

**144TH ANNUAL
COMMUNICATION**



GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

**GRAND LODGE F. & A. M.
OF NEVADA**

NOVEMBER 10 & 11, 2008

With brotherly love and affection I wish to welcome each of you to the 144th annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nevada.

To the members of the Grand Lodge of Nevada, I thank you for your dedication to Masonry by attending your annual communication. It seems like yesterday that we started this journey and now we are at the conclusion of this Masonic year. As we deliberate on the important matters that will come before this Grand Lodge for the next two days, let us hope that everything we do is for the good of Masonry. I also hope that you enjoy the social activities that are planned for this Grand session. This is always a good time to renew old friendships and make new friends.

To our visiting brothers we look forward to extending to you the famous hospitality for which Nevada is known. We are proud of our heritage and traditions in this Grand Lodge and look forward to sharing them with you. We all hope you enjoy your stay with us and enjoy our Nevada Grand Lodge session.

If there is anything that I can do to make your stay more enjoyable, please feel free to ask myself or any Nevada Mason.

NECROLOGY

The Supreme Grand Master has called from the roles of our Lodges, one hundred and forty-nine of our brothers during the past year. While we deplore the loss of our beloved brothers, let us be strong in our belief that they have passed from turmoil into peace; from mortality into glory. For them it was not death, but transition and when the Grand Warden of heaven shall call us, we must obey with joy, and go from our labors on earth to eternal refreshment in the paradise of God.

In the circle of our Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Masters the golden chain has been broken by the passing of M.W. Eugene S Gates Jr., Past Grand Master F&A.M of Nevada 1978

V.W. Grand Secretary, you will now read the tribute to our departed Grand Master.

EUGENE S. GATES, JR.

Most Worshipful Brother Gates was born in San Francisco, California November 12, 1923. He received his primary education in the public and vocational schools in Los Angeles. MW Gates lived and worked in the Los Angeles area for a number of years.

On October 3, 1953, in Hollywood, California, he and Florence E. Bones of Los Angeles were united in marriage, and began a lifetime of mutual love and devotion until her death in 2002.

They moved to Mina, Nevada in the spring of 1954 in order to help his father as an assayer for Argentums Mining Company. In 1961 he and Florence formed Mineral Assay Office Inc., that not only provided a living for his family, but involved him with work that he truly enjoyed. MW Brother Gates was considered one of the best among his peers for his assaying skills.

He was raised a Master Mason on January 20, 1956, in Hawthorne Lodge #36 in Hawthorne, Nevada, serving as Master several times. In November 1977 he was elected to the office of Grand Master of Masons in Nevada, our 105th Grand Master. In 1987, the honor of becoming a 33rd degree Mason was bestowed upon him. MW Brother Gates was also a member of the York Rite, Kerak Shrine and Nevada Lodge of Research #1.

In January 1966, he was sworn in as a Justice of the peace of Mina Township. Many elections later he retired after having served over 34 years on the bench; the longest continuously seated judge in Nevada. He was awarded the "DISTINGUISHED Jurist Award" by the Nevada Supreme court in 1998. At the time of his death, he remained a Senior Judge with all judicial rights.

MW Brother Gene's other interests included being an amateur radio operator since 1948, pilot since the late 1950s and Mina weather reporter for over 33 years. He immensely loved flying and surpassed 1,000 hours of flight many years ago. In 2007, he received the national prestigious "John Campanius Holm Award" for his faithful weather observations.

He is survived by his daughter, Dawn Borland and her husband, John, of Spring Creek, Nevada; son Edward Gates, his wife, Pam and grandson Andrew of Spokane, Washington; granddaughters, Jennifer Malinak of Sacramento, California and Megan Howard of Spokane, Washington; great-grandchildren Madisy Howard and Isaiah Howard both of Spokane, Washington and sisters, Joanne Strauss of Palmdale, California and Pamela Gates of San Diego, California.

God's finger touched him and he slept.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

As I have traveled throughout the State on my official visits I have found that all of the lodges are functioning and most are doing excellent ritual work. Most of the lodges have a full set of officers and are busy doing degrees and making new members. With the influx of younger men coming into our fraternity I hope the lodges can find a way to keep the interest up and keep them coming back to their lodge meetings. One of my goals this year was to get more education into our meetings. My suggestion was to change their way of doing business at the stated meeting. Most of the Lodges only meet once a month unless they are doing degree work. My suggestion was to approve the minutes and bills rather read them word for word. This should save about twenty minutes and could be used for some type of Masonic Education. Several of the lodges have changed their bylaws so they can try this idea.

This is an exciting time in the future of Masonry in Nevada. With the new members coming into fraternity, the officers are doing an excellent job and I feel that the state of the craft is very good at this time.

Proclamations

I issued the following proclamations requiring compliance with various sections of our Masonic code:

1. Following the custom of Masonry in Nevada conforming to section 4.400 of the Masonic code. Honoring the memory of George Washington, I have proclaimed the month of February 2008 as George Washington Birthday observance month.

It is my command that every Lodge, or several Lodges together, during the month of February 2008 shall hold a suitable program, either private or public, thus affirming that free and accepted Masons will always honor their Masonic leaders.

A report of this observance shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary.

2. All Masons of constituent Lodges should observe and display their pride and support in our Masonic Youth Organizations: International Order of DeMolay, the International Order of Rainbow for girls and the International Order of Jobs Daughters. I therefore proclaim the month of March 2008 as Masonic Youth Observance Month and command that each Lodge or several Lodges, shall join together to attend and observe our Masonic Youth at their labors in their Chapters, Assemblies and Bethels, on their meeting night, if any Masonic Youth group is located in their area. If this is not possible, then they are to present an informative program for the Brethren of their respective Lodges during that period. Additionally as a supplement, but not as a substitute, the Lodge may consider offering

financial support to a local Chapter, Assembly or Bethel, or to any organization representing our Masonic Youth.

A report of these programs shall be transmitted to the office of the Grand Secretary.

3. Whereas, Free and Accepted Masons are dedicated to the support and furtherance of Public Schools, and per section 4.390 of the Nevada Masonic code, I do hereby PROCLAIM PUBLIC SCHOOL OBSERVANCE WEEK TO BE OBSERVED AT SOME PERIOD BETWEEN APRIL 15, 2008 AND JUNE 15, 2008. It is my command that each lodge, or several Lodges, join together in a presentation of a program to display our Masonic Fraternity's support of Public Schools. Our support is sometimes better demonstrated when the program activities are presented to the public.

A full report of this observance shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

INSTALLATIONS

12/08/2007	Install St John Lodge #18, Pioche Nevada
12/09/2007	Install Logia Hispania De Nevada #58
12/12/2007	Install Mount Moria Lodge #39, Henderson
12/15/2007	Install Sandy Valley Lodge #57, Sandy Valley
12/15/2007	Install Oasis Lodge #41. Las Vegas
12/16/2007	Install Laughlin Lodge #57, Laughlin, Nevada
12/18/2007	Install Nellis Lodge #46, Las Vegas, Nevada
12/19/2007	Install Acacia Lodge #49 N. Las Vegas, Nevada
12/21/2007	Install Vegas Lodge #32 Las Vegas, Nevada
12/27/2007	Install Pahrump Lodge #54 Pahrump, Nevada
06/12/2008	Install Zabud Council #10
06/12/2008	Install Keystone Chapter #6

OFFICIAL VISITS

01/22/2008	Nellis Lodge #46
02/25/2008	Oasis Lodge #41
02/27/2008	Humbolt Lodge #27
03/04/2008	Indian Springs Lodge #48
03/05/2008	Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45
03/06/2008	Pyramid Lodge #43
03/07/2008	Tonopah Lodge #28
03/18/2008	Boulder City Lodge #37
03/19/2008	Acacia Lodge #49
04/01/2008	Reno Lodge #13
04/02/2008	Winnemucca Lodge #19
04/05/2008	Sandy Valley Lodge #57
04/07/2008	Guardian Lodge #53
04/10/2008	Pahrump Lodge #54
04/14/2008	Daylight Lodge #44
04/15/2008	Laughlin Lodge #57
05/15/2008	Eureka Lodge #16
05/15/2008	Carson Lodge #1
05/17/2008	Lander Lodge #8
05/20/2008	Carson Valley Lodge #33
06/05/2008	Silver cord Lodge #51
06/09/2008	Golden Lodge #50
06/14/2008	Brucite Lodge #42 & Hawthorne Lodge #37
07/21/2008	Elko Lodge #15
09/03/2008	Mount Rose Lodge #40
09/04/2008	Amity Lodge #4
09/05/2008	Wadsworth Lodge #35
09/06/2008	Montezuma Lodge #30
09/06/2008	Logia Hispana De Nevada #58
09/11/2008	Fernley Lodge #34
09/15/2008	Centennial Lodge #47

10/01/2008	Washoe Lodge #35
10/02/2008	Churchill Lodge #26
10/04/2008	Escorial Lodge #7
10/08/2008	Douglas Lodge #12
10/09/2008	Hope Lodge #22
10/11/2008	Saint John Lodge #18 & Caliente Lodge #38
10/15/2008	Mount Moria Lodge #39
10/16/2008	Dhahran Daylight Lodge #55
11/07/2008	Vegas Lodge #32 Home Coming

OTHER MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS

11/16/2007	Vegas #32 Third degree
11/17/2007	A.A.S.R. KCCH in Reno
11/26/2007	Zelzah Shrine
11/29/2007	Red Cross of Constantine, Desert Paradise
12/02/2007	Red Cross of Constantine, dinner
12/07/2007	Santa Clause, Pioche Grade School
01/04/2008	Vegas #32, Stated meeting
01/11/2008	Vegas #32, Second degree
01/12/2008	Saint John #18 Stated meeting
01/13/2008	Valley of Scottish Rite installation
01/16/2008	Grand Commander OV, Malta #3
01/17/2008	Grand Commander OV, Meltia #9
01/20/2008	Grand Lodge finance meeting
02/11/2008	High Priest OV, Boulder Chapter #14
03/09/2008	LOS Installation
03/24/2008	I.G.M. OV, Hiram #5, Boulder City
03/25/2008	Zelzah Shrine Stated meeting
04/04/2008	Vegas Lodge #32, stated meeting
04/18/2008	Job's Daughter state Rally, Tonopah
04/19/2008	Job's Daughter state rally, Tonopah
06/01/2008	Grand York rite Session

06/02/2008	Grand York rite Session
06/03/2008	Grand York rite Session, Fallon, Nevada
06/15/2008	Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly
06/16/2008	Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly
06/29/2008-07/03/2008	Imperial Shrine, Saint Louis, Missouri
07/11/2008-07/12/2008	Southwest Conference Red Cross of Constantine
07/17/2008-07/19/2008	Rocky Mountain Conference, Thremopolis, Wyoming
07/31/2008-08/04/2008	York Rite Sovereign College of North America
08/08/2008-08/09/2008	George Washington Masonic Memorial Board of Directors meeting.
08/16/2008	Oasis Lodge #41 trip to see Fiddler on the Roof in Cedar City, Utah
08/23/2008	Zelzah Shrine Hospital trip, Los Angeles, California
08/30/2008-09/01/2008	Saint John #18 Labor Day pancakes in the park.
09/08/2008	Oasis Lodge #41 60 year pin presentation
09/05/2008	Grand Chapter of Nevada OES
10/17/2008-10/18/2008	Scottish Rite Reunion, Reno, Nevada
10/19/2008-10/22/2008	Colorado River York Rite Festival, Laughlin, Nevada
10/30/2008	Red Cross of Constantine, Desert Paradise Chapter, Las Vegas, Nevada

OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS ATTENDED

Jan. 24-26, 2008	Grand Lodge of Colorado
Jan. 31-Feb. 02, 2008	Grand Lodge of Utah
Feb. 05-08, 2008	Grand Lodge of Alaska

Feb. 14-20, 2008	Conference of Grand Masters
May 01-03, 2008	Scottish Rite Western Leadership Conference
May 07-10, 2008	World Conference of Grand Masters
June 06, 2008	MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nevada
Sept. 18-20, 2008	Grand Lodge of Idaho
Sept. 25-27, 2008	Grand Lodge of California

OPENED GRAND LODGE

03/01/2008	Funeral Service for MW Eugene S. Gates
06/07/2008	Vegas #32 100YR Rededication ceremony
11/01/2008	Corner stone ceremony for Montezuma #30

PERMISSIONS

01/09/2008 To Wadsworth Lodge #25, Sparks, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on February 23, 2008 at the Sparks Masonic Temple, Sparks, Nevada.

02/11/2008 To Fernley Lodge #34, Fernley, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on April 19, 2008 at the Fernley Masonic Temple, Fernley, Nevada.

02/11/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46, Las Vegas, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 10, 2008 at the Masonic Memorial Temple, Las Vegas, Nevada.

04/02/2008 To Washoe Lodge #35, Reno, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 14, 2008 at the Washoe Lodge Temple, Reno, Nevada.

04/16/2008 To Acacia Lodge #49, North Las Vegas, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on May 14, 2008 at the Acacia Lodge Temple, North Las Vegas, Nevada.

04/16/2008 To Washoe Lodge #35, Reno, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 21, 2008 at the Washoe Lodge temple, Reno, Nevada.

04/16/2008 To Daylight Lodge #44, Las Vegas, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 9, 2008 at the Masonic Memorial Temple, Las Vegas, Nevada.

05/06/2008 To Laughlin Lodge #56, Laughlin, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 6, 2008 in Laughlin, Nevada.

05/12/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46 to participate in the Helderado Parade in Las Vegas, Nevada on Mat 17, 2008 wearing their Masonic Regalia.

05/15/2008 To Montezuma Lodge #30, Goldfield, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on August 2, 2008 at the Masonic Lodge, Goldfield, Nevada.

05/30/2008 To Pahrump Lodge #54, Pahrump, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on June 28, 2008 at the Masonic Lodge, Pahrump, Nevada.

07/09/2008 To Carson Valley Lodge #33, Gardnerville, Nevada to hold a table Lodge on September 29, 2008 at the Masonic Lodge, Gardnerville, Nevada

08/26/2008 To Oasis Lodge #41, Las Vegas, Nevada to hold a Table Lodge on September 29, 2008 at the Masonic Memorial Temple, Las Vegas, Nevada.

DISPENSATIONS

11/30/2007 To Kirkland Lodge #150, Kirkland, Washington to confer courtesy work on Mr. Eddie Bower on behalf of Vegas Lodge #32, Las Vegas, Nevada.

11/29/2007 To Carson Valley Lodge #33, Gardnerville, Nevada to have an Installation of Officers on Sunday, January 6, 2008 as the Lodge has expressed their desire to deviate from the By-laws.

12/19/2007 To Boulder city Lodge #37, Boulder City, Nevada to move their regularly scheduled Stated Communication from January 1, 2008 to January 8, 2008.

01/15/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46 to move their charter to Elgin, Nevada (Rainbow Canyon Ranch) for the purpose of holding an "Outdoor Master Mason Degree" on Saturday March 15, 2006.

01/23/2008 To Mount Moria Lodge #39, Henderson, Nevada to Elect and install a Trustee, per section 5.244 of the Nevada Masonic code. Section 2.490 has been complied with.

03/06/2008 To Boulder City Lodge #37, Boulder City, Nevada to conduct a "Rusty Nail Degree" on Tuesday September 16, 2008 at the Boulder City Lodge Masonic Temple.

03/18/2008 To Mount Moria Lodge #39, Henderson, Nevada to elect and install a Treasure, per Section 5.160 of the Nevada Masonic code. Section 2.490 has been complied with.

04/02/2008 To Hawthorne Lodge #36, Hawthorn, Nevada to elect and install a Treasure, per section 5.160 of the Nevada Masonic code. Section 2.490 has been complied with.

04/02/2008 To Montezuma Lodge #30, Goldfield Nevada to move their regularly scheduled Stated Communication from June 7, 2008 to June 14, 2008.

04/02/2008 To Pyramid Lodge #43, Reno, Nevada to elect and install a Senior Warden per section 5.020 Paragraph 3. Section 2.490 has been complied with.

04/16/2008 To Sandy Valley Lodge #57 Sandy Valley, Nevada to move their regularly scheduled Stated Communication from June 7, 2008 to June 14, 2008.

04/14/2008 To Dhahran Daylight Lodge #55, Henderson, Nevada to elect and install a Treasure per section 5.160 of the Nevada Masonic code. Section 2.490 has been complied with.

04/20/2008 To Daylight Lodge #44, Las Vegas, Nevada to have an inter-jurisdictional visit with Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass Lodge # 614 F.&A.M. of the Grand Lodge of California for the purpose of conferring a Degree on a candidate from Atwater Larch Mount Tila Pass Lodge's candidate on Saturday May 10, 2008.

05/15/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46, Las Vegas, Nevada to receive, read, Investigate and ballot on a petition from Mr. David Lee Schuster who is currently serving in the United States Military accordance with section 4.460 paragraph 2

05/20/2008 To Vegas Lodge #32, Las Vegas, Nevada to have a inter-jurisdictional visit with Downey United Lodge # 220 F.& A.M. of the Grand Lodge of California at Vegas Lodge # 32 for the purpose of Downey United Lodge conferring a degree on Downey United Lodge candidate on Saturday June 7, 2008.

05/30/2008 To Hope Lodge #22 Yerington, Nevada to move their Charter to 53 Nordyke, Yerington, Nevada for the purpose of holding an "Outdoor Third Degree" with Amity Lodge #4 and Brucite Lodge #42 on Saturday September 6, 2008.

06/13/2008 To Carson Lodge #1, Carson City, Nevada to journey to Elk Grove, California for the purpose of an inter-jurisdictional visit with Provident-Three Pillar Lodge #609 F. & A.M. of the Grand Lodge of California and Carson Lodge #1 conferring the Third degree on a Carson Lodge #1 Candidate.

07/29/2008 To Reno Lodge #13, Reno Nevada to have an inter-jurisdictional visits with Napa Valley Lodge # 93 F. & A.M. of the Grand Lodge of California at Reno Lodge #13 Masonic Lodge, Reno, Nevada.

10/17/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46, Las Vegas, Nevada to move their regularly scheduled Stated Communication from November 4, 2008 to November 18, 2008 Said dispensation to be effective November 18, 2008 only.

DISPENSATIONS REJECTED

01/22/2008 To Churchill Lodge #26, Fallon, Nevada. Rejecting your request for a Dispensation to ballot on a Mr. Nicholas Adam Law.

03/06/2008 To Laughlin Lodge #56 F. & A.M. Laughlin Nevada. Rejecting your request for a dispensation for a waiver of jurisdiction to receive and act on a petition from John Gerald.

BY-LAWS CHANGES APPROVED

03/27/2008 To Nellis Lodge #46 to change their Stated meeting from the first Tuesday to the second Tuesday if the first Tuesday falls on a holiday.

05/04/2008 To Golden Lodge #50 to change the fees for the degrees to \$300.00, also to change the order of business at their Stated meeting.

06/23/ 2008 To Mount Rose #40 to change the fees for the degrees to \$400.00.

07/30/2008 To Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45 to change the fees for the degrees to \$280.00, also to raise the dues to \$110.00 plus Grand Lodge fees.

08/19/2008 To Sandy Valley Lodge #57 to change their stated meeting from the first Saturday to the second Saturday if the first Saturday falls on a Holiday.

10/10/2008 To Washoe Lodge #35 to change Holden to Held in Section 1. Changed the duties of the Treasure in Article V Section 1. Changed the duties of the Secretary in Article VI Section 1 and also changed Article VIII section their order of business.

10/10/2008 To Acacia Lodge #49 to Re-number several of their Articles and sections.

11/01/2008 To Washoe Lodge #35 changing the duties of the Lodge Trustees.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommend the passage of resolution 3-2008
2. Recommend the passage of resolution 4-2008
3. Recommend the continued support of the scholarship participation program.
4. Recommend the continued support of the Grand Masters conference.
5. Recommend the continued support of the Masonic Services Association.
6. Recommend the continued support of the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

7. Recommend that the Charitable Fund committee have an annual fund raiser. Blue Lodges do have a charity and we need to support it.
8. Recommend the continued support of the Rocky Mountain conference.

APPRECIATION

First of all I would like to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for his protection and guidance this past year. As I traveled to the different functions around the state, I felt welcomed by the officers and members. The courtesies that were extended to me will never be forgotten. I will always cherish the gifts that I received from the several Lodges and Masters. I would also like to thank the Lodges that made a donation to the Grand Lodge Charity fund, rather than paying for my hotel room.

I would especially like to thank Vegas Lodge #32 for their support for myself and Masonry in Nevada. Vegas Lodge has always gone above and beyond expectation. Any time Vegas Lodge hears of a need, they are usually the first ones to step up and help. For years they picked up the Grand Lodge short fall in their budget, donated most of the money that is in the endowment fund and has helped most of the Lodges in the state with anything from a new roof to a new Lodge building. This year they bought Grand Lodge new aprons, which the Grand Lodge officers are wearing today.

I would personally like to thank every member of Vegas Lodge #32 for their support this past year. Without this support I would not have been able to accomplish my goals. You will never know how much I appreciate and value the kindness you have shown me.

Any time I traveled to the upper part of the state for my Official Visits I had the privilege of staying with Hans and Carla Scheurer. Hans drove me to all of my meetings and Karla tried her best to spoil me the entire time I was with them. This is something that you can never pay back and also

something you will never forget. Carla kept telling me that I was like family but she would not let me cook my own breakfast. Thanks to both of you.

To our V.W Grand Secretary, Art Cronin, go my sincere thanks for his wise council and assistance. Art, your friendly advice and guidance has made my year as Grand Master an enjoyable one. I thank you for your dedication to the fraternity and I will always remember working with you.

To the Grand Officers, I thank you for your support and assistance this year. You have helped make my year as Grand master more productive.

And last, but certainly not least, my wife, Karen. When we were married on March 18, 1989 I told her that I was going to be Master of my lodge that next year. She really had no idea what was involved by being the Master's wife. As all Masons know it would be impossible to do half of the things we do without the support and love of our wives. Karen has always supported me in all of my endeavors and I could not have done any of this without her help and support. I love you.

I sincerely hope I have been worthy of your confidence and trust while serving you as your Grand Master.

Thank you

James G. Kelley

Grand Master