

The Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M.

GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

Volume 126 Number 4

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

December 2024

TEAM: Transform Energy Action Market



Grand Master A.J. Brown
2024-2025

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2024-2025

Grand Master A. J. Brown, Bloomfield
Deputy Grand Master Keith R. Voss, Jefferson
Senior Grand Warden Donald A. Drennan, Atlantic
Junior Grand Warden Ronald J. Mullenger, Hamlin
Grand Treasurer Bruce D. Thomas, Algona
Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis, P.G.M., West Des Moines
Grand Chaplain Theodore M. Boomgarden, Mason City
Deputy Grand Secretary Kelly H. Bruce, Boone
Grand Marshal Mitchell A. Petty, Grimes
Senior Grand Deacon Curtis A. Klyn, Boone
Junior Grand Deacon Skylar Watson, Adel
Senior Grand Steward Michael C. McLain, Creston
Junior Grand Steward Erik L. Brincks, Boone
Grand Tyler James C. Mason, Indianola
Grand Musician John M. Klaus, Mount Vernon, P.G.T.

GRAND LODGE TRUSTEES

Arthur G. Crandon, P.G.M., Gilman, Chairman
William K. Paisley, P.G.T., Omaha, NE
Eric A. Rozeboom, P.G.M., Sanborn
William W. Post, P.G.M., West Des Moines
Theodore C. Wiley, P.G.M., Mount Pleasant

BOARD OF CUSTODIANS

Terry E. Osborne, P.G.M., Brooklyn, Chairman
Neil R. Paulsen, P.S.G.W., Avoca, Secretary
W. Scott Hull, P.D.G.M., Boone

HOSPITAL CONTACTS

MSA Veterans Hospital Visitors:
State Coordinator - Gerald A. Edgar, Garner
Des Moines - Jerry L. Luedtke, Norwalk
Iowa City - Kevin A. Nelson, Waterloo

TRUSTEES GRAND CHARITY FUNDS

Matthew A. Buckley, P.G.T., Davenport, Chairman
Randy L. Tolley, Dubuque
Christopher P. Soebbing, Davenport
Robert E. Breckenridge, P.G.T., Ottumwa
Mark A. Cottrell, Camanche

TRUSTEES ROWLEY MEMORIAL MASONIC TRUST

Neil R. Paulsen, P.S.G.W., Avoca, Chairman
Arthur W. Pixler, P.G.T., Fenton
Hollie F. Smith, Des Moines
David K. Aves, P.J.G.W., Boone
A. Lyle Miller, P.J.G.W., Manilla

GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

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

LODGE SERVICE COMMITTEE

Deputy G.S. Kelly H. Bruce, Executive Director, email: dgs@gl-iowa.org

CONTENTS FOR DECEMBER 2023

Grand Master's Message	59
Annual Communication Recap.....	60
Iowa Masonic Charities	64
Masonic Library & Museum Conference.....	66
The Three Lesser Lights.....	67
Past Grand Master Ernest R. Moore.....	68
Annual Giving Campaign.....	72
Wonders of the Masonic World	76

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.

2024 - 2025 Regional Schools

Friday, March 21, 2025, Signet Lodge No. 264
2002 N US Highway 71, Carroll5:30 P.M.
Saturday, March 22, 2025 Pomegranate Lodge No.
408, 201 1/2 Main Street, Alta9:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 17, 2025, Bower Lodge No. 464,
Hwy 17 S, Eagle Grove5:30 P.M.
Friday, April 18, 2025, Mount Olive Lodge No. 79,
527 Marshall St, Boone9:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 28, 2025, Preston Lodge No. 218,
402 W 2nd St, Prairie City5:30 P.M.
Friday, May 16, 2025, Gnemeth Lodge No. 577,
218 1/2 5th St, West Des Moines9:00 A.M.
Thursday, June 19, 2025, Clinton Lodge No. 15
52 1/2 E Briggs Ave, Fairfield5:30 P.M.
Friday, July 18, 2025, Waterloo Lodge No. 105
607 Bishop Ave, Waterloo9:00 A.M.
Saturday, August 23, 2025, Adel Lodge No. 80
411 S 12th St, Adel9:00 A.M.
Monday, September 1, 2025, Ottumwa Lodge No. 16,
611 E Pennsylvania Ave, Ottumwa9:00 A.M.
Thursday, September 18, 2025, Grand Lodge School,
901 4th St, Sioux City8:00 A.M.

2025 Secretary Conferences

Thursday, January 2, 2025, Tyrrell Lodge No. 116
203 3rd St SE, Waverly10:00 A.M.
Friday, January 3, 2025, Ottumwa Lodge No. 16
Pennsylvania Ave, Ottumwa10:00 A.M.
Monday, January 6, 2025, Danville Lodge No. 48
201 S Main St, Danville10:00 A.M.
Tuesday, January 7, 2025, Brubaker Lodge No. 675
511 Veterans Memorial Pkwy, Davenport6:30 P.M.
Wed., January 8, 2025, Onyx Lodge No. 419
224 Main St, Sanborn10:00 A.M.
Thursday, January 9, 2025, Attica Lodge No. 502
418 Evans St, Sloan6:30 P.M.
Saturday, January 11, 2025, Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 297
218 W High St, Avoca6:30 P.M.
Monday, January 13, 2025, Gnemeth Lodge No. 577
218 1/2 5th St, West Des Moines.....6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, January 14, 2025, Evening Star Lodge No.
43, 108 1/2 John Wayne Rd, Winterset6:30 P.M.
Wed., January 15, 2025, Mirza Rhodes Lodge No. 303
505 W Mulberry, Ogden6:30 P.M.
Monday, January 20, 2025, Benevolence Lodge No.
145, 304 1st St SE, Mason City6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, January 21, 2025, Iowa Masonic Library
813 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids6:30 P.M.



Grand Master's Message

TEAM: Transform Energy Action Market

Greetings Brethren,



I would like to thank you all for the privilege to serve as your Grand Master for this year. I am very honored and grateful for all your support. I will do everything that I can to faithfully perform the duties of this office.

Who Needs Freemasonry? We live in an interesting time. It feels like we are sitting on top of a powder keg. At any moment, the match could get lit, or the button pushed. With wars raging, conflicts, bombs, and weapons of mass-destruction things are scary on a global level. Perhaps our world leaders need Freemasonry.

At the time this article is being written, the United States are politically divided almost in half. We hate our neighbor because they aren't going to vote for the person we like. Most marriages end in divorce, our children are growing up in broken homes, suicides are on the rise and 20% of adult men don't even have five close friends. Freemasonry won't necessarily fix our marriages, our broken homes, or heartaches, but the Fellowship and Brotherhood that we have in Masonry is a much better medicine for these ailments than if we are home alone. Perhaps America needs Freemasonry!

So how are we going to tell the world that there is Light in the darkness? That there is Hope? Not every man is a Mason, but there are thousands of men in our state who need Masonry in their lives, and we need them in our ranks.

We need to be more accessible, more relevant, and more meaningful than ever before. In the instant gratification, "speed of light" age that we live in we need to be visible in the right places. To move Iowa Freemasonry forward and into the future we are going to market ourselves on social media platforms, QR codes and embrace new technologies to reach a wider, younger audience. A business that does not advertise and market themselves cannot stay relevant in the public eye.

Even in our lodges we face challenges. Declining membership numbers, dwindling finances, decrepit lodge buildings, egos, tensions, and opinions get in the way of progress and productivity. So perhaps even Freemasonry needs Freemasonry.

We can't overcome these challenges as individuals. But together as a TEAM we can accomplish great things. Our program this year embodies the spirit of TEAM. We are going to lean on each other to distribute the workload. We have tasked the lodges, members, Grand Lodge Officers, committees, and boards of the Grand Lodge of Iowa to become united together, to communicate together and to move Iowa Freemasonry forward into the future. There are exciting things happening right now in Iowa Freemasonry. The Iowa Masonic Charities is working hard to raise funds for our Grand Lodge Library Building with great success. The committees of the Grand Lodge are diligently working hard to try new ideas and redefine their roles. The lodges that we have visited have been eager and excited to embrace our TEAM movement.

We won't necessarily fix all our problems in a month or even a year but let us try and begin! It is said that "What we DO today, we will have to live with tomorrow." But what we DON'T do today we will also have to live with tomorrow! So let us begin right now to move Iowa Freemasonry forward and into the future, stand united with us on this TEAM. Thank you!

Fraternally and Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A.J. Brown".

A.J. Brown
Grand Master of Masons in Iowa



**“Get in the Game, Live the Ritual”
180th Annual Communication**



Grand Worthy Advisor
Abigail Johnson



State Master Councilor
Alexander Harshbarger



Bethel Secretary
Claudia Hauser



Resolution of Thanks
Senior Grand Steward
Bruce A. Lutz

I had the opportunity to install Most Worshipful Brother Darrell G. Fremont at the 179th Annual Communication in Des Moines at the Des Moines Scottish Rite Center. It was truly an honor. The Grand Master traveled across Iowa sharing his message “Get in the Game, Live the Ritual.” His year ended at the Radisson Hotel in Cedar Rapids in September of 2024.

Grand Lodge School of Instruction

The Grand Lodge School of Instruction was hosted by the Custodians of the Work: Terry E. Osborne, P.G.M., Neil R. Paulsen, P.S.G.W., and W. Scott Hull, P.D.G.M. The schools were divided, Masonic Instructors and District Lecturers, as well as a craft school. The Grand Lodge Officers and incoming Grand Lodge Officers were in a school as well. Saturday morning Terry Osborne announced the new Masonic Instructors and District Lecturers in Iowa. The new Masonic Instructors are Curtis A. Klyn, David W. Royer, James R. Van Wyk, Christopher P. Soebbing, Brian D. Phipps, Michael C. McLain, and Lindell Clem. The new District Lecturers are Joshua B. Yeager, Guy J. McCausland, Donald A. Drennan, Kelly H. Bruce, B.V. (Bill) Northup and Michael S. Shannon.

Business of the Grand Lodge

Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont opened the 180th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa on Friday, September 20, 2024, at 8:30 A.M. The Grand Master received distinguished brethren and recognized the delegates attending the session. The Grand Master gave his report to the Craft and other committees presented reports throughout the session. The election of officers for the 2024-2025 Grand Lodge year followed lunch. Right Worshipful Brother Keith R. Voss, Past Junior Grand Warden gave a report on the Long-Range Planning Committee. The Grand Master’s Award was given to Black Hawk Lodge No. 65 in Cedar Falls.

The eleven lodges that earned the Lodge of the Year Award were recognized. Acanthus Lodge No. 632 in Des Moines received the Gold Award, Logic Lodge No. 636 in Ankeny won the Silver Award, and King David Lodge No. 407 in Altoona received the Bronze Award. Two lodges received the Plus One Award and King David Lodge was recognized with the Most Growth Award. There were four Master Builder Awards, 32 Ashlar Award winners and one recipient of the Golden Trowel Award, Theodore M. Boomgarden from Mason City. Brother Kyler Rieken of Coral Lodge No. 335 in Carson won the New Mason of the Year Award. Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont was awarded membership into the DeMolay International Supreme Council as an Honorary Member.

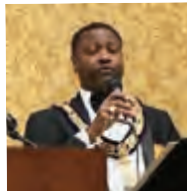
Ana Gil was named the Teacher of the Year. Ana teaches in Harlan Community School and Parian Lodge No. 321 nominated her for the award. Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont presented James L. Trotter with the T.S. Parvin Award; Brother Trotter is a member of Operative Lodge No. 308. Barry D. Weer Past Grand Master from Illinois and Commissioner of the Masonic Service Association of North America present Darrell with a plaque acknowledging him as Grand Master and thanking him for his continued support of the Masonic Service Association.



P.G.M. Terry E. Osborne
inducting G.M. Darrell G.
Fremont into the Past
Grand Masters Association



W.G.M. Mary Reicks
W.G.P. Joe Reed



Grand Musician
Paul W. Cort



Senior Grand Warden
Chris Kaminaka
Grand Lodge of Hawaii with
Craig Davis and Tom Nash

Installation

The 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers were installed with Craig L. Davis, P.G.M. as Installing Grand Master, Arthur G. Crandon, P.G.M. as Installing Grand Marshal, Eric A. Rozeboom, P.G.M. as Installing Grand Chaplain, Wade E. Sheeler, P.S.G.W. as Installing Grand Secretary, Tom H. Nash, Grand Marshal as Assistant Installing Grand Marshal, and Paul W. Cort, Grand Musician as Installing Grand Musician.

The 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers are:

Grand Master, A.J. Brown – Bloomfield
 Senior Grand Warden, Donald A. Drennan – Atlantic
 Junior Grand Warden, Ronald J. Mullenger – Hamlin
 Grand Treasurer, Bruce D. Thomas – Algona
 Grand Secretary, Craig L. Davis – West Des Moines
 Deputy Grand Master, Keith R. Voss – Jefferson
 Grand Chaplain, Theodore M. Boomgarden – Mason City
 Deputy Grand Secretary, Kelly H. Bruce – Boone
 Grand Marshal, Mitchell A. Petty – Grimes
 Senior Grand Deacon, Curtis A. Klyn – Boone
 Junior Grand Deacon, Skylar Watson – Adel
 Senior Grand Steward, Michael C. McLain – Creston
 Junior Grand Steward, Erik L. Brincks – Ankeny
 Grand Tyler, James C. Mason – Indianola
 Grand Musician, John M. Klaus – Mount Vernon



James L. Trotter
T.S. Parvin Recipient
Operative Lodge No. 308



Teacher of the Year
Ana Gil
Harlan Community
School District



MSA Presentation
Barry D. Weer P.G.M. to
Darrell G. Fremont G.M.

The proposed amendment to the Laws for Subordinate Lodges to eliminate mileage and per diem passed. The proposed amendment to raise the initiation fee for the Grand Lodge to \$50.00 passed. The proposed amendment to create a charter fee of \$100 for each new charter issued passed. The proposed amendment to change the Trustees of the Grand Lodge from three members to five passed. The proposed amendment to change proficiency passed. The proposed resolution to change Anamosa Lodge No. 46 to Anawatha Lodge No. 46 passed. The other proposals were found not in form or withdrawn and were not acted upon.



Black Hawk Lodge No. 65
receives the
Grand Master Award



Aloha from the 2023-2024
Grand Lodge Family.
We were in the Game!



G.M. Fremont being honored by the
International Supreme Council
Order of DeMolay
with Honorary Membership

Meet Your 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers

Grand Master A.J. Brown



Brother Brown was born in Bloomfield on August 9, 1980, and is a resident of Bloomfield. He graduated from Davis County High School in 1999 and attended Indian Hills Community College graduating in 2001. Brother A.J. and his wife Marlo have been married for 19 years. They have one son Taylor, and four daughters: Tiana, Maren, Sydney, and London. They are members of the Bloomfield Christ Community Church. Brother A.J. has worked as a Real Estate agent in the family business at Davis County Realtors for many years. He has served on the Main Street Streetscape committee, youth soccer coach, t-ball coach and is a member of the Bloomfield Young Professionals Group.

Brother Brown received his three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Ottumwa Lodge No. 16 at Ottumwa. He was Initiated on June 19, 2007; Passed on July 17, 2007; and Raised on August 13, 2007. He served as Master in 2013, he also belongs to Woodrow Morris Lodge No. 680. Brother A.J. served the Grand Lodge as Junior Grand Deacon in 2010-2011, and served again as Senior Grand Warden in 2015-2016. He has also served on the Lodge Service Committee and the Grand Charity Board and is a member of the Speakers Bureau, he served 2023-2024 as Chairman of the Committee on Division and Reference.

His other affiliations include: the Des Moines Scottish Rite and Rose Chapter No 552 Order of Eastern Star in Ottumwa. Ottumwa York Rite Bodies, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine in Altoona, Royal Order of Scotland, Saint Bartholomew Conclave Red Cross of Constantine, and Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor.

He holds District Lecturer's Certificate No. 3157.

Senior Grand Warden Donald A. Drennan

Brother Donald A. Drennan was born in Corning on January 29, 1954, and is a current resident of Atlantic. He graduated from Corning Community High School; he then attended the Life Underwriter's Training Council. Brother Drennan Spent his life working in the Insurance industry, most recently as Owner of Drennan Insurance L.L.C. in Atlantic. Donnie was a Jaycee International Senator No. 35709, Iowa Jaycee/Jaycette Family of the Year, and Atlantic Chamber of Commerce. Brother Donnie and his lady Arlene have been married for 49 years. They have a son Jacob and a daughter Angie. Donnie and Arlene attend the United Church of Christ.



Brother Drennan received his three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Pymosa Lodge No. 271 at Atlantic. He was Initiated on June 18, 1990; Passed on November 19, 1990; and Raised on January 14, 1991. He became a dual member of Circle Lodge No. 555 at Prescott on May 10, 2021. He served as Worshipful Master of Pymosa Lodge No. 271 in 1998, 2015, and 2016. Brother Drennan served the Grand Lodge as Grand Chaplain in 2020-2021 and received the T.S. Parvin Award in 2016-2017, he was also a recipient of the Master Builder and Two to Grow Award. He holds District Lecturer's Certificate No. 3210.

Junior Grand Warden Ronald J. Mullenger



Brother Mullenger was born in Audubon on August 28, 1956, and is a resident of Hamlin. He graduated from Audubon Community High School. Brother Ronald is a life-long Farmer and School Bus Driver. He is a member of the Methodist Church in Audubon. Brother Ronald married Kathy Schwaller on July 30, 2022, in Manning and Ron has two children, Amanda Vaughn and Travis Mullenger from his first marriage.

Brother Mullenger received his three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Veritas Lodge No. 392 at Audubon. He was Initiated on May 28, 2014, Passed on June 20, 2014, and Raised on July 10, 2014. He served as Worshipful Master of Veritas Lodge No. 392 in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022. Brother Mullenger served the Grand Lodge as Junior Grand

Deacon in 2018-2019 and served on the Lodge Service Committee from 2018 to 2019.

Ronald has been a member of the Audubon County Conservation Club for 45 years, serving as Secretary for 20 years. Farm Service Agency Committee for three years, Audubon County Conservation Board for 19 years and Audubon County Hamlin Township Trustee for 21 years.

Ronald is a Member of Al Gabil Chapter No. 121 in Creston, Hiram Council No. 30 in Creston, and Bethany Commandery No. 24 in Creston York Rite Bodies. He is also a member of Exodus Chapter Order of Eastern Star in Exira, where he has served as Worthy Patron for 3 Years. He holds District Lecturer's Certificate No. 3204.

Grand Treasurer Bruce D. Thomas



Brother Bruce was born in Muscatine, Iowa on April 19, 1955, and graduated from Louisa Muscatine High School in Letts. He attended Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois and received his Undergraduate in Business. He then attended the University of Iowa and obtained an Undergraduate Degree in Economics and Business Education. He also attended Southwest Minnesota State in Marshall Minnesota and received his M.B.A. Bruce has worked at Heartland Mutual Insurance Association in Algona from 1980 to 2020 and was President and now retired. He married Sue Schaper in Letts on August 2, 1975. They have a son Kraig Thomas who lives in Urbandale. Bruce and Sue belong to the First United Methodist Church and are fifty plus year members. Bruce has been very active in his community over the years: Algona EMS, Director of Services, Iowa Intermediate Provider of the Year, Iowa EMS Hall of Fame. Boy Scouts, Scout Master, and Eagle Scout. He is also a member of: Algona Community Industrial Development Board Member, Algona Kiwanis, Algona Community School Vocal and Instrumental Promoter, Algona Concert Association, and American Cancer Association Coaches vs. Cancer.

Brother Thomas received his Symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Prudence Lodge No. 205 at Algona in 1981, being Initiated on April 8, 1981, Passed on May 7, 1981, and Raised on July 2, 1981. He served as Worshipful Master of Prudence Lodge No. 205 in 1984, 2022, and 2023. Bruce has served on the Grand Lodge Finance Committee from 2021-2024 and as Chairman of the Finance Committee from 2023-2024. Bruce belongs to the Des Moines Scottish Rite. Abu Bekr Shrine in Sioux City and is a member of the Order of Eastern Star, where he served as Worthy Grand Patron of Iowa in 2019.

Deputy Grand Master Keith R. Voss

Brother Voss was born in Marshalltown on January 5, 1978 and is a resident of Jefferson. He graduated from South Tama School. Brother Keith is the General Manager of the Fareway Store in Jefferson. He has served on various committees for the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Jefferson. Brother Keith married Nicole on May 15, 1999 in Le Grand and they have two children, Cameron and Sadie. He is a member of the Elks Lodge and the Bell Tower Festival Committee in Jefferson.

Brother Voss received his three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Jackson Lodge No. 42 at Centerville. He was Initiated on May 23, 2013, Passed on September 24, 2013 and Raised on October 3, 2013. Keith is a member of Morning Star Lodge No. 159 in Jefferson. Brother Voss served the Grand Lodge as Grand Tyler in 2015-2016 and Junior Grand Warden 2021-2022, he also served on the Credentials Committee from 2017 to 2020, the Visitors Committee in 2022-2023 and Chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee 2022-2024. He holds District Lecturer's Certificate No. 3187.



Scholarship Thank - You!

Gabrielle Kustes – As a recipient of the Mark Earl and Esther Ruth Spencer Scholarship, I cannot begin to express my gratitude for this very generous award. I cannot wait to attend Kirkwood this fall and begin my studies in the dental field!

Luke Wernimont – Thank you for selecting me for the 2024 Mark Earl and Esther Ruth Spencer Technical Scholarship.

Karcyn Michael – Thank you so very much for taking time to review and choose me as a recipient of your scholarship. It will be of great use to me while I'm in dental hygiene program at Indian Hills.

Grace Erickson – Thank you for awarding a gracious gift of \$5,000. I could not be more grateful.

Charles Huesmann – Thank you for the great opportunity of receiving this scholarship. It will go towards my tuition at St. Ambrose, where I am two weeks into my biology degree.



The Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M. Iowa Masonic Charities

One of the fundamental principals of Freemasonry is **Charity**. In 2023, Iowa Masonic Charities was established to create one umbrella organization, with a mission to promote the giving priorities of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. There are five major funds that make up Iowa Masonic Charities:

Iowa Masonic Charities Community College Scholarship:



This fund was originally created to provide low interest loans to students pursuing educational opportunities at an accredited College or University. Today, it awards Technical Scholarships and Grants to Senior applicants from Iowa Public High Schools who plan to enroll in a mechanical or trade course of study at an accredited Iowa Community College. Ten \$2,500 scholarships were awarded to deserving students in 2023.

Iowa Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund:

This fund awards College Scholarships to Senior applicants from Iowa Public High Schools. In 2023, the Scholarship Selection Committee considered 315 completed applications to select 25 finalists for interviews. From those interviewed, fifteen outstanding students were chosen to receive \$5,000 scholarships, and the other ten received \$2,500 scholarships. Since the program was initially funded in 1970, a total of 2,590 scholarships amounting to \$3,923,400 have been awarded.



Iowa Grand Lodge Charity Funds—Iowa Masonic Assistance Program:



This fund, formerly known as the Field Financial Aid Fund, awards grants to Iowa families in need through an application process. Individual Iowa lodges have access to this fund by applying to the Grand Charity Board, providing an explanation of the need and any necessary supporting documents. Although it is not required, in most situations, the lodge also provides a matching donation to the same cause.

Examples of recent requests include funding for wheelchair ramps at the homes of the elderly or infirm, Clothes-a-Child programs, the "Shop With A Cop" Holiday Gift Drive, support for a worthy Brother who is suffering or in need, and general contributions to charitable endeavors in the local community. Over the last ten years, 94 grants totaling \$211,377 have been awarded.

Iowa Masonic Library & Museum Building Endowment Fund:

This Fund was established to create a permanent endowment designed to provide financial support for building upgrades and infrastructure needs of the Iowa Masonic Library & Museum, including such things as lighting improvements, heating and cooling repair, tuck-pointing, plumbing and fixtures.



Iowa Masonic Library Association:



This Association established a fund to help finance special operational projects of the Iowa Masonic Library & Museum. The Association annually supports a portion, if not all of the Assistant Librarian's salary, and recent funding priorities that includes major digitization projects for the library collection, and the purchase of significant hardware and software for the Iowa Masonic Library & Museum operations.

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding **Iowa Masonic Charities**, or any of these individual funds in particular, please contact:

Bill Northup, JD
Executive Director
Iowa Masonic Charities
bnorthup@gmail.com
cell: (515) 556-2036

Grand Master A.J. Brown Reception



Masons from across the state gathered together at the Bridge View Center in Ottumwa to Honor Grand Master A.J. Brown. The Brothers of Ottumwa Lodge No.16 hosted a reception in his honor on October 19, 2024.

Social Hour began at 2:30 p.m. at the Bridge View Center. The Masons moved to the lodge where Ottumwa Lodge No.16 was opened for the purpose of receiving Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers. Past Grand Masters Arthur G. Crandon and Theodore C. Wiley were committeemen for the Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers.

Floyd E. Brown and Craig L. Davis were committeemen for Grand Master Brown. Grand Master Brown thanked everyone for being there. He was excited to see the lodge room full of Masons.

The ladies enjoyed a program on "Making Christmas Cards" by Nancy Mathias. The Masons rejoined their



ladies at the Bridge View Center. Most Worshipful Brother Craig L. Davis served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Grand Chaplain Theodore M. Boomgarden gave the invocation prior to dinner. After dinner, Craig introduced Bill V. Northup, Executive Director of the Iowa Masonic Charities to make some presentations to those who have recently contributed to the Founders Club. Those people were: George S. Eichhorn, John F. Bricker III, and Kristy Cline. The following people made donations as well after the presentation were: Arlene Drennan, Andrew E. Schaffer, Kelly H. Bruce. Grand Master Brown introduced the present Grand Lodge Officers and their ladies. He also introduced the Past Grand Masters and their ladies.



Grand Master Brown talked briefly on his program. Presentations were made to the Grand Master by Past Grand Master Crandon, Past Grand Master Davis, Former Grand Tyler Scott A. Enyart and the Grand Lodge Officers presented him with a bags set made by Senior Grand Warden Curtis Klyn and a framed Iowa Football Jersey. Grand Chaplain Theodore M. Boomgarden gave Benediction.

Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at Eastridge Elementary School



Clarksville Lodge No. 668 in Iowa City, Canopy Lodge No. 290 in Oxford and Iowa City Lodge No. 4 in Iowa City invited the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. & A.M. to perform the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at the Eastridge Elementary School in Coralville on Saturday, July 27, 2024.



Worshipful Brother James F. White Grand Tyler gave a short presentation about some of the customs and courtesies used by the Masons during the ceremony. Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont proceeded to conduct the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony with the assistance of the Grand Lodge Officers. Keith Jones served as the Flag Bearer, Evan Matthews, Cody Maxwell,

and Miles J. Flamme-Wiese served as bearers of Corn, Wine, and Oil, Tandi S. Brannaman, AIA was the Architect, Perry Shawver was the Bearer of Great Lights, Dwayne Papke, Robert Tandy and Omar Aguilar served as Bearers of the Red, White, and Blue Candles, Deon Baylor carried the Book of Constitutions. Worshipful Brother Ronald S. Payne, Junior Grand Deacon presented the School Book Lecture and Worshipful Brother Shaun M. Scott, Senior Grand Deacon gave the Flag Tribute. Tom H. Nash, Grand Marshal made the proclamation, and the Oration was given by Doctor Corey Seymour. The Architect Tandi S. Brannaman also brought remarks. Deputy Grand Master Guy J. McCausland closed Grand Lodge in Due Form.



The Masonic Library and Museum Conference **By: Julia Wells, Assistant Grand Librarian**



The Masonic Library and Museum Association (MLMA) is comprised of institutions and individuals who either support or work for in some capacity Masonic libraries or museums. According to their website (masonic-libraries.com) their mission is, "to assist and support, through education, facilitation of communication, coordination of effort, and other means, those individuals charged with the collection, management, and preservation of the Masonic heritage primarily in Canada and the United States of America."

The MLMA conference is held in different cities every year with the 2024 conference being held at the Iowa Masonic Library and Museum. Iowa has not hosted in over a decade, and we heard nothing but good things in how it went. The public is allowed in person and on Zoom, however the public has no voice until public comments are made at the end of the meeting. Institutional membership is \$50 and Individual membership is \$30 per year.

This year in Iowa, both in person and online, we had 15 institutions represented from the United States and Canada and a number of individual members present as well. During the meeting we had presentations on collections management from both a curator and a librarian. The library presentation was by Brother James Cox of Marion No. 6, who is the Public Services & Emerging Technologies Librarian for the Engineering Library at the University of Iowa. The museum presentation was given by Felicite Wolfe, the Curator and Collections Manager at the African American Museum of Iowa. After a bit of a working lunch, we headed over to the Hoover Presidential Museum and Library where we got a behind the scenes look into the collection with their Archivist, Patrick Osborn. Osborn showed us some letters and other materials collected by Hoover during his Presidency. We also saw materials collected by other Masons in Iowa and Washington D.C. like Senator Bourke Hickenlooper. Included in the collection was also a speech given before the Grand Lodge in 1947 and a preliminary sketch of the Masonic Temple in Clinton, Iowa. We then explored the museum displays and had dinner in the Amana Colonies.

A good time was had by all, and we were asked to host again in the future! It is rumored that next year will be hosted in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the Michigan Masonic Museum and Library. If you have any questions, interest in joining, or visiting the conference with me next year, please reach out to me and I will be happy to help in whatever way I can.

Brother Seth Cline Raised

Brothers of Poweshiek Lodge No. 174 gathered together on October 22, 2024 for the purpose of raising Brother Seth Cline to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.



Brother William R. Dayton was in the East for the First Section and Past Grand Master Terry E. Osborne was the Senior Deacon.

The Second Section was performed with the Shrine Past Masters Club from Za-Ga-Zig Shrine in Altoona. Terry Osborne was in the East and Senior Grand Deacon Curtis A. Klyn was the Senior Deacon. Past Grand Treasurer Dayton gave the Charge.

Montague Lodge No. 117 Presentation

Brother Win Miller is shown presenting a \$1,500 check to Retrieving Freedom Inc. The proceeds came from a Car Show sponsored by the lodge.



The Three Lesser Lights **By Wade Sheeler, Past Senior Grand Warden**

When an Entered Apprentice is first brought to Light, the first thing he discovers is the Three Great Lights of Masonry, illuminated by the Three Lesser Lights. The Lesser Lights are illuminated whenever the lodge is open, and the Three Great Lights are displayed and darkened when the Great Lights are displaced. The Lesser Lights are only discussed one time in the ritual, when the newly initiated brother is first brought to Light as an Entered Apprentice.

How the lesser lights are displayed differs among jurisdictions. In Iowa, the lesser lights are displayed in a close triangular pattern at the left of the altar. In other jurisdictions, the lights are displayed at the stations of the three principal officers, while other jurisdictions display them in a triangular fashion at three corners of the altar.

In some lodges, the Three Lesser Lights form a right, in others an equilateral, and in others an isosceles triangle. What is uniform throughout Masonry is the triangular formation, what is different is the shape and size of the triangle.

The number "three" is prevalent throughout Ancient Craft Masonry. It is the first of the three great Sacred Numbers of the Ancient Mysteries, three was the numerical symbol of God, not necessarily because God was considered a triune. The figure three as a symbol of God is far older than any trinitarian doctrine.

The triangle, like the circle, is without a beginning or ending. One line or two lines, have ends. They start and finish. Like the square or the five or more-sided figure, the triangle has no loose ends. As God was always considered as first and without either a beginning or ending, the triangle itself became a symbol of Deity.

Ancient people made much of procreation. Their two greatest impulses were self-preservation and mating. Their third was the protection of their children. It was natural for the ancient worshippers of a shining God in the sky to think that he too, required a mate, especially when it was plainly in evidence. The Moon became the Sun's bride by a process as plain as it was childlike. Father, mother... there must be a child of course. That child was Mercury, the nearest planet to the Sun, the one God kept closest to himself.

Here we have the origin of the Three Lesser Lights. In the earliest recorded accounts of the Eleusian Mysteries of ancient Greece, we find three lights about the holy place, representing the Sun, the Moon, and Mercury. How and when the Worshipful Master was substituted for Mercy is lost to time.

The Worshipful Master rules and governs his lodge as truly as do the Sun and Moon govern the day and night. There can be no lodge without a Worshipful Master, in essence he is the lodge itself. There are some things he can't do that the brethren under him can do. But without him the brethren of the lodge can't do anything, while with the brethren's consent or assistance, he can do much.

One of the principal duties of the Worshipful Master is to give proper instruction and set the craft at work. The inclusion of light as a symbol of his authority is but a logical conclusion of the Masonic doctrine of the East as the source of Masonic light to the brethren.

The light in the East is dedicated to the Master of the lodge, the one in the West to the sun, and the one in the South to the moon. As the Master sits in the East the light dedicated to the sun is on his right; the one to the moon is on his left. Therefore, the explanation as to why the jewels of the Senior and Junior Deacons who likewise sit on the right and left bear respectively representations of the Sun and of the Moon. In pointing out the placement of the lesser lights to a new initiate, the Master should be careful to first call attention to the light in the West representing the Sun, the one in the South representing the Moon, and the one in the East representing the Master.

By the light that radiates from the Three Lesser Lights, the Entered Apprentice is led to see those objects which mean so much to a Mason, the Great Lights, the inestimable gift of God to man as the rule and guide for his faith and practice, those tools that are dedicated to the Craft and to the Master the Alpha and Omega of Freemasonry.

Light alone is not enough. Light must also be used. As the lodge as a whole is a symbol of the world, so should a Mason's heart be to him a symbol of the lodge. In his heart, he should ever carry the teachings of the Great Light, ready with his spiritual compass to lay out his work; with his spiritual square ready to square his work and actions towards all mankind, especially a brother Mason.

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Ernest R. Moore



Permit me the opportunity to share a story with you about a distinguished member of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. This Mason and his story came to me purely by happenstance. I was questioned by Brother Richard (Dutch) Koch Jr. if the Grand Lodge of Iowa had any history on Ernest R. Moore. Brother Koch thought he may have been a Past Grand Master at one time. Brother Koch informed me that a relative of Moore's was interested in Masonry and he wanted to be able to share any information that we had with him.

I was pleasantly surprised to find that Most Worshipful Brother Moore served as Grand Master in 1924. He took his three Symbolic Degrees in Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 in Cedar Rapids in 1903. He served Mount Hermon as Worshipful Master in 1907 and served as Treasurer for many years after that. He served as Master of Kadosh and received the Rank of 33rd degree in the Scottish Rite. He was also a member of the York Rite and El Kahir Shrine. He served as Deputy Grand Master in 1915 and served on the Finance Committee for 3 years and was elected Grand Treasurer in 1920.

The greatest interest in his life was his home and family. In 1901 on Christmas Day, he married Winifred Evans and they had four wonderful children. He served his country from 1887 to 1897 in the National Guard. He retired as a First Lieutenant in Company C of the 49th of Iowa.

He became a banker in Cedar Rapids and president of the American Trust and Savings Bank of Cedar Rapids. He served Linn County as a state representative in the Thirty-second, Thirty-second extra, Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth sessions of the Grand Assembly. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1916, serving two terms. When he retired from politics he was appointed as Republican member of the state board of parole in 1937. In Cedar Rapids he served on the fraternal and civic affairs board, water board, county old age pension board, soldier relief commission and the memorial commission.

This is just a brief overview of Ernest R. Moore, his life's work was much more.

South Central M.I.-D.L. Reception and Third Degree at Prairie City



The South-Central MI-DL Club hosted its annual Grand Lodge reception and Third Degree on October 28 at Prairie City with Preston Lodge No. 218 as host lodge.

Preston Lodge was opened with James Van Wyk in the East. Brother Van Wyk remained the East for the First Section conferral, and Brother Adam Jones was Senior Deacon as they conferred the Third Degree on Brother Mike Heuer from King David Lodge No. 407 in Altoona. Lodge was called to refreshment so that the Masons could join their ladies at the Prairie City United Methodist Church for the chili and oyster stew supper.



Following dinner, the Masons returned to the lodge hall where the Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers were received and introduced with Brothers Drew Mathias and Michael Shannon as committeemen. Grand Master A.J. Brown was received and introduced with Past Grand Masters Craig L. Davis and Arthur G. Crandon as committeemen. Grand Master



Brown was in the East as the Grand Lodge Officers conferred the Second Section. Senior Grand Deacon Curtis A. Klyn gave the Charge. The Grand Master presented Brother Florence with his Masonic Pin, and Brother Klyn presented him with a Masonic box made by Allan L. Tedrow.

Brother Heuer thanked everyone for attending and taking part in his Third Degree. The Grand Master spoke on his program and the upcoming events for the year. Lodge was closed by the Grand Lodge Officers with Deputy Grand Master Keith R. Voss in the East.

You Are Cordially Invited to Join the Grand Lodge of Iowa
With Group Leader Wade Sheeler For The
Masons' Adventure / England & Scotland, 2025



Group Leader, Wade Sheeler
Submit your application
with the QR Code below.

55295.00 from Minneapolis*

October 13 - 22, 2025

YOUR ITINERARY

Tour Code: 226127

On **October 13th**, you will depart the U.S. to begin your Masons United Kingdom adventure, landing in the timeless city of London on **October 14th** to discover the hidden treasures of this city. Important sites of Freemasonry, fantastic excursions, preserved historical sites, delicious foods and wonderful shopping make this trip exciting and rewarding. Bring these memories home with you on **October 22nd**.

SPACE ON THE TOUR IS LIMITED, SO DON'T DELAY! PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AND \$600 DEPOSIT TO EATOURS.COM TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE ON THIS TOUR! - SUBMIT YOUR DEPOSIT BY NOVEMBER 1, 2024, TO RECEIVE A FREE EVENING THAMES RIVER CRUISE.

London

October 14 - 18, 2025

On **October 14th**, you will arrive in England to begin your Masons United Kingdom Adventure as you transfer to the village of Windsor to visit **Windsor Castle***, one of the most important and famous residences of the Royal Family. From Windsor you will continue on to your hotel for check-in procedures. You will finish your first night in London with **dinner***. As the center of the glorious British Empire for numerous centuries, London has much to offer visitors in the way of entertainment and adventure. Start on **October 15th** with a **guided city tour*** offering such sites as Westminster Abbey, Piccadilly Circus, Buckingham Palace and Trafalgar Square. You then uncover history and culture at the **Tower of London**, one of the many iconic and exciting London sites that await you. The highlights of **October 16th** begin with your visit to the **Temple Church***, known as the Church of the Templar. From Temple Church you will proceed to **United Grand Lodge of England*** followed by a tour and time to explore the Churchill War Rooms Museum, an incredible place where Sir, Winston Churchill directed the British military during World War II. Time allowing, from the War Rooms Museum, you can plan for an optional visit to nearby Westminster Abbey. This evening you will enjoy a wonderful **Gala dinner*** at an important masonic venue. **October 17th** takes you on an excursion to the prehistoric monument **Stonehenge*** followed by an afternoon to the beautiful and charming town of Bath with its historic **Roman Baths*** and time to visit the **Bath Masonic Hall***. **October 18th**, you will bid farewell to London as you connect with your flight to Edinburgh.

Edinburgh - Glasgow

October 18 - 22, 2025

October 18th takes you to Edinburgh, Scotland, known as the "Prince of Cities". Upon arrival, you will transfer to your hotel for check-in. In the afternoon you will enjoy a **guided city tour*** including **Edinburgh Castle***, the historic fortress which dominates the skyline of Edinburgh. Begin **October 19th**, with a visit to the **Grand Lodge of Scotland*** followed by a visit to the nearby **Canongate Kilwinning Lodge***. Your afternoon takes you to visit the remarkable 15th-century **Rosslyn Chapel***, founded on a small hill above Roslin Glen as a Catholic collegiate church. **Dinner*** this evening is included and planned to be at the Rosslyn Inn. On the morning of **October 20th**, you will depart from Edinburgh and drive to the area of Ayr where you will enjoy a visit to **Kilwinning Lodge** and to **Barr Castle Lodge*** followed by lunch at the **Brigadoon Restaurant***. Following lunch, you will enjoy time at the **Robert Burns Museum*** where you can celebrate Scotland's national poet. From Ayr you will go to Glasgow for your overnight. **October 21st**, your final day in Scotland, begins with a tour of a local **Scotch Distillery*** followed by an afternoon visit to **Stirling Castle*** followed by your final Scottish overnight in Glasgow. On **October 22nd**, you return to the United States with fond memories, amazing experiences and perhaps a souvenir or two from your Masons United Kingdom adventure.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE SEE SPECIAL TOUR CONDITIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

SPECIAL TOUR CONDITIONS

SPECIAL TOUR CONDITIONS: *The estimated tour price, if payments are made by cash or check, is \$5295.00 otherwise, if paying by credit card, a 3% credit card service fee (charged by credit card company) will be due for, other than the initial deposit for which there is no credit card service fee, whatever amount is charged to the credit card. **If you wish to use a credit card for your initial deposit, you will be allowed to pay the remaining payments by check and still receive the listed tour price without a 3% surcharge.** Tour price is based on double occupancy and includes point-to-point transportation between cities while in Europe, all breakfasts and 3 evening meals. Additionally, entrance fees and/or transportation marked with an asterisk (*) as well as city tours or guided tours, are included in the tour price (I.E. Guided tours in London and Edinburgh), Windsor Castle, Churchill War Rooms, Tower of London, Stonehenge, Roman Baths, Edinburgh Castle, Distillery, Rosslyn Chapel, Robert Burns Museum, Barr Castle, Sterling Castle). Additional items may be offered optionally, are subject to availability and are not included in the tour price. *A guaranteed single room may be available for a per person supplemental charge, available upon request.* Included are the estimated applicable governmental international airline ticket taxes, fuel surcharges, security surcharges, and associated fees. If applicable, unforeseen tax increases will be billed on a supplemental invoice. A minimum number of paying participants may be required to operate the tour.

A \$500.00 non-refundable (**for any reason**) application fee / deposit is required to reserve your space on this tour. All tour participants must submit an online application. Please go to "Student/Traveler Sign Up" on the home page at www.EAtours.com. Your tour number is **XXXXXX** and must be entered on your online application. A second payment of \$1000.00, for which you will receive an invoice, will be due no later than 30 days from the date that EA Tours receives your initial payment and online application. Final payments are due no later than one hundred ten days (110) days before departure.

Updated tour details (hotels, day by day itinerary, flights, etc.) are scheduled to be released approximately four weeks prior to departure. Please note: **Additional tour conditions apply, that also relate to potential Covid Virus issues and are listed in the Tour Conditions Section on the Online Application.** Applicable items listed above may supersede those listed in the tour conditions section on the online application.

SPACE ON THE TOUR IS LIMITED, SO DON'T DELAY! PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AND \$500 DEPOSIT TO EATOURS.COM BY NOVEMBER 1, 2024 TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE ON THIS TOUR!



Scan me!

Submit your application here.

Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at the Hiawatha Fire Station No. 2



Anamosa Lodge No. 46 in Hiawatha invited the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. & A.M. to perform the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at the Hiawatha Fire Station No. 2 on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, in Hiawatha.

Worshipful Brother James F. White Grand Tyler gave a short presentation about some of the customs and courtesies used by the Masons during the ceremony. Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont proceeded to conduct the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony with the assistance of the Grand Lodge Officers. Michael Moseley served as the Flag Bearer, Chad Todd, Michael Scion, and Jamie D. Johnson served as bearers of Corn, Wine, and Oil, Ricardo Bailey was the Architect, Tom C. Bowersox was the Bearer of Great Lights, Brett Steffan, Keith Ziegler and Tom Kurtz served as Bearers of the Red, White, and Blue Candles, Stephen G. Libby carried the Book of Constitutions. Worshipful Brother Cory L. Stoneburner, Junior Grand Steward presented the School Book Lecture and Worshipful Brother Shaun M. Scott, Senior Grand Steward gave the Flag Tribute. Tom H. Nash, Grand Marshal made the proclamation, and the Oration was given by Mayor Steve Dodson. The Mayor thanked the Grand Lodge for the beautiful ceremony and thanked the community of Hiawatha for the support of the new facility. Fire Chief Matt Powers also thanked the community for their support of the new facility and the facility will be available for the community to use when then want.



Grand Lodge Reception in Des Moines



Masons from across the state gathered in Des Moines on October 26, 2024 to honor Deputy Grand Master Keith R. Voss, Grand Marshal Mitchell A. Petty, and Junior Grand Steward Erik L. Brincks. Morning Star Lodge No. 159 (Jefferson), Acanthus Lodge No. 632 (Des Moines), Prudence Lodge No. 205 (Algona) and Operative Lodge No. 308 (Polk City) hosted a reception in honor of these Brothers at the Des Moines Scottish Rite Center.



The Masons moved to the blue lodge room, where Acanthus Lodge No. 632 was opened. Junior Warden James Van Wyk opened Acanthus Lodge and received the Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Marshal and Junior Grand Steward. The Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers were received and introduced with Brothers Ronald Lindhart and Brian Pappaducas as committeemen. Past Grand Masters Arthur G. Crandon and William W. Post were committeemen for Deputy Grand Master Voss. Brothers Ronald Lindhart and Brian Pappaducas were committeemen for Grand Marshal Mitchell A. Petty. Brothers Shane A. Harshbarger and Randall J. Halferty were committeemen for Junior Grand Steward Erik L. Brincks. Mitchell Petty was in the East, Erik Brincks was Senior Warden and Keith Voss was Senior Deacon and they proceeded to close Acanthus Lodge No.632.



The Masons rejoined their ladies in the dining room for the banquet and program. Brother Shawn F. Mullihan from King David Lodge No. 407 was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Grand Chaplain Theodore M. Boomgarden gave the invocation prior to lunch.

Grand Master Brown introduced Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and their ladies.

Grand Master Brown introduced his "go to guys" Erik Brinks, Mitchell Petty and Keith Voss "the General" and they brought greetings and thanked everyone for attending. Several presentations were made. The Grand Master sold his jewel for the Iowa Masonic Charities that he was wearing to his lady Marlo for a \$1,000 donation. Grand Chaplain Theodore M. Boomgarden gave the benediction.



**Learn
More**

Iowa Masonic Charities
Annual Giving Campaign
for the benefit of

The Iowa Grand Lodge Library & Museum

Since 1844

About Us

Did you know that the world's second-largest private library is a Masonic one? The Iowa Masonic Library and Museum was the first Masonic library building in the world when it opened in 1884. The current building, pictured on the front, opened in 1955 after their collection outgrew the original site. It contains over 250,000 volumes, over four floors and houses several museums: one Masonic and one general. The Masonic Service Association of North America also operates out of this building.



Individual Donor Levels

Founder's Circle

\$1,000 or more: The donor will receive the IMC Founders Medallion (For gifts received during the first year, ending at the close of Grand Lodge 2025)

Founder

\$500-\$999: The donor will receive a gold Founders Challenge Coin (A purple ribbon can be added to the coin with a second \$500)

Charter Member

\$100-\$499: The donor will receive a limited-edition lapel pin to identify him as a Charter Member (For gifts received during the first year, ending at the close of Grand Lodge 2025)

Lodge Recognition

Cornerstone

\$10,000 gift to Iowa Masonic Charities: The donor Lodge will receive a framed IMC Founders Medallion and recognition at the cornerstone level.

Architect

\$5,000 gift to Iowa Masonic Charities: The donor Lodge will receive a framed IMC Founders Medallion and recognition at the architect level.

Builder

\$1,000 gift to Iowa Masonic Charities: The donor Lodge will receive a framed IMC Founders Medallion and recognition at the builder level.

~~~~~

All donor Lodges will be listed in Iowa Grand Lodge publications and on the Iowa Masonic Charities website.

The Worshipful Master for each Founder's Circle Lodge will be invited to an exclusive reception held during the Grand Lodge Communication.

## Contact Us

Bill Northrup



(515) 556-2036



bvnorthrup@gmail.com



www.iowamasoniccharities.com

*A Campaign to  
Restore and Preserve your  
Iowa Grand Lodge Library &  
Museum*



Cheques can be made out to:  
Iowa Masonic Charities  
PO Box 52  
Penton, IA 50529-0052

Since 1844

### Donor

\$50-\$99 donation

### Contribution

\$1-\$49 donation

~~~~~

All contributors will be listed in Iowa Grand Lodge publications and on the Iowa Masonic Charities website.

All Founder's Circle members will be invited to an exclusive reception held during the Grand Lodge Communication.

~~~~~

*Iowa Masonic Charities is a 501(c)(3)  
charitable organization and your  
gift is tax-deductible within the  
IRS guidelines. Federal Tax ID: 62-  
6061108*



### Hiram in the Hills, Great Lights Lodge No. 181 in Decorah



"Not a crow of a cock or a bark of a dog could be heard in the lowest valley"

On September 28th, 2024, a Called Communication of Great Lights Lodge, No. 181 in Decorah, Iowa, was held at Brother Dave Dunlavy's property. Deep in the woods, at the bottom of a winding and bumpy timberline road, next to a babbling brook, a special outdoor Third Degree was held.

Fellow Craft Ben Rod from Great Lights Lodge No. 181 was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason at the third annual "Hiram in the Hills".

The Second Section was presented by Grand Master A.J. Brown and the entire Grand Lodge team. Over forty brothers were in attendance.



Excellent weather held out and a fine meal and fellowship was shared afterwards late into the night. It was a unique and memorable experience by all. If you would like to attend next year's Hiram in the Hills, please contact Great Lights Lodge No. 181's secretary to stay informed: [efelton@mchsi.com](mailto:efelton@mchsi.com)

### Brother Lucas Alves Peas Raised at Signet Lodge No. 264



The Grand Lodge Officers of Iowa were in attendance for a Third Degree for Brother Lucas Alves Peas at Signet Lodge No. 264 in Carroll Iowa. Past Grand Masters William R. Crawford and Dennis R. Heflin were also in attendance. Worshipful Master Brother Jason Bush opened the lodge and Brother Richard Fulton conferred the First Section. Brother Joe Reed was the Senior Deacon. Brother Kevin Caltrider presented the working tools to Brother Lucas and Richard Fulton followed with the extended trowel lecture. The lodge was



then called from labor to refreshment, and everyone retired for a wonderful meal and fellowship. Upon resuming labor, Grand Master Darrell G. Fremont was conducted to the East and accorded the Grand Honors. The Grand Master was in the East for the Second Section and Senior Grand Steward Bruce Lutz was the Senior Deacon. Senior Grand Warden John Lloyd gave the Charge followed by Worshipful Master Jason Bush presenting



Brother Lucas with a bible and Junior Grand Steward Cory Stoneburner presenting a Masonic box and explaining the significance of it. The Grand Master finished up the degree presenting Brother Lucas with his Grand Master's Pin. Brother Lucas thanked everyone for attending and participating in his degree. He shared his Masonic journey with the craft as a native of Brazil and his devotion to the principals and tenants of Freemasonry





## **Grand Master's One Day Class**

**Saturday April 26,  
2025**

**Scottish Rite Center  
519 Park Street  
Des Moines, Iowa**

**Registration Deadline:  
April 1, 2025**

**Registration Fee:  
\$100.00**

## APPLICATION FOR CANDIDATE TO PARTICIPATE IN A GRAND MASTER'S ONE DAY CLASS

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY**

**Section A:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mo. Day Year

Name of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa \_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box or Street Address City Zip Code Plus 4

Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa.  
Name City

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_, respectfully submit this application to participate in the Grand  
Candidate's Signature

Master's One Day Class to be held at \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa, on \_\_\_\_\_  
Mo. Day Year

**Section B - This section must be completed only if the Candidate has been Initiated or Passed.  
(If no degrees have been conferred, please skip this Section)**

Initiated on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa  
Mo. Day Year Lodge City

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa  
Mo. Day Year Lodge City

If the previous degrees were conferred by any other lodge than the lodge completing this application, or a lodge that has consolidated with your lodge, please show the date the Brother was elected into your lodge for Advancement and Membership: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mo. Day Year

**Section C - This Section must be completed for all One Day Class Candidates**

Date of Election to Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
Mo. Day Year

All membership fees have been paid in full by the candidate.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

*The Grand Master's One-Day Class fee shall accompany this Application.*

**Section D - Candidate Guide**

Name of Guide (Required): \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

The above information has been verified by the Office of the Grand Secretary:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Secretary or Deputy Grand Secretary

(This form **must be received** in the Office of the Grand Secretary by the posted deadline prior to attending a Grand Master's One-Day Class.)

Revised  
10-14-2020



### Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at Fayette County Courthouse



West Union Lodge No. 69 in West Union invited the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F. & A.M. to perform the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at the Fayette County Courthouse. Grand Lodge was opened by Grand Master A.J. Brown assisted by the Grand Lodge Officers at 10:00 a.m., with a processional practice prior to lunch. The procession left the lodge at 11:45 a.m. with the American Legion carrying the United States flag. County Supervisor Bruce Lehmann welcomed everyone to the ceremony and led the Pledge of Allegiance. District Judge Kellyann Lekar introduced Supreme Court Justice Mary Tabor for her remarks.

Worshipful Brother James C. Mason Grand Tyler gave a short presentation about some of the customs and courtesies used by the Masons during the ceremony. Grand Master A.J. Brown proceeded to conduct the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony with the assistance of the Grand Lodge Officers. The American Legion served as the Flag Bearer, Dustin G. Cote, Raul Martinez, and Robert A. Meyer served as bearers of Corn, Wine, and Oil, Michael E. Root was the Architect, Kenneth A. Hurmence was the Bearer of Great Lights, Steven M. Kerner, Steven P. Byerly and Richard L. Hofmeyer served as bearers of the Red, White, and Blue Candles, Robert J. Goeller carried the Book of Constitutions. Worshipful Brother Skylar Watson, Junior Grand Deacon presented the School Book Lecture and Worshipful Brother Erik L. Brincks, Junior Grand Steward gave the Flag Tribute. Mitchell A. Petty, Grand Marshal made the proclamation. Right Worshipful Brother Keith R. Voss closed Grand Lodge in due form.



*The Iowa Masonic Charities is fundraising to support the Iowa Masonic Library and Museum. To better appreciate this fine building and its collections, a series of articles is being published on the Iowa Masonic Library and Museum.*

#### **The Iowa Masonic Library & Museum: One of the Wonders of the Masonic World, The History by George S. Eichhorn Past Grand Treasurer**

In antiquity, there were Seven Wonders of the ancient world. These were structures so magnificent that they were places someone must see. Freemasonry has such "Wonders", and for multiple reasons, the Iowa Masonic Library and Museum ranks as one of those modern Masonic Wonders.

A library was first envisioned while Iowa was yet a territory. The Grand Lodge of Iowa embarked on collecting Masonic authors and their work. By 1850, it was reported that Iowa already had a "large and valuable collection".

The Grand Librarian, T.S. Parvin and others, were directed to expand the collection by adding books which threw "a light on the origin, antiquity, and constitutions of Masonry, and to furnish the members of the Grand Lodge with all tangible information concerning its progress, and the duties of Masons as individuals and members of Grand and subordinate lodges." Partially paid by members' dues, and with generous donations of members and friends, there were collected books on every aspect of Masonry, both ancient and modern, some of which can be found nowhere else in the world.

In 1884, Iowa opened the first Masonic library building in the world. The Masonic Library building was built on the present site. Although it was thought that the building would last one hundred years, with time and use, the building aged and became difficult to maintain.



After approximately 60 years, pursuant to a request of Grand Master William Perkins of Chariton, the Grand Lodge started a new library fund, stating:

"We are obliged to protect our property in memory of those Masons who had the foresight to establish such a fine Masonic Library and Museum, and to lay plans for ample room to house our holdings."

By 1955, after 2 years of construction, the new building was built at a cost of over \$1 million and it was no ordinary building. The architectural design of the building incorporated the 1930s-40s classical style for governmental buildings with some more modern interpretations.

The exterior of the building incorporated 10,000 square feet of white marble, prepared and shipped from Vermont. West of the main entrance a quote was inscribed from the famous Mason, Joseph Fort Newton, "The Spirit of Masonry, Gentle Gracious And Wise, Its Mission Is To Form Mankind Into A Great Redemptive Brotherhood, A League Of Noble And Free Men Enlisted In The Radiant Enterprise Of Working Out In Time The Love And Will Of The Eternal."

The major emphasis of the front of the building was the entrance, which stood between two lion sculptures. The entrance had two solid and undecorated columns. Above the door was placed a massive white marble rectangle with sculpture in low relief of two human figures and a quote "Behold The Lord Stood Upon A Wall Made By A Plumbline With A Plumbline In His Hand."

Of course, the majesty of the building didn't stop at its entrance. The form and content of the building creates its Wonder. With the next article, we'll enter the building.

### **Charity Begins in the Blue Lodge** **By Tom H. Nash**

There has been a lot of interest in charity this year. Perhaps it comes from Masons looking around them and seeing so many people suffering from natural disasters or other world events. Perhaps it comes from more local issues like layoffs or relocations. Whatever the reason, Masons tend to offer help to our fellow man. It is in our obligations, and in our hearts.

Charity comes in many forms. Most agree that it comes from freely giving of yourself to help a cause. Lodges across the state are finding very innovative ways to practice charity. Raffles, bicycles for reading books, coats for kids, local park cleanups, adopt a highway, scholarships, and many other things.

Some charitable things we do in lodge are in the form of monetary contributions to organizations. This requires the brothers to get out and fundraise. Not many lodges in the state are able to support charitable contributions without fundraising. Raffles, golf outings, dinners or breakfasts, auctions, garage sales, and many other ideas are out there being used for raising funds for charitable causes.

When most people think of charity, they think of their money going to large organizations saving people from disasters. What is more common though, is the charity of one brother simply asking, "how are you doing?" What could possibly be simpler than that? The most meaningful conversations a Mason has, is with a brother who will listen and talk to him. Masonic events that people think are about fundraising, are really meant to bring together some brothers, so they can ask, "How are you doing?"


In practicing charity, we teach the next generation to think about his fellow man. We may actually start their Masonic journey. Not ours, but that person sees your actions, and notices the Square and Compass on your vehicle, or shirt. We create a better world by making our part of it, a better place.

It is also important to let people know what you are doing. This is not for any gain or glory, but it is to show that our organization is doing something to help. It is interesting how many people may be looking for an organization like ours. Some may not know where to go. Creating a simple QR code to include in advertising is an easy way to take people to a social media page or to a web presence.

Embracing technology is important too. Don't forget to advertise the lodge and events. It is amazing seeing all the social media about Freemasonry out there. I could list the many different platforms and how they all interconnect, but I would just sound silly. So, ask your teenagers.

The Grand Lodge has a program that your fundraising effort may apply to. There are forms in the Grandview system for lodges. I am sure your lodge secretary knows where.

Formally referred to as Field Financial Aid, the Iowa Masonic Assistance Program or "IMAP" is one of the oldest Grand Lodge Charity Programs. Its purpose is to assist Masonic Lodges in meeting charity requests to provide aid and assistance for those individuals, families or organizations who are recommended by an Iowa lodge.

**For more information on how  
your lodge can participate in  
receiving assistance contact the  
Grand Lodge of Iowa office  
 319-365-1438**

*Enhancing communities by creating a  
brighter tomorrow* ❤️

**Charity Benefits**

**Reading Programs**

**Clothing Programs**

**Community Fund Drives**

**Holiday Programs**

**School Drives**

**Membership Assistance**



**Not Just A Fraternity But a Community Of Caring**

### ...To Receive the Grand Lodge Bulletin for 2025...

(Simply return this notice to: Grand Lodge Bulletin, P.O. Box 279, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-0279 or e-mail a request including name and mailing address to [membership@gl-iowa.org](mailto:membership@gl-iowa.org)).

The Bulletin is an informative quarterly digest of Masonic activities of the Grand Lodge of Iowa and its subordinate lodges. It also contains motivational and educational articles of particular interest to members of the Fraternity and their families.

It is sent FREE to ALL Iowa Master Masons upon request. Names will be dropped unless renewal is requested. This request NEED NOT be filed by Iowa subordinate lodge officers for 2025 (these names are supplied by lodge secretaries), Grand Lodge Officers, District Lecturers, Grand Secretaries, Masonic Libraries, and Iowa Public Libraries.

The Grand Lodge Bulletin is available for download on the Iowa membership portal (Grand View).

### Grand Master's Area Meetings



Grand Master A. J. Brown and his party of presenters traveled throughout the State of Iowa sharing his theme of TEAM this year. His vision is that we need to transform and try new ideas/methods and incorporating the younger members of the craft, engaging with high energy by trying new ideas that meet the needs of our modern society that potential members find attractive. Some examples shared are a more robust marketing scheme utilizing the internet and different social media platforms.

The Grand Master further shared his vision for the Grand Lodge committees. The goal is for the different committees working together to fortify our organizational structure by enhancing cross committee communication resulting in a strong sense of unity, transparency and purpose not just at the Grand Lodge level but also with the subordinate lodges across the state.

Of those on the Grand Master's traveling TEAM, Deputy Grand Secretary Kelly Bruce shared the importance and levels of membership within a lodge and what are the values of membership. He further shared ways to create gravity, community enhancement, how to get membership more involved, attracting new prospects by being aware of your own Masonic experience, and how we create experiences for others.

His TEAM also consisted of Bill Northup, Executive Director of the Iowa Masonic Charities. He shared with attendees the new annual founders giving campaign appeal and the levels of giving to raise funds to update the Grand Lodge Library and Museum, and the Grand Master's focus of charity this year.

Brother Bill also shared the new exciting fundraising event of the 2025 Iowa Masonic Charities Capital Campaign. This program consists of selling raffle tickets during the 2025 year for a chance to win a 29-foot travel trailer. This program starts January 1st, 2025, and runs through to Grand Lodge in September where the winner of the trailer will be drawn. Bill, along with Worshipful Brothers Skylar Watson and Shawn Mullihan shared how this program is also a fundraising opportunity for lodges through selling the tickets. This program is open to the public and proceeds also go to the restoration of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

Bill further shared that the Field Financial Aid program has had a name change to "Iowa Masonic Assistance Program" or IMAP. The purpose of this program is meeting charity requests recommended by local lodges. The application has also been updated, simplified and the process of receiving aid has been streamlined. This program is a great way to enhance the giving of local lodges fundraising events. The new application form is located in Grand View in the resource section of "My Portal" in the Master Mason section under Grand Charity Financial Aid.



Rounding out the TEAM was various Lodge Service Committee members sharing more information on new and updated projects launched at the 2024 Grand lodge session. Members shared more details of the new cornerstone handbook, lodge of the year and golden trowel awards; all of which can be found on Grand View. Additionally, the Lodge Service Committee members shared more details on the new Masonic Area Meetings (MAM). Lastly Wade Sheeler shared information about his planned trip to England next year and how members can join him on the tour.

IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM  
 GRAND LODGE OF IOWA, A.F. & A.M.  
 P.O. Box 279  
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-0279  
 Phone: (319) 365-1438 -- Fax: (319) 365-1439

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
 Permit No. 55

50 - Year Certificates issued since the September 2024 "Bulletin"  
 Congratulations to the following Brothers who earned their certificates.

Brothers are shown by Lodge No.

| No. | Town         | Name                      | No. | Town             | Name                  |
|-----|--------------|---------------------------|-----|------------------|-----------------------|
| 13  | Fort Madison | Armstrong, Pat A.         | 364 | Cedar Rapids     | Brown, Thomas A.      |
| 13  | Fort Madison | Goldensoph Jr, Gilbert M. | 419 | Sanborn          | Putnam, Charles R.    |
| 15  | Fairfield    | Williams, Roger E.        | 548 | Cedar Rapids     | Warren, Robert L. Sr. |
| 28  | New London   | Lutes, Sidney M.          | 551 | Prescott         | Ledlow, Paul H.       |
| 29  | Keokuk       | Whitmore, James L.        | 577 | West Des Moines  | Huston, Dennis R.     |
| 37  | Davenport    | Hegland, Richard D.       | 592 | Des Moines       | Lynch, Gary D.        |
| 81  | Shellsburg   | Oliphant, Lawrence K.     | 592 | Des Moines       | Page, Norman E. Sr.   |
| 108 | Marshalltown | Nodland, Thomas J.B.      | 597 | Rockwell City    | Judas, James D.       |
| 174 | Malcom       | Everest, John R.          | 597 | Rockwell City    | Peterson, Dennis D.   |
| 264 | Carroll      | Keairnes, Joel E.         | 631 | Council Bluffs   | Moore, Richard D.     |
| 275 | Corning      | Reynolds, Robert H.       | 636 | Ankeny           | Farrell James A.      |
| 275 | Corning      | Leonard, Douglas R.       | 654 | Windsor Heights. | Bowles, Gordon G.     |
| 312 | Spencer      | Madson, Lowell D.         | 660 | Des Moines       | Williams, Glynn       |
| 347 | Sutherland   | Ehmcke, Paul W.           |     |                  |                       |