Please join us for the 171st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa at the Sioux City Convention Center.
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Deputy Grand Master A. Lyle Miller, Manilla
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MSA Hospital Visitors:
Iowa City Veterans Hospital - Robert J. Holliday, P.J.G.W., Bettendorf
Des Moines Veterans Hospital - Thomas E. H. Gruis
Marshalltown Veterans Hospital

GRAND LODGE BULLETIN
Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis, Editor, email: grandsecretary@gl-iowa.org

LODGE SERVICE COMMITTEE
Deputy G.S. Tim S. Anderson, Executive Director, email: dgs@gl-iowa.org

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THE GRAND LODGE BULLETIN
“The Bulletin” is published four times annually (March, June, September, and December) by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M., P.O. Box 279, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-0279, as a means of communication between its subordinate lodges and members. Mailed free upon request to Iowa lodges and Freemasons, and as an exchange to public institutions and representative periodicals throughout the world. Address all mail subscriptions, change of address notices (P.O.D. FORM 3579), news releases and Letters to the Editor to the above address. Permission to reprint articles from “The Bulletin” is granted to all recognized Masonic publications with credit to the author and/or this publication.

Sherer’s “Masonic Degree Book”

Above is plate 3 from “Sherer’s Masonic Degree Book of Ancient Craft Masonry” Being a correct presentation of the emblems of the Blue Lodge Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason according to the American System published by John Sherer in 1866. The book is oversize consists of 12 plates of emblems of the Degrees. You may view the book at the Iowa Masonic Library.

2015 Grand Master Area Meetings

Monday, October 19, 2015 - Prudence Lodge No. 205 1413 N Mc Coy St, Algona 7:00 PM
Wednesday, October 21, 2015 - Acacia Lodge No. 176 739 2nd St, Webster City 7:00 PM
Saturday, October 24, 2015 - Speculative Lodge No. 307 935 S 2nd St, Cherokee 10:00 AM
Tuesday, October 27, 2015 - Warren Lodge No. 53 1606 W 2nd St, Indianola 7:00 PM
Wednesday, October 28, 2015 - Marshall Lodge No. 108 26 S 1st Ave Ste 500, Marshalltown 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 7, 2015 - Springville Lodge No. 139 306 Liberty Ave, Springville 10:00 AM
Monday, November 9, 2015 - Red Oak Lodge No. 162 2700 N 4th St, Red Oak 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 10, 2015 - Golden Leaf Lodge No. 595 452 Main St, Manilla 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 12, 2015 - Tyrrell Lodge No. 116 203 3rd St SE, Waverly 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 16, 2015 - Canopy Lodge No. 290 110 Main St, Oxford 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 17, 2015 - Crossroads Lodge No. 677 222 12th St, Dewitt 7:00 PM
Saturday, November 19, 2015 - Clinton Lodge No. 15 52 1/2 E Briggs Ave, Fairfield 7:00 PM
**Grand Master’s Message**

Brethren of Iowa Masonry,

My Lady Donna and I extend to all Iowa Masons a cordial Invitation to attend the 171st Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. All events will take place at the Sioux City Convention Center, beginning September 17, 2015 and concluding September 19, 2015. As I have said in previous Grand Lodge Bulletins; as Master you promised at your installation to attend all communications of the Grand Lodge upon receiving proper notice. We look forward to seeing you in Sioux City, on September 17, 18, and 19.

This past Grand Lodge Year, it has been an honor to serve you as Grand Master of Mason’s in Iowa. I have spent time traveling this great state and have been blessed to meet many new brothers. It has been an experience that I shall treasure for the rest of my life.

My personal thanks to all Iowa Masons and May God Bless you and your Families in the coming years.

Fraternally,

Charles D. Yates
Grand Master

Hello Ladies,

I would like to invite all of you to the 171st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa in Sioux City Iowa on September 17, 18, and 19.

As you may all know, Natalie Mercer, Jolene Rozeboom and I decided to raise money with the sale of our annual Crafts and bake sale, pins and silent auction items for a Handicap Accessible Ramp for our Iowa Masonic Library and Museums Building in Cedar Rapids Iowa. The project is now complete and is a truly magnificent addition to our Iowa Masonic Library and Museums building.

I would like to thank Natalie, Jolene and all who have generously contributed to help complete this project for the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

Please go to the Iowa Grand lodge web site and see how your generosity has made the project come to completion.

We will continue our annual craft and bake sale, pin sale, and the silent auction again this year. Please bring any items that you would like to donate and be sold in the ladies hospitality rooms 1 and 2 in the Sioux City Convention Center Wednesday the 16th or early Thursday morning the 17th.

Chuck and I look forward to greeting all of you and the Grand Lodge being held in Sioux City in September.

Donna M. Yates
Grand Masters Lady
Grand Lodge of Iowa
171st Annual Communication
September 17-19, 2015
Sioux City Convention Center
801 4th Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101
Headquarters Hotel: Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center
300 3rd Street, Sioux City, IA 51101
To make your reservation call 1-712-234-1100 or visit: http://stoneycreekhotels.com/hotel/travel/siouxcity/home.do/

Thursday, September 17 - Grand Lodge School
8:00 AM Grand Lodge School of Instruction (all assemble in the Grand Lodge Room)
Rooms 8, 9 & 10; Second Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
There will be two schools for MIs and DLs, and one school for all Master Masons. We invite any Master Mason to attend the school. MI exams may be scheduled on arrival.
12:00 PM Lunch
Gallery B; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
1:45 PM Open a Lodge of Master Masons for conferral of a 3rd Degree
Gallery A; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
3:00 PM Introduction to the Optional Mentoring Course
Room 5: First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
5:00 PM Social Hour
Atrium; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
6:00 PM Grand Master’s Banquet
Gallery B; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center

Friday, September 18 - Grand Lodge Communication
8:30 AM The Annual Communication will open in the Grand Lodge Room

Jim McDonough to perform at the Grand Master’s Banquet Thursday Evening
McDonough was recently honored by the legendary piano maker, Steinway & Sons, naming him to its worldwide artist roster. From classical pianists like Lang Lang, to jazz stars like Harry Connick Jr., to pop icons like Billy Joel, to “immortals” like Irving Berlin and Cole Porter; as a Steinway Artist, McDonough joins an exclusive international list of the most accomplished and discriminating performing artists.
Grand Lodge 2015 Ladies Schedule of Events
Sioux City Convention Center

Wednesday, September 16
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. – The Ladies’ Craft Sale
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
Room will be open to accept your pre-priced craft items, silent auction items and baked goods.

Thursday, September 17
8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. – The Ladies’ Craft Sale
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
Location will be open to accept crafts, baked goods and silent auction items. Please come and enjoy Cookies, Coffee, Juice, and Muffins.

10:00 A.M – Program: Siouxland Historic Railroad Association
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
T.J. Obermeyer will give a presentation on the Milwaukee Railroad museum here in Sioux City. The Siouxland Historic Railroad Association is a 501(c)(3) private non-profit museum organization based in Sioux City, Iowa. For over 23 years the Siouxland Historic Railroad Association has provided more than 50,000 people access to the region’s railroad heritage. In the past 10 years alone over 160,000 volunteer hours have been logged by this all volunteer organization.

Lunch is on your own.

Don't forget to pick up a detailed list of establishments that are close by.

2:00 P.M. – Program: Tips for Eating Well
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
Korie Lown obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Dietetics from Iowa State University. She then completed her internship at Virginia Tech University. She is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Iowa Dietetic Association and the Dietetic Practice Group. Korie, will have food items to sample.

Friday, September 18
8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. - The Ladies’ Craft Sale
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
Please come to enjoy Cookies, Coffee, Juice, and Muffins.

11:00 A.M. - Ladies Brunch and Program
Room 7, Second Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
The Program will feature Mark Avery who will speak about the bronze sculptures that he is creating for the Siouxland area.

Friday Afternoon -- Free time for the Ladies
Don't forget to pick up a detailed list of establishments that are close by.

5:00 PM Social Hour
Atrium; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center

6:00 PM All-Masonic Banquet
Gallery B; First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center

Saturday, September 19
8:30 A.M. - Continental Breakfast
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center

8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. – The Ladies’ Craft Sale
Rooms 1 and 2, First Floor of the Sioux City Convention Center
Craft items not sold by 10:00 AM should be picked up. Any items which remain will be donated to a local charity.

Silent Auction Items
Meal Ticket Order Form

Thursday, September 17

Noon Luncheon Tickets - for all
(Hot Roast Beef Sandwich on TX Toast)
______ Tickets @ $ 18 each: Subtotal: $

Grand Master’s Fellowship Banquet – for all – 6:00 P.M.
(Roast Beef Tenderloin)
______ Tickets @ $34 each Subtotal: $

Friday, September 18

Ladies Brunch at 9:30 A.M.
(Woodbury Chicken Salad)
______ Tickets @ $13 each: Subtotal: $

Noon Luncheon Tickets - Masons
(Chicken Pot Pie)
______ Tickets @ $17 each: Subtotal: $

All-Masonic Banquet – for all - 6:00 P.M.
(Grilled Iowa Stuffed Pork Chop)
______ Tickets @ $23 each: Subtotal: $

Saturday, September 19

AASR All – Masonic Breakfast Free
______ Tickets @ Free: Subtotal: $

Special dietary needs ________________________________________________.

TOTAL ENCLOSED $

Please make checks payable to the Grand Lodge of Iowa
Attention: TICKETS
PO Box 279
Cedar Rapids IA 52406-0279

You must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your tickets to be mailed back to you.

Note: Reservations are a must.

Tickets are very limited and a few will be available at Grand Lodge Session

Name and Address: Please Print
_________________________________________
_________________________________________
_________________________________________
Theodore Sutton Parvin
Taken from the Iowa Legislative Newsletter

Theodore Parvin is a name that has been prominently identified with Iowa history since the first year of existence of the Territory.

In 1833, Parvin graduated from Woodworth College, Ohio, and began the study of law, graduating from the Cincinnati Law School in 1837. In 1838, Robert Lucas, who had been appointed Governor of the new Territory of Iowa, selected Parvin for his private secretary. He accompanied the Governor to Burlington, where he was appointed to take charge of the Territorial Library.

In 1839, Parvin was appointed district attorney of the middle district and moved to Bloomington. He served three terms as probate judge. In 1844, he rendered Iowa an enduring service by cooperating with Enoch W. Eastman and Fredrick D. Mills in defeating the constitution which proposed to deprive the state of the counties on the Missouri slope. Upon the organization of the United States District Court in 1846, Parvin was appointed clerk, a position he held for 10 years.

In 1857, Parvin was nominated Register of the State Land Office by the Democrats and, notwithstanding, the Republican majority of more than 2,000 in the election for Governor the same year. He was elected and became one of the first trustees of the State University and was for 10 years professor of natural science in that institution. He was one of the organizers of the State Historical Society and served several years as its secretary and as editor of the Annals of Iowa, a historical magazine published by the society. Theodore Parvin made large contributions to the library, newspaper files, and general collections of the State Historical Society.

For more than 30 years, he was one of the most valued writers of historical and biographical articles for the Annals of Iowa and the Historical Record. Having been one of the first officials of the Territory and long associated with its public affairs and personally associated with prominent men of all parties for more than 60 years, Parvin was long regarded the highest authority on Iowa history and biography. He was one of the founders of the Masonic Order of Iowa and was Grand Master and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the state many years. In his capacity as secretary, he collected at their building in Cedar Rapids the most extensive Masonic library in the world. He also collected and donated to the library a more complete collection of Iowa books and rare documents than is possessed by any other library.

Parvin’s contribution of early Iowa newspapers, legislative journals, session laws long out of print, and other rare publications to the State and Historical libraries have been continuous and exceedingly valuable. He was one of the most valued members of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association, and his historical contributions to that organization have been of great value. His writings and addresses on historical subjects relating to Iowa for half a century would fill several volumes. No citizen of Iowa has done so much to collect and preserve its early records and history as Theodore Parvin.

Scholarship Thank You

Kaitlyn Murphy – Thank you for the opportunities you have opened for me through the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. and A.M. Scholarship. Thank you for taking time to interview me for the scholarship process. It was pleasure getting to meet you and the committee. I enjoyed getting to know the other scholarship candidates as well. I am looking forward to pursuing my dream of becoming a zoologist and traveling the world. Thank you for helping me get one step closer to making my dream a reality.
The members of the Iowa Masonic Cooperation Committee gathered in Davenport on the evening of July 20th to present the T.S. Parvin award to Bro. Carl Elsworth Graham.

Carl Graham was born on August 7, 1916 at Princeton, Iowa. At the age of 13, his family moved to Clarksville, Missouri. In 1940, Carl married Florence Coffin. He and Florence were the parents of three sons and two daughters. Florence passed away in 2000.

Carl began his employment at the Rock Island Arsenal in 1940. In 1942 he became a member of the United States Marine Corps, serving in the 1st Marine Division. Carl served in the South Pacific and was part of the task force that was poised to invade Japan prior to the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In 1946, he mustered out of the Marines after almost four years of service. He served in the Iowa National Guard for five years. Carl returned to the Arsenal and retired in 1972 as Production Supervisor.

Brother Graham was raised in Trinity Lodge No. 208 in 1954. He is a member of Trinity Lodge No. 208, Fraternal Lodge No. 221, and Brubaker Lodge No. 675. Brother Carl is a Past Master of Trinity Lodge and Snow Lodge No. 674. Over the past 61 years, Carl has raised over 100 brothers to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Each brother that he raised over the years, received a Masonic belt buckle from him. In 2005, Brother Graham received his District Lecturers’ certificate (#3099) at the age of 89. He has coached many a brother over the years in the Masonic ritual.

Carl is a member of the Mohassan Grotto and the Davenport York Rite, where he has served as presiding officer. He is a recipient of the Ish Sodi Award and KYCH. Carl was a member of the Foot Patrol of Kaaba Shrine for over 27 years. Carl has always been a generous contributor of his time and talents to the Masonic community in the Quad Cities.

At the age of 99, Carl still lives in his own home and drives. He attends various lodge functions on a regular basis.

Assisting in presenting this Award to Brother Graham were: Kurt M. Hoffmann, Grand Master of the Grand Council R & SM; Gene R. Hatfield, Grand Commander KT; Charles D. Yates, Grand Master of Masons in Iowa; Gary L. Sissel, SGIG Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction in Iowa; and Kenneth A. Brickman, Grand High Priest RAM. This is the first time in memory, that all of the members of the Masonic Cooperation Committee have been in attendance to assist in this presentation. Bro. Ben Ploof (2013 T.S. Parvin award recipient) presented Bro. Graham with a beautiful collar to wear with his Parvin jewel.

The T.S. Parvin award is the most prestigious award that can be bestowed upon an Iowa brother by the Masons of Iowa. This quote from T.S. Parvin sums up the spirit of this award: “I want to be remembered among Masons as one who gave the Fraternity the very best there was in him, not thinking of reward in dollars and cents.” Congratulations to the 2015 recipient of the T.S. Parvin Award, Brother Carl Elsworth Graham.
St. Clair Lodge No. 164 Annual Tractor Scholarship Ride  
By Roy Schulze Secretary

For the past 5 years St.Clair Lodge has sponsored this Tractorcade that winds its way through the Amana Colonies, to Blairstown and usually ends at Frontier Natural Products. This year it ended at St.Clair’s new location at 210 west Tuttle Street in Norway where driver’s enjoyed lunch and fellowship.

Brother Jeff Wagoner is Raised

It was a special night at South Gate Lodge No. 657 in Des Moines on May 21 as Brother Jeff Wagoner was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The social hour started at 4:00 P.M. with cookies and coffee.

Worshipful Master John Kieler opened lodge and Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis was in the East for the First Section, Jason Lantz was Senior Deacon. The Officers of South Gate Lodge did an outstanding job in the First Section. The Lodge went to refreshment and enjoyed a wonderful Roast Pork Dinner prepared by Home Plate Diner and served by South Rainbow Assembly. Following supper introductions were made and Grand Master Charles D. Yates addressed the brethren assembled. The Masons returned to the lodge room while the ladies listened to the Fiddlers Club that meets at the lodge.

Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers were received and introduced with Brothers Dwayne Feight and Kirk Mitchell as Committeemen. Grand Secretary Davis was received and introduced with Brothers John E. Davis and Kirk Mitchell as Committeemen. Grand Master Yates was received and introduced with Brothers George W. Robinson and Dwayne Feight as Committeemen. The Grand Master assumed the East as the Grand lodge Officers conferred the Second Section. Junior Grand Deacon Fred L. Erickson gave the Charge. Grand Master Yates presented Brother Wagoner with his pin and a packet of information. Lodge Secretary Mike Jensen presented Jeff with his Apron and Enlightenment Course. Brother Jeff thanked everyone for being there and he looks forward to his journey in Masonry. Grand Secretary Davis assumed the East and he and the Grand Lodge Officers closed South Gate Lodge.

Scholarship Thank Yous

Alexis Hicok – Thank you for the opportunity to interview as a finalist for your scholarship and be selected to receive it. The $2,000 will go a long way in assisting with my college plans.

Emily J. Steinbach – Thank you so much for the opportunity to interview for the Masonic Scholarship. Being chosen as a top 70 student is a great honor. It was a pleasure to meet you all last Wednesday! I really enjoyed my experience at the interview and South Gate Lodge. Thank you again for your time and consideration.
Panora Lodge No. 121 Scholarships
By Richard Ellis, Secretary

Two Panorama High School graduates were honored at a reception at the Panora Lodge No. 121 on Saturday May 30, 2015. Each of the recipients were presented with a check for $1000 to help in their future college expenses.

Veronica Maere, daughter of Bart and Kate Maere, will use her scholarship to attend Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Missouri with the intentions of majoring in Mathematics.

Matthew Marwedel, son of Jim and Melissa Marwedel, will use his scholarship to attend Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah intending to major in Chemical Engineering.

Panora Lodge No. 121 finances the scholarships with donated funds raised through a spring and fall breakfast fundraiser. The lodge has given scholarships since 1985 and has raised over $30,000 during this time.

Pictured from left to right: Veronica Maere, Master Gene Meacham, and Matthew Marwedel.

Three First Degrees at Hebron Lodge No. 374
By William Stocks, Secretary

On June 9th Hebron Lodge conferred Three First Degrees. The candidates were Andrew Thomas, Benjamin Jensen, and Caleb Rushing. It was a longer than usual night, but the conferring of the degrees went very well and the night was enjoyed by all that attended.

From Left to Right: Caleb Rushing, Worshipful Master Craig Harrison, Benjamin Jensen and Andrew Thomas.

Neophyte Lodge No. 301 Presents 50 Year Certificate
By Justin Strange

Worshipful Master Justin Strange of Neophyte Lodge No. 301 in New Virginia had the pleasure of presenting his grandfather and top-line signer of his petition, Brother Elmer Strange, with his 50-Year Certificate on May 22, 2015. The lodge was full with family, friends, and brethren. Brother Elmer was initiated on December 15, 1964, passed on March 11, 1965 and raised on May 4, 1965. Brother Strange is responsible for bringing many new members into the Lodge over the years. Congratulations to Brother Elmer for reaching this milestone at 86 years of age.

Pictured from left to right are: Elmer’s son Richard Strange, Treasurer Gail Reed (who was presented his 50 year certificate in September), Elmer’s grandson Justin Strange, Brother Elmer Strange, Elmer’s grandson Matt Strange, Elmer’s son Leonard Strange, and Secretary Jerry Dunkin.

Scholarship Thank You
Laura Judd — I am honored to have been considered and selected for one of the scholarships awarded by the Grand Lodge of Iowa. I know many talented students applied and interviewed for this scholarship, so I am grateful and humbled that you awarded one to me.

The Grand Lodge has made a significant impact on the world by supporting students as they further their education. I know this generous scholarship will be extremely beneficial to me throughout my college journey. A Physical Therapy degree is much more attainable now that I have some extra assistance. Thank you again for the support!
Burns Lodge No. 173 Celebrates 150 Years  
By Roy Schulze

The Brothers of Burns Lodge No. 173 at Monticello celebrated their 150th Anniversary on June 6, 2015. Brother Charlie Becker hosted the event at his home. He provided those present with a tour of his home, which includes a reproduction of the oval office and replica of the presidential desk with the signatures of all the Presidents that have sat at it, his Beatles memorabilia collection and cupola on the top of his home that has a wonderful view of the surrounding countryside.

The sixty people that attended the event enjoyed Hors-d’Oeuvres and Brother Roy Schulze gave a history of the Burns Lodge’s 150 year existence. Following the presentation, an excellent pork loin dinner was served. It was a great day enjoyed by all remembering lodge experiences and fellowshipping.

Scholarship Thank you

Ellen M. Judd – Thank you very much for honoring me with the $2,000 scholarship. It is extremely generous of you, and I appreciate it a lot! Whether I attend Drake University or the University of Evansville, the scholarship money will definitely help pay for many expenses. Thanks again, it was a pleasure to meet with you!

Claire Hamilton – Thank you for the opportunity to interview for the Grand Lodge Scholarship. Also thank you for the delicious lunch provided. I thoroughly enjoyed the museums and plan to return in the future.

Benjamin Sherod Raised  
By Jim Pedrick

Benjamin D. Sherod was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Celestial Lodge No. 413 A.F. & A.M. in Douds on May 21, 2015. Jim Pedrick, Past Master of Celestial Lodge presided in the east for the second section of the degree. Ben is the fourth generation of his family to be a member of Celestial Lodge.

Pictured (l-r) are Ben’s father, David Sherod, Benamin Sherod and Bob Pedrick.

Brother Buzz Walters and Doctor Darci Becker  
By Dennis Soebbing

On June 29, Brother “Buzz” Walters, a member of Brubaker Lodge No. 675, was introduced to a Master’s class in Speech-Language Pathology by Dr. Darci Becker, Assistant Professor at St. Ambrose University. The title of the class is Motor Speech Disorders, and Mr. Walters discussed the assistance he received at SAU with his own motor speech disorder symptoms resulting from Parkinson’s Disease. Following a short talk about his significant and sustained improvement at age 85, Mr. Walters answered the questions of faculty and class members for several more minutes. The Iowa Scottish Rite Masonic Foundation provides continuing support to SAU Rite Care.
Dear Grand lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M.

Wow! I can’t believe four years ago I was graduating from high school and accepting your scholarship to fund my education at UNI. I graduated on May 9th with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, Bachelor of Arts in Biology, and minors in economics and German. My Graduation honors included Cum Laude and University Honors. I am proud of my college education and proud to call UNI my alma mater.

This past spring semester was bittersweet. I was excited to graduate and pursue new opportunities, but that also meant my college days were coming to a close. I would soon be leaving a community I came to call home. Highlights of this semester included completing my Capstone credit in Nicaragua, presenting my collegiate research at the American Chemistry Society (ACS) National Meeting in Denver, Colorado, completing my undergraduate thesis titled, “Measuring the stability of iso-1-cytochrome c variants using heme spectra”, and going on a couple camping trips with my roommates.

Looking back at my four years at UNI, my college career is marked with service to the university. I was a Resident Assistant in Lawther Resident Hall and one of the co-founders of the Panther Plot, UNI’s student run vegetable garden. Within the Chemistry department, I served as the president of the student chapter of the American Chemistry Society (ACS), conducted research with Dr. Cherney, and was a lab assistant or tutor for seven semesters. I was also published as a result of my work during my internship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. I remained active in the Cedar Valley community volunteering at a hospital and the church I attend.

I am currently working as an ophthalmology assistant at an eye care office. This will allow me to gain experience in the medical field as I continue to pursue medical school. I plan to apply for the medical school class entering fall of 2016. I took the MCAT on June 19th and am anxiously awaiting the results.

I greatly appreciated the financial support you gave me as an incoming freshman. Because of your support, I was able to attend college without interruption and graduate with honors. I was able to focus on my classes, participate in research, and maximize opportunities presented to me. My experiences at UNI provided a great foundation upon which to build my future dreams. Thank you for your continued support of higher education.

Sincerely,
Sarah Eikenberry
2011 Scholarship Recipient
Biochemistry, BS; Biology, BA
University of Northern Iowa, 2015

---

**Scholarship Thank Yous**

**Taylor Johnston** - Thank you for awarding me a $2,000 scholarship by the Masons of Iowa. I am honored to be the recipient of this prestigious award. This will tremendously help offset some of my college expenses and I greatly appreciate it.

I will be attending Iowa State University this fall where I will be double majoring in Agriculture & Society and Agricultural Business. I plan to continue being involved in civic organizations. I also want to get involved in clubs pertaining to my major on campus. My goal is to be a Human Resource Manager. Being interviewed for a scholarship was a new experience for me that was good to go through. Also, thank you for the nice luncheon that was provided. I am looking forward to our Awards Day at Lenox Community High School when I will meet your local representative. Again thank you for this distinguished award!

**Tara Meinen** – I greatly appreciate being awarded one of your $2,000 scholarships. This will help me further my education and reach my goals for the future, and for that I am very grateful.
Great Lights Lodge No.181
By Timothy J. Felton, Secretary

On Thursday, July 9th, 2015 Brothers Tim Felton, Mike Hutton, Mike Root, and Steve Riley of Great Light Lodge No. 181 were invited to attend Clinton Lodge No. 15 located in Fairfield, Iowa Stated Meeting.

The Brothers of Great Lights Lodge No. 181 were invited by the Brothers of Clinton Lodge No. 15 to do a Night of Education on the Three Ruffians.

After an excellent dinner Lodge convened and the education presentation began. After a lively conservation Lodge closed with peace and harmony prevailing, the Brothers met and fellowship went into the night with a good time had by all.

I would like to thank the Brothers of Clinton Lodge No.15 for their hospitality and my hat is off to Brother Francis Mosse for helping put this event together.

Brother Harvey Heck Celebrates 50 Years
By Roy Schulze Secretary

Worshipful Master Kenny Jordt presented Brother Harvey Heck with his 50 year pin and certificate. Brother Heck reflected on his years at Marengo Lodge No. 114 and his move to Saint Clair Lodge No. 164 when they consolidated with them on November 8, 1989.

Masonic Lodge No. 125 Scholarship and Award Night
By Keith Robertson


Masonic Lodge No. 125 in Dubuque held its 11th Annual Scholarship Awards Night on May 20, 2015. Following a delicious swiss steak and ham dinner Past Grand Master Edwin Blinks gave a brief program on Masonry and that Masonry has made a difference. Five $2,000 scholarships from the lodge were presented Brian P. Carroll a member of the Lodge Scholarship Committee. Senior Deacon Shawn Evarts presented Tom Henneberry Chief of Police of the Asbury, Iowa Police Department with a check, for the purpose of purchasing “Officer Body Worn Cameras”, for their department. Past Master Jack Smeltzer took the recipients, their parents and those people interested on a tour of the Temple. It was a great evening enjoyed by all.

Excelsior Lodge No. 259 Recognizes Past Masters
By Robert Stender Secretary

Pictured on the right is Brother Joel Boucher and on the left is Brother Dan Boucher as they received their Past Master Certificates. They are a father and son and the second and third members of the Boucher Family to set in the East of Excelsior Lodge No. 259 at Council Bluffs. Joel’s father William Boucher was Master of the lodge in 1933.

I am proud to say that I served with Brother Joel in the 34th Infantry Division of the Iowa National Guard and have known Brother Dan since he was a young Eagle Scout.
Senior Grand Warden Dennis E. “Toby” Williams is honored.

Senior Grand Warden Toby Williams is Worshipful Master at Preston Lodge No. 218 in Prairie City and Past Master of Newton Lodge No. 59 in Newton. His lodges hosted a reception in his honor on October 25 at Prairie City. The Masons and their ladies enjoyed a social time at the United Methodist Church. The brethren adjourned to Preston Lodge where the lodge was opened by Carl J. Van Der Kamp. Brothers served as committeemen for the reception of Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers. Craig L. Davis P.G.M. and were committeemen for the reception of Grand Master Charles D. Yates. Edison Sharp Jr P.S.G.W. and Terry E. Osborne P.J.G.W. were committeemen for the reception of Senior Grand Warden Williams. Brother Williams was happy to see his lodge room full. The Grand Lodge Officers closed Preston Lodge No. 218 with the Senior Grand Warden presiding in the East.

A delicious minute steak dinner was served by the members and ladies of Prairie City. Brother Caryl Van Der Kamp was Master of Ceremonies. Grand Chaplain Jeffrey D. Heimensen gave the invocation. "Wanda" AKA church cleaning lady was back in town with a new Music Group, with Jeff Heimensen as the lead singer, after a tremendous performance Wanda and her new group were quickly ushered out of town.

Craig L. Davis PGM made a $1,000 presentation to Pastor William A. Peake on behalf of Michael Langford and the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Michael made this donation on behalf of all the Masons in Iowa who had passed to the Grand Lodge above this year. The money will used for a sound system at the Reformed Church in Buffalo Center where Brother Peake is the Pastor. Brother Peake's faith has been tested throughout the years and because of the acts of kindness in the Church and in Masonry his faith continues and we thank him for everything he does.

Brother Williams thanked everyone for being there and a special thanks to all those who have helped him along the way. Several presentations were made to Toby, one being a giant bandage for his car. He and Nancy were in an accident the night before. Grand Master spoke briefly about his Senior Grand Warden and how happy he was to have Toby as an officer. The Grand Chaplain gave the Benediction at the conclusion of the program.

Scholarship Thank Yous

**Madison Miller** – I am sending this correspondence to sincerely thank you for allowing me to participate in your scholarship selection process, including the interview and generous lunch afterward at Tyrell Lodge No. 116! I am very honored and greatly appreciative that I was bestowed an award of $2,000. I will use this award wisely to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree and later a Master of Arts degree in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Northern Iowa. I am grateful to the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M. for helping me see the potential in my goals.

Thank you once again for the giving of your time and resources to encourage limitless educational dreams of many young adults like myself.

**Hannah Gruenwald** – I am most honored to be a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. & A.M. Masonic Scholarship. I greatly appreciate your endorsement of my efforts in school and my community. Your generous award will support me financially as I continue my education at the University of Iowa.

**Rebecca Lyons** - Thank you very much for selecting me to receive one of the Grand Lodge of Iowa scholarships. Attending the luncheon and interview in Waverly was an enjoyable experience. Thanks again for helping to pay for my college education. I truly appreciate it.

**Breanna Peters** – Thank you so much for the scholarship award. The award will go towards my college expenses. I am very excited to start! I am ready for all the opportunities! Again, thanks for your gracious gift!
Pulling Back the Curtain on the Free Masons
By Sara Opie

I've always been intrigued by secret societies and their rituals. Being in a sorority in college and one other secret organization, the secret part is all well-intended and not that big of a deal, just the fact that they have secret elements elevates the mystery and intrigue but not really the good insider information you think you're privy to. At least the ones I've been involved with – maybe if I were a part of the New York mafia I'd find that secret organization not all that innocent.

But the secrets of the Free Masons aren't really secrets any more as so much of what they do, their ceremonies, symbolism are written about. However none of their rituals during meetings are written down, it's all memorization. I've quickly became a student of the Masonic Lodge thanks to its former leader and Indianola resident who gave me a nice tutorial and tour of the Indianola's Masonic Lodge a few weekends ago. The history, the symbolism, the details and the tradition of the Masons are fascinating. Full disclosure, my father-in-law is a Mason and proudly wears that big ring with the square, the compass and the G. The G stands for God and geometry. Mike Polson wears one, too.

So what motivates a person to become a Mason? I think it comes down to fellowship and carrying on a proud tradition that dates back to King Solomon. Any male who believes in a supreme being who is 18 years or older can decide to become a Mason. No atheists. It's a biblically based organization intended to make people better. Mike says he belongs because Free Masons have been in his family for generations, people before him put a lot of work into making it what it is today and there's good that comes out of it like the scholarships for high school seniors and donations to Helping Hand.

Indianola's Masonic Lodge was originally located on the corner of Buxton Street, east of what is now the Warren County Administration Building. Then it moved to the third floor of what is now the RE/MAX building on The Square – the old Pemble's Hardware Store for us townies. I loved that place with the wood floors. Then the new building and current location, west of town, was built in 1971 where there are currently 90 members.

Here are a few other little known facts about Masons:
The Grand Lodge of England started the Masonic Lodge trend, one of many that Mike and his wife have visited on their travels over the years.
The first Masonic Lodge in Iowa was located in Burlington.
Back then, the buildings were cut by hand.
10 or 11 former U.S. Presidents were Masons.
Washington D.C., is laid out according to Free Mason principals.
The one-dollar bill has the all-knowing eye, a symbol of the Masons.

According to original charter, Indianola meetings were to be held on Saturday evening on or before the first full moon. Now they're held on the second Monday of the month.

Being the sorority girl that I once was I equated this whole Free Mason intervention to the movie, “National Treasure.” Great movie. So much of that movie is based on Masonic beliefs – here's just a snapshot:

*Abigail Chase:* What led you to assume there's this invisible map?
*Ben Gates:* We found an engraving on the stem of a 200 year-old pipe.
*Riley Poole:* Owned by the Free Masons.

*Abigail Chase:* May I see the pipe?
*Ben Gates:* We don't actually have it.

*Abigail Chase:* Did Bigfoot take it?

Funny, right? I'm certain there's some significance to this being my 55th column and it happens to be about Masons. There's symbolism in those 5's. On Saturday June 6, between 2 and 4 p.m. the public is invited to help celebrate 160 years of Warren County's Masonic Lodge. There'll be cake and tours of the building including the secret ceremony room. It will be a nice tribute to a well-intended, well-documented and widely recognized organization right here in Indianola, the Free Masons.
Deputy Grand Master A. Lyle Miller

It was a beautiful late May day as brothers and their ladies from all across Iowa journeyed to Manilla to honor our Deputy Grand Master, A. Lyle Miller. All congregated in the V.F.W. hall at 3:00 P.M. for a social time. During the social hour refreshments were served and Brother Ted Johnson played his guitar and sang country music.

The Brothers walked down the street to the lodge hall at 4:00 P.M. where Worshipful Master Jeffery Chance opened Golden Leaf Lodge No. 595. The Past and Present Grand Lodge officers were presented and introduced with Brothers Kevin Brown and Dale LeFrentz serving as Senior and Junior Committeeman respectively. Grand Master Charles D. Yates was presented and introduced with Brothers Jim Chance and Alan Jensen serving as Senior and Junior Committeeman and Deputy Grand Master A. Lyle Miller was presented and introduced with his son Brother A. Patrick Miller and Dale LeFrentz serving as Senior and Junior Committeeman. Brother Lyle expressed his gratitude for the gifts Freemasonry has given him and for the honor of being allowed to serve the Masons of Iowa. The Grand Lodge officers then assumed the stations and places of Golden Leaf Lodge and A. Lyle Miller closed the lodge.

The Brothers reassembled at the V.F.W. Hall where after an Invocation by Past Grand Chaplin Dennis Heflin a fine roast beef and mashed potato banquet catered by Deb's Corner Store at Manning was served and enjoyed by all.

Following the banquet introduction were made and W.M. Chance gave a short history of Manilla. The town was originally named Astor and to honor RW Brother Miller Brother Jim Chance presented him with a plaque recognizing him as a Honorary Mayor of Astor.

Brother Lyle has difficult tying his necktie for the events so to make things easier for him the Grand Lodge Officers each presented him with a pre-tied necktie. Lyle's 13 year old daughter has a favorite saying “What Ever!!” so Grand Treasurer Lane Shaver presented him with a banner recognizing Lyle's favorite saying. He was also presented with other items including dozens of deviled eggs.

Brother Lyle gave appropriate remarks and thanked all for attending. Brother Ted Johnson then played three more vintage country songs. Grand Master Yates closed the meeting with a story and Dennis Heflin gave the benediction.

2015 MCEC Scholarship Winners

Ten graduating students of Iowa Public High Schools were selected to receive $2,500 scholarships from the more than forty applications received. The Grand Lodge of Iowa, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, “Mark Earl and Esther Ruth Spencer Technical Scholarships” are awarded to those students who plan to enroll in a mechanical or trade course of study at an accredited Iowa Community College. Congratulations to those students who were selected and all that applied. The future of Iowa is bright indeed.

Those receiving scholarships are:

- Michael D Atkinson, Norwalk
- Sarah R Frey, Douds
- Gretchen E Gerot, Iowa City
- Mc Kenna N Kremer, Monticello
- Jeffrey M Middlebrook, Corydon
- Trevor E Sanjwin, Aurelia
- Ty R Schneider, Lacoma
- Tyler D Townsend, Prairie City
- Kayla A Wagner, De Witt
- Leah K Wanner, Williamsburg
Onawa Masonic Lodge Scholarship Winners
By Jeanne Virtue
Worshipful Master Charles Ferris presented the 2015 Vesper Lodge No. 223 Scholarships on Sunday June 14, 2015 in Onawa. The following received scholarships:
Cade Cooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Justin Cooper of Whiting, who will attend the University of Iowa and major in business.
Austin Reitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Reitz of Onawa, is planning to attend Northwestern College in Orange City, and will also major in business.
Whitney Carrier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Carrier of Onawa. She will attend the University of Iowa, and major in Computer Science.
Shawna Bellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Bellis of Onawa, is pursuing a career in nursing and will attend Western Iowa Technical College in Sioux City.
Kayla Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Morgan of Mapleton. Kayla will attend Iowa Central Community College to major in animal science and agribusiness. She was unable to attend the event Sunday and will receive her certificate at a later date.
Following the presentation ceremony, refreshments were served and the scholarship recipients and their families visited with Lodge Members.
Vesper Lodge No. 223 financed the scholarships with donated funds raised through Breakfast Fundraisers served on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month from October through March.

Pictured from L to R: Worshipful Master Charles Ferris, Cade Cooper, Austin Reitz, Whitney Carrier, and Shawna Bellis.

Star Lodge No. 115 Hosts A Reception
Honoring Grand Treasurer Lane H. Shaver
Brothers from across the state gathered together to honor Grand Treasurer Lane H. Shaver. The Brothers of Star Lodge No. 115 at Madrid hosted a reception to honor their brother on June 6, 2015 at the Snus Hill Winery, west of Madrid. Following the social hour the ladies enjoyed a tour of the facility and a little wine tasting.

The Masons traveled to Star Lodge where Worshipful Master Bill Badgley opened lodge for the reception and introduction of the Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers, Brothers Jim Trotter and Kurt Kruse served as committeemen. Grand Master Charles D. Yates was introduced and received with Past Grand Master D. Dean Johnson and Darrell G. Fremont serving as committeemen. Brother Leland “Buster” Haidsiak and Past Grand Master Craig C. Hummel were committeemen for Grand Treasurer Shaver. The Grand Master saw that Star Lodge No. 115 was closed with Brother Lane in the East.
The Masons rejoined their ladies at Snus Hill Winery. Brother Marcus Badgley gave the invocation followed by a wonderful smoked brisket and pulled pork lunch. Introductions were made by the Grand Master and Masters of Star Lodge and Operative Lodge. Brother Benjiman Badgley was Master of Cermonies, he and his brother put together a Top Ten List, similar to David Letterman, “How you Know Lane is at the Stated Meeting”. Brother Lane received two nice Sand Buckets, one from the Grand Lodge Officers full of lottery scratch-off tickets, Past Grand Master Hummel also made a presentation on behalf of the 2009-2010 Grand Lodge Family. Lane introduced his family and thanked everyone for being there and supporting him throughout the years. Grand Master Yates had the “Last Word” and told the crowd that it had been a pleasure to have Lane as part of this year’s Grand Lodge Family. The Benediction was given by Brother Marcus Badgley.
The Other Guy Named Albert
By Arturo de Hoyos: taken from the MSANA’s July 2015 Short Talk Bulletin

The author is Grand Archivist and Grand Historian of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction. Brother de Hoyos is Past Master of McAllen Lodge #1110 in Texas, Thirty-Third Degree, Grand Cross, and Knight of the York Cross of Honour

-- Editor

If, in a conversation, I referred to “the great American Scottish Rite Scholar, Albert ...” you might anticipate that the last name would be “Pike.”

It’s a fair guess, but it would not always be correct. For we cannot forget that other Albert, a brother who was as important as Albert Pike, a man who was his contemporary, and who was actually the Brother who initiated Albert Pike into the Scottish Rite, and served as its Grand Secretary General for 37 years.

Albert Gallatin Mackey, 33°, (1807-1881) was born in Charleston, South Carolina, a descendant of Old Covenanter Scots. His father was Brother John Mackey, M.D., a member of Charleston’s Lodge No. 51. Following Albert’s elementary education, he tutored other students and later attended the Medical College of South Carolina, graduating in 1832. He is reported to have received a prize for the best thesis of his graduating class. He practiced medicine, notably during the 1836 cholera epidemic, and taught anatomy at the medical college, but retired in 1854 to devote himself to Freemasonry, research, and writing.

Brother Mackey's Masonic record is nothing short of remarkable, and is so extensive that it must be abbreviated. He was initiated, passed, and raised in Charleston's St. Andrew's Lodge No. 10, in 1841; he then joined Solomon's Lodge (in the same city), and was elected Worshipful Master there in 1842. The following year he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina (an office he held for 23 years).

Brother Mackey was also active in the York Rite. In 1845 he was elected Grand Lecturer of the General Grand Chapter of South Carolina, and in 1854 he was elected Grand High Priest. Four years later he was elected General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, an office he held until 1855. He was also elected Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of South Carolina at its creation in 1860.

At the time he joined the Scottish Rite in 1844, most of American Freemasonry was just beginning to reawaken from the effects of the anti-Masonic episode, which began in 1826. The Scottish Rite was a small organization, and in South Carolina it was largely localized in Charleston. Recognizing Brother Mackey's abilities, the Supreme Council conferred upon him the Thirty-Third Degree and appointed him Grand Secretary General the same year. In addition to this position, he also acted as the Supreme Council's de facto archivist and historian, preserving records and later compiling a history. At the time of his death in 1881, he was the oldest Active Member of the Supreme Council.

As mentioned, Ill. Brother Mackey's contributions also include an act, which affected high degree Masonry worldwide. On March 20, 1853, he communicated the Scottish Rite degrees to Albert Pike in Charleston.

The two men knew each other from their association in the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and met in Charleston to discuss matters of mutual concern.

The term "communication" refers to a method of conferring the degrees without dramatic performance. Brother Mackey gave an outline of the content of each Scottish Rite degrees, he then obligated Brother Pike in each of the same, and gave him the secret work.

Then, over the next couple of years, he encouraged Pike to study the degrees, loaning him the rituals. Brother Pike transcribed them all into a 1,200-page bound manuscript he titled Masonic Formulas and Rituals. This collection became the basis for Pike's later ritual revisions (the early ritual collection was printed by the Scottish Rite Research Society in 2010, and is available at scottishrit-estore.org).

As Mackey and Pike worked closer together, Mackey became convinced of the need for Pike's leadership, which he worked to promote. In a letter written July 7, 1858, Mackey — who was the senior member of the Supreme Council and entitled to the office of Grand Commander by succession — wrote to Pike: “I am not yet done, however. The A. & A. Rite must be resuscitated.... You must and shall be at its head.... I waive, absolutely, my own claims as the oldest member now living." This noble act cleared the course for the future success, which the Scottish Rite would enjoy.

Brother Mackey had an insatiable interest in the history, philosophy, and ritual of Freemasonry, and
wrote many works that are still available today. He did not limit himself to one particular rite, but produced texts for the Blue Lodge and York and Scottish Rites. His first published Masonic book, the Lexicon of Freemasonry (1845), would be revised and expanded until it was so thoroughly enlarged that it became his renowned An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry (1874). In the introduction to his encyclopedia he explained that for an entire year he suffered vision problems which required him to recite the individual articles, which his daughters transcribed. What a remarkable demonstration of dedication! His other works included The Mystic Tie (1851), The Ahiman Rezon of South Carolina (1852), Principles of Masonic Law (1856), Book of the Chapter (1858), Text-Book of Masonic Jurisprudence (1859), History of Freemasonry in South Carolina (1861), Manual of the Lodge (1862), Cryptic Masonry (1867), Symbolism of Free-Masonry (1867), and The History of Freemasonry (7 vols, 1898). In addition to his books, he was also editor of Masonic journals and newspapers.

During the War Between the States, Brother Mackey continued to hold faith in and support the Federal Government, and after the war in 1865, President Andrew Johnson appointed him Collector of Customs at the Port of Charleston. Three years later he was elected a delegate of Charleston County to help form a constitution for the state, and upon the convention’s creation, he was elected its president. At the state’s first session of the legislature, he was but a single vote shy of being elected to the Senate of the United States. Following this, he withdrew from politics and moved with the Supreme Council to Washington, D.C., in 1870.

Brother Henry Buist, who was initiated into Freemasonry while Brother Mackey was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, became Grand Master of South Carolina in 1860 and said that Mackey “was faithful to every public and Masonic duty. Treachery found no place in his character. He never betrayed a trust.”

Surely, this is a man not only worth remembering, but emulating.

Scholarship Thank Yous

Daniel U. Cano Pargas – I recently received notice that I have been selected as a recipient of one of the Grand Lodge’s Scholarships and would like to thank everyone for this great honor. Sitting down with Mr. Hurmence and other members of the committee was undoubtedly one of the most enjoyable interviewing experiences I have ever had in my life. I hope the Grand Lodge continues to offer opportunities such as this one in the future. Again, I cannot thank you enough for this great assistance you have provided my family and me. I assure you I will work diligently towards my goals and will not forget you contribution to my achievements.

Rebecca Loew – I am honored to have been selected as a recipient of a Grand lodge Scholarship. This will help me greatly with my future college expenses. Thank you again.

Wesley Reever – Thank you very much for choosing me as a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Scholarship. This means a lot to me and will help me to continue my education so that I can better myself.

Jace Bloomer – I am sincerely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Scholarship. Your generosity will allow me to be one step closer to my educational goals. Thank you again for your thoughtful and generous gift.

Megan Slattery – Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the Grand Lodge Masonic Scholarship. It is an honor to receive an award from a group of people that exemplify the characteristics and qualities of noble men and women. I look forward to attending Iowa State University this fall and greatly appreciate your support of my endeavors. Thank you again!

Marjorie Baker – Thank you very much for selecting me to receive one of the $2,000 scholarships. It is an honor to be chosen for such a large scholarship. The money will really help to cover the college expenses I will have in the fall.

Alexis Pint – I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your time and consideration put into your scholarship program. Your generosity is truly appreciated. I feel very fortunate to have received the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M. 2015 scholarship. Thanks to your gift, I have the opportunity to pursue a great education at Iowa State University while studying Engineering.

Mackenzie Intlekofer – I am writing to tell you how thankful I am to be the recipient of The Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M. Scholarship. It will help me attain my dream of becoming a doctor.

Emily Cook – I am very pleased to learn that I have been selected for a $2,000 scholarship from your organization. I greatly appreciate the generosity of the Masons in the community and personally in this large scholarship.
American Masonic Education Symposium
By Edward A. Rund (participant from Illinois)

Beginning on the evening of June 25th through the evening of June 27th, nearly seventy-five Masons came together for the American Masonic Education Symposium. While most were from around Iowa, there were also men from both coasts. The event was sponsored by a good number of Iowa Masonic organizations plus the Philalethes Society, the Phylaxis Society, and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction. The Symposium was held at the Scottish Rite Temple in Cedar Rapids. What made this gathering so special was the opportunity for the attendees to listen to and share ideas with some of the best Masonic speakers, authors and researchers in the country.

Though spending a full eight hours on both Friday and Saturday could have been quite tiring, this was offset by stirring and informative presentations and lively discussions. Especially interesting were topics dealing with the numerous problems Freemasonry is currently facing in the United States, including the ongoing debate over the basic causes of these challenges. Obviously, while no final solutions could be developed, this educational gathering provided an excellent opportunity for each Mason present to think through and draw his own tentative conclusions regarding such difficult issues as quality versus quantity, ways to create appeal and satisfy needs over the generations beginning with pre-Baby Boomers down through the Millennials. The latter age segment more and more are reaching out in hopes of establishing emotional roots while finding answers in their lives through Masonic involvement.

Keynote speakers included Robert N. Campbell, President for Life of the Phylaxis Society (a Masonic research organization associated primarily with Prince Hall Masonry); Robert G. Davis, a renowned Masonic researcher and author; John L. Cooper III, P.G.M. of California and soon to be President of the Philalethes Society; James T. Tresner, a prolific Masonic author and a truly engaging presenter, and from the A.A.S.R. S.J., Ronald A. Seale, Supreme Grand Commander as well as Arturo De Hoyos, Grand Archivist and Grand Historian.

Included in the program was a tour of the Grand Lodge Library and Museums, a thrill for many of the attendees. Lest the Symposium appears to be all work, there was fair amount of time for informal discussions, and each evening a get-acquainted hour enjoying delicious Hors-d’Oeuvres followed by a grand Festive Board. And I must admit, the meals were superb. All in all, we can only hope that this is just the first in a line of such educational offerings.
Grand Master’s One-Day Class at Sioux City

Eight men from around the State were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason at Morningside Lodge No. 615 on July 11. Chairman Guy H. Posey put together a Grand Master One-Day Class. Brother Posey served as Master of Ceremonies. Members of the Board of Custodians of the work; Brothers Arthur G. Crandon and Loren C. Stein gave the candidate instruction. Grand Master Charles D. Yates gave the welcome. Sir Knights from Iowa City Commandery presented the colors. Brother Posey served as the Degree Masters for all three Degree and assembled an excellent casts for the conferrals. Brother Denis Stubbs Trial Lodge No.532 in Moville was in the East and Brother Sheldon Menin Morningside Lodge No. 615 in Sioux City was Senior Deacon. John Priestly and Jon Wagoner gave the Explanatory Lecture. Brother Lindell Clem Onyx Lodge No. 419 gave the Charge. Active Candidates were William Nuss from Arcadia Lodge No. 249 at Ames and Alexander Umbaugh from Orange Lodge No. 123 at Orange City.

Following the break, the Second Degree was conferred by Brother John Redeisel Landmark Lodge No. 103, Brother Justin Dean Landmark Lodge No. 103 was Senior Deacon and Brother Thomas Humbert Morningside Lodge No. 615 gave the Middle Chamber Lecture. Brother Randal Crouch Landmark Lodge No. 103 gave the Charge. Brothers Steven Schendel Alpine Lodge No.471 at Holstein and Matthew Moore Morningside Lodge No.615 at Sioux City were the active candidates. The Jitters catering prepared and served the lunch. Following lunch, the First Section of the Third Degree was conferred by Brother Randall Crouch Landmark Lodge No. 103 and Brother Jon Redeisel Landmark Lodge No. 103 as Senior Deacon. The Second Section was conferred with Brother George J. Harrison in the East. Senior Deacon was Randall Crouch. Brother Mike Miller Golden Leaf Lodge No. 595 in Manilla gave the Charge. Active candidates were Brothers Robert Parker Jr. Triangle Lodge No. 643 at Sioux City and Micah Powers Freedom Lodge No. 434 at Le Mars.

What a wonderful day for Freemasonry in Iowa and a Special Thank You to Morningside Lodge No. 615 for hosting the event.

Scholarship Thank You

Zoey Glenn – I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of this year’s Grand Lodge of Iowa Scholarship. Attending a top university was my long term goal and there have been many bumps and barriers along the way, but with the help of the kindness and generosity of this committee, I will finally be able to reach this goal in the fall at Drake University.
Cornerstone Un-Laying Ceremony
Beacon – Hope Men’s Homeless Shelter
Former Ashlar Lodge No.111 in Fort Dodge

The Old Masonic Temple in Fort Dodge was once home to Ashlar Lodge No. 111. It is now the home of Beacon – Hope Men’s Homeless Shelter. On June 20, 2015 the Grand Lodge of Iowa performed a Cornerstone Un-Laying Ceremony at the former Masonic Temple. Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form on the Third Degree by Grand Master Charles D. Yates assisted by the Grand Lodge Officers in the Old Lodge Hall. Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis and Grand Marshal David M. Dryer held a practice for the procession.

Everyone moved outside for the ceremony. Grand Master Yates and the Grand Lodge Officers then conducted the Cornerstone Un-Laying Ceremony. The following local brethren assisted: John M. Lizer carried the Great Lights; Henry A. Brain the Book of Constitutions; G. Leslie Johnson, James T. Underwood, and Erland W. Carlson served as Bearers of the Corn, Wine, and Oil; Clifton W. Ellerbeck, Spencer H. Peterson, and Dwight Trampel as Bearers of the Red, White, and Blue Candles. Robert Springer served as the Architect, Christopher J. Kennedy was the Flag Bearer and Howard G. Hartman was the Bugler. Brother Howard had not played in many years, he borrowed a trumpet and didn’t miss a note. Brother Dan Brown served as Master of Ceremonies and talked about the History of the Building and the transition from a Masonic Temple to the Beacon – Hope Men's Homeless Shelter. The new director of the Shelter has done a wonderful job restoring the building.

The following articles were found inside the copper casket: Articles of Incorporation of the Masonic Temple Association, the By-Laws, A Blank Capital Stock Certificate, History, Corporate Seal, copy of the deed of land, membership list of Ashlar Lodge No. 111, membership list of Aurora Chapter No. 311 Order of Eastern Star, Rules of Aurora Chapter, membership lists of Delta Chapter No. 51 Royal Arch Masons and Calvary Commandery No. 24 Knights Templar, United States Flag, proceedings of the Grand Lodge from 1914, proceedings from, Royal Arch Masons, and Knights Templar 1914, A Chapter Penny, copies of the following newspapers, the Chronicle of Fort Dodge, the Des Register and Leader, and the Chicago Tribune, 1913 Nickel and Penny, the Penny was missing, badge from the 54th Annual Convocation Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Iowa 1907, and 2 stamps a one cent stamp and a two cent stamp.

The Masons then returned to the Lodge room where the Grand Lodge was closed in Due Form at 2:50 P.M. with Deputy Grand Master A. Lyle Miller presiding.
Scholarship Thank Yous

Shelby Morreim – I want to express how thankful I am for receiving the Grand Lodge of Iowa Scholarship to help contribute to my future schooling and nursing career. I am a proud recipient and plan to continue to serve for those around me, participate in a variety of activities, and maintain my leadership qualities, character, and good grades throughout my education at Minnesota State University in Mankato Minnesota.

McKenna Kremer – Thank you so much for selecting me for the Mark Earl & Esther Ruth Spencer Technical Scholarship. This scholarship will be helpful to me in helping to defray some college tuition costs. I look forward to attending Kirkwood Community College this fall in their Hotel Management program and this scholarship will be most helpful.

Olivia Matz – Thank you so much for choosing me to be a recipient of the Grand Lodge Masonic Scholarship. It is such an honor to be chosen out of all the intelligent minds in Iowa to represent what the Masons have to offer. This scholarship will help tremendously when I need to buy my book/school supplies and even my tuition at Briar Cliff University. Thanks again for supporting the furthering of education of the youth of Iowa.

Justin Roepsch – I was so excited when I received the letter informing me that I was selected to receive one of the scholarship awards by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M. Thank you so much for honoring me with a scholarship. Earlier this month I attended orientation at Iowa State University where I registered for classes. I am looking forward to getting started with those classes in the fall. Thank you again for your generosity. The scholarship money will help me focus on my classes and leadership activities while I work toward a degree in Software Engineering.

Jena Van Marel – It was an honor to be named a recipient of the 2015 Masonic Scholarship. I am completely humbled by the generosity of this award and the opportunities this scholarship will allow for. Not only will I be able to finance my secondary education, but will be able to chase the dreams I have for my future. It was great to meet you in Exira.

Caitlin Kruckenberg – Thank you for blessing me with the Grand Lodge Scholarship! It will help me pay for college throughout the next four years and beyond.

Claire Carmichael – As a recipient of the scholarship awarded by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M., I would like to sincerely thank you. I am ecstatic to be headed off to the University of Iowa this fall to begin my studies as a biology and Spanish Major on the pre-med track. Your generous support of my future academic endeavors means the world to me.

Alex Jackson – From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for this scholarship. Through hard work, dedication, and many prayers, I will use this money to the best of my abilities in college. Furthermore, it was such a blessing to meet Ken, Alex and Terry; the interview process was one I will never forget. You three truly helped me get back on the correct path in my life, and for that I am externally grateful. Overall, the Grand Lodge organization has helped me in multiple ways beyond the realms of scholarship money, so I will carry its generosity and good vibes in and beyond college.

Andrew Lindquist – I was very happy to learn that I was a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for the generous financial support toward my higher education. In addition, I want to thank the members of the Grand Lodge who hosted the interview luncheon in Exira and the wonderful opportunity to interact with them. I plan to double major in Economics and Mathematics. Following college, I will pursue a career in business, and eventually open my own small business. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goals.

Jacob Boeck – Thank you very much for granting me this scholarship! I sincerely appreciate the ability to put this towards my college expenses. Receiving this will also help me focus less on paying for college, and more on receiving a great education.

Madison Bloker – Thank you so much for your investment in my future! I had fun being interviewed and it was an honor to be selected as a recipient of this scholarship. Thank you so much for your support!

Matt Kelly – Thank you for selecting me to receive your scholarship. I’m truly honored and the funds are greatly appreciated.

Lucas Maakestad – I can’t put into words how appreciative I am to be chosen as a recipient of the Grand Lodge Masonic Scholarship. I will go a long way towards helping with my college expenses. I am very humbled to have been chosen as one of the top sixty students in Iowa. Thanks again for your generous contribution towards my college career.
Congratulations to the following brothers who earned their Certificates.

Brothers are shown by lodge.

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