

# ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

## Directions

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In accordance with Regulation No. 53 of the Idaho Masonic Code and Digest, this Abstract of the 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication Proceedings has been prepared and has been sent to the lodges and placed on the Grand Lodge website.

(Please read Regulation No. 53 below it changed at this 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication.)

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#53. Proceedings, review. Following each annual Grand Lodge communication, the Grand Secretary shall prepare an Abstract of Proceedings, which shall be a summary of the session, and shall distribute same to each Constituent Lodge. The Master shall cause a synopsis of the Abstract of Proceedings to be presented at the first Stated Communication after it is received, and shall cause such review to be immediately reported to the Grand Secretary on forms provided by him. The Masters of Constituent Lodges shall make available a copy of the Abstract of Proceedings to his Brethren. The Master's shall use the Grand Secretary's abstract for further topics should he deem it necessary throughout the ensuing year. He shall cause one copy of the printed Abstract of Proceedings to be filed for future reference. (Revised Sept.2015)

### Lodge Secretaries:

Go in to the "Filings" Tab in ROLLS and complete the form: and click the Attest button.

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I do hereby certify that my lodge [Read Abstract] was filed on [ \_\_\_/\_\_\_/ 2015 ]

[Attest,]

Fill out below Cut on line and send it to:

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Grand Lodge of Idaho, 219 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

I \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Attest that the Abstract for the 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication has been presented at the first Stated Communication after receiving the 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication Abstract

Date of Stated Communication \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Secretary

Attach Lodge Seal:

# ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

## GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. of IDAHO 148<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

*Office of the Grand Secretary  
Boise, Idaho*

To: Grand Lodge Officers  
District Deputy Grand Masters  
Past Grand Masters  
Constituent Lodges of Idaho  
Grand Lodges in Fraternal Correspondence

The 148th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho was held at:  
Red Lion Hotel Pocatello, Idaho on September 17, 18, 19, 2015 with:

18 Grand Lodge Officers,  
16 Past Grand Masters,  
07 District Deputy Grand Masters,  
41 Chartered Lodges in attendance out of 52 Lodges,

the following Lodges were not represented with voting members at this Communication: (*From Credentials report*)

Mt. Idaho No.	09
Shoshone No.	25
Rathdrum No.	41
Bonnors Ferry No.	43
Arco No.	48
Buhl No.	53 **
Kamiah No.	56
Spirit Lake No.	57
Jerome No.	61 **
Kooskia No.	87
Kaniksu No.	97

\*\* means this is the third year no voting members were in attendance.

On Sat. morning session, MWGM G. Arthur Shoemaker read Section 103 Paragraph 5.

Any one of the constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Idaho which is not properly represented at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho at least once in three consecutive years shall have their Charter automatically placed in arrest in accordance with Section 1302 of this Code and Digest.

I have no choice but to Arrest the charters of Buhl Lodge No. 53 and Jerome Lodge No.61 and order the Lodge's three principal Officers shall present themselves before the committee on Appeals and Grievances at the next Annual Communication. The Officers shall present satisfactory evidence of the Lodge's Masonic capability to the committee to secure a recommendation for restoration of the arrested Charter.

(Necessary to read only name and title of the following)

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## GRAND LODGE OFFICERS Elected and Appointed for 2015-2016

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Most Worshipful Grand Master	John E. Warner	<a href="mailto:gm@idahomasons.org">gm@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Deputy Grand Master	James A. Hensley	<a href="mailto:dgm@idahomasons.org">dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Senior Grand Warden	William K. "Bill" Curtis Jr.	<a href="mailto:sgw@idahomasons.org">sgw@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Junior Grand Warden	Kent R. McCandless	<a href="mailto:jgw@idahomasons.org">jgw@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Grand Treasurer	N. Randell "Randy" King	<a href="mailto:gt@idahomasons.org">gt@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Grand Secretary	Monte B. Bollar	<a href="mailto:gs@idahomasons.org">gs@idahomasons.org</a>
R.W. Grand Lecturer	Thomas W. Gough	<a href="mailto:gl@idahomasons.org">gl@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Senior Grand Deacon	Steven L. Hall	<a href="mailto:sgd@idahomasons.org">sgd@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Junior Grand Deacon	Robert C. Troxel	<a href="mailto:jgd@idahomasons.org">jgd@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Marshal	Russ W. Smith	<a href="mailto:gmsl@idahomasons.org">gmsl@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Senior Grand Steward	H. Sherman Burger III	<a href="mailto:sgs@idahomasons.org">sgs@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Junior Grand Steward	John C. Rich	<a href="mailto:jgs@idahomasons.org">jgs@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Sword Bearer	John B. Johnson	<a href="mailto:gsb@idahomasons.org">gsb@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Pursuivant	Rick Holloway	<a href="mailto:gp@idahomasons.org">gp@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Organist	Rev. Edgar R. Simmons	<a href="mailto:gorganist@idahomasons.org">gorganist@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Historian	Jerry D. Parsons	<a href="mailto:gh@idahomasons.org">gh@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Chaplain	George J. White	<a href="mailto:gc@idahomasons.org">gc@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Orator	Mark H. Smith	<a href="mailto:gorator@idahomasons.org">gorator@idahomasons.org</a>
W. Grand Tyler	James M. Birdwell	<a href="mailto:gtyler@idahomasons.org">gtyler@idahomasons.org</a>

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
First	Douglas J. Hammond	<a href="mailto:d01dgm@idahomasons.org">d01dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Second	Scott D. Auvil	<a href="mailto:d02dgm@idahomasons.org">d02dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Third	Jerry A. Lynch	<a href="mailto:d03dgm@idahomasons.org">d03dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Fourth	John Boyer	<a href="mailto:d04dgm@idahomasons.org">d04dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Fifth	Johnny A. Willis	<a href="mailto:d05dgm@idahomasons.org">d05dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Sixth	John F. Lawicki	<a href="mailto:d06dgm@idahomasons.org">d06dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Seventh	Steve S. Bate	<a href="mailto:d07dgm@idahomasons.org">d07dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Eight	Steven O. Zimmerman	<a href="mailto:d08dgm@idahomasons.org">d08dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Ninth	John H. Blake	<a href="mailto:d09dgm@idahomasons.org">d09dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Tenth	Edward L. Bonham Jr.	<a href="mailto:d10dgm@idahomasons.org">d10dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Eleventh	David Savage	<a href="mailto:d11dgm@idahomasons.org">d11dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Twelfth	Brian K. Becker	<a href="mailto:d12dgm@idahomasons.org">d12dgm@idahomasons.org</a>
Thirteenth	James D. Kemp	<a href="mailto:d13dgm@idahomasons.org">d13dgm@idahomasons.org</a>

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## **Results on Resolutions for 2015**

- #1 Passed
- #2 Passed
- #3 Passed with the following amendment.
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Appeal having been filed in accordance with the provisions of this Section, the Master of the Lodge shall deliver ~~at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge~~, or cause to be delivered by a Master Mason acting as a representative of the Lodge, as soon as possible following the filing of the appeal, the complete trial transcript, exhibits, and appeal to the Chairman of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances; and the Grand Secretary shall likewise deliver his similar copies. When the case is finalized by Grand Lodge action, the trial transcripts, exhibits, and appeal shall be returned. (Revised Sept. 20 15)

Delete the following words “**at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge**”

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- #4 Passed
- #5 Passed

### **Invitation to the 149th Annual Communication**

The Silver City Lodge #13, would like to invite all the Lodges in the State of Idaho and all Masonic Brothers in amity with the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication to take place September 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Place to be held:

#### **Wyndham Garden Hotels**

3300 S Vista Ave

Boise, ID 83705

208-343-4800

<http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/49102>

General Arrangement Chairman

Randy King

## **Report of Accounts and Finance**

The proposed budget, which was sent to the lodges for review, was passed no exceptions and no increase in per capita for 2016. Per Capita stayed at \$45.00 per dues paying member.

### **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CUSTODIANS of the WORK**

(Received)

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

Brethren,

During the past year, several requests were received by this Board that needed to be addressed.

#### **Tribute of Affection**

In the tribute of affection, there is a sentence that states, "In the steadfast faith of Freemasonry, there is an enduring belief in the wisdom and goodness of God, etc." It has been brought to the attention of this board that in today's society Freemasonry faces many challenges, including the belief that we are a religion. This sentence, in the most public exposure that we have, falsely reinforces that notion. It was requested that we consider replacing that wording with something different. The brother that submitted the request said that when he delivers the Tribute of Affection, he has adopted the practice of saying, "In the steadfast faith shared by Freemasons, there is an enduring belief in the wisdom and goodness of God, etc."

This board agrees with the concern raised by our brother, and agrees with his suggested wording. As such, we support changing the text in the next printing of our Monitor to state: "In the steadfast faith shared by Freemasons, there is an enduring belief in the wisdom and goodness of God, and a trusting reliance that, like this evergreen, our souls will hereafter flourish in eternal spring."

This board further requests that if this change is adopted, until our Monitor is reprinted, our brethren should substitute the above for what is currently printed in our Monitors.

The Tribute of Affection in our monitor was NOT created by a ruling of the Board of Custodians, but rather was adopted by the delegates of this Grand Lodge at the 1968 annual communication. As such, it is appropriate that any changes to that ritual should be made by adoption at any subsequent annual communication.

It is also the opinion of this board that the existing supplies of the blue bound copies of the Tribute of Affection that are given to the widows at our masonic services should be utilized until they are exhausted, and the change made thereto when the next printing is made.

In order to accomplish this change, I now make the following motion on the floor of this Grand Lodge. I move that the above portion of the Final Tribute of Affection in the Idaho Monitor be changed from, "In the steadfast faith of Freemasonry, etc." to read, "In the steadfast faith shared by Freemasons, etc."

#### **Chaplain's Reading in the Circumambulations**

The question was asked whether it is acceptable for the chaplain to follow the candidate and senior deacon during the circumambulations. This practice has become fairly common in several of our lodges.

The Idaho Monitor states that the scriptures should be recited rather than read by the chaplain while standing at his station. This Board was unanimous in their opinion that it can actually be quite impressive when the chaplain follows the candidate. In some lodge-rooms where the acoustics are less than great, this practice can greatly improve the candidate's appreciation of the scriptures being recited,

and our primary goal is to make our work as meaningful to our candidates as we possibly can. We therefore concur with the suggestion and submit the following ruling.

**Ruling:** During the circumambulation of the candidate during each of the three degrees, it is acceptable for the Chaplain to follow the candidate and the Senior Deacon as the scriptures are recited, at the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master. (*End of Ruling*)

#### **Due Guards and Signs During Opening and Closing**

The question was asked whether the due guards and signs during the opening and closing of lodge should be given by the Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden and the Deacons with a slight delay, as if the various movements were being “answered”, or if they should be given simultaneously. The practice of inserting the delay has only become a practice in the past few years. Prior to that time, they were given simultaneously. Upon review, the board issues the following ruling.

**Ruling:** The due guards and signs, when given by the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Deacons during the opening and closing of our lodges, should be given simultaneously. (*End of Ruling*)

For clarification, not a part of the “ruling”, footnote #60 in our Monitor relating to the Senior Deacon going first only relates to the order in which the two Deacons work with the Worshipful Master and the Senior Warden.

#### **Due Guards and Signs and Grand Hailing Sign to be given in Steps**

The question was asked whether the GHS should be given in steps, or in one fluid motion. It was also asked whether the DG&S should be given in steps such as to a three, four or five-count, or in a smooth progression.

The board agrees that it makes sense to break the teaching of these parts of our ritual into distinct points, for learning how they are accomplished. But once the progressions are learned, the board agrees that when they are delivered, they should be done in a smooth and reverent manner.

**Ruling:** The DG&S should be given in a smooth series of movements. In the EA degree, the manner should be to go to the due guard position, holding for a brief moment, then to the sign. In the FC and MM degrees, the DG&S should be given in like manner, with a smooth transition from the sign of one degree to the due guard of the next. (*End of Ruling*)

The Board of Custodians, in 1965, ruled on how the GHS is to be given, and that ruling was: “To provide uniformity throughout the jurisdiction in giving the G H S, the movement of the hands should be in a steady progression rather than in a series of movements or steps. (1965)”

#### **Calling from L to R in the MM Degree**

This board was asked for help in clarifying whether or not the altar is to be attended to when the lodge is called from L to R in the MM degree. Let us start by reviewing the Idaho work as it is contained in our Monitor.

As it stands, by definition, the Monitor contains the entire Idaho Work for our degrees. In the MM degree, the lodge is symbolically called from L to R at the beginning of the second section in order to set the stage for the next portion of the degree. There is no reference in the monitor to attending at the altar. Inserting anything at this point would be a deviation from the prescribed ritual.

The Board of Custodians made a ruling in 1966 relating to the disarranging of the altar between the first and second sections of the MM degree, but that ruling was made necessary by the situation where a lodge is actually called to refreshment for the purpose of a dinner or banquet being served during that interval, and not just the transition into the second section.

Further, footnote #88 adds clarity to the ritual of calling from L to R. In it, it explains that the ritual applies, except in the MM degree.

This Board feels that this example serves to point out the ongoing need for masonic education. We want to stress the value of making use of the resources available to every Idaho mason and lodge. In addition to containing the essence of the entire Idaho work, our Idaho Monitor contains all of the footnotes that are truly a wealth of help in interpreting the proper way to conduct our ritual. The Rulings of the Board of Custodians is also available on the Grand Lodge website at <http://www.idahomasons.org> , by clicking on "Links", then "Resource Files".

This question to the board reinforces in us, the need to encourage the opportunity for taking our ritual resources, studying the information available, and building not only our knowledge of our ritual, but also our ability to continue to do the excellent work that has always characterized our lodges in our great jurisdiction. We can be very proud of our masonry and our ritual, here in Idaho.

### **Covering the Grip**

This board was asked to address whether the grip is to be covered in the conferral of the degrees. If it is to be covered, when should it be covered? By whom should it be covered? (SW only? WM only? SW & WM?) When should the cover be removed?

We have all seen this part of our ritual practiced in various forms, across our jurisdiction, and we like the supporting emphasis that covering the grips puts on the meaning of that portion of the conferral. We also feel that it is appropriate to encourage the practice, across our jurisdiction. In so far as the covering of the grips has not been heretofore specified, but rather has evolved as individual lodge practices, we do not feel that it should be made a requirement that the lodges cover the grips in any particular manner, but rather that the lodges are free to make that choice.

**Ruling:** In the degree ritual at the altar, if the grips are covered by both the WM and the SW, the WM should cover the grip as he says, "I hele". The SW should add his cover as he says, "I conceal". If only the SW covers the grip, he should do so as he says, "I conceal". The cover(s) should then be removed when the WM says, "What is this?" (*End of Ruling*)

### **The Written Work**

*(Grand Lectures Master Work, 2015)*

This year, under the supervision of the RW Grand Lecturer Bro. Tom Gough, the written work was reviewed and a project undertaken to resolve errors that were found to exist. That project was completed, and the corrected written work is now in the hands of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Lecturer.

The work focused on three areas. First and foremost, there were some textual errors that made their way into the previously distributed copies of the written work, and every attempt was made to correct those errors. Second, punctuation and capitalization was made to match the punctuation and capitalization in the Idaho Monitor, as it is now published. Third, the formatting and use of carriage returns in the master document were made consistent throughout, so that if future changes result in such things as insertions or changes to page width formatting, the alignment and wrapping will remain correct.

This Board of Custodians has thoroughly reviewed the corrected written work, and has approved it for use within this jurisdiction.

### **Adherence to the Idaho Work**

The approved Idaho work is contained, in its entirety, in the Idaho Monitor, and that is what our lodges need to follow. In the event that a lodge desires to deviate from the approved Idaho work, it is necessary that they obtain a dispensation for such deviation. In the absence of such dispensation, they are required to adhere to the Idaho work. Our Idaho work is beautiful and it is complete, and it does not lend itself to innovation or individual or personal preferences.

### **Summary**

This committee appreciates the opportunity to serve this Grand Jurisdiction, this past year. Most Worshipful Grand Master, I move that this report of the Board of Custodians of the Work be received.

Fraternally submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
James V Voyles (60) Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard E. Kaiser (19, 33)

\_\_\_\_\_  
David C. Triplett (93)

\_\_\_\_\_  
David "Skip" Owen (21, 30, 78, 80)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay A. Leonard (30, 80)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith C. Brooks (45, 68)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Heberling (9, 24, 63)

**LODGES ARE REMINDED**  
**PLEASE REPORT ALL DEATHS OF MEMBERS TO OUR GRAND CHAPLAIN.**

Please assign one of your dedicated members to see that the proper form (enclosed) is completed and mailed to your Grand Chaplain each time a member is lost by death in order for him to write a letter of condolence to the family.

Enclosed with this Abstract the proper forms on which to file the report. *Please discard any obsolete forms you may have on hand and use these forms.* When a death of a member occurs, complete a form and **MAIL IT TO THE GRAND CHAPLAIN** at the following address:

George J. White Jr.  
Grand Chaplain  
PO Box 74  
Fairfield, ID 73327-0074  
[gj.whitejr@frontier.com](mailto:gj.whitejr@frontier.com)

**PLEASE NOTE**

*(The Grand Chaplain's address is also included on each form for your convenience)*

If additional forms are required, please copy the **enclosed** form!!  
Or down load a copy from the ROLLS Info Center tab.



This Abstract is issued in compliance with Regulation No. 53 and by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, John E. Warner

This 23<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015

Fraternally

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monte Bollar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Monte Bollar

Grand Secretary