



The Vision of Nebraska Masonry: Nebraska Freemasonry will establish itself as the premier fraternal organization promoting universally acknowledged values of friendship, morality, and brotherly love.

## Lodge and Individual Achievements Rewarded at 154th Annual Communication

Lodges across the state that filled their calendars with activity in 2010 were recognized for their efforts at the Annual Communication held in Grand Island February 3-5. Masons who have given exemplary service to the Fraternity, including Change for the Troops, CHIP and the youth groups were singled out for their dedication and hard work. Awards were also given to lodges that raised the most money for the new Change for the Troops program in two categories, total amount raised and total per capita raised. In addition, the top 16 members and top two lodges in the small and large lodge categories that recruited the most candidates received the recruitment and lodge membership awards during the session.



Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 earned the Gold Pan Award, as the best overall lodge in the state in 2010.



The Grand Lodge awarded Glenn Mulholland, Secretary of Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 in North Platte with a Masonic Achievement Award for going over and above in collecting monies for Change for the Troops.



Lancaster Lodge No. 54 earned the Large Lodge Rock Maul Award.



The new More Light Award for Masonic Education was given to Custer Lodge No. 148 in Broken Bow for a small lodge, and Cotner Lodge No. 297 in Lincoln for a large lodge.



The Recruitment Award went to Patrick Barger of Lancaster Lodge No. 54 in Lincoln.



The top 3 lodges in 2 categories received plaques for Change for the Troops donations. Total Raised: Bellevue 325, Platte Valley 32 and Robert Furnas 265. Total Raised Per Capita: Robert Furnas 265, Bellevue 325 and Plainview 204.



Gene Wehrbein of Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6 was named Mason of the Year by DeMolay.



The Grand Lodge office staff chose Phil Edwards of Centennial Lodge No. 326 in Omaha as Secretary of the Year.

In addition to the awards pictured above, Franklin 264 received the Small Lodge Rock Maul Award; Earl Robinett, the Pamida Foundation and Kent Broyhill received CHIP Awards. Nebraska Pillar Awards were given to Plattsmouth 6, Platte Valley 32, Lancaster 54, Geneva 79, Custer 148, North Star 227, Franklin 264, Lininger 268, Cotner 297, and Centennial 326, and Grand Master's Leadership Awards were earned by Plattsmouth 6, Lancaster 54, North Star 227 and Cotner 297, with Patrick Barger, Master of Lancaster 54, receiving the award with distinction and Master of the Year.

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# Leadership in Nebraska Masonry...an Update

*By Dean Skokan, Past Grand Master and member of the Jurisprudence Committee*

These are dark days for Nebraska Masonry. Without regard for the report of the Jurisprudence Committee, unanimously adopted at Annual Communication, the Order of the Grand Master, or even the place and time he announced for his own installation, E. David Watts claims to have been installed as Grand Master, even though he faces criminal and Masonic charges. He was not installed at the time and place announced for installation at annual communication. Nonetheless, E. David Watts has attempted to claim the title of Grand Master of Nebraska. His claims are vain. He was not recognized at the Conference of Grand Masters. His claims to office are not supported by most of the Grand Lodge Line Officers and the great majority of Past Grand Masters. The Committees controlling the resources of the Grand Lodge recognize John Parsons as our Grand Master. The reason for this weight of authority is found in the determination of the Jurisprudence Committee, issued February 18, 2011, which held:

It is the unanimous opinion of the Jurisprudence Committee that your (Grand Master Parson's) order prohibiting the installation of any Grand Lodge Officer facing Masonic charges is within the constitutional authority of the Grand Master and remains in full force and effect. We do not believe that any ceremony, conducted in violation of that order, can validly install Brothers Watts, Moats, or Hauder to a Grand Lodge office, since they are under Masonic charges. Any ceremony purporting to do so would be void and ineffective, regardless of the apparent authority of the installing officer.

The Craft is entitled to an explanation of the current situation, of how we arrived at this point and how and when we will likely get through this mess.

The undisputed facts are:

On November 21, 2010, DGM Watts was arrested by Lincoln Police following an early morning dispute at his "girlfriend's" home in Lincoln, NE. He was arrested on four felony charges. He was released a few days later after posting \$100,000 bond.

On December 13, 2010 DGM Watts met with the Grand Lodge Advancing Line Officers. He asserted that he had acted in self defense and expected to be cleared of all charges. He promised to resign his Grand Lodge Office if he were bound over on felony charges after preliminary hearing.

Within the next several days, Masonic charges were filed in 3 Lodges to which E. David Watts belongs. It is alleged that GSW-Elect Moats and, to a lesser extent, GJW-Elect Hauder were involved in the preparation and filing of those charges.

On January 19, 2011, E. David Watts was bound over to stand trial on two felony charges: Strangulation and First Degree Assault. The trial date has not been set. A Plea in Abatement (a challenge to validity of the Preliminary Hearing) is set for March 7, 2011.

On February 4, 2011, Masonic Charges were filed against E. David Watts and Rex Moats by PGM Michael Jones. Masonic Charges against Rex Moats and Tom Hauder were filed by several members of Hickman Lodge. In summary, the charges against DGM Watts are that he engaged in unmasonic conduct on November 21, 2010, and that he violated his word as a Mason by failing to resign after being bound over for trial

on felony charges. The charges against DGM-Elect Moats are that he attempted to arrest the legitimate work of Osceola Lodge and Hickman lodge. GJW-Elect Hauder is alleged to have attempted to arrest the legitimate work of Hickman lodge. The charges were submitted to the Jurisprudence Committee, which determined that all were in proper form. All charges were accepted by Grand Master Parsons. Trial Commissions were appointed and trials are pending on all charges.

Grand Master Parsons entered an order that no brother facing Masonic Charges could be installed to Grand Lodge office while such charges were pending. DGM Watts announced that Installation of Grand Lodge officers would take place in Alliance on February 19.

At the announced time and place for Installation, Bruce Baker was installed as Deputy Grand Master; Donald Rife, was installed as Grand Chaplin; John Ferguson as Grand Orator; Scott Krieger as Grand Custodian; Joe McBride was installed as Grand Senior Deacon; John Maxell as Grand Junior Deacon; Bob Moninger as Grand Junior Steward; and Aaron Watts as Grand Tyler. E. David Watts was not installed, but asserted that he had been installed as Grand Master previously. It is alleged that a purported installation of E. David Watts was conducted by PGM Don Swanson at Cement Lodge No. 211 in Wood River on February 17, 2011.

Shortly after the purported ceremony, The Grand Lodge Office and Financial Committees removed E. David Watt's name from all Grand Lodge financial accounts, locks were changed at the Grand Lodge office to deny him access, and the office staff was instructed to avoid contact and conversation with him.

The publically available documents concerning the criminal case against Mr. Watts are posted on the Grand Lodge Website.

The applicable Constitutional and By-law provisions are:  
Constitutional Provisions:

#### **Article IX Section 1.**

The powers and authority of the Grand Lodge shall be supreme in this state, possessing all the attributes of sovereignty and government – legislative, executive and judicial – limited only by a strict adherence to the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity, and by the provisions of its own constitution and regulations.

#### **Article IX Section 4.**

Its judicial powers are of two kinds:

ORIGINAL – Including the decision of all controversies between any of the subordinate lodges, or between one of them and a member or members of another, or between members of different subordinate lodges and the enforcement of discipline upon its own members and upon the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction and the members thereof; and

APPELLATE – Embracing all matters of controversy or discipline proper for Masonic investigation, which may have arisen in any of the subordinate lodges, and over which it has not retained original jurisdiction.

#### **Article X Section 2 (d).**

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# TO LIGHT!

## Bringing Masonic Education To Light

A Publication of the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Nebraska

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### MASONIC ORIGINS

By Larry Jacobsen

Here's a topic that could consume volumes, but my thanks to Arturo de Hoyos, 33, Grand Archivist & Grand Historian, Supreme Council, 33, S.J., who has allowed me to reprint a Masonic Origins section he wrote in the Introduction of his book *Light on Masonry – The History and Rituals of America's Most Important Expose*.

The question of Masonic origins has excited as much controversy – and as many heated debates – among its friends as its “secrets” have among its enemies. Investigators are pretty well divided into two schools of thought: 1) the “authentic school,” which, relying on the discipline of historical research, advocates a “transition theory” back to the operative stonemasons of Scotland and England, and 2) the “romantic school,” which believes that Masonic legends, symbolism, and circumstantial evidence point to a number of other possible origins. Among the most popular “romantic” notions are a) Solomon's Temple, b) the medieval Knights Templar, suppressed by the Pope Clement V and King Phillip the Fair of France, c) the Hermeticists and/or Rosicrucians, d) the Essenes, a Jewish sect which existed about two millennia ago, and e) the ancient Egyptians.

The authentic school readily admits that Freemasonry's symbols and legends *borrow* from a wide range of traditions, but historians are quick to note that this eclecticism should not obscure

the society's true origins. Rather, there is compelling, overwhelming and substantive evidence that the Masonic lodge, including its private ceremonies of admission, was a byproduct of the operative stonemasons by the late sixteenth century.



In early days a lodge (*luge, lodg, etc.*) was a temporary structure, erected near the operative Mason's building site, where he could rest and refresh himself from the day's labors. In time it evolved into something far greater. It has been suggested that King James III of Scotland's elevation of Robert Cochrane, once the King's “Master Mason” and architect of the great hall of Stirling Castle, increased respect among gentleman for the profession of masonry. Be that as it may, there is direct evidence that the Scottish lodges, which were established by royal degree, subsequently

developed into social organizations providing mutual benefit to the early members.

William Schaw, appointed “Master of the Works” for life by James VI, in 1583, played a significant role in the early development of Freemasonry. His issue of the first and second “Schaw Statutes” in Scotland in 1598 and

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### Education Symposiums

‘The ancient landmarks of the order, entrusted to your care, you are carefully to preserve and never suffer them to be infringed upon’ and so on. Remember that from the Master's Degree Charge? Do you know what the landmarks of the order are? If you don't, how will you preserve them? Join the Nebraska Grand Lodge Education committee at the 2011 Spring Symposium. The Masonic Landmarks will be discussed, followed by a game of Masonic Jeopardy. These sessions promise, and deliver fascinating facts in regards to Masonic history, ritual, philosophy, and biographies. If you are a Mason, and you DESIRE FURTHER LIGHT IN MASONRY, then you MUST attend these sessions. The Spring Symposium will be held at the Lincoln Valley Scottish Rite Center (332 Centennial Mall S) on March 28, Hastings Masonic Center (411 N Hastings Ave) on March 29 and at Papillion Lodge No. 39 (101 W. Centennial Road) on March 29. Starting time will be 7:00 PM.

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## Masonic Origins - Continued from page 3

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1599 introduced many concepts which continue today. These statutes were founded on the “Old Charges” or “Gothic Constitutions,” a collection of documents entailing the mason’s code of conduct, his regulations, and a traditional history. The two earliest known copies of these constitutions are the *Regius MS* (ca. 1390) and the *Cooke MS* (ca. 1400). These constitutions form the basis of government for modern Masonic Grand Lodges. The Schaw Statutes enlarged the idea of the lodge to encompass a broader territorial jurisdiction, and defined a hierarchy of “wardens, dekyntia, and maisteris in all things concerning their craft.” Lodges were to be presided over by a “Wardene generall,” while William Schaw presided over all the Masonic lodges in his Country, as grand masters do throughout most of the world today (although the United States has fifty-one Grand Lodges). It is important to note that both before and after the institution of the lodge system masons continued as members of the incorporated trade guilds. Lodges operated in parallel to, and sometimes in competition with, these incorporations.

Admission to the lodge was not a right afforded to all masons, rather, admission to this fellowship was a privilege conferred by a ceremonial induction. Initiation to the society included 1) a prayer, 2) a description of the seven liberal arts or sciences, 3) the recital of the Craft’s traditional “history,” 4) a reading of the private modes of recognition (the catechism, words, grips and signs). The earliest evidence for the Mason Word dates to 1630, and it was viewed by non-Masons with suspicion. The ability of Masons to communicate by nonverbal means was regarded as a mysterious power and may have contributed to rumors of Freemasonry’s esotericism. However, some writers have correctly noted the second Schaw Statute’s promotion of an “esoteric” method of learning. It ordained that “ye warden of ye lug of Kilwynning . . . tak tryall of ye art of memorie and science yrof.” The “art of memory” is a mental exercise employing abstract images and architectural features to create a mental map which assisted memory.

By the 1640’s persons who were not stonemasons were initiated and became non-operative “masons.” The installation of non-operative gentlemen, and the conferral of the Mason Word, is the *sine qua non* of modern Speculative Freemasonry. It is important to note that there is still much to be learned about the origins of Masonry. Although Scotland played an indubitable and vital role in the formation of speculative Masonry, there remain enigmas to be solved on the English side. For example, all known copies of the Old Charges are of English origin. These documents predate Scottish Masonic traditions by 200 years.

How did they develop, and under what circumstances? We do not yet know.

*Editor note: Thanks to Arturo de Hoyos for this concise history of Freemasonry’s origins. You can get a copy of **Light on Masonry – The History and Rituals of America’s Most Important Expose at scottishritestore.org** For the full story of origins that Arturo referenced above we encourage you to read **The Origins of Freemasonry – Scotland’s Century, 1590-1710**, by David Stevenson.*

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## According to Coil

Excerpts from Coil’s Masonic Encyclopedia, authored by Henry Wilson Coil.

### Middle Chamber and Winding Stairs

According to I Kings 6:5-8, Solomon’s Temple was surrounded on three sides by a sort of “lean-to” substructure three stories high. The so-called Middle Chamber is believed to have been in fact the middle story, extending around the main building as far as the second story extended, and was used, it is supposed, for the priests and their vessels, flesh hooks, tongs and other paraphernalia used in sacrificial and other ceremonies. For ritualistic purposes, the Middle Chamber is appropriated to the Fellow Crafts.

The *Winding Stairs*, by which the Middle Chamber or Story was reached were so interrelated with the latter that it is best to discuss them together. They are described in the same verses, I Kings 6:5-8 which reads: “And against the walls of the house he built chambers round about, against the wall of the house round about, both of the temple and of the oracle; and he made chamber round about. The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad: for without in the wall of the house he made narrowed rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house. The door for the middle chamber was on the right side of the house; there they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.”

What appears to be a curious structure is easily accounted for. It may seem odd that the lower room would be 5 cubits (7 ½ feet) broad, the middle story 6 cubits (9 feet) and the third, 7 cubits (10 ½ feet), but the explanation lies in what is said about the walls of the house. There were narrow ledges

or shelves extending around the exterior, the ledges evidently being 1 ½ foot wide and supporting the ends of the joists which therefore did not have to be let into the wall. That made the second floor 1 ½ foot wider than the ground floor. The shelf on which rested the third floor joists was also 1 ½ foot wide so that the third floor was 10 ½ feet. The diminishing thickness of the walls as they rose was probably not, as intimated, for the purpose of supporting the beams, but rather the result of the diminishing need for thick walls as they rose from one story to the other.

There is little doubt about the *Winding Stairs*, for there was little room or need for any other kind. Each floor probably constituted an entire chamber, for there is no indication of partitions or divisions into smaller cubicles. Moreover, there seems to have been but one door to the Middle Chamber and that on the right side of the house. Hence, there was probably but one Winding Stairway. There is no indication in the Scriptural account as to the number of steps in the Winding Stairs, but these have been supplied from time to time by Masonic ritualists. Some tracing boards of the 18<sup>th</sup> century show five steps, others 7. Preston, in his lectures about 1772, divided them into flights of 1,3,5,7,9 and 11 steps or of 36 in all. In the United States the general arrangement is 3, 5, and 7 or 15 in all. The Middle Chamber and Winding Stairs form items in the Senior Deacon’s lecture in the F.C. Degree. A great deal of speculation has been indulged about the significance of these symbols, but everyone can form individual opinions of them. The official lectures are the only recognized explanations.

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## Leadership in Nebraska...an Update - continued from page 2

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To exercise a general and careful supervision over the Craft, and see that the constitution, bylaws and regulations of the Grand Lodge are strictly maintained, supported and obeyed; and

### Bylaws:

**Section 1-307 (2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph)** The committee shall be advisory to the Grand Master. The committee shall determine matters of Masonic law which is referred to it by the Grand Master, and shall make its report to the Grand Lodge. The decisions of the committee on Masonic law shall be conclusive except as finally determined by a majority vote of the membership of the Grand Lodge.

**Section 1-316 (a) and (b)** (a) This Committee shall recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of rules and regulations when such rules and regulations shall appear to be for the best interests of the Grand Lodge. Such rules and regulations shall be effective when approved by the Grand Lodge. The determinations of this committee shall be final until changed by the Grand Lodge.

(b) The Committee on Grand Lodge Offices shall have authority, jurisdiction, and direct supervision over the Grand Lodge Office including the right to approve the employment of all employees of that office, their salaries and working conditions.

It is important to note that the determination of the Jurisprudence Committee in matters of Masonic law is conclusive except they are subject to the approval by majority vote of the membership. The unanimous acceptance of the committee report on February 4, 2011, reflects that approval. Thus, the determinations of the Jurisprudence Committee have the force of Masonic law.

Similarly, the determinations of the Grand Lodge Office Committee are final until changed by Grand Lodge.

Brothers Watts, Moats and Hauder all face Masonic charges, and none have been validly installed. Brothers Moats and Hauder voluntarily sat on the sidelines during the installation ceremony. Brother Watts participated in the announced installation ceremony as Marshal, but was not installed. As stated above, he asserts installation at an installation ceremony in Wood River.

Depending on the results of the trial commissions, there are three possible outcomes. Any brother acquitted of the charges will be immediately installed, with the possible exception of DGM Watts, who could face additional Masonic charges arising from the illegal installation in Wood River. If the brothers are convicted of a Masonic offense, and expelled or suspended for a longer time than remains in their elected term, no installation would take place. If reprimanded or suspended for a shorter time, the installation would take place after the sentence was satisfied. The laws are in place which advance junior officers if senior officers were not able to complete their elected term.

It is anticipated that the Trial Commissions will conclude their business in the near future. Appeals to the Grievance Committee are possible, but depending on verdicts and sentences, some installations are possible within a matter of weeks.

Following the Masonic law, as determined by the Jurisprudence Committee, and approved at the Annual Communication, John Parsons is the true Grand Master of

Nebraska Masons. There will likely be some brief period of time when E. David may pretend to be Grand Master, but it will not be long. He will either be acquitted and properly installed or convicted and removed from office.

Of course, Brother Watts does have some limited support among the Craft. He has been a Grand Lodge Officer and a good one for many years. But just as one can wash away bad deeds by redemption, one can erode years of good work with a few weeks of bad decisions. It is recognized that Masons of good faith may support him and wish him well in the criminal case, many of us do. However, Watts' attempt to be installed in an unannounced "ceremony" is no more legitimate than his claim. In doing so, he has crossed the line between legitimate arguments and sleeze. No Mason should support that decision.

In the Van Valkenburg case, the Supreme Court held that as long as Masonic law provided a process for litigation of claims, the Court would not interfere. The Jurisprudence Committee did determine and outline a process for E. David to assert his claim. Every Mason must be aware that Watts walked away from that process. He may have walked away from the Fraternity in doing so.

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## STRADDLERS #47 Masonic Family Camping Club

Do you enjoy camping? We have just the thing for you and your family, the Masonic Camping Club. This is a well kept secret, but it is time to let everyone know what the club is about. The local masonic chapter is called Straddlers #47, Nebraska and Iowa. We have members from all around the Nebraska and Iowa area; that is why the name is Straddlers, we straddle the Missouri River.

The purpose of the club is for the entertainment and enjoyment of those whose fraternal affiliation are satisfactory and who use tents, trailer, campers and other recreational vehicles to sightsee, have fun and promote good fellowship, make friends along the way and get more out of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Benefits include monthly camping or dinner meetings in the off season; discovering new camping facilities and places to visit; attending Annual State/Provincial, District and National Rallies; and meeting new friends who have similar interests.

Our leadership for the year:

Master of Travel: Stan Hale, 402-965-3722

Wagon Master: Fred Yates, 402-502-9914

Secretary: Gloria Nielsen, 402-397-8856

This year all of the camping is in Nebraska as follows:

April 28-May 1 Victorian Acres, Nebraska City

May 19-22 Decatur Campground, Decatur

June 23-26 Fremont State Recreational Area, Fremont

July 21-24 Double Nickel Campground, Waco

Sept. 18-21 Louisville State Recreational Area, Louisville

If you are interested in camping and looking to join a fun group of Masons, contact one of our leaders, or look us up on the internet at <http://straddlers.webs.com/> or the national site [www.gonct.org](http://www.gonct.org).

# The Nebraska Masonic Home

Mary C. Stapp, Executive Director

## Special Thanks To:

Grand Master John Parsons and the 2010-2011 Grand Lodge Officers. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, residents, and staff of The Nebraska Masonic Home, I would like to thank you for your support this last year and commend the Grand Lodge Officers for representing their fraternity with honor.

As always, we appreciate the support of the Administrative Staff at the Grand Lodge office. It is a pleasure to work with such a knowledgeable and supportive team. We look forward to our continued association in the upcoming year.

Boon Memorial Food Truck  
Donation – 2010

Thank you to Keystone Lodge No. 62  
of Phillips, Nebraska for  
your donation.

## Valentine's Day King & Queen

This year's 2011 Valentine's Day King & Queen are Grant and Margaret (Peg) Keran. Congratulations to this very deserving couple who reside in an apartment here at The Nebraska Masonic Home.



**What will I do to keep busy?** This question is frequently asked by many people that are considering a major change of moving to an assisted living facility or 24-hour nursing care facility. **What am I going to do with my time once I move there?**

Well . . . let me tell you . . . at The Nebraska Masonic Home there is no time to be alone if you are interested in taking part in the activities that are offered to our residents. Recent outings have included: Imax Theater at the Henry Doorly Zoo, Shrine Circus, Med Center musical presentation and lunch; Olive Garden, Spaghetti Works, and LaMesa restaurants and others. Fun activities at The Home include: Spa Party, Valentine's Day Party, Veteran's Day Celebration, Halloween and Christmas Parties with activities, Mystery Bag Adventure, visits from very talented area musicians, visits from local day care center children, Fondue Party, Wine and Cheese tasting, weekly worship services, a monthly communion service, and many other daily and weekly activities which also include Wii bowling, Wheel of Fortune, and Deal or No Deal. For the exercise enthusiasts we have daily exercise class as well as an exercise room that is available.

Stimulating activities include a political discussion group, daily trivia group, weekly card games, puzzles, and billiards. One of the most popular activities is a special ethnic meal prepared by our Dietary Staff. The food aromas on those special days are amazing, and the meals are delicious.

We also encourage visits from lodges and chapters that would like to bring some entertainment to the residents or would like to schedule a lodge or chapter meeting here in our chapel and invite the residents. Let us know when you would like to come for a visit, share a meal with our residents, and take a tour of your Masonic Home.

We are excited about keeping our residents busy here at The Masonic Home and invite you to stop by and join in the fun.



At The Masonic Home, family time is a special time as you can see by the smiles on the faces of this family.

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# The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation

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## General Donations

### September 1st thru November 3rd 2010 (con't from Winter issue)

Loren and Winifred Page, Pioneer Past Matrons, Ace and Anne Ranslem, Robert and Roma Rhodes, Rob Morris Lodge No. 46, Jimmy and Irene Rogers, Lee and Carol Rowe, Royal Chapter No. 184, Alice Ruppert, Carroll Schnurr, Scotts Bluff Chapter No. 133, Shelby Chapter No. 193, Daniel and Joan Shurtliff, Don E. Slosson, Franklin and Susan Smith, Thomas A. Smith, Sunflower Chapter No. 214, Charles and Barbara Talmadge, Jr., Terry and Marilynn Theis, Vernon and Ardythe Thompson, John and Cynthia Timmermeier, Dewayne and Helen Triplett, Utica Chapter No. 199, Vesper Chapter No. 9, Wausa Chapter No. 159, Wayne Chapter No. 194, Michael B. Wilson, William Thomas Young

### November 4th, 2010 thru February 28th, 2011

2011 Installing Officers of Electa Chapter No. 8, 2011 Officers of Electa Chapter No. 8, Dean & Judy Abels, Bruce & Lu Ackerman, Adah Chapter No. 52, Wallace & Dorothy Adam, AkSarBen Chapter No. 277, Robert & Barbara Alf, Richard L. Allen, Alliance Scottish Rite Temple, Alpha Chapter No. 325, Alpha Chapter No. 325 PM & PP, Alpha Kensington Chapter No. 325, Ralph & Judith Anderson, Jr., Robert & Joan Anderson, Robert & Esteleen Anderson, Roy & Esther Anderson, Andrew Chapter No. 41, Don & Mary Andrews, Anonymous, Jeffrey Z. Appleton, Howard & Carol Ann Arehart, Arrow Chapter No. 164, Atkinson Chapter No. 186, Aurora Chapter No. 93, Betty Avery, Harley & Shirley Bair, Frank & Betty Balderson, James & Stephanie Ball, Gerald & Wanda Barnes, Neva Bartlett, Bruce Barton, Dennis D. Beavers, Barbara Beckenhauer, Kenneth & Patricia Beebe, James W. Bell, Robert C. Bennett, Bethany Chapter No. 113, Raymond W. Bieber, George & Jane Biegger, Eileen Biehl, Clyde J. Birch, Charles & Dorothy A. Blazek, Blue River Chapter No. 132, Pamela K. Boshart, Lawrence W. Bowles, Ken & Lois Braymen, Bridgeport Chapter No. 260, Bart Brinkman, James & Diane Brown, Jr., Frank & Hershey Brown, Thomas & Virginia Brown, Imogene P. Bruce, Thomas & Randy Brummett, Brian L. Brunton, Richard & Anna Buckmaster, Mervell D. Bumgarner, Gary & Sally Bunnell, Marlo & Jean Burg, Jack & Dorothy Burger, Suzanne K. Byler, Jack & Sally Campbell, Ronald & Rhonda Lynn Cardey, Henry & Cathy Carnaby, Leonard & Ruth Carroll, Bradley & Joan Cate, Max & Sandy Cates, Robert L. Cerveney, Albert & Barbara Chatfield, John G. Chester, Keith & Marian Christensen, Bill & Madaline Christensen, Clara Chapter No. 222, Chris N. Clark, Tom & Lois Clark, Robert & Laveta Cole, Bertha Coleman, Columbia Chapter No. 275, Concordia Chapter No. 97, Warren H. Cooke, Vernon & Betty Corman, Mary E. Cottingham, Herbert & Sharlene Coulter, Robert E. Cox, Crete Chapter No. 104, Fran & Barb Crowe, Fred & Margery Curtiss, Custer Lodge No. 148, Gale & Elaine Darling, Marion L. Davies, James & Vicki Dinsmore, James Dodds, Dorcas Chapter No. 144, Lloyd & Retha Dowding, Randy Dunn & Diann Toler, Jim & Sherrie Dee Dusch, East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Ralph & Norma Margre Eatinger, Richard & Bobby Ebel, Sr., Alvin & Joanne Edelmaier, Philip & Doris Edwards, Paul Clark Eide, Electa Chapter No. 8, Electa Kensington Chapter No. 8, Elizabeth Chapter No. 250, Robert & Inez Elsasser, Lyle & Donna Emery, Sr., Grace S. Emmett, Richard & Mary Enochson, Euclid Lodge No. 97, Paul & Donna Eveland, Joel D. Everding, Larry & Cheryl Fasnacht, David D. Felt, Bob & Grace Felthousen, Harriett P. Fenton, Leonard & Ellen Finnegan, Jr., First National Bank of Johnson c/o Michael C. Casey, Chester H. Fliesbach, Robert E. Foley, Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Folsom, Fontenelle Chapter No. 249, Jack & Elaine Ford, Ramon & Donna Fox, Franklin Chapter No. 213, Kari I. Franklin, Darryl & Becky Frerichs, Kenneth & Marge Fridrich, Friendship Chapter No. 122, Friendship Lodge No. 239, Gothard & Lynn Friesen, Fullerton Chapter No. 191, Jim & Jackie Gansemer, George W. Lininger Lodge No. 268, Louis F. Georges, Ross & Yvonne Gibbons, Okley H. Gibbs, Sr., Melvin & Marilyn Giles, Donald & Anna Gockley, Mae G. Gockley, Cal & Susan Goding, Herbert T. Goodrich, Sharon L. Grace, Grand Chapter of Nebraska Order of the Eastern Star, Grecian Gyros, Bruce & Arlene Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Oscar P. Hampton, III, Leone Spencer Harlan, Bruce B. Harman, Harmony Chapter No. 13, Franklin & Shirley Hartranft, Charles & Peggy Haskell, Hay Springs Chapter No. 272, Frank & Shirley Hazelwood, Hebron Chapter No. 31, A. Bernard Hedstrom, Douglas & Denice Heim, Constance D. Hemphill, Dean & Mary Ann Hemphill, Jean I. Hendry-Wedner, Keith & Corene Herbster, Jim & Barb Herring, Norman & Carol Herzog, Keith & Norma Heuermann, Arthur & Yvonne Highman, Harrison & Mary Hill, Charles & Janet Hinze, Ron & Bonnie Hoffman, Charles & Nancy Holderby, Holly Chapter No. 233, Home Chapter No. 189, Grant & Joan Howard, Harold E. Howell, Calvin & Judith Hubbell, Larry & Carol Hudkins, Robert & Adrienne Huffman, Humboldt Chapter No. 234, Rick Anderson & Gwen Hurst-Anderson, Lawrence & Pamela Huwaldt, Ideal Chapter No. 181, Imperial Chapter No. 279, Virgil & Delores Irelan, Jachin Lodge No. 146, Jerald & Norma Jacobson, Don & Sharon Jelinek, Norman & Ann Jessop, Clair G. Johnson, Elizabeth A. Johnson, Mark C. Johnson, Marvin & Judith Johnson, Theodore J. Johnson, Gayle Jones, Mitchell & Janice Jones, Darold & Lois Jordan, Bonnie Jorgensen, Kermit & Lottie Karns, Jack & Mary Ann Kauffman, Vernon & Donna Keehn, Harriett & Clarence Kemper Charitable Fund, Tom & Marcia Kennedy, Calvin & Dorothy Kline, Jr., Glenn A. Klippahn, Robert L. Kloch, Allen W. Knott, Benjamin J. Kokes, Thomas E. Koksall, Alfred & LuVerne Koops, John & Linda Koppenhaver, Clarence Leo Krapp, Keith & Audrey Kreycik, Charles W. Kubich, Richard & Patricia Kutilek, Clifford & Bev Lant, Richard & Nelle Larsen, Paul & Delores Larson, Perry & Dona Laten, Arthur W. Laughlin, Laura Chapter No. 301, Roger & Gretchen Law, James & Joanne Lawrence, James & Kathryn Leslie, Ryan & Courtney Long, Robert & Mary Longwell, Phil & Marilyn Lorenzen, Robert B. Lowe, Lon & Cherie Lowrey, Robert & Iva Lowry, Luceba Chapter No. 220, Thomas & Susan Lucht, Dale G. Lueders, Luna Chapter No. 169, William & Peggy Mains, William & Jeanette Malmberg, Roger & Catherine Manley, Ralph & Eleanor Marcan, Billie & Betty Marcellus, William March, Renard & Ursula Martens, Paul & Charlotte Mason, Richard & Eunice Masten, Richard & Carol Mauch, Mr. & Mrs. Howard V. McDonald, John & Nadine McHenry, Dorothy W. McKinzie, Gordon G. McLeod, Harry & Erma McMullen, Webb & Hazel McNally, Charles & Janice Mefferd, Meridian Chapter No. 74, Metro Omaha NE OES P.M. & P.P., Vamaffont Club, Ramon & Kathleen Mieth, Lewis F. Miller, William & Janet Miller, Paul Milobar, Minnehaha Chapter No. 246, Miriam Chapter No. 175, John & Carol Miyoshi, Betty N. Mobley, Jerry D. Morelock, Stanley & Bethene Morris, Harold & Beverly Mosher, Mt. Vernon Chapter No. 84, Keith & Eleanore Muenchow, Bob & Joan Muir, Dennis D. Mundt, David C. Myers, Gary & Janice Nantkes, Naomi Chapter No. 121, Narcissus Chapter No. 269, Nebraska Masonic Foundation (Grand Lodge), Nelson Chapter No. 27, John & Marion Fuller Nelson, Neal & Ruth Nelson, Norma Nelson, Ritch A. Nelson, Roger & Dorothy Nicholson, Sr., Robert & Rita O'Neill, Jim & Marcia Ochsner, Richard & Marie Odgers, Mariel K. Ofelie, Ogallala Chapter No. 142, Jeffery K. Ogle, Dale & Fern Olson, James & Cynthia Olson, David & Jan Ordway, Jr., John & Ruta Ozol, Loren & Winifred Page, Rod & Donna Page, Papillion Chapter No. 114, Papillion Lodge No. 39, John & Pauline Parsons, Allen & Kelley Patton, Richard & Janet Pelland, Verona T. Petereit, Phillips Chapter No. 204, Joel & Mickey Phillips, Cullen & Ardith Pilker, Pioneer Past Matrons, Robert & Jean Pittman, Plattsmouth York Rite Bodies, Keith & Arlis Plummer, Joanne M. Porter, Richard & Joan Pospisil, David & Bobbie Powell, Jack & Betty Price, Walter & Sandy Price, Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, Bruce & Sandra Raddatz, Gary & Sara Radil, William Ragan, Ace & Anne Ranslem, Ross & Glendoris Rash, Karl & Annette Rasmussen, IV, Curtis D. Reiber, Dennis & Pat Reigle, Robert & Roma Rhodes, George & Judy Risser, Rob Morris Chapter No. 192, Rob Morris Lodge No. 46, Lorna M. Robinson, Virgil L. Rodgers, Jimmy & Irene Rogers, Teddy L. Roose, Rose Croix Chapter No. 298, Robert & Ardell Roth, Lee & Carol Rowe, Royal Chapter No. 184, Alice Ruppert, Lester & Esther Russell, Rexford & Alice Sala, George & Elizabeth Sawyer, Richard B. Saxon, Charles & Patricia Scheuneman, David & Roberta Schlichting, Henrietta M. Schmidt, Walter & Alyce Schmidt, Robert & Carol Schmucker, Carroll Schnurr, Klaus & Edie Schoenherr, Richard & Shirley Schoettger, Roland & Ruth Schomer, Jon & Dee Schuetz, Jeffrey Schulz, Norman & Carol Schuttler, Schuyler Chapter No. 75, Dennis & Laura Schwartz, Ray & Ruth Schwarz, Scottish Rite Foundation Of Omaha, Scotts Bluff Chapter No. 133, John & Mi Yong Sheffield, Shelby Chapter No. 193, Don & Sandra Sherrill, Robert & Nancy Shively, Wilford & Helene Shook, Daniel & Joan Shurtliff, Charles I. Slagle, Don & Norma Slaughter, Don & Lucille Slosson, Kenneth & Virginia Smalley, Duane & Jackie Smith, Dwight & Vickie Smith, Franklin & Susan Smith, Richard & Lois Smith, Thomas A. Smith

General Donations will be continued in the next issue.

# MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Ron Giesselmann, Executive Director

## “Home”

By Charles “Ched” House, President

“Home”—that is the name one gives to a place that has a father, mother, brothers, and sisters living with one another. That is the title given to a building or house that provides food, shelter, and an area for peace and quiet. It is a warm bed, a place to study, and a place to play. That is what I found at the Senior Boys cottage, a home within a home at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont, Nebraska after my father passed away. I took residence with my newly adopted family the third of June, 1939.

Because of my mother’s love, her desire that I have opportunities that she no longer could provide, and her faith in the leadership and operation of the Home she made a difficult decision—one that developed into the most wonderful thing that ever happened to a boy such as I.

My newly adopted Father, Mr. Elmer Hartmann and my newly adopted Mother, Mrs. Mary Bruce along with 47 newly adopted brothers and sisters gave me new direction.



Ruby and Ched House

The things that happened to me at this wonderful “Home” are too numerous to mention, but I believe the crowning glory was the day Mr. Hartmann presented me with the keys to the new “Home” car and informed me that I was to be the official resident driver. How proud I was and how scared I should have been.

I shall never forget all the wonderful times we had and the hard work that went with it. Following is a list of a few of our duties:

-Mowing the lawns, scrubbing the floors, and yes, the walls and ceilings too.

-Doing dishes for 16 young boys and our house mothers.

-Slicing homemade bread-sometimes still warm-and making lunches for 16 hungry young men.

-Milking the cows and carrying the warm milk home along that windy three block road on those cold winter mornings at six.

-Cultivate and harvesting the huge vegetable garden.

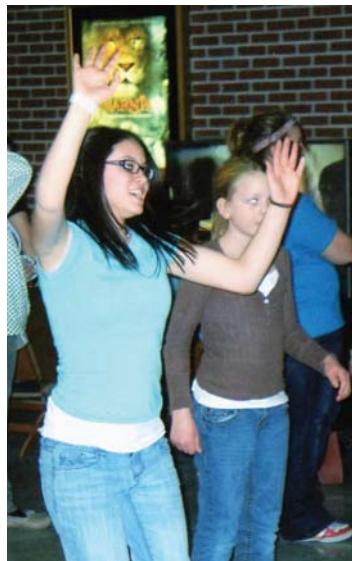
-Scooping snow to clear the walks, so that we could walk 17 blocks to high school.

Foremost in my memories are our annual touch football games after dinner on Thanksgiving Day afternoon with the returning alums. I should mention the activities at the tennis court, the hour dances at the Senior Girls Cottage, the hours of practice with the orchestra, all of the picnics, and the hour long sessions in study hall with by “brothers” each evening during school.

I could go on endlessly, but what I have been trying to say is that I shall always remember the most wonderful three years of my life. That is, until I met my wonderful wife and we had a “Home” of our own. How does one ever say “thank you” enough to all the members of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Masonic Lodge. Thank you for my “Home.”



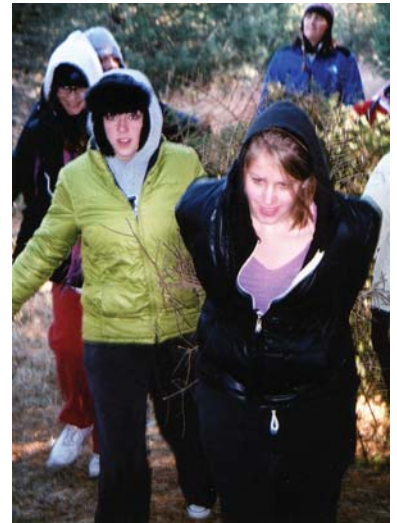
Stormy lived at the Home before joining the Army. She was delighted to receive a phone card from the Grand Lodge of Nebraska during her tour in Iraq.



Chasity and Merissa compete in a video game in the Grand Lodge Game Room.



Caira earned a Presidential Physical Fitness medal. She plans to spend a lot of time in the Lee Paden Wellness Center.



Noell and Amber partake in the Home’s annual trip to the Christmas tree farm sponsored by Fremont Lodge. Both girls graduated from high school at mid-term.

# GRAND CHAPTER OF NEBRASKA, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

*Jerrie Wilcox, Worthy Grand Matron and Denny Smith, Worthy Grand Patron*

## Three Generations Families in Eastern Star

*by Isobel Taylor*

Three generations of Jenkins and Taylors families are members of AkSarBen Chapter #277 of Omaha, Nebraska.

Sister Elaine Jenkins was initiated September 26, 1964.

Sister Elaine has been Worthy Matron twice, and held many offices in the Chapter and is currently Treasurer for 2011. Her daughter, Jackie Jenkins Jensen was initiated October 24, 1983. She also has been Worthy Matron twice, and currently



Jackie Jenkins Jensen, Danielle Jenkins, and Elaine Jenkins

substitutes when needed. Elaine's granddaughter, Sister Danielle was initiated April 27, 2009.

Sister Isobel Taylor was initiated into Eastern Star December

20, 1973. Sister Isobel has been Worthy Matron twice, and currently serving as Secretary of the Chapter. Isobel's husband, Brother Jim was initiated October 24, 1983. He has served as Worthy Patron 3 times, and is their Associate Patron. Their daughter, Sister Carol Taylor



Taylor Medina, Isobel Taylor, and Carol Taylor Medina

Medina was initiated into Eastern Star, October 21, 1982. Sister Carol has been active in the Chapter since her return to Omaha, and is serving as Martha. Sister Carol is a US Army Reservist. Her daughter, and Jim and Isobel's granddaughter, Sister Taylor Medina was initiated into the Chapter September 13, 2008. Sister Taylor and Sister Danielle are Past Queens of Job's Daughters in Omaha, as is Taylor's mother (Sister Carol), and both are attending college and not active in the Chapter.

***Mark your calendars to attend the  
Annual Session of the Nebraska  
Grand Chapter, Order of the  
Eastern Star***

**May 10-12, 2011**

**Pershing Auditorium**

## Grand Chapter of Nebraska Order of the Eastern Star

### Love Comes Down on Angel Wings Session



**May 10-12, 2011**

**Pershing Auditorium, Lincoln, Nebraska**

We the "Love Comes Down on Angel Wings" Grand Family have traveled this great state greeting you, our wonderful members and received your love and hugs. Now we extend an invitation to each of you to attend our Grand Chapter Session May 10th, 11th and 12th. We look forward to your visit and hope to repay all your love.

Tickets to all social events must be purchased in advance by ordering on the pre-registration form. Tickets will be in your Registration Packet. Complimentary tickets must be indicated on the pre-registration form in order to hold a reservation to the event.

Pre-registration forms must be submitted to the chairman of the registration committee by Saturday, April 23, 2011. See your Chapter Secretary or visit our website at [neoes.org](http://neoes.org) to obtain the forms.

All members must present a 2010 or 2011 receipt for dues to receive their registration packet. If not pre-registered, they must pay the \$10.00 registration fee in order to register. All members must show both the receipt for dues and the card showing payment of the \$10.00 Registration Fee to be admitted to the sessions.

The Credential Committee will be on duty at Pershing Center from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10 and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Wednesday, May 11. Voting members must present (1) dues receipt, (2) Registration Card (3) Official Credential, Proxy or a Past Matron or Past Patron card to receive a voting ballot. (Members will need to register with the Registration Committee before proceeding to the Credential Committee.) Ballots are not transferable and cannot be replaced, if lost.

Courtesy vans and buses will be available for transportation to and from Pershing Center and the Holiday Inn Downtown, and from the Ramada Limited South to the Headquarters Hotel and Pershing Center.

A schedule of events and registration forms can be found on the Grand Chapter website at [www.neoes.org](http://www.neoes.org).

# Nebraska Job's Daughters

*Cindy Bartling, Grand Guardian*

*Jeff Makris, Associate Grand Guardian*

*Rachel Nerud, Grand Bethel Honored Queen*

*Katie Hergenrader, Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter*

*Courtney Smith, Miss Nebraska Congeniality*

Greetings to you from Nebraska Job's Daughters. I am Katie Hergenrader the Miss Nebraska Job's Daughter 2010-2011 from North Platte. I am a past Honored Queen of Bethel #4 and Recipient of the Lily of the Valley. Job's Daughters is celebrating the HIKE Fund, Inc.'s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kids Helping Kids! In 25 years, Job's Daughters International has raised over 4 million dollars for HIKE (Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment). Between August 1985 and July 2010, Nebraska has made 136 HIKE presentations totaling over \$240,000.00 and in the United States we have made 2,205 HIKE presentations totaling \$4,340,000.00. Thank you to anyone and everyone who has contributed to our philanthropic project and we hope you will continue to donate in the future to double these numbers! We have multiple projects this year to raise money for HIKE. Our Grand Guardian is raffling a quilt, with the proceeds going to HIKE. The State HIKE Coordinators' project is Hiking Across Nebraska. Our Bethels are separated into four groups and have banded together to raise money as they race each other across Nebraska. Also, we have done two HIKE presentations for Joseph of Axtell and Brenden of Gothenburg. We have three presentations and counting to do this year. I couldn't be more proud of our Nebraska Job's Daughters along with our Masons and their hard work towards our philanthropic project.



# INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

*Betty Garwood, Supreme Deputy*

Many thanks to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and Grand Master John Parsons for the courtesies extended during the 154<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication. It was as if we were coming home as we held many Mini-Grand sessions at the Midtown Holiday Inn. Grand Lodge is a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends and new, to share our Rainbow information, enthusiasm and a lot of Skittles. Once more the Silent Auction was a success. We thank those lodges, chapters, groups and individuals who donated auction items and we thank the generous bidders who made the auction a successful fundraiser for the youth. Rainbow accepts the funds as a gift from the hearts of many who support Masonic Youth.



Grand Worthy Advisor Heather Wilkie will be leading the Rainbow Family on the Autism Puzzle Walk, Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Chalco Hills Recreation Area, 154<sup>th</sup> & Giles Road in Omaha. Autism Awareness has been Heather's special project during her term. She has had workshops on the topic and has promoted autism awareness when she has spoken to the Grand Sessions of Job's, DeMolay, Grand Lodge and in the near future Grand York Rite and Grand Chapter OES. For

more information on joining Heather's team for this Puzzle Walk email Heather at [penguingirl2009@yahoo.com](mailto:penguingirl2009@yahoo.com) or leave a message on her facebook page.

Nebraska Rainbow will be leaving other footprints as Westside Assembly will have a team at the Omaha Relay for Life and a team is being planned for the Lincoln Relay for Life.

A previous report that Grand Assembly 2011 would be held in a new building at Doane College has proved to be premature as we will in fact hold our session in the campus Field House as has been the tradition since 1971. It was a good thing we had not disposed of the air-conditioners! The good news is that the Field House is a familiar location and we are excited about the "Inspiration" Session. Informal Opening which is an open meeting is Saturday afternoon June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. Registration information will be available in March from Mrs. Laurie Sieg [ks33902@windstream.net](mailto:ks33902@windstream.net) or 402-464-2410. We hope to see you there.



Congratulations to M.W. John Parsons on a successful year. His *Change for the Troops* project touched many lives. He gave his time generously to Grand Assembly and to our Supreme Assembly effort and for that we are very grateful. Best wishes to the new Grand Lodge officers. And to all...Nebraska Grand Assembly wishes you a happy spring.

~~~Rainbow Gets Girls Ready for Life~~~

# NEBRASKA DEMOLAY

*Michael W. Stuhr, Executive Director*

Greetings from Nebraska DeMolay! Nebraska DeMolay State Officers and the Executive Officer were privileged to attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Nebraska held in Grand Island Nebraska on February 3-5, 2011. DeMolay Representatives in attendance included Cameron Daiss, State Master Councilor; Dalton Kock, State Senior Councilor; and Mike Stuhr, Executive Officer. The DeMolay display seemed to be a popular place to gather and many contacts were made that could potentially result in new DeMolay Chapters in the State. Nebraska DeMolay was pleased to present the "Mason of the Year" award to W.B. Gene Wehrbein of Plattsmouth Lodge # 6 in recognition of his many years of service to the Masonic Family and Masonic Youth, in particular. The State Chapter also proudly presented its "Sponsoring Body of the Year" award to Rob Morris Lodge #46 of Kearney. Rob Morris Lodge is the sponsoring body of Nebraska DeMolay's newest chapter and their support is greatly appreciated. The Executive Officer and State Officers are very appreciative of all of the courtesies that were extended to them. Grand Lodge is always a much anticipated and very enjoyable time.

February is the season for Cupid's arrow and DeMolays use the month to crown their new Chapter Sweethearts. Dr. Frederick Eiche Chapter held their Sweetheart Ball on February 5, 2011 at the Sesostris Shrine Center. The District 1 Sweetheart Ball was held on February 12, 2011 at the Omaha Scottish Rite. District 1 includes Omaha Chapter (Omaha), Crusade Chapter (Papillion), Lewis M. Keene Chapter (Fremont), and Builders Chapter (South Sioux City). All of the new sweethearts will be invited to participate in the Sweetheart Retreat in Omaha on March 19-20, 2011.

Nebraska DeMolays, Sweethearts, and Advisors will descend on Kearney Nebraska the weekend of April 9-10 for their annual Spring Roundup. Chapters compete against each other in Volleyball, Mini-Golf, Billiards, Ping-Pong, Soccer, and Basketball. Interspersed among the athletic events will be plenty of food and brotherhood.

DeMolay Chapters are sponsored by adult Masonic Groups with Master Masons among their membership. If any Masonic Family group is interested in the opportunities arising from DeMolay Chapter Sponsorship, please contact Executive Officer Mike Stuhr.



**We would like to thank everyone who contributed to and participated in the Silent Auction held at Annual Communication! Over \$2,700 was raised and will be divided between our Nebraska Youth Organizations. THANK YOU ALL for your generous support of our Youth!!**

Gene and Judy Wehrbein, Silent Auction Committee

## Program Set for Masonic Youth Conference



The Grand Lodge Youth and Conference Committee have finalized the speakers for the 4<sup>th</sup> Triennial Masonic Youth Conference. To learn more about the conference and speakers, go to the Facebook page for the Nebraska Masonic Youth Foundation. Currently being featured is Shannon Pickard with a link to a Youtube site. Later on, other speakers will be featured which include Tou Ger Xiong, who was part of the Conference in 2005, as well as Aaron Davis, who was previously a member of the Cornhusker football team. He briefly attended the conference in 2008 and has agreed to come back.

Registration forms for the Conference on Oct 1 & 2 in Kearney, NE will be available later this spring at Grand Chapter OES and on the Grand Lodge website. The conference is for the Masonic Youth, as well as youth whose parents are part of the Masonic Family. It isn't every year that these national speakers become available to our Youth in Nebraska. It is a chance in a lifetime for our youth to be exposed to these individuals to help them grow and become more self-confident. Please encourage our youth to take advantage of this great opportunity.

The Masonic Youth Foundation is helping with the cost of this fun-filled event, but needs help from you. A donation to the Foundation is tax-deductible and should be made payable to The Nebraska Masonic Youth Foundation, 202 S 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68102

# Year Pin Presentations

## 50-Year Pins

Marvin N. Attebery, Western Star No. 2  
 Roger W. Barry, Acacia No. 34  
 Harold L. Blesh, Wood Lake No. 221  
 Charles Brodersen, Landmark No. 222  
 Claire R. Dyas, Lancaster No. 54  
 Carl R. Flood, Papillion No. 39  
 Joel L.P. Goucher, Wallace No. 279  
 Louis L. Hanson, Fairbury No. 35  
 Clyde Hunzeker, Mt. Moriah No. 57  
 Eldon W. Marshall, Elwood No. 167  
 Lester J. Martin, Albion No. 78  
 James McClatchey, North Star No. 227  
 Lewis F. Miller, Lancaster No. 54  
 Eugene B. Quincy, Lancaster No. 54  
 Marvin E. Sterner, Custer No. 148  
 Kenneth C. Stout, Justice No. 180  
 William L. Waters, Lancaster No. 54



W.M. Tom Henner presented Marvin Attebery (right) with a 50-year membership award from Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Nebraska City.



Lester J. Martin of Albion, left, was recognized for 50 years of membership in Albion Lodge No. 78. His 50-year membership pin was presented by W.M. Merlin Weber, Jr., right. Lester is a three-time Past Master of Albion Lodge, having served in that capacity in 1969, 1993 and 1994.



Brothers Allan Sole (left) and Michael Dunn of Nelson Lodge No. 77 present a 60-year membership award to Victor Meyer (center) at home on December 7, 2010.



Bro. Robert Root received his 60-year pin from M.W. John Parsons at Capitol Lodge No. 3 in December.

## 60-Year Pins

Don Carey, Mt. Moriah No. 57  
 Kenneth G. Garey, Covert No. 11  
 Lloyd D. Jones, Thistle No. 61  
 Victor W. Meyer, Nelson No. 77  
 Ralph L. Mihulka, Acacia No. 34  
 Ross D. Rash, Jr., Arcana No. 195  
 I. Clinton Reber, Atkinson No. 164  
 Robert R. Root, Capitol No. 3  
 Arthur D. Taylor, Barneston No. 165  
 Perry E. Vanderkolk, Acacia No. 34  
 Hugo Westphall, Mt. Moriah No. 57  
 Wayne E. Williss, North Star No. 227

## 70-Year Pins

Paul T. Filipi, Capitol No. 3  
 Forrest Halvorsen, Mt. Moriah No. 57  
 Byron Salem, Lancaster No. 54

# BRONZE JORDAN MEDALS AWARDED

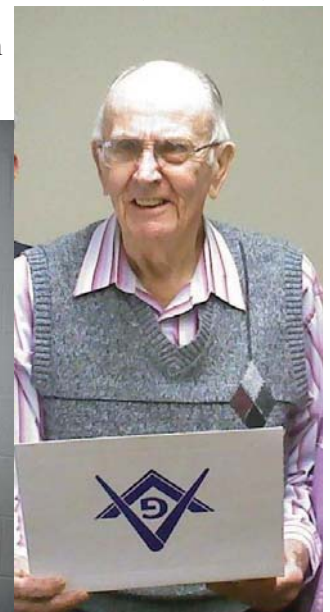
Richard Mauch was presented the Bronze Jordan Medal for Long Pine Lodge No. 136 on November 16, 2010. The presentation was made in a ceremony held at the lodge by W.:M.: Alvin Benemerito, assisted by Grand Master John T. Parsons.

Past Master Carlton Clark, Treasurer of Elwood Lodge No. 167, presented the Bronze Jordan Medal to Owen W. Brainard on December 9, 2010 (below left).

The Bronze Jordan Medal for Thistle Lodge No. 61 was presented to G. Hanford Smith on January 18 in Lexington by W.:B.: Lauren Daberkow (at right).



Brother Paul Filipi of Capitol Lodge No. 3 was pleased to receive his 70-year membership award from Grand Master John Parsons on December 2, 2010.



## Gold Jordon Medal Presented

Prior to October 15, 2010, Brother Laurence Johnson of Robert Furnas Lodge No. 265 in Scottsbluff, and residing in Lincoln, was the holder of the Gold Robert C. Jordon Medal, with 79 years, 4 months and 2 days of Masonic membership. The Jordon Medal is named after the first Grand Master of Masons



Ivan's son Marvin helps his father with the Gold Jordon Medal pin.

in Nebraska serving from 1857 through 1859, and is awarded to the most senior Mason in each lodge with the Bronze Robert C. Jordon Medal, and most senior in the State with the Gold Robert C. Jordon Medal. This is determined not by age, but longevity in the Masonic Fraternity. With the recent passing of Brother Johnson, the Gold Jordan Medal was presented to Worshipful Brother Ivan F. Conaway of North Star Lodge No. 227 in Lincoln on October

15, 2010, for his distinctive Masonic service since June 6, 1932. Worshipful Brother Ivan F. Conaway also holds the the Bronze Jordon Medal for his North Star Lodge No. 227, presented in October 2007. As of the date of the submission of this article (Feb. 8, 2011), W.:B.: Ivan had 78yrs, 8 mo, 2 days and counting.

Ivan was accompanied by his son Marvin Conaway and many of the friends and staff of Village Manor.

Assisting in the presentation (and pictured left to right with Ivan below) were Bro. Chuck Holderby, 300; Bro. Maynard Sears, 300; W.:M.: Keith Brocksmith, 227; J.:W.: Walter Powell, 227; and R.:W.: Grand Secretary Bruce Watkins, 300; Photos were taken by W.:B.: Evan Haydon, 227.



## MEMBERSHIP AWARD IN BENKELMAN



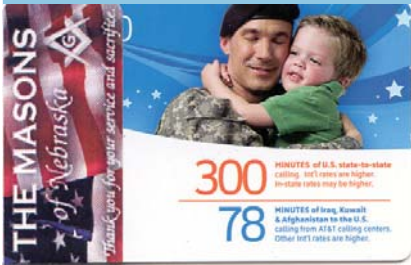
On February 22, 2011 a 50-year pin was presented to Dr. Kenneth Stout, retired, by Deputy Grand Custodian of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, and member of Justice Lodge No. 180 of Benkelman, Roger Shillington. Masonic brethren with Roger for the presentation were Paul Erdman, Larry Williams, Scott Hogeland, Marvin Haines, Burdette Wilson, Ray Balderson, Eugene Jones and Bret Moore, PA-C who co-ordinated the presentation. Also, several of the hospital personnel of the Dundy County Hospital, where Dr. Stout is residing attended, as well as the editor of the local newspaper. Long-time friend of Dr. Stout, Joan Vontz, pinned the 50-year pin for him. Refreshments were served during a social hour following the presentation and pinning.

## Mt. Moriah Lodge Recognizes Long-time Members



Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57 in Syracuse presented membership pins to four brothers at the Syracuse Senior Center on January 23. Most Worshipful John Parsons attended to assist with the presentations. Pictured are M.W. John Parsons, Forrest Halvorsen (70 years), Hugo Westphal (60 years), Don Carey (60 years), Clyde Hunzeker (50 years), and Worshipful Master Dave Njus.

## Change for the Troops Continuing in 2011



The Grand Lodge will continue the Change for the Troops program with a goal of giving a phone card to all National Guard service personnel being deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq in 2011. Please carry on in collecting donations for the program and sending them to the Grand Lodge Office on a monthly basis.

## Most Worshipful Bevin B. Bump Grand Master 1983

M.:W.: Bevin B. Bump, a life-long Chadron resident who had a remarkable record of leadership and service, was laid to rest on Wednesday, January 5, 2011, in Chadron, with Reverend Seth Leyboldt officiating. Past Grand Master Bump died shortly before midnight on Thursday, December 30 at Crest View Care Center in Chadron, where he had resided less than a week. He was 84.

M.:W.: Bump was the Chadron city attorney for 53 years, the Dawes County attorney for 13 years, was involved in many community and regional activities and became a top officer in five statewide organizations, as well as the American Bar Association.

Bump was born Sept. 7, 1926 in Chadron to Leo and Anna Bump. Shortly after graduating from Chadron High School in 1944 he joined the Navy and was a navigator aboard a carrier during the remainder of World War II.

Upon his discharge in 1946, he attended Chadron State College for two years before transferring to the University of Nebraska to attend Law School. He graduated in 1952 and immediately joined his father in practicing law in Chadron.

Bump married Maxine Haden of Chadron on Aug. 7, 1949. She was his legal secretary for 46 years until he fully retired in 2008. They had three sons.

After he had been practicing law about 18 months, Bump was appointed the Chadron city attorney in December 1953. He held that position until November 2006, giving him what is believed to be the longest tenure as a city attorney in the state's history. He also was the county attorney 1958-1970.

M.:W.: Bump was raised at Samaritan Lodge No. 158 in Chadron on February 26, 1959, and served as Worshipful Master of the lodge in 1968. He was appointed Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Nebraska in 1973 by M.:W.: Frank Mattoon, and served in that office for five years, when he was appointed Grand Junior Deacon by M.:W.: Jack Hendrix in 1978. Advancing through the line, he served as Grand Senior Deacon in 1979 and Grand Junior Warden in 1980. He was elected as Grand Senior Warden in 1981, Deputy Grand Master in 1982 and served as Grand Master in 1983. He was president of the Nebraska Masonic Foundation 1984-90, and executor of the Emick Scholarship Fund for a number of years.

He also was deeply involved in Boy Scouts when his sons were scouts. He was the Wyo-Braska Area Council chairman 1956-70 and a member of the council's board of directors 1965-73. He received the Silver Beaver Distinguished Service Award, one of the highest honors accorded a Boy Scout volunteer, in 1972. All three sons became Eagle Scouts.

Online condolences can be made at [www.chamberlainchapel.com](http://www.chamberlainchapel.com).

## HASTINGS COMBINED INSTALLATION



Hastings Lodge No. 50 and Mid-West Lodge No. 317 held their combined installation ceremony on Sunday, January 23 at 2 pm at The Hastings Masonic Center. Installed as Master of Hastings Lodge No. 50 was W.:B.: D.W. "Monte" Malouf, II (left) and installed as Master of Mid-West Lodge No. 317 was W.:B.: Bill J Dittmer (right). The Installation Ceremony was open to the public and was well attended by members of both Lodges and their families and visiting Brethren and representatives from many other Masonic Bodies. A reception followed.

## UNSUNG HEROINES

*By Dan Longly*

The unsung heroines of Nebraska Masonry are undoubtedly the ladies working in the Nebraska Grand Lodge office. Through the years, Carol and Michelle have assisted our various lodges with everything from sending inquires from potential candidates to making sure our paperwork is in the correct order without getting irritable with us.

Bennett Lodge presented the awards and acknowledgements to the ladies on November 10, 2010. The acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication both Carol and Michelle have put into the Nebraska Grand Lodge is way over due.

Bennett Lodge had wished to make the presentation and acknowledgement of their hard work and dedication on September 11th at Bennett's Past Master Dinner. However, neither were available to attend. We had in attendance at our Past Masters dinner R.:W.: Bruce Watkins, R.:W.: Dave Watts, and R.:W.: Ben Hughes. As Master of Bennett Lodge for 2010, I must apologize to these brothers for not being in attendance myself, but I was told W.:B.: Fred Liebers did a very fine job in my absence.

Congratulations, and Bennett Lodge wants you to know we appreciate everything you have done for Nebraska Masonry, and Bennett Lodge. Thank you, for without your dedication we all would be hard placed to function.



## Member of Hastings Lodge No. 50 signs with Professional Football Team



Ernesto Lacayo of Hastings has signed with the Nebraska Danger Indoor Professional Football Team. The Nebraska Danger is a new team based in Grand Island and will start their inaugural season on March 7; Ernesto was an All American place kicker for the Hastings College Broncos the last 2 years. Ernesto received his Masters Degree in Hastings Lodge No. 50 on February 20, 2010, during the George Washington Birthday Ceremonial Masters Degree. Pictured are Ernesto and Worshipful Master Monte Malouf of Lodge 50.

## PLATTE VALLEY LODGE OBSERVES GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

On the 26th of February, Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 conferred the Master Mason Degree on Brother Russell Licking, as a courtesy to Seneca Lodge No. 284. The degree was conferred by Past Masters of both Platte Valley Lodge and Seneca Lodge. There were about 25 Brethren on the side lines, including R.:W.: Don Rife, Grand Chaplain, and members from Seneca Lodge and McCook Lodge. Upon completion of the degree every one retired to the Fred Shrake Fellowship Hall and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Signet Chapter No. 55, Order of Eastern Star. There were some 42 meals served. It is the tradition of Platte Valley Lodge to confer the Masters Degree to commemorate George Washington's Birthday every year using all Past Masters in the stations and then end it with a supper for families and guests.

Participants pictured are (front row left to right): R: W. Bro Jerre Johnson, Bro. Russell Licking, W. Bros. Glenn Mulholland, Robert Petersen, and Robert Peal, (back row left to right): W. Bros. Roger Eggleston, Howard Gebhardt, Walter Johnson, Mervin Titchen, Robert O'Neill and Jerry Linn. Not pictured are W. Bros. Ben Lee and Roland Coker.



## Special Visitors for Union Lodge in Palmyra



Union Lodge No. 287 in Palmyra, Grand Secretary Bruce Watkins, and brethren from four neighboring lodges had the distinct pleasure of hosting M.:W.: Charlie Johnson, then serving as Grand Master of Colorado, and his son in December. Charlie expressed what a great experience the visit was for them, since his father and grandfather were raised in Union Lodge.

## YOUNGEST MEMBER AT COLUMBUS A 4TH GENERATION MASON



Alex Jones is the youngest Master Mason of Lebanon Lodge 323 in Columbus. Alex is currently a senior at Columbus High School, and a past member of the Masonic All-Star Marching Band. He completed his Master Mason degree on January 26, 2011. Past Grand Master, Mike Jones (no relation) was in attendance.

Alex is a 4th generation Mason. His great grandfather James Jones was the Master of his lodge in 1933 and secretary of the lodge for 35 years, in St Louis, MO. His Grandfather Robert Jones, was a 60 year Mason and a Shriner. His father Bob Jones, was the Master of Lebanon Lodge in Columbus, in 1999 and 2003, and is a Shriner.

Alex plans on joining Sesostris Shrine in March. If all goes as planned, he will be a Shriner before he is out of high school.

His two older sisters, Becky and Jenny Jones, are Past Honored Queens of Bethel 39 in Columbus.

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**Youth Scholarships Available**

The **Glenn O. and Evelyn F. Emick Memorial Scholarship** provides a \$1,000 scholarship for members of Masonic youth groups attending each of the three state colleges: Chadron, Peru, Wayne, and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. An application and further information can be acquired by writing to, emailing or calling Michelle at the contact information for the Grand Lodge office listed above.

Four **Masonic Youth Scholarships** are also available in 2011 to members of Masonic youth groups. For application information, please visit [www.gln.org](http://www.gln.org) and click on Forms and Publications on the left side of the home page.

**GRAND LODGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

|           |                                                                      |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mar 28    | Masonic Education Symposium, Lincoln                                 |
| Mar 29    | Masonic Education Symposium, Omaha                                   |
| Mar 29    | Masonic Education Symposium, Hastings                                |
| Mar 29    | 2nd Section MM School, Lincoln                                       |
| Apr 6-9   | Grand York Rite, Columbus                                            |
| Apr 9     | One-day Conferral, Omaha                                             |
| May 10-12 | Eastern Star Grand Chapter, Lincoln                                  |
| May 31    | Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp Begins                           |
| Jun 4     | Shrine Bowl Football Game                                            |
| Jun 10-12 | Rainbow Grand Assembly, Crete                                        |
| Jun 11    | Shrine Soccer Classic, Hastings                                      |
| Jun 17    | Rededication Ceremony, Custer Lodge No. 148, Broken Bow              |
| Jun 22-25 | Job's Grand Bethel, Kearney                                          |
| Jul 16-17 | DeMolay Conclave (tentative)                                         |
| Jul 16    | One-day Conferral, Omaha                                             |
| Aug 14    | 4-H Achievement Day, Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont |

**17th Annual Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp**

**May 31 - June 4, 2011**  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



We are still in need of scholarships for deserving students to attend band camp. If your lodge, chapter or appendant body can help, please contact the Grand Lodge of Nebraska as soon as possible.

Ever wonder what it's like to be a chaperone at the Masonic All-Star Marching Band Camp? Give it a try! The Band Committee is always looking for help with the week-long camp. Chaperones can serve one day or the whole week and receive free room and board. After their first year, chaperones often wonder why they didn't try it sooner. Spend time with and offer your adult guidance to some of the best musicians in the state. Call the Grand Lodge Office today to find out more.