

“From the Grand Master’s Computer”

Brethren and Ladies All,

Helen and I travelled to the Grand Lodge of Alaska the 1st of February, which was filled with great meals, good friends and lots of fellowship. MWGM Carl Lindstrom, First Lady Jolanda, Grand Lodge Officers and their Ladies really put on a great Grand Lodge. Everything went super until we returned home on Sunday. Monday morning I woke up to not feeling very well and by Tuesday I was down for the count. After two Doctor visits and lots of meds I am finally feeling much better. Shortly after Alaska Helen and I travelled to Omaha Nebraska for the Conference of Grand Master of North America. Again, everything went really well, lots of really good beef from Nebraska and a good time was had with MWGM Rick Myers and all the Grand Lodge Officers from Nebraska as hosts, who were just installed 2 weeks before the conference, great job Brethren. I was still taking Z-pack meds while in Nebraska and since then have been slowly recovering. The conference had lots of break-out sessions with superb presentations. Some of the information gathered at the conference was talked about out the Grand Lodge planning session in Pocatello this past weekend and some will be presented at the “Enhancing The Masonic Experience” regional training conferences around the state.

The planning session held in Pocatello was well attended, and as usual there could have been more participation. Brethren everyone is invited to attend the Grand Lodge planning sessions. More ideas and contributions to our fraternity are always welcome.

As many of you may know by now RWGL, Brother Tom Gough has tendered his resignation as Grand Lecturer due to accepting a job in Arizona working at the Grand Canyon. A special congratulation goes out to Brother Tom Gough for his service to our fraternity for 6+ years as our Grand Lecturer. We wish Brother Tom the most success possible in Arizona and we hope to see him in the near future. I have searched high and low and I think I have found the perfect Brother to fill Brother Tom’s spot; Brother Jr. Past Grand Master John Warner has accepted the position as acting Grand Lecturer for the remainder of 2017. Please give Brother Warner your hearty congratulations and support.

“Enhancing the Masonic Experience” is the title of the Regional Training Conferences to be held at the Red Lion Hotels starting in Pocatello-March 11, Twin Falls-March 18, Boise-April 1, Lewiston-April 22 and ending in Post Falls- April 29, 2017. I encourage each of you to attend and add to the agenda. Each Lodge only pays \$30.00 and all their members can attend. We do ask for an RSVP to help in the planning. The discussions, which each of you suggested to PGM Warner and I while travelling around the state last year will be part of the presentations. Topics will include; Lodge Finances & Budgets, Ritual, Communications, Code & Digest, Lodge Security and other topics followed by a roundtable discussion to close the presentations.

Hopefully “Spring” is getting close and our travel schedule can resume. I encourage each of you to take the time to travel and visit your Brethren. Visiting is a rewarding experience and it certainly helps the Lodges visited. Helen and I hope to see you in our travels. Keep the spirit of Freemasonry alive and remember to keep “Building Character.”

Jim and Helen Hensley
MWGM Jim and First Lady Helen Hensley