



**Book of Constitution of  
The Grand Lodge of Kentucky  
Free and Accepted Masons Containing The**

**Prepared by  
Joseph R. Conway, P.G.M Grand  
Secretary  
J.C. McClanahan, P.G.M., P.G.S  
Ronald T. Stayton  
William A. Buckaway, Jr.**

**Under Resolution of the Grand Lodge  
Amended and Adopted October 17th 1995**

**Constitution, Code for Masonic  
Trails, and Other Information**

## RELATING TO MASONIC CONSTITUTIONS

**The first published Masonic Constitution** has the following title: "The Constitution of the Freemasons, containing the History, Charges, Regulations, etc., of that Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity. For the use of the lodges. London: Printed by William Hunter for John Senex at the Globe, and John Hooke, at the Flowers-de-Luse, over against St. Sustan's Church, in Fleet Street. In the year of Masonry 5723, A.D., 1723.' 4to., vi, 92.

**The other authorized English editions were:** (2)1738, with this title: 'The Book of Constitutions of The Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons containing their History, Charges, Regulations, etc.; collected and digested by order of the Grand Lodge from their old records, for use of the lodges. By James Anderson, D.D., London. Printed for Bros. Saesar Ward and Richard Chandlers, 1738. In the vulgar year of Masonry 5738.' 4to, pp. 230, 3; 1756, by Entick: (4) by ; (5), 1738, by Noorthonah; (6), 1795, by Williams; (1), 1827: (8). 1841, etc.

## KENTUCKY MASONIC LAWS

- (1) **In 1800 the Grand Lodge of Kentucky**, then formed, adopted the Virginia Ahiman Rezon (meaning the will of selected brethren) 1792. The Grand Secretary was instructed to purchase twelve copies of it (1802).
- (2) **In 1806 a committee was appointed "to compile a Book of Constitutions"** and report to a convention of delegates from all the lodges. The finished work was adopted, entitled "By-laws, etc.", and consisted of 46 paragraphs called "Articles."
- (3) **The first Kentucky bound book of Masonry laws** has this title: "Ma-sonic Constitutions, or Illustrations of Masonry; compiled by the direction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and adopted by them for the regulation and government of the subordinate lodges under their jurisdiction, with an appendix, containing remarks on the degrees of Mark Master Masons, Super Excellent Master and Royal Arch Masons. By James Moore and Cary L. Clarke, members of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Lexington: Printed by Daniel Bradford at the office of the Kentucky Gazette, on Main Street, 1808." Calf, large 12 mo. 192 pp.
- (4) **The second edition** has the same title to and including the names of the compilers (Moore and Clarke), then follows: "Second Edition with amendments. Lexington, K. Printed by Worsley & Smith, 1818." Calf, small 8 vo. pp. 218.
- (5) **A "Digest of the Laws, Rules and Regulations** for the government of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and the lodges subordinate thereto" was "approved in Grand Communication Sept. 2, A. L. 5824, A.D. 1924," and published in Lexington. Pamphlet, 11 pp. and contains 46 "Articles," or paragraphs.
- (6) **The "Constitution. By-Laws and Rules of Order"** of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky - together with the Charges of a Freemason," (1860), 32 pp., printed with the proceedings almost every year, and in pamphlet form frequently.
- (7) **1880 Hiram Bassett, H. B. Grant and Rob Morris** were appointed to prepare and print 750 copies of the laws of the Grand Lodge, which ordered that the annual publication of the Constitution should thereafter cease. Two of the committee reported that H. B. Grant "Consented to perform the arduous task of preparing the work without assistance from or consultation with us, as he proceeded." Also that his work 'was so complete and satisfactory it left but few suggestions for us to make." The title was "Constitution and Digest of Decisions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M., Code and Forms of Trials and act of Incorporation of the Grand Lodge." 108 pp., 8 vo. cloth.
- (8) **The book, having the same title**, with the addition of the words "Land-marks and Ancient Charges. Prepared by H. B. Grant, and Published by Authority. Second Edition." 264 pp.' 1889.

- (9) **The "Book of Constitutions**, containing the Constitution, Regulations and Code for Trials of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M. Also acts of Incorporation of the Grand Lodge, Ancient Charges, Lists of Lodges. Grand Officers, Forms, Suggestions to the Probable Landmarks of Freemasonry, and Rules of Order, with Indexes, etc.. Prepared by H. B. Grant and Published by Authority Third Edition - Enlarged." 1893, Blue cloth, pp. 404.

## THE FOURTH EDITION

(10) In 1905, on recommendation of the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary (H. B. Grant) was "instructed to prepare and have printed an edition of 1,000 copies, following the general make-up and arrangement of the 1893 edition" of the Book of Constitutions, but not to issue it until after the next session - owing to financial conditions. He rewrote the Constitution upon a new plan (substantially the same in style as it now appears) and offered it as an amendment to the Constitution, with other suggestions all printed in the Proceedings of 1906. The proposed amendment was referred to a committee consisting of W. C. McChord, Jas. Garnett, and H. B. Grant, who reported it back (1907) with amendments all of which were re-committed, and the committee enlarged by adding to it the names of Geo. B. Winslow, John D. Shaw, the Grand Master, and all Past Grand Masters. When completed, it was to be printed and copies be sent to lodges. The Constitution as reported by the committee was adopted and printed in the Proceedings of 1908. It was engrossed, bound in leather, reported by a special committee (W. C. McChord and H. B. Grant) and deposited in the Grand Lodge vault.

H. B. Grant, Geo. B. Winslow, and E. B. Beard were appointed to revise the Regulations, recommending new ones as deemed proper, have the same printed and sent to lodges. Their report was adopted by unanimous vote.

The same committee was instructed to compile the Book of Constitutions, correct errors and have it printed in proper book form, to include the Constitution, Regulations and Code.

Following the foregoing instructions, with the understood wishes of the Grand Lodge as set out in the adopted recommendations of the Jurisprudence Committee (1905, p. 35), 1,100 copies of this book were prepared by the committee and a copy was sent to each subordinate lodge in Kentucky, to the elective Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Grand Lodges with whom the Grand Lodge of Kentucky is in fraternal correspondence.

(11) In 1916 there was issued a Supplement to the Fourth Edition, bearing the following title: "Supplement to the Book of Constitutions; containing a Digest of the Decisions, Resolutions and Edicts of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and a list of the Amendments to the Book of Constitutions since the adoption of the present Constitution, October 22, 1908: Prepared by Henry Pirtle. Published by Order of the Grand Lodge."

The authority for this book is to be found in the recommendation of the Grand Master (1915), as approved by the Grand Lodge:

"Brother Henry Pirtle has submitted to me a digest of the decisions and opinions of the Grand Lodge and the amendments to the Book of Constitution made since the publication of the last edition of our Book of Constitutions. I had felt the need of such a work during the year, and had in mind to prepare one for my own use; in fact, I started on the work at one time, but had no opportunity to finish it. I was much pleased when Brother Pirtle submitted to me a typewritten copy of his work. It is a great labor-saver, and I reversed myself on two of my opinions after reading it. He agrees to complete it so as to embrace all decision, opinions and amendments up to the close of this annual communication. It will not be a large book, not expensive to print, and would be in the nature of a supplement to our present Book of Constitutions. I recommend that the Grand Lodge have 1,000 copies thereof printed, and that one copy be sent to each subordinate lodge in the state, and the others distributed to such individuals as may apply for same." (Proc., 1915, pp. 63 and 64).

Upon this the Finance Committee made the following report, which was adopted:

"We approve of the recommendation of the Grand Master that a digest of constitutional amendments and decisions be printed in pamphlet form, to be used as an appendix to the Book of Constitutions." (Proc., 1915, p. 157.)

## **THE FIFTH EDITION**

(12) The authority for the Fifth Edition of the Book of Constitutions is to be found in the following resolution, which was adopted in 1918, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

"WHEREAS, It appears from the report of the Grand Secretary that the present edition of our Book of Constitutions is practically exhausted and it will be necessary to print a new edition.

"Be It Resolved, That Brother Henry Pirtle be requested to revise the book, placing therein all new laws and regulations down to date (but with-out power to change or enact new laws), the revision to be made under the supervision of the incoming Jurisprudence Committee, and 1,000 copies be printed under the direction and approval of the Grand Secretary." (See Proc., 1918, pp. 127, 137).

As the editor of this edition was appointed chairman of the incoming Jurisprudence Committee, the proofs were presented to the other two members, who endorsed thereon the following approval:

"Pursuant to the provisions of the resolution adopted December 10, 1918, we hereby certify that we have examined the revision of the Book of Constitutions prepared by Brother Henry Pirtle under the terms of said resolution, and hereby approve the same as being a true, accurate and complete compilation of the existing laws of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. We furthermore approve the inclusion therein of revised funeral and installation ceremonies, the omission of suggested forms of by-laws for lodges, the insertion of the Old Regulations, forms for Grand Lodge Ceremonies, etc."

JOHN T. COLDIRON (235)

PROCTOR KNOTT McELROY(87).

## **THE SIXTH EDITION**

The authority for the sixth edition of the Book of Constitutions is to be found in the following recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee adopted in 1925:

"We recommend that the Book of Constitutions, including regulations, code and other matters usually contained therein, be compiled, and annotated and republished to date and that this work be done in the ensuing year by a committee of five members which shall consist of the incoming Grand Master, G. Allison Holland, the Grand Secretary, Fred W. Hardwick, and three others to be appointed by the incoming Grand Master to act with them."

Fraternally submitted,

ORIES S. WARE, Chairman W. F. NEIKIRK, RICHARD PRIEST DIETZMAN.

The Grand Master appointed the following committee:

P.:G.'.M.'.G. Allison Holland, Lexington Lodge No. 1, Lexington.

P.:G.'.M.'. Fred W. Hardwick, Louisville Lodge No. 400, Louisville.

P.:G.'.M.'. James N. Saunders, Lincoln Lodge No. 60, Stanford.

P.:G...M... George B. Winslow, Carrollton Lodge No. 134, Carrollton.

P.:M.: Richard P. Dietzman, Daylight Lodge No. 760, Louisville

## **THE SEVENTH EDITION**

The Seventh Edition of the Book of Constitutions was authorized by resolution adopted in 1937 as follows:

"WHEREAS, The present supply of the 'Book of Constitutions' will soon be exhausted and the Grand Master has recommended that a revision thereof be provided:

"Be It Resolved, That the Grand Master appoint a suitable member of the Grand Lodge to revise the 'Book of Constitutions,' including the Constitution, Regulations, Code, etc., annotating the same with decisions and opinions bearing thereon, in preparation of the publication of another edition thereof in 1938."

Grand Master Ross appointed Past Grand Master One S. Ware as the committee to make said revision, and he reported in 1939, and the Seventh Edition was ordered published as the 1940 edition.

### **THE EIGHTH EDITION**

The Eighth Edition of the Book of Constitutions was authorized by the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved by the Grand Lodge at the 1947 Communication, which provided that the Grand Master appoint a suitable person to prepare and compile this edition.

The Grand Master appointed Past Grand Master One S. Ware, who prepared the same for publication with the assistance of the Grand Secretary, A. E. Orton, and the Eighth Edition is now published as the 1948 Edition.

### **THE NINTH EDITION**

The Ninth Edition of the Book of Constitutions was authorized by the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved by the Grand Lodge at the 1953 communication, which provided that the Grand Master appoint a suitable Committee to prepare and revise this Edition.

The Grand Master appointed Past Grand Masters, One S. Ware and Al. E. Orton, and the Ninth Edition is now published as the 1958 Edition.

### **THE TENTH EDITION**

The Tenth Edition of the Book of Constitutions was authorized by the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved by the Grand Lodge at the 1966 Communication, which provided that the Grand Master appoint a suitable committee to prepare and revise this Edition.

The Grand Master appointed Past Grand Masters One S. Ware and J. C. McClanahan, and the Tenth Edition is now published as the 1968 Edition.

### **THE ELEVENTH EDITION**

The Eleventh Edition of the Book of Constitution was authorized by the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved by the Grand Lodge at the 1974 Communication, which provided that the Grand Master appoint a suitable committee to prepare and revise this Edition.

The Grand Master appointed Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary

J. C. McClanahan; Deputy Grand Master Henry B. Noble and Past Grand Master George H. Effinger. At the 1975 Communication, Grand Master Henry B. Noble appointed H. Gay Price, Past Grand Master, and the Eleventh Edition is now published as the 1976 Edition.

### **THE TWELFTH EDITION**

The Twelfth Edition of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M. began with the appointment of a Special Committee for Revising the Constitution by Arnold E. Wyatt, P.G.M., following his installation as Grand Master at the conclusion of the One Hundred and Ninety-First Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M. (Grand Lodge Proceedings. 1990, pg. 167).

Appointed to the Committee were: Bros. J. C. McClanahan, P.G.M., P.G.S., Chairman, Roland T. Stayton (951) and William A. Buckaway, Jr. (820). The Committee was charged to review the Constitution and report their recommendations at the next Annual Communication. A report was presented by the Committee at the One Hundred Ninety Second Communication (Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1991, pgs. 169-170) which stated that the duties

assigned the Committee had not been finished. At the same Communication it was a recommendation of the Grand Master presented by the Committee on Jurisprudence and adopted (Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1991, pg. 182, Item 19) that the Special Committee for Revising the Constitution, with the same members, be continued until their work was completed.

The Committee completed the Proposed Revision of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M. and presented a draft copy to each of the Delegates at the One Hundred Ninety Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge (Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1992, pg. 93). The "draft copy" was duly received by action of the Grand Lodge and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence with instructions "to develop a new governance document(s) for presentation and reading at the Annual Communication in 1994 and to be held over until the Annual Communication in 1995" (Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1992, pg. 78).

The proposed Revision of the Book of Constitutions was presented to the assembled delegates by the Committee on Jurisprudence (Barber L. Shelton, P.G.M., Chairman; William G. Hinton, P.G.M., and Elroy Johnson, P.G.M.) and received at the One Hundred Ninety-Fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on October 18, 1994 (Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1994, pg. 186).

On October 17, 1995, the Revised Edition of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F.&A.M. was presented to the delegates at the One Hundred Ninety-Sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge by the Committee on Jurisprudence (William G. Hinton, P.G.M., Chair-man; Elroy Johnson, P.G.M.; and Barber L. Shelton, P.G.M.). It was adopted as presented and amended (Grand Lodge Proceedings 1995, pg. 208) as the Twelfth Edition and is now published as the 1995 Edition.

## **USAGE IN AFFIXING MASONIC DATES BY YEARS**

THE COMMON, OR VULGAR ERA: Anno Domini (the year of our Lord). Written A.:L.: 1976.

CRAFT, OR SYMBOLIC MASONRY'S YEAR: Anno Lucis (the year of Light). Written A.:L.: 5976. Found by adding 4000 to the common era thus 4000 added to 1976 is 5976.

CAPITULAR MASONRY, THE ROYAL ARCH YEAR: Anno Inventionis (the year of discovery). Written: A.:I.. (or A.:Inv...) ~506 (Sometimes writ-ten Y.:D) Found by adding 530 to the common era thus: 530 added to 1976 is 2506.

HIGH PRIESTHOOD YEAR: Anno Benedictionis (the year of blessing).  
Written: A.:B.: (or A.:Ben.:) 3889. Found by adding 1913 to the common era thus: 1913 added to 1976 is 3889.

CRYPTIC MASONRY, THE ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS' YEAR: Anno Depositinis (the year of deposit).  
Written: A.:Dep.: 1976. Found by add-ing 1000 to the common era thus: 1000 added to 1976 is 2976.

CHIVALRIC MASONRY, THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR'S YEAR: Anno Ordonis (the year of the order). Written: A.:O.: 858. Found by subtracting 1118 from the common era thus: 1118 from 1976 is 858.

SCOTTISH RITE YEAR: Anno Mundi (the year of the World.) Written: A.:M.: 5736. Found by adding 3760 to the common era thus: 3760 added to 1976 is 5736.

## ACTS OF INCORPORATION

### An Act to Incorporate the Grand Lodge of Kentucky

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has procured in the City of Lexington a lot of ground on which to erect a Grand Hall, for the purpose of holding its meetings, and to accommodate its subordinate lodges and other Masonic bodies in said city; and also desirous to procure and hold such halls and their appurtenances in other parts of the State as may be conveyed to or reverted to said Grand Lodge from any subordinate lodge; and also wishes to establish an asylum for the nurture and education of indigent orphans of both sexes, and the support of poor indigent persons, therefore,

#### **SECTION 1. Be enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:**

That Abner Cunningham, Grand Master; Wilkins Tannehill, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas J. Welby, Senior Grand Warden; Leander M. Cox, Junior Grand Warden; Philip Swigert, Grand Secretary, and William Cardwell, Grand Treasurer, and their successors in office, be, and they are, hereby constituted a body politic and corporate to be known by the name of "THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY," and by that name shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to change and alter the same at pleasure; and by that name may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded.

**SECTION 2. Be it further enacted,** That said Grand Lodge thus incorporated may purchase, or receive by gift or otherwise, the lot of ground in the City of Lexington, on which a Grand Hall is now being erected, and hold the same in fee simple, to be used for Masonic and benevolent purposes.

**SECTION 3. Be it further enacted,** That said Grand Lodge may receive conveyance for such estate in other parts of the State as is now or may hereafter be occupied by subordinate lodges for Masonic purposes, whenever said subordinate lodges may convey, or cause to be conveyed, said tenements to said Grand Lodge or whenever by the dissolution of any of said subordinate lodges owning said tenements, the same shall properly vest in said Grand Lodge by reason of the rules and by-laws thereof, and may hold the same in fee simple for Masonic purposes. But should said property be and remain unused for Masonic or benevolent purposes for the space of five years, then said Grand Lodge shall be required, on pain of forfeiture to the State to sell and dispose of the same.

**SECTION 4. Be it further enacted,** That said Grand Lodge may receive by gift, device or purchase any amount of real estate not exceeding the sum of \$20,000 in one or more parcels lying adjacent, upon which to establish an asylum for indigent children of both sexes, for the purpose of nurture and education, to be founded upon such principles, and governed by such managers, as said Grand Lodge shall determine; and should said Grand Lodge, at any time after the receipt of said real estate and establishment of said asylums, abandon the same, or cease the use thereof for said purposes for the space of five years, then, if said real estate shall have been given or devised to said Grand Lodge for said purpose, the same shall revert to said donor or his, her or their heirs, or the heirs of said testator; or in the event of there being no heirs capable of receiving the same, then the same shall be vested in such benevolent institutions as shall be designated by the act of the Legislature. And if said real estate shall have been purchased by said Grand Lodge, then said Grand Lodge shall, within five years after said abandonment or cessation of such use or occupation, sell or dispose of or convey said property, on pain of forfeiture thereof to the Commonwealth.

**SECTION 5. Be it further enacted,** That said Grand Lodge be authorized to divert any portion, it may deem right, of the money which it is authorized by law to raise for the erection of its Grand Hall, to the purpose of purchasing the necessary site of said asylum, and the putting the same into operation. And it is also rendered capable of receiving, by gift or device, such sums of money or personal property as may be given for the above purpose, or the promotion of the general charitable purposes of the institution of Masonry. And there is hereby reserved to the Legislature the power to alter or repeal this act.

Approved January 29, 1841.

The acts noted below were passed by the Legislature of Kentucky, but are not such as are deemed desirable to copy here, viz.:

**"An act for the benefit of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky."** Approved January 27, 1851.

**"An act supplemental to an act, entitled 'an act for the benefit of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky'."** Approved November 27, 1820.

**"An act for the benefit of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky."** Approved February 7, 1834.

## **AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF "THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY"**

**Know All Men by These presents,** THAT WHEREAS, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky" was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, approved by the Governor on the 29th day of January, 1841, and by said Act of Incorporation the said Grand Lodge was authorized to purchase a lot or parcel of land in Lexington, Kentucky, for the purpose of erecting a Grand Hall thereon; and,

WHEREAS, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky" has for many years ceased to use said Grand Hall in Lexington, Kentucky and has assembled annually in the City of Louisville, and its principal place of business during said years has been, and now is, in said City:

**Now therefore,** William C. McChord, Grand Master; Harry Bailey, Deputy Grand Master; John W. Landrum, Senior Grand Warden; O. D. Thomas, Junior Grand Warden; John H. Leathers, Grand Treasurer, and H. B. Grant, Grand Secretary, of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," the successors in office of the original incorporators of the said corporation, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," and who are the managers, directors and trustees of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," have amended and do hereby amend, the charter and Act of Incorporation aforesaid, approved as aforesaid, on the 29th day of January, 1841, by adding thereto Section 6, Section 7, and Section 8, in these words, viz.:

SECTION 6. The said corporation, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," is authorized to purchase and hold a lot or lots of land in the city of Louisville, Kentucky and to contract for and erect thereon a building, as a Ma-sonic Temple, in said city, of such dimensions, form and construction as, in the judgment of the Grand Officers aforesaid, or their successors in office, may be for the best interests of said corporation.

SECTION 7. The said corporation, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," is authorized from time to time to borrow any and all money necessary, and to give its negotiable coupon bonds, or other obligations for the same, pay-able either to bearer or order, for the purchase of said land, and the erection of said building, and to execute and deliver a mortgage or mortgages, deed of trust or deeds of trust, to secure the loan or loans of said money, or any part thereof. The said mortgages and deeds of trust, and each of them, shall be signed by the Grand Master in office at the time of their respective execution, and shall be attested by the then Grand Secretary, with the seal of the Grand Lodge thereto affixed.

SECTION 8. The rights and powers hereby granted are, in addition to any and all rights and powers given or granted by said original act afore-said, approved January 29, 1841.

In witness whereof, the said managers, trustees and directors of said corporation, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," being the present Grand Officers aforesaid of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of Kentucky, have signed this instrument and caused the seal of the corporation to be affixed this 1st day of December, A.D. 1900.

Recorded in the Jefferson County Clerk's office, Corporation Book No. 11, p. 233, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State, December 17, 1900.

## **AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF**

## **THE "THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS"**

**Know All Men by These presents,** THAT WHEREAS, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky" was incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, approved by the Governor on the 29th day of January, 1841, and whereas an amendment thereto was filed and recorded in the office of the clerk of the Jefferson County Court in Corporation Book No. 11, p. 233. on December 17th, 1900, and a certified copy thereof filed with the Secretary of State.

Now, therefore, G. Allison Holland, Grand Master; Charles S. Rankin, Deputy Grand Master; Hanson Peterson, Grand Senior Warden; John W. Juett, Grand Junior Warden; James Garnett, Grand Treasurer, and Fred W. Hardwick, Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, the successors in office of the original incorporators of the said corporation, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," and successors in office of the incorporators who amended the Articles of Incorporation of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," and who are the managers, directors and trustees of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," have amended and do hereby amend the charter and Act of Incorporation aforesaid, approved as aforesaid on the 29th day of January, 1841, and the amendment thereto filed on December 17th, 1900, so that the articles of Incorporation of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky" when amended, will read as follows:

1. The name of the corporation shall be "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," Free and Accepted Masons.
2. The principal office and place of business of said corporation shall be located in Jefferson County, Kentucky, in or near to the City of Louisville.
3. The corporation is engaged in and will continue to engage in charitable, educational and other Masonic work, from which no private pecuniary profit is to be derived. This corporation may receive, by gift, devise, purchase or otherwise, any real or personal property, whether situated in Kentucky or elsewhere, and it may hold and dispose of same at will, subject, however, to the restrictions and conditions contained in the will, deed or other instrument conveying or devising said property to it.

It is authorized to and may grant charters or warrants of authority to subordinate lodges, to be located in any part of the State of Kentucky, which subordinate lodges are to be subject to the rules and regulations prescribed by "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," Free and Accepted Masons, and such subordinate lodges are to be authorized to engage in charitable, educational and other Masonic work, and to teach and practice the principles of Free and Accepted Masonry. This corporation is authorized to arrest the charter and cancel the authority of subordinate lodges created by it, and when any subordinate lodge ceases to exist, either by arrest of charter or voluntarily, the title to property owned and held by such subordinate lodge shall immediately vest in this corporation and be subject to its control, the same as if said property had been conveyed to this corporation.

This corporation may erect on land owned by it or buy such buildings or other property as may be necessary for its purposes, or for the purposes of its several subordinate lodges, and it may acquire, own and hold such real and personal property as in the opinion of its directors and managers is necessary or proper for the support of destitute widows, old and indigent members of said fraternity, for the support, education and maintenance of the orphans of deceased Masons and such other children as may be received into such institution. It may lend its credit, contribute money or other property to and otherwise assist other corporations in building and maintaining home or homes wherein the destitute widows of deceased Masons and others are cared for and supported, wherein old and indigent Masons are cared for and supported, and wherein the destitute children of deceased Masons and such other children as may be received by such institutions are cared for, educated, maintained and supported, and it may do all other things which the managers, directors, trustees, grand officers and "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky" may determine is necessary and proper to be done by said corporation for the purpose of helping, assisting, maintaining and supporting indigent, poor, or afflicted widows of deceased Masons, old and infirm Masons, and for the support, education, training and maintenance of destitute or indigent children of deceased Masons, and such other indigent children as may be received into any of the institutions supported in whole or in part by this corporation.

4. This corporation will not have any capital stock and no private, pecuniary profit shall be derived from said corporation.

5. This corporation commenced business as such on January 29th, 1841, and it will continue in perpetual existence.

6. The affairs of this corporation will be managed by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary elected by "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," Free and Accepted Masons, at its annual communications, and they will conduct the affairs of the corporation in accordance with the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations adopted by said Grand Lodge.

7. One million dollars is the largest amount of liability it may at any time incur.

8. The rights and powers hereby granted are in addition to any and all rights and powers given or granted by the Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and amendments thereto.

In witness whereof the said managers, trustees and directors of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," Free and Accepted Masons, being the grand officers aforesaid of "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky," Free and Accepted Masons, have signed this instrument and caused the seal of the corporation to be affixed, this 25th day of May, 1926, for the purpose of amending the Articles of Incorporation, and same is ordered filed and recorded as provided by law.

## **DECLARATION**

**SECTION 1.** The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons acknowledges a belief in God to be the great fundamental principle and Landmark of Freemasonry upon which our fraternity is erected.

Without an avowal of such belief no man shall be initiated in a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and if a Freemason shall renounce or for-sake his belief in God, or if he does not continue to entertain such belief, he shall not remain a member of any lodge and shall be expelled.

**SECTION 2.** The Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Free and Accepted Ma-sons acknowledges it's allegiance to the United States of America and obedience to the laws therein and that changes of these laws will be by the due process of law.

Following the ritualistic opening of a lodge, all Brethren who are citizens of the United States of America will join in reciting the 'Pledge of Allegiance' to the American Flag.

**SECTION 3.** The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Ma-sons, admonishes its members concerning the negative aspects of alcoholic beverages while at the same time advocating the practice of temperance. Drunkenness, as defined by applicable federal and/or state law, is a Masonic offense and should be punished.

No lodge shall apply for, nor hold any alcoholic beverage license as defined by Kentucky Revised Statutes and issued by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. In addition, no lodge shall have a bar serving alcoholic beverages.

**SECTION 4.** The Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Free and Accepted Ma-sons, admonishes its members concerning the negative aspects of gambling while at the same time acknowledging the risks associated with monetary investment policy. Its members are enjoined to comply with applicable federal and/or state laws concerning gambling and are not entitled to Masonic relief for debts incurred by gambling.

No lodge shall sponsor. nor participate in. any gambling activity which is contrary to applicable federal and/or state law. A lodge so doing may have its charter arrested by the Grand Master.

**SECTION 5.** The Fundamental Law. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge is the fundamental Masonic Law, and as such, should be studied, fully understood and strictly obeyed.

## **NAME, JURISDICTION, POWERS**

**SECTION 6.** The Name. The name of this Grand Lodge is, "The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons".

**SECTION 7.** Jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky embraces the entire State of Kentucky with Concessions. A resident of this state residing in a border area near a state granting this Grand lodge reciprocal jurisdiction rights under this section should have the privilege of petitioning for the degrees or for affiliation.

**SECTION 8.** Grand Lodge Sole Proprietor of Symbolic Degrees. The Grand Lodge is the absolute, exclusive and indisputable owner and controller of the system of creed and symbolism of the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. From this proprietorship all authority possessed by subordinate lodges or individuals to assemble in the capacity of Masons, in the name of Masonry, is derived.

**SECTION 9.** Authority, Warrants of Constitution. This Grand Lodge is the only legitimate authority under which Masonic Lodges can lawfully be congregated within its jurisdiction and then only by virtue of a dispensation or a charter.

**SECTION 10. Powers.** The Grand Lodge is a judicial as well as a legislative body and has the right to interpret its own laws and may enact and repeal laws and regulations for the government of the Craft in Kentucky. It has the inherent power to investigate and determine all Masonic matters within its jurisdiction relative to the Craft in general, or to particular lodges, or to individuals, either directly or by delegated authority, always subject to this Constitution made thereunder.

## **THE GRAND LODGE OF WHOM COMPOSED**

**SECTION 11. Grand Officers.** The Grand Lodge is composed of Grand Officers as follows:

- (1) Elective Grand Officers
  - Grand Master
  - Deputy Grand Master
  - Grand Senior Warden
  - Grand Junior Warden
  - Grand Treasurer
  - Grand Secretary
- (2) Appointive Grand Officers
  - Grand Chaplain
  - Assistant Grand Secretaries (2)
  - Grand Senior Deacon
  - Grand Junior Deacon
  - Grand Marshal
  - Grand Sword Bearer
  - Grand Pursuivant
  - Grand Tiler
  - Assistant Grand Tiler

The Grand Master shall appoint the Grand Chaplain, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Marshal, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Tiler and Assistant Grand Tiler.

The Grand Secretary shall appoint the Assistant Grand Secretaries, not to exceed more than two (2) during his term of office and these to be subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge, or ad interim, the Grand Master.

The Grand Master and Past Grand Masters shall be addressed as Most Worshipful and all other Elected Grand Officers shall be addressed as Right Worshipful. The Grand Chaplain shall be addressed as Right Reverend and the remaining Appointive Grand Officers as Worshipful. (2000)

**SECTION 12. Members.** The members of the Grand Lodge are as follows:

(1) Permanent Members consist of all Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge and all Masters and Past Masters of Kentucky lodges who are affili-ated with lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

(2) Representatives are the Master, or in his absence, the Senior War-den, or in his absence the Junior Warden, or in the absence of the Master and Wardens the Secretary, by virtue of their respective offices.

(3) An Elective Representative shall be a Permanent Member chosen by ballot from the members of his lodge, to represent it in case its Master, Wardens or Secretary cannot attend the communication of the Grand Lodge, and such representative shall be given a certificate of his election over the lodge seal.

**SECTION 13.** Register. Officers, Permanent Members and Representatives must register with the Committee on Credentials and file with them their credentials, if any, and obtain their badges before taking their seats in the Grand Lodge.

## **BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR, MEETINGS**

**SECTION 14.** Budget Report. Prior to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Elective Grand Lodge Officers shall jointly prepare a Financial Budget showing the aggregate of all money on hand, all monies due and unpaid, the stated and probable income of the Grand Lodge for the year following the closing of the approaching Communication, together with a statement of the fixed and probable expenses and salaries prescribed outlay for said period, which proposed budget shall be signed by a majority of them, and forthwith transmitted to the Committee on Finance.

**SECTION 15.** Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year for the Grand Lodge accounts shall commence August 1, and close July 31, annually, both days inclusive.

**SECTION 16.** Communication. The Grand Lodge of Kentucky shall hold its Annual Communication in Jefferson County on the third Monday in October each year, except that the Grand Master with consent of a majority of the Elected Grand Lodge Officers may change the place of Communication to some other County in Kentucky if they shall find it to be the best interest of the Craft in the matter of publicity and hotel accommodations, or for any other reason or reasons which to such officers may appear sufficient; provided notice is given to the Craft prior to August 1st either by mail or by publication in the Masonic Home Journal.

**SECTION 17.** Notice What Constitutes. Whenever notice is required for the Grand Lodge, notice shall be by United States Mail to the Secretary of each subordinate lodge or to the Craft by publication in the Masonic Home Journal, except in cases of emergency, the Grand Master may waive the notice requirement.

## **QUORUM, VOTES**

**SECTION 18.** Quorum. No communication of the Grand Lodge shall be opened unless one-third of the lodges under its jurisdiction are represented; but after the opening of the Grand Lodge the representatives of one-fifth of said lodges shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

**SECTION 19.** Quorum Wanting. Should the constitutional quorum not be present on the first day of any communication of the Grand Lodge, the members present shall adjourn from time to time, or to any time not later than the succeeding day, when, if a quorum be not present, the Grand Master, or one acting as such, shall dismiss the brethren until the next annual communication, unless sooner convened, and the Grand Officers will continue to hold their respective offices for the ensuing year.

**SECTION 20.** Vote-Who May. Each elective Grand Officer, Past Grand Master and the representative from each subordinate lodge, shall have one vote and no more; Past Masters shall have one vote collectively. No one shall vote by proxy.

**SECTION 21.** Vote-Majority Decides. All business before the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast, except in cases otherwise provided.

## **CONCERNING GRAND OFFICERS, ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 22.** Qualifications. No person shall be eligible for an office in the Grand Lodge unless he be a permanent member thereof, except the office of Grand Chaplain, which office may be filled by any minister who is affiliated with a subordinate lodge in the state.

**SECTION 23.** Electioneering. Electioneering is improper in any manner for Grand Lodge office or for office in a subordinate lodge and is prohibited. Any member found guilty of such offense shall be ineligible for office in the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge at that communication or annual election. Neither shall any member of the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge electioneer for anyone else.

Adoption of a resolution by a subordinate lodge stating the qualifications and recommending one of its members for an elective office in the Grand Lodge, and, the one time mailing of a copy of said resolution to the secretary of each subordinate lodge, Grand Lodge Officer and Committeeman, shall not be considered a violation of this section provided the Resolution does not contain any solicitation of support.

The lodge may have printed in the September issue of the *Masonic Home Journal*, a photograph and resume of the member for whom they have adopted the above resolution. Responsibility for obtaining the necessary resume form from the Grand Secretary, the accuracy of the data, and the timely submission of the form and photograph to the *Masonic Home Journal*, and all cost thereof, rests entirely with the lodge.

No lodge or member of the Craft may cause to be printed or distributed before or at any Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge, any card, letter, ticket or favor for or in the interest of any candidate for office in the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge and the Grand Master or Master of a subordinate lodge shall not receive or entertain the nomination of any candidate where either he, his lodge, or others on his behalf has violated this provision.

**SECTION 24.** Elections When Held. Elections for the Grand Lodge officers shall commence at 10 o'clock am. on the second day of each annual communication, unless some other hour be fixed by vote of two-thirds of the members present.

**SECTION 25.** Balloting at Elections. The Tellers appointed by the Grand Master shall collect and count the ballots provided to those en-titled to vote at time of registration.

**SECTION 26.** Blank or Printed Ballots. Blank, spoiled, or pre-printed ballots shall not be counted or considered as a part of the total votes cast in any election. If pre-printed ballots reach the hands of the tellers, that fact, with the name thereon, shall be reported to the Grand Lodge by the tellers and an inquiry shall be made to determine the identity of the per-son or persons responsible for lettering the pre-printed ballots. If it be made to appear that pre-printed ballots, or their equivalent, were used by the consent or with the knowledge of the one so voted for; he shall be ineligible for any office in the Grand Lodge at that communication.

**SECTION 27.** Installations. The Grand Officers shall be installed be-fore entering upon the duties of their respective offices. The Grand Master shall install, or cause to be installed, the officers of the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 28.** Tenure, Vacancies. The Grand Officers shall hold their respective offices until their successors are elected or appointed and in-stalled. Provided, however, that if any Grand Officer shall die, demit from his lodge, resign, be suspended or expelled, his station or place shall thereby become vacant.

## **ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS-POWERS AND DUTIES**

**SECTION 29.** Elective Grand Officers. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot at each annual communication by majority of the delegates present and voting.

**SECTION 30.** The Grand Officers-Powers and Prerogatives. Powers and prerogatives of the Grand Officers are such as are conferred by the provisions of this Constitution and laws enacted thereunder.

**SECTION 31.** Grand Master Presides In Any lodge Holds and Authorizes Elections. If a lodge be deprived of its installed officers who could lawfully open it, the Grand Master, in person or by proxy, may congregate and open it, and hold an election therein to fill vacancies caused by death, permanent disability or refusal to act.

**SECTION 32.** Grand Master Appoints Inspectors. The Grand Master may assign Grand Officers and competent Masters or Past Masters to inspect the halls, books, methods and work of particular lodges and make reports to him as he shall direct. Provided, the Grand Lodge shall not be put to expense therefor without its express direction; nor shall any lodge be made liable for any cost attending such inspections without its consent.

**SECTION 33.** The Duties of the Grand Master are:

(1) To preside over the Grand Lodge; exercise general and special supervision over lodges in the jurisdiction, inspect their work and require a strict compliance with this Constitution and the Rules of the Grand Lodge.

(2) To convene the Grand Lodge at the Grand East when there shall appear to him to be an emergent occasion therefor.

(3) To take command of the Grand Officers and call upon them for advice and assistance on business relative to the craft.

(4) To appoint the Committees of the Grand Lodge, not otherwise provided for.

(5) To decide questions of Masonic law and order with the advice and counsel of the Committee on Jurisprudence and render opinions thereon subject to review by the Grand Lodge. A copy of every opinion made by the Grand Master during recess of the Grand Lodge shall, as soon as rendered, be sent by him to the Grand Secretary, who shall cause the opinion to be published immediately in the Masonic Home Journal.

(6) To issue edicts for the government of a subordinate lodge to be effective immediately upon issue and to remain in full force and effect during his term.

(7) To grant dispensations during the recess of the Grand Lodge for the formation of new lodges, and in person or by proxy to set them regularly to work. Such dispensations shall expire with the closing of the next succeeding annual communication.

(8) To appoint brethren to fill vacancies in office in the Grand Lodge.

(9) The Grand Master shall appoint annually a District Deputy Grand Master in each of the Districts as determined by the Grand Lodge. Each member so appointed shall be presented with an apron of suitable design and the year of his service be imprinted thereon in full view. The design, type and cost of these aprons shall be submitted annually by the Grand Secretary to the Finance Committee for its approval, and the approval of the Grand Lodge. Each District Deputy Grand Master shall receive mileage and per diem when in attendance at the Grand Lodge for the year in which he shall serve.

(10) To sign the minutes of the proceedings of the Grand. Lodge.

(11) With the consent of a majority of the Elected Grand Lodge Officers, to vote at any stockholders' meeting in which the Grand Lodge is interested and cast any votes to which it may be entitled, in the absence of any special direction of the Grand Lodge.

(12) To arrest the dispensation or charter of any lodge, if he be convinced that the interests of Masonry require it, citing the lodge to answer at the next succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge.

(13) To enforce compliance with Section 89(2) and issue a summons to any lodge not in compliance. (1998)

**SECTION 34.** Duties of the Deputy Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master shall assist the Grand Master in the performance of his duties, and in his absence from the jurisdiction, or from the Grand Lodge while in session, or in case of his inability or refusal to serve, shall perform the duties of Grand Master.

**SECTION 35.** Duties of the Grand Wardens. In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden shall act as Grand Master; in the absence of all three, the Grand Junior Warden shall act as Grand Master.

**SECTION 36.** When Others May Preside. If the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and both the Grand Wardens are absent, the powers and duties of the Grand Master shall devolve upon:

- (1) Past Grand Masters, commencing with the junior. If none such be present, then upon:
- (2) Masters of subordinate lodges, commencing with the oldest lodge.

**SECTION 37.** The Duties of the Grand Treasurer are:

- (1) To receive all money of the Grand Lodge at the hands of the Grand Secretary, giving receipts therefor.
- (2) To deposit at interest in some good solvent bank, or trust company, to be selected by him, such money as may, from time to time, come into his hands. Should more money accumulate than may be necessary to liquidate the debts of the Grand Lodge and pay the current expenses, the same shall be invested by him in such interest-bearing securities as may be approved by the Grand Master and the Finance Committee, which investment shall be reported to the Grand Lodge at its next session.
- (3) To pay out money of the Grand Lodge only on warrants or supporting papers received, with two (2) of the three (3) qualified signatures. Namely, Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.
- (4) To take receipts on a pay-roll (or otherwise) for money paid during the session of the Grand Lodge for mileage and per diem and for appropriations made by the Grand Lodge. He shall certify to said pay-roll, or copy thereof, and promptly file one of them with the Grand Secretary, receiving in exchange therefor a regular warrant to cover the amounts so paid.
- (5) To account for all money and property received, paid or transferred to him, and to submit a full statement of his accounts, with books and vouchers, to the Grand Lodge on the first day of its annual communication, or when required, which shall be referred to the Finance Committee for examination and report.
- (6) To give bond, with some reliable and satisfactory guarantee company as surety, in the penal sum of not less than one hundred thousand dollars, payable to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky which bond shall be conditioned to receive and pay over or deliver all money, books, papers, and other property entrusted to him as Grand Treasurer, or any part thereof, upon the requisition of the Grand Lodge or its authorized officers or agents, and in all respects faithfully to perform his duties as Grand Treasurer. He shall not enter upon his duties as Grand Treasurer until said bond is executed, approved by the Grand Master and filed with the Grand Secretary. If he fails to execute and file such bond within ten days next after his installation, the Grand Master may appoint a Grand Treasurer who will do so. The premium on said bond shall be paid by regular warrant.

**SECTION 38.** The Duties of the Grand Secretary are:

- (1) To receive all money due or paid to the Grand Lodge and promptly pay the same to the Grand Treasurer.
- (2) To attend personally and by his Assistants, at every communication of the Grand Lodge. with his books and papers.

(3) To keep true minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. proper to be written, cause the same to be printed in such manner as the Grand Lodge may direct and preserve a copy of the same in his office.

(4) To procure all books and stationery required for the use of the Grand Lodge.

(5) To examine monthly reports and annual returns of lodges, correct errors, if any, and make proper entries of the same to the debit or credit of the respective lodges and report all delinquencies to the Grand Lodge.

(6) To send notice of indebtedness, at least once quarterly to all lodges in arrears.

(7) To correspond with such lodges as may be deemed necessary or desirable, and with such others as the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may direct.

(8) To cause amendments to The Book of Constitutions to be codified and printed in Masonic Home Journal and send a copy annually to each lodge and person entitled thereto.

(9) To keep a regular set of books, which shall show the complete financial condition of the Grand Lodge, including accounts with subordinate lodges.

(10) Publishes Lodge Officers' Name-When. The Grand Secretary shall publish in the Masonic Home Journal, not later than the month of March of each year, a list of the newly-elected Masters and Secretaries of the subordinate lodges which have been reported to him, together with their post office addresses and phone numbers.

**SECTION 39.** Accounts Examined. The books and financial affairs of the Grand Secretary's office and the reports of the Grand Treasurer shall be examined annually before the communication of the Grand Lodge by a certified public accountant, who shall immediately report to the Grand Master the condition thereof. A Certified Public Accountant, selected by the Grand Master, with consent of a majority of the elected Grand Lodge Officers, shall examine and report upon the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary.

**SECTION 40.** Bond. The Grand Secretary and Assistant Grand Secretaries shall execute a bond, with some reliable guarantee company as surety, in the penal sum of not less than one hundred thousand dollars, payable to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, conditioned that they will faith-fully receive all money due the Grand Lodge, or which it may authorize them to receive, and pay the same to the Grand Treasurer. The Grand Secretary shall at all times hand over the whole or any part of the books, papers, or other property in his hands belonging to the Grand Lodge, upon the requisition of the Grand Lodge or its authorized agents, and faithfully discharge the duties of his office. Such bond shall be filed with the Grand Master. The premium thereon shall be paid by warrant on the Grand Treasurer. If for ten days after installation the Grand Secretary shall fail to file said bond as specified in this Constitution, the Grand Master may declare the office vacant and appoint a Grand Secretary.

## **DUTIES OF APPOINTIVE GRAND OFFICERS**

**SECTION 41.** Grand Chaplain. The Grand Chaplain shall open and close the sessions of the Grand Lodge with prayer.

**SECTION 42.** Assistant Grand Secretaries. The Assistant Grand Secretaries shall assist the Grand Secretary in the discharge of his duties, under his direction.

**SECTION 43.** Grand Deacons. The Grand Deacons shall assign seats to registered members within the bar of the Grand Lodge, collect papers and resolutions from members in the Grand Lodge and place the same in the hands of the Grand Secretary, assist in maintaining order, and per-form such other duties as may be required of them.

**SECTION 44.** Grand Marshal. The Grand Marshal shall assist the Grand Deacons, proclaim the Grand Officers installed, conduct processions of the Grand Lodge and report to the Grand Lodge any improper conduct of anyone in attendance during the communication of the Grand Lodge. His place is at the left and in front of the Grand Master.

**SECTION 45.** Grand Sword Bearer. The Grand Sword Bearer shall carry the sword in processions of the Grand Lodge; assist the Grand Tiler on the outside, and see that none but such as are entitled to do so shall pass into the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 46.** Grand Pursuivant. The Grand Pursuivant shall guard the entrance to the Grand Lodge on the inside; communicate with the Grand Tiler and, when required, announce to the Grand Senior Warden applicants for admission, and to the Grand Lodge the entrance of distinguished visiting brethren. He shall assist in maintaining order about the door, prevent those not entitled so to do from entering the Grand Lodge or passing inside the bar thereof, and see that the brethren are seated.

**SECTION 47.** Grand Tiler. The Grand Tiler or the Assistant Grand Tiler, under his direction, shall guard the entrance of the Grand Lodge on the outside and see that none enter but such as are duly qualified and properly clothed. He shall have charge of the hall, Great Lights, jewels, aprons, gavels, columns and other paraphernalia, be responsible for their safe keeping during the sessions of the Grand Lodge and, when the Grand Lodge is closed, deposit them in the place provided therefor.

## **COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 48.** General. No person shall be appointed on a committee of the Grand Lodge unless he be a permanent member of this Grand Lodge.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 49.** Appointed. The Grand Master shall appoint twelve Standing Committees as follows:

Committee on Appeals

Committee on Biography

Committee on By-Laws

Committee on Credentials

Committee on Finance

Committee on Fraternal Recognition

Committee on Jurisprudence

Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation

Committee on Masonic Education

Committee on Necrology

Committee on Proceedings of Other Grand Lodges

## Committee on Visitors

**SECTION 50.** Number on Each. The Committees on Biography, Necrology and Proceedings of other Grand Lodges shall each consist of only one (1) member; the other Committees shall each consist of three permanent members of the Grand Lodge except as otherwise provided herein.

**SECTION 51.** When Appointed. All Standing Committees shall be appointed immediately after the Grand Masters installation.

**SECTION 52.** Meetings. The Committee on Credentials, By-Laws, Finance, Jurisprudence, Lodges Under Dispensation, and Visitors shall meet in the designated place anytime within the week preceding each annual communication to consider matters that may be referred to them. These, and all other committees shall meet on call of their respective chairman.

**SECTION 53.** Reports. Reports of the Standing Committees and the Special Committees shall be made in the manner prescribed by the Grand Lodge after the Grand Officers shall have reported and at such other times and in such manner as they may be called for by the Grand Master. All matters referred to any committee shall be reported on by it.

**SECTION 54.** Appeals. The Committee on Appeals shall consist of three permanent members of the Grand Lodge with qualification of Judge of the Circuit Court as provided by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to be appointed by the Grand Master, one to serve one year, one to serve two years, one to serve three years, the oldest in point of service to be chairman, and the vacancy each year to be filled for a term of three years. The judicial power of the Grand Lodge shall be vested entirely in this Committee.

The Committee on Appeals shall have exclusive and final jurisdiction, subject, however, to the right of any parties aggrieved to appeal to the Grand Lodge, to hear and determine all trials of Masters of Lodges and controversies between different lodges and the trial of all such charges for breaches of Masonic laws by members of lodges as the Grand Master may direct; provided, however, that the Grand Master shall not refer to said Committee for trial charges preferred against a member of a lodge, not an officer, unless requested by the lodge in which the accused holds membership so to do. Provided, further, that upon the failure of such lodge to request such reference, members of the lodge constituting ten per cent of the entire membership may, in writing, request such reference to the Grand Master, in which event he shall be authorized to refer the charges to the Committee, which shall have jurisdiction of the trial of the offense.

If the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge shall declare a trial irregular, or the sentence illegal, the trial is thereby made void, held for naught and the accused is ipso facto restored to the same status in his lodge and the fraternity that he held at the time charges were preferred, but he may be retried on the same or new charges.

If the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge shall restore to good standing a Mason who has been suspended or expelled, he is not thereby restored to membership in his lodge, so far as it affects his standing with the Craft at large, and he may obtain certificate of that fact from the Grand Secretary, which certificate shall operate as a demit.

**SECTION 55.** By-Laws. The Committee on By-Laws shall examine the by-laws of subordinate lodges and amendments thereto, except amendments to by-laws changing the time and date of communication of lodges.

By-Laws shall not become effective until they have been approved by Committee on By-Laws and lodged for record by the Grand Secretary who will endorse the same and notify the lodge of the Committee's action. Decisions of the By-Laws Committee shall be conclusive until reversed or modified by the Grand Lodge. Reports of the By-Laws Committee, with the names and numbers of the lodges whose by-laws it may have passed upon, shall be made to the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 56. Credentials.** The Committee on Credentials shall consist of five members who shall be appointed to serve for five years but initially one for one year, one for two years and one for three years, one for four years, and thereafter, one member to be appointed at each Annual Communication to serve for five years, the oldest in point of service to be chairman. Said Committee shall examine and pass on credentials of representatives and report the name, rank and number of the lodge each represents.

**SECTION 57. Finance.** The Committee on Finance shall consist of three members, each of whom shall be a Past Grand Master, who shall be appointed to serve for a period of three years, one member to be appointed at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge to serve for three years, the oldest in point of service to be chairman. The Committee on Finance shall examine and pass upon all questions of a monetary character.

**SECTION 58. Jurisprudence.** The Committee on Jurisprudence shall be a Past Grand Master, one to serve one year, one to serve two years, and one to serve three years, the oldest in point of service to be chairman, and after the first appointment as thus provided, the vacancy each year shall be filled for a term of three years. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall consider and report upon questions of Masonic law and usage, except such as pertain to the by-laws of lodges. At the communication at which any constitutional amendment may be offered, the Jurisprudence Committee shall report whether, in its opinion, the same should not lie over for future consideration. Unfinished business of the last communication shall be reported by the Jurisprudence Committee for consideration of the Grand Lodge.

It shall be the duty of the Committee on Jurisprudence each year, when reporting upon the decisions of the Grand Master, to recommend which, if any, of such decisions should become regulations. The Committee shall have the inherent right to propose laws, rules, and regulations they deem necessary to the best interests of the order.

**SECTION 59. Lodges Under Dispensation.** The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation shall examine and report upon the books, work, and methods of lodges under dispensation, and make appropriate recommendations. It shall also consider and report upon the issue and re-issue of charters.

**SECTION 60. Masonic Education.** The Committee on Masonic Education shall consist of members who are proficient in the conferring of the degrees and lectures, knowledgeable of the Constitution and familiar with the admission procedures of the Homes. Its duties shall be to assist subordinate lodges and the Grand Master in promoting and disseminating Ma-sonic education.

**SECTION 61. Necrology.** The Committee on Necrology shall make a report on the death of distinguished craftsmen, and such appropriate notices of other deceased brethren as, in its opinion, ought to be made.

**SECTION 62. Biography.** The Committee on Biography shall prepare a suitable biographical sketch of the Grand Master, and report this to the Grand Lodge at the annual communication.

**SECTION 63. Proceedings of Other Grand Lodges.** The Committee on Proceedings of Other Grand Lodges shall have ten months in which to complete its report, which shall then be sent to the Grand Secretary to be printed. It shall contain a synopsis of so much of the transactions of other Grand Lodges as may be deemed of general or special interest to the Craft of Kentucky.

**SECTION 64. Committee on Fraternal Recognition.** The Committee on Fraternal Recognition shall consider and report on requests for recognition by the Grand Lodge from other Grand Lodges and also investigate other Grand Lodges from whom this Grand Lodge may seek recognition.

**SECTION 65. Visitors.** The Committee on Visitors shall examine unavouched representatives, and such Master Masons as may apply for admission to the sittings of the Grand Lodge as it shall deem advisable, and if they be found worthy may conduct them to appropriate seats, or may introduce them.

**SECTION 66.** Special Committees. The Grand Master may appoint Committees not otherwise provided for who shall report in the manner prescribed by the Grand Master. All matters referred to the Committee shall be reported on.

**SECTION 67.** Committees' Report-How Made. All committees shall draft their reports so that their recommendations or resolutions will clearly but tersely summarize each subject in proper form for consideration and adoption and presented to the office of the Grand Lodge no later than September 1, prior to the, Annual Communication.

All motions or resolutions pertaining to amendments of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, shall be submitted in writing and presented to the office of the Grand Secretary no later than August 15th prior to the Annual Communication for publication in the September issue of the *Masonic Home Journal*.

## **PAY, FORFEITURE OF PAY, ROLL-CALL AND PENALTIES AT ROLL-CALL**

**SECTION 68.** Double Pay or Pay Without Service. No Brother shall receive pay in a double capacity, nor per diem for the time he is not actually in attendance, unless lawfully excused, during the sittings of the Grand Lodge, or a committee thereof.

**SECTION 69.** Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Representatives, Committees. The pay of all Grand Officers and Past Grand Masters, who are affiliated with some lodge in this jurisdiction, a representative from each lodge and each member of a Committee, shall be thirty dollars. The mileage shall be eight cents per mile, going from and returning to the location of their respective lodges. Provided, that no representative shall receive in mileage and per diem more money than his lodge pays in Grand Lodge dues for the same year.

**SECTION 70.** Failure of Committee Chairman To Make Reports. Any Committee Chairman failing to make a report at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication shall forfeit his mileage and per diem.

**SECTION 71.** Representatives, Receipts in Full Shown. Each representative shall exhibit to the Grand Treasurer the receipt of the Grand Secretary in full for all indebtedness of his lodge to the Grand Lodge before he shall be paid mileage or per diem.

**SECTION 72.** No Pay If Indebtedness Remitted. No representative shall receive pay if his lodge has not paid in full its indebtedness to the Grand Lodge, or if its dues have been donated or remitted; nor shall payment be made to one who vacates his seat without permission of the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 73.** Pay Forfeited At Roll-Call. Whenever the roll is called, every representative or other member who is entitled to mileage and per diem, must answer for his lodge. or to his name if not a representative. If any fail to answer he shall forfeit, or if paid, shall refund the amount of his mileage and per diem. If he fails to do so, it shall be charged to his lodge, which may collect it from him as dues.

The Grand Master or the Grand Secretary shall be the only officers with authority to excuse a representative from answering the roll call and then only for good cause shown by written request on a form provided.

**SECTION 74.** Answering for Another at Roll-Call. Any brother who shall answer for another at any roll-call shall forfeit his mileage and per diem and be guilty of unmasonic conduct.

## **SUBORDINATE LODGES POWERS**

**SECTION 75.** General. Subordinate lodges have such powers, and only such powers, as are conferred upon them by the Constitution, rules, edicts, decisions, and opinions, of the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 76.** Shall Adopt By-Laws. Each subordinate lodge shall adopt by-laws for the government of its own affairs provided that the same are not inconsistent with the Constitution, rules and edicts of the Grand Lodge and shall furnish a copy to the Grand Secretary to be placed on file in the Grand Lodge.

The By-Laws of a lodge cannot be amended unless the proposed amendment be submitted in writing at a stated communication. Notice of the proposed amendment must be given to the members of the lodge and may be by mail, or by publishing a notice of the proposed change in the Ma-sonic Home Journal. If notice is by mail, the proposed amendment shall be voted upon at the next stated communication. If notice is by publication in the Masonic Home Journal, the proposal shall be voted upon at the next stated communication in the month following the date of publication. In either case, the amendment must be concurred in by two-thirds of the members present and voting on the amendment. When the amendment to the by-laws has been before the lodge for the necessary time, an amendment to the amendment then proposed need not take the course of the original and be carried over, but may be acted upon. (2000)

**SECTION 77.** Officers and Members. Each lodge shall consist of the following officers:

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Master        | Senior Deacon  |
| Senior Warden | Junior Deacon  |
| Junior Warden | Senior Steward |
| Treasurer     | Junior Steward |
| Secretary     | Tiler          |
| Chaplain      |                |

and as many other members as may be elected and initiated into or affiliated with the lodge.

**SECTION 78.** Titles. The title of the Master is "Worshipful"; that of the other officers and members is "Brother".

## **ELECTIONS-LODGE OFFICERS**

**SECTION 79.** Elections When Held. Every subordinate chartered lodge is encouraged to elect its officers annually on St. John the Evangelist's Day, December 27, in accordance with Masonic Tradition.

Each lodge shall, in its By-Laws adopt an Annual Communication in December for the purpose of election of Officers.

**SECTION 80.** Rules for Elections. The election rules and usage of the Grand Lodge, so far as applicable, shall govern election in subordinate lodges. In no case has the Master two votes even in the event of a tie. If he should cast two votes at an election of an officer, such election would be void.

**SECTION 81.** Tiler's Vote. The Tiler must be given an opportunity to vote, however, the election is not void because of his failure to do so.

**SECTION 82. Qualifications.** All lodge officers shall be Master Masons and members of the lodge of which they are officers. No brother shall be elected Junior Warden, Senior Warden, or Master of a lodge unless he shall have proved his Proficiency in all three degrees and obtained a Grand Lodge Certificate of Proficiency, except when no such brother who is so qualified and consents to act as Junior Warden or Senior Warden shall be found among the members. In which case, a six-month grace period shall be provided for the brother so elected to earn his Proficiency. In the event the Proficiency is not earned within the six month grace period, the brother shall be deemed to have resigned his office and shall not be given credit for his tenure as a Warden. No brother shall be elected Master of a lodge unless he shall have proved his Proficiency in all three degrees and obtained a Grand Lodge Certificate of Proficiency. Nominees for Master shall have previously been in-installed as Master or as Warden of a lodge in Kentucky, except when no such brother who is so qualified and consents to act as Master shall be found among the members, and except at the formation of a new lodge. (1998).

**SECTION 83. Removal from Office.**

A. Elected Officers. Any elected officer of a subordinate lodge other than Master or Secretary may be removed from office by two-thirds vote of the members present, all members having been notified by mail at last known address and upon dispensation of the Grand Master, good cause having been shown in writing.

B. Appointive Officers. Any appointed officer of a subordinate lodge may be removed from office upon dispensation from the Grand Master, good cause having been shown in writing. (2000)

**SECTION 84. Elective Officers.** The Master, Senior Warden, Junior War-den, Treasurer and Secretary shall severally be nominated and then be elected by ballot.

**SECTION 85. Elective or Appointive Officers.**

(A) The remaining officers shall be elected by the lodge or appointed by the Master, as may be provided by the by-laws of the lodge. In the absence of a by-law requiring the election of these officers, they shall be appointed by the Master.

(B) Whenever a vacancy shall occur in an elective office in a subordinate lodge, the presiding officer thereof shall, after notice to the members, hold an election to fill the same at the next stated communication after such notice.

(C) If the vacancy shall be an appointed office, the Master, at the next stated communication, shall fill the same by appointment without notice to the membership.

**SECTION 86. Installation Essential.** No brother shall be entitled to exercise any of the rights, privileges or powers of any office in the lodge until he shall have been duly elected, or appointed, and installed. The in-stalling officer shall be a Master or Past Master of a symbolic lodge, pro-vided, however, that this section shall not apply to pro tempore officers, and further provided that no brother may hold more than one office at any one time, as provided by Section 77.

**SECTION 87. Past Master Degree.** The degree of Past Master shall not constitute a part of the installation of the Master-elect of a lodge, nor is it essential that it be conferred upon him.

**SECTION 88. Tenure.** The several officers shall hold and discharge the duties of their respective offices until their successors are duly elected or appointed and installed, except as provided by Section 83. Any officer may resign.

## **DUTIES OF LODGE OFFICERS**

**SECTION 89. The Duties of the Master are:**

(1) To preside and have general supervision over his lodge and decide questions of law and order, but any member of the lodge may appeal from the decision of the Master to the Grand Master, and from his decision to the Grand Lodge.

(2) To see that the by-laws and resolutions of his lodge are observed, and that the constitution, rules, and edicts of this Grand Lodge are duly obeyed.

(3) To see that monthly reports are promptly made to this Grand Lodge.

(4) To attain such proficiency in the work as will enable him to conduct the ceremonies of his lodge in a creditable manner.

(5) To call communications of his lodge as provided in Section 107.

(6) To attend the communications of the Grand Lodge, or if unable to attend, to see that his lodge is represented there at.

If a lodge fails to be represented at two successive annual communications of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall by proper notice to its officers require it to show cause why its charter should not be arrested and he may in his discretion arrest the charter, or he may require the lodge to appear before a committee of the Grand Lodge to show cause why its charter should not be arrested, and upon report, the Grand Lodge will take appropriate action.

(7) To attend the District Meeting and Educational Conference held in his District and Region. (1998)

**SECTION 90.** Duties of the Wardens. The Wardens shall assist the Master in the discharge of his duties, and perform such other duties as may be devolved upon them by the usages of the Craft, by-laws of the lodge and laws of the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 91.** The Duties of the Treasurer are:

(1) To receive all money of the lodge from the Secretary, give receipts therefor, and pay the same out by consent of the lodge on warrants of the Master, countersigned by the Secretary.

(2) To give bond, with good and sufficient surety, in such form and amount as shall be determined by the lodge.

**SECTION 92.** The Duties of the Secretary are:

(1) To keep correct minutes of the transactions of his lodge.

(2) To collect and receive all money of the lodge, keep true accounts thereof, and promptly pay the same to the Treasurer, taking receipts there-for.

(3) To have charge of the seal of the lodge and affix the same to all papers and documents requiring it.

(4) To issue notices to attend the stated and called communications of the Lodge, under direction of the Master.

(5) To issue summons when directed by the lodge.

(6) To promptly make the returns required by Sections 166-169, and remit to the Grand Secretary the amount of dues and other indebtedness owing by his lodge to this Grand Lodge.

(7) Immediately following the Annual Election of Officers, he shall report to the Grand Secretary's Office the names of the Officers selected and/or appointed, along with the other information requested. This re-port shall be due in the Grand Secretary's Office on or before January 10 following the election.

(8) To promptly transmit to the Grand Secretary copies of all by-laws and amendments thereof adopted by his lodge.

(9) To submit his books and accounts to an examination whenever required to do so by his lodge or the Grand Lodge.

(10) To give bond, with good and sufficient surety, in such form and amount as shall be determined by his lodge.

(11) To send to all of the members of the Lodge of which he is Secretary annually one month prior to the election of officers, a notice of dues owing the lodge.

**SECTION 93.** Lodge Committees. Only members of the Lodge are eligible to serve on Committees.

## **OF BROTHERS**

**SECTION 94.** Duties of Masons. It is the duty of every Freemason to obey the moral law, to be neither an atheist nor a skeptic, but be a good man and true, to live in peace, practice charity and be a member of some lodge.

## **JURISDICTION**

**SECTION 95.** General Rule. The jurisdiction of every lodge, except as in Sections 96 & 97, shall extend half-way to the nearest lodge meeting location by a straight line measurement in any and every direction.

**SECTION 96.** In cities having two or more lodges the jurisdiction shall be concurrent and extend as provided in Section 95, except, Adair, Allen, Anderson, Ballard, Barren, Bath, Boone, Bourbon, Boyd, Boyle, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Calloway, Campbell, Carter, Clark, Daviess, Estill, Fayette, Grant, Grayson, Green, Greenup, Hardin, Henderson, Henry, Hopkins, Jackson, Jefferson, Jessamine, Kenton, LaRue, Laurel, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Madison, Martin, McCracken, McCreary, Mercer, Metcalfe, Monroe, Nelson, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Owsley, Pendleton, Pike, Pulaski, Rowan, Russell, Shelby, Simpson, Taylor and Woodford Counties, the jurisdiction shall be concurrent within said counties and extend as provided in Section 95. Boone and Kenton Counties shall be regarded as one jurisdictional unit. (2006)

**SECTION 97.** Near State Boundary. The jurisdiction of lodges near the borders of other states may extend half way to the nearest lodge in such other Grand Lodge jurisdiction provided there be an agreement to that effect between such Neighboring Grand Lodge and this Grand Lodge, and further provided if the petitioner lives in Kentucky he shall have a choice of jurisdiction, Except in Pike County, Kentucky and Mingo County, West Virginia. (2001)

**SECTION 98 (A).** Jurisdiction Waived. Waiver of Jurisdiction may be given by any lodge possessing jurisdiction over a candidate for degrees or affiliation, in favor of any other lodge. In such cases, the lodge in whose favor the waiver shall be made may entertain the petition of such candidate as if he had resided within the jurisdiction thereof the required period of time. In all cases where the fee of the lodge granting the waiver of jurisdiction is greater than the fee of the lodge requesting the waiver the candidate shall pay to the lodge which asks the waiver a fee equivalent to the fee he would have been required to pay had he petitioned the lodge which granted the waiver. Immediately after the candidate is elected and initiated, the Secretary of the lodge receiving the waiver shall send the difference in fees to the lodge granting the waiver.

(B). Waiver of Jurisdiction - How Granted. Waiver of Jurisdiction can only be granted by a lodge having jurisdiction, and upon request made by a lodge, over its seal, to which the petition for degrees or membership has been presented, sent by certified mail with a return receipt. The answer or reply shall also be sent by certified mail with return receipt. Before granting the waiver, the application therefor shall be referred to a committee of three members of the lodge for inquiry into the character and qualifications of the petitioner mentioned in such request. Such request can only be received at a stated communication and one lunar month must intervene between its reception and ballot thereon. The vote on the waiver shall be by ballot, and if as many as three votes be cast against the waiver the request shall be refused.

Within the state, jurisdiction will be waived automatically 90 days after a request for waiver is mailed to the secretary of the lodge possessing jurisdiction unless the lodge possessing jurisdiction denies the waiver and notifies the requesting lodge in writing prior to the 90th day. For just cause the lodge possessing jurisdiction may impose one extension of not more than thirty days with written notification to the requesting lodge prior the 90th day. At the end of such extension the jurisdiction will be waived automatically unless the lodge possessing jurisdiction denies the waiver and notifies the requesting lodge in writing prior to the end of the extension.

Automatic waiver of jurisdiction does not apply to requests for waivers to or from other Grand Jurisdictions. (2000)

**SECTION 99.** Invaded Jurisdiction. A lodge that receives the petition and initiates a candidate, or admits to membership a brother from a jurisdiction not its own, in violation of the provision of Sections 95-98, shall forfeit and pay the fees to the lodge which lawfully held jurisdiction, and be subject to having its Charter arrested, or such other penalty as the Grand Lodge shall impose.

**SECTION 100.** Moving from Jurisdiction. Moving from the jurisdiction of a lodge does not forfeit lodge membership. If he is an officer of a lodge, a brother does not forfeit such office if he is able to attend with reasonable regularity, otherwise he will be subject to **Section 83**.

**SECTION 101.** Plural Membership. A Master Mason in good standing in a lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, or in a lodge of a sister Grand Jurisdiction which does not forbid Plural Membership, may apply for affiliation to any lodge or LODGES OF HIS CHOICE, or he may join in the application for the formation of a new lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and if such lodge be formed, he may retain his former membership, and also his new membership, but shall thereon and thereafter pay all dues and assessments required by each lodge, and shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership in each lodge. Suspension or expulsion from any lodge shall suspend or expel him from every lodge with which he may be affiliated in this Grand Jurisdiction, and reinstatement may only be made by the lodge that first suspended him, and upon is reinstatement in that lodge, he shall automatically be reinstated in all lodges with which he may be affiliated, providing he has paid his indebtedness to such other lodges.

Upon election of a Master Mason to Plural Membership as provided in this section, the Secretary of the lodge wherein such election is had, shall immediately notify the other lodges of which the elected brother is a member and thereafter the records of the Secretary of each lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall be so kept as to show plural membership and the monthly reports and annual returns of each lodge shall show the name of each lodge wherein such membership is held.

Should a Master Mason who holds Plural Membership IN two OR MORE LODGES in this Grand Jurisdiction desire to demit from one lodge he shall be permitted to do so. Provided, that if the brother holds membership in two lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction he shall be permitted to retain his membership in the one of his choice.

A Master Mason who holds Plural Membership in two or more lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction and desires to demit from one or more of said lodges, the demit, if granted, a notice by regular mail of the granting of the demit shall be mailed by the still retains his membership. No Certificate of Demit shall be given to the Brother, nor to the lodge or lodges in which he retains membership. No Plural member shall represent more than one lodge of which he is a member at any one Annual Communication. (2001)

## **LODGE COMMUNICATIONS**

**SECTION 102 (A).** Stated Communications. The stated communications of the lodge shall be held at least monthly, at such place and time as may be specified in the Charter or Dispensation, or authorized by the Grand Lodge and at such times as may be designated in its by-laws. Failure to hold stated communications, as provided in this section of the Constitution, shall authorize the Grand Master, at his discretion, to arrest the charter of the lodge or other action as he may deem appropriate.

(B). Temporary change of Meeting Place. A lodge may hold a special meeting at a place other than its own for the purpose of conferring degrees or for a special occasion as authorized by the lodge, provided the lodge membership is given due notice thereof. The Charter must be present at the place of the Communication. (1998)

**SECTION 103.** When a District Meeting, or Educational Conference, falls on the same day as the Stated Communication of a subordinate Lodge the attendance of the Master and three of the remaining elected officers, as named in Section 77, shall be considered in lieu of the Stated Communication of that lodge for that date.

**SECTION 104.** Business. All lodge business shall be done in a lodge of Master Masons, excepting proficiency examinations and approval and work of the first and second degrees or the trial of Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts.

**SECTION 105.** Official Letters. All official communications from the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, or another subordinate lodge, relating to the lodge, shall be read publicly in each lodge at its next stated communication after their reception. Secretaries shall read all official communications from the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, or another subordinate lodge, in open lodge, promptly responding thereto, always giving the name, number, and post office of the lodge. Failure of the Secretary to promptly reply to an official communication of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, or another subordinate lodge, shall be considered a dereliction of his Masonic duty, and the Grand Master is directed to suspend from office the Secretary of any subordinate lodge who fails to comply with this Section.

**SECTION 106.** Work on Sunday. No communication of a lodge shall be held on Sunday, except on funeral occasions, to attend religious services, to lay cornerstones or to hold dedications.

**SECTION 107.** Called Communications. The Master, or one lawfully acting in his place, may call a communication of his lodge at pleasure and upon written request of eight or more members of his lodge shall call a communication for the consideration of such matters as may be named in said request. Notice of all called communications shall be given to the members of the lodge: and no business shall be transacted at a called communication except that specified in the notice. Provided, that a lodge may be opened for instruction at any time.

**SECTION 108.** Notice: Notice to members of a subordinate lodge shall be (1) in writing addressed to the lodge membership or member affected with postage thereon pre-paid; (2) Published in the Masonic Home Journal; (3) Announced to the Craft by the master or someone lawfully acting in his place during a stated communication of the lodge. Provided, that a lodge may be opened for funerals, for the conference of degrees, or for the hearing of proficiencies in accordance with Masonic ritualistic tradition.

**SECTION 109.** Quorum-Master Mason's Lodge. Three Master Masons, one of whom shall be authorized to open the lodge, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business that may lawfully come before a lodge of Master Masons.

**SECTION 110.** Quorum-Fellow Craft's Lodge. Two Master Masons, one of whom is authorized to open the lodge, and three Fellow Crafts shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of such business as may lawfully come before a lodge of Fellow Crafts.

**SECTION 111.** Quorum-Entered Apprentice's Lodge. One Master Ma-son authorized to open the lodge, and six Entered Apprentices shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of such business as may lawfully come before a lodge of Entered Apprentices.

**SECTION 112.** Who Presides. When the Master is absent the Senior Warden shall perform his duties: When both the Master and the Senior War-den are absent, the Junior Warden shall act as Master. At a stated or lawfully called communication, if the Master and both the Wardens are absent, the lodge may be opened by the Junior Past Master of the lodge present, and business may be transacted as if the Master were present, but the powers of such Past Master shall not extend beyond that particular communication.

## **BURIAL**

**SECTION 113.** Burial is Part of Lodge Labor-Charter Not Present. A Masonic burial is a part of the labor of the lodge; therefore, it is improper to call from "labor to refreshment" when the lodge leaves its hall to follow the remains of a deceased brother to their last resting place. It is unnecessary to carry the lodge charter from the place of assembling to the grave. The lodge must be regularly closed after the burial.

**SECTION 114.** Burials Under Master's Direction. In all interments with the formalities of Masonry, the ceremonies should be under the general direction of the Master of the lodge.

**SECTION 115.** When Completed. A Masonic burial service may be considered complete at the pronouncement of the benediction. Nothing in these Sections shall prevent any lodge, in its discretion, from completing the ser-vices at the funeral home, the Church, or the residence.

**SECTION 116.** Rights to Masonic Burial. If a brother was in good standing in his lodge at the time of his death, he is entitled to Masonic burial, as a right of Masonic membership.

**SECTION 117.** Burial of a Demitted Mason. Masonic burial of a demitted Mason cannot be demanded as a right, but may be accorded as a favor.

**SECTION 118.** E.A., and F.C., are not Entitled To. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not permitted to participate in nor receive Masonic Burial. Deleted. (2006)

## **CANDIDATES**

**SECTION 119.** Qualifications of Applicant. A Candidate for initiation, or affiliation in a Kentucky Lodge shall be a man of the age of twenty-one (21) years or more and of good report. (2000)

**SECTION 120.** Residence. No petition for degrees or affiliation by demit shall be balloted on by any lodge, unless the petitioner shall have been continuously a bona fide resident of its jurisdiction for at least six months, or obtained a waiver from the lodge having jurisdiction of him.

## **PETITIONS**

### **PETITIONS FOR DEGREES**

**SECTION 121.** Forms. Petitions shall be made in accordance with the forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 122.** Written or Printed. Petitions must be in writing (or printed), on the prescribed forms, signed by the petitioner, giving his occupation, date and place of birth and the place or places where he has resided during the previous twelve months, also the degrees attained, if any, and whether or not his petition has ever been presented to or rejected by a Ma-sonic Lodge. If it has, then the name, number and location of the lodge petitioned must be

given; or the name and number of any lodge of which lie may be a member in good standing and accompanied by the fee required by law. Each lodge may decide for itself if it wants a picture and may request one if they so desire.

**SECTION 123.** Demit Accompanies Petition. A certificate of membership, demit or its equivalent, or a current dues card, must accompany each petition for affiliation, except as provided in **Section 151**, and shall be retained by the lodge petitioned if the petitioner be elected to membership, except a dues card which shall be returned to him. Every certificate of membership, demit or equivalent, received from or sent to some other Grand Jurisdiction, shall be properly certified by the issuing Grand Lodge. If rejected, the certificate of membership, demit or (hues card shall be returned to the petitioner. The provisions of this section shall apply to brothers of any degree.

## PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**SECTION 124.** Petitions-When received and balloted on. A petition for initiation or for affiliation shall be recommended by two Master Masons who are members of the lodge petitioned, and be referred to a committee of three other members for inquiry into the character and qualifications of the petitioner. Such petition must be received at a stated communication and one lunar month must intervene between its reception and the balloting thereon. But no ballot shall be taken on a petition until said committee shall have made its report thereon. If, however, the petitioner shall have been rejected by another lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, a copy of the petition shall be forwarded to the lodge which last rejected him and be referred by it to a committee of three members for inquiry into the character and qualifications of the petitioner, and the report of the committee shall be forwarded under the seal of the lodge to the lodge petitioned and no ballot shall be taken until its receipt of such a report. If said report is not made to the lodge making the request within ninety days, said lodge making the request has full power and authority to proceed to act on the petition and elect or reject the applicant. A ballot must be taken upon a petition for initiation or affiliation, whether the report of the Committee on Investigation be favorable or unfavorable, unless the petition be withdrawn, as permitted in Section 125 of the Constitution. A member whose name appears upon a petition as recommending the petitioner shall not be put upon the Committee on Investigation. The report of a majority of an Investigating Committee is the report of the committee, but if there be a minority report, the fact should be a part of his record. If the committee has taken no action for one or more months after their appointment, the Master may treat their places vacant and appoint others to be the Investigating Committee.

A committee to whom a petition for affiliation is referred should take into consideration not only the moral character and fitness of the applicant, hut also the authenticity of his demit or current status if for dual membership.

**SECTION 125.** Petitions Withdrawn. A petitioner may, by written re-quest to the lodge, withdraw his petition at any time prior to a report by the investigating committee having been made to the lodge, but the request shall be read at the next stated communication after its reception and recorded in the minutes and his fee returned.

**SECTION 126.** For Degrees and Affiliation. The balloting for the degrees or affiliation shall be taken only in a Master Mason's lodge and then only at a stated communication and a favorable ballot on the petition shall elect the candidate to receive all three degrees. (See Section 122)

**SECTION 127.** Demit Personal Property. The rejection of an applicant for affiliation does not affect his Masonic standing. His certificate of demit shall be restored to him if lie be rejected.

**SECTION 128.** Ballot Secret. In all cases every ballot shall be strictly secret, whether a favorable or unfavorable ballot was cast: and every brother shall be secured in his right to cast his ballot privately for or against a candidate, as between himself and his own conscience. If anyone shall make known or reveal his own or another's vote in secret ballot lie shall be guilty of un-masonic conduct and subject to trial.

Balloting is the exercise of a personal right and the performance of an individual duty. No member shall act for another in casting a ballot.

Who Votes. Every member of the Grand or a subordinate lodge to which he belongs, must vote, if present, unless excused.

Candidates for the degrees may be voted upon collectively. If, upon a collective ballot one or more unfavorable ballots appear, then each candidate must immediately be voted upon separately the same as if no ballot had been taken.

How Excused. The power to excuse a brother from voting is not in the Master or Grand Master, but in the lodge or Grand Lodge, and rests with the majority.

**SECTION 129.** Concerning Ballots-Tests or Inquiry. No vote shall be taken nor any means be used to ascertain, directly or indirectly, the sense of the lodge in reference to any petition, as to whether it will probably be rejected or otherwise.

**SECTION 130.** Unanimous. The ballot must be unanimous to elect a candidate to receive the degrees or for affiliation. To re-affiliate with the lodge which issued the demit, the applicant may be re-elected to membership by three-fourths of the members present expressed by ballot.

**SECTION 131.** Two Unfavorable Ballots. If two or more unfavorable ballots appear against a candidate he shall be declared rejected, a candidate so rejected cannot again petition for the degrees or be balloted on in less than twelve months, or for affiliation or re-affiliation in less than six months after such rejection, as provided by Section 124.

**SECTION 132.** One Unfavorable Ballot. In balloting on a petition, if only one negative appears, a second ballot shall immediately take place; if on the second ballot one negative again appears, the petitioner shall be declared rejected.

**SECTION 133.** Effects of Rejection. The petition of an applicant for the degrees, affiliation or re-affiliation rejected by a lodge, as in Sections 131 & 132, cannot be received by any other lodge except under the same restrictions. The action of the Lodge shall be final. A Lodge cannot reconsider or rescind a ballot for the degrees or for affiliation and no appeal shall be allowed to Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 134.** Objection.

(a) An objection to initiation, advancement or affiliation may be made by a member of the lodge, and the objection to initiation or affiliation shall have precisely the same effect, in every respect, as if the objector had cast an unfavorable ballot on the petition. An objection, to be valid, must be made before the preparation of the candidate in the case of initiation or advancement and before the ballot is taken in the case of affiliation. "Before the preparation of the candidate" shall be defined as before the candidate is conducted to the preparation room.

(b) Objection to advancement shall prevent the candidate from receiving the degree for six months from the date the objection is, or should have been noted in the minutes: and after the expiration of six months the candidate may be advanced upon request without formal petition, but notice shall be given of the proposed advancement in open lodge.

(c) Objection may be renewed, or other objection made in like manner and with the same effect within one week before the end of the six-month period or any succeeding six month period.

(d) Such objection may be made in open lodge or to the Master privately and if made at a stated communication the objection shall be noted in the minutes without giving the name of the objector: and if not made or reported at a stated communication, then in every case the objection must be noted in the minutes of the next stated communication as above provided.

(e) The objecting brother shall not be questioned as to his reasons, but he may give them if he chooses, and if he voluntarily states his reasons in open lodge, or privately to the Master who shall preserve the identity of the Brother making the objection and shall not reveal his identity to any-one, the lodge shall pass upon the sufficiency and

validity of the objection, and a majority vote by ballot shall be necessary to sustain the objection. If not sustained the lodge shall proceed with the advancement of the candidate.

(f) Any objection to advancement may be withdrawn by the objector in open lodge, or to the Master privately and the withdrawal must be noted in the minutes at a stated communication and the candidate may then be advanced.

(g) Unless charges are preferred, no objection shall prevent an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Mason from participating fully in any degree which he has attained, or having a demit issued to him as provided in Section 149.

## **PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS**

**SECTION 135.** Examination of Candidates. Before a candidate can be advanced to a higher degree he must be examined in open lodge as to his proficiency in the degree last taken, and such examination shall be so conducted that it can be heard by the brethren present. Two or more candidates for the same degree may be examined at the same time as a class. Each Master Mason raised shall likewise stand a creditable examination in open lodge, and if accepted by the majority of the brethren present, a certificate of approval shall be issued to him under the seal of the Grand Lodge signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary: said certificate to be designed and issued through the office of the Grand Secretary.

**SECTION 136.** Proficiency. The term proficiency as regards examination of candidates, means the ability to satisfactorily answer the questions in the first section of the lecture of the degree on which the brother is examined. By first section is meant all parts of the ceremony through the explanation of the working tools in the Entered Apprentice Degree and through the reinvestment in the other degrees. Proficiency in any degree can be declared satisfactory only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, but a re-examination and another vote can be had at any time.

**SECTION 137.** In Other States. Examinations made and the vote on proficiency taken in a lodge of this or of any other Grand Jurisdiction shall be governed by the laws of the Grand Jurisdiction in which such examination and vote takes place. If he possesses a certificate of proficiency or equivalent, it will be recognized in this Grand Jurisdiction.

## **DEGREES**

**SECTION 138.** Order of Succession. The subordinate lodges are authorized to confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason-in the order named.

**SECTION 139.** Conferred By Another Lodge. On request of a lodge in this jurisdiction, any lodge may confer the degrees, or either of them, on a candidate elected by the lodge making the request; provided, either of said lodges, after due examination, shall have found the candidate proficient in the highest degree he has attained. If the request is to a lodge in a Sister Jurisdiction, said request shall be sent through the Grand Secretary's Office.

**SECTION 140.** Forfeiture of Election for Initiation. If a candidate shall have had due notice of his election, and of the time and place when and where he could receive the first degree, but shall fail for a period of six months thereafter to present himself to receive it, his election shall be void, unless the lodge shall declare the reason for such failure to be good and sufficient. In the latter case the time may be extended for six months; after that lie must again petition and be balloted for as in the first instance. Pro-vided, however, if a candidate is in the Armed Services, outside the Continental United States, the lodge may grant an extension until lie returns to the States and for a period of not exceeding six months after his return.

**SECTION 141.** Degrees When Complete. A Degree is not complete until every section has been conferred and the charge delivered. The first and second sections of the Master Mason Degree must be conferred on the same day. It is not necessary to deliver the chart or slide lecture on the same day the degree is conferred.

**SECTION 142.** Third Degree. The Second Section of the Third Degree constitutes a most solemn and impressive portion of our ritualistic work. In it we are taught the ultimate lessons of Masonic philosophy - victory over death and the immortality of the soul. Nothing must be allowed to impair the deep impression which should be made upon the mind of the candidate. The Grand Lodge forbids any unnecessary levity, roughness, horseplay, talking, audible laughter, or any other noise which could distract the attention of the candidate. Failure to comply with this provision, or any action by any officer or member in violation or inconsistent with this provision shall constitute grounds for Masonic discipline.

Any part of the third degree may be conferred on more than one candidate at the same time, except the Second Section of that degree, which can be conferred on but one at a time.

**SECTION 143.** Time Between Degrees. The time between petition and initiation or affiliation and ballot thereon, and the time between each degree is a minimum of one lunar month, and the Grand Master is not authorized to dispense with this that which has been omitted or done in error in making him a Mason, or in passing or raising him.

**SECTION 145.** Power To Heal-Who Orders It. The Master, in open lodge, has the power to heal so far as to correct irregularities done therein. In case where a lodge is authorized to act, it may request another lodge to perform that duty for it. The Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master during vacation, may determine how and what healing shall be done.

**SECTION 146.** Fees for Degrees. No lodge shall confer the Degree of Entered Apprentice on any person for a less sum than \$25.00, at least \$15.00 of which must accompany the petition and \$5.00 of this fee shall be paid by each lodge to the Grand Secretary with the annual payment of dues and assessments, and he will transmit the same in equal parts to the The Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc. to be paid to their Endowment: nor shall the degree of Fellow Craft or of Master Mason be conferred for a less sum than \$20.00 each. In every case the fee must be paid before the candidate is prepared for the degree. Fees paid for initiation or advancement should in all cases be promptly returned if the applicant is rejected or advancement objected to.

## **DEMITTS**

**SECTION 147.** Defined. To Demit is to withdraw from a Lodge. A certificate of that fact shall be issued to the withdrawing brother, and shall not contain any recommendation. Certificates of demit must be in accordance with the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge. The certificate of demit shall be issued by the Secretary under the seal of the lodge, and be signed by both Master and Secretary.

**SECTION 148.** Application. An application for a demit must be officially received and acted upon at a stated communication. The application must be either in writing and signed by the member making the request, or made personally in open lodge by the member making the request at a stated communication.

**SECTION 149.** Cannot Be Refused. Demits cannot be refused by a lodge to a member of any degree whose indebtedness is fully paid, if there be no charge pending against him. The Master in open lodge without ballot shall instruct the Secretary to make the record and issue the Certificate. But, such action does not prevent charges from being preferred.

**SECTION 150.** Duplicate Demit. A duplicate certificate of demit can-not be issued; but if the original be lost, a statement of the fact of a demit having been granted, and when, and of the alleged loss may be certified by the Secretary and under the seal of the lodge, on order of the lodge granting it; or by the Grand Secretary if the lodge be defunct.

**SECTION 151.** Demits For Continuous Membership. If a brother wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with the lodge with which he wishes to affiliate, and with it his current dues receipt or statement from his Secretary, under the seal of the lodge showing that his dues are paid to the

date the request is received by his lodge; also, a written application to his lodge for a demit. If elected to membership in the lodge petitioned, the Secretary thereof shall immediately forward said application for demit to the brother's lodge and when the demit is received shall file it with the petition and enter the brother's name as a member of the lodge petitioned as of the date the demit is granted. If the petitioner be rejected, the aforesaid receipt for dues and application for demit shall be returned to him.

## **HONORARY MEMBER**

**SECTION 152.** Honorary Member, How Created - Rights of. A lodge may confer the complimentary title of "Honorary Member" on a member of another lodge, by unanimous ballot after one month's previous notice, but such title does not carry with it the right to hold office or vote nor can it conflict with any right of regular members under the Constitution and laws of the Grand Lodge. Honorary members are not chargeable with dues, nor are they to be reported in the annual returns.

**SECTION 153.** Jurisdiction Over Honorary Members. The election of an honorary member by a lodge does not give it penal jurisdiction over such members except as provided in Section 179.

## **LODGE DUES**

**SECTION 154.** Dues to Fix and Collect. Each lodge shall fix and collect such annual dues as may be necessary to enable it to maintain itself and discharge its duties and obligations, payable before the Entered Apprentice Degree is conferred. The dues of all Lodges shall be due on January 1 each year, and payable in advance for the full year, except as provided by law as to Provisional Demits. Dues for each year shall be delinquent on April 1, and the delinquent members shall be subject to suspension on the stated meet-ing of the Lodge in June. Any lodge failing to collect dues from a brother, for more than one year, and failing to notify said brother of his delinquency each year, shall forfeit the right to collect more than one years delinquent dues from said member, and on payment of same, said member shall be in good standing with his Lodge.

**SECTION 155.** All Grades Liable for Dues and Assessments. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, equally with Master Masons, are liable for dues and assessments and subject to discipline for non-payment thereof.

**SECTION 156.** Dues Cease When. If a member secures a demit from his lodge during the year, his dues will cease upon issuance of the demit and any lodge with which he affiliates in Kentucky, shall, upon request, be entitled to receive its portion of his annual dues, subsequent to the date of his admission; provided, however, no dues shall be refunded to the demitted member; and provided further that the lodge which paid or is bound to pay Grand Lodge Assessments on such member shall be first reimbursed in full for the Grand Lodge Assessments before any apportionment.

### **SECTION 157.** Uniform Dues Cards and Receipts.

(a) The Grand Lodge of Kentucky shall issue uniform dues receipt cards for Master Masons only, stamped with the seal of the Grand Lodge, and countersigned by the Grand Secretary, and to include the amount of the Assessment to the Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc. The reverse side is to be filled in by the lodge Secretary. Said card is to be furnished by the Grand Lodge and on said card shall be printed that the holder "Is a Master Mason in good standing, having paid his dues through December 31, ....", in which blank shall be printed the calendar year for which the dues were paid.

(b) No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall be issued a dues card, but the lodge Secretary shall issue these brethren a receipt for dues paid showing the brothers name, degree attained at the time of issuance of the receipt, date paid and calendar year for which dues are paid; said receipt shall be signed by the Secretary and the lodge seal affixed thereon.

**SECTION 158.** Dues Remitted. Dues can only be remitted by three-fourths of the members present at any stated communication.

## **AUDIT**

**SECTION 159.** Audit. Every lodge, by the first stated communication in January, shall read and make a part of the minutes a complete audit, pre-pared by an Accountant, or Committee of the lodge, showing all monies on hand at the last Annual Communication, total monies collected and source, total disbursements, amount owed to the lodge, all members owing dues individually listed giving amount owed, and balance on hand. The Treasurer and Secretary cannot serve on the Committee but may make explanations.

## **GRAND LODGE ASSESSMENTS**

**SECTION 160.** Assessments to Grand Lodge. Every lodge shall annually pay to the Grand Secretary an assessment to the Grand Lodge such sum as the Grand Lodge shall designate for everyone who may be a member of the lodge at low twelve June 30. except as provided in Sections 163 and 164, and, at the same time it shall also pay such assessments as may be ordered by the Grand Lodge. For those re-instated between July 1 and December 31, the Grand Lodge part of assessments collected for that year shall be payable to the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 161.** When Payable. Each lodge shall pay to the Grand Secretary its indebtedness to the Grand Lodge as soon as practicable each year after June 30, but the same, along with the Annual Return, shall reach the office of the Grand Secretary not later than the first day of September, pro-vided however, if said payment be not made, and the return not received in the Grand Lodge Office by September 1st, the Grand Secretary is directed to assess a fine against the lodge of one dollar for each day for each delinquency and collect the same from the lodge, and if said payment is not received by the Grand Secretary on or before December 1st, after the same shall have become due, the Grand Master is authorized in his discretion to arrest its charter for failure to comply with the law or pay the fines.

**SECTION 162.** Quietus to Lodges. No lodge shall be discharged from any demand against it until the receipt in full of the Grand Secretary shall have been obtained therefor, or the amount be remitted by the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 163.** Free Members-Fifty Years Affiliated. No lodge shall be required to pay Grand Lodge Assessments on any member thereof, who for a period of fifty years, shall have been affiliated with a lodge, or lodges, of Free and Accepted Masons in Kentucky or any other Grand Jurisdiction recognized by it.

**SECTION 164.** Free Members - Residents Masonic Homes - Incompetent. No assessments shall be charged to any lodge upon a member who has been legally adjudged incompetent, or upon a member who may be a destitute resident of The Masonic Homes of Kentucky, during the period of such residency.

## **REPORTS**

**SECTION 165.** No Representative, When. Every lodge shall make monthly reports to the Grand Lodge on the forms in accordance with instructions furnished by the Grand Secretary. Unless such reports be so made, a receipt in full shall not be given to the delinquent lodge or its representative nor shall such representative take his seat as such in the Grand Lodge. A lodge failing to make a monthly report each and every month, as reported by the Grand Secretary, will be placed on probation the first year and for two successive years shall be subject to **Section 167.**

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**SECTION 166.** Reports Include What. Reports shall include the full names and addresses of all petitioners, giving the date of birth, place of birth, date petition was received by the lodge and referred to committee of investigation, whether elected or rejected, date and degree conferred: if affiliated, name and number of former

lodge(s), degree attained and jurisdiction coming from. Also, the names and dates of all reinstatements, demits, suspensions and expulsions with cause and deaths. The January report shall also list names, addresses and phone numbers of officers elected in December.

**SECTION 167.** Triplicate in Ink-Printed or Typewritten. Reports shall be made in triplicate and with ink, printed or typewritten. After examination and correction, one copy thereof shall be retained and preserved by the lodge Secretary, and the original and one copy shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary not later than the 10th of the following month. If any lodge shall fail to make monthly reports and annual returns as required, it shall be cited to show cause why its charter shall not be arrested.

**SECTION 168.** Reporting the Suspended and Expelled. The Secretary, in reporting the name of an expelled member as required by Sections 9? & 101 of the Constitution, shall also state the cause of such expulsion; and in reporting suspensions, other than for non-payment of dues, shall also state the term for which the brother was suspended.

**SECTION 169.** Monthly Reports and Annual Returns Printed. Monthly Reports and Annual Returns made as heretofore required, shall be printed with the Annual Proceedings under direction of the Grand Secretary.

## **PENALTIES**

**SECTION 170.** Masonic Penalties. The only penalties known to Masonry in the jurisdiction of The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, are fine, forfeiture, reprimand, suspension and expulsion.

**SECTION 171.** Fine and Forfeiture. Fine and forfeiture apply only to lodges and can be imposed or remitted by the Grand Lodge only.

**SECTION 172.** Reprimand. Reprimand shall be inflicted in open lodge at a Stated Communications.

**SECTION 173.** Suspension. Suspensions, except as in Section 175 or the Trial Code, shall be for a definite period.

**SECTION 174.** Expulsion. Expulsion terminates every vestige of Ma-sonic rights or privileges.

## **SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES**

**SECTION 175.** For Non-Payment. Suspension for non-payment of dues is a suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, and no brother shall be suspended for non-payment of dues, except as provided in Section 154.

**SECTION 176.** Notice Before Action. No brother shall be suspended for non-payment of dues until he shall have been notified by certified mail or personal service of the amount of his indebtedness, including the cost of such notice, and of the stated communication when the lodge will consider the question of his suspension for such non-payment, which notice shall be given not less than twenty-eight days next before the date of such hearing. The facts as to when and how such notice was given shall be entered in the minutes of the communication when action in the case is taken. If the delinquent be suspended, notice of the suspension shall be delivered or mailed to the suspended member.

**SECTION 177.** Unknown Address. When a brother's address is un-known and after every reasonable means to discover it shall have been exhausted, notice shall be given by certified letter sent to him at his last known address, in which case the steps taken shall be reported in open lodge, noted on record and read at two successive stated communications; after which the lodge may proceed as if notice had been received by the accused and he had failed to answer.

**SECTION 178.** Failing To Pay After Notice. If the delinquent fails to pay dues and indebtedness in conformity with the notice, the lodge may suspend him, or if a satisfactory reason for the delinquency be given, the lodge may excuse him. In either event, the decision shall be made by a three-fourths majority vote of those present. It shall not be necessary to go through any formalities of a trial other than as stated in this section and in Sections 176-177 of the Constitution; but no member shall be suspended until notice has been given as provided in Section 176 and the matter is considered and voted upon at a stated communication.

## TRIALS IN OTHER STATES

**SECTION 179.** Trial In Other States. If a Mason, who is a member of a lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, shall make his residence in another Grand Lodge Jurisdiction, the lodge nearest such residence may take penal jurisdiction over him by preferring charges against him before his own lodge brings formal accusations for the same offense, and may reprimand, suspend or expel him according to its findings and sentence after due trial had in accordance with the laws of the Grand Lodge under which the trial lodge is holden and shall give to the Kentucky lodge, of which the accused was a member, prompt notice of the action taken. This privilege shall apply only to such Grand Jurisdictions as shall accord to Kentucky lodges the same rights and privileges over such of their members as may come from their jurisdictions to that of this Grand Lodge.

## TRIAL OF A MASTER

**SECTION 180.** On Probable Guilt-Investigation. If there be reason-able grounds for believing that the Master of a lodge has been guilty of unmasonic conduct, the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may suspend him from office and shall furnish him with a copy of the charges and specifications or complaint against him with notice of reference thereof to the Committee on Appeals to fix a time and place for an investigation thereof, after notice to him by said Committee.

**SECTION 181.** Record and Finding. Said Committee shall keep a full, verified record of its proceedings, append its findings and shall recommend whether the suspension ought to be for a definite period, and if so what time, or be made permanent, or accused acquitted, and send, properly indexed and styled, the record, evidence and documents relating to the investigation and its decision thereof to the Grand Master.

**SECTION 182.** Final Action. The Grand Master shall send a copy of the Committee's decision to the accused and to his lodge and transmit the whole record to the Grand Secretary for permanent file in his office.

**SECTION 183.** When Lodge May Try. If the suspension shall be made permanent, charges may be preferred against such suspended brother, and his lodge may try him as in the case of any other member.

## APPEALS BETWEEN LODGES

**SECTION 184.** Who May Appeal. The accused or any brother being a member of the same lodge and declaring himself aggrieved by the decision of the lodge may appeal to the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge at the next annual communication thereof, and the same Committee on Appeals shall adjudicate the matter, subject to right of appeal.

**SECTION 185.** How to Appeal. To secure the right of appeal, a notice in writing to the lodge shall be deemed sufficient. Notice of the appeal in writing must be delivered to the Master or Secretary in time to be presented. Upon such notice the Secretary of the lodge shall, as soon as possible, pre-pare and deliver to the appellant a true and complete transcript of the charges and specifications, of the evidence adduced for and against the accused, and of the whole record and proceedings of the trial, or as to the decision of the Master appealed from, certified under the seal

of the lodge. For such transcript the Secretary shall be paid, by the appellant, at the rate of ten cents per one hundred words.

**SECTION 186.** Lodge Against Lodge-Notice. Should any lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge feel aggrieved at the action of another lodge under said jurisdiction, and determine to appeal, said lodge shall file a written complaint against said other lodge with the Grand Secretary not less than ninety days prior to the annual communication at which said complaint is to be considered, and the Grand Secretary shall, within five days after the filing thereof, mail a copy of said complaint to the lodge complained of, and summons it to file with him its answer to said complaint within thirty days after date of said summons. Immediately after such answer shall be filed, the Grand Secretary shall forward to the complainant a certified copy of the same, and give the date of the filing thereof. Each lodge shall give notice to the other lodge of the time and place of taking its evidence, and afford it an opportunity to cross-examine its witnesses, and shall appoint its own committee to take its evidence.

## RESTORATIONS

**SECTION 187.** After Suspension for Non-Payment. A brother suspended for non-payment of dues shall rest under suspension only until payment thereof shall be made. Payment of the amount owing up to the time he was suspended shall restore him to membership when the fact of payment is re-reported to, and noted in the minutes of the lodge; provided, if he shall remain suspended for two years or longer, he can be restored to good standing only on payment of said sums, and re-elected to membership by consent of three-fourths of the members present expressed by ballot after regular petition, which must be referred to and be reported on by committee the same as any other petition for membership.

**SECTION 188.** Before Term Expires. To restore one expelled or one suspended before the expiration of the time made in the sentence shall require regular petition, reference to committee, action deferred for one month, report of committee and unanimous ballot by the lodge that sentenced him. if in existence. If, however, that lodge be defunct, the restoration can only be made by the Grand Lodge and expelled member shall not be reinstated within one year from the date of his expulsion.

**SECTION 189.** Expiration of Term. Expiration of the term of suspension for a definite period shall operate as a restoration to membership at the termination of that period, without any action on the part of the lodge, except the notation of the fact in the minutes.

## LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION

**SECTION 190.** Laws That Govern. Lodges under dispensation shall be governed by the same laws and regulations as apply to chartered lodges, except that lodges under dispensation cannot elect officers other than the Treasurer and Secretary as in Section 195, and need not have a seal.

**SECTION 191.** How To Establish a Lodge Under Dispensation. A lodge under dispensation may be established on the petition of not less than 25 Master Masons, residents of the jurisdiction of the proposed new lodge, who shall file with said petition their demits or statements of good standing, certified and sealed by the Secretaries of their lodges, and the consent of every lodge whose jurisdiction would be affected by the new lodge if established. Should the proposed new lodge be located in a city in which there are three or more lodges, the consent of a majority only of said lodges shall be required before a dispensation can be granted for the formation of the new lodge, provided, however when a subordinate lodge reaches a membership of 200, its consent shall not be required for the creation of a new lodge in its jurisdiction. The petitioners shall also file the certification of the lodge selected by the Grand Master which shall state that the proposed Master and Wardens have been examined audibly in said lodge and found capable of doing the work of the symbolic degrees in a creditable manner.

**SECTION 192.** Provisional Demits. It shall be held as complying with the requirements touching demits if, in lieu of the usual demit certificate, there be a "provisional demit" granted to an affiliated petitioner for the new lodge,

who shall have paid his lodge dues for three months in advance. Said provisional demit certificate shall be made according to the form prescribed by this Grand Lodge and be sent to the Grand Secretary by the Secretary of the lodge issuing it. If the new lodge shall be established within the time-limit mentioned in said certificate, the same shall be filed with the papers of the new lodge and the issuing lodge shall be notified by the Grand Secretary, whereupon such provisional demit shall become permanent and the brother to whom it was granted shall at once cease to be a member of the lodge which granted it, and thereupon shall become a member of such new lodge for which he petitioned. If the proposed new lodge shall not be established within the said time-limit mentioned in the provisional demit certificate, said certificate shall be cancelled and returned to the lodge issuing it, and the brother for whom it was issued shall be held to have been continuously a member of the lodge by which such provisional certificate had been issued in his name.

**SECTION 193.** Fee for Dispensation. The fee for dispensation to form a new lodge shall be fifty dollars-which must be paid before the dispensation shall be issued.

**SECTION 194.** Dispensation Expires-When. Every dispensation shall expire with the close of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge next succeeding the date thereof, but it may be continued by the Grand Lodge until the close of the next subsequent annual communication.

**SECTION 195.** Officers Installed, Capabilities Shown. The Grand Master shall name the brothers to serve as Master and Wardens of the lodge granted a dispensation, but the Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by the lodge. The other officers shall be appointed by the Master. The officers shall be regularly installed when the lodge is set to work. The lodge must also show its capabilities before being granted a charter.

**SECTION 196.** Books, By-Laws, and Dispensation. Lodges under dispensation must present their record and account books, By-Laws and dispensation to the office of the Grand Secretary not later than the Monday in October preceding the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for delivery to the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation.

## CHARTERED LODGES

**SECTION 197.** Instituted When. A lodge which shall have worked under dispensation may be granted a charter by the Grand Lodge, but it must be regularly instituted and its officers must be installed before it shall proceed to work as a chartered lodge.

**SECTION 198.** Fee for Charter. The fee for a charter shall be fifty dollars, which must be paid before the charter shall be issued.

**SECTION 199.** Must Have and Use Seal. Every chartered lodge shall have a legible seal, which shall be used only in certifying official reports, documents and communications. An impression of the lodge seal shall be sent to the Grand Secretary, and notice of loss or change of such seal and an impression of the new one shall be promptly forwarded to him.

**SECTION 200.** Surrender of Charter. No charter or dispensation shall be surrendered by a lodge so long as there are eleven Master Masons, members thereof, who will maintain and work under it conformable to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge. (1998)

## CONSOLIDATION AND MERGER OF LODGES

**SECTION 201.** Consolidating Lodges-Steps For. Two or more lodges having concurrent or contiguous jurisdiction may consolidate into one by the method following:

(1) A resolution or motion agreeing to consolidate and merge must be offered at a stated communication of each of the lodges, parties to the proposed consolidation, and be laid over until the next stated communication. After

action the Secretary of each lodge shall, by written or printed notices, inform his lodge members of the proposed action and when a vote will be taken thereon.

(2) At the stated communication, held pursuant to said notices, if a majority of the members present vote for the proposition, it shall be declared adopted.

(3) If the proposition carries, the Secretary of each lodge shall promptly notify the other lodge or lodges in interest of the action taken by his own lodge.

(4) If all the lodges are agreed on the proposition the Grand Master shall be informed and he shall set a time and place of meeting to complete the consolidation. The consolidated lodge shall continue under the name and number of the lodge, agreed upon in advance by said Lodges which shall give notification to the Grand Secretary.

(5) At the communication for consolidation the Grand Master, or his proxy, shall congregate and open a lodge of Master Masons and hold an election of officers for the consolidated lodge. The appointive officers, if any, shall be named, officers installed, by-laws adopted or provided for, no later than 90 days from the date of consolidation and matters of detail arranged.

(6) The Secretary of the merged lodge shall immediately report to the Grand Master the action heretofore indicated, and forward to the Grand Secretary a full transcript of the proceedings held in the lodges concerned, relative to the consolidation, and also send the Grand Secretary the Charter or Charters and seals of the relinquishing lodge(s), except the charter and seal of the continuing lodge, which said charter shall remain and be in full force and effect and be the charter of the consolidated lodge, continuing under the same name and number of said charter and no fee for charter will be made.

(7) All property of each lodge shall become property of the consolidated or merged lodge.

## DEFUNCT LODGE

**SECTION 202.** Definition. A defunct lodge is one whose charter or dispensation has been arrested, forfeited, or surrendered.

**SECTION 203.** Restoration of Charter Limited. A charter surrendered, arrested, or forfeited may, within one year thereafter, be restored by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge; but after the lapse of a year from the time the lodge became defunct, the old charter shall not be returned, nor shall its number be given to that or any other lodge.

**SECTION 204.** Property Vests in Grand Lodge. Defunct lodge property of every kind shall at once become the property of the Grand Lodge and subject to its absolute disposal.

**SECTION 205.** Wrongful Disposal of Property. Disposal of property, or remitting dues in view of surrender of a charter, is unlawful and void. A brother who gives his assent to such unlawful act or acts may be tried by order of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge for unmasonic conduct, as in Section 207.

**SECTION 206.** Duty of Last Lodge Officers. When a lodge shall become defunct its last Master (or the Wardens if the Master be unable from any cause to attend to the duty) the Treasurer and Secretary, shall immediately make an inventory and statement of all the property of every description then owned or held by said lodge, including real estate, hall, money, furniture, record and account books, Grand Lodge Proceedings and other books. They shall state what money is owing to the lodge in dues or otherwise and by whom the same is owing; also what debts are outstanding against the lodge and to whom the same is owing. Said inventory and statement of accounts, duly certified, shall be transmitted promptly to the Grand Secretary.

**SECTION 207.** Penalty for Neglect of Duty. If the provisions of Section 206 be not complied with, the last officers of the lodge which shall become defunct, shall be cited by the Grand Master to answer to charges for violation of this Constitution, either before the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge or in some subordinate

lodge to be designated by the Grand Master, who may appoint a brother to represent the Grand Lodge at the trial of such delinquents on said charges.

**SECTION 208.** Agent to Settle Defunct Lodge Affairs. The Grand Secretary is the financial agent of the Grand Lodge to settle the affairs of defunct lodges. As such he is authorized to take immediate possession of all property of a defunct lodge and shall make full report of his acts to the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION 209.** Property to Sell or Preserve. The Grand Secretary is authorized to sell the personal property belonging to defunct lodges; pro-vided that the charters and records of such lodges shall be preserved by him. The old seals, after being held for one year, may be destroyed, or kept as souvenirs.

**SECTION 210.** Real Estate and Halls. The Grand Secretary may sell real estate and halls of defunct lodges on the best practicable terms, giving a quit-claim deed therefor conditioned that such sale shall be subject to the approval of a majority of the Grand Lodge Officers.

**SECTION 211.** Collectors and Custodians. The Grand Secretary may employ some person to collect the dues and assessments of defunct lodge members and hold any property of the lodge, subject to his order, but shall not be liable for any laches on the part of such agent under him. Collections and sales shall be on commission and not salary, which, with his expenses, shall in no case exceed the amount collected or received.

**SECTION 212.** Employs Counsel and Visits Locality. The Grand Secretary, by consent of the Grand Master, may employ counsel in winding up the affairs of defunct lodges. If the Grand Secretary deems it necessary to visit the locality of the defunct lodge he may do so with the consent of the Grand Master. In such cases his actual expenses shall be paid by warrant on the Grand Treasurer.

**SECTION 213.** Extent of Liability. The Grand Lodge shall in no case be liable for any indebtedness of a defunct lodge beyond the net amount received from the sale of its property and dues collected, after paying all expenses attending the settlement of the affairs of such lodge.

**SECTION 214.** Status of Members. When a lodge becomes defunct its members are thereby made non-affiliates and cannot unite with any other lodge until they obtain demits from the Grand Secretary.

**SECTION 215.** Demits to Defunct Lodge Members. A demit to one who was a member of a lodge which has become defunct, shall be issued by the Grand Secretary upon such member making application and having the application recommended by a lodge in whose jurisdiction he may then reside, and paying to the Grand Secretary the dues of his lodge for one year, and the demit may be issued without regard to any time limit. All persons who are suspended for non-payment of dues by said lodge prior to the time the lodge became defunct may receive a demit on payment of his indebtedness and current year's dues.

## LEGITIMATE MASONIC BODIES

**SECTION 216.** Legitimate Masonic Bodies Enumerated. The Grand Lodge of Kentucky does not acknowledge any degree of Masonry or Order of Knighthood to be regular or legitimate, except those conferred under the authority of the following Masonic bodies of the United States of America, and those of corresponding rank in foreign countries, recognized by or in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Lodge, to wit:

- (1) Symbolic Masonry. The Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Ma-sons of the several States and Territories.
- (2) Capitular Masonry. The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Ma-sons of the United States of America, and the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the States and Territories.
- (3) Cryptic Masonry. The General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States, and the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the States and Territories.

(4) Chivalric Masonry. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the Grand Commanderies of the States and Territories.

(5) Scottish Rite. The Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction and the Northern Jurisdiction and the several bodies under their obedience.

(6) Mark Masters of England. Foreign Bodies not specifically referred to and not included in the foregoing, but deemed Masonic and Legitimate by this Grand Lodge.

(7) Royal Order of Scotland. The Royal Order of Scotland and the provincial Grand Body of that order in the United States.

(8) Penalty. Any Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky who shall recognize as Masonic, take or receive, or communicate, or confer, or sell, or be present at, or assist in communicating, or conferring, or selling, or solicit anyone to take, or receive, or apply for any alleged Masonic degree, or order of Knighthood, from or by any person, or in any assemblage or persons, no matter by whatsoever name it or they may be called, except it be held and done under the authority of one of the bodies herein before recognized and acknowledged to be regular and legitimate, shall be expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry.

(9) Conditions of the Foregoing. Before the privileges granted to the several bodies enumerated in Section 216 shall become operative, their respective Grand Bodies shall first amend their laws so as to require that each member of their subordinate bodies shall hereafter be in affiliation with some subordinate lodge.

Hereafter no Mason within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall engage in the formation or become a member of any organization basing its eligibility to membership therein upon symbolic lodge membership unless such organization shall have received the formal approval of this Grand Lodge.

## AMENDMENTS

**SECTION 217.** This constitution shall not be altered, amended or re-pealed, until the proposed alteration, amendment or repeal shall have been offered in writing over the seal of a lodge, or proposed by a majority of the elected Grand Lodge Officers, read to the Grand Lodge, seconded, referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and remain one whole vacation for consideration of subordinate lodges, and then be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Grand Lodge present at its annual communication. All Amendments to the Constitution must be received in the office of the Grand Secretary by August 15 prior to the Grand Lodge Communication. (1998)

**SECTION 218.** When any resolution, regulation or amendment to this Constitution is under consideration, it may be amended if the proposed amendment be germane to the subject.

## OLD CONSTITUTION REPEALED

**SECTION 219.** All previous Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky are hereby repealed and are declared null and void.

## **RULES OF ORDER**

General Parliamentary Laws shall govern in the transaction of business before the Grand Lodge, unless modified by the following rules:

RULE 1. A Call of Lodges to Verify a Vote can only be had upon the demand of the representatives of thirty lodges.

RULE 2. Debate -When a brother rises to speak he shall address the "Most Worshipful Grand Master," then announce his name and the name and number of his lodge.

RULE 3. Debate -No brother shall speak more than twice to a Debate question, and shall limit his remarks to no more than three minutes without leave and not until every other brother wishing to speak shall have spoken.

RULE 4. Order of Business. The Grand Master shall call for:

1. Approval of Minutes.
2. Reports of Grand Officers.
3. Reports of Standing Committees.
4. Reports of Special Committees.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. New Business.

RULE 5. Previous Question -Ordering the previous question shall only be to preclude debate and further amendments.

RULE 6. Privileged Questions -When a Question is under debate no motion shall be entertained except

1. To close or call off;
2. For the previous question;
3. To postpone;
4. To commit or recommit;
5. To amend;

and they shall have precedence in the order here given.

RULE 7. Roll Call -When the roll is called, the representative of each lodge shall, as the name or number of his lodge is called, rise in his place and in a loud tone of voice answer "here" ("aye" or "no" as the case may be) and immediately resume his seat. The same applies to other members when their names are called.

RULE 8. Vote -No one shall vote when he is directly and personally interested in the question, nor when he is not present when the question is first put.

RULE 9. Vote -Everyone having the right shall vote if present-unless excused by the Grand Lodge.

Any Rule of Order may be suspended, amended or repealed at any time by a majority of the members of the Grand Lodge present and entitled to vote.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That the foregoing pages contain a full and true copy of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons, which was adopted at its annual communication held October 17, 1995, Anno Lucis 5995; and after the installation of officers on that date, was formally proclaimed by the Grand Master, in open Grand Lodge, to be in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Witness our hands this 10th day of April, 1996, in conformity with a resolution of the aforesaid Grand Lodge, adopted October 17, 1995.

J. C. McClanahan, P.G.M., P.G.S. (9)

Roland Stayton (951)

William Buckaway, Jr. (820)

L.C. Harper, Grand Master

Original Committee to which amended Constitution was referred

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Joseph R. Conway, P.G.M.,  
Grand Secretary

**STANDING RESOLUTIONS  
ADOPTED BY  
THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY**

1. Grand Master's Address Printed

At all future communications of this Grand Lodge, the address of the Grand Master, and the report of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, together with the reports of any Standing Committee or Special Committee as directed by the Grand Master, should be printed in pamphlet form and distributed among the Representatives.

2. "Fraternally Thine" in Correspondence

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge concurs with the Grand Secretary's suggestion and directs that the words, "Fraternally Thine," so familiar to the brethren of this and many other jurisdictions, as a superscription to the signature of our beloved brother, Capt. H. B. Grant, now lost to us, be adopted as a memorial to his memory, and be used as a Masonic superscription to signatures in all Masonic correspondence in this Grand Jurisdiction.

3. Reporter for Grand Lodge

Resolved, That each future Grand Master, by and with the consent of the Finance Committee, by virtue of the adoption of this report, is hereby directed to employ as an Official Reporter some Master Mason, that the transposition of the notes of said reporter be not published in extenso, but said transcript shall remain in the archives for the purpose of being a check upon the printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, which shall by the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the Grand Master, be edited and published therefrom.

Resolved, That the said reporter shall not write or transcribe any discussion of any secret work which the laws and obligations of Masonry for-bid being reduced to writing.

4. Election of Directors

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky hereby advises and instructs that in the use of all Proxies, including Life Memberships owned by the Grand Lodge, relative to the election of Directors for the Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc., said Proxies shall be held jointly by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and that a majority of the above Grand Officers, after due conference, shall have the authority to decide for whom said Proxies shall be voted.

If any Elected Grand Lodge Officer shall be unable to attend the meeting called by the Grand Master, he may cast his vote by Proxy, provided such Proxy Vote shall be in writing, designating by name the persons for whom his Proxy Vote shall be cast, and provided further that such written Proxy shall be delivered to the Grand Master at or prior to the Grand Lodge Officers meeting referred to above.

In the event of a tie vote among the Grand Lodge Officers for a candidate for that candidate, no Proxy of Life membership held by the Grand Lodge shall be cast for that candidate.

5. Grand Representatives

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has granted authority to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary to establish mutual relations and amity and ex-change Representatives with Grand Lodges of the United States and the following Grand Bodies of Symbolic Masonry:

Resolved, That should a Grand Representative absent himself from Grand Lodge for three consecutive years that his office shall become vacated. (2000)

**Canada**

**West Indies**

Alberta  
British Columbia  
Canada (Ontario)  
Manitoba  
New Brunswick  
Newfoundland - Labrador  
Nova Scotia  
Prince Edward Islands  
Quebec  
Saskatchewan

**Great Britain**

Ireland  
England  
Scotland

**Australia**

New South Wales  
Queensland  
South Australia  
Tasmania  
Victoria  
Western Australia

**Brazil**

Alagoas  
Amazonas and Acre  
Bahia  
Brazil, Grand Oriente  
Brasilia  
Ceara  
De Rondonia Glomeron  
Estado de Goias  
Maranhao  
Mato Grosso  
Minas Gerais  
Para  
Parahyba  
Pernambuco  
Rio Grande du Sul  
Rio De Janeiro  
Rio Grand Do Norte  
Santa Catarina  
Sao Paulo

**Mexico**

Baja, California  
Benito Juarez  
Campeche  
Chiapas  
Cosmos  
del Pacifiaco  
El Potosi  
Guadalupe Victoria  
Hidalgo

Cuba  
Dominican Republic  
Puerto Rico

**Central America**

Costa Rica  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Nicaraqua  
Panama  
Parana  
Piaui

**South America**

Argentina  
Bolivia  
Chile  
Columbia, Cartagena  
Colombia, Bagota  
Colombia, Barranquilla  
Colombia, Occidental, Cali  
Santander  
Ecuador  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

**Other Countries**

Austria (Vienna)  
Belgium (New)  
China  
Burkina Faso, West Africa  
Germany (United Grand Lodge of)  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
India  
Iran  
Israel  
Italy (Grand Orient)  
Japan  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
New Zealand  
Norway  
Philippine Islands  
Czechoslovakia  
Denmark  
Finland  
France (National Grand Lodge of)  
Portugal  
Romania  
Senegal, West Africa

Nuevo Leon  
Oxaca  
Occidental Mexicana  
Restauracion  
Tamaulipas  
Unida Mexicana  
Valle de Mexico  
York Grand Lodge

South Africa  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland (Alpina)  
Turkey  
Yugoslavia

6. Feltman Property

That the Feltman Property Committee establish a Masonic museum and library. This would be done by solicitation from the Craft, Lodges and interested members at minimum expense to establish.

7. Standing Resolutions

All standing resolutions upon adoption by Grand Lodge shall remain in full force and effect until amended or repealed.

8. Cave Hill Lot

The Grand Secretary shall have charge of the Grand Lodge lot in Cave Hill Cemetery, keep a record of burials therein, and make report to the Grand Lodge from time to time.

9. Veteran's Emblems

Any Master Mason who shall have been affiliated with a lodge or lodges in Kentucky, or with some other lodge with which Kentucky sustains fraternal relation, for a period of 25 and 40 years shall be entitled to wear a Kentucky Veteran's Emblem which may be purchased by the Lodge from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Provided, however, that said Master Mason be at the time a member in good standing of a Kentucky Lodge and any period of suspension or non-affiliation must be deducted from the entire period since his initiation.

Any Master Mason who shall have been affiliated with a lodge or lodges in Kentucky, or with some other lodge with which Kentucky sustains fraternal relation, for a period of 50, 60, and 75 years, shall receive from Grand Lodge of Kentucky a Veteran's Emblem as approved for said purpose, as a reward of merit for his long and faithful service to the fraternity. Pro-vided, however, that said Master Mason be at the time a member in good standing of a Kentucky Lodge and any period of suspension or non-affiliation must be deducted from the entire period since his initiation.

10. Grand Master's Portrait and Biography

It is the duty of the Grand Master, immediately after his installation, and of each Past Grand Master, to file with the Grand Secretary a sketch of his life and a portrait of himself, similar to those of Past Grand Masters now in the Grand Lodge Office.

11. Annual Reports

The Board of Directors of the Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc., is invited to make an annual report to the Grand Lodge of the financial and general condition of the Homes.

12. Be It Resolved By The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons. That the Grand Jurisdiction of Kentucky, be and the same is hereby divided into thirty (30) districts composed territorially as follows:

District No. 1: Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman, McCracken

District No. 2: Calloway, Graves, Marshall

District No. 3: Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon

District No. 4: Christian, Logan, Trigg, Todd

District No. 5: Henderson, Union, Webster

District No. 6: Hopkins, Muhlenberg

District No. 7: Daviess, Hancock, McLean

District No. 8: Grayson, Ohio

District No. 9: Breckinridge, Hardin, Meade

District No. 10: Allen, Butler, Edmonson, Simpson, Warren

District No. 11: Barren, Cumberland, Hart, Metcalfe, Monroe

District No. 12: Jefferson-

Mt. Zion No. 147

St. George No. 239

Louisville No. 400

Kilwinning No. 506

Valley No. 511

Lewis-Parkland No. 638

Daylight No. 760

Shawnee No. 830

Plumb No. 862

Sunset No. 915

Shively No. 951

Pleasure Ridge Park No. 959

River City No. 966

District No. 13: Jefferson-

Compass No. 223

Excelsior No. 258

Robinson No. 266

Aurora No. 633

Suburban No. 740

Boaz No. 850

Okolona No. 853

Highland Park No. 865

Progress No. 932

Masonic Home No. 940

Fairdale No. 942 Fern Creek No. 955

District No. 14: Jefferson (East)-

Abraham No. 8

Philip Swigert No. 218

Willis Stewart No. 224

Preston No. 281 Harrods Creek No. 456

Middletown No. 732

Harry R. Kendall No. 750

Jeffersontown No. 774

Crescent Hill No. 820

Buechel No. 896

St. Matthews No. 906

Lyndon No. 960

District No. 15: Bullitt, Nelson, Shelby, Spencer

District No. 16: Green, Larne, Marion, Taylor, Washington  
District No. 17: Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Oldham, Owen, Trimble  
District No. 18: Boone, Grant, Kenton  
District No. 19: Bracken, Campbell, Harrison, Pendleton, Robertson  
District No. 20: Anderson, Fayette, Franklin, Jessamine, Scott, Woodford  
District No. 21: Boyle, Casey, Garrard, Lincoln, Mercer  
District No. 22: Adair, Clinton, Pulaski, Russell, Wayne  
District No. 23: Fleming, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Morgan, Rowan  
District No. 24: Bath, Bourbon, Clark, Montgomery, Nicholas, Powell, Wolfe  
District No. 25: Estill, Jackson, Madison, Rockcastle  
District No. 26: Clay, Laurel, Leslie, McCreary, Whitley  
District No. 27: Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Lawrence  
District No. 28: Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin, Pike  
District No. 29: Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Letcher, Owsley, Perry  
District No. 30: Bell, Harlan, Knox

13. Be It Resolved By The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons. That the Grand Jurisdiction of Kentucky be and the same is hereby divided into ten (10) Regions of Masonic Educational Conferences, grouped territorially as follows:

Region #1: Districts #: 1, 2 and 3.

Region #2: Districts #: 4, 5 and 6.

Region #3: Districts #: 7, 8 and 9.

Region #4: Districts #: 10 and 11.

Region #5: Districts #: 12, 13 and 14.

Region #6: Districts #: 15, 16, 20 and 21.

Region #7: Districts #: 17, 18, 19 and 23.

Region #8: Districts #: 22, 26 and 30.

Region #9: Districts #: 24, 25 and 29.

Region #10: Districts #: 27 and 28.

The districts may be realigned by the Grand Lodge Officers as the need may warrant, with notice of these changes being sent to the subordinate lodges.

The Grand Lodge shall provide printed educational material for these meetings, as needed, to all those entitled to receive it. The meetings shall be conducted by the Grand Master and/or Area Officers and the Grand Secretary. (2004)

### **REPEALING FORMER REGULATIONS**

All Regulations and Decisions of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, heretofore adopted, are hereby repealed.

## **TRIAL CODE & DISCIPLINE**

### **SECTION 1- JURISDICTION.**

A Mason is subject to discipline for unmasonic conduct by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky if he is a member of a subordinate lodge in Kentucky or is sojourning within Kentucky.

### **SECTION 2- DEFINITIONS.**

(a) **ACCUSED MASON** - He is the Mason or Masons against whom a complaint is filed.

(b) **CHARGES** - The written, signed and dated statement apprising the accused Mason of the nature and character of the offense or offenses being brought against him.

(c) **COMPLAINING MASON** - The Mason or Masons who file a complaint.

(d) **COMPLAINT** - The written, signed and dated statement of the acts or conduct of an accused Mason which the complaining Mason asserts is a violation of Masonic law or constitutes conduct unbecoming a Mason.

(e) **IMPARTIAL** - Having no direct knowledge of the act or conduct set forth in the complaint or charges; not having formed an opinion as to the merits of the complaint or charges; not being related by blood or marriage; nor being so closely associated with the complaining Mason, the accused Mason or any material witness as to be likely to affect the Mason's judgment.

(f) **INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE** - The committee of three impartial Past Masters of this Jurisdiction appointed by the Grand Master and charged with the duty of thoroughly investigating a complaint.

(g) **MORAL TURPITUDE** - Conduct which is socially undesirable and is also base and depraved, as may be defined by the supreme court of the state of Kentucky.

(h) **NOTICE** - To mail, first-class, postage prepaid, a copy of the document in question to the last known address of the Mason involved or to deliver the document to the Mason in person. Unless a greater time is specifically allowed, this should be done forthwith.

(i) **TRIAL COMMITTEE** - This consists of five members of the trial panel who are selected to try the charges brought against the accused Mason.

(j) **TRIAL PANEL** - The seven impartial Masons appointed by the Grand Master from which the trial committee is selected.

(k) **UNMASONIC CONDUCT** - A Mason is guilty of unmasonic conduct if he:

(1) Violates the laws, customs, principles, or ancient usages of Masonry, or

(2) Commits a crime involving moral turpitude.

(3) Threatens that the lodge shall not increase in membership, or that no more candidates shall be elected; or by words of like purpose threaten the growth or prosperity of the lodge, and candidates are in fact rejected thereafter when he is present, he may be tried for unmasonic conduct, because of the threat.

(4) Uses the Masonic Emblems, or the term "Masonic" in advertising any business by any individual or company.

(5) Habitually takes the name of God in vain, or blasphemy.

(6) Drunkenness is a Masonic offense, and the lodge should be rigid in their discipline on this subject.

(7) Unlawful carnal intercourse with any female.

(8) Violation of an oath lawfully taken is Masonic offense.

(9) The abuse, battery or injury by a Mason of his wife is an offense against Masonry. For a Mason to desert wife or family is unmasonic conduct. A Mason is bound to obey the moral law, and is under special obligations to observe and preserve the sanctity of the marital relation.

(10) To honestly take the benefit of the bankrupt law is not a Masonic offense, but this does not relieve a bankrupt from the moral obligation to pay his debt, should he thereafter become able.

(11) A lawsuit is not a Masonic offense.

(12) Inability to pay debts is not a Masonic offense, but a debtor's refusal to meet pecuniary obligations he is able to meet, being an infraction of the moral law, is a Masonic offense.

(13) The statute of limitation does not relieve a debtor from the moral obligation to pay a debt if he be able to do so.

(14) Polygamy is a crime against moral and Masonic laws.

(15) Soliciting petitions for initiation into Masonry is a violation of Masonic law, is contrary to the accepted teaching of the fraternity, and unmasonic.

(16) Disobedience of a Summons. A summons is the most forcible writ known to Masonry. So long as he is a member of the Fraternity, an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason must obey this writ, whether he be a non-affiliate, a member of the lodge issuing the citation, or otherwise. Disobedience thereof would constitute one of the gravest of Masonic offenses, if it be shown the summons had been received, and is an act of insubordination, for which charges should be preferred.

(1) WITNESS - A person, male or female, called to give testimony.

### **SECTION 3- TIME LIMIT.**

Any disciplinary action against a Mason must be initiated within one year of the date of the incident, within one year from the date the incident is or reasonably should have been discovered, or within one year from a final conviction for a criminal offense involving moral turpitude.

### **SECTION 4- PROCEDURE**

Proceedings for the discipline of any Mason by the Grand Lodge are as follows:

(a) BEFORE TRIAL.

(1) Any Mason complaining against another Mason of unmasonic conduct must state the nature and character thereof in writing, sign and date the complaint, and deliver it to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge. The complaint must be filed within the time period provided in Section 3.

(2) Immediately upon the receipt of a complaint, it is the duty of the Grand Secretary to notify the Grand Master thereof. If the Grand Master determines that it is a non-frivolous complaint, the Grand Master notifies the Grand Secretary. Thereupon, the Grand Secretary delivers a copy of the complaint to the accused Mason.

(3) The Grand Master appoints an Investigation Committee of three impartial Past Masters, whose duty it is to thoroughly investigate the complaint. The complaining Mason and the accused Mason shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard before the Investigation Committee. The complaining Mason may withdraw the complaint any time prior to the determination of the existence of probable cause by the Investigation Committee and, in such event, the Investigation Committee is discharged from further consideration of the matter and the complaint is dismissed. If the complaint is not withdrawn, the Investigation Committee, by a majority vote, must determine whether there is probable cause for believing an offense has been committed by the accused Mason and shall report to the Grand Master. The report must be made within 60 days after appointment of the Investigation Committee, be in writing, and signed by those voting in the majority and copies shall be delivered to the complaining and accused Masons.

If no probable cause is found, the proceedings shall terminate. In the event the charge is that the accused Mason was convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, then the Investigation Committee shall limit its inquiry to whether or not the crime did, in fact, involve moral turpitude; whether there was a conviction; and whether the accused Mason was the same defendant in the criminal proceedings.

(4) Immediately upon receipt of a report from the Investigation Committee finding probable cause, the Grand Master shall notify the Grand Secretary. It is the duty of the Grand Secretary to cause formal written charges to be preferred against the accused Mason. The charges, in plain and concise language must apprise the accused Mason of the offense charges. A copy thereof shall be sent to the complaining Mason.

In the event the Investigation Committee finds the accused Mason was convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, it so certifies to the Grand Secretary.

(5) Immediately upon filing of the charges, it is the duty of the Grand Master to appoint a trial panel of seven impartial Masons, giving preference to Past Masters, at least one of whom shall be an attorney, and the Grand Master shall give consideration to appointing a Past Master of the accused Masons lodge as a member of the trial panel, and to designate a date for the trial, which shall not be less than 15 nor more than 30 days from the date of the selection of the trial panel. The trial shall be conducted in the subordinate lodge of the accused Mason unless the Grand Master determines that the facilities are inadequate or that a fair trial may not be obtained thereat. The Grand Master may, for good cause, postpone the trial to a subsequent date not later than 60 days from the date of the selection of the trial panel. The names of the trial panel shall be provided to the complaining Mason and the accused Mason. Neither the complaining Mason nor the accused Mason nor anyone representing them shall have any contact whatsoever with the trial panel or vice versa regarding the case.

(6) If any person named in this section is the complaining Mason, is the accused Mason, or is not impartial, he shall be disqualified to act. If a member of the Investigation Committee or the trial panel is disqualified, it is the duty of the Grand Master to fill the vacancy with an impartial Mason.

(7) Unless a person is disqualified under the provisions of (6), or excused by the Grand Master, he is required to serve. Any Mason who willfully violates any provision of this article is subject to discipline under this article.

(8) In the event the Grand Master is disqualified under (6), or for good cause disqualifies himself, the Deputy Grand Master acts in his stead. If both are disqualified, the Grand Senior Warden acts in his stead. If all three are disqualified, the Grand Junior Warden acts in his stead. If all four are disqualified, the Grand Master shall appoint an impartial Mason to act in his stead.

(9) It is the duty of the Grand Secretary to cause to be served upon the accused Mason a certified copy of the charges, together with a notice apprising the accused Mason of the time and place of the trial. Service shall be in person by a Mason or by registered or certified mail, to the last known address of the accused Mason, with restricted delivery and return receipt requested. Service by registered or certified mail shall be complete when the registered or certified mail is delivered and the return receipt signed or when the acceptance is refused, provided that the Grand

Secretary shall file an affidavit setting forth the efforts made to obtain personal service and either the return receipt or, if acceptance was refused, an affidavit that upon notice of such refusal a certified copy of the charges was sent to the accused Mason by ordinary first-class mail.

(10) The accused Mason may file a written answer to the charges at least five days prior to the time set for the trial.

(b) TRIAL.

(1) The trial is not to be held in a tiled lodge. However, any Mason is permitted to attend the trial.

(2) The accused Mason has the right to have an attorney, who must be a Mason, represent him in any proceedings under this article.

(3) Upon the date set for the trial, the accused Mason has the right to excuse two of the trial panel. If the accused Mason fails or refuses to exercise his challenge, then the trial committee of five shall be chosen by lot. Prior to exercising his challenge, the accused Mason shall have the right to inquire of the trial panel and to challenge any Mason for cause. Cause shall consist of showing that the Mason in question is not impartial. The Grand Master shall immediately make a decision and appoint a substitute impartial trial panel member, if necessary, for any Mason excused for cause.

(4) The Trial Committee selects one of its members as chairman. The chairman has charge of the conduct of the trial. The chairman administers the oath to all witnesses who are Masons upon their honor as Masons. All witnesses who are not Masons shall be sworn by any officers qualified to administer oaths.

(5) Both the Trial Committee and the accused Mason shall have the right to summon witnesses, and disobedience of a summons subjects an offending Mason to discipline under this article. Request for the issuance of a summons to a witness shall be made of the Grand Secretary, who shall issue, sign and deliver the summons at least five days prior to the trial.

(6) The testimony of all witnesses shall be taken by recording or by a competent stenographer, so that it may be preserved.

(7) Either the Trial Committee or the accused Mason may take depositions of witnesses who cannot attend the trial, provided reasonable notice of the time and place of the taking thereof is given to the other. The accused Mason and the Grand Secretary shall provide each other with copies of all known documents that are to be used at the trial at least five days prior to the trial.

(8) The Trial Committee examines the witnesses and hears the evidence adduced. It shall conduct the trial in an informal manner and is not bound by technical rules of evidence except those relating to privileged communications. The Trial Committee hears the arguments, regarding punishment in the event guilt may be found, and then proceeds with its deliberations, and ascertains the guilt or innocence of the accused Mason.

(9) The deliberations of the Trial Committee upon the guilt or innocence and fixing the punishment are secret. All deliberations must be in person and in the presence of each member of the Trial Committee. If the Trial Committee finds the accused Mason guilty, it shall fix punishment, which may be either admonition, reprimand, definite suspension, indefinite suspension, or expulsion.

However, in the event the charge is that the brother was convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, and the Grand Master determines this to be true, then, in such event, an investigation committee is not appointed. Instead, the conviction is referred directly to the trial committee for a hearing on punishment, as hereinafter provided. Until the trial committee fixes punishment, the Grand Master may issue a suspension of the brother's Masonic rights and privileges.

(10) A majority vote of the Trial Committee upon the question of guilt and upon fixing the punishment shall be required. The report of the Trial Committee must be signed by those voting with the majority. The report is then

read to the accused Mason, or, within ten days thereafter, is mailed to the accused Mason. This reading or mailing to the accused Mason is the pronouncement of judgment. The judgment dates from the time of the pronouncement of judgment and from that date is final unless the same is reversed or modified on an appeal therefrom to the Grand Lodge. Any Mason revealing the contents of the report before the pronouncement of the judgment is subject to disciplinary action.

(c) APPEAL.

- (1) The accused Mason has the right within 30 days to appeal to the Grand Lodge from any judgment rendered.
- (2) Notice of appeal must be filed with the Grand Secretary.

(3) In the event of an appeal, it is the duty of the committee to file a complete transcript of the proceedings with the Grand Secretary at least 30 days prior to the next annual session of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary thereupon shall transmit all papers pertaining to the appeal to the chairman of the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge.

(4) If an appeal is taken, the accused Mason must pay all the costs and expenses of the transcript of the evidence, unless in the judgment of the Grand Master, the appealing party is unable to pay the expenses, in which event the Grand Lodge shall pay.

(5) The Committee on Appeals shall convene at a time and place selected by it, to receive and hear arguments, and sufficient time and notice must be arranged and provided so as to enable all parties to the appeal sufficient time throughout the hearing and be heard with or without counsel.

(6) The Committee on Appeals may, for good cause shown, stay the disciplinary action of the Trial Committee until the next session of the Grand Lodge.

(7) The Committee on Appeals must render a report recommending, affirming, reversing or modifying the disciplinary judgment, together with any other recommendations it may have, and present it to the Grand Lodge annual session.

(8) The final decision of any appeal rests with the Grand Lodge acting on an appropriate motion, but presentation of the appeal to the Grand Lodge shall be limited to the disciplinary judgment, the answer of the accused Mason, the report of the Committee on Appeals, any record of the oral or documentary evidence heard or received by the committee. The report shall be subject to discussion from the floor.

The decision of the Grand Lodge shall be final and no further Masonic proceedings may be had on the subject matter unless authorized by the decision of the Grand Lodge.

## **SECTION 5 - TERMINATION OR RESTORATION**

(a) If a Mason is suspended for a definite period of time, after expiration of one half of such period, the Brother maybe restored by application to his lodge requesting the termination of his suspension. The Secretary of the Lodge shall give notice, date and time, to the Lodge membership not less than 30 days prior to the Lodge Communication when the application of the requesting Brother is to be acted upon. Upon unanimous bal-lot of those present at a regular communication vote in favor, the suspension is terminated.

(b) If a Mason is indefinitely suspended, after the expiration of one year, the Brother may file a written application to his lodge one month prior to a regular meeting requesting the termination of his suspension. No special notice is required to be given to the membership. Upon unanimous ballot of those present at a regular communication vote in favor, the suspension is terminated.

(c) If a Mason is expelled, after the expiration of one year, he may file a written petition to his previous lodge for restoration. The petition must be presented at a regular communication, be properly recommended, and then be

referred to a committee for investigation.

(d) If a Mason is expelled under Section 4 (a) (3) (b), after the expiration of one year following the completion of his sentence and/or probation, he may file a written petition to his previous lodge for restoration. (2001)

The petition for restoration must be received at a stated Communication, and the petition cannot be balloted upon until it has been referred to a Committee of three members of the lodge petitioned for inquiry into the character of the petitioner. Further, one lunar month must intervene between the reception of the petition and the taking of the ballot thereon. The ballot must be unanimous in favor of the petitioner for restoration. (2001)

## **SECTION 6- ADMONITION, REPRIMAND WITHOUT TRIAL**

The Grand Master, with the concurrence of the Deputy Grand Master and both Grand Wardens, may issue a letter of admonition or reprimand to a Brother for unmasonic conduct. The letter shall also advise the admonished or reprimanded Brother that he has the right to appeal the action of the Grand Master to the Grand Lodge. The appeal shall be governed, as far as practical, by the provisions of Section 4 of this article.

## **SECTION 7- INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS**

Any provisions of the Kentucky Code of Masonic Law inconsistent herewith are superseded.

## **SECTION 8- EXCLUSIVE PROCEDURE**

No Mason may be disciplined except as provided in this article.

## **SECTION 9 - DECISION OR EDICT**

This article may not be revised, amended or repealed by the decision or edict of the Grand Master. It can only be revised, amended or repealed as provided in The Book of Constitutions.

## **DIGEST**

1. Fair and Speedy Trial. The accused must have a fair and speedy trial.

### **AFFILIATE-AFFILIATION**

2. Affiliation Without Demit. A lodge improperly receiving an affiliate without demit, or proper, lawful evidence of non-affiliation, is not only liable for his dues, but also subjects itself to punishment except as provided under Section 151.

### **AID, ASSIST**

3. Obligation To Aid When. The obligation to aid and assist extends only to "Worthy Brothers, their wives, widows and orphans". A worthy brother is one who is or who died in good standing. If he be suspended, it matters not from what cause, our obligation toward him ceases until he shall regain his good standing; and if he dies without having done so, that is the misfortune of himself and his family, and not the fault of the Fraternity. A lodge has the right to extend charity to the family of a suspended Mason, but is not under obligation to do so.

4. Request for Aid, Conditions, Penalty. All solicitations for aid, not addressed to the lodge to which the applicant belongs, or to members thereof, that do not bear the approval of the Grand Master, are forbidden. A lodge violating this rule subjects itself to forfeiture of its charter, and a member doing so shall be disciplined by his lodge. Solicitations on behalf of The Masonic Homes of Kentucky are permitted with approval of the Grand Master of its content and timing.

5. Request Because of Loss of Property. The Grand Master should require a lodge asking for aid on account of loss of property, to state what interest it had in such property.

6. Obligation to Aid All Needy Brothers. It is obligatory upon all Masons everywhere to supply the necessities of a needy and worthy brother without regard to the lodge of which he is a member.

7. Attention to Members of Another Lodge Without Contract. There is no obligation which can be enforced on any lodge to pay for articles furnished or attention given a member of another lodge, or for his funeral expenses, in absence of a request or contract therefor by the lodge which is sought to be charged.

8. Aid to Church or Other Objects. A letter, circular, or other printed or written matter, appealing to Masons, without approval of the Grand Master, to contribute to or solicit for a church, political campaign or other object, either personally or requesting that it be read in lodge, and containing official statement that the signers are Masons, is a violation of Masonic Law.

### **APPEAL**

9. Non-members Can Not. A non-member cannot appeal from the action of a lodge rejecting him.

10. Decision of Grand Master Holds Interim. A brother can take an appeal to the Grand Lodge from the decision of the Grand Master; but pending the time intervening the hearing of this appeal, the mandate of the Grand Master must be obeyed.

### **ASSESSMENT**

11. Home Assessment Inalienable. A lodge has the right to remit dues, but shall not by such remission relieve itself from liability to pay the Grand Lodge dues and assessments. These funds are inalienable.

12. Refusal to Pay Assessments. Any member of a subordinate lodge, including "free members," except those recognized by the Grand Lodge, may be suspended for failing or refusing to pay any assessments lawfully ordered by the Grand Lodge (Constitution, Sec. 160), the same as for dues.

13. Remission of Dues Does Not Remit Assessments. The remission of dues by the Grand Lodge does not carry with it a remission of assessments.

## **BALLOT**

14. Ballot at Called Communication. The constitutional prohibition of balloting at called communications refers to such voting as can only be done by ballot, and not to expressing the sense of the lodge in that way on questions that may lawfully be determined by viva voice vote.

15. Election by a single Ballot. In case there be but one nomination for any office, it would be within the usage and constitutional provision to entertain a motion that the Secretary (or a person named) be requested to cast a ballot on behalf of the lodge for the nominee, but the vote for such action must be unanimous.

## **BENEFITS**

16. Benefit System Unmasonic. A benefit system and/or entitlements are antagonistic to the principles and spirit of Masonry.

### **17. Retirement Benefits**

(1). ADMINISTRATION: The "Retirement Plan" of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A. M., shall be managed by the "Retirement Committee" composed of the Grand Master, Chairman; the Deputy Grand Master and the Finance Committee.

(2). ELIGIBILITY FOR RETIREMENT. Any employee with ten years of continuous service may be retired on the last day of the month in which their sixty-fifth birthday occurs.

(3). DISABILITY: In event of disability before reaching retirement age, an employee may apply for retirement benefits to the Retirement Committee. The Committee shall consider the case on its merits and make recommendations to the Grand Lodge for action.

(4). COMPULSORY RETIREMENT: Consistent with efficient performance of assigned duties, enforced retirement shall not occur at any age.

(5). FORMULA FOR RETIREMENT: Basis for determining retirement pay shall be as follows: On retirement the employee shall be paid for the duration of life, a sum equal to Forty-five (45%) per cent of his or her average annual basic pay in the ten (10) calendar years immediately preceding retirement.

(6). TIME AND METHOD OF PAYMENT: Retirement Plan shall be made on the first of each month in the amount of one-twelfth of the annual amount due.

(7). SOCIAL SECURITY: Remuneration due employees from this Retirement plan shall be independent of and in addition to any Social Security payments due.

(8). METHOD OF FINANCING: The Grand Lodge shall create a "Retirement Plan Fund", beginning with (\$20,000.00) twenty thousand dollars. This amount is to be invested in Securities at maximum available interest.

Subject to the approval of the retirement committee. Ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars is to be added to the fund annually and earnings left in the fund until it has grown to sufficient amount for the annual earnings to meet the retirement obligations.

**(9). OBLIGATIONS DUE BEFORE RETIREMENT FUNDS AVAILABLE:**

Any obligations due retired personnel before proceeds are available from earnings of the Retirement fund shall be paid from current operation of the Grand Lodge.

**(10). WILLS AND BEQUESTS:** Wills and bequests and donations to the retirement fund will be welcomed.

(11). If any of the provisions of this regulation are not in conformity with The Employee Retirement Insurance Security Act of 1974, then the provisions of said act shall prevail with respect to the non-conforming portions of the regulations.

**BOOKS**

18. Improper Books Prohibited-Penalty for Using. The use of improper and unauthorized books is unlawful and pernicious in its influence. Only such books as are authorized by Grand Lodge (e.g. *Trestle-Board* by H. B; Grant, *The Kentucky Monitor*, by Henry Pirtle; *Th Ky Rtl*; and *The Kentucky Ritual*) are acceptable for use by its members.(2006)

**BY-LAWS**

19. Change of By-Laws by Committee. It is not within the province of the Grand Lodge Committee on By-Laws to require any change of a lodge by-law that does not conflict with some law, rule or regulation of the Grand Lodge.

20. By-Laws-When Declared Void. A Master of a lodge cannot lawfully declare a by-law or set of by-laws null and void after the same has been approved by the Grand Lodge Committee on By-Laws.

**CALLED OFF**

21. Lodge Closed on Day Opened. A lodge cannot "call off" from one day to another, but must be closed on the same day of its opening.

22. May Call Off and Open Any Degree, but Must Close it. A lodge duly opened on any degree can call from labor to refreshment and open in any other degree, but the lodge must be closed on each degree in which it opens. If the lodge be opened on the Master Mason degree and then closed, it cannot thereafter be opened on the same day for the purpose of confer-ring either the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Degree.

**CHARTER**

23. Substitute for Charter Lost or Destroyed. A lodge holding a certificate of its legal authority to work, in lieu of its lost or destroyed charter, is still considered a chartered lodge and possesses all the rights and privileges of such.

24. Last Charter Valid Old One returned or Arrest Follows. If a new charter be granted to a lodge because the old one is reported to have been lost, such action shall be equivalent to a cancellation of the old charter and render it void and of no value. In case the old charter shall subsequently be found, the Master of such lodge shall immediately return it to the Grand Secretary. On his failure or refusal to do so, the Grand Master shall arrest the charter and cite the lodge to appear at the next communication of the Grand Lodge, and show cause why its charter shall not be revoked. Provided however, upon written request the Grand Lodge may permit a lodge to retain its original or

duplicate charter for historical purposes upon their surrendering same to the Grand Secretary for endorsement as a historical document and not an active charter.

25. Work In absence of Charter Illegal Exception. Work done in the absence of the charter, or its equivalent certificate, is illegal, except at funerals, when the actual presence of the charter is not required. For the purpose of conducting funeral services an emergent communication of any lodge may be called at any suitable place within its jurisdiction; provided that when a lodge is so opened and closed at a place other than the regular communication place of the lodge, the officer presiding shall make full report to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes of the next stated communication.

26. Presence of Charter. If the charter is in the preparation or ante-room of the lodge, it is present for all practical purposes.

27. Duty of Custodian of Charter. The Master of a Masonic lodge is the custodian of its charter and cannot delegate that authority to another. Upon him is laid the responsibility of its care, and to him the Grand Lodge looks for its preservation. As a lodge cannot be opened in the absence of its charter, it is the duty of its Master to always have that instrument in the lodge or ante-room at all communications of the lodge.

28. Revocation of Charter. A charter can only be revoked by the Grand Lodge granting it, and a lodge can be permanently deprived of its charter only after being cited to show cause why it should not be done.

29. New Charter to Old Lodge. The charter of a lodge destroyed and a new one granted within a year thereafter, naming the original officers of the lodge, is to all intents and purposes the same lodge under the old charter. It had not ceased to exist, only the convenient, tangible evidence of its authority to work was for a time wanting. The new charter restored authority, and no other formality is required. The officers are not to be re-installed.

## **LODGE COMMITTEES**

30. Committee on Investigation. The Committee on Investigation should inquire into everything affecting the qualifications of a candidate; whether he is in possession of his physical and intellectual faculties, possess a good reputation in his community, and whether the lodge has jurisdiction over him.

31. Report of Committee on Investigation. When a Committee on Investigation reports upon the worthiness or unworthiness of a candidate, the lodge has no right to compel it to say in what way it came to its conclusion. The report is simply the opinion of the committee.

32. Reports Prejudicial to Character of a Brother. Reports prejudicial to the character of a brother being in circulation, it is the duty of his lodge to investigate them, whether the brother requests an investigation or not. A petition of a brother to have charges injurious to his character investigated by his lodge should most certainly be granted, and the committee should, in justice to him, make a thorough investigation and report to the lodge.

## **DEGREES**

33. Out of Time Penalty. Should any subordinate lodge confer any of the degrees of Masonry out of time, and in violation of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the charter of said lodge may be arrested by the Grand Master.

34. Degrees at Called Communication. The degrees may be conferred at a called communication.

35. Degrees By A Suspended Master Mason. A degree conferred by a suspended Master Mason is illegal, and the brother receiving it must be "healed" by his lodge. A Master Mason is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct in entering a lodge and conferring a degree, if he knew he was suspended at the time, and any brother who knew him to be under suspension, if present and consenting thereto, is equally guilty.

36. Monitorial Parts of Degrees. While parts of the degrees are monitorial, it is highly improper to exemplify the monitorial parts in public.

### **DEMIT, DEMITTED**

37. Demit to the Unworthy. A lodge should not grant a demit to one known to be unworthy, but should immediately prefer charges against such brother. For knowingly issuing a demit to such unworthy person, a lodge is subject to have its charter arrested.

38. To Remit Dues and Grand Demit. A lodge has the right to remit the dues of a suspended member, restore him to membership, subject to the provisions of Sections 187 & 188 of the Constitution, and grant him a demit.

39. Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Demitting. An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft having demitted, and being a resident of a jurisdiction where such demits are not recognized, may by consent of the lodge having jurisdiction, and regular petition to and ballot of any Kentucky lodge, be elected to membership therein, and it may then request some lodge where he resides to confer the remaining degree, or degrees, upon him. Or the Kentucky lodge may surrender any jurisdiction it may be presumed to possess, in order to quiet all possible claims upon the candidate.

### **IMPOSTORS**

40. Impostors Reported When. It is the duty of the Secretary of all Subordinate Lodges to immediately report soliciting donation to the Grand Secretary. The fact that a person representing himself to be a member of the Fraternity, when in fact he is not, giving his name and the name of lodge to which he reports himself as belonging, and such other description of him as may be necessary to identify him.

### **MASONRY OR FREEMASONRY**

41. Masonry is Non-Sectarian, Non-Political, and must remain so. The avoidance of political subjects in the lodge room is a cardinal principle of Masonry, and a Mason must not use his lodge connection to further his political ambition. We are taught, among the first lessons in Masonry, that it unites, upon the principle of brotherly love, men of every country, sect and opinion. Our ancient brethren wisely determined that no political or religious distinctions should ever limit its charity. It is peculiar to no country, but common to all. It recognizes no religion but that unaltered trust in God, who created the world and all things therein - The Grand Architect of the Universe - by whose unerring square the blocks we offer must at last be tried, and who will reward us according to our merits.

### **MASTER**

42. Title. The principal officer of a lodge is Master, not Worshipful Master. The prefix "Worshipful" is a title of respect, given him by others, and not the name of his office. It is improper for the Master to sign his name "A.B., Worshipful Master." It should be, "A.B., Master."

43. Who is "The Master"? The one acting as Master is clothed with the power and held to the same accountability as the regularly installed Master of the lodge - during the time he is lawfully acting as Master, and no longer.

44. Re-election of a Master Many Times. The Constitution does not prohibit the re-election of a Master every year during his life, but serving as Master of a lodge for many years is a reflection on the lodge and on the Master himself-not a matter to boast of. If one be a capable Master, he will so instruct his Wardens and members that there will be more than one who is "worthy and well qualified" to take his place. To retain one in office and keep competent brethren from the gratification of a laudable ambition, neutralizes a proper incentive for the members to make efforts to become proficient in Masonic work and methods by placing the reward beyond their hope.

45. Who Should Not Be Chosen Master. No lodge should elect any brother, either as Master or Warden, unless he manifest such care and zeal for Masonry as to induce the belief that he can and will qualify him-self to preside according to the laws and usages of Masonry.

46. Objection to Installing the Master. If a brother wishes to prevent the installation of the Master-elect, he must do so at the proper time and in the proper place, which is in the lodge when the installing officer is about to install him; and the reasons for objecting must be in writing and be valid ones. In the absence of objection or charges, a brother elected Master (if otherwise eligible) is entitled to be installed.

47. When Installed, the Master's Authority is Complete. When installed, the Master's authority to preside over the lodge is complete, and his acts, within the scope of that authority, are binding.

48. The Master Habitually Absent from Lodge. A Master of a Masonic lodge cannot habitually absent himself from the communications of his lodge without violation of his oath of office, and by doing so he lays him-self open to censure, and becomes liable to suspension by the Grand Master.

49. Master Requires Lodge to Obey Grand Master-When. The Master should require his lodge to obey the mandate of the Grand Master; refusal of its members to submit to his decisions until reversed by the Grand Lodge is revolutionary, and subjects the offenders to punishment for unmasonic conduct.

50. Master Signs Minutes. The Master must sign the minutes immediately after the same shall have been approved by the lodge.

51. Master Cannot Be Suspended for Non-Payment. The Master can-not be suspended during his term of office for non-payment of dues or other offenses, except as provided in Sections 180 to 183 of the Constitution.

52. Master Pro Tem. Drawing Warrants. A Master pro tem should not draw a warrant for money appropriated by the lodge, except while he is lawfully acting in such capacity.

## **MASTER MASON**

53. Master Mason Entitled to Full Benefits. A member of the fraternity, to receive the full benefits of the Order, viz: the right to attend the lodge in all the degrees, to vote upon petitions, to vote for officers, to hold office, to sit in the Grand Lodge, must be an affiliated Master Mason.

## **PAST MASTERS**

54. Past Master and Past Grand Master Defined. A Past Grand Master, or Past Master is one who has been regularly elected and installed as a Grand Master or Master of a Grand Lodge or a symbolic Lodge of Master Masons and served for the term for which he was elected. If he dies while in office, he shall be deemed to have served his term, and shall be listed as a Past Grand Master or Past Master.

## **TEMPORARY PRESIDING OFFICER**

55. Any Master Mason May Be Called To The Chair-When. The Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden, when presiding over a lodge, has the right to call any Master Mason to the chair and his acts are legal; provided the one so calling him to preside remains in the lodge room.

56. Past Masters Qualification to Preside. A Past Master, to have the right (under the Const., Sec. 112) to open and preside over a lodge in the absence of the Master and Wardens, must be a Past Master of the same lodge over which he is to preside.

## **RITUAL**

1. Power to Lay Cornerstones or Dedicate Halls. Subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, a lodge may accept an invitation to lay a cornerstone or dedicate a Masonic Hall, church or public building, which work may be performed by the Grand Lodge, or by a sub-ordinate lodge presided over by the Grand Master or his proxy, who must be an affiliated Master Mason with a Kentucky Lodge. Unless the corner-stone be laid with Masonic ceremony, a Masonic lodge should not attend as a body or in Masonic clothing.

2. Open Installation. The officers of a lodge may be installed in open installation at the discretion of the lodge without a dispensation from the Grand Master. At such installations the Grand Lights to remain in the room but be placed so as to be out of view. Also brethren are to be careful not to give the signs.

## **APPENDIX**

### **A. Home Life Membership Certificates**

The Masonic Widows and Orphans Home and Infirmary, was incorporated as a charitable institution by act of the Kentucky legislature on January 15, 1867. It has continued its corporate existence since that date although its Articles of Incorporation have been amended and restated from time to time.

The Old Masons' Home of Kentucky was incorporated as a charitable institution by the Commonwealth of Kentucky on October 25, 1901. Like the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home and Infirmary, it too has continued its corporate existence since that date, although its Articles of Incorporation have been amended and restated from time to time.

On February 12, 1993, the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home and Infirmary and the Old Masons Home of Kentucky agreed on a plan of Merger, and on September 1, 1993 was incorporated by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as the Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc.

From its inception, the corporation has been controlled by its voting life members who elect the Board of Directors of the corporation. With the passage of time and the change in our tax laws, the corporation has further evolved into a public charity qualified under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code which qualifies contributions made to the Homes as tax deductible for federal and state income tax purposes. As a public charity, the operation of the Homes are subject to state and federal law and regulations.

The Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc.. are a non-stock, non-profit corporation. No part of the income of which can inure to the benefit of any member, director, or officer of the Homes or to any private individual organization or association not qualified under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Under dissolution, the assets and property of the Home must be conveyed or distributed to some other similar organization qualified under the same Internal Revenue Code section.

While Kentucky Masons as certificate holders elect the directors of the Homes, the Board of Directors has the legal authority and responsibility to oversee its affairs and operations. The corporation is a separate legal entity and subject to the internal revenue code and regulations enacted thereunder. This law requires that all funds, gifts, bequests, and devices must be used for the charitable purposes expressed in the Homes corporate charter. No part of its income or property can inure to the benefit of any individual or for any non-charitable purposes including fraternal purposes. For this reason, the operations of the Homes are required to be conducted independently of the fraternity.

Admissions to the Homes and its policies and operations are determined by its Board of Directors through the power of the Board to adopt by-laws and make decisions at Board meetings for the government of the corporation.

Kentucky Masons may become life members of the corporation through the purchase of life membership certificates for \$150 each. Kentucky Lodges acquire Lodge Memberships through direct purchase and through the cumulative effect of each brother paying an annual Homes' assessment, the benefit of which accrues to the member's subordinate lodge.

Each Life or Lodge Membership certificate entitles the holder thereof to cast one vote per certificate in the election of directors to its Board. It is the process that has existed since the inception of the Homes that ensures that control over the corporation shall reside with the Master or other representative of such subordinate lodge of Kentucky at the annual meeting of the corporation.

When two or more lodges consolidate, the Lodge Membership certificate passes to the consolidated lodges.

### **B. Cowles Benevolent Fund**

Whereas, Brother John H. Cowles, Past Grand Master, by his letter of October 10, 1929, presents to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky a gift of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars to create the "Cowles Benevolent Fund," for the support of its charities; said amount to be invested by the Grand Lodge, together with the income from it for a period of fifty (50) years from this date, and Whereas, It is further provided that at the expiration of the fifty-year period the total amount of the fund (including principal and all in-come) shall remain intact and constitute the "Cowles Benevolent Fund" after which all the income derived from it, or so much as the Grand Lodge may decree, may be used in discretion of the Grand Lodge for the support of its benevolent works and charities; Now, therefore, be it Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Free and Accepted Masons, that the gift of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars by Brother Cowles be and it is hereby accepted upon and subject to the terms and conditions provided in said letter, as above set forth; that same be used exclusively for its benevolent works and charities. Be it further Resolved, That said sum be paid to the Grand Treasurer and be Resolved, credited by the Grand Treasurer to the "Cowles Benevolent Fund," which is hereby created, and said fund shall be kept forever separate and apart from the other funds of the Grand Lodge; and be it further Resolved, That the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be, and they are constituted and appointed Trustees of the "Cowles Benevolent Fund," and they will invest and reinvest said fund and the income therefrom from time to time, in accordance with the terms of the gift, and annually report to the Grand Lodge their action and the condition of said fund, and be it further Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby directed extend to Brother Cowles the most grateful thanks of the Grand Lodge for this manifestation of his generosity and fine Masonic spirit.

(Passed October 15, 1929. See also Proceedings of 1937, page 214, where Brother Cowles donated a further sum of \$10,000 to this fund, and also proceedings of 1938, page 176, where he donated the further sum of \$10,000 to this fund.)

### **Cowles Benevolent Fund**

By letter dated October 10, 1929, Past Grand Master John H. Cowles transmitted \$10,000 to the Grand Lodge "to create the Cowles Benevolent Fund for the support of its charities, the amount to be invested by the Grand Lodge, together with the income from it, for a period of fifty years from date. At the expiration of the fifty-year period, the total amount of the fund (principal and income) shall remain intact and constitute the fund above named, after which all the income derived from it, or so much of the income as the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A.M., may decree, may be used in the discretion of the said Grand Lodge for the support of its benevolent work or charities."

By resolution the Grand Lodge accepted said fund and appointed the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer as trustees thereof and to report annually to the Grand Lodge their action and the condition of said fund. (Proc. 1929, pp. 79, 80.) In 1931 the Committee on Finance recommended and the Grand Lodge approved appointment of a permanent committee of bankers who were Masons to hold and administer said fund. (Proc. 1931, p. 110). In 1933 the report of the Committee on Finance was adopted whereby the Grand Treasurer, with the advice and approval of the Grand Master, was authorized to enter into a contract with a good and solvent corporation to act as trustee for the fund and that the expense thereof, if any, be paid by the Grand Treasurer so that the gross income will remain intact in said fund. (Proc. 1933, p. 120) In 1934 a report was made by the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer that, pursuant to the fore-going authority, they had entered into a contract with the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Company, of Louisville, to hold, invest, re-invest, manage and direct said fund and to deliver the same on order of the Grand Lodge. Investments are to be in interest bearing securities eligible for investment of trust estates under the laws of Kentucky. Annually, the trustee will report the status of the fund to the Grand Master. (Proc. 1934, pp. 32, 63, 89, 90, 91, 92, 140.)

Brother Cowles died on June 18, 1954. Brother Christian F. Kleinknecht, 1733 Sixteenth Street, N.W. (The House of the Temple), Washington 9, D.C., was appointed by the court as Executor of the Cowles estate. On August 11, 1955, Brother Kleinknecht sent Grand Secretary Al. E. Orton a statement of the provisions of his will, and through his attorney, the Hon. Paul B. Cromelin, a partial payment of \$3,000.00, and on February 21, 1956, the Executor, C.F. Kleinknecht turned over to Grand Secretary Al. E. Orton in person, in his office in Washington, D.C., a check for the sum of \$17,599.04, payable to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Cowles Benevolent Fund, as final settlement of the one-fourth of his estate as provided by his will.

The two checks as above stated, a total of Twenty Thousand, Five Hundred and Ninety-nine Dollars and four cents (\$20,599.04), were promptly deposited in the Cowles Benevolent Fund at the Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Company and receipts were mailed to S. Albert Phillips, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and Christian F. Kleinknecht, Executor of the Cowles Estate.

The Grand Treasurer's report as of September 30, 1976 shows a grand total of \$229,768.36 in the Cowles Benevolent Fund.

### **C. Feltman Property**

Resolved, That an endowment fund be established through an assessment of each Kentucky Mason in the amount of one dollar (\$1.00) each for a period of three years. This money will be invested in an endowment fund with the earnings of this fund to provide for the upkeep, maintenance, and service of this property. This endowment fund should be in the name of, and in the control of The Grand Lodge of Kentucky. F. & A. M. If a time should arrive when this fund is no longer needed for the purposes set forth, the same shall be placed in The Grand of Kentucky Endowment Fund (2004)

### **D. Assessment**

Assessments Levied, Conditions. An assessment of six dollars and fifty cents a year for each member is levied on the membership of this Grand Jurisdiction for the operation, maintenance and improvement of the Ma-sonic Homes of Kentucky, and the same shall be paid to the Grand Secretary in the same manner and at the same time the annual assessments for the Grand Lodge are paid, and shall be turned over to the Grand Treasurer. Said assessment shall be paid to the Masonic Homes of Kentucky.

Official Organ. *The Masonic Home Journal* is the Official Organ of the Grand Lodge. The *Journal* will not be discontinued upon notice of death of a member, but shall be continued until the end of the fiscal year for which the subscription has been paid and further, that the *Masonic Home Journal* be sent to the widows of Past Grand Masters as long as they shall live. (2004)

### **George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association:**

Each Lodge shall be assessed five dollars for each Master Mason raised during the year, for the benefit of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. Said assessment to be paid to the Grand Secretary in the same manner as those noted above. (1998)

### **E. Freemasonry and Religion**

Basic Principles. Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. It requires of its members a belief in God as part of the obligation of every responsible adult, but advocates no sectarian faith or practice. Masonic ceremonies include prayers, both traditional and extempore, to reaffirm each individual's dependence on God and to seek divine guidance. Freemasonry is open to men of any faith, but religion may not be discussed at Masonic meetings.

The Supreme Being. Masons believe that there is one God and that people employ many different ways to seek, and to express what they know of, God. Masonry primarily uses the appellation, "Grand Architect of the Universe", and other non-sectarian titles, to address Deity. In this way, re1sons of different faiths may join together in prayer, concentrating on Go (l, rather than differences among themselves. Masonry believes in religious freedom and that the relationship between the individual and God is personal, private and sacred.

Volume of the Sacred Law. An open volume of the Sacred Law, "The rule and guide of life," is an essential part of every Masonic meeting. The Volume of the Sacred Law in the Judeo/Christian tradition is the Bible; to Freemasons of other faiths, it is the book held holy by them. (2000)

The Oath of Freemasonry. The obligations taken by Freemasons are sworn on the Volume of the Sacred Law. They are undertakings to follow the principles of Freemasonry and to keep confidential a Freemason's means of recognition. The much discussed "penalties", judicial remnants from an earlier era, are symbolic, not literal. They refer only to the pain any honest man should feel at the thought of violating his word.

Freemasonry Compared with Religion. Freemasonry lacks the basic elements of religion:

(a) It has no dogma or theology, no wish or means to enforce religious orthodoxy.

(b) It offers no sacraments.

(c) It does not claim to lead to salvation by works, by secret knowledge, or by any other means. The secrets of Freemasonry are concerned with modes of recognition, not with the means of salvation.

Freemasonry Supports Religion. Freemasonry is far from indifferent toward religion. Without interfering in religious practice, it expects each member to follow his own faith and to place his Duty to God above all other duties. Its moral teachings are acceptable to all religions.

#### **F. Lodge of Research - How to Establish**

(1) Twenty-five or more Master Masons, members in good standing of any Kentucky lodge or lodges, may petition the Grand master for, and he may in his discretion issue, without fees and without compliance with the usual requirements prescribed for the issuance of a Dispensation under the Constitution, a Dispensation to such members to form a Lodge of Research. And a Charter may be issued, without a fee, to such a Lodge of Research upon approval by the Grand Lodge at an annual communication; also, without compliance with the usual requirements prescribed for the issuance of a Charter.

The territorial jurisdiction of such Lodge of Research when formed shall be co-extensive with the territorial jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The membership shall consist of the Charter Members thereof and those Master Masons of Kentucky lodges who are later admitted by affiliation or in accordance with by-laws adopted by it.

Lodges of Research shall not be numbered.

A lodge formed hereunder may elect to honorary, contributing, or subscribing membership Master Masons in good standing in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction in Masonic affiliation with this Grand Lodge under such conditions as by its by-laws may be prescribed, which by-laws shall limit the power to vote to members belonging to Kentucky lodges only.

(2) A Lodge of Research shall be a lodge of research only and have the right, power, and authority only;

(a) To promote within its own membership Masonic study and historical research;

(b) To present findings and conclusions to the lodge for discussion and interchange of judgment;

(c) To publish at convenient intervals proceedings or transactions containing such portions of the addresses and discussions in lodge as may be desirable to print;

(d) To publish new Masonic books of outstanding merit;

(e) To reproduce or print Masonic documents of historical importance;

- (f) To reprint scarce Masonic books and pamphlets;
- (g) To open and close its lodge on the Third Degree;
- (h) To have such rights and authority as may be necessary to carry out such work.

Any publications shall be without expense to the Grand Lodge.

For the purpose of carrying out such rights, powers and authority it may make by-laws providing for the election of its officers; for the establishment, control, and limitations of its membership; for the time and place and nature of its communications for the payment of dues and to effectuate the purposes of its organization.

Neither its designation as a lodge or its organization as such, nor the issuance of a Dispensation or a Charter shall constitute, or be construed as giving to it, or any of its officers or members, any of the Masonic honors, rights, powers, privileges, or authority possessed by a Masonic lodge or by any of its officers or members, except such as are herein or may be granted by the Grand Lodge. Nor shall it or any of its members be subject to any additional duties or obligations of a Masonic lodge or a member thereof because it is a Masonic lodge, except under specific regulations or orders of the Grand Lodge or its own by-laws passed within the scope of the rights, powers, and authority granted to it by the Grand Lodge.

(3) No person shall continue to be an active member of a Lodge of Research unless he is a regular member in good standing in a subordinate lodge of Masons. And such a Lodge of Research shall at all times have at least ten members in good standing, or its Charter must be revoked by the Grand Master.

(4) The Grand Lodge reserves the right to modify or repeal this regulation, and to regulate such lodges, and to suspend or revoke its Charter for such cause as it deems sufficient. (2000)