



Grand Master

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

www.okmasons.com



Dear Worshipful Master, Wardens,
and Brethren,

Congratulations to your new officers, and my very best wishes for a successful and happy year.

As most of you know, we are planning a Chance to Advance program for 2012. For those who were not active Masons when the last Chance to Advance program was offered, more than a decade ago, it is an opportunity for your Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts to become Master Masons in a single day.

We will gather in a centralized location, begin with an educational program over the Entered Apprentice Degree, confer the Fellowcraft Degree, provide an educational program for that Degree, confer the Master Mason Degree, provide a brief educational review of that Degree, and conclude the day. At the end of the day, the Brothers will be full and regular Master Masons. They will still have to learn the Master Mason proficiency in order to serve as an officer of the Lodge.

Almost all Lodges have Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts who, for one reason or another, have not completed their Degrees. This is an opportunity for them.

It is also an opportunity for you to bring your friends into the Fraternity. Many men are very pressed for time in today's world. You can offer them this chance to share with you in Freemasonry. ***I joined the Fraternity through a Chance to Advance program myself, so I know it can be a valuable opportunity.***

New candidates will have to take the Entered Apprentice Degree in their home Lodge (or in another Lodge as courtesy work) but they do not have to be proficient in the Degree before coming to the Chance to Advance conferral. If your Lodge needs help in conferring the Entered Apprentice Degree, let your DDGM know, we'll find a way to make it happen.

Here's how the program works:

1. With this letter you will find two copies of an Agreement. Read this letter and the Guidelines in open Lodge and discuss it. Then vote on whether your Lodge wants to participate. If the Lodge votes to do so, the Worshipful Master should sign one copy of the Agreement and return it to the Grand Lodge, keeping the other copy for your records.

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2. Also enclosed is a list of the E.A.s and F.C.s reported since January 1, 2006, who our records show have not advanced. Please go over the list in open Lodge and:

If your Lodge chooses to participate, mark off anyone you do not want to advance (see the guidelines for more information).

Please review the addresses for the remaining Brethren, and provide updated addresses where possible.

Note that you are not limited to the names on the list. If you have E.A.s or F.C.s who joined before January 1, 2006; and you wish to include them, just add their names and contact information to the list when you send it back.

3. Grand Lodge will write to the Brethren you leave on (or add to) the list, and offer them participation in the program at a cost of \$145.00. If they respond and want to participate, we will notify your Lodge. **Please be certain to fill out the Contact Person box on the form.**

4. It's also a good idea to have someone from the Lodge contact the Brethren and encourage them to participate.

So far, I've talked about Brothers who have already taken at least one Degree and have not advanced, **but there is still time for your friends to join the Fraternity, even if they have not started the process.**

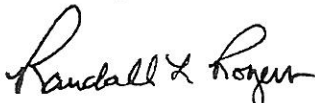
For Candidates who are "new" Entered Apprentices.

The Lodge accepts a petition, investigates, votes, and confers the Entered Apprentice Degree just as usual. The Entered Apprentice registers for the Chance to Advance Conferral, sends a check to the Grand Lodge for the charge (\$145.00) and comes with a member of the Lodge to the conferral on the day of the event. He does not have to pass the E.A. proficiency before coming to the conferral.

There are some other particulars in the Agreement which accompanies this letter. Please read it carefully aloud in Lodge. If there are questions, please call me, the Grand Lodge, or your DDGM. This can be a very big event for Oklahoma Masonry and for your Lodge as well.

There will be one Conferral in Guthrie, on May 12th and one in Muskogee on September 15th. In both cases the day will start at 9:00 AM. Your candidates may come to either. I hope to see you there and to join you in making this a great Masonic event.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Randall L. Rogers
Grand Master

GUIDELINES

for the

2012 Chance to Advance Conferrals

From:

M.:W.: Randall L. Rogers, G.:M.:

Brethren:

Here are the general guidelines under which the 2012 Chance to Advance Conferrals will operate. Please read and discuss this in open Lodge. If the Lodge votes to participate, sign the form at the end of the sheet and return one copy to the Grand Lodge, keeping the other for your records.

☆ There will be two Conferrals:

MAY 12th IN GUTHRIE

SEPTEMBER 15th IN MUSKOGEE

A vote of the Lodge will be required in order for the Lodge to participate in the program.
By voting to participate in the program:

☆ The Lodge agrees to work the list of Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts mailed by the Grand Lodge who have not advanced, verify addresses, note deaths, and return the list promptly to the Grand Lodge.

☆ The Lodge agrees to request South McAlester Lodge #96 (whose Charter will be used at the Conferrals) to:

✓Vote on the advancement of the Brother without a Petition for Advancement

✓Confer the Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees as a courtesy

✓Vote on the Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft proficiency of the candidates, so that the F.C. and M.M. Degrees can be conferred on the same day.

☆ The Lodge agrees to supply an Intender (a Master Mason to assist the Candidate through the Degrees) for each Candidate it sends to a Conferral

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- ☆ The Lodge agrees to handle any objection to the advancement of a Brother on the list according to the provisions of U408 of the Constitution and Code.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees to accept Brethren who complete their Degrees through this program as full and regular Master Masons.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees to send the Candidate's apron with him to the Conferral.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees to allow the Grand Lodge to write to the Lodge's E.A.s and F.C.s who have not advanced and whose names are not eliminated by the Lodge, and offer them participation in the program.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees to notify the Grand Lodge as soon as possible of any "new" E.A. who wishes to complete his Degrees in the Conferral, so that adequate supplies, food, etc., can be provided.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees that the Grand Lodge will charge \$145 to each person for the Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees. It is understood that the Grand Lodge will rebate to the Lodge the portion not needed for rental, food, supplies, and the other expenses of the program.
- ☆ The Lodge agrees to handle dues cards for the Master Masons who receive their Degrees at the Conferral in the same way as they do those raised at the Lodge.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- * I will not issue dispensations allowing a Lodge to read a petition and vote on a petition at the same stated meeting. I WILL usually issue a dispensation allowing a Lodge to read a petition at one stated meeting and vote at the next stated meeting, even if that time is less than 28 days, SUBJECT TO AN ASSURANCE FROM THE LODGE THAT A PROPER INVESTIGATION WAS DONE.
- * In order to be eligible for the Chance to Advance Program, the Brother must have received the Entered Apprentice Degree prior to the conferral. The Chance to Advance Program IS NOT an all-the-way-in-one-day program.