. He served as Research Manager for Foreign Military Sales of aircraft engines.

What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?

With 44 years of experience in Masonry, I bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise gained from working in small communities and local Masonic Lodges. I'm very proud of my lodge. Blanchard Lodge No. 395 is a very active and strong small lodge that has successfully taken advantage of and participated in most of the MCFO and Grand Lodge programs. Being a member of this [MCFB] board is more than just attending a few meetings every year. Board members should be visiting other lodges and promoting MCFO programs. They should be available to help lodges succeed in their participation. I have been fortunate enough to travel the Masonic Road and challenge many lodges to participate in these programs. I love what I do and hope to continue in these efforts.

How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? The MCFO should continue to increase the funds corpus of the Foundation so that efforts can be improved by funding new programs and expanding current programs when possible. Also, the MCFO should continue to work at raising the visibility of the Fraternity. Efforts such as the \$1 million grant to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation for Alzheimer's research and the partnership with the Association of Area Agencies on Aging are excellent ways to keep the Masonic Fraternity in the public eye. Another program that has been developed in the last few years is the Regional Alzheimer's Centers, which have been opened thanks to the MCFO's support. We have also been active in supporting various Veterans' programs throughout Oklahoma. The Masonry in Action award, given to two lodges each year, was created to promote local lodge activity through Charity Foundation programs. I am one of the co-founders of that program. But most of all, we should live our Masonic Obligation and remember our "Masonic Family." We have a responsibility to continue looking after and supporting these individuals. Programs such as Promises Matter Grants, and Matching Funds should be utilized more frequently.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1

Whereas, the Marking of Graves Standing Committee has accomplished its task of identifying all known Past Grand Masters' graves, and

Whereas, an Ad Hoc Committee should be considered when additional work needs to be accomplished in the identification of unmarked Past Grand Masters' graves.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that SECTION 212. Grand Lodge Committees: The Grand Master shall appoint committees to serve according to their respective terms and to perform their respective duties as follows:

J. Marking of Graves: A committee of three (3) who shall serve for three (3) years, with one (1) to be appointed each year. The member serving his last year shall be chairman. This committee shall locate and properly mark the graves of all Past Grand Masters, after having secured permission from such descendants as may be found.

BE AMENDED TO READ: SECTION 212. Grand Lodge Committees: The Grand Master shall appoint committees to serve according to their respective terms and to perform their respective duties as follows:

~~J. Marking of Graves: A committee of three (3) who shall serve for three (3) years,~~

~~with one (1) to be appointed each year. The member serving his last year shall be chairman. This committee shall locate and properly mark the graves of all Past Grand Masters, after having secured permission from such descendants as may be found.~~

Respectively submitted:

Don H Stanton, PM, Broken Arrow Lodge No. 243

Resolution No. 2

Whereas, there is no consistent plan or committee reviewing the long-term future of Freemasonry in Oklahoma, and

Whereas, a standing Strategic Planning committee should be added to deal with this lack of consistent focus on our future, and

Whereas, a Strategic Planning Committees should be considered as a Standing Grand Lodge Committee due to the significant changes facing our institution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that within **SECTION 212. Grand Lodge Committees** a new Section - Strategic Planning - be added as follows:

Strategic Planning: A committee of seven (7) members will be appointed who consists of three (3) Past Grand Masters, the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, and the Junior Grand Warden. The chairman shall be the Grand Master. This committee shall create a plan, to be reviewed annually, to address membership, financial stability, and Masonic relevancy.

Any subsequent report will be published for the for Grand Communication.

Respectively submitted:

Don H Stanton, PM, Broken Arrow Lodge No. 243

Resolution No. 3

WHEREAS: A progressive path for lecturer certificate achievement in this Grand Jurisdiction was re-established with the re-creation of a Class "B" Certificate in 2022, and

WHEREAS: the requirements of a Class "B" Certificate do not presently include the requirements of a Class "C" Certificate, and

WHEREAS: the inclusion of the requirements of a Class "C" Certificate in the requirements of a Class "B" Certificate can aid in ensuring a cumulative path of certificate lecturer proficiency achievement,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that Section 405, which now reads:

SECTION 405. CERTIFICATE LECTURERS: The Board of Grand Lecturers may, during the Grand School, District Schools or at any place and time mutually agreed upon by the examiner and the examinee, hold examinations for proficiency in the Esoteric Work. Those taking the examinations and found to be proficient in the work and lectures shall be reported to the Grand Master who shall issue them a certificate of proficiency which shall be good for one (1) year from Grand School to Grand School.

Certificate Lecturers shall be required to pass an examination annually as to their proficiency in the work before a certificate shall be issued. A Class "A", "B" or "C" Certificate Lecturer who has held a valid certificate in the Grand Jurisdiction of Oklahoma for 25 (twenty-five) continuous years shall be issued a lifetime certificate and shall be exempt from any further examination.

The three (3) grades of certificates are as follows:

CLASS "A" - To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach all the adopted esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction.

CLASS "B" – To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach all the adopted esoteric work for opening and closing the lodge on all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction and all the adopted esoteric work for the conferral of the first section of all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction.

CLASS "C" - To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach the categorical lectures, questions and answers, of all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 405. CERTIFICATE LECTURERS: The Board of Grand Lecturers may, during the Grand School, District Schools or at any place and time mutually agreed upon by the examiner and the examinee, hold examinations for proficiency in the Esoteric Work. Those taking the examinations and found to be proficient in the work and lectures shall be reported to the Grand Master who shall issue them a certificate of proficiency which shall be good for one (1) year from Grand School to Grand School.

Certificate Lecturers shall be required to pass an examination annually as to their proficiency in the work before a certificate shall be issued. A Class "A", "B" or "C" Certificate Lecturer who has held a valid certificate in the Grand Jurisdiction of Oklahoma for 25 (twenty-five) continuous years shall be issued a lifetime certificate and shall be exempt from any further examination.

The three (3) grades of certificates are as follows:

CLASS "A" - To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach all the adopted esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction.

CLASS "B" – To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach all the adopted esoteric work **of all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction** for: opening and closing the lodge on all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction, and all the adopted esoteric work for the conferral of the first section of all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction.

opening and closing the lodge

conferral of the first sections

the categorical lectures, questions and answers

CLASS "C" - To the Brethren who can pass the examination required and are qualified to correctly teach the categorical lectures, questions and answers, of all three (3) degrees of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Frederick, PM Frontier #48

Resolution No. 4

WHEREAS, the current wording of Article V, Section 502 (D) ASSESSMENTS needs to be updated to allow direct funding to the Grand Lodge Building Endowed (RESTRICTED) Fund, and

WHEREAS, Charity comes in all different forms and types, i.e. time, assistance, money and

WHEREAS, there hasn't been sufficient funds directed/donated, over the years, to the Building Endowed (Restricted) Fund to assist in maintaining the building for its future use, and

WHEREAS, the proposed \$3 change in assessments, raising the amount from \$17 to \$20, reflects inflation and represents an overall modest increase from the last time fees were assessed,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that ARTICLE V – REVENUES OF THE GRAND LODGE SECTION 502, para. D, which now reads in part:

SECTION 502 REVENUE OF THE GRAND LODGE, para. D ASSESSMENTS: The

following assessments shall be charged against the Constituent Lodges of this GRAND JURISDICTION:

- For each candidate initiated..... \$15.
- Each EA Degree conferred \$2.

No fee or assessment shall be charged for affiliations.

The assessment provided for in Section 502 D 1 shall be a distinct contribution by the petitioner to Masonic Charity and shall be deposited in a separate account known as "The Entered Apprentice Fund." This assessment shall be in addition to the fee for the three (3) degrees.

The assessments provided for in Section 502 D 1 and 502 D 2 shall be remitted to the Grand Secretary with the first monthly report following initiation.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 502 REVENUE OF THE GRAND LODGE, para .D ASSESSMENTS

D. ASSESSMENTS: The following assessments shall be charged against the Constituent Lodges of this GRAND JURISDICTION:

For each candidate initiated.....\$15.

Each EA Degree conferred \$2. \$5.

No fee or assessment shall be charged for affiliations.

The assessment provided for in Section 502 D 1 shall be a distinct contribution by the petitioner to Masonic Charity and shall be deposited in a separate account known as "The Entered Apprentice Fund." **The assessment provided for in Section 502 D 2 shall be a distinct contribution to the Grand Lodge Building fund and** shall be deposited in the Grand Lodge Endowed Building Fund. **These** assessments shall be in addition to the fee for the three (3) degrees. The assessments provided for in Section 502 D 1 and 502 D 2 shall be remitted to the Grand Secretary with the first monthly report **no later than the first day of the month** following initiation.

Respectfully submitted,

Sponsored: James Cleveland, PM Britton Lodge #434 Co-

Sponsored: Corky Grigsby, PM Altus Lodge # 62

Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma has historically recognized certain androgynous Masonic-related bodies whose membership requirements include a familial or fraternal connection to Master Masons in good standing; and

WHEREAS, these bodies have long operated in harmony with the principles and tenets of Freemasonry and have supported the philanthropic and social missions of the Craft; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Grand Lodge that some recognized androgynous bodies are not only composed of members who are female relatives of Master Masons, but also include female members sponsored by Master Masons; and

WHEREAS, the recognition provided in Section 802 serves to identify entities possessing

“exclusive jurisdiction in the State of Oklahoma over their several degrees” (Section 804), rather than establishing the qualifications required of their members;

Now therefore be it resolved that Section 802 which now reads:

SECTION 802. RECOGNIZED ANDROGYNOUS BODIES: The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma recognizes as Androgynous Bodies Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star; a Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth; and subordinate Shrines of the Supreme White Shrine of Jerusalem. All of which require their female members to be certain specified relatives of Master Masons in good standing at the time of initiation and their male members continuously to be Master Masons in good standing.

Be amended to read:

SECTION 802. RECOGNIZED ANDROGYNOUS BODIES: The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma recognizes as Androgynous Bodies the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star; an the Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth; and subordinate Shrines of the Supreme White Shrine of Jerusalem. All of which require their female members to be certain specified relatives of Master Masons in good standing at the time of initiation and their male members continuously to be Master Masons in good standing

Respectfully submitted

Craig L. Simon, Pilgrim-Rock No. 522

Resolution No. 6

Whereas, Section 805 of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution and Laws specifies a waiting period of 6 months to petition other Masonic Bodies, unless the Master Mason proficiency has been passed, and

Whereas, it has become common practice in recent years for incoming Oklahoma Grand Masters to waive this requirement of the Constitution and Laws by numbered "Decision," and

Whereas, Grand Master "Decisions" ought to be reserved for matters of the utmost urgency in cases where time constraints make consultation with the craft impractical, and

Whereas, the nature of a Grand Master "Decision" does not permit or allow thousands of Oklahoma Masons who form the craft to provide their input into such a consequential matter concerning their fraternity, and

Whereas, a resolution submitted at an annual Communication of the Grand Lodge would provide such input from the craft for the consideration of future Grand Masters prior to making a "Decision"

Now, therefore be it resolved that Section 805 which currently reads:

SECTION 805. PETITIONING OTHER CONCORDANT OR ANDROGYNOUS BODIES: It shall be a Masonic offense to solicit an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to petition for the degrees of such other Concordant or Androgynous Bodies. A Master Mason shall not petition for the degrees of such other Concordant or Androgynous Bodies until six (6) months after the date of his becoming a Master Mason or he shall have passed his proficiency in the Master Mason degree. It shall also be a Masonic offense for an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to attend a closed meeting of a recognized Appendant Body, unless he is otherwise permitted to attend the closed meeting pursuant to the rules of the Appendant Body.

be amended to read: **SECTION 805. PETITIONING OTHER CONCORDANT OR**

ANDROGYNOUS BODIES: It shall be a Masonic offense to solicit an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to petition for the degrees of such other Concordant or Androgynous Bodies. A Master Masen shall not petition for the degrees of such other Concordant or Androgynous Bodies until six (6) months after the date of his becoming a Master Masen or he shall have passed his proficiency in the Master Masen degree. It shall also be a Masonic offense for an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to attend a closed meeting of a recognized Appendant Body, unless he is otherwise permitted to attend the closed meeting pursuant to the rules of the Appendant Body.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. McMurry, PM #129

Resolution No. 7

WHEREAS, as we move further into the 21st century, fewer lodges rely on traditional mail services, and the need for more efficient and readable communication methods have become apparent, and

Whereas, affixing an impressed seal on all dues cards, documents and letters is becoming obsolete and new technology found in Grandview allows for the issue of plastic or electronic dues cards, and

WHEREAS, the use of a hand press seal, ink-stamped seal, or electronic seal will provide lodges with multiple options for authenticating documents and ensuring the legibility and efficiency of communications, especially when transmitted electronically,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that ARTICLE I, SECTION U105 which now reads:

SECTION U 105. SEAL: Each chartered lodge shall have a seal. All dues cards, documents and papers of every kind emanating from the lodge, or from its Master or Secretary, in their official capacity, shall bear the impress of such seal. Each chartered lodge shall, within 60 (sixty) days from the date of the granting of its charter, provide itself with a seal bearing such device in the center as the lodge may deem proper. The seal shall bear the name and number of the lodge, the date of its charter, and the location of the lodge. If the lodge changes its name or its place of meeting, it shall have a new seal made to show the true name and location. An impress of such seal shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary within 60 (sixty) days from the date of making of said seal.

Be amended to read:

SECTION U105. SEAL: Each chartered lodge shall have a seal. All dues cards, documents, and papers of every kind emanating from the lodge, or from its Master or Secretary, in their official capacity, shall bear the impress likeness of such seal. Each chartered lodge shall, within 60 (sixty) days from the date of the granting of its charter, provide itself with a seal bearing such device in the center as the lodge may deem proper. The seal shall bear the name and number of the lodge, the date of its charter, and the location of the lodge. If the lodge changes its name or its place of meeting, it shall have a new seal made to show the true name and location. The seal may be in the form of a traditional hand press seal, an ink-stamped seal, or an electronic seal. An impress likeness of the seal, in any of these forms, shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary within 60 (sixty) days from the date of making said seal.

Respectfully submitted,

Sponsored: James Cleveland, PM Britton Lodge #434 Co-

Sponsored: Don Stanton, PM Broken Arrow #243

Resolution No. 8

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Masonic law allows those men who are seeking membership in a constituent Lodge of the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma can petition any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, a petitioner may not be known by any member of the Lodge to which he desires to seek membership, and

WHEREAS, a petitioner may be well-known to masons of another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Section U 401 which now reads:

SECTION U 401. PETITION FOR DEGREES: All petitions for the degrees shall be in writing upon the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge and signed by the candidate's own hand using his full name. It must be recommended by at least two

(2) members of the lodge. It shall be read in open lodge, referred to a committee for investigation and must lie over at least until the next stated meeting before any vote may be had on it.

BE AMENDED TO READ TO READ:

SECTION U 401. PETITION FOR DEGREES: All petitions for the degrees shall be in writing upon the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge and signed by the candidate's own hand using his full name. It must be recommended by at least two (2) members of the lodge **of a constituent lodge of the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma. If a recommendation is made by a brother of another lodge, he must be in good standing, and he must include the name, number and address of the Oklahoma lodge to which he belongs.** It shall be read in open lodge, referred to a committee for investigation and lie over at least until the next stated meeting before any vote may be had on it.

James E. Mosly, PM, Myrtle No. 145

Garry Odom, PM, Myrtle No. 145

Resolution No. 9

Whereas, the annual printing and postage of dues cards are less cost effective than plastic or electronic dues cards, and

Whereas, affixing an impressed seal on each dues card, documents and letters is obsolete. Notaries no longer used impressed seals, and

Whereas new technology found in Grandview and other institutions allows for the issue of plastic or electronic dues cards, and

Whereas numerous other Grand Jurisdictions, appendant and appellate organizations are currently using plastic or electronic dues cards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: U420-SECTION D3. DUES CARDS: A

Perpetual Member shall owe no further dues to the lodge or which he is a Perpetual Member. An annual dues card, denoting on it a perpetual membership status, shall be issued by the lodge secretary to each Perpetual Member, unless such member is under a sentence of suspension or expulsion from the fraternity.

BE AMENDED TO READ: U420-SECTION D3. DUES CARDS: A Perpetual Member

shall owe no further dues to the lodge or which he is a Perpetual Member. An annual dues card, denoting on it a perpetual membership status, shall be issued by the lodge secretary to each Perpetual Member, unless such member is under a sentence of suspension or expulsion from the fraternity.

Respectively submitted:

Don H Stanton, PM, Broken Arrow Lodge No. 243

Resolution No. 10

WHEREAS,; the Grand Lodge Office is charged with calculating and distributing the Annual Perpetual Fund earnings to the Lodges each year, and

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge's accounting systems now allow for Perpetual Fund earnings distribution calculations to be completed within days after the close of the Masonic year; and

WHEREAS, these calculations cannot be finalized until all *Member Unable to Pay* reports have been received by the Grand Lodge Office; and

WHEREAS, lodges that submit these reports late delay the distribution of the annual Perpetual Fund earnings to all lodges; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Uniform Code currently does not specify a deadline for submitting *Member Unable to Pay* reports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Section U 424 which now reads:

SECTION U 424. MEMBERS UNABLE TO PAY: On notice of a member's financial hardship, the Master shall appoint a committee to ascertain the members' ability to pay. Upon report of the committee, the Master will put the question to the lodge for a vote to remit the dues of the brother in financial hardship. This remission of dues shall be valid for one (1) Masonic year and this process may be repeated on an annual basis, if required.

The lodge must still pay per capita to the Grand Lodge if the member's dues are remitted for any other reason.

All Master Masons in a long-term nursing care facility, assisted living facility, Hospice care, or when medically confined to his home, shall be exempt from all dues. and Grand Lodge per capita. No member shall be exempt from dues for any other purpose unless the lodge pays the Grand Lodge per capita. Lodges shall report the long-term care facility name and location to the Grand Secretary on a form provided by the Grand Lodge.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION U 424. MEMBERS UNABLE TO PAY: On notice of a member's financial hardship, the Master shall appoint a committee to ascertain the members' ability to pay. Upon report of the committee, the Master will put the question to the lodge for a vote to remit the dues of the brother in financial hardship. This remission of dues shall be valid

for one (1) Masonic year and this process may be repeated on an annual basis, if required.

The lodge must still pay per capita to the Grand Lodge if the member's dues are remitted for any other reason.

All Master Masons in a long-term nursing care facility, assisted living facility, Hospice care, or when medically confined to his home, shall be exempt from all dues. and Grand Lodge per capita. No member shall be exempt from dues for any other purpose unless the lodge pays the Grand Lodge per capita. Lodges shall report the long-term care facility name and location to the Grand Secretary on a form provided by the Grand Lodge.

All Member Unable to Pay reports must be submitted to the Grand Secretary's Office, using the official Grand Lodge form, no later than December 31st of each calendar year. Reports received after this deadline will not be credited in the lodge's annual Perpetual Fund earnings distribution.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Dixon, Past Master Adair Lodge No. 99

Resolution No. 11

WHEREAS: Two positions are allowed to carry the designation "Past" preceding their title; To wit - Worshipful Master and Most Worshipful Grand Master; and

WHEREAS: A District Deputy Grand Master serves in a capacity that is seen as the Representative of The Most Worshipful Grand Master to the Districts he serves;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 215, which reads as follows:

SECTION 215. TITLES AND RANK:

The Grand Master and all Past Grand Masters shall be addressed as Most Worshipful; all other elective Grand Officers shall be addressed as Right Worshipful and the appointed

Grand Officers and all past and present Masters shall be addressed as Worshipful. Past elected Grand Lodge officers, below the office of the Grand Master, shall be addressed with the designation of Past before their former elected office. (Example: Past Grand Secretary.) They shall not retain the prefix of Right Worshipful.

Those elected Emeritus by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge will carry the name of the position so honored with word "Emeritus" following. (Example: Grand Lecturer Emeritus.) They shall not retain the prefix of Right Worshipful, if previously.

Past appointed Grand Lodge Officers (to include any honorary or unofficial appointments beyond the Constitution) shall not carry any title such as Past Grand Pursuivant.

Past appointed Lodge officers and past elected Lodge officers, below the office of Master, (to include any honorary or unofficial appointment beyond the Uniform Code) shall not carry any title, such as Past Junior Steward.

No Oklahoma Mason shall himself out to represent himself Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, unless specifically authorized to do so by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge delegates.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 215. TITLES AND RANK: The Grand Master and all Past Grand Masters shall be addressed as Most Worshipful; all other elective Grand Officers shall be addressed as Right Worshipful and the appointed Grand Officers and all past and present Masters shall be addressed as Worshipful. Past elected Grand Lodge officers, below the office of the Grand Master, shall be addressed with the designation of Past before their former elected office. (Example: Past Grand Secretary.) They shall not retain the prefix of Right Worshipful.

Those elected Emeritus by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge will carry the name of the position so honored with word "Emeritus" following. (Example: Grand Lecturer Emeritus.) They shall not retain the prefix of Right Worshipful, if previously.

Past appointed Grand Lodge Officers (to include any honorary or unofficial appointments beyond the Constitution) shall not carry any title such as Past Grand Pursuivant, **with the exception of District Deputy Grand Master, who shall be addressed with the designation of Past before their former appointed office.**

Past appointed Lodge officers and past elected Lodge officers, below the office of Master, (to include any honorary or unofficial appointment beyond the Uniform Code) shall not carry any title, such as Past Junior Steward.

No Oklahoma Mason shall hold himself out to represent the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, unless specifically authorized to do so by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge delegates.

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin C Armer, PM, Bruton #30

One day, you'll take
your last seat in Lodge.
Make every one
before it count.





The Grand Lodge *of* OKLAHOMA

Being a Mason doesn't
make you better than
everyone else.
It just makes you
a better you.



The Oklahoma Mason is a publication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma.

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James Roderick, Grand Master