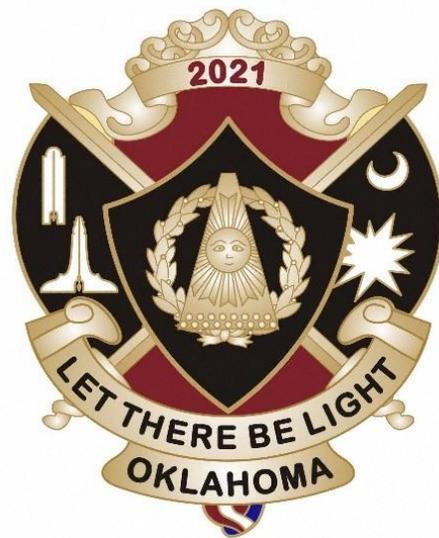


The Yellow Book



*Annual Committee Reports & Resolutions
of the*

**Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons
Of the State of Oklahoma**

*Together with the Reports of the Grand Treasurer,
Grand Secretary, & Grand Lecturer*

**113th Annual Communication
Guthrie, Oklahoma**

November 12th - 13th A.:D.: 2021 - A.:L.: 6021



Robert G. Davis
Grand Master – 2021

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Report of the Grand Lodge Trustees

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished Guests and Brethren All:

In accordance with Section 210 of the Constitution and Code, the Grand Lodge Trustees have met and held monthly meetings and respectfully submit the following report.

The Trustees are charged with the custody and control of all Grand Lodge property, and the proper maintenance and repair of building and equipment. The Trustees were able to complete the utilization of insurance funds in a building maintenance and repair project begun in 2019. In addition, repair of boiler tubes was also completed. Other building maintenance issues discussed by the Trustees included: building security, operations and cleaning, broadband access, and upgrade of HVAC systems.

The Trustees further have the responsibility to oversee, examine, approve, and authorize the expenditure of all funds appropriated by the Grand Lodge. A major effort of the Trustees involved converting to an in-house accounting system, at a significant cost savings to the Grand Lodge.

Consolidations

Consolidation of Waukomis No.161 with Wright No. 483 was completed on February 1, 2021 and Anadarko No. 21 with Chickasha No. 94 was completed on September 21, 2021.

Requests To Change Districts

As a result of the request of a Lodge to change districts, the Trustees developed and approved a policy regarding changing districts. That Lodge was asked to resubmit the request for district change under the terms of the new policy.

Lodge Closings

None

Grand Master Decisions

As of this writing, the Grand Master has issued six (6) decisions. Details of the decisions are contained in the Grand Master's Address.

Edicts

None

Dispensations

As of this writing, the Grand Master has issued fourteen (14) dispensations. Details of the dispensations are contained in the Grand Master's Address.

Lodge By-Laws Change Requests

As of this writing, thirteen (13) Lodges have requested, in writing, approval of changes in by-laws. All submitted requests were reviewed by the Trustees. Those requests that required action by the Trustees were approved by vote.

Major Areas of Discussion

Conversion to In-house Accounting System

Selection of Accounting Firm

Review of Revenue and Expenditures

Grand Lodge Building Maintenance and Repairs

Securing Clear Title to Kingston Lodge Building Property

Oklahoma Masonic Fundraiser

Lodge Leadership Conference

Retirement and Pension Plans

Youth Scholarship Program

Investment Accounts and Policy

Be An Oklahoma Freemason Campaign

Grand Lodge Office Staffing

Annual Communications

Brethren, as you know, these are only highlights of the actions taken by your Grand Lodge Trustees. Space would not allow for a complete summary of all actions taken by the Board of Trustees, but a complete record of all transactions by the Trustees is kept in the Grand Secretary's office.

All the decisions made by your Board of Grand Lodge Trustees have been made with the interest of the Craft at heart. We hope they have met with your approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert G. Davis Grand Master

R. Scott Vincent Deputy Grand Master

Glen A. Chaney M.:O.:H.: Senior Grand Warden

John F. Carter M.:O.:H.: Junior Grand Warden

David G. David Grand Treasurer

John R. Christopher Grand Secretary

Ronald E. Wray Grand Lecturer

Report of the Grand Treasurer

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

My Brethren:

As I submit my 8th report as your Grand Treasurer, I want to again think you my Brethren for your support. On behalf of all your Grand Lodge Trustees, we pray that all is well with you and your family. The past year has been a very challenging one for everyone. None of us could have predicted the dramatic impact the corona virus would have on every aspect of our lives.



It is and has been an Honor to serve Masonry in the State of Oklahoma as your Grand Treasurer. I am very proud of our leadership, and I am proud that you have allowed me to be a part of that group of Masons. I feel fortunate in having the opportunity to have a small part in building the financial structure of our Grand Lodge. At the same time I still realize that much remains to be done to insure the financial security and future of our fraternity.

Part of the duties of the Grand Treasurer is to receive all securities and funds for investment belonging to the Grand Lodge, make all investment of Grand Lodge with the approval of the Grand Lodges Trustees. The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Trustees have the fiduciary responsibility to oversee your invested capital. We have been blessed having two outstanding investment advisors and consultants, such as Brother John Fryrear (for many years) with Hilltop Securities and Thompson Phillips (for six years) with T.S. Phillips Investment, Inc. These funds are: 1) General Funds, 2) Perpetual Membership Funds, 3) Pension Plan Trust Funds, 4) Deferred Compensation Funds, 5) Building Funds, 6) Chips Funds.

As was reported in my 2020 Grand Treasurer Report, previous report showed a 7th fund. The Museum & Library Fund has been removed from the

oversight responsible of the Grand Lodge Trustees, as the M&L is now a 501 C-3, with its own board of Trustees.

The General funds are always a concern, face with a declining membership and resultant loss in Per Capita revenue, the Trustees for years have stressed the important of building up endowed funds to provide enough interest to support the financial needs of your General Fund Budget. The approved General fund budget for 2014, my first year as Grand Treasurer, was \$484,000.00. The approved budget for 2021 is \$427,061.32 a continues decline over these years of \$56,938.68. \$72,438.30 of 2021 budget was raised by the Deputy Grand Master's fundraiser, NOT per capita or investment income. Only, about 6% of our members participated in the fundraiser. We the Craft, keep asking our Trustees to do the same if not more year after year with less.

Through the first ten months of the management of your Grand Lodge, your Trustees meet monthly and have continued their Fiduciary responsibilities. The budgeted revenue and expense are amortized over the twelve months of operation and to date is well within the guideline of the approved Budget for 2021.

With the approved vote of the Trustees in 2018 to rebalance our allocation of assets, the General Fund now stands as of August 31, 2021 \$1,347,252.89

With the present low interest rate in the bond markets we have moved and currently as of August 31, 2021 \$883,031.26 of those funds in equity stock investment with higher estimated dividends or annual income. Leaving \$ 464,221.63 in government backed Ginnie Mae and Fannie Mae bonds. The balance in checking and now accounts.

I am please to report that the Perpetual Endowed Membership Fund as of August 31, 2021 stands at \$5,926,262.60, last year (2020) the amount at same date stood at \$5,572,256.98. We are not experiencing the high interest rate of years gone by, 8%, or 12%, in the bond market, however Perpetual Membership is still good for the Brother and his Lodge. Some brethren are adding to their perpetual funds to increase their return to their lodge. Some are paying their lodge the difference between their perpetual funds earnings on their account and Lodge dues. However, because the Brother participated these funds will continue to his Lodge for ever. As of this report

I do not have the percentage of return on bonds for 2021. However, we all know the rate of return on bonds have not been increasing. This is why the Investment Policy Committee and your Trustees approved the rebalancing of our investment. We will continue looking to obtain the highest interest and dividends rate available on safe investments.

The Pension Trust has a market value as of August 31, 2021, of \$70,936.20. In 2020, your trustees froze the Pension Plan., no new employees will be added to the plan in the future. The Building investment funds market value is \$373,228.60, as well as property and equipment. Two dollar of our current members per capita dues is paid each year into our Building Endowment Fund to help keep our beautiful Grand Lodge building for future generations. Deferred Compensation checking account balance is \$3,403.68. Chips's Fund checking account balance is \$17,608.13.

With the approval of your Grand Lodge Trustees, our accounting conversion to in-house Accounting Systems was approved and will be preformed by our Grand Secretary.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the excellent work of our in-house Staff and Grand Secretary. Their reports and help enable the Trustees to closely monitor the financial conditions of your Grand Lodge.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

David G David, Grand Treasurer

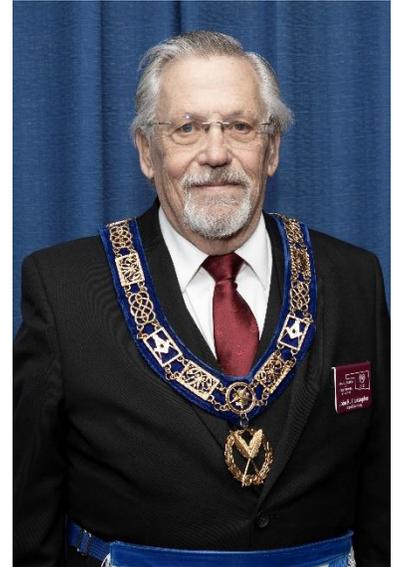
Report of the Grand Secretary

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:

It is my pleasure to submit this report to the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge Trustees, and the members of the Craft of Oklahoma.

The challenges on assuming a position to serve the craft such as Grand Secretary are many. Since being elected, I have tried to learn the many aspects of this position that M.:W.: Bobby Laws knew from his vast memory. M.:W.: Bobby has been, and still is, a valuable mentor and I have relied on his advice and counsel several times in the last two years.



STAFF

A complete turnover of staff has added complexity to our primary purpose of providing support to the craft.

Upon M.:W.: Bobby's retirement as Grand Secretary, his lady Linda also retired. Laura Payne was hired to take Linda's position. We hired Emily Gragert in March to begin work on the publications, however, Yvette decided to retire April 15th, and Emily moved into her position as Administrative Assistant. Yvette kept things running smoothly in the office for years and all her efforts are very appreciated.

FINANCES

In December, with the Trustees concurrence, I made the difficult decision to change our bookkeeping and accounting services. I decided to bring all our bookkeeping in house using a standard software accounting package, QuickBooks, and hired the same accounting firm that does the accounting for all three Scottish Rite Valleys in Oklahoma. We began the transition in

January, and we were able to produce a good financial report by April. Since then, we have tweaked the financial reports to make them easier to read.

GRAND VIEW

As of this writing, only 9.2% of our membership has registered on Grand View, in addition, there are 3 lodges that have not yet registered on Grand View, 13 lodges that haven't logged into the database in over 100 days, 3 in over 200 days, and 2 in over 400 days! Brethren, Grand View is not the Grand Lodge's tool, it is *your* tool. If you are a lodge Secretary, it replaces all that manual record keeping you have been doing, just a quick database update to a member's history, and it is a permanent record. Additionally, there are tools to account for your dues collection and a myriad of reports of your membership. You can use the Posts and Events features to inform your membership about things going on in your lodge. If you are a lodge elected officer, you have view access to each member's record in your lodge, and the ability to send out Posts and Events. If you are a member, you can update your own record with address and some other personal information, you also have access to the Feed tool on your portal which can also be used like other social media, but unique to your lodge. Those that are currently fully utilizing this tool can attest to its benefits. Please if not using, start using Grand View today! Encourage your members to register their email address in the database and get logged in.

BUILDING

Sadly, at the first of the year, W.: Terry Story, MOH was called to that house not made with hands, succumbing to the disease that had been ravaging his body for the last few years. His passing left a huge hole in maintaining our building. Terry had become a fixture in this building, quietly maintaining most of the old systems, and his legacy can be found in many parts of the building. These old systems are now showing their age and creating problems.

The gap that Terry left has been partially filled by W.: Bryan Shackelford who has answered the call when we have had problems with the electrical

or HVAC systems, and W.: David Tennison who has faithfully insured the flowers and lawn outside of the building have water. My heartfelt thanks go out to both of these brothers.

A couple of years ago, the chiller which provides cooling to the building was replaced and is working very well. This last winter, tubes were replaced in the boiler and now the boiler is working efficiently. However, the last component is the control system which pulls the entire system together. The current system is managed by air pressure to each of the thermostats and dampers in various parts of the building. There are multiple leaks in the system and Terry would compensate for the leaking system by propping the dampers open or closed, which results in the building temperature being out of balance. The system can be replaced with a modern system with a cost of \$40,000 - \$120,000.

There currently is no security in place in the building. The current video system cameras are failing and there is no entry security at all. Fortunately, there has been no compromise of the building to date, but that doesn't mean it won't ever happen. The assets of the museum and the Grand Lodge are too valuable to take this lightly. This year's proposed budget contains funds to upgrade the security. I ask for your approval.

DEGREE WORK AND PERPETUAL PATH

With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, lodges hurried to catch up with missed work. As of September 1st, we have Initiated 267 Entered Apprentices, Passed 205 Fellow Craft, and Raised 184 new Master Masons! The first Perpetual Path was held in Woodward on January 16th. As of September 4th, there have been 13 total Perpetual Paths held where we have raised 82 Master Masons!

LOSSES

Suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues (NPD) continues to be a problem and is one of the few losses that are preventable. As of August 15th, we have suspended 201 members, and are on pace to suspend over 400 in 2021. What are you doing to mitigate your Suspend NPD losses? Have you attempted to contact the member? Is he a 50+ year member that suddenly stopped

paying dues? Has a committee in your lodge been appointed to research these members?

Deaths during these COVID years is our biggest loss. As of December 31, 2020, we lost 679 brethren, as of August 15th, we have lost another 336 brethren. That combined with 293 brethren who had died prior to 2021 but were not put into the system until this year, brings our total losses due to death for this year at 629!

SECRETARY TRAINING

The transition of Grand Secretaries combined with the pandemic prevented us from having in-person Secretary Training this last year. I took advantage of the Zoom technology and had virtual workshops, each touching on a specific subject. I will continue to have a few of these workshops during the upcoming year, because they also give us the ability to save the video for those that could not attend. In 2022, it is my intention to have three workshops during January and February 2022 in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and McAlester. Please make plans to attend one of these workshops.

This has been an exciting and busy year for me as I have learned the large variety of tasks that encompass the duties of the Grand Secretary. Accomplishing these tasks would have been impossible if it wasn't for the superb actions of the Office Staff, Emily and Laura, to organize their workflow so they can respond to the needs of the lodges with the best support possible, despite the limitations imposed by limited resources. Please be sure to thank them when you see them or call for all they do for our Grand Lodge.

Most Worshipful Robert Davis, it has been my pleasure to serve you as Grand Secretary. You and I frequently discussed issues and coordinated actions this year. Everything you have done has been in the best interest of Masonry in Oklahoma. Most of all, I appreciate your friendship and look forward to our future discussions.

Right Worshipful David G. David your advice and guidance during our transition to the new bookkeeping system has been invaluable. I appreciate

the many hours you spend with our investors as we work to get the best return on our investments.

To all the other Trustees, your advice and counsel has been important to me as I transitioned into Grand Secretary and is gratefully accepted. The craft has selected the right men for leadership, and I see a bright future for Masonry in Oklahoma.

To each of the lodge Secretaries, thank you for all you do for Masonry in Oklahoma. Your support has been overwhelming, and I fully appreciate all of the emails and phone calls of support. I have enjoyed visiting with each of you and look forward to more of the same in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

John R Christopher
Grand Secretary

Report of the Grand Lecturer

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

Brethren

In submitting to you my last report as your Grand Lecturer, I want to express my sincere thanks to the Grand Lodge Officers, the Deputy Grand Lecturers, the Office Staff, and the Craft at large for your assistance and support over these last 12 years. We are living in unprecedented times in our Grand Jurisdiction having to lock down our meetings, and schools of Instructions last year. I would never have believed we would not have a Grand School of Instruction, but it happened.



The Deputy Grand Lecturers have done a great job this year at holding District Schools of Instruction. For the period beginning September 1, 2020 and ending August 31, 2021 They have held 10 District Schools for a total of 12 days of instruction with a total attendance of 145. This may not look great but in comparison to last year it looks good to me!!

Our Regional Schools of Instruction seem to be growing not only in numbers, but in attendance as well. We may need to put more emphasis on these types of schools in the future.

The Board of Grand Lecturers have held 2 meetings as the time of this report with 2 more meeting before Grand School. I want to thank our Grand Master Most Worshipful Robert Davis for an outstanding Board of Grand Lecturers. It has been my pleasure to work with these great men over the last 12 years. Many of them who started with me in 2010 have went on to glory, but I loved each one of them and think of them often. Again thank

you for all your support during my term as your Grand Lecturer. I shall never forget the wonderful masons I have met all over the state.

Fraternally,

Ronald E. Wray Grand Lecturer

Report of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma

To the M.:W.:Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of the State of Oklahoma

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma is an Oklahoma not-for-profit corporation formed on July 9, 1930, to encourage charity, benevolence, education, and philanthropy. It was created so that the institutional giving of Oklahoma Freemasonry could be better focused and coordinated. The activities of the Foundation do not replace those of the individual Masons; they merely serve to supplement them.

MANAGEMENT

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of twenty-two members. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma elects fifteen directors, three each year, for a five-year term. There are also three Directors representing the Scottish Rite, one from each Valley, three Directors representing the York Rite, one from each Grand Body, and one Director from the Order of the Eastern Star. Board members receive no monetary compensation of any kind. The Foundation has full-time staff working in the Edmond office, under the direction of John L. Logan, Executive Director. The following officers were elected to serve for 2021:

President	William J. Cloud
1st VP	Neil A. Stitt
2nd VP	C. Kent Callahan
Treasurer	Ronald J. Chambers
Secretary	Robert G. Davis
Ass't Sec.	John L. Logan

FINANCIAL

The Foundation 12/31/20 preliminary consolidated financial report reflects total assets of \$106,943,668 and charitable giving totaling \$5,936,245. The 2021 consolidated budget projects expenditures of \$5,815,987.

LODGE MATCHING FUNDS

This program was established in 1983 and designed to encourage and support local Lodges in the area of charity by matching local Lodge monetary contributions in the areas of scholarships, local disasters, local charitable causes, and local community services. In 2020, 200 Lodges used the program for \$1,154,766. Since the beginning of the Matching Funds Program, the Foundation has contributed \$33,287,716 to support local charitable or educational projects. The local lodges' participation has created a minimum of \$66,575,432 of support for local community needs.

Matching Funds dollars have allowed lodges to double their fundraising ability in support of local community needs. In 2020, Matching Funds provided an additional \$1,033,272 in support for youth and public education, \$123,198 to local fire, police, and veterans organizations, \$826,254 to individuals in need (or organizations who provide direct services to needy individuals), \$113,907 to senior citizen centers and charities who provide aid to seniors, \$115,102 to Masonic Youth Orders, and \$30,378 to support local museums, parks, and historical preservation projects. Matching Funds dollars and lodge fundraising injected nearly \$2,500,000 into community charitable and educational projects.

PROMISES MATTER

The Foundation stands ready to assist those Lodges and OES Chapters in caring for their needy members through matching funds or direct grants. Each Lodge or Chapter is in the best position to know which of its members need assistance. Lodges may use their entire \$12,500 allotment of matching funds for Promises Matter activities. In 2020, Promises Matter Matching Funds provided an additional \$202,986 to assist female OES and Master Masons members and their widows with immediate financial needs due to illness, injury, or other hardship. Also, eight different Lodges received Promises Matter Grants totaling \$27,000. The average grant amount distributed was \$3,400.

The Masonry in Action Award program began in 2013 to recognize lodges that do an outstanding job utilizing the Foundation programs. The Foundation allows each winning Lodge the opportunity to specify a worthy

non-profit in their community to receive a \$5,000.00 grant. In 2020 Pilot Lodge 367 was the small lodge category winner, and Owasso Lodge 545 won the large lodge class. Pilot Lodge 367 designated their prize funds to provide charitable grants of \$2,500 each. The Lodge chose to award their \$5,000 in Masonry in Action Award funds to the Elgin Community Center and Elgin Public Schools Winter Wishes program. Winter Wishes was created, implemented, and run by students who seek to make the holidays brighter through charity. The Elgin Community Center provides much-needed services to senior residents of Elgin, such as meals on wheels, exercise courses, tax services, and peer counseling. Owasso Lodge 545 awarded their \$5,000 community grant to an outdoor education program administered by the Owasso Fraternal Order of Police and their Shop with a Cop Christmas program. Congratulations to both lodges!

If your Lodge wants to know more about the Foundation programs, please feel free to call or come by the Foundation office to discuss your needs.

PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Foundation works with other organizations to achieve worthwhile goals and make Masonic charity more visible across Oklahoma.

Partners in Prevention is a partnership with **Vizavance**. Lodges statewide sponsor vision and glaucoma screenings, targeting the young and the elderly. The Foundation granted \$200,000 to support the ongoing costs of the program. Also, it budgeted \$40,000 for new technology upgrades and \$50,000 to replace SPOT cameras. In 2019, the five millionth child was screened through this partnership. The Foundation has provided over \$4.5 million in support of this important mission, One Goal, One Vision, and One Mission, Advancing Children's Education Through Better Vision!

Food Bank support has been an annual program since 2011. In 2020 the Fight Childhood Hunger Campaign resulted in \$50,000.00 being donated to the Regional Food Bank and \$35,000.00 to the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. In 2020 the program name changed to Food for Kids, which supports the Kid's Food Backpack Program for school children. The 2021 Masonic Food for Kids campaign ran from August 1 through October 15. This statewide effort combines the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, the

Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma, and Griffin Communications (Channel 9 in OKC and Channel 6 in Tulsa). Food Bank is one of three projects with statewide visibility that attempt to enhance the image of the Fraternity while supporting a significant charitable or educational purpose.

The Oklahoma State Department of Education - Our support for public education was demonstrated in nine statewide programs.

- 1. The Oklahoma State Teacher of the Year** program honors teachers who make outstanding contributions to the public education of our youth. The State Teacher of the Year is awarded a check for \$5,000, the State Teacher of the Year's school district receives \$5,000, each of the eleven finalists receives a check for \$1,000. Each local Teacher of the Year receives a framed certificate of appreciation.
- 2. The Student of Today Award** is a program that encourages outstanding performance in students of all grade levels by recognizing exemplary students. Each recipient receives a certificate, usually by a local Mason, at their school's awards assembly, or some Lodges host banquets for the winners. In 2020, the Foundation prepared 1,260 certificates for presentation.
- 3. Freemasonry uses the Teacher of Today Award program** in Oklahoma to say "thanks" to those hundreds of teachers across our state that make a daily difference in our children's lives. Each Teacher receives a certificate presented by the local Lodge. It is a small token to express our appreciation to these men and women who carry the future burden on their shoulders. In 2020, the Foundation prepared 443 certificates for presentation.
- 4. The State Superintendent's Awards for Arts Excellence** honor the Fifty top high school seniors in our state's visual and performing arts. Also, the leading school administrators and school board members are honored during a prestigious formal reception at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. The students are presented medals by the Grand Master and State Superintendent of Education. The 2020 event was held virtually.

- 5. Oklahoma 4-H Foundation Endowment** - In 2020, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma implemented a permanent endowment with \$100,000. An additional \$125,000 was granted in 2021. The purpose of these monies is to establish the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma Endowment Fund. This endowment will support the Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development Program's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Program and the annual Oklahoma 4-H Roundup.
- 6. The Payne Education Center** is a non-profit organization established in 1984. Since 1996 the Foundation has supported the Payne Education Center's Reading Readiness program designed to train kindergarten and transitional 1st-grade teachers by providing scholarships for enhanced reading techniques. In 2020, \$150,000 in funding was provided, with half allocated for teacher scholarships and the other to support their Digital Phonics Program.
- 7. The Youth Scholarship Program** funding is through the Education Endowment. The scholarship program is open to members of the DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow. This year ninety scholarships of \$2,000.00 each were budgeted, and seventy-three were awarded as follows: DeMolay 68, Job's Daughters 2, and Rainbow 55.
- 8. Senior Essay Contest** The Senior Essay Contest was launched in 1966 in support of education. Writing teaches critical thinking skills. The essay contest is open to all seniors in Oklahoma public schools. The Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma sponsors it as part of its continuing commitments to education. Cash prizes in both the Men's and Women's divisions range from \$2,000 for 1st place to \$200 for 10th place. Also, a \$5,000.00 grant will be made to each of the 1st place winners in high school. For the 2020 - 2021 contests, 900 seniors entered the contest. A total of \$13,700 was awarded to the 20 statewide winners of the contest, and \$5,000.00 grants to the schools of each of the statewide first-place winners. Certificates for presentation to the local division winners of 124 high schools sponsored by 98 Lodges will be provided to the local Lodge.

9. Senior Assistance Program– Through an agreement with the Oklahoma Area Agencies on Aging, a Department of Human Services division, \$760,637.77, was given in December 2020 to assist needy Oklahomans aged 55 and over with services not provided covered by existing government programs during the calendar year 2021. Since the inception of this program in 2007, the Foundation has donated a total of \$10,114,141 in the name of the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma to enhance the lives of seniors in our communities. These eleven agencies can be accessed by calling 1-800-211-2116 or at www.okdhs.org.

CHARITABLE GRANTS

In addition to partnerships with other charitable organizations or agencies, the Masonic Charity Foundation makes several grants each year to support Public Education, Public Wellness, and Public Charities. Some highlights of 2020 grantmaking are:

- The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma has granted \$25,000 to the Oklahoma Autism Center Foundation (OACF). This gift will help our organization to provide outreach, education, and resource connections to children and families living in rural Oklahoma. OACF's mission is to improve the quality of life for Oklahomans with autism spectrum disorder and their families through advocacy, awareness, and support for the Oklahoma Autism Center.
- The gift awarded NewView Oklahoma with a grant totaling \$256,650. This gift will offset costs for capital needs for NewView's Center for Low Vision and Blindness and will cover expenditures for building improvements, including greater accessibility and security. Gifts from the Foundation have played a vital role in NewView's recent renovation and relocation to a facility on Classen Boulevard. This move has greatly expanded NewView's capacity to serve individuals challenged by vision loss. The additional gift will ensure that the new facility is up to date on security and accessibility measures.
- A \$50,000 gift to Junior Achievement Oklahoma will help the JA Finance Park students build a foundation for making intelligent, lifelong personal finance decisions. The program includes hands-

on in-school activities that culminate with a visit to the JA Finance Park. The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma will be their new Philanthropy Kiosk within JA Finance Park-Mobile. The JA Finance Park-Mobile is dedicated to educating 7,000 Oklahoma middle and high school students in the basics of financial literacy: budgeting, investing, philanthropy, managing risk - all while reinforcing the value of education and how it affects one's future. JA Finance Park curriculum covers all 14 areas of instruction on the Oklahoma State financial literacy requirement.

- Hearts for Hearing provides audiology and speech pathology services in a unique one-stop setting for children with hearing loss. Charitable services for young children ensure that children can learn to speak, connect with the world around them, and become self-sufficient members of their families and communities. A generous gift of \$25,000 from the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma will benefit families across the state. In addition to providing the first set of hearing aids to children ten years of age and under at no cost to families, Hearts for Hearing also offers financial assistance for specialized speech therapy and audiology services.
- The Cavett Kids Foundation helps children with terminal or chronic illness thrive by using camp experiences to build character, coping skills, and connection. Camps are provided for kids of every age who may be dealing with heart issues, cancer, or other disorders. Masonic charity's \$20,000 in camp funding in 2020 will provide two of Cavett's highest level camp experiences throughout the year.
- The YMCA Military Welcome Center at Will Rogers International Airport provides a safe location for military personnel to rest, access mail and telephone services, find refreshments, and prepare for the journey onward. The Masonic Charity Foundation provided \$10,000 to support the operation of this facility in 2020.

SUPPORT OF MASONIC GROUPS

- Masonic Charity supports Masonic youth orders! In addition to over \$110,000 in Matching Funds provided to local DeMolay, Rainbow, and

Jobs Daughters chapters and bethels during 2020, the Foundation also provided over \$250,000 in scholarships to youth order members, as well as \$7,500 to each youth order's state-level trust to support ongoing programming and scholarships.

- Each year, the Masonic Charity Foundation supports a charitable or educational cause or project of the Grand Master's choice. In 2020, a \$5,000 grant was provided to the Library & Museum of Grand Lodge of Oklahoma.
- Each year, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma contributes to the programming of several national Masonic organizations:
 - Gifts totaling \$1 per Oklahoma member are made by Masonic Charity Foundation every year to support the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia.
 - An annual gift of \$1,500 is made to the Masonic Information Center, an organization operating under the Masonic Service Association of North America that publicly provides information on Freemason and responds to Freemasonry critics.
 - The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma supports every Masonic Services Association of North America plea for disaster support with a \$1,000 donation. In 2020, gifts of \$1,000 each were granted to support disaster recovery efforts in North Carolina, South Carolina, Guatemala, Florida, and California.
 - Oklahoma Masonic charity also provides annual contributions of \$4,000 to the Masonic Service Association of North America's Hospital Visitation Program, making Oklahoma's support of this program competitive on a national level.

Foundation Activities

A report of the Foundation's activities, including its audited financial statements, is made annually to the MW Grand Lodge of Oklahoma and is printed in its annual proceedings. Additional information can also be found

at the Foundation's website www.mcfok.org. We also make an effort to share positive stories regarding Masonic activities on Facebook.

It has been a great honor to serve as the Foundation President, and I thank the members for the opportunity to do this important work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Cloud". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "W".

Respectfully submitted,
William James Cloud, (395)

Report of the Joint Masonic Fraternal Relations Commission

To the 2021 Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma

In 2004, our Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Session and the 2005 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Session each adopted a written Compact, agreeing:

- to establish and implement a simple form of Masonic recognition;
- to provide for successful coexistence;
- to ensure a continuing harmonious relationship;
- to promote Masonry in general;
- to have a mutual regard for the right of each Grand Lodge to retain its absolute and supreme sovereignty;
- to memorialize the legitimate right of each to exist and operate within the geographic bounds of the State of Oklahoma;
- and, to secure the blessings of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

Additionally, the above Compact established the Joint Masonic Fraternal Relations Commission (JMFRC), composed of three (3) members from each Grand Lodge who are knowledgeable of the history of the Compact. These members are to meet to consider and make recommendations concerning issues, conflicts, disputes or questions arising out of the Compact. As of this writing, the JMFRC has held twenty-nine meetings since its creation. It is our pleasure to inform this Grand Lodge Session there have been absolutely no conflicts or disputes arising from this Compact between our two Grand Lodges.

In 2008 the Compact was amended by both Grand Lodges to permit tiled visitation among the constituent Lodges of both Grand Lodges.

Therefore, the relationship between our two Grand Lodges is as follows:

The two sovereign Grand Lodges have 100% recognition of each other, as described above.

There is 100% tiled visitation of members among the constituent Lodges chartered by the two Grand Lodges.

There is no plural membership of a member of one Grand Lodge with a Lodge of the other Grand Lodge.

With visitations now occurring between constituent lodges of both jurisdictions, it is especially important that all constituent lodges of our Most Worshipful Grand Lodge observe the Protocol for Visitation, namely a) notification of visitation in advance, b) adhere to dress code of lodge being visited, c) be examined by the lodge you are visiting, and d) examine the brother's dues card. These elements of fraternal protocol will generate good relations between the lodges who are experiencing visitation.

Our Grand Master and other Grand Lodge leaders continue to be received at the annual Prince Hall Grand Lodge Session with a maximum of fraternal courtesy and respect. Our Grand Lodge appreciates these genuine displays of brotherly love and affection. This has, naturally, been disrupted by the Covid pandemic, when the 2020 A.F. & A.M. Grand Lodge session and the 2021 P.H.A. Grand Lodge session were both held virtually.

Our Grand Lodge continues to be invited to the annual P.H.A. golf tournament held in September in Guthrie. Additionally, the leaders of the major branches of our A.F. & A.M. Masonic family are invited to the Prince Hall Americanism Day. Leaders are invited to wear the regalia of their office and bring their spouses. A delicious meal follows.

After having to cancel the Spring 2020 meeting of the JMFRC, meetings have been held on the Fall of 2020 and Spring of 2021. Additionally, a special meeting of the JMFRC was held in January 2021, where both Grand Masters discussed mutual issues and brainstormed on strengthening the ties between our respective Grand Lodges.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald S. Coppedge, Chairman

Ronald J. Chambers

Joe R. Manning, Jr.

Report of the Grand Lodge Museum and Library

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren All,

This has been another exciting year in the life of the M.W. Grand Lodge AF & AM of State of Oklahoma (Museum & Library), Inc., herein referred to as the Grand Lodge Museum & Library (GLML). Last year's Yellow Book Report delineated a chronology of the GLML's progress during 2019-2020. This Report highlights the substantive actions of the GLML Board of Directors during 2021:

The 2021 GLML Board of Directors was organized during its December 2020 meeting as follows: Charles Babb (Member), John Carter (President), Glen Chaney (Member), Wade Massey (Vice-President), Jim Seeger (Secretary-Treasurer), Kenneth Sivard (Member) and Jason Smith (Member);

A CPA firm that conducts monthly financial reconciliation of the GLML's investment and checking finances was reestablished on a month-to-month basis; this occurred after the GLML Board's consideration of other CPA firm services; this firm also filed the GLML's annual Form 990;

Office supplies were acquired;

Following an initial consultation with the Oklahoma History Center and with added input from a former executive of the Oklahoma County Metropolitan Library System, the GLML Board selected an on-line library catalog system: *The Library Thing*. Using this system, over 900 volumes, primarily from the Dr. James T. Tresner collection, have been cataloged, classified and shelved according to the *Boyden Masonic Library Classification System*. In time, this GLML system will allow the catalog to be made available online. Implementation of this system was directly undertaken by the GLML President, John Carter, and his Lady, and, Vice-President Wade Massey. This work is major and will be an ongoing process for the foreseeable future;

The need to develop a GLML Website and Facebook Page was apparent. The GLML President appointed the *Information Technology Committee* to address this need and to develop steps and recommendations: Jason Smith

(Chairman), John Carter, and Wade Massey; the Committee, under the guidance of Jason Smith and Wade Massey, has secured website domains and web hosting; a Facebook page has been established and will open in conjunction with the website publication;

The need to develop a *Gift Acceptance Policy*, along with processes and procedures related to actual gift consideration and acceptance, was discussed. The GLML President appointed a standing *Gift Acceptance Committee* to develop processes-procedures: Charles Babb (Chairman), Wade Massey, Jason Smith, and Kenneth Sivard; via the coordination of Charles Babb, the Committee continues to review and evaluate donations regarding donation-fitness for the GLML collections;

Per results of the 2020 Annual Communication balloting, and through the work of Charles Babb, the GLML By-Laws were revised;

The GLML's financial investments were simplified and streamlined by adopting the services of a single investment management firm;

As a matter of annual practice, the GLML Board of Directors caused an Internal Audit to be conducted of the GLML investments, income and expenditures; inquiry regarding this can be directed to any of the GLML officers;

As an information sharing practice, a GLML quarterly financial report is forwarded to the Grand Secretary for dissemination to the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Committee on Jurisprudence;

The GLML is the custodian of the Oklahoma Past Grand Master portraits; this year marked the first time that the GLML purchased the sitting Grand Master's portrait;

During a GLML Board Meeting, arrangements were made whereby the financial representative of the GLML's investment firm presented an overview of the GLML's investments and related performances;

The GLML received recommendations from the Grand Master related to a list of materials he believed the GLML should consider as a part of its collections;

The GLML President appointed a *Standing Library Materials Review Committee* comprised of: Wade Massey (Chairman), Charles Babb, and Jason Smith; the GLML President charged the Committee with reviewing the Grand Master's recommendations, along with other needed materials, and make recommendations for potential acquisition; a budget of \$5,000 was established for this purpose; an example of these purchases include a volume set of *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*; a bank ATM card was acquired to assist the Committee in GLML subscription and membership purchases; the Committee, under the guidance of Wade Massey, continues to evaluate additions to the collection;

Due in October, grant applications are reportedly available from the Oklahoma History Center; the GLML Board is awaiting recommendations regarding this as a possible source of funding;

The GLML anticipates a collaboration with the Oklahoma Lodge of Research to produce a new publication that represents a tribute to Dr. James T. Tresner; the proceeds from which would help support GLML functions; and

GLML activities and functions are continuing to expand; the Secretary-Treasurer has indicated that a GLML executive director may need to be a topic for future GLML Board consideration.

The GLML President asked Grand Master Davis to address the GLML Board of Directors during the April 2021 board meeting; the Grand Master discussed the following initiatives/vision.

He is in the process of retaining an architect to create a professional Architectural Interior Design Plan that will serve as a guide and schematic plan of the use of floor space for the GLML. The Grand Master will secure the services of an architect to help create a vision of what the plan might depict, and to demonstrate what the GLML might look like in the future.

When completed, the architectural plan will be displayed in the GLML with a concurrent purpose of maximizing the impact of the future use of the available floor space, and to inform people of the mission and goals of the GLML, now and in the future. Too, it will create an image of the GLML for the benefit of future GLML Board Members. The Grand Master recommended that if the plan can be done before Fall Elections, it might

give any new GLML Board Member a strengthened sense of direction and commitment to the GLML. A professional description is needed, and in part, the architect will be consulted in developing an overall description and use of the rooms when the plan is implemented. A sense of urgency exists in that the current GLML Board needs a plan that can be carried over to the new GLML Board that will be determined in the upcoming Fall Elections;

The Grand Master is also developing an Exhibit of 12 (8' x 33") Display Panels (front and back) that had its beginnings with the Oklahoma History Center but has now transitioned to benefit the GLML, and on a broader scale, Freemasonry in Oklahoma. It will depict a broad scope and sequence of the fraternity of Freemasonry, including such things as its history, its purpose, its philanthropies, and its overall importance to men in their masonic journey. These panels will be the property of the GLML and will be housed in the GLML; the panels can be made available on temporary loan to museums and other exhibits around the State, including such functions as the Grand Master's Festival, Regional Open Houses, Scottish Rite Reunions, York Rite Events, Eastern Star Events, Fall Grand Lodge Communications, etc.;

The Grand Master announced his intention to donate his personal book collection to the GLML; he stated that he possessed a comprehensive pre-1930's collection of Masonic Porcelains; this could be a major-future draw in interest to Oklahoma's Craft and the general public, as well as an attraction for conducting research at the GLML; and

Grand Master Davis asked the GLML Board if it agreed with the presented initiatives and vision. The GLML Board expressed a unanimous consensus for the Grand Master to move forward with these developments.

This continues to be an exciting time in the life of the GLML. *The GLML Board encourages the Craft's involvement and participation.* Please consider serving on the GLML Board of Directors as openings or vacancies occur.

John Carter, President
Wade Massey, Vice-President

Jim Seeger, Secretary-Treasurer
Charles Babb, Member
Glen Chaney, Member
Kenneth Sivard, Member
Jason Smith, Member

Report of the Oklahoma Lodge of Research

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma A.F. & A.M.

This year has proven noteworthy for the Oklahoma Lodge of Research (LOR). The LOR initiated a series of virtual presentations via the Zoom platform. These presentations are currently available via Youtube and the LOR Facebook Page. This report serves as a summary of these presentations which began during December, 2020.

The first presentation was given by a well-known Masonic author from England, Wor. David Harrison, and was titled, *The Lost Rites and Rituals of Freemasonry*. In January 2021, the LOR sponsored a presentation by Wor. Robert H. Johnson of Illinois, titled, *The Masonic Pub-Crawl: Freemasonry in America and its Colonial Tavern Beginnings*. In February, a presentation was provided by Wor. Michael R. Poll from New Orleans, titled, *The Early Oklahoma and Louisiana Masonic/Scottish Rite Connection*. In March, the LOR received a sneak peek into an upcoming book by Bro. Josef Wages of Plano, TX titled, *The Order of the Gold and Rosy Cross: The Original Masonic Rosicrucians*. In April, Wor. Carson C. Smith of Indianapolis gave a presentation on the *History of the Knight Templar Apron*. For July's presentation, the LOR was entertained and educated by Wor. Daniel C. Hanttula of Norman, Oklahoma, with a presentation titled, *Fascinating Facts in Masonic Research*. The final 2021 virtual presentation will occur in September to be given by Wor. Robert William Marshall of Waco, Texas, titled, *Ancient Egypt and Modern Freemasonry*.

In June, the LOR convened an in-person meeting at Norman Lodge No. 38 with a presentation by the LOR's Worshipful Master, Jason R. Smith, titled, *Influences and Parallels between Freemasonry and Mormonism*. The LOR is scheduled to have another in-person meeting in October to be held at

Duncan Lodge No. 60; during this meeting the election and installation of officers for the ensuing year will occur.

In the spirit of the chartered Mission of the Oklahoma Lodge of Research, the Oklahoma Lodge of Research continually strives *to promote, encourage, preserve and foster research and study, for the purpose of spreading Masonic Light and Knowledge...* As the future unfolds, the Oklahoma Lodge of Research Officers and Members look forward to continuing this Mission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason R. Smith, Worshipful Master

***Reports of the Standing Committees of the
Grand Lodge***

Appeals and Grievances Committee

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren All,

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances is please to report that as this writing, no issues have been referred to this committee for our review.

Should our services be needed after this report has been submitted, a supplemental report will be given and included in this year's Proceedings.

We thank the Grand Master Most Worshipful Robert G. Davis for giving us the opportunity to be of service to the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard E. Massad, PGM Chairman
Bradley S. Rickelman, PGM
Gary L. Beisly, PGM

Charters and Dispensations Committee

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,

We the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, are honored to have been asked to server the Fraternity in this capacity and than you for the opportunity.

As of this report for 2021, there have not been any requests for Dispensations of new lodges, or any charters arrested.

All other Dispensations were reviewed and approved at the quarterly Jurisprudence meetings.

As of September 24, 2021, Waukomis Lodge #161 consolidated with Wright Lodge #483 and Andarko Lodge #21 consolidated with Chickasha Lodge #94 following the required steps listed in the Uniform Code, Section U106.

We owe our thanks to the Grand Secretary who supplied the Charters and Dispensations Committee with copies and the records in accordance with Article VI, Section 601 C.

Respectively Submitted,

Ronald S. Coppedge, P.:G.:M.:, Chairman

Michael L. Dixon, P.:G.:M.:

Gary D. Odom, P.:G.:M.:

Constitution and Code Committee

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,

The Constitution and Code Committee is pleased to report that six (6) Resolutions were presented to the Grand Lodge Body for consideration. Of those number, resolution number six (6) did not receive the required number of votes to become law. The following Resolutions were passed and have been properly entered in the Constitution and Code of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Resolution # 1, Section U-813; Added new section for Transgender Mason.

Resolution # 2, Section U-402; Add language for qualification.

Resolution # 3, Section 218; Added new section for employees.

Resolution # 4, Section 105; Added Language to eligibility for boards.

Resolution # 5a & 5b, Section 707; Added new section for Museum and Library.

NOTE: The Committee is pleased to report that the complete 2020 Constitution and Code is now posted on the Grand Lodge website for use by the craft. We thank R.:W.: John Christopher, Grand Secretary for all his work in reformatting and updating the document which makes it a very useable document in searching for a particular law.

We thank the Most Worshipful Grand Master for the opportunity to be of service to the craft.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobby L. Laws, P.G.M., Chairman, Richard L. Allison, P.G.M., Member
Bobby J. Peters, P.G.M., Member

Finance and Appropriations Committee

Report and Budget will be distributed at the Annual Communication

Fraternal Correspondence and Relations Committee

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Distinguished Grand East, and Brethren:

Thank you M.: W.: Grand Master for the opportunity to serve our Grand Lodge. Your Committee on Fraternal Correspondence and Relations is charged to protect the integrity of the Grand Lodge recognition process. We therefore are dedicated to insuring recognition only to Grand Lodges that meet the standards for regular recognition to prevent our recognizing illegitimate Grand Lodges being formed around the world. To guard against a breach of our charge the Committee uses the Conference of Grand

Masters of North America's Commission on Information and Recognition reports as the basis for our recommending recognition of new Grand Lodges seeking our Grand Lodge recognition. The Standards being:

1. Legitimacy of Origin;
2. Exclusive Territorial Jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty; and
3. Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks of Belief in God, use The Volume of Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the Furniture of the Lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of politics and religion.

This report contains our assessment of Foreign Correspondence received from Grand Lodges in amity with our Grand Lodge announcing: 1) decisions we felt would be of interest to our craft, 2) communications from new Grand Lodge(s) requesting our recognition, and 3) reports of the Commission on Information for Recognition relevant to our jurisdiction.

Recommendation for Recognition

GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF MEXICO

A request for recognition was received May 20, 2021, from the Grand Lodge of the State of Mexico. A review of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America's Commission on Information and Recognition report for the year 2020 finds the Grand Lodge of the State of Mexico listed in the Directory of Confederation of Mexican Grand Lodges which are credited with practicing Regular Masonry and observing accepted and expected relationships among each other and with foreign Grand Lodges. The Committee for Fraternal Relations recommends that their recognition be granted by this Grand Lodge and that the Grand Secretary advise their Grand Master accordingly.

Request for Recognition Denied

NONE

Recommendations for Withdrawal of Recognition

NONE

For Craft Information Only

A request for recognition received from a committee man in a Grand Lodge was rejected. Communication channels for Grand Lodges are between Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries for official matters regarding their jurisdiction, otherwise control of the jurisdiction would be lost. The committeeman was respectfully asked to have their request resubmitted under signature of the Grand Master or Grand Secretary for CRAFT consideration.

Traditional Masonic tradition and protocols hold that the Grand Master is the sole authority in his jurisdiction when Grand Lodge is not in session and that the Office of the Grand Secretary is the administrative agency for all Grand Lodge matters. Therefore, official matters dealing with decisions and routine administration of Grand Lodge is performed either by him or his Grand Lodge Office of the Grand Secretary.

2021 List of Lodges, Masonic Edition Statements

Contingent on this committee report being approved during the Grand Lodges annual communication the following statement will be submitted for inclusion in the 2021 List of Lodges – *Masonic* placed at the end of the Oklahoma Grand Lodge List of Lodges:

RECOGNITION INFORMATION, GRAND LODGE of the STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

In addition to the Grand Lodges listed in the Table of Contents of this book the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma recognizes the following: Andorra, Guinea, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mexico: State of Mexico; Montenegro, Slovakia and Slovenia; and Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, Maryland, and Missouri.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma does not maintain sovereign relationship with the following Grand Lodges included in this publication: Azerbaijan, Grande Oriente Do Brasil, Brazil: Alagoas, Amapa; Columbia: Los Andes; Gabon, Haiti, Cote d'Ivoire, Mexico: 'Andres" Quintana Roo; San Marino, Ukraine; and Prince Hall Grand Lodges in California, Delaware, District of Columbia, and Illinois.

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma welcomes written requests for recognition by Grand Lodges that meet the standards for recognition as determined by the Commission on Information and Recognition of the Conference of the

Grand Masters of Masons of North America, and whose system of justice insures the *due process of law* as a craftsman's basic right; consistent with, or comparable to, that guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe R. Manning, PGM, Co-Chairman

Robert T. Shipe, PGM, Co-Chairman

Richard L. Allison, PGM, Member

John R. Christopher, Member

Hospital Services Committee

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Brethren all,

On behalf of our hospitalized Brothers, family, and friends, I would like to thank the Mason's of Oklahoma for the time they spent visiting our Brothers and friends who were hospitalized or in a nursing facility. It really meant a lot to these people.

If you are near one of the six state Vet Centers, stop in and say Hi to an American hero.

This year has been a hard one because of the COVID-19 outbreak, but, things are getting better.

Finally, if you have the time and are in the area, stop by the Ft Sill National Cemetery in Elgin. It will do you some great good!

Respectfully submitted

T.G(Tom) Bayless, Chairman

Masonic Education Committee

MW Grand Master and Brethren All,

While the pandemic has continued into 2021, its impact was tempered due to available vaccines and the increased awareness of the populace. The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee (hereafter the "Committee") was able to meet in person as well as via its continued use of the Zoom video conferencing application.

The Committee focused on three major leadership initiatives, one, a carry-over from 2020 under the leadership of then-Grand Master, MW Bobby J. Peters, and the other, representing two initiatives of the current Grand Master, MW Robert G. Davis. A summary of the Committee's work follows:

Under the leadership of Committee Member Worshipful Jason Smith, the Committee continued its administration and management of the **Oklahoma Masonic Education Facebook Page**. The Committee's creation of this page during 2020 has been a remarkable success with a current active membership of 415 + members. Designed to help keep Oklahoma Masons informed of current Masonic education offerings in the State, this on-line Facebook Page includes upcoming Masonic education presentations, podcasts, YouTube videos and Zoom discussions;

The Committee supported the Grand Master's leadership initiative regarding the development and implementation of the **BeAnOklahomaFreemason.org** website. This website was implemented during the spring of 2021.

The initial groundwork for this initiative largely occurred during 2019 via an extensive research project conducted by the Committee. The then-major issue was identified as, *When a man searches for information online, the results are often not Masonic, and not local to his area.* The Committee, working in parallel with the Grand Lodge Technology Committee, was asked to create potential Questions and Answers, and True-False statements that could be used toward the development of the BeAnOklahomaFreemason.org website – this website is currently supporting Local Lodge efforts to make Local Lodges better known to men who have demonstrated an interest in Freemasonry. The Grand Master has

stated that the goal of this initiative is, *To reinvigorate interest in the Craft with our potential applicants and our own Membership, while providing relevant information for the Oklahoma Masonic candidate;* and

The Committee embarked on the development and production of the book, **Lessons on Symbolic Masonry**. These lessons (56), along with discussion questions, are based on **Oklahoma Masonic Ritual**, the **Monitor**, and the Grand Master's recent book titled, **In Search of Light**. *The lessons are designed to give Lodge Masters a wide selection of education programs which can be presented in Lodge.* One goal of this initiative is to support Local Lodge efforts in organizing Masonic study groups and utilize the *Lessons on Symbolic Masonry* and *In Search of Light* as tools to create a rich Lodge atmosphere that is conducive to regular and on-going local Masonic education activities.

The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee has become an important tool in providing Masonic education opportunities in Oklahoma. The Committee Chairman wishes to express his sincere thank you to Robert Davis, Clyde Schoolfield and Jason Smith – these men have done the majority of hard work that has gone into these initiatives. The Committee also expresses its appreciation for the leadership of past Grand Masters and Trustees, and the current Grand Master, in working toward a seamless leadership and program transition from year-to-year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim L. Seeger, Chairman

Mike S. Christie

Robert G. Davis

Jason R. Smith

Publications Committee

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:

Printed publications, including brochures and forms continues to be one of our largest operating costs. We have taken steps to move all of our publications which require binding to an on-demand service that can turn a request around in as little as two weeks. This reduces the cost of keeping a large inventory of our publications. As an

example, we were able to change the binding on the Cipher from hardback to spiral bound. The resulted in a cost reduction that we were able to pass on to the craft. The most important aspect of reducing our costs has been placing many of these documents as possible on line, including the Constitution and Code, Blue Book, and Oklahoma Mason Magazine. The Yellow Book and Grand Master's Address will also be available on-line as soon as they are published.

The Committee and the Grand Lodge needs an editor to assist us with producing the proceedings of past and current Annual Communications, along with all of the other publications we produce. This is currently a volunteer position with the only requirement being a solid knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel. If you are interested, please contact the Grand Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

John Carter, Chairman

John Christopher

Kyle Smith

Robert G. Davis

Clyde Schoolfield, Jr

Publicity and Public Relations Committee

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

The Publicity and Public Relations of the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma was handled by Worshipful Brother John Logan of the Masonic Charity Foundation and the Grand Lodge Trustees.

Brother Logan, the Executive Director of the Masonic Charity Foundation, and his Superior staff, have helped pave the way to educate the General Public about what Free Masonry is about in this Great State.

Some of the Programs undertaken by the Foundation were partnering with the local Food Banks to feed those with the challenges of not having enough.

The many Scholarships for the Masonic Youth groups that assist Rainbow, Job's Daughters, and DeMolay to help defer college expenses.

The Senior Essay Contest that helps enlighten today's Seniors by not only writing, but researching areas that are pertinent to today's younger generation.

The Student and Teacher of Today Program that helps the Local Lodges with the opportunity to educate the community about Masonry while promoting achievements in Education.

The Area Agency on Ageing that assists the elderly to defray unforeseen costs.

The Community Matching Funds that have helped countless Communities to receive aide for youth, elderly, schools, and many other projects related to charitable or educational help that the Local Lodge may address and support.

The Promises Matter Program through matching funds or by Grants is a tool that is available to our Masonic Brothers and Sisters that have had difficult and unforeseen situations arise.

The Grand Lodge Trustees have implemented the Grand View Data Base which has improved communication within the Fraternity. This Data Base will give each Lodge the opportunity to create a web site of their own. It appears that this data base will have us, the Fraternity, in a good position to proceed in the future. Also a new program was implemented, called BE an Oklahoma Freemason which should promote the fraternity further through Social Media.

Respectfully,

R:.W.: Scott Vincent, Chairman

W:. Matthew Cargill

Youth Activities Committee

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

The tradition of excellence among Oklahoma's Masonic Youth continues

Just when we thought it was "safe" to go "back into the water" we discovered that COVID-19 wasn't finished with us yet. 2020-21 looked like it was going to be our collective recovery year and we would be able to pick up where we left off, pre-COVID. But we are all still here and working to retain and recruit new members and share our respective programs, principles and tenets.

To describe the details and complexity of the calendar of activities for our youth orders would exceed the space permitted in this publication. Each of the Orders are extremely busy at the state, district and local level reaching out to share their message and bring new members into their respective Order. Today that means having to be far more creative than ever before to compete with the myriad of activities available to youth today. So if you are asked to participate with your local Rainbow Assembly, Job's Daughter Bethel, or DeMolay Chapter, please consider the request and quickly say "yes" to what will be an awesome and fulfilling experience for you.

Oklahoma DeMolay just celebrated our 94th Annual Conclave in Norman, OK. We led with the theme of "Let the Renaissance Begin" after dealing with a worldwide pandemic for the last 18 months, this truly is a "New Beginning". Our members and advisors stepped up to meet the many challenges that Oklahoma DeMolay faced. I am immensely proud of everyone. The comeback is always stronger than the setback!

Oklahoma DeMolay was awarded the "Louis G. Lower Membership Award" for having the most **NEW** members in **ALL** of DeMolay International for the year 2020. So even with a crisis, Oklahoma DeMolay found a way to still perform at max potential. It takes a winning team that is hard-working, focused, and dedicated to the DeMolay mission. The Oklahoma DeMolay Association is very thankful for OUR TEAM of dedicated DeMolays, Advisors, Staff, and Moms for all the hard work and time they dedicate to Oklahoma DeMolay.

As our chapters begin the long process of recovery from the pandemic and begin to meet regularly in our wonderful supporting lodges around Oklahoma, we will begin to see more new members, and great programming for the young men of DeMolay. I would like to thank the Oklahoma Grand Lodge and the local lodges that support our DeMolay chapters around the state for their leadership during such tough challenges. I believe we will all be stronger having gone through such diversity.

Oklahoma Rainbow spent its 2020-21 term going back to Broadway, as Laurashleigh Wallace based her year as Grand Worthy Advisor theme around Broadway musicals. It got off to a rocky start, however, as we had to postpone our Grand Assembly Session until late July, but we managed to squeeze all of our traditional activities into a 1-day Session, courtesy of the India Shrine Center, in Oklahoma City. We were able to meet several times over the course of the year at different locations throughout the State, initiating new members and raising funds for the Grand Worthy Advisor's State Service Project, the Veterans Administration Research Foundation. In a year that saw a decline in charitable donations across the nation we still managed to contribute almost \$7,000.00 to the Veterans Administration Research Foundation to assist Veterans as they face and overcome illness and disease. Assemblies also provided Christmas and greetings cards to their local Veterans.

Larashleigh's term ended with a 2-day session held at the India Shrine Center over the 2021 Memorial Day weekend. There were many highlights, but the biggest was probably the General Banquet attended by representatives of all of our Oklahoma Masonic family. To the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Oklahoma Masonic Charity Foundation, a special thank you for the generous scholarships that support the continuing education of our young ladies. Without this support, many of the recipients would not be able to attend the college or university of their choice.

Hannah Ross was initiated as the Grand Worthy Advisor for 2021-22 at the 2021 Memorial Day Session. Hannah has been busy this summer visiting almost all of the Oklahoma assemblies, and even was able to attend the Tennessee Grand Assembly Session in Nashville the latter part of June. Most jurisdictions had either closed or virtual sessions. We have an aggressive calendar of events for the coming year and hope that we will be

able to follow through and complete them all, COVID notwithstanding. Hannah's theme for the year is "Making Our Move Since 1922" as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Hannah's State Service project is raising funds for Public Education in Oklahoma as we will allocate funds to those public school districts located in communities with Rainbow Assemblies to support their needs and public education. The Anniversary celebration kicks off in April 2022, and we will also find the Supreme Assembly Session held in Oklahoma City the last week of July and first week of August 2022. It promises to be a great journey, and we hope that our Grand Lodge membership will participate and attend activities during the course of the year whenever possible. Thank you again for continued support.

We continue to be appreciative and thankful for the time, talent and financial support provided to all 3 Youth Orders by our lodges, their leadership, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Grand Lodge. What a great time to be an Oklahoma Mason, and a member of the Oklahoma Masonic Youth Orders.

Respectfully submitted,

W.: Brian W. Pierson, Co-Chairman

Jason Wells, Co-Chairman

W.: Brad Northcutt

***Reports of the Ad Hoc Committees of the
Grand Lodge***

Child ID Program (ChIP) Committee

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

This year the Child ID Committee sent all of our computers back to the EZ Child Workshop and had our Operating Systems and Licensing brought up to 2021 Standards.

We had an Event in Broken Arrow in May (Camp Bandage) where we had 62 Candidates, which as of this writing is all we have had through the system.

Respectfully Submitted

Roger Sanford, Chairman

Information Technology Committee

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren all,

For the first time in our Grand Lodge history, a Virtual Grand Lodge was held on November 14, 2020. The vast responsibility placed on the technical team was unprecedented, including registration, credentials, developing the format, and producing the online program. We established a statewide support line to assist voting members on how to install video conferencing software, test it and practice voting. During the week of Grand Lodge, hundreds of support phone calls were received, including more than 150 calls on the morning of Grand Lodge alone.

The Virtual Grand Lodge session ran very successfully with 640 men registered to vote. The Facebook Live broadcast reached an additional 1,700 people, including viewers from Kentucky (96), Texas (52), Kansas (23) and numerous other jurisdictions. Many thanks to the on-site team (Daniel Hanttula, Kyle Smith and Zack Sinsheimer) and the away team (Jon Greene and Jason R. Smith) for their service.

The BeAnOklahomaFreemason.org initiative launched in January 2021. The program was a huge success and the most unique implementation of the Be

A Freemason program launched by a single Masonic jurisdiction. Our team wishes to recognize the sublime work done by the Education committee to develop interesting and unique material for the site. On the first day, more than 300 people visited the site and an average of 1.5 men per day submit their contact information to express an interest in Freemasonry. If this success continues, would mean 500+ new potential petitioners each year via the Internet. This is a program that needs our support and continued development. We thank the Grand Master and the Trustees for their ardent conviction in the program and the launch.

Fraternally and Technologically, The Information Technology Committee
Daniel Hanttula (Chairman), Guy Brigman, Jon Greene, Jason R. Smith, Kyle Smith, Don Stanton

Merchandising and Marketing Committee

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

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren.

At this time there is nothing to Report.

There is a plan being formulated to re-organize the Grand Lodge Store to make it available to the Brethren Statewide.

Respectively,

R.:W.: R. Scott Vincent, Chairman

W.: Ryan Mathew Carroll

W.: Wallace James Brewer

W.: Robert Sage Vincent

Statewide Forum Committee

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren all,

The Statewide Forum Committee was charged with delivery of several forums that the Grand Jurisdiction could attend as a group and discuss the issues facing the Fraternity. With the guidance and leadership of our Grand Master, there were as of this writing, 6 separate virtual forums held on the Zoom platform in which the Grand Master led discussions on the membership decline, as well as the plan to address it. The Grand Master's initiatives that will stimulate new membership in our Lodges with the help of the Brothers were discussed. Since we were still dealing with the aftermath and impacts, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the limitations of many Brothers to travel, in-person format could not be facilitated and the reach of the online platform, in many ways, provided a real opportunity for Brothers from the entire state to attend.

These forums were attended by many Brothers across the State and much input was heard. In the May 2021 forum, Mr. (Bro.) Nicholas Harvey from the State of Florida joined the discussion and instructed the Craft on the many ways a lodge can target advertisements to particular demographics, and how to get the most out of digital advertising. The Committee and the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma extends a special thanks to Brother Harvey for his assistance and his commitment to helping so many of our constituent lodges understand and create effective social media campaigns.

There were an average of 60-75 members registered for these forums. This electronic meetings commenced at 7:00p.m., the last Wednesday of each month. These discussions lasted about an hour to an hour and a half. The major areas of discussion covered our way ahead as we navigate the current issues facing our Fraternity.

Many aspects of Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction were discussed. Many ideas and thoughts were shared. A detailed conversation concerning the launch of the newest online resource for our jurisdiction, Beanoklahomafreemason.org was also had. The Committee especially thanks Brothers Daniel Hanttula, Chairman, I.T. Committee and the entire I.T. Committee for the hard work they have put in to ensure this launch was

successful. Their tireless efforts are highly appreciated by this Grand Jurisdiction.

These forums prove to be a valuable event and well worth the time. Many were in agreement that they should continue to hold these forums whether in person or online in the coming years. The committee wishes to express deep gratitude to our MW Grand Master for adapting this forum to the constraints of this highly unusual time and for the opportunity to serve our Grand Jurisdiction.

The primary discussion and information will be provided to the Long-Range Planning Committee for their use in preparing the long range calendar for Oklahoma Masonry and any further use they deem appropriate.

Submitted by:

R:W: Glen A. Chaney, M.O.H, SGW, Chairman

M:W: Richard L. Allison, PGM, Member

R:W: John Carter, M.O.H, JGW, Member

W: Larry Adair, Member

W: Charles K. Babb, Member

W: Mark Brown, Member

W: Matt Cargill, Member

W: Daniel Hanttula, Member

W: Bob Hutchens, Member

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee was organized by MW Mike Dixon in 2018 to develop a true and verifiable assessment of the condition of Masonry in Oklahoma so that the systemic, structural, and cultural issues facing the fraternity could be addressed, and initiatives proposed to reconcile them. The plan was completed in 2019, and the committee was greatly expanded in 2020 so that it could be distributed and discussed across the State. The purpose of the committee is to develop action plans for the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges that address the 16 initiatives laid out in the plan in order to prevent the demise of the fraternity over the next few decades, as revealed in the 2019 plan.

This year has seen significant progress in plan implementation.

We now have all the tools in our toolbox to be successful in inviting men to join our fraternity. Posters, banners, and videos are available through the national beaFREEMSON.org campaign; guides for conducting friend's nights and lodge social outings where prospects can meet Masons are available from Grand Lodge; lodge websites, Facebook pages, Masonic podcasts, YouTube videos, and web cams promoting Freemasonry are now readily available to those connected to social media venues. Masonic education opportunities are accessible to every Oklahoma Lodge through the Masonic Speakers Bureau posted on the Grand Lodge website. The Oklahoma Lodge of Research is also regularly posting essays, podcasts, YouTube videos, and Zoom presentations on its Facebook page. It is important that Masonic education venues be available statewide to reinforce the intent that the Grand Lodge is committed to implementing education as a standard function of the fraternity.

The committee has also focused on the need to help lodges who are no longer able to confer degrees. A survey was taken by the District Deputies to determine the proficiency level of the lodges within each district. District and regional Masonic degree teams have been organized and are posted on the Grand Lodge website. Twenty of our 39 districts now have available teams, and 90 lodges have reported they can now perform their constitutional functions with this assistance.

While this represents good progress, we must recognize that over 100 lodges in Oklahoma either cannot confer degrees, or have not conferred degrees over an extended period. The conferral of degrees remains an essential element of our future progress as we must be able to serve the ritual requirements of our fraternity for every man who applies for admission.

A strategy for enhancing the public's perceptions, understanding, and acceptance of Freemasonry's aims and purposes; along with finding and inviting qualified men to join the fraternity have been the major focus of the committee this year. The strategic imperatives of the national digital marketing movement created in 2020 were branded to the Grand Lodge website and local lodge social media pages to create attention to a statewide directed membership recruitment campaign. Facebook ad boosts

have been promoted to attract prospects within the immediate vicinity of the lodges that use this approach to marketing. The “beanoklahomafreemason.org” campaign offers much promise in connecting those who are interested in joining the fraternity with lodges who have the capability to meet their needs. There have been over 300 prospect contacts this year alone.

The only stumbling blocks to success are that no statewide mechanism has been set up to immediately respond to contacts; and too many lodges do not have the energy, interest, or leadership skills to implement the program. It is recommended that a statewide membership committee be established to assist in the overall success of the “beanoklahomafreemason.org” campaign.

The committee has also addressed the need this year to develop a statewide plan for lodge consolidation. When the fundamental requisites of being a Lodge are not being practiced the way Freemasonry intended, and haven’t been over an extended period of time, it becomes imperative that our fraternal resources in counties be combined for the purpose of creating at least one Lodge in every county that is viable, active, and growing. Two strategies have been written in regard to Lodge consolidations, and will be included in the Grand Master’s allocution and published in the 2021 Grand Lodge Proceedings.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Grand Lodge this year. It is hoped every Oklahoma Mason will get on board with the important initiatives which are now being addressed. Our future will be determined by whether or not we can reconcile our systemic and structural issues within the next five years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Davis, Chairman	Glen Chaney	Scott Vincent
Richard Allison	Dan Hanttula	Bobby Hutchens
Mark Brown	Tim Israel	Darrell Long
Matt Cargill	James R. Taylor	Brad Rickelman
John Carter	Dace Tome	Brian Westmoreland

Unity Committee

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

of the State of Oklahoma

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,

The Unity Committee is formed ad hoc under the authority of the Grand Master. The purpose of the committee is to share data and coordinate events to avoid calendar conflicts.

As the term of the new Grand Master approached, the Unity Committee contacted each of the organizations listed in the Grand Lodge blue book, asking that the committee be provided information on significant events in the upcoming year. The information returned is shared with the Grand Master.

I thank the Grand Master for the opportunity to serve the Fraternity.

Fraternally,

John L. Logan (189, 37, 553)

John D. Allford (96)

Dennis J. Brown (28)

Matthew T. Cargill (557)

John D. Church (551)

Vizavance Committee

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren

On behalf of all the children of Oklahoma we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the many participating lodges and members who donated their time and effort to the Vizavance eye screenings.

During the 2020 -2021 school year, we assisted in total screening of 176,278 elementary school students. We referred 23,101 of those students for further examination.

We had a total of 723 screening sessions with 135 Brother Masons who volunteered their time to assist with screenings. This number reflects only 34 Oklahoma Masonic Lodges having participated.

The above numbers have been drastically reduced due to Covid-19. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Vizavance Oklahoma.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Salisbury, Chairman

***Resolutions To Be Considered During the
Annual Communication***

Resolution #1

Whereas, the establishment of the laws of Masonry, including its Landmarks, Constitutions, Charges, Laws and Regulations of governance were set out by the Grand Lodge of England in the General Regulations of 1721; and

Whereas, with the exception of the Charges and Landmarks of Freemasonry which are forever to be continued in force; all other written laws enacted, amended, or repealed by a Grand Lodge, can only be legislated by the Wardens, Masters, and Past Masters of a majority of lodges, congregated together at the annual assembly of the Grand Lodge they represent; and

Whereas, the foundational rules of governance over American Freemasonry have generally followed the legislative powers given to the United States Congress; declaring that all matters are to be determined by a majority of votes cast; and

Whereas, these rules of governance specifically provide that only the Constitution itself, Treaties, and Impeachments shall call for a super majority vote of Congress, or the States; and

Whereas, the requirement that amendments to the Uniform Code of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma be decided by a super majority vote has never been in accordance with the ancient customs and foundational laws of Freemasonry; nor that of the legislative laws enacted by Congress; and

Whereas, in recent years, an increasing number of resolutions that apply only to the Uniform Code (the governing practices of Lodges in Oklahoma), have been receiving a favorable vote of between 51% and 66%; yet fail because of the super majority voting requirement; and

Whereas, the majority will of the Craft in regard to lodge practices in Oklahoma should be decided by a simple majority vote of the delegates present; enabling just legislative outcomes, and bringing our legislative powers in conformity with the general rules of governance established by American law.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that Section U901, Amendments, paragraph 3, which reads:

All resolutions in the possession of the Grand Master, 60 (sixty) days before the opening of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, shall be printed and mailed to each constituent lodge, each Grand Lodge officer and each member of the Committee on Jurisprudence for their information and study. Said resolution shall be read or caused to be read by the Grand Master, and by him referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall report thereon and the resolutions shall be balloted on in accordance with the provisions of Section 304 of the Constitution and Laws. If the resolution is adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast, it shall be in full force and effect immediately upon final announcement of the vote.

Be Amended to read:

All resolutions in the possession of the Grand Master 60 (sixty) days before the opening of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, shall be printed and mailed to each constituent lodge, each Grand Lodge officer and each member of the Committee on Jurisprudence for their information and study. Said resolution shall be read or caused to be read by the Grand Master, and by him referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall report thereon and the resolutions shall be balloted on in accordance with the provisions of Section 304 of the Constitution and Laws. If the resolution is adopted by a ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ majority of the votes cast, it shall be in full force and effect immediately upon final announcement of the vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert G. Davis, PM, 553 Don Stanton, PM, 243

Brad Rickelman, PM 48 Dallas Shell, PM, 53

John Logan, PM, 189

Tim Israel, PM, 182

David, G. David, PM, 434

Resolution #2

WHEREAS: all of the ritual instruction conveyed in the Degrees of Freemasonry are built around visualizing the kind of world we want to realize; applying to our personal and collective habits of living out in the world the moral and ethical ideals we were taught in Lodge; all of which are necessary to build and sustain a beloved community for all; and

WHEREAS: if we as Freemasons recognize that our personal commitment as brothers is to distinguish ourselves from the rest of the community; then we have to govern ourselves in such a way that others who know us will see us as men they respect and want to emulate; and

WHEREAS: we can't accomplish this by allowing our personal intolerances, biases, and prejudices to be part of our Masonic life; and

WHEREAS: there is no circumstance in Freemasonry that justifies expressing in Lodge any attitudes or prejudices which condemns another human being; including placing one race of men above any other; and

WHEREAS, we owe every brother of our mystic tie the promises we have made to every Mason in the world not to wrong our brothers, or the lodge, in any way.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section U 807, which reads as follows:

SECTION U 807. GAMBLING, PROFANITY AND OBSCENITY: Any kind of illegal gambling, the use of profane language or any obscene talk and acts are hereby declared to be a Masonic offense and a bar to initiation, passing, raising and affiliation and shall subject the offender to suspension or expulsion.

Be amended to read:

SECTION U 807. GAMBLING, PROFANITY AND OBSCENITY: Any kind of illegal gambling, the use of profane language, **demeaning racial comments, jokes or slurs**, or any obscene talk and acts are hereby declared to be a Masonic offense and a bar to initiation, passing, raising and affiliation and shall subject the offender to suspension or expulsion.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Davis, PM, 553
Ron Coppedge, PM, 91
Bedford Rowland, Jr., PM 62
Glen Chaney, PM, 183
Ron Chambers PM, 425
Jason R. Smith, PM 60
John Carter, PM, 74
John Logan, PM, 189
Michael Edmison, PM, 36
John Christopher, PM, 35
Charlie Babb, PM,36
Jim Seeger, PM, 162
Rick Allison, PM, 501
James R. Taylor, PM, 545
David Carpenter, PM, 553
Mike Dixon, PM, 37
Michael Maxey, PM, 243
James Oates, PM, 183
Joe R. Manning, Jr., PM, 111
Jim Nobles, PM, 276
David Tennison, PM, 553
Matt Cargill, PM, 557

Resolution #3

WHEREAS: The 2019 Address of the Grand Master reports on an exhaustive 2019 study on the Condition of Freemasonry in Oklahoma, and,

WHEREAS: this study reports, among other things:

The number of dues paying members in Oklahoma has fallen 34% in the last decade, and now stands at 10,672 members.

Master Masons raisings have dropped 19.5% over the past four years.

(These statistics) clearly call for new approaches to be developed if the fraternity is going to survive at a level of relevance, and,

WHEREAS: One of the elements called for in a strategic plan to combat the above is: *Strategies for organizing and chartering new affinity (common interest) lodges in every regional population center across the State, and,*

WHEREAS: The current ritualistic requirement for a group of 15 Masons to receive a

Dispensation for a new lodge is "to properly coffer the three degrees of Masonry and to deliver the lectures pertaining thereto... ", and.

WHEREAS: 95% or more of the chartered Lodges in Oklahoma cannot meet this ritualistic requirement, without assistance from a neighboring Lodge or the District, and

WHEREAS: it is unfair and inconsistent to have a higher standard for *applicants* for a Dispensation than is required of *members* of currently Chartered Lodges.

NOW THEREFORE LET BE RESOLVED that Section 601 A. 3, which currently reads:

3. A certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or his duly appointed Deputy, or one of the Deputy Grand Lecturers, stating that a suitable and properly secured room has been provided for the lodge and that the proposed Master and Wardens are qualified and competent to properly confer the three degrees of Masonry and to deliver the lectures pertaining thereto in accordance with the authorized work of this Jurisdiction.

Be amended to read:

3. A certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or his duly appointed Deputy, or one of the Deputy Grand Lecturers, stating that a suitable and properly secured room has been provided for the lodge and that the proposed Master and Wardens are qualified and competent to properly confer the three degrees of Masonry and to deliver the lectures pertaining thereto **conduct the Opening and Closing ceremonies of each of the three degrees for a Dispensation, and confer the First Section of the three degrees for a Charter** in accordance with the authorized work of this Jurisdiction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth House, PM 123

John Holman, PM 36
Charles Babb, PM 37
Robert Davis, PM 553
Joe Manning, PM 111
John Logan, PM 189
Thomas Tracy, PM 539
Matthew Turner, PM 539
William Matthey, PM 540
Thomas R. Galbraith, PM 541
John R Christopher, PM 35

Resolution #4

WHEREAS, since the “Official Cipher Key Oklahoma Masonic Ritual” (a.k.a. “Red Book”) contains the esoteric work and is therefore only available to Master Masons; and,

WHEREAS, the Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts do not have access to the categorical lectures cipher as printed in the Red Book, and;

WHEREAS, the Red Book has improved the proficiency of many members. A booklet of each categorical lecture would be another tool to help EAs and FCs improve their proficiency, and;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Fraternity to use all means available to advance members to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Section 401, which currently reads:

ARTICLE IV - WORK OF THE GRAND JURISDICTION SECTION 401 ESOTERIC WORK: The esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction shall be that adopted by this Grand Lodge and shall be used by all its lodges and their members in giving the work and lectures. It shall be in charge of the Board of Grand Lecturers.

The Grand Lodge shall publish a two or three letter maximum cipher of all esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Such cipher shall be used only for teaching. It shall not be consulted in any lodge while at labor. Violation of this section shall be deemed a Masonic offense.

Ciphers shall be available to Master Masons through the office of the Grand Secretary.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

ARTICLE IV- WORK OF THE GRAND JURISDICTION SECTION 401 ESOTERIC WORK: The esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction shall be that adopted by this Grand Lodge and shall be used by all its lodges and their members in giving the work and lectures. It shall be in charge of the Board of Grand Lecturers.

The Grand Lodge shall publish a two or three letter maximum cipher of all esoteric work of this Grand Jurisdiction.

The Grand lodge shall also publish two separate cipher booklets, one containing the Categorical lecture for the Degree of Entered Apprentice and one containing the Categorical lecture for the Degree of Fellowcraft.

Such ciphers shall be used only for teaching. ~~They~~ shall not be consulted in any lodge while at labor. Violation of this section shall be deemed a Masonic offense.

Ciphers Books shall be available to Master Masons through the office of the Grand Secretary. **Cipher Booklets for the Entered Apprentice Categorical lecture and the Fellowcraft categorical Lecture shall be available to each of the constituent lodges for sale at the cost of the price of printing plus Two Dollars (\$2.00) per booklet. The cost of printing shall be rounded to the next dollar. Said booklets may be provided to the Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft members of the lodge at the individual lodge's discretion.**

Respectfully Submitted,

David Brooks, PM, Sayre Lodge No. 195
David G. David, PM, India Lodge No. 551
Robert G. Davis, PM, Guildhall Lodge No. 553
Gerald Stegal, PM, Elk City Lodge No. 182
Timothy Israel, PM, Elk City Lodge No. 182

Resolution #5

WHEREAS: the board of Trustees has been formed to make decisions concerning the operation of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library, and

WHEREAS: for the board of Trustees to operate in a more efficient way, and

WHEREAS: to involve more of the craft of our Fraternity, and

WHEREAS: if this resolution is adopted, in order to increase the Board of Trustee membership from six trustees to nine, five will be elected at the 2022 Annual Communication, following the prescribed method outlined for electing more than two trustees.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 707which now reads in part,

SECTION 707. MUSEUM AND LIBRARY: A Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library shall be created under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. It shall have a Board of Trustees consisting of six members.

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library is to preserve and protect the Masonic historical memorabilia of the State of Oklahoma, and to preserve the literature of Masonic authors and all books pertinent to Masonry in Oklahoma and all foreign and domestic jurisdictions that have been or will be donated or procured.

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library will be responsible to give quarterly reports to the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Jurisprudence Committee and to make an annual report to the Craft at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

Six qualified Master Masons shall be elected to represent the Grand Lodge, two each for terms of one, two and three years, respectively, and at each succeeding Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, there shall be elected two members to govern said entity for terms of three years each.

Eligible members of the fraternity may indicate their availability for election to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library board of trustees, by completing and filing a form provided by the Grand Lodge with the Grand Secretary. The filing period shall commence after the closing of the annual communication and close on the last day of March preceding the opening day of the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge. A non-refundable filing fee of \$100 (one hundred dollars) much accompany the form before it can be accepted. The fee shall be credited to the general fund of the Grand Lodge.

Only the eligible brethren who have complied with these provisions shall be considered during the election of the members to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library board of trustees. Votes for any other brother shall be declared mutilated and will not be counted, except in the event that where less than two brothers have filed for office, or due to death, physical injury or ineligibility less than the required number remain on the ballot, then write-in ballots, by nomination from the floor, shall be accepted. If more than two (2) members are to be elected, due to any reason, the members receiving the greater number of votes will receive the longer terms of office.

The Grand Lodge Trustees will review each submission to ensure that the information provided is appropriate and conforms to the Constitution and Laws. All submissions will include the brother's Masonic history with dates of suspension, reinstatements and or expulsion listed. If changes are necessary, they shall be returned to the brother filing the form for modifications or the changes may be made with the consent of the brother. The final modification must be returned to the Grand Secretary no later than the last day of March. The Grand Lodge shall publish and distribute the information on each such candidate.

BE AMENDED TO READ,

SECTION 707. MUSEUM AND LIBRARY: A Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library shall be created under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. It shall have a Board of Trustees consisting of ~~six~~ **Nine (9)** members.

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library is to preserve and protect the Masonic historical memorabilia of the State of Oklahoma, and to preserve the literature of Masonic authors and all books pertinent to Masonry in Oklahoma and all foreign and domestic jurisdictions that have been or will be donated or procured.

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library will be responsible to give quarterly reports to the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Jurisprudence Committee and to make an annual report to the Craft at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

~~Six~~ **Nine (9)** qualified Master Masons shall be elected to represent the Grand Lodge, ~~two~~ **Three (3)** ~~each for terms of one, two and three years,~~

respectively, and at each succeeding Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, ~~there shall be elected two members to govern said entity for terms of three years each.~~

Eligible members of the fraternity may indicate their availability for election to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library board of trustees, by completing and filing a form provided by the Grand Lodge with the Grand Secretary. The filing period shall commence after the closing of the annual communication and close on the last day of March preceding the opening day of the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge. A non-refundable filing fee of \$100 (one hundred dollars) must accompany the form before it can be accepted. The fee shall be credited to the general fund of the Grand Lodge.

Only the eligible brethren who have complied with these provisions shall be considered during the election of the members to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma Museum and Library board of trustees. Votes for any other brother shall be declared mutilated and will not be counted, except in the event that where less than ~~two~~ **three (3)** brothers have filed for office, or due to death, physical injury or ineligibility less than the required number remain on the ballot, then write-in ballots, by nomination from the floor, shall be accepted. If more than two ~~(2)~~ **three (3)** members are to be elected, due to any reason, the members receiving the greater number of votes will receive the longer terms of office.

The Grand Lodge Trustees will review each submission to ensure that the information provided is appropriate and conforms to the Constitution and Laws. All submissions will include the brother's Masonic history with dates of suspension, reinstatements and or expulsion listed. If changes are necessary, they shall be returned to the brother filing the form for modifications or the changes may be made with the consent of the brother. The final modification must be returned to the Grand Secretary no later than the last day of March. The Grand Lodge shall publish and distribute the information on each such candidate.

Bob Peters, PM 107

Resolution #6

Whereas: There is instructional Language for making a motion in the Cipher that does not appear in the Uniform Code, creating confusion, and

Whereas: the Uniform Code is the authority for the conduct of meetings,

Now Therefore let it be resolved that Section U 305 G RULES OF ORDER **as now reads**

G. When a motion is made and seconded it shall be stated by the Master, or if in writing shall be read aloud by the secretary, before being debated it shall be stated by the Master, or if in writing shall be read aloud by the secretary, before being debated

Be Amended to read:

G. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Master, or if in writing shall be read aloud by the secretary, before being debated. it shall be stated by the Master, or if in writing shall be read aloud by the secretary, before being debated. **The Worshipful Master may either vote on the motion, decline to accept the motion, table the motion until a later date, or assign a committee.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Jay Wilson, P.M. Solomon Lodge # 32

Resolution #7

Whereas, the Uniform Code does not distinguish when a Worshipful Master has earned the title of a Past Master, and

Whereas, the practice of designating a Worshipful Master as a Past Master varies among the craft

Now therefore let it be resolved that a new Section U 223 – PAST MASTER be added to the Uniform Code and subsequent sections renumbered:

SECTION U 223 – PAST MASTER

A Worshipful Master is considered a Past Master upon the installation of his successor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Jay Wilson, P.M. Solomon Lodge # 32

Resolution #8

WHEREAS: the craft has found the use of electronic voting devices to be an efficient means of balloting; and,

WHEREAS: the craft must currently wait until the balloting session to receive their device(s); and,

WHEREAS: electronic voting devices are not enabled to use as a ballot until the system is turned on; and,

WHEREAS: it would be more efficient to issue voting device(s) at a different time; and

WHEREAS: issuing the device(s) during registration would be more convenient to the craft;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that Section 302, which currently reads:

SECTION 302. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND BALLOTS: A delegate to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall register his credentials with the Credentials Committee, at which time he shall receive a badge which shall be so distinguished as to indicate the number of votes he is entitled to cast. The Credentials Committee shall carefully make a record of the number of votes registered. No member shall be entitled to vote until his name has been registered with the Credentials Committee.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 302. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND BALLOTS: A delegate to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall register his credentials with the Credentials Committee, at which time he shall receive a badge which shall be so distinguished as to indicate the number of votes he is entitled to cast. The Credentials Committee shall carefully make a record of the number of votes registered **and if voting by electronic ballot, issue the required number of voting devices.** No member shall be entitled to vote until his name has been registered with the Credentials Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
John R Christopher, PM, Guthrie Lodge #35

Resolution #9

WHEREAS: A member is entitled to one vote for each vote he is carrying; and,

WHEREAS: the member must enter and leave the balloting area with only the number of ballots or electronic voting device(s) authorized; and,

WHEREAS: the advancement of technology has made the necessity to sign a voting register impractical; and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED: That Section 304 A. which currently reads:

SECTION 304. BALLOTING AND VOTING: A. REGISTRATION AND DISTRIBUTION: On Saturday of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, an area and time shall be designated for delegates to ballot on the candidates for elected offices and resolutions. Registration of delegates shall remain open until 11:00 A.M. A delegate who has registered with the Credentials Committee may enter the balloting area. Each delegate must sign a register and indicate the number of votes he is casting. He will then receive an electronic voting device(s) or paper ballot which shall permit him to cast the number of votes he is entitled to cast for elected officers and resolutions.

After voting and before leaving the balloting area, all delegates must deposit their electronic voting devices or paper ballots in a ballot box at the Grand Tyler's station.

In the event that any officer is not elected by a majority vote on a ballot, a subsequent ballot shall be taken in the same manner. All names for the unfilled office shall be dropped except the two (2) having the highest number of votes on the first ballot. All other names on the second and subsequent ballots shall be declared mutilated and shall not be counted.

BE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 304. BALLOTING AND VOTING: A. REGISTRATION AND DISTRIBUTION: On Saturday of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, an area and time shall be designated for delegates to ballot on the candidates for elected offices and resolutions. Registration of delegates shall remain open until 11:00 A.M. A delegate who has registered with the

Credentials Committee may enter the balloting area. ~~Each delegate must sign a register and indicate the number of votes he is casting.~~ **If voting with electronic voting devices, each delegate must enter the balloting area with the same number of voting devices he received at registration or at the door to the balloting area as indicated on his badge. If voting by paper ballot the delegate will receive a paper ballot. Either form of balloting** shall permit him to cast the number of votes he is entitled to cast for elected officers and resolutions.

After voting and before leaving the balloting area, all delegates must deposit their electronic voting devices **corresponding to the number of ballots they are entitled**, or paper ballots in a ballot box at the Grand Tyler's station.

In the event that any officer is not elected by a majority vote on a ballot, a subsequent ballot shall be taken in the same manner. All names for the unfilled office shall be dropped except the two (2) having the highest number of votes on the first ballot. All other names on the second and subsequent ballots shall be declared mutilated and shall not be counted.

Respectfully Submitted,
John R Christopher, PM, Guthrie Lodge #35

Resolution #10

Whereas, a brother may be suspended for nonpayment of dues creating a gap in his Masonic record for years of membership, and

Whereas, the brother's suspension may be the result of circumstances beyond his control, and

Whereas, this gap may become significant enough to prevent a brother from obtaining their 50year pins as would have occurred had the brother not been suspended, and

Whereas, there is currently no method provided to allow a brother to make up for those lost years of membership, and

Whereas, these years of suspension represent a loss of revenue for the lodge, reducing their ability to meet financial obligations, and

Whereas, The Grand Lodge also incurs a loss of revenue in per capita for these years.

Now Therefore be it Resolved that a new Section U 607 of the Uniform Code be created as follows:

SECTION U607 – Buy Back Suspended Years

A member may buy back suspended years for non-payment of dues by following these procedures. The member must first be reinstated, after which, the lodge may, upon majority vote, allow the brother to pay dues for all the years of his suspension at the current annual dues rate of the lodge; and pay to the Grand Lodge all per capita for said years at Grand Lodge's current annual per capita rate. The reinstated member will then be given credit for said years of suspension. The lodge cannot vote to remit suspended years.

Respectfully Submitted,

John D. Richardson, P.M. Sand Springs Lodge #475

Michael A. Fritts, P.M. Sand Springs Lodge #475

Resolution #11

WHEREAS: the principal purpose of Freemasonry is to provide moral, ethical, and spiritual instruction which enable men to grow in stature in such a way that they may distinguish themselves from the rest of the community; and,

WHEREAS: whatever else Masonry may offer men fraternally, socially, or charitably, no other characteristic of the fraternity is more important than its instruction in the ways of virtue; and,

WHEREAS: in recognition of the critical role the other Bodies of Masonry play in providing added Masonic education and enlightenment to our brotherhood of men, it has become a tradition for Grand Masters to waive any impediments which might inhibit a newly raised Master Mason from experiencing more light in Masonry at the time when he is the most receptive to its instruction.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Article VIII, Section 805 of the Constitution and Laws 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 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.

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Logan, (189)

Joe R. Manning, Jr. (111)

John F. Carter (74)

Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr. (36)

Robert R. Rolseth (545)

Gene McKelvey (473)

Gregory L. Shuler (12)

Ralph E. Klumpp (555)

Kyle A. Hess (425)

