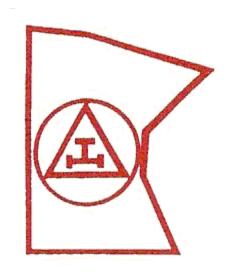
# PROCEEDINGS OF THE

# GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF MINNESOTA



AT THE

One Hundred Fifty Fourth Annual Convocation
June 23, 2016

A.D.2016~ A.L.6016

#### **MASONIC CALENDAR**

#### Ancient Craft Masons:

Commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it **Anno Lucis (AL),** "in the year of light."

#### Royal Arch Masons:

Date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel. **Anno Inventionis (AI),**" in the year of discovery."

#### Order of High Priesthood:

Date from the year of blessing of Abram by the High Priest Melchizedek, **Anno Benefacionis (AB)**, "in the year of blessing."

#### Cryptic Masons/Royal and Select Masters:

Date from the year, in which the temple of Solomon was completed, **Anno Depositionis (ADep)**, "in the year of deposit."

#### Knights Templar:

Commence their era with the organization of their Order, **Anno Ordinis (AO)**, "in the year of the Order.

#### Scottish Rite:

Same as Ancient Craft, except that the Jewish chronology is used, **Anno Mundi (AM)**, "in the year of the world."

#### **RULES FOR MASONIC DATES**

Ancient Craft Masons: Add 4,000 years to the Common Era

Thus, 2012 plus 4,000 = 6012

Royal Arch Masons: Add 530 years to the Common Era

Thus, 2012 plus 530 = 2542

Order of High Priesthood: Add 1,913 years to the Common Era

Thus, 2012 plus 1,913 = 2925

Cryptic Masons/Royal and Select Masons Add 1,000 years to the Common Era

Thus, 2012 plus 1,000 = 3012

Knights Templar: Subtract 1,118 years from the Common Era

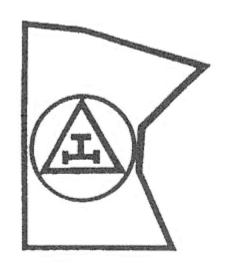
Thus, 2012 minus 1,118 = 894

Scottish Rite: Add 3,760 years to the Common Era

Thus, 2012 plus 3,760 = 5772

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE

# GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF MINNESOTA



# One Hundred Fifty Fourth Annual Convocation

June 23, 2016 ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

#### **PRESIDING**

L. Greg Schultz, Jr. – Grand High Priest Gary A. Odegard – Grand Secretary

#### **ELECTED**

Clifford H. Isley – Grand High Priest Gary A. Odegard – Grand Secretary

# © 2016

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota 11501 Masonic Home Drive Bloomington, Minnesota 55437

#### **RULES OF ORDER**

- 1. The M∴E∴G∴ H∴P∴ shall take the chair, at the hour to which the Grand Chapter shall convene.
- During the hours of business, the members are required to keep their seats, and
  observe strict order and decorum, and no member shall leave the hall, or absent himself
  from the service of the Grand Chapter, unless he have permission, or be sick and unable
  to attend.
- 3. When the M∴E∴G∴H∴P∴, or presiding officer, rises, all debate shall cease, and silence shall be observed.
- 4. When a member is about to speak, he shall rise from his seat, go to the closest microphone, state his name and Chapter Name and Number and respectfully address the M∴E∴G∴H∴P∴
- 5. The M : E : G : H : P : shall decide all questions of order.
- 6. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question, unless to explain, without permission of the G∴C∴
- 7. When a question is put, it shall be the duty of every member present to vote, unless excused by the G∴C∴; but no member shall vote on a question in the result of which he is personally interested.
- 8. No motion shall be entertained until it is seconded, and no debate had thereon until it is stated by the Chair.
- 9. Every motion, at the desire of the Chair or Grand Secretary, shall be reduced to writing, with the mover's name endorsed thereon.
- 10. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, or to amend which several motions shall have precedence in order here mentioned. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.
- 11. Any member may call for a division of a question, which shall be divided, if it comprehends questions so distinct that one being taken away, the rest may stand entire for the decision of the Grand Chapter; a motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible.
- 12. No report shall be received from any of the committees of the Grand Chapter, unless the same be reduced to writing. As amended 1870, page 181
- 13. No committee shall sit during the sitting of the Grand Chapter, without special leave.
- 14. These Rules of Order, or any part thereof, may be altered, or amended at any Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, by a vote of the majority of the members present.

# **SYNOPSIS**

#### SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS 154th ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The 154th Annual Convocation of the **GRAND CHAPTER**, **ROYAL ARCH MASONS of Minnesota** was held at the Double Tree Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota, Thursday, June 23, 2016. The Convocation was held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota and the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, Most Excellent Companion L. Greg Schultz, Jr., Grand High Priest, presiding. The Grand Chapter Officers opened the Grand Chapter convocation in ample ritualistic form.

Representing the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International were the General Grand King, MEC James H. Hodge and the North Central Deputy General Grand High Priest Leland L. Burlison. MEC Charles M. Olson, Grand High Priest of Wisconsin, Ronald W. Guthrie, Grand High Priest of Iowa and Anthony T. Johnson, Grand High Priest of Nebraska, were in attendance. Past Grand High Priests in attendance were; David D. Mahoney of Wisconsin and George E. Bauder and Richard A. McBride of South Dakota. Visitors from Foreign Jurisdictions included REC Terry L. Loper, Grand King of Wisconsin, REC Stan Schwellenbach, Grand King of South Dakota, REC Dennis N. Boehmer, Grand Scribe of Iowa, REC James S. McNeely, IV, Grand Scribe of Connecticut and Prince D. Selvaraj, Past Grand Superintendent of Ontario.

Fifteen (15) Chapters, in addition to King Solomon No. 133 U.D., answered the roll call with Tyrian No. 6, St Cloud No. 10, Washington No. 17, Living Arch No. 28, Albert Lea No. 30, Mt Nebo No. 39, Pierson No. 41, Brainerd No. 42, Fairmont No. 50, Marshall No. 65, Bemidji No. 70, Northern No. 82, Alexandria No. 86 and Rush City No. 87 being absent. There were five (5) High Priests, nineteen (19) PHPs, and eleven (11) PGHPs registered. Total companions registered for the convocation numbered fifty-two (52), which included dual memberships; an additional fifteen (15) companions from other jurisdictions and guests were present for a grand total of sixty-seven (67).

Minnesota membership, as of December 31, 2015 was 1,862, a net loss of 160 over the previous year. Forty-three (43) companions were exalted last year with one hundred and seven (107) deaths reported. One chapter had a positive gain in membership recorded in 2015; Anoka-Shekinah No. 104. Glenwood Chapter No. 93 merged with Alexandria Chapter No. 86 and Hutchinson Chapter No. 90 merged with King Solomon Chapter No. 133 UD.

There were two Constitutional Amendments and they both passed. They involve moving dues and fees from the Constitution to the General Regulations.

The following Minnesota Grand Officers were elected and installed for the ensuing year: Grand High Priest – Clifford H. Isley (22); Grand King – Joseph J. Anderson (9/104); Grand Scribe – W. David Emery (60/104); Grand Treasurer/Secretary – MEC Gary A Odegard, PGHP (53); Grand Captain of the Host – R. James Luchsinger II (60) and Grand Trustee (2019) – L. Greg Schultz, Jr., PGHP (15).

Appointed officers are: Grand Chaplain – Thomas E Hendrickson (53); Grand Principal Sojourner – Carl F. Lidstrom (53); Grand Royal Arch Captain – Michael A. Hilgert (9); Grand

Master of the Veils; 3rd Veil – R. Sean Gardiner (1/103); 2nd Veil – Randall L. Poulson (33); 1<sup>st</sup> Veil – Alan Mackenzie; Grand Sentinel – (vacant); Grand Organist - William T. Hubbard (8); and Grand Lecturer - Mark A. Anderson (9/33). PGHP L. Greg Schultz, Jr. (33) was Installing Officer.

Roger Morris (20) received the Triple Tau award and L. Greg Schultz (15), Steven G. Partridge (15) and James S. McNeely, IV, (15) were presented additional stars. The recipient of the BRONZE MEDAL for distinguished service from the General Grand Chapter was EC Jerry E. Zierdt (33). A Memorial service for our departed Companions and Sir Knights was held on Thursday evening after the welcome and Youth Awards.

The Grand Chapter will hold its 155th Annual Grand Convocation as part of the Minnesota Grand York Rite Sessions on June 23, 24 and 25, 2017, at the , Saint Cloud, Minnesota.

Gary A. Odegard, PGHP Grand Treasurer/Secretary L. Greg Schultz, Jr. Grand High Priest



L. GREG SCHULTZ GRAND HIGH PRIEST 2015 - 2016

#### M. E. C. Lowell G. "Greg" Schultz

#### **Grand High Priest**

#### Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota

#### 2015-2016

Lowell G. "Greg" Schultz was born August 13, 1957 in Owatonna, Minnesota. He attended school in the Owatonna area including Crane Creek School, a one room schoolhouse, graduating from Owatonna High School in 1975. After high school Greg attended Mankato State University and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance and Marketing, graduating in 1978. Ten years in the banking industry followed before he joined the family business, Schultz Homes, Inc. Since 1988 he has been president of the firm that specializes in construction, real estate and land development in the Owatonna area. He currently sits as Vice President of the Owatonna City Council.

Greg met Shirley Nash upon his return from college and they were married on June 14, 1980. They have two sons, Grant and Julie Schultz, owners of Costas' Chocolate Shop; Charles and Lindsey, a salesman for Fastenal and one daughter Dr. Erica Schultz, a research chemist at Harvard University. And best of all they have four wonderful grandchildren: Isabella, Gavin, Colin and Elizabeth.

Greg started his Masonic journey as a member of the H.B. Adsit Chapter of DeMolay in Owatonna. Finally after a long respite he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in 2003 as a brother of Star in the East Lodge #33, serving as Master in 2008-2009 and Grand Marshal for the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 2011-2012. He was Exalted in Owatonna Chapter No. 15 in 2005, serving as High Priest in 2010 and appointed to the Grand Chapter Line in 2010. Greeted as a Select Master in Northfield Council No. 12 in 2008. Was instrumental in petitioning the Grand Council to form a new Council in Owatonna, thus becoming a charter member of Ark Council No. 3 and serving as Illustrious Master in 2010 and being named Cryptic Mason of the Year in Minnesota in 2013. Greg was Knighted in Cyrene Commandery No. 9 in 2006, serving as Commander in 2009-2010 and has served the Grand Commandery of Minnesota in several offices.

Membership in other Masonic bodies include: Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite, Minnesota York Rite College No. 39, Allied Masonic Degrees- Sovereign Master of Johnny E. Nelson Council No. 252, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests – City of Justice Tabernacle No. LXVII, Knight York Cross of Honour – Minnesota Priory No. 24, Zuhrah Shriners, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine – St. Olaf Conclave, The Royal Order of Scotland, The Masonic Order of Athelstan – Noble Stone Court No. 104 and Treasurer of Educational Lodge No. 1002. Also the Order of High Priesthood, Knight of the Royal Arch, Triple Tau, Thrice Illustrious Master, ISH SODI, Knight Crusaders of the Cross, Past Commanders Association, Knight Commander of the Temple, D.R.A.M., Circle of Elders and of course Lotus.

# **GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS**

## 2015-2016

#### **ELECTED**

GRAND HIG	H PRIEST
-----------	----------

**GRAND KING** 

**GRAND SCRIBE** 

GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST

GRAND TREASURER/SECRETARY

GRAND TRUSTEE [2016]

GRAND TRUSTEE [2017]

GRAAND TRUSTEE [2018]

▲ L. Greg Schultz (15) [Shirley]

▲ Cliff H. Isley (22) [Brenda]

▲ Joseph J. Anderson (9/104) [Anne]

■ W. David Emery (60/104) [Denise]

Gary A. Odegard (53) [Karen]

John R. Wentworth (22)

Ronald A. Miles (9)

Gary H. Johnson (101) [Julie]

#### **APPOINTED**

GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER

**GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN** 

GRAND MASTER OF THE 3RD VEIL

GRAND MASTER OF THE 2ND VEIL

GRAND MASTER OF THE 1ST VEIL

GRAND SENTINEL

**GRAND CHAPLAIN** 

**GRAND ORGANIST** 

**GRAND LECTURER** 

- ▲ R. James Luchsinger, II (60) [Candist]
- ▲ Carl F. Lidstrom (53) [Sue]
- ▲ Michael A. Hilgert (9) [Jodee]
- ▲ R. Sean Gardiner (1/103) [Tracy]
- ▲ Randall L. Poulson (33)
- ▲ Alan Mackenzie (20)

Ronald L. Jensen (15) [Pat]

William T. Hubbard (8)

Mark A. Anderson (9/33) [Jeanette]

▲ = advancing line

# **COMMITTEES**

#### 2015 - 2016 COMMITTEES

#### Appeals & Grievances (5)

Edimand C. Gilbertson, PGHP \* Charles R. Marston, PGHP Allan F. Kauppi, PGHP James E. Turner, PGHP James F. Edgar, PGHP

#### Chapters (5)

Terrance J. Becker, PGHP \*
Mark A. Anderson, GLec
W. David Emery, GCOH
Michael A. Hilgert, GM3V
R. Sean Gardiner, GM2V

#### Credentials (2)

Gary A. Odegard, PGHP, GTres/Sec\* Carl F. Lidstrom, GRAC Douglas R. Brase, PHP

#### Finance (5)

Gary H. Johnson PGHP, Trustee\* Ronald A. Miles PGHP, Trustee John R. Wentworth, PHP, Trustee Clifford H. Isley, GK Gary A. Odegard, PGHP, GTres/Sec

#### Foreign Correspondence (1)

Joseph J. Anderson, GSc\*

#### Jurisprudence (5)

Gary H. Johnson PGHP, Trustee\* John R. Wentworth PHP, Trustee Ronald A. Miles, PGHP, Trustee William R. Newell, PGHP Hugh C. Swift, Jr., PGHP

#### Financial Review

William R. Newell, PGHP\* Hugh C. Swift, Jr. PGHP Ronald Jensen, GChp

#### State of the Rite (3)

James E. Turner, PGHP\* Clifford H. Isley, GK Nicholas R. Johnson, PHP

#### Capitular Education & Promotions (3)

Terrance J. Becker, PGHP\* Mark A. Anderson, GLec R. James Luchsinger, GPS

#### York Rite Cooperation (3)

Douglas A. Nygard, PGHP\* Carl F. Lidstrom, GRAC John B. Studell, PHP

#### **Annual Grand Convocation (5)**

Clifford H. Isley, GK Joseph J. Anderson, GSc\* W. David Emery, GCOH R. James Luchsinger, GPS Ronald L. Jensen, GChp

#### Charity (3)

Barnes A. Sharitt, Jr., PGHP\* Randall L. Poulson, GM1V Clifford H. Isley, GK

#### Nominations (3)

Hugh C. Swift, Jr., PGHP\* Douglas A. Nygard, PGHP Clifford H. Isley, GK

#### Souvenir Program Booklet (1)

Joseph J. Anderson, GCOH\*

#### **Keystone Editor**

R. James Luchsinger, GPS\*

#### **Constitution Review**

R. Sean Gardiner, GM2V\*

# **GRAND CHAPTER ANNUAL CONVOCATION [ 154th ]**

June 23, 2016

## **OPENING**

The High Priest of Owatonna Chapter No.15 declared the Chapter called from refreshment to labor. There was an alarm at the door. The Sentinel declared that Grand High Priest, L. Greg Schultz, and his Grand Officers seek admission. They were admitted and welcomed. The Grand High Priest was escorted to the East. There he was introduced and given Grand High Honors. The hat and gavel were passed. GHP Schultz introduced Richard Heidi, the High Priest, and James McNeely, IV, the acting Captain of the Host, of Owatonna Chapter No. 15.

Grand Chaplain, Ronald L. Jensen, offered an opening prayer.

# PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

A Roll Call of Past Grand High Priests was called with the following answering the call:

Gary H Johnson – 1978 Jerry R Korstad - 1988 William R Newell - 1989 Kevin V Jones – 1990 Robert R Anderson, Jr. -

Robert R Anderson, Jr. - 1994 Barnes A. Sharitt, Jr. - 1996

Hugh C Swift, Jr. - 1998 Ron A Miles – 2005

James E Turner, Jr. - 2008

Gary A Odegard – 2011

Marvin W. Schendel – 2014

# **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS**

The Distinguished Guests and Visitors were assembled outside of the Chapter room and then presented by W. David Emery, Grand Captain of the Host, to the convocation. They were:

MEC Charles M. Olson, Grand High Priest of Wisconsin

MEC David D. Mahoney, PGHP of Wisconsin

REC Terry L. Loper, Grand King of Wisconsin

REC Michael L. Fairbanks, Grand Treasurer of Wisconsin

MEC Ronald W. Guthrie, Grand High Priest of Iowa

MEC Anthony T. Johnson, Grand High Priest of Nebraska

REC Stan Schwellenbach, Grand King of South Dakota

MEC George E. Bauder, PGHP and Grand Secretary of South Dakota

MEC Richard A. McBride, PGHP of South Dakota

REC James S. McNeely, IV, Grand Scribe of Connecticut

REC Prince D. Selvaraj. Past Grand Superintendent of Ontario, Canada

REC Leland L. Burlison, North Central Deputy General Grand High Priest and PGHP of Wisconsin

MEC James H. Hodge, General Grand King, General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, International, and Past Grand High Priest of Indiana

Grand Honors were given; MEC Hodge was invited to take a seat in the East and the other visitors were dismissed.

A tribute to the US Flag was given by MEC Hugh Swift. The Companions then pledged their Allegiance to the Flag of the United States after which the National Anthem was sung. "O Canada" was then sung in honor of our Canadian visitor.

Grand High Priest Schultz welcomed everyone to the 154th Grand Convocation. GHP Schultz thanked all the represented Chapters and those from other jurisdictions for attending.

# **INITIAL CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Initial report of the Credentials Committee was requested. A Roll Call of Chapters indicated that sixteen (16) Chapters were represented of the thirty (30) Minnesota Chapters. The following Chapters did not answer the Roll Call:

Tyrian No. 6, St Cloud No. 10, Washington No. 17, Living Arch No. 28, Albert Lea No. 30, Mt. Nebo No. 39, Pierson No. 41, Brainerd No. 42, Fairmont No. 50, Marshall No. 65, Bemidji No. 70, Northern No. 82, Alexandria No. 86 and Rush City 87.

GHP Schultz declared that a constitutional quorum was present and that the 154th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota was open for the transaction of business.

A Roll Call of Grand Officers was called. All were present except Mark A. Anderson, Grand Lecturer, and John R. Wentworth, Grand Trustee.

A Roll Call of the Grand Representatives was called. They were asked to stand as their name was called. The GHP greeted and thanked all for serving our Grand Chapter.

MEC Schultz asked all Minnesota Chapter High Priests to stand and give their names and the Chapter that they represent. A warm round of applause was given. Similar thank yous were given for Chapter Kings, Scribes and Secretaries.

#### **READING OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 153rd CONVOCATION**

MEC Schultz asked the Grand Secretary for a reading of the minutes of the last Grand Convocation. Grand Secretary Odegard responded that inasmuch as the Proceedings of the 153rd Grand Convocation had been published and distributed, he moved that the named publication be accepted as the minutes of the 153rd Grand Convocation without a reading thereof. There was a second by James McNeely, IV, and the motion passed.

#### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

The preliminary credentials report was requested. Companion Michael Powles brought in the report. Forty seven (47) ballots had been issued.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee report was given by Past Grand High Priest Hugh C. Swift (33). Others on the Committee are PGHP Douglas A. Nygard (22) and Cliff Isley (22) Grand King. The committee placed the following names in nomination for the offices of:

Treasurer/Secretary – Gary A. Odegard, PGHP (33), and for Trustee [ 2019 ] – L. Greg Schultz (15)

Grand High Priest Schultz appointed the following Tellers:

PGHP James Turner – Chair Richard Heidi James Partridge

The Grand Secretary instructed the companions on the use of ballots. The Ballot was declared open and the companions were informed that the ballot would remain open until after the break.

# **GRAND HIGH PRIEST REPORT**

M∴E∴Companion L. Greg Schultz, Jr.

I'll tell you a little story. You noticed my hat. It has seen some better days. In my Lodge, Star in the East Lodge No. 33, this is known as the dusty old beaver. The beaver has been around a long time. In fact we're not sure exactly how old it is. Jim Partridge, who is here, is a 60 plus year member of our Lodge and I know it was there when he joined the Lodge. I know he's worn it many times. Some say it dates back well over a hundred years. It has been worn by probably a hundred masters of my Lodge and I don't know how many High Priests of my Chapter. It's been worn by a couple of Past Grand Masters. But to my knowledge, it's never been to a Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota. So, I thought it was appropriate to bring it here today and let it worn at a Grand Chapter meeting. So that's why the dusty old beaver is up here today. The dusty old beaver gets around. God knows what it's seen. Probably more than we want to know. But it's kind of a cherished possession in our Lodge. I just thought it would be fun to have it here.

I'm not going to read my report to you, it is printed in the Proceedings. Today is really kind of a bitter sweet time for me. I'm glad it's the end and I'm kind of sad that I didn't get everything done that I wanted to. I had so many great plans at the beginning of the year and we got a lot of things done. We got some things done that I never thought we were going to work on. I kind of got led in some different directions. But I think that anyone who's ever sat in the East has experienced that. So in that regard, it's a little bit bitter sweet but I'm happy to be here and all of you are here. As I talked before, I really want to thank the Grand Line Officers. Things have really changed since I got in the Grand Line a number of years ago. We used to just meet periodically with things which were more ceremonial. Today, we actually have a working Grand Line. We meet regularly. We tackle issues. We work on them and it's amazing the things we've gotten accomplished. And because of that, things will run smoother when we get to these meetings. I really complement the guys on the work that they've done. I know that Cliff will keep that going. It's very important to me to see that the Grand Chapter does well.

What I want to talk about today is a couple of things that I observed in the grand line. I'm going to tell a couple of stories. How many of you went to a one room school house? Two? I went to a one room school house. It was Crane Crick school, just west of Owatonna, with six grades in one room. It's a very unique experience. In fact, that style of education is becoming talked about again. It wasn't such a bad experience. We had one teacher and there were a few negatives to that. We didn't have indoor plumbing. We didn't have any technology. We did have a phone. That was a big deal. But it's a fun experience to go through. Everybody has to learn to work together. You have kids that are five or six years old up to kids that are eleven or twelve years old. They have to help each other. One teacher can't teach all those kids. The total number of students was in the high twenties. My class was large; it had seven kids. Some other classes had one or two kids. So we had to learn to work together. The older kids had to help the younger kids. The younger kids had to realize they needed extra help. They had to ask for help. Everything was reinforced because you could actually sit in on all the classes. So you always knew what was going on at all the grade levels. It really was a good education and I enjoyed it. I look at the Chapters in Minnesota and it's a little bit the same way. We have some young Chapters; we have some old Chapters; we have some small ones; and we have some big ones. Chapters that have a hard time doing the work have others that do fantastic work help them. We're all companions together in the Grand Chapter of Minnesota. We have to work with each other. We have to help each other. That means that the Chapters that do well need to go out and help some of the Chapters that are struggling. We have such a bond between us that I really want to see the Chapters improve. I think that's certainly

possible. I know in southeastern Minnesota we've started that concept. We have numerous Chapters working together in doing the work. It's been a great experience to get to meet other companions. We get to know people and that's one of the great things about the York Rite, I think is getting out and talking to the other companions. It's visiting the other Chapters and getting to know the other people. So that's my little analogy of the one room school house to the Chapters of Minnesota.

My other story is about a gentleman named Kevin. It's kind of one of my disappointments this year. I really wanted to see Kevin become a Royal Arch Mason. He was an enthusiastic guy about 30 years old. He served three tours of duty in Iraq in the infantry. He survived that, came home and found Masonry. He was so happy to be a Mason, he had found his home. He connected with all the people. And then out of the blue, Kevin had an accident. He liked to play rugby. During a rugby match, he got kicked in the head and suffered a severe brain injury. Today, Kevin lives in an assisted living home. He is blind and doesn't really know why he's there. He doesn't know any of us. We've gone to visit him. We've brought him down to some of our events. But he doesn't know what is going on. He was so enthusiastic about being a Mason and becoming a Royal Arch Mason. He really breathed it and loved it. And to see that happen was really disappointing. Like I said, I wanted to be there when he became a Royal Arch Mason. But I think we need to learn something from that. That how fleeting life can be and we need to cherish each other with the time we have. We never know when that's going to change. I think the greatest think about York Rite Masonry is the fraternal aspect of it, the chance to be together and talk with each other, visit with each other, get to know different people from different places. I wouldn't know any of you in this room if it wasn't for getting involved and traveling around in York Rite Masonry. And I have to chuckle, a couple of months ago I was sitting with some gentleman from South Dakota named George and Red. I think George is here today. I'm just an old boy from Minnesota. We were sitting in an Italian restaurant in Wisconsin being served by a Romanian waitress. We were laughing our rears off. It was the most fantastic time I've had in a long time, sitting around telling stories. Thank you George. But it puts in a nutshell what I think is an important part of York Rite Masonry. That is being together and getting to know each other. That's what it's really all about to me. So what I'd really like you to do today, there's a bunch of you who maybe don't know each other, and if you don't know someone, I want you to introduce yourself to them and get to know them. And if you don't know how to do that, there is a gentleman sitting over here, his name is Dick Heidi. He's a long term salesman and the master of the cold call. It's fun to watch him work a room. He walks in but he doesn't know anybody but by the time he leaves he has introduced himself to everybody. So take your cues from him. It's important, it means a lot to me that you would do that to get to know each other. That's an important part of Masonry to me.

Those are my two cents worth about Masonry. I've been on a fantastic journey. Masonry is a fantastic journey. I want all of us to be on that journey and let our brothers in Minnesota know about our great York Rite journey and to help them on their journey. I really truly want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. You've made this a fantastic year for me. I love all you guys. I truly look forward to my next step in my Masonic journey. I don't think you're going to get rid of me completely because I have a lot of things I want to do yet. From the bottom of my heart, thank you very much.

#### **GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Profit and Loss Statement for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2016, is attached. You will notice that we had a net operating loss of \$349.70. The budget was approved with an allocation of \$10,000.00 from the Investment Fund. We only took \$4,000.00 from the Fund.

The Trustees allocated a Life Membership distribution of \$14,230.71 for 2015. See the Trustees report and the Finance Committee Report for the proposed budget.

The financial statements and documents were reviewed on June 15, 2016, and found to be in good order.

I thank the Companions for the trust they have bestowed on me. I hope to continue streamlining the office and will look at ways to reduce costs while still providing a service to the Chapters.

#### Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of MN Profit & Loss June 2015 – May 2016

	Jun '15 - May 16
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
INVESTMENT INCOME	
CHARITY FUND	1,074.11
INVESTMENT FUND	4,000.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	14,230.71
Total INVESTMENT INCOME	19,304.82
OPERATIONS INCOME	
ANNUAL PER CAPITA	19,621.00
CHAPTER DUES [133]	225.00
CHAPTER FEES	367.00
EXALTATIONS	660.00
INDIGENT CREDITS	-225.00
INVENTORY SALES	
CHAPTER SUPPLIES	362.77
RITUAL SALES	110.00
Total INVENTORY SALES	472.77
LM ENROLLMENTS	1,950.00
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	23,070.77

OTHER INCOME	
DONATIONS	0.00
Total OTHER INCOME	0.00
Total Income	42,375.59
Gross Profit	42,375.59
Expense	
GRAND CHAPTER	
<b>CHARITY &amp; DONATIONS</b>	
CHARITY	250.00
YOUTH GROUPS	1,000.00
<b>Total CHARITY &amp; DONATIONS</b>	1,250.00
GENERAL GRAND PER CAPITA	1,978.00
GRAND SESSION	
PGHP APRON/JEWEL	498.95
SESSION OTHER	756.31
Total GRAND SESSION	1,255.26
INSURANCE/BONDING	1,060.54
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS LIFE MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION LIFE MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT	14,134.32
Total LIFE MEMBERSHIPS	16,084.32
MEETINGS/FESTIVALS	-10.00
Total GRAND CHAPTER	21,618.12
OFFICE OPERATIONS	
GENERAL PRINTING	412.43
OCCUPANCY	2,538.00
POSTAGE/SHIPPING	59.66
SUPPLIES	139.00
WEB SITES	274.33
Total OFFICE OPERATIONS	3,423.42
OFFICER'S EXPENSES	
GRAND HIGH PRIEST	3,000.00
GRAND KING	800.00

**GRAND SCRIBE** 

500.00

GRAND SECRETARY	6,000.00
GRAND TREASURER	1,200.00
MISC EXPENSE-OFFICER'S	398.74
Total OFFICER'S EXPENSES	11,898.74
OTHER EXPENSES	
BANK FEES	20.00
PUBLICATIONS RAM MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION	5,765.01
Total PUBLICATIONS	
Total Publications	5,765.01
Total OTHER EXPENSES	5,785.01
Total Expense	42,725.29
Net Ordinary Income	-349.70
Net Income	-349.70

1771, 2012				2015 INTEREST BEARING	באבטו ני	EAKING	!		!	;	,		
1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,0		101AL 2014	base\$days		ф	дз	add\$days	2015 total\$days	2015 DIST	✓ NO.	φ	10115 20	115 Y/E 101ALS
1,000,000   1,00	#1	66,559.80	23,961,528.00				0.00		\$2,732.47			0.00	66,559.80
4,015.00   1,445,002   1,445,002   1,445,002   1,445,002   1,440	#2	3,023.87	1,088,593.20				0.00		\$124.14			0.00	3,023.87
1,14,000   1,14,000	9#	4,015.02	1,445,407.20				0.00		\$164.83			0.00	4,015.02
1,325.30   4,024.00   0.00	8#	6,062.90	2,182,644.00				0.00		\$248.90			0.00	6,062.90
1,1,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5	6#	34,216.00	12,317,760.00				0.00		\$1,404.66		1,140.00		35,356.00
8,477.9   3,167,1828.0   0.00   3,193,183.0   5,348,02   0.000   0.000   3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,183.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.3,193,193.0   0.000	#10	11,353.90	4,087,404.00				0.00		\$466.11				11,353.90
1,000,000   2,00	#14	8,477.30	3,051,828.00				0.00		\$348.02			0.00	8,477.30
1936523   317912800   0.00   13791280   585834   0.00   0.00   13791280   0.33634   0.00	#15	8,009.10	2,883,276.00				0.00		\$328.80			0.00	8,009.10
1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,	#17	9,386.55	3,379,158.00				0.00		\$385.34			0.00	9,386.55
15,515.16   5,44,7126.0   0.00   5,54,378.0   5,64,378.0   5,64,378.0   5,64,378.0   0.00   0.00   1,61,328.0   5,143,240   0.00   0.00   1,61,328.0   5,143,240   0.00   0.00   1,61,328.0   5,143,240   0.00   0.00   1,61,328.0   5,143,240   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   5,143,240   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00   0.00   0.1,61,328.0   0.00	#20	31,938.20	11,497,752.00				0.00		\$1,311.15			0.00	31,938.20
1,488.90   2,843.964.00   0.000   1,243.964.00   5,144.32   0.000   1,166,328.00   0.000   1,166,328.00   0.000   1,166,328.00   0.000   1,166,328.00   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,328.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.106,329.00   0.000   0.	#22	15,151.05	5,454,378.00				0.00		\$621.99			0.00	15,151.05
1,161,001	#27	7,899.90	2,843,964.00				0.00		\$324.31			0.00	7,899.90
17,161,50   6,178,284.0   1,186,022.0   1,	#28	4,489.80	1,616,328.00				0.00		\$184.32			0.00	4,489.80
7.094.00   2.539.110.00   0.000   2.539.5100   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000   0.000   0.000   0.1386.02.00   0.000	#30	17,161.90	6,178,284.00				0.00		\$704.54			0.00	17,161.90
3,294.70   1,186,092.00   0.00   1,186,092.00   547.45   0.000   0.0	#33	7,054.20					0.00		\$289.59			0.00	7,054.20
1,816.40   663,904.00   663,904.00   653,904.00   874,577   6.00   1,906,956.00	#39	3,294.70	1,186,092.00				0.00		\$135.26			0.00	3,294.70
1,564,010   1,966,956.00   1,966,9	#41	1,816.40	653,904.00				0.00		\$74.57			0.00	1,816.40
1,556,40   560,304.00   1,000   560,304.00   560,389   1,000	#42	5,547.10	1,996,956.00				0.00		\$227.72			0.00	5,547.10
10,407.30   3,746,628.00   1,487,456.00   1,487,4	#20	1,556.40	560,304.00				0.00		\$63.89			0.00	1,556.40
4,1,354.10   14,887,476.00   1,978,272.00   1,978,272.00   3,713.59   1,978,272.00   1,978,272.00   1,978,272.00   2,289,342.00   1,978,272.00   2,331,072.00   2,331,072.00   2,331,072.00   2,331,072.00   2,331,072.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,289,342.00   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,289,342.00   2,290,342.20   2,290,342	#23	10,407.30	3,746,628.00				0.00		\$427.25		810.00		11,217.30
5,495.20         1,798,272.00         0.00         1,978,272.00         \$225.59         0.00         0.00         627,788.00         \$0.00         0.00         627,788.00         \$0.00         0.00         627,788.00         0.00         0.00         0.00         571,69         0.00 <t< td=""><td>09#</td><td>41,354.10</td><td>14,887,476.00</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>0.00</td><td></td><td>\$1,697.70</td><td></td><td></td><td>0.00</td><td>41,354.10</td></t<>	09#	41,354.10	14,887,476.00				0.00		\$1,697.70			0.00	41,354.10
1,743.80	#65	5,495.20	1,978,272.00				0.00		\$225.59			0.00	5,495.20
6,475.20         2,331,072.00         0.00         2,331,072.00         0.00         2,231,072.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         0.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         0.00         <	#20	1,743.80	627,768.00				0.00		\$71.59			00:00	1,743.80
6,380.35         2,289,942.00         0.00         2,289,942.00         \$0.00<	#85	6,475.20	2,331,072.00				0.00		\$265.83			00:00	6,475.20
2,196.52         790,747.20         0.00         790,747.20         \$90.17         0.00         \$0.00         \$126.52         \$90.17         0.00         \$10	98#	6,360.95	2,289,942.00				0.00		\$261.13			0.00	6,360.95
1,113,012.00   1,113,012.00   1,113,012.00   1,113,012.00   1,113,012.00   1,000   1,113,012.00   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,000   1,782,146.00   1,782	#87	2,196.52	790,747.20				0.00		\$90.17			0.00	2,196.52
1,204,00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   \$0.00	#101	3,091.70	1,113,012.00				0.00		\$126.92			0.00	3,091.70
1,204,00	#103	0.00	0.00				0.00		\$0.00				
8         1,204,00         433,440.00         0.00         433,440.00         \$49,43         ESCROW         0.00           8         9,305,50         3,214,980.00         0.00         1,782,216.00         \$3,214,980.00         \$3,214,280	#104	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	\$0.00				
1,204.00         433,440.00         \$49.43         \$500         \$49.43         \$500         \$00           8,930.50         3,214,980.00         0.00         3,214,980.00         \$3,214,980.00         \$600         0.00         0.00         1,782,216.00         0.00         0.00         1,782,216.00         0.00         0.00         1,782,216.00         0.00         0.00         0.00         0.00         2,671,200.00         \$304,61         85 crow         0.00         0.00         0.00         1,24,791,825.60         \$14,230.71         1,950.00         1,950.00         \$34           \$346,643.96         124,791,825.60         \$x 360         \$x 180         \$x 90         7041/825.60         \$14,230.71         \$1,950.00         1,950.00         \$34           FORMULAS         \$x 360         \$x 270         \$x 180         \$x 90         7041/8         \$14,230.71         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$34           FORMULAS         \$x 360         \$x 270         \$x 480         \$x 600         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00         \$1,950.00	#133												
8,930.50         3,214,980.00         \$,324,980.00         \$,324,980.00         \$,366.62         ESCROW         0.00           4,950.60         1,782,216.00         0.00         1,782,216.00         \$,503.24         ESCROW         0.00           7,420.00         2,671,200.00         0.00         2,671,200.00         \$,334.61         ESCROW         0.00           \$346,643.96         124,791,825.60         0.00         0.00         124,791,825.60         \$,1450.07         1,950.00         1,950.00           \$346,643.96         \$x 360         \$x 270         \$x 140         \$x 14,230.71         \$         \$         \$,140.00           \$346,643.96         \$x 360         \$x 270         \$x 140         \$x 14,230.71         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$           \$346,643.96         \$x 360         \$x 270         \$x 160         \$x 200         \$	38#						0.00	433,440.00	\$49.43	ESCROW		0.00	1,204.00
4,950.60         1,782,216.00         \$203.24         ESCROW         0.00           7,420.00         2,671,200.00         0.00         2,671,200.00         \$304.61         ESCROW         0.00           \$346,643.96         124,791,825.60         0.00         0.00         124,791,825.60         \$14,230.71         1,950.00         1,950.00         \$34           FORMULAS         \$x366         \$x270         \$x160         \$x34         \$14,230.71         \$\$1,400.00	#48						0.00		\$366.62	ESCROW		00.00	8,930.50
\$346,643.96	16#						0.00		\$203.24	ESCROW		00:00	4,950.60
6 124,791,825.60 0.00 0.00 0.00 124,791,825.60 \$14,230.71 1,950.00	#96		2,671,200.00				0.00	2,671,200.00	\$304.61	ESCROW		0.00	7,420.00
\$ \$ x 360 \$ x 270 \$ x 180 \$ x 90 Total \$ Sum \$ x days SUM \$DAYS x FACTOR \$ \$ \$ In 2015 Cum  2015 factor 0.0001140356 DIST \$ SUM \$DAYS   4.08%		\$346,643.96	124,791,825.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$14,230.71		1,950.00		\$348,593.96
. 0.0001140356 <b>DIST \$/SUM \$DAYS</b>		FORMULAS	\$ x 360		\$ x 180	06 X \$	Total \$	Sum \$ x days	SUM \$DAYS x FACTO	<b>38</b>	4	\$ In 2015	cum \$
0.0001140356 <b>DIST \$55UM \$DAYS</b>													
\$14,230.71							2015 factor	0.0001140356	DIST \$/SUM \$DAYS			4.08%	
									\$14 230 71				

There was a motion by Odegard to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Michael Crosby and passed.

# **GRAND TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota present the following report of the Investment, Charity, and Life Membership Funds of the Grand Chapter for the 2015 year.

	2014	2015
INVESTMENT		
Balance®n@Hand@1/1/15	<b>1771</b> 98,406.78	198,553.91
Addition	<del>??????????</del>	
Subtraction 2 m	<b>77777778</b> ,000.00	4,000
Subtotal	<b>2772</b> 190,406.78	194,553.91
Balancefor Interest**	<b>1771</b> 96,406.78	197,553.91
Interestancomeaora.5	<b>77777778</b> ,147.13	8,064.77
Distribution 10 f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f	PPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPP	
Balance®n⊞and12/31/15	<b>7771</b> 98,553.91	202,618.68
CHARITY		
Balance®nrHand1/1/15	<b>1777772</b> 6,311.24	26,311.24
Additions	PPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPP	
Subtractions	PPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPP	
Subtotal	<b>277772</b> 6,311.24	26,311.64
Total of Tund or Interest**	<b>277772</b> 6,311.24	26,311.24
Interest <b>∃</b> ncome	<b>777771</b> ,091.42	1,074.11
Interest Income Distributed	<b>7777771</b> ,091.42	1,074.11
Balance®n®Hand®12/31/15	77777226,311.24	26,311.24
LIFE		
Balance1/1/15	<b>1113</b> 46,243.96	346,643.96
Additions	<b>777777774</b> 00.00	3,950.00
Subtractions	TPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPPP	2,000.00
Subtotal	<b>1113</b> 46,643.96	348,593.96
Balancefor Interest	<b>1113</b> 46,643.96	348,593.96
Interest <b>∃</b> ncome	<b>277771</b> 4,379.11	14,230.70
Interestatalife Membership Distribution	<b>77771</b> 4,379.11	14,230.70
Balance®nHand12/31/15	<b>1118</b> 46,643.96	348,593.96
**This 3s 2average 2quarterly 3ncome 3for 3nterest 2distribution		
*Operating <b> E</b> xpense		
Total Income I for I but ion		
Income@istributionfor@015	3,617.66	23369.58
Total@ncome@for@Distribution	3,617.66	23369.58

	Balance for Interest	Interest	Balance 12/31/15
Investment Fund	197,553.91	8,064.77	202,618.68
Charity	26,311.24	1,074.11	26,311.24
Life Membership	348,593.96	14,230.70	348,593.96
Totals for 15	572,459.11	23,369.58	577,523.88

Based on the Balance for Interest for 15 of 572,459.11 with an interest income of 23,369.58

the rate of return was 4.8% for the year. Enclosed is a copy of the 12/31/15 Statement of Account listing your portfolio of stocks, shares, and % of holdings.

The following figures are presented to show you the progress of our funds during the past five years of the economic conditions. Our investment fund has been able to hold a good investment income return and is recovering once again from the year's market condition. Our life membership fund is invested in secure funds that draw less interest. Our portfolio is secure. With low interest rates, securities have been prime investments, causing lower interest return. This fluctuation is being controlled by using a portion of funds in a fixed return. We feel our broker is competently handling our funds. The rate of return, if figured on the total investment fund of 577,523.88 is 4.05%. If it is figured on our recovered financial worth of 361,938.08 it would be 6.46%. We are confident that our investments and counsel are in good condition.

	Total Investments	Income
12/31/06	491,756.45	35,947.79
12/31/07	467,829.83	38,798.87
12/31/08	352,832.22	33,511.58
12/31/09	473,405.27	31,070.72
12/31/10	498,126.57	38,712.48
12/31/11	411,256.32	31,314.52

12/31/12	430,166.57	19,437.24
	Undistributed	1,210.15
12/31/13	478,642.43	26,170.61
12/31/14	454,642.43	23,617.66
12/31/15	361,938.08	23,369.58

The Secretary/Treasurer accounts have been reviewed and verified. Bonds and insurance are complete. We are reviewing and replacing necessary equipment to make our office communications up-to-date. Our new quarters at the Masonic Home (11501 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437) has been a good move. We are also in good hands with our proficient and competent secretary/treasurer Gary Odegard. His countless hours and assistance have put our Royal Arch in good graces. Thank-you.

We have been investing in above-average interest or dividends for income and still maintain Grade A investments. The following actions and suggestions were proposed to the Grand Officers:

**Jewels:** Due to extreme value, cost of replacement, and insurance, it was prudent to propose a new jewel for the PGHP be constructed and be his gift upon leaving office. All jewels were to be kept in safekeeping in our office. This item will be in next year's budget.

**Rituals:** We do not have a resale equipment or material account in the budget. Upon decision of ritual to be used, it is necessary to have a minimum stock on hand. It is proposed that an account of supplies be in our budget to account for this material.

**Triennial:** This account was placed under the control of the Trustees as they are earning more interest than savings accounts. This account is based on a three-year deposit of \$900 per year for a total of \$2700 to be used by the top three officers for Triennial. This amount (\$2700) will be paid from the Investment Fund interest income. Beginning this year, it will be listed in this fund for information.

The Trustees are responsible for the care and betterment of the Grand Chapter. Our investments and resources are financially solvent and in

good condition. We have an excellent relationship with our broker who has worked for us for many years. We find the condition of our Grand Chapter in good hands.

MEC Gary H. Johnson MEC Ron Miles

There was a motion by Gary Johnson to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Vern Schwalbe and passed.

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Officers, and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota: The Report of Finance and Budget for the Ensuing Year:

BUDGET			6/1/16 -
			5/31/2017
INCOME			
INVES	TMENTS		
I	Life Members	*	20000
(	Charity	*	1500
(	General	**	10000
			31500
OPER <i>A</i>	ATIONS		
1	Per Capita		19000
1	Dues (KS 133)		225
(	Chapter Fees		250
1	Exaltations		600
1	ndigent Credits		-200
9	Sales		250
			20125
			51625

**EXPENSES** 

**GRAND CHAPTER** 

Awards Charities *	100 1500
GGC Per Capita	3700
Grand Session	1500
Insurance/Bonding	1060
LM Distribution *	20000
	27860
OFFICE OPERATIONS	
Equipment	500
Printing	400
Internet	100
Rent	2538
Postage	500
Supplies	500
Telephone	0
Web sites	200
	4738
Officer Expenses	
GHP	3000
GK	800
GSc	500
GS/T	7200
Others	1000
Triennial ***	\$ 900
	13400
OTHER	
Bank fees	0
Memberships	0
Subscriptions	5800
Publications	300
	6100
	52098
ACCRUED TRIENNIAL EXPENSE  ***	
	 52098
	32030
GAIN/(LOSS)	(473)

<sup>\*</sup> Income and distribution are no expense to Grand Chapter as they are just pass-through funds distributing Interest Income from the Charity Fund and the Life Membership Fund.

- \*\* This is drawing money from the Investment Fund.
- \*\*\* This is the amount voted in the past for Triennial Expense that is to be set aside each year. This money is being placed in a separate savings account. It can only be used by the three designated participants.
- \*\*\*\* Triennial Funds were not set aside in previous budgets. Therefore, the last three years funds are due and payable this year.

Finance Committee
MEC Gary H. Johnson, Trustee, Chair
MEC Ronald A. Miles, Trustee
REC John R. Wentworth, Trustee
REC L. Greg Schultz
MEC Gary A. Odegard

There was a motion by Gary Johnson to approve the report. There was a second by Steven Partridge and the motion passed.

# PRELIMINARY JURISPRUDENCE REPORT

Gary Johnson, PGHP and Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, gave the first reading of the two resolutions.

Grand High Priest Schultz reminded the companions that the ballot box was open and directed the Grand Principal Sojourner to attend at the altar. He then declared a fifteen minute recess.

#### **RECESS**

Grand High Priest Schultz rapped the session to order and directed the Grand Principal Sojourner to attend at the altar. He then declared the 154th Convocation at labor

# PRELIMINARY JURISPRUDENCE REPORT

Gary Johnson, PGHP and Chairman of the Trustees, read the resolutions again and each was acted upon.

Resolution 2016 – 1

#### **Constitutional Amendment**

Whereas, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota issues fees for dispensations and charters;

Whereas, it is common practice to charge fees to cover the expenses incurred for such dispensations and charters;

Therefore, be it Resolved: That Article VII - Of Grand Chapter Finances, Section 3, of the Grand Chapter Constitution; be amended as follows:

1st. For every original charter or dispensation to open a chapter - As documented in Article III - Of Subordinate Chapters, Section 1, of the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota.

2nd. For every charter to perpetuate an original charter - As documented in Article III - Of Subordinate Chapters, Section 24, of the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota..

1st. For every original charter or dispensation to open a chapter - \$25.00 2nd. For every charter to perpetuate an original charter - \$ 10.00.

#### General Regulation Amendment

Therefore, be it Resolved: That Article III - Of Subordinate Chapters, Section 1, of the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota; be amended as follows:

Section 1. Every petition for a charter for a chapter must be accompanied by a fee of **One Hundred Twenty-five dollars**, the demits of all non-affiliate petitioners and a certificate from respective chapters of the other year and that they are free from charges; the certified consent of all chapters whose jurisdiction will be affected if such charter is granted; the certificate of the Grand Lecturer vouching for the proficiency of the Companions who are recommended to serve as officers to open and conduct a chapter and confer the capitular degrees; that suitable hall with capitular appurtenances and equipment is available and that the chapter will start clear of debt.

All petitioners who are not non-affiliates remain members of their respective chapters with all rights therein until they respectively request and are given demits.

Section 1. Every petition for a charter for a chapter must be accompanied by a fee of Twenty-five dollars, the demits of all non-affiliate petitioners and a certificate from respective chapters of the other year and that they are free from charges; the certified consent of all chapters whose jurisdiction will be affected if such charter is granted; the certificate of the Grand Lecturer vouching for the proficiency of the Companions who are recommended to serve as officers to open and conduct a chapter and confer the capitular degrees; that suitable hall with capitular appurtenances and equipment is available and that the chapter will start clear of debt.

All petitioners who are not non-affiliates remain members of their respective chapters with all rights therein until they respectively request and are given demits.

Therefore, be it also Resolved: That Article III - Of Subordinate Chapters, Section 24, of

the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota; be amended as follows:

It shall be the duty of each chapter to make a specified periodic report and send it to the Grand Secretary at prescribed intervals and forward an Annual Return of its membership and financial condition, signed by its High Priest and Secretary, accompanied with the fees for work done, the \$10 fee to perpetuate an original charter, and the annual dues upon its membership in good standing at the beginning of the Capitular year for which the report is made. Said return must be forwarded promptly after the close of each capitular year so as to be in the hands of the Grand Secretary on or before February 10th. Any chapter failing to submit this return on or before February 10th shall be assessed a late fee of \$25.00.

It shall be the duty of each chapter to make a specified periodic report and send it to the Grand Secretary at prescribed intervals and forward an Annual Return of its membership and financial condition, signed by its High Priest and Secretary, accompanied with the fees for work done and the annual dues upon its membership in good standing at the beginning of the Capitular year for which the report is made. Said return must be forwarded promptly after the close of each capitular year so as to be in the hands of the Grand Secretary on or before February 10th. Any chapter failing to submit this return on or before February 10th shall be assessed a late fee of \$25.00.

Respectfully submitted,

E.C. Sean Gardiner

Grand Master of the 2nd Veil

There was a motion to approve the Resolution by Gary Johnson, seconded by Barnes Sharitt, and the Resolution was approved.

Resolution 2016 – 2

#### Constitutional Amendment

Whereas, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota is affiliated to and in good standing with the General Grand Chapter International;

Whereas, it is common practice to periodically adjust fees and charges to account for inflation;

Whereas, Fees and charges are more easily managed under the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota rather than the Grand Chapter Constitution;

Therefore, be it Resolved: That Article VII - Of Grand Chapter Finances, Section 3, 4th of the Grand Chapter Constitution; be amended as follows:

For each Royal Arch Mason reported in good standing by a chapter in its last preceding Annual Return, the per-capita dues as reflected in the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota, excepting that no dues shall be charged upon indigent members in good standing, whose dues have been remitted by the subordinate Chapter and, providing that a list of those members be included in and made a part of such Annual Return and, provided further, that such exemption of dues to the Grand Chapter cover only such members as have their dues remitted for a period of such Annual Return. This amendment to be effective with the per capita payable on February 10, 2016, and shall, automatically, amend the By-Laws of all Subordinate Chapters by increasing the dues for all members by an amount equal to the increase in per capita. [2016]

For each Royal Arch Mason reported in good standing by a chapter in its last preceding Annual Return, the per-capita dues of \$11.00 [plus the General Grand per-capita fee], excepting that no dues shall be charged upon indigent members in good standing.

whose dues have been remitted by the subordinate Chapter and, providing that a list of those members be included in and made a part of such Annual Return and, provided further, that such exemption of dues to the Grand Chapter cover only such members as have their dues remitted for a period of such Annual Return. This amendment to be effective with the per capita payable on February 10, 2016, and shall, automatically, amend the By-Laws of all Subordinate Chapters by increasing the dues for all members by an amount equal to the increase in per capita. [2014]

#### General Regulation Amendment

Therefore, be it also Resolved: That Article III - Of Subordinate Chapters, Section 22, of the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota; be amended as follows:

The minimum dues of chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction are fixed at three (\$3) dollars per annum, plus the annual \$11.00 per capita of the Grand Chapter plus the General Grand per-capita fee.

The minimum dues of chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction are fixed at three (\$3) dollars per annum, plus the annual per capita of the Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

E.C. Sean Gardiner

Grand Master of the 2nd Veil

There was a motion to approve the Resolution by Gary Johnson, seconded by Steven Partridge, and the Resolution was approved.

Respectfully Submitted MEC Gary H. Johnson

Grand High Priest Schultz inquired if all, who were entitled to, had voted. He declared the ballot box closed and directed the tellers to take charge of the ballot box.

# REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

M∴E∴Companion Gary A. Odegard

The database is getting better thanks to all of the Chapter Secretaries for supporting me with information when requested. Membership dropped again this year. We had a net loss of 97 companions in 2014 and a net loss of 160 in 2015. Part of this drop is due to comparing the database against the Grand Lodge database and clearing out years of unreported deaths and NPDs. The good news is the Exaltations were up from 33 to 43 Companions. Let's continue this trend. The summary for the year is:

	MEMBERSHIP		
	1/1/2015	2022	
GAINS[+]		LOSSES[-]	
EXALTED	43	WITHDREW	106
JOINED	74	STRICKEN	60
RESTORED	2	SUSPEND	6
		DEATHS	107
TOTAL	119	TOTAL	279
	NET	-160 -7.9%	

MEMBERSHIP 12/31/2015 1862

Last year there were 6 Chapters which did not submit annual reports. This year there are also 6 Chapters but they are not all the same Chapters. They are: Blue Earth No. 7 UD, St Cloud No. 10, Mt Nebo No. 39, Brainerd No. 42, Marshall No. 65 and Bemidji No. 70. I want to thank Tyrian No. 6, Washington No. 17, St Peter No. 22 and Alexandria No. 86 for getting reports in this year and for helping me clean up the database.

The attached membership table by Chapter needs a couple of comments. Of the 74 Joins and 106 Withdraws, 33 are due to Glenwood No. 93 merging with Alexandria No. 86 and 35 are due to Hutchinson No. 90 merging into King Solomon No. 133. Of the 18 Indigents listed, 5 are Active Duty Military whose per capita dues are waived.

I have attached detailed gains and losses by Chapter, reported Exaltations and reported Deaths. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Grand Secretary.

Respectfully submitted, Gary A. Odegard, PGHP Grand Secretary

ABSTRACT			O		٨	,	2	S			7	0	S	S	E		S				TOTALS	Ŋ		
	Stos	12/31/2014	ш	·	,		8		niag tən	ž		57		su		7	Q		330/404	ssol 1998	T 12/31/2015		Indigents	
MINNESOTA	#1	-	7			1					4			18		Ĺ	4 1	2	2	i	_		-	-0.0893617
WINONA	#2	21							0					1						1 -1	20		T	-0.04761905
TYRIAN	9#	27							0					2			ю			5 -5	5 22		T	-0.18518519
BLUE EARTH	#7 UD	6							0				6						0,	6- 6	0			
HALCYON	8#	40			1				7								2			2 -1	. 39			-0.025
STJOHNS	6#	122	4						4		н			н					9	8 -4	1118		7	-0.03278689
STCLOUD	#10	81							0										_	0 0	81			0
AUSTIN	#14	25		1	1				2					1				ч	2	4 -2	23			-0.08
OWATONNA	#15	72	1	1			1		4		н			4		m	1	н	11	1 -7	, 65		T	-0.09722222
WASHINGTON	#17	30							0							Ì	4		_	4 -4	1 26		T	-0.13333333
KEYSTONE	#20	212	1 1	2	1				2	2	11			2					12 33	3 -28	8 184		· π	-0.13207547
ST PETER	#22	124	2						2		5			1					23 2	29 -27	7 97		T	-0.21774194
FERGUS FALLS	#27	09	9						e	1				2			1	н		6 -3	57			-0.05
LIVING ARCH	#28	46							0								2		.,	2 -2	44		T	-0.04347826
ALBERT LEA	#30	71							0		æ								1 ,	4 -4	19 1		T	-0.05633803
CORINTHIAN	#33	20	ю	m					9	1				4			1			0 9	20			0
MT NEBO	#39	53							0											0 0	53			0
PIERSON	#41	18							0															0
BRAINERD	#42	66							0											0 0	66			0
FAIRMONT	#20	21							0											0 0	21			0
ARK	#23	70	2			1			3					2			3 2	н	~	8 -5	9 65		7	-0.07142857
COLUMBIAN	09#	151	2 3	н					9	7	н			т			1	m	4	14 -8	143		11	-0.05298013
MARSHALL	#65	63							0												63			0
BEMIDJI	#20	19							0	т			1				2 1		-	7 -7	, 12		T	-0.36842105
NORTHERN	#82	38							0								1	т	7	9- 9	32		T	-0.15789474
ALEXANDRIA	98#	28	1 2			33			36					2		н	6 1		н	13 23	3 51			0.82142857
RUSH CITY	#87	17							0											0 0	17			0
HUTCHINSON	06#	36							0		35								1 3	36 -36				<u>.</u>
GLENWOOD	#63	38							0		33			т			1 1		m	38 -38	0			-1
KITTSON	#101	21							0											1 -1	. 20		T	-0.04761905
OVERSEERS	#103	24							0											0 0	24			0
ANOKA-SHEKINAH	#104	32	8		т				4											0 4	36			0.125
KING SOLOMON U.D.	#133 ND	69				35			35								2		T	3 32	101			0.46376812
		2022	19 9 7	œ	0	0 70	1 0	0	119	7 5	0 94	0	10 0	50 2	0	4	32 10	17	53 2.	279 -160	50 1862		18	
			43		74		2			106		_	09				107		_					
		12/31/2014	E	j	_		æ			>		ST		SU		Ì	Q			_	4/13/2017		Indigents	
	KING SOLOMON #133	MON #133															Н					П		
GLENCOE	#38	13							0											0 0	13			
WINDOM									0								1		``	1 -1				
HUTCHINSON	06#					35			35										н	1 34				
MONTEVIDEO	96#	32		$\exists$		7	+		0	_	-			-			1		-	1 -1				
		69			-	-	-			-	-		7				4		+	-	101			

REPORTED DEAT	HS	2015			
MINNESOTA	#1	7	Robert M Ramsey Russell G Stauffer Robert K Hoffman Arthur C Hedstrom	10/03/11 04/14/13 04/09/15 09/14/15	Charles O Vandervort James A Sweitzer Robert E Hansen
WINONA	#5	0	7	337 : 17 : 3	
TYRIAN	#6	3	Clinton Weber	11/18/08	Lawrence M. Atkin
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	,, 0	Ü	Dean Cates	01/08/15	Zawronoo wa 7 kkm
HALCYON	#8	2	N Gene Cowen	01/23/14	Edward A Highum
ST JOHNS	#9	6	Jerome S. Ahlman	11/28/14	Malcolm W. Glad
	0	· ·	Robert D. Anderson	10/21/14	R Scott Raymond
			Allan N Fagley	04/17/15	John E Peterson
ST CLOUD	#10		rman it i agioy	0 17 117 10	301111 2 1 31313311
AUSTIN	#14	3	John H Nelson	09/23/15	Stewart E Mattson
		•	William R Schaffer Gebhard W	11/19/15	
OWATONNA	#15	3	Singlestad	02/11/15	Donald E Beese
			George E Kehoe Jr	07/15/15	
WASHINGTON	#17	4	John P Arnold	02/08/12	John W Morgan
			Audree D Martin	04/16/14	Carl R Morgan
KEYSTONE	#20	12	William L Bush Sr	04/01/09	Thomas L Haney
			Henry M Haugland	01/07/13	Willis A Hutchinson
			John K Niemi	12/08/14	John M Young
			Chester Christison	03/12/15	Donald G Tekautz
			Russell E Holm	07/06/15	Peter M Johnson
			Richard E Rohloff	07/16/15	John R Matts
ST PETER	#22	23	Robert F Wyatt	09/28/01	Alfred E Salisbury
			Myron M Hoffman	12/12/04	Morgan I Thomas
			Henry N Somsen	01/21/08	Alton G Eklund
			Richard A Novak	09/26/08	Glenn R Bateman
			Richard W Wilson	02/23/11	Kenneth Bull
			Charles W Kirby	04/25/11	Donn C Bruess
			George W Wagner	08/08/13	Gerald E Larson
			Henry Nypson	07/01/14	Herbert R Nelson
			Royal L Lee	09/15/14	A L Moore Jr Robert R Anderson,
			Glenn A Hughes	03/13/15	Sr.
			Robert E Hamilton	04/20/15	William E Huevelman
			John F Malmborg	10/25/15	
FERGUS FALLS	#27	3	Stanley R Sorenson	11/12/12	Wallace E Mjelde
			Raymond D Holten	09/02/15	

LIVING ARCH ALBERT LEA CORINTHIAN MT NEBO PIERSON BRAINARD	#28 #30 #33 #39 #41 #42	2 1 1	John H Breuker Samuel D Wilson Willis E Miller	01/08/15 08/16/15 01/12/15	Dennis A Ronning
FAIRMONT ARK	#50 #53	0 6	Robert B Palon Leon L Lundquist	10/12/02 04/15/15	William H Nelson Earl A Hansen Raymond D
COLUMBIAN	#60	8	Robert H Meyer Lloyd E Thompson	05/20/15 02/13/15	Anderson Robert W Bish Edward M Werbachowski
			Marion R Roe Christopher J Ree John N Beaver	07/13/15 09/08/15 10/10/15	Jr John N Watson Lyle G Bing
MARSHALL	#65				
BEMIDJI	#70	3	Melvin Fauchald Wayne Dalgleish	01/09/15 05/25/15	Dan S Savich Jr
NORTHERN	#82	6	Arlen S Ellingson Alan R Walker Gerald L Mitchel	01/27/15 03/27/15 10/10/15	Gary D Flynn Marshal B Simons Homer H Russ
ALEXANDRIA	#86	7	Jophn L Hedine Delmore Gustafson John W Trumm Lawrence C Kloog	11/28/11 01/16/13 04/04/14 04/16/15	Marlin L Waldvogel Eugene O Smith Robert C Flanders
RUSH CITY	#87	0	9		
HUTCHINSON	#90	1	Bruce B Mielke	10/10/15	
GLENWOOD	#93	2	Robert W Erenberg	02/08/14	Stanton T Nelson
KITTSON	#101	1	Donald E Stengrim	03/11/15	
OVERSEERS	#103	0	_		
ANOKA-SHEKINAH	#104	0			
KING SOLOMON U.D.	#133 UD	3	Knut T Knudson Norman E Gehrke	Unknown 12/26/15	John L Galle Sr
	-	107	Norman E Gehrke	12/26/15	

REPORTED EXALTATIONS		2015				
MINNESOTA	#1	7	Luigi S Andretta Jeffrey S Hagen Scott D Hughes Daniel E Johnson	06/05/15 06/05/15 06/05/15 06/05/15	Philip W Epstein Rick B Heimark Richard L Hugley	00 00
WINONA	#5	0				
TYRIAN	#6					
HALCYON	#8	0				
ST JOHNS	#9	4	Jeffrey Hunt Joel Felberg	02/07/15 02/07/15	Scott Livingston  Mathew Cranston	02 09
ST CLOUD	#10					
AUSTIN	#14	1	John C Fair	12/16/15		
OWATONNA	#15	2	Luke Accord	08/16/14	John Tapp	1
WASHINGTON	#17	0				
KEYSTONE	#20	4	Larry A Lundblad	02/07/15	Jerry W Tucker John W Marshall	08
			Joseph J Proveaux Thomas A	12/15/15	Jr DeWayne V	11
ST PETER	#22	2	Anderson	02/07/15	Derksen	02
FERGUS FALLS	#27	3	Arlyn J Hustad Kurk Werner	02/12/15 02/12/15	James M Fish Jr	02
LIVING ARCH	#28	0				
ALBERT LEA	#30	0				
CORINTHIAN	#33	6	Marc Bellemore	09/14/15	David Y Widner	09
			Robert L Widner Aaron A	09/14/15	James L Giacherio	12
			Oesterreich	12/14/15	Robert F Vance Jr	1:
MT NEBO	#39					
PIERSON	#41	0				
BRAINARD	#42					
FAIRMONT	#50	0	Patrick M			
ARK	#53	2	Rosengren	02/07/15	George J Sawyer	02
COLUMBIAN	#60	6	David E Carlson David C Graham	02/07/15 09/09/15	Robert L Johnson Craig R Kamman	0: 0:
			Kevin E. Sullivan	09/09/15	Charles C Leflar	11
MARSHALL	#65	-				
BEMIDJI	#70	0				

U				
3	Paul J Bridenstine	06/02/13	Lavern P Harlow	(
	Shawn W Carlson	02/02/15		
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
3	Matt Behning	02/07/15	Eric Erfourth	(
	Larry Jensen	02/07/15		
0				
	_			
43				
	0 0 0 0 0 3	3 Paul J Bridenstine Shawn W Carlson 0 0 0 0 0 3 Matt Behning Larry Jensen 0	3 Paul J Bridenstine 06/02/13 Shawn W Carlson 02/02/15 0 0 0 0 0 3 Matt Behning 02/07/15 Larry Jensen 02/07/15	3 Paul J Bridenstine 06/02/13 Lavern P Harlow Shawn W Carlson 02/02/15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

There was a motion by Odegard, seconded by Steven Partridge, to approve this report. The motion passed.

# TRIPLE TAU/KNIGHT OF THE ROYAL ARCH

MEC Greg Schultz and REC Cliff Isley presented the following Triple Tau awards:

Roger Morris – Triple Tau Steven Partridge – Star James McNeely, IV – Star Greg Schultz – 2 Stars

There were no Knight of the Royal Arch Awards.

# **HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS**

Grand Secretary Odegard made a motion to grant Honorary Memberships to those distinguished attendees who have attained that highest position of leadership in their various jurisdictions and had not previously received an honorary membership. The motion was seconded by Marvin Schendel and passed.

Grand High Priest of Wisconsin – Charles M. Olson

Grand High Priest of Nebraska – Anthony T. Johnson

Grand High Priest of Iowa - Ronald W. Guthrie

Past Grand Superintendent of Ontario – Prince D. Selvaraj

The companions were greeted by Grand High Priest Schultz and presented their certificates.

A call was made for any further reports from standing committees needed to be given. There being none, the Grand Secretary moved that all the remaining preprinted reports be received and printed in the proceedings. The motion was seconded and passed.

## **TELLERS REPORT**

MEC James Turner, IV, reported that a vast majority of the ballots were cast for:

Clifford H. Isley as Grand High Priest

Joseph J. Anderson as Grand King

W. David Emery as Grand Scribe

Gary A. Odegard as Grand Treasurer/Secretary

R. James Luchsinger, II as Grand Captain of the Host

L. Greg Schultz, Jr. as Grand Trustee [2019]

Grand High Priest Schultz congratulated the newly elected officers, dismissed the tellers and ordered the Grand Secretary to destroy the ballots.

GHP Schultz called upon PGHP Barnes Sharitt who announced that Gary Johnson was the recipient of the 2016 Ephraim Kirby Award. GHP Schultz then announced that Jerry Zierdt was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in Bronze. Both awards will be presented at the Grand Banquet on Saturday night.

# **APPOINTMENTS FOR 2016-2017**

Grand High Priest Schultz called on the Grand High Priest Elect Isley to announce his appointments. The 2016-2017 Appointed Officers are:

Grand Principal Sojourner
Grand Royal Arch Captain
Grand Master of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil

Carl F. Lidstrom
Michael A. Hilgert
R. Sean Gardiner
Randall L. Poulson
Alan Mackenzie

Grand Sentinel (Vacant)

Grand Chaplain Thomas E. Hendrickson
Grand Organist William T. Hubbard
Grand Lecturer Mark A. Anderson

# FINAL JURISPRUDENCE REPORT

The fraternal relationship between various Masonic entities (Prince Hall) was requested. It is being researched with the Grand Lodge and the General Grand Chapter so as to have a unified explanation. At the time of print, we are still awaiting correspondence.

We have reviewed the Grand High Priest's activities and the actions of the Grand Chapter and find them in compliance with Masonic Regulations. The session has been conducted in full and true form. All business was in form with no other matter before us. The year is closed in harmony and good work.

Respectfully Submitted MEC Gary H. Johnson

# **GENERAL GRAND REPRESENTATIVE**

GHP Schultz introduced Most Excellent Companion James H. Hodge, General Grand King, and led in giving him the Grand Honors.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest and distinguished companions all.

It's indeed a privilege to be here with you in Minnesota again and be with you at your session. I bring you the greetings of our General Grand High Priest, Louis E. Bartrand who very much enjoyed his visit here last year with you. It's unfortunate that he's not able to be here with you and the last time we talked he was on his way to Togo in Africa to install their Grand High Priest, who also happens to be the president of the country, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and the head of every other Masonic organization. Now if you think one man controls all Masonry in that country you're absolutely right. It

isn't that way here in this country though. But I commend the officers of this Grand Chapter because I notice unity. And in unity there is strength. And that combined with communications assures us of success. And success brings on greater success because everybody wants to be part of something that's successful. Now, where do we all fit in? Well, there's the real question. It can't just be the grand officers. They set the examples. But it's all of us working together as part of a unified team that will make that difference and will make Royal Arch Masonry stronger, not only here but in the local communities but more importantly throughout the country and throughout the world. We're seeing great numbers now. World War II veterans have literally all died. There are many that are left and I'm glad they're still alive but the numbers are starting to reverse. The deaths are fewer and fewer in each jurisdiction each year. Now we have some jurisdictions that are not paying close attention to suspensions and demits. Obviously we can't do anything about the deaths but further investigation of the demits, the discouragement of them, trying to retain those members plus the exultations which are coming up will make a difference and you'll find that those numbers exceed the numbers we're losing to death. And that's wonderful but it takes a little bit of housekeeping. Now Gary I have to commend you on the work that you've been doing but on the same hand I must point out as you clean up your records and many names are being taken off the list could you kind of overlook the fact that you may have been paying the Royal Arch Mason Magazine for all those years for those companions. Well, Missouri leads the nation in having the most screwed up system of anybody. They truly, as far as the magazine is concerned, they're paying for about 5,000 members of which 2,000 we are pretty sure don't exist. Now we don't know because the post office wants to charge the magazine \$.60 for each one that is returned. We can't afford to pay that. Now Grand Encampment on the other hand will slap a Grand Recorder's hand if they get one magazine back, because they do pay that to get it back. So I've told a number of Grand Secretaries that if you happen to also know the Grand Recorder, get his list of the magazine people and compare it with the list that you're sending in if you're a 100% jurisdiction because chances are theirs is right with the exception of some life memberships we have in the magazine.

I just want to tell you that there is a real revival because there is an interest by young people in the fraternity. Now some of it is due to the movies and some of it due to the conspiracy theories, etc. But even so, it's been good publicity and its created interest. The important thing to recognize is the fact that many of these young people have done more research in Masonry than we've done in our entire lives. They've been on the Internet. Well the Internet's wonderful but not everything on the Internet is true. Is that right preacher? Yea I thought so. So they're confused. But they really have a desire and an interest. My wife and I were sitting two years ago in Reston, Virginia, and they had an eight inch snow, Valentine's Day. The hotel was smart enough to not let the maids go home. They put them in the empty bedrooms. They doubled them or tripled or quadrupled them up in the rooms, but they kept them. The restaurant let their people go home. The following morning, nobody could get anything to eat because the restaurant people, the cooks, the waiters, the waitresses, could not get back to the hotel. It was eight inches of snow and it's not as bad as Arkansas. I asked Arkansas one year when I was down there, and they had a big snow like that and the guy said well, we've been trying to get the mule out of the barn to hook him up to the plow but he's just not cooperating. That was their concept of a snow plow. Virginia is a little more progressive than that but they have to contract it out but it took the guys a whole day to get it done. Well anyway, we're sitting there and we get to this restaurant and of course they're booked with reservations and we finally get into this Italian place about 9:00 in the evening. And I'm sitting there and there is this couple over at a little table for two. They have flowers. They have candles. The lights in the restaurant have been dimmed. It's very romantic. And I'm anticipating this young man taking her hand and whispering sweet nothings across the table. No! They're sitting there both on their phones texting each other. Now my friends, what's wrong with that. Well, it's common with young people. I mean, call one of my granddaughters. They don't respond to the call but if you text them

they'll text right back. Because they look at the phone and the ID tells them who it is. Grandpa can wait, I'll talk to him later this is busy. But if you text, oh no. What these people are saying, the Internet does not give me that close relationship with another human being. With a Mason, I desire what Masonry has, fellowship, personal relationships, people who care. People who will support me. People who are involved in hands on community work. I don't mind giving money. I don't mind giving my time. But I want to see results. I want to participate. I want to be involved. What do we offer? Oh yes, come to our meeting. We'll read the minutes. We'll pay the bills. We'll sit around and have a piece of pie or a donut or a cup of coffee. We'll shoot the breeze about the good old days that they're not even aware of that some might find interesting but most of them could care less. Now we probably could too but we've told those stories so many times that we can't remember any others. And we expect them to come back. I find it interesting. When I go to Lodge and it's becoming more and more difficult to make it to Lodge now because of my travel schedule. And all of us in the General Grand Chapter are faced with that but we attempt to be at the local bodies as much as we can. I still go in and introduce and shake hands to every member that's there. Believe me, I'm not running for anything else. But I want every brother there to feel recognized and acknowledge that he's there. If we all do that, how many of you are Lodge members? Oh yeah, every hand in the room better go up. I'm just checking to see who's sleeping and who's not. But the thing of it is, by doing that, you're not running for anything either but you're wanting to make people welcome. And if they're welcomed, they're going to come back. Put yourself in the youngest Mason's position in the room. What's he doing? When we was an Entered Apprentice, everybody was growling at him time and again and welcomed him time and again telling him I'm so glad you're here, I'm so glad you're going through the degrees with us and everything. Well what did you think about that? The same thing with the Fellowcraft Degree. Now he's exalted. He's a Master Mason. He comes back to his first meeting. Do we ignore him? Yeah, he's one of us now. You think the guy's going to come back? No. I really don't think so. And, so what we're doing, we're bringing them in the front door by droves but we're turning our back on them and they are leaving by the back door and won't come back. We've got to stop that, fellows. We really do. Now, all of you are Blue Lodge Masons. How many of you are actually active in your Blue Lodge? How many of you are officers in your Blue Lodge? Yea, OK. I like to tell every Grand Master, the Grand Master's not here, is he? Well I've got a tape recorder so I know what I'm doing. But I like to tell every Grand Master that if he'd do a survey of the Masons that are active in his Lodges, in his jurisdiction, most of them are York Rite Masons. Now, I'm York Rite and Scottish Rite as many of you are. So I have to count myself as dual. But, I maintain it is the York Rite that is the backbone of the Blue Lodges that keep them going because we're involved as officers, ritualists, serving on committees, cooking meals, cleaning up the temple, whatever it takes. I commend you for that. But at the same time, I'm glad to hear that Minnesota now is going to have an educational program that's going to go in and allow you to be in a Lodge and present information about the Chapter as well as the York Rite. Ohio a number of years ago developed a beautiful skit and it's called the Peculiar Stone. The General Grand Chapter has it up on our website. And it's basically the mark master degree where they discover this stone and the Fellowcraft comes in and says, you know, I don't see anything wrong with this stone. I think I'll claim it as my own and take it up to the overseers to pass on. Well anyway, New York got a hold of it and they didn't really like the ending of it in Ohio's version so they changed it, they rewrote it. But they have presented it in numerous Blue Lodges and guess what. Every time they presented it, they've gotten one to three petitions. It takes five minutes for five people, fifteen minutes. You know what they are using for costumes? Preacher, they're using choir robes, the cheapest choir robes you can get. And if you want to be cheaper than that, go talk to the company that sells every high school graduation class a robe. They're unbelievably cheap. They're unbelievably thin and they won't last long but they do make an impression upon those Blue Lodge Masons that are sitting there for an educational thing. Now, we mentioned the ritual. And I'm glad to hear that we are reworking the ritual here in Minnesota. I as a General Grand Chapter officer though

must also tell you that when you received your original charter from the General Grand Chapter you pledged to follow the General Grand Chapter Ritual as all Grand Chapters did when they joined. Now there are a few Grand Chapters that were in existence prior to the existence of the General Grand Chapter. That's not true for them. Now, being the organization that we are, and that your membership is voluntary in the General Grand Chapter, we don't interfere with what you decide to do with your ritual. However, as a courtesy, would you please, before you print the final copy of it, send it to the General Grand Secretary and advise him that you would like the General Grand Chapter Custodian of the Work to have the ritual committee review it. Not that we're going to find anything wrong with it, but let me tell you what fellows, we've had the General Grand Chapter I think Moses brought it with him. Now in Indiana, they completely rewrote the MEM degree. It's no longer done in the Lodge room. It's conducted in the dining hall, in costume at a table chapter. Gee, maybe the General Grand Chapter ought to find out that there are some bright lightbulbs out there we need to be looking at. That's the only reason why I ask you to send us a couple of copies so our committee can look at it because we may need to reformat the General Grand Chapter ritual. To do so we like to benefit from the wheel you've already created rather than to try to reinvent. Most Excellent Grand High Priest sir, I thank you for all the courtesies and hospitality extended to me. I always look forward to coming here and I congratulate you on a great year and look forward to working with the new officers in the future as well as yourself. Thank you companions.

GHP Schultz inquired of the Grand Secretary and Jurisprudence Committee if there was any unattended to business, both indicated that there was no further business.

Grand High Priest Schultz instructed the Grand Principal Sojourner to attend at the altar and declared the Convocation at recess until the installation of officers.

# INSTALLATION OF 2016-2017 GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS

The Installation of the Grand Chapter Officers for Minnesota Royal Arch Masons took place on Thursday, June 23rd, 2016, at Rochester, Minnesota. At the appointed time the Installing Grand Officer, Most Excellent Companion L. Greg Schultz, PGHP, assumed the East and introduced the assisting installing officers:

Installing Grand Captain of the Host
Installing Grand Secretary
Installing Grand Chaplain
Installing Grand Organist

MEC Hugh C. Swift, Jr., PGHP
MEC Robert R. Anderson, Jr., PGHP
MEC James E. Turner, Jr., PGHP
EC William T. Hubbard

On order of the Installing Officer, and under the direction of the Installing Marshall, the 2016-2017 Grand Chapter Officers and their ladies were escorted into the room and seated. The Installing Secretary called the roll of officers:

#### 2016-2017 Grand Chapter Officers

Grand High Priest Clifford H. Isley

Grand King Joseph J. Anderson
Grand Scribe W. David Emery

Grand Secretary/Treasurer Gary A. Odegard, PGHP
Grand Captain of the Host R. James Luchsinger II
Grand Principal Sojourner Carl F. Lidstrom

Grand Royal Arch Captain
Grand Master of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil
Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil
Alan Mackenzie

Grand Sentinel
Grand Chaplain
Grand Organist
Grand Lecturer
Grand Trustee

Thomas E. Hendrickson
William T. Hubbard
Mark A. Anderson
L. Greg Schultz

The officers were obligated by Installing Officer Schultz. Installing Grand Chaplain Turner offered a prayer.

Clifford H. Isley was presented for installation. His duties as Grand High Priest were explained and he was invested with the Jewel of his office and conducted to his station in the Grand Chapter. There he was presented with the Constitution and the Grand Gavel and informed that he could now preside, if he so chose. He declined for the time being.

The other officers were obligated by Installing Officer Schultz.

The remaining officers were each presented in order of election/appointment. Each was instructed in their duties, presented with the jewel of office by their ladies and then conducted to their station or place in the Grand Chapter.

The Installing Grand Officer offered the following:

"May this Grand Chapter become as beautiful as the Temple, peaceful as the Ark, and sacred as the Most Holy Place.

May we be endowed with every good and perfect gift while traveling the rugged path of life, and finally, may we be admitted to the full enjoyment of life eternal."

The Installing Grand Marshal made the proclamation followed by the benediction by the Installing Grand Chaplain.

The new Grand High Priest Isley received the gavel and rose to give his remarks and thanked the Installing Grand Officers for a great job.

Outgoing Grand High Priest Schultz approached the East and presented the Grand High Priest's pocket jewel and informed Companion Isley of its value.

