

156<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
COMMUNICATION



GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

GRAND LODGE F. & A. M.  
OF NEVADA

NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 2020

## **GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE**

M.W. Louis J. Castle, II

### **WELCOME**

Welcome to the 156th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of the State of Nevada. Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Lodge Officers and visiting Brothers all, I personally thank each and every one of you for supporting our Grand Lodge by taking the time, expense and effort to travel in these trying times. Your dedication to Freemasonry and to me is deeply and humbly appreciated. I also want to acknowledge the significant number of Brothers from Nevada and our neighboring Jurisdictions who has reached out to me to offer their best wishes but who did not feel safe traveling or attending. You are all missed my Brothers but not forgotten. I look forward to seeing you in the months and years to come.

Please extend my thanks to our ladies, guests, and youth groups for attending this important event. Their support is critical for us to lead a full Masonic life. Our Grand Lodge is grateful for their participation.

Our long-standing goal for this Annual Communication was to provide as many opportunities for fellowship with our Brothers and extended Masonic families as possible while conducting the necessary business required by our Masonic Code. This goal has become even more important now due to the pandemic. We all hunger for social interaction and I am very happy that our Grand Jurisdiction could accommodate visitors. I hope you have availed yourselves of the social events over the weekend and will enjoy our remaining events these next two days. I look forward to thanking all of you personally in our sessions, at our meals or in our hospitality room.

This has been a trying year for all of us and especially for our Masonic leaders. We all work for many years in anticipation of the things we will accomplish when we sit in the East. 2020 is a humbling reminder that we get the year we get, not the year we want. Nevada Lodges have been closed for half or more of this year, yet Nevada Masters have found ways to keep connected to their Brothers with video conferences, outdoor events, and regular phone calls. Times like these are stark reminders of the value of Masonry which depends on our social connections. I am so happy to see so many innovations by our Master's and their Lodges to stay connected and to continue to strive for improvement.

Our Grand Lodge Officers also continue to dedicate a great deal to our Craft. In addition to having served as Past Masters of their Lodges they continue to actively serve as elected officers, committee chairmen and workers, not only in their Blue Lodges but also in the many appendant Masonic Bodies. We have sitting Lodge Masters and a Shrine Potentate serving in our Grand Line. To all of you my Brothers, a deep thank you for all you continue to do to serve Nevada Masonry.

Thanks to the generosity of the Nevada Grand York Rite, this year we conducted a very successful \$30,000 outreach campaign to educate interested men about Masonry. We have collected contact information from over 1,700 interested men, over double the numbers expected. Dozens of men are on their way to becoming Masons and we will continue to receive benefits from this year's efforts for years to come. I sincerely encourage our Grand Lodge and future Grand Masters to continue this outreach.

Lastly, thank you to all my Lodge Masters and their officers. We accomplished quite a bit in a short year, and I am filled with pleasant grand memories of 2020.

### **NECROLOGY**

I am saddened to report that we lost 109 Brethren of our Constituent Lodges to “that undiscovered country from whose borne no traveler returns”. They have laid down their working tools. God’s finger touched them, and they slept.

We lost one Past Grand Master during this last Masonic year, on October 17, 2020, M.W. Duane G. Laubach.

### **Duane Gilbert Laubach, P.G.M.**

Duane G. Laubach, of Henderson, Nevada, was elected and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Nevada at the 118th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 9, 1982. The 110th Brother to serve this Grand Lodge.

Duane was born in Okeene, Oklahoma, November 2, 1931. He received his primary education in California and Nevada, graduating from Basic High School, Henderson, Nevada. He attended the University of California in Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.) and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a B.S. Degree.

He was a licensed Realtor and appraiser, owning his own business in Henderson, Nevada.

Duane and Helen Frances Orr were married in Pioche, Nevada, the day after Christmas, December 26, 1954. They have a daughter, Mary Ann and a son, Robert. Mary Ann is working in her father’s Real Estate office. Robert attended the University of Nevada at Reno.

Brother Laubach was a member of Dwayne S. Loughry Chapter of DeMolay in Boulder City, Nevada, becoming a member of St. Johns Lodge No. 18, F. & A.M., Pioche, Nevada, March 30th, 1956, demitting to Mount Moriah Lodge No. 39 in Henderson, serving as Master in 1969, with distinction and honor, right until his election as Grand Master.

He remained a busy man, his family, his business, Masonry, Rotary, and always just one more thing to help with.

### **STATE OF THE CRAFT**

Early in my term I traveled and visited many of our Lodges in the north and south. My intent to visit all Lodges was cut short by the pandemic, yet I’m still thrilled to have witnessed Masonry in its many forms thriving in Nevada. I am especially encouraged by the number of younger men joining our great Fraternity. Nevada Masonry can be and has been improved when Lodges large and small find those one or two men who inspire their friends to join bringing new life and excitement. It is wonderful to see Lodges growing and being actively involved with their families and communities. Most of our active Lodges have excellent ritual but a few of our more settled Lodges could look to other Lodges to help keep our educational standards high. I was pleased to have many of those “wow” moments P.G.M. Buffington mentioned in his 2014 address.

Things can also be improved. My Grand Master’s message this year was about the importance of engagement and retention to build any social group. We do not have as much of a problem with attracting members as much as we fail to keep them interested and engaged, resulting in our membership slipping away. We could also take more time to speak to a Brother rather than about them. The pockets of acrimony that find their way into even our noble Craft could more often than not be resolved with some Brotherly love and affection and with some compromise thrown in. Any argument in a Lodge results in disenfranchised Brothers so I admonish our current and future Lodge Masters to remember their oath to maintain peace and harmony.

Despite some Lodges growing rapidly, membership in Nevada declined in 2020 with a

net loss of 137 Brothers. This is unfortunate but expected with our aging membership and is ever a reminder of why we need engaged Brothers to keep our Lodges strong. We lost 109 Brothers to that Celestial Lodge while raising 36 Master Masons with 83 Entered Apprentices and 59 Fellowcrafts pending advancement.

## **OFFICIAL ACTS**

### **PROCLAMATIONS (3)**

I issued the following proclamations on November 27, 2019.

#### **PROCLAMATION NO. 1**

Pursuant to the adopted custom of Masons in Nevada, and in conformity with Section 4.400 of the Nevada Masonic Code and as a means of honoring the memory of George Washington, the Man and the Mason, for his steady devotion to our Masonic Principles, I do hereby; PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2020 AS GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE MONTH. It is my order that every Lodge, or several Lodges, together, during the month of February 2020, shall hold a suitable program, either private or public, thus affirming that Free and Accepted Masons will always honor their great Masonic Leaders. A report of this observance shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary upon completion.

#### **PROCLAMATION NO. 2**

All Masons of Constituent Lodges should observe and display their pride in our Masonic Youth Organizations – the International Order of DeMolay, the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and the International Order of Job's Daughters. I therefore; PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF MARCH AS MASONIC YOUTH OBSERVANCE MONTH and order that each Lodge, or several Lodges, shall join together to attend and observe our Masonic Youth at their labors in their Chapters, Assemblies or Bethels, on their respective meeting nights, providing that any Masonic Youth Group is located in said Lodge's area. If this is not possible, an informative program about Masonic Youth Groups shall be presented to the Brethren of their Lodges during March 2020. Additionally, as a supplement, but not as a substitute, to the foregoing, the Lodges may consider offering financial support to a local Chapter, Assembly or Bethel, or to any state organization representing our Masonic Youth. A report of this observance shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary upon completion.

#### **PROCLAMATION NO. 3**

Whereas, Free and Accepted Masons are dedicated to the support and furtherance of Public Schools, and per Section 4.390 of the Nevada Masonic Code, I do hereby; PROCLAIM PUBLIC SCHOOL OBSERVANCE WEEK TO BE OBSERVED AT SOME PERIOD BETWEEN APRIL 15, 2020 AND MAY 15, 2020. It is my order that each Lodge, or several Lodges, join together in the presentation of a program to display our Masonic Fraternity's support of Public Schools. Our support is sometimes better displayed when the program activities are presented to the public. A report of this observance shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary upon completion.

## **EDICTS (6)**

I issued the following Edicts in my term. The first on November 27, 2019 regarding unauthorized electronic ritual and the following five throughout 2020 to address the evolving issue surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **EDICT 1-2020**

1. Certain internet sites purport to offer the Nevada Masonic Ritual for downloading. Please be advised that any such Ritual is not "Nevada Standard Work" (refer to Section 4.350 of the Nevada Masonic Code) and no such download of the ritual shall be used in any form, for any Masonic purpose, by any member of the Grand Lodge of Nevada or any of its Constituent Lodges and Lodges of Research in the Jurisdiction of Nevada.

2. Also, be advised, as per Section 4.630 (1) of the Nevada Masonic Code, only ONE Ritual Book may be used during a tiled Lodge meeting (opening and closing and for the conferral of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees by a designated member of the Lodge to check the standard work for the purpose of instruction). In addition, Section 4.630(2) states that a violation of subsection 1 is a Masonic offense.

A written compliance to this Edict shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary immediately following receipt thereof.

### **EDICT NO. 2- COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

DATE: April 3, 2020

TO: All Masons in Nevada  
Brethren,

I hereby order all Masons in Nevada to suspend all Masonic meetings or gatherings until further notice and no sooner than April 30, 2020 due to the risk the current Pandemic presents to our Brethren and in conformity with Governor Sisolak's Directive 010 which can be found at [gov.nv.gov](http://gov.nv.gov) under "Official Items." Cancellations of Stated Meetings due to this Edict will not be considered a recess under NMC 4.230. You will not have to make up the meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, no meetings may be held which require a tiled room which includes, but is not limited to, Stated or Called Meetings and Degree Ritual.

Our extended Masonic family must be our top priority in this unprecedented circumstance. Many of our Brothers or their loved ones are in the highest risk group for serious complications from this deadly virus. All Masons should stay home as much as possible. Some infectious people will not have symptoms. Everyone should presume they are a carrier.

Staying home does not mean losing touch with your Brothers. Now is a great time to update your personal contact information in Grand View which you can access at [nvmasons.org](http://nvmasons.org) under "Brothers." Video conferencing with Zoom, Google Hang Outs or other services are great ways to keep in touch or even coach a candidate, providing both parties are in private spaces. The Grand Lodge continues its efforts of outreach to educate all interested in Freemasonry through [bea Freemason.org](http://bea Freemason.org) and [nvmasons.org/interested](http://nvmasons.org/interested). Consider adding virtual tours of your Lodge Rooms to your websites and let the Grand Lodge know so that we can add the links to our site.

For practical purposes, while this Edit is in effect, all usual bills such as rent, taxes, utilities and services may be paid when ordered by the Worshipful Master. Extraordinary but

necessary expenses may be paid with the consent of the Master, Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer. Phone, video conferences and email are acceptable forms of communication to determine consent and must be recorded by the Secretary noting that the regular meeting was suspended per the Grand Master. Funeral services may be conducted if within current State requirements; however, I encourage postponing Masonic Services until a time where full Masonic rites can be conferred.

I am sure there will be additional questions and concerns as we all struggle through these unprecedented times. I am always available to any Mason, so please don't hesitate to reach out.

### **EDICT NO. 3 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

DATE: April 20, 2020

TO: All Masons in Nevada

Brethren,

Nevada Brothers, officers and family members are now battling Covid-19. I ask that you keep them in your prayers.

Pursuant to my EDICT No. 2, while Governor Sisolak's Directive 01 O is in place, all Masonic meetings or gatherings remain suspended. Masons must follow Government guidelines after the order is lifted or reduced.

Furthermore, given our demographics, and with respect to the authority of a Master to govern their Lodge, I strongly advise all Masters to cancel all Masonic meetings in the Month of May. As many as 60% of Covid-19 contagious people show no symptoms. I'm certain none of us would want to be responsible for infecting a vulnerable Brother.

Cancellations of Stated Meetings due to this Edict will not be considered a recess under NMC 4.230. Lodges are hereby relieved of the requirements in 2020 Proclamations No. 2 and No. 3. Silver State Lodge Award requirement No. 6, are waived. Although the Silver State Masonic Youth Groups (50 points) and Public Schools (75 points) are impractical, the 250 points of Additional Qualifying Activities (300 if missing a mandatory act) are still required. Scholarship applications that cannot make the May 15 deadline should be held for a future award.

I thank our Lodges that have continued to have fellowship over video conferencing. I've attended quite a few already and it is great to see our Brethren practicing Masonry. These events can be used for the Silver State Lodge Award Fellowship/ Fun/ Public Service Activities providing they meet the other listed requirements.

Usual or budgeted bills in May such as rent, taxes, utilities and services may be paid when ordered by the Worshipful Master. Extraordinary but necessary expenses may be paid with the consent of the Master, Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer. Phone, video conferences and email are acceptable forms of communication to determine consent and must be recorded by the Secretary noting that the regular meeting was suspended per the Grand Master. Funeral services may be conducted if within current State requirements; however, I encourage postponing Masonic Services until a time where full Masonic rites can be conferred.

Should any Master choose to conduct Lodge, which I strongly advise against, I hereby order that all members must follow current Nevada recommended guidelines and at a minimum, wear face masks and avoid all unnecessary physical contact, including shaking hands as a greeting. Greetings can be a slight bow and Deacons can simply nod to a known qualified Brother instead of collecting the pass. Degrees should otherwise follow our approved work with members and candidates taking care not to touch their face and thoroughly washing their hands at the earliest opportunity. Lodge furnishings and items used in Degrees, including candidate uniforms must be cleaned before each Degree for the safety of our candidates and members.

Thank you all for keeping our principles during these trying times.

## **EDICT NO. 4 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

DATE: May 29, 2020

TO: All Masons in Nevada

Brethren,

Pursuant to my Edict No. 3 that no Masons may meet in defiance of our Governor's Directive or recommendations, I am strongly advising to have no Masonic meetings while we are in Phase Two of our Governor's Nevada United: Road map to Recovery expected to end June 30. Please schedule your meetings for later in the year. We still average well over a hundred new cases daily in Nevada, a number that may even go up as more business begin to open. I realize there has been much publicity about Section 10 prohibiting gatherings of 50 people or more. That is only one specific prohibition and does not imply recommendation of meetings with 49 or less are in anyway safe or advised. Our standards as Masons require us to be good examples and follow the civil law and my order was specific to follow all recommendations, not just the legal requirements. A wise man once told me that just being a "law abiding citizen" is a pretty low standard.

Governor Sisolak's Phase 2 actual Directive has been released online and can be found here: <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Directive-021-Phase-Two-Reopening-Plan.pdf>

Specifically, Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 apply to our gentle Craft and at this time I believe the wording clearly indicates our Governor would not want us meeting and I certainly advise against it. Masonry is a glorious institution, but we have no hard requirement to meet and doing so puts our Brethren and their loved one's safety at risk.

As a reminder, my Edict No. 3 expressly removes the penalties for all Lodges who remain closed while Governor Sisolak's Directives and my Edicts prevents our regular meetings. My previous communication extends the removal of those penalties for the month of June. I want to add that I prohibit any Master of their Lodge to punish any officer that prefers not to meet at this time.

Accordingly, should any Master of their Lodge decide to disregard my advice and still call a meeting I have some guidance to offer. You cannot vary your standard work beyond dispensing with the pass for Brothers the Deacons know are of the required degree. This is only to enhance safety and strictly limits any Lodge activity to reading of petitions, hand votes and proficiencies, only if the candidate describes rather than acts on any points of contact. Again, this is to enhance safety. You must all wear masks and avoid contact. You may not hold any Degrees, conduct any ballots or any other work that requires personal contact or repeated contact with a common object.

I will offer guidance as new directives, recommendations and guidelines are published. Above all, please be extra cautious in all your actions for our members and for their families. Remember this virus often has no symptoms so it is best to presume everyone, including yourself is contagious.

May God bless you all and keep you safe.

## **EDICT NO. 5 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

DATE: June 29, 2020

TO: All Masons in Nevada

Brethren,

In respect of the authority of our Masters to govern their Lodges and in anticipation of our Governor's steps to begin recovery from Covid-19 by moving to Phase 3 on July 1, 2020, I am issuing this Edict No. 5.

During Phase 3, expected to begin July 1, 2020, Lodge Masters continue to have the discretion to cancel any meeting of their Lodge for the safety of its members. Cancellations of Stated Meetings due to Edicts 2-5 will not be considered a recess under NMC 4.230.

Members, including Lodge Officers, may not be penalized for failing to attend Lodge or other Masonic events due to concerns over their health or the health of others.

If you cannot perform a Lodge duty, please be sure to let your Brothers know so that others may take your place where appropriate. I assure all Brothers that neither I nor any Masonic leader will feel slighted should you decide not to attend Lodge or a Masonic event.

All Brethren attending Lodge or other Masonic events should act as if every member is contagious, including themselves. I hereby Order that all members must always follow current Nevada recommended guidelines including wearing a face mask. Brethren should avoid all unnecessary physical contact, including shaking hands as a greeting. Greetings can be a slight bow and Deacons can nod to a known qualified Brother instead of collecting the pass. Degrees should otherwise follow our approved work with members and candidates taking care not to touch their face and thoroughly washing their hands at the earliest opportunity. Lodge furnishings and items used in Degrees, including candidate uniforms must be sanitized before and during each Degree for the safety of our candidates and members. Lodges should be opened on the First Degree whenever possible, including Stated Meetings, Official Visits and Called Communications, as long as the work performed can be done on that Degree.

While we are all anxious to get back to our Masonic work and fellowship please note that many Lodge By-laws designate July and August as dark months when Lodges are not permitted to hold Stated Meetings. Please also consider that any votes taken while some members are not attending for their own safety or due to social distancing limits may result in future concerns from those Brothers so avoid controversial votes when possible.

Finally, should Governor Sisolak extend Phase 2 into July, my prior Edict No. 4 will remain in effect, including the mandate to wear masks at all times, with one alteration. It is permissible to hold ballots or conduct other work providing common objects are sanitized between uses.

Thank you all for keeping to our principles during these trying times.

### **EDICT NO. 6- COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

DATE: August 17, 2020

TO: All Masons in Nevada

Brethren,

In response to our Governor's Emergency-Directive 029 and the Aug 3, 2020 "Road to Recovery: Moving to a New Normal" whereby our State guidance will shift from statewide to county by county restrictions, I am issuing Edict No. 6. To the extent this Edict No. 6 conflicts with earlier Edicts, Edict No. 6 shall prevail.

Lodge Masters may conduct Stated Meetings and Called Communications providing they carefully follow their current county restrictions, document the compliance in the Lodge meeting minutes, require all attendees to properly wear face coverings at all times with no exceptions, practice social distancing, and disinfect all surfaces and objects between use.

Due to the infectious nature of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the continued high rate of infections and the average age of our members Lodge Masters are encouraged to cancel activities for the safety of their members at the Masters' discretion. Canceled Stated Meetings

due to Edicts 2-6 will not be considered a recess under NMC 4.230. Secretaries should file monthly reports with the Grand Secretary even if your Lodge has not met. Members, including Lodge Officers, may not be penalized for failing to attend Lodge or other Masonic events due to concerns over their health or the health of others.

All September Grand Lodge events (GMOVs, NMLC etc.) are hereby canceled until further notice. The nature of Grand Lodge events is to gather Masons from throughout the state to increase attendance and fellowship. Under this most recent guidance we do not want to be responsible for drawing members from differing risk levels together.

Above all, please be extra cautious in all your actions for our members and for their families. Remember this virus often has no symptoms, so it is best to presume everyone, including yourself is contagious.

Thank you all for keeping to our principles during these trying times.

### **MASONIC TRIALS**

One Masonic Trial was held on November 23, 2019 at Masonic Memorial Temple for W. Brother David M. Griego who was found not guilty on all charges.

### **DECISIONS**

On November 13, 2019, I confirmed for the Secretary of Vegas Lodge No. 32 that W. David Griego's recognition as Master and the Master's message should not be included in the Lodge trestle board per NMC 5.030 (2) since W. Griego was not in Good Standing as of the inquiry.

On December 4, 2019, I disregarded a request to re-open a matter with King Solomon Lodge No. 58. which was resolved by Masonic Trial in 2017.

### **BYLAWS APPROVED**

November 12, 2019	Douglas 12: Change Article X, Section I: Separate Current Dues Amount and Grand Lodge per capita and Change Article XIII: Revise the Order of Business.
December 4, 2019	Mt. Moriah 39: Change Article III Section 1 amended to allow the Master, at his discretion pending due and timely notice, to move the Stated Meeting from the first to the second Wednesday if the first falls on a holiday and Change Article XIII: Revise the Order of Business.
January 11, 2020	Silver Cord 51 Change Article III, Section 1: Stated Communication – change meeting week(s).
October 6, 2020	Vegas 32: Change Article I, Section 4: added section to add annual internal auditing and Change Article 8, Section 8: added section to conduct a certified financial audit every three years.
October 10, 2020	Pahrump 54: Change Article XIII, Section 1: Increase in conferral fees.

### **BYLAWS NOT APPROVED**

- February 28, 2020 Indian Springs 48: Submitted numerous Article and Section changes found in conflict with NMC.
- October 10, 2020 Pahrump 54: Charge in annual dues including removing exemption of Grand Lodge Per Capita for Lifetime members in conflict with NMC.

**DISPENSATIONS APPROVED**

- January 17, 2020 Carson 1: To hold a Charity Poker Tournament on May 16, 2020.
- January 17, 2020 Vegas 32: To have an inter-jurisdictional visit with Downey United Lodge No. 220 to confer a Third Degree.
- January 31, 2020 Oasis 41: For Brother Joseph Seth Young Dyal to receive a Courtesy Third Degree in Oklahoma.
- February 14, 2020 Daylight 44: To have an inter-jurisdictional visit with Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass Lodge No. 614 to confer a Third Degree.
- February 27, 2020 Escorial 7: To Elect and Install a Junior Warden on March 7, 2020.
- March 20, 2020 St. John 18: To hold a Fundraising Raffle in 2020.
- March 26, 2020 Vegas 32: To re-ballot on a Petition for the Degrees of Masonry.
- July 24, 2020 Nellis 46: To receive a Petition of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States per Section 4.460 (2) of the NMC.

**DISPENSATIONS DENIED**

- June 4, 2020 Reno 13: Request for non-tiled Proficiencies due to COVID-19.

**PERMISSIONS GRANTED**

- January 17, 2020 Nellis 46: To participate in the Las Vegas Parade on May 9, 2020.
- January 17, 2020 Nellis 46: To hold a Table Lodge on October 27, 2020.
- January 31, 2020 Elko 15: To hold a Table Lodge on February 8, 2020.
- January 31, 2020 Dhahran Daylight 55: To hold a Rusty Nail Degree on April 23, 2020.
- January 31, 2020 Dhahran Daylight 55: To participate in the Henderson St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14, 2020.
- January 31, 2020 Dhahran Daylight 55: To participate in the Henderson Winterfest Parade on December 12, 2020
- February 6, 2020 Carson Valley 33: To hold a Table Lodge on July 18, 2020.

February 14, 2020	Daylite 44: To hold a Table Lodge on June 1, 2020.
February 21, 2020	Boulder City 37: To hold a Table Lodge on October 20, 2020.
March 12, 2020	Escorial 7: To hold a Table Lodge on November 14, 2020.
September 18, 2020	Sandy Valley 57: To move their place of Meeting from Sandy Valley to Pahrump Lodge No. 54 per Section 4.670 (2).
October 10, 2020	Oasis 41: To hold a Table Lodge on October 26, 2020.

**GRAND REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTMENTS – APPROVED**

No requests for Grand Representatives were received or made.

**INSTALLATIONS OF CONSTITUENT LODGES**

I had the honor to install the Officers of the following Lodges:

November 23, 2019	Robert Burns Lodge Under Dispensation at Vegas 32, Las Vegas
December 7, 2019	Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 39, Henderson
December 8, 2019	Daylite Lodge No. 44, Las Vegas
December 9, 2019	Oasis Lodge No. 41, Las Vegas
December 10, 2019	Nellis Lodge No. 46, Las Vegas
December 14, 2019	Pahrump Lodge No. 54, Pahrump
December 15, 2019	Winnemucca Lodge No. 19, Winnemucca
January 4, 2020	Carson Lodge No. 1, Carson
January 5, 2020	Golden Lodge No. 50, Reno
January 11, 2020	Humboldt Lodge No. 27, Lovelock

**TRAVEL AND OFFICIAL VISITS**

December 5, 2019	50 Year pin presentation for Brother Jerry Kegley, Dhahran Lodge No. 55, Henderson
December 5, 2019	Attended Scottish Rite, Valley of Las Vegas, Las Vegas
December 6, 2019	Attended Vegas Lodge No. 32, Las Vegas
December 7, 2019	Attended P.M. Degree Vegas Lodge No. 32, Las Vegas
February 2, 2020	Attended Super Bowl event, Vegas Lodge No. 32, Las Vegas
February 3, 2020	G.M.O.V. Oasis Lodge No. 41, Las Vegas
February 4, 2020	G.M.O.V. Boulder City Lodge No. 37, Boulder City
February 20, 2020	Attended Robert Burns Lodge UD, Las Vegas
March 3, 2020	G.M.O.V. Reno Lodge No. 13, Reno
March 4, 2020	G.M.O.V. Washoe Lodge No. 35, Reno
March 5, 2020	G.M.O.V. Carson Lodge No. 1, Carson
March 6, 2020	G.M.O.V. Wadsworth Lodge No. 25, Sparks
March 7, 2020	G.M.O.V. Escorial Lodge No. 7, Virginia City
March 12, 2020	G.M.O.V. Pahrump Lodge No. 54, Pahrump
March 13, 2020	G.M.O.V. King Solomon Lodge No. 58, Henderson
March 14, 2020	G.M.O.V. Winnemucca Lodge No. 19, Winnemucca
March 14, 2020	G.M.O.V. Elko Lodge No. 15, Winnemucca

March 14, 2020

G.M.O.V. Humboldt No. 27, Winnemucca

(All Masonic activity was suspended on April 3, 2020 due to Covid-19 health concerns)

June 13, 2020	Grand Lodge Officers video conference call
June 20, 2020	Attended IORG online meeting
June 25, 2020	Attended Virtual Grand Assembly of the IORG
August 1, 2020	Conferred Outdoor F.C. Degree, St. John Lodge No. 18, Pioche
August 20, 2020	Attended Robert Burns Lodge UD, Las Vegas
September 1, 2020	Attended Oasis Lodge No. 41, Las Vegas
September 2, 2020	Attended Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 39, Henderson
September 4, 2020	Attended Vegas Lodge No. 32, Las Vegas
September 8, 2020	Attended Nellis Lodge No. 46, Las Vegas
September 10, 2020	Attended Silver Cord Lodge No. 51, Henderson
September 14, 2020	Attended Daylite Lodge No. 44, Las Vegas
September 19, 2020	Attended Robert Burns Lodge UD Social, Las Vegas
October 1, 2020	Attended Dhahran Daylight Lodge No. 55, Henderson
October 1, 2020	Attended 50 Year Scottish Rite pin presentation for Brother Frank Zeigler, Valley of Las Vegas, Las Vegas
October 3, 2020	Attended Indian Springs Lodge No. 48, Las Vegas
October 10, 2020	NMLC Statewide Video Conference, Zoom
October 15, 2020	Attended Robert Burns Lodge UD, Las Vegas
November 2, 2020	G.M.O.V. Daylite Lodge No. 44, Las Vegas
November 4, 2020	G.M.O.V. Acacia Lodge No. 49, North Las Vegas
November 6, 2020	Attended Vegas Lodge No. 32, Las Vegas

#### **OTHER JURISDICTIONS VISITED**

January 23, 2020	Attended Grand Lodge of Colorado, Colorado Springs
January 30, 2020	Attended Grand Lodge of Utah, Salt Lake City
February 6, 2020	Attended Grand Lodge of Alaska, Fairbanks

All additional planned Grand Jurisdiction visits were cancelled due to Covid-19 health concerns.

#### **OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS REPRESENTED**

None, due to cancellations from Covid-19 health concerns. I did approve W.B. Jay Orolfo, P.M., Guardian Lodge No. 53 to represent me at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

#### **CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS IN NORTH AMERICA**

This year, the Conference was held in Louisville, KY February 15-19, 2020. This was an opportunity for Grand Masters from all over the world to share opinions regarding important issues within the Fraternity. There were breakout sessions with a variety of interesting subjects ranging from membership to social media and guarding the west gate.

#### **IMPERIAL SHRINE SESSION**

Cancelled due to Covid-19 health concerns.

## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN MASONIC CONFERENCE**

Cancelled due to Covid-19 health concerns.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Recommend the continued support of the Scholarship participation program.
2. Recommend the continued support of the Youth Groups.
3. Recommend the continued support of the Masonic Services Association.
4. Recommend the continued support of the George Washington Masonic Memorial.
5. Recommend continuing the Nevada Masonic Leadership Conferences.
6. Recommend continued participation in the Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference.
7. Recommend continued outreach marketing for the Grand Lodge.

### **APPRECIATIONS**

To all Nevada Masons, it has been an honor to serve as your Grand Master in a trying year. I deeply appreciate the dedication I have seen to our Masonic principles as these difficult times drove our Brothers together, not apart.

To my Grand Lodge Officers, I have had the joy of serving with most of you for many years. Thank you all for your support, hard work and guidance.

To our Nevada Worshipful Masters, thank you for doing your best in a disruptive year. I appreciate how you made me feel welcome when visiting both in person and in your chat rooms. I look forward to seeing you in the years to come.

I personally thank Very Worshipful David O. Martinez, Past Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Chair of Jurisprudence, and personal mentor for his unerring support in my year. Dr. David has so many demands on his time and I'm deeply appreciative of the work he does for our Grand Lodge. Words cannot express the emotions. Thank you, David.

Thank you to W. David Bechtel. Your help throughout the year and tireless work on our Annual Communication went well beyond anything I could expect.

Thank you to Donna, Samantha, James, Tony, Art, Art Jr., Christine, Michael, and Sydney, mia famiglia. You paid the price over the past 13 years as I dedicated time to Masonry. Thank you for being understanding and supportive.

R.W. Deputy Grand Master, I move for the Grand Master's message to be accepted and referred to the Committee on Distribution.