# PROCEEDINGS 35th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

April 21-22, 2023

MW Edde T. Kanai Grand Master 2022

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF HAWAII







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#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE 35th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

#### April 21/22, 2023

The Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii held its Annual Communication at the Honolulu Scottish Rite Cathedral located at 1611 Kewalo St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

#### FORMAL GRAND LODGE OPENING

On Friday, April 21st, 2023 at 1:05 pm, Grand Master Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai opened the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii in ample form.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION**

The Grand Master began by thanking everyone for joining us for our Thirty Sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii and reminded everyone to please keep their cell phones either off or muted.

Then, in order to establish if a quorum was present, the Grand Secretary gave the results of the credentials committee which was as follows:

#### **Elected Grand Lodge Officers Present**

Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai	Grand Master
Right Worshipful Dustin T. Verity	Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Gloriani A. Lontoc	Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Michael JW Lopez	Junior Grand Warden
Very Worshipful Robert A. Schultz	Grand Treasurer
Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander, PGM	Grand Secretary
Most Worshipful Dennis S.A. Ing, PGM	Grand Lecturer

#### **Past Grand Masters Present**

Most Worshipful Dennis S.A. Ing	2008
Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander	2009
Most Worshipful Antonio M. Ligaya	2012
Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II	2013
Most Worshipful Andrew L. Geiser	2016
Most Worshipful Albert B. Alvarez	2017
Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan	2018
Most Worshipful Alexander A. Escasa	2019
Most Worshipful Garry Graham	2020 &2021

The credentials committee reports the following vote count present was as follows:

- 7 Elective Grand Lodge Officers
- 9 Past Grand Masters
- 44 Lodge Representatives

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60 Total Votes Registered

of which there was a representative from all 11 lodges present. Therefore, satisfying a quorum of at least 50% of our chartered lodges was present as required by Hawaii Masonic Code Section 156 for the transaction of business.

Most Worshipful Kanai started the business session by first introducing the members present from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of F&AM of Hawaii who were as follows:

MW JOAQUIN DIAZ, Grand Master RW JAMES BROWN, Deputy Grand Master RW Jerry Shakur, Sr. Grand Warden Most Worshipful Kanai then introduced our other visiting dignitaries in attendance who

were as follows:

Sitting Grand Masters

MW RICHARD KAESER, JR., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri

MW KEVIN McCANNS, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nevada

MW MARK POSLER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon

#### **Grand Master Personal Representatives**

MWB JEFFREY NELSON, who is representing MW RICK WIGHTMAN Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota

MWB MICHAEL SANDERS, who is representing MW EDWARD C. WOODS, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington State.

MWB JEFFREY WILKINS, who is representing MW RANDALL BRILL Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California

MWB ROBERT WALDRON, who is representing MW JAMES R. ARNHART Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee

RWB JERRY FENIMORE, who is representing MW ROSS A. ALLEN Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

Most Worshipful Kanai then recognized other distinguished guests present including all lodge masters and secretaries.

#### GRAND CHAPLAIN'S SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The Grand Master then called upon Very Reverend Randolph V.N. Albano, our Grand Chaplain and Chairman of the Memorial Service Committee, to present the Service of Remembrance for our departed brethren, who were as follows:



Rest eternal grant unto them O Father and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. And may their souls, and the souls of all the departed brethren through your mercy Oh God the Father, the Almighty, rest in peace! Amen.

#### **GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Grand Master then called upon our Grand Treasurer Very Worshipful Robert Schultz to report on the Grand Master's 2022 Annual Financial Statement which was as follows:

## GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TREASURER'S 2022 - 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL	P/L
Affiliations	\$150.00	\$180.00	\$30.00
Degrees (\$1.00 per Degree)	\$100.00	\$202.00	\$102.00
Dispensations (\$25.00 per)	\$100.00	\$75.00	(\$25.00)
GW Memorial (\$5.00 per new initiate)	\$150.00	\$320.00	\$170.00
Geo. Washington Memorial (\$1 per member)	\$1,639.00	\$1,639.00	•
Grand Lodge Fee (\$20.00 per initiate)	\$1,000.00		
Hawaii Masonic Charities (\$15.00 /initiate)	\$750.00	\$960.00	\$210.00
Per Capita Tax (\$38.00 per member)	\$62,282.00	\$62,565.00	\$283.00
Awards and Certificates	\$0	\$405.00	\$405.00
One Day Class Registration (\$100.00 x 50 initiates)	\$5,000.00	\$4,600.00	(\$400.00)
Misc Donations - Ciphers	\$1,500.00	\$2,433.40	\$933.40
TOTAL INCOME	\$72,671.00	\$74,659.40	\$1,988.40
EXPENSES	BUDGET	ACTUAL	P/L
Annual Communication Expenses (2022)	\$4,768.00	\$6,121.00	(\$1,353.00)
Delegate Airfare	\$1,268.00	\$1,268.00	\$0.00
Supplies / Refreshments	\$1,500.00	\$1,458.00	\$42.00
Travel / Hotel	\$2,000.00	\$3,395.00	(\$1,395.00)
Conferences	\$6,400.00	\$2,869.28	\$3,530.72
Conference of Grand Masters Registration	\$450.00	\$611.88	(\$161.88)
Conference of Grand Masters Dues	\$850.00	\$250.00	\$600.00
Western Conference of Grand Masters	\$1,500.00	\$820.70	\$679.30
Conference of Grand Secretaries Dues	\$100.00	\$300.00	(\$200.00)
Conference of Grand Secretaries Travel	\$2,000.00	\$559.70	\$1,440.30
Grand Secretary - California ANCOM Travel	\$1,500.00	\$327.00	\$1,173.00
Travel Expenses	\$15,000.00	\$12,388.39	φ <b>∠</b> ,δ11.61
Grand Lodge of California Airfare International Travel - Airfare		\$327.00 \$1,565.58	
Mainland Travel - Airfare		\$1,305.36 \$4,805.46	
Grand Lodge of Nevada - ANCOM		\$500.00	
Interisland Airfare		\$3,374.99	
Interisland Rental Cars		\$538.30	
Misc. Expenses		\$50.00	
GM Lodgings - Mainland		\$1,227.06	
George Washington Masonic Memorial Foundation	\$1,639.00	\$1,639.00	\$0.00
Hawaii Masonic Charities	\$750.00	\$ -	\$750.00
Grand Master Pins / Emblematics	\$2,600.00	\$-	\$2,600.00

Pins	\$1,150.00	\$-	\$1,150.00
Grand Lodge Neckties	\$850.00	\$-	\$850.00
Plaques / Mementos	\$600.00	\$-	\$600.00
Masonic Education	\$500.00	\$-	\$500.00
Masonic Service Association Dues	\$300.00	\$-	\$300.00
Name Badges	\$500.00	\$179.06	\$320.94
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$3,344.00	\$2,089.50	\$1,254.50
Tracers	\$1,000.00	\$997.50	\$42.50
Office Supplies	\$800.00	\$116.13	\$683.87
Engraving	\$-	\$216.56	(\$216.56)
Phone	\$250.00	\$350.54	<i>(\$100.54)</i>
Postage	\$1,000.00	\$114.77	\$885.23
PO Box Rental	\$294.00	\$294.00	\$0.00
Past Grand Master's Apron and Jewel	\$650.00	\$339.75	\$310.25
Ritual Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$3,412.74	(\$2,412.74)
Photography and Printing	\$750.00	\$827.22	(\$77.22)
Grand Lodge Office Rent (HMTA)	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
GL Secretary's Honorarium	\$12,000.00	\$17,000.00	(\$5,000.00)
Secretary's Workshop/Leadership Workshop	\$200.00	\$-	\$200.00
Tax Preparation Fees	\$3,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00
Grand Lodge Inspector's Travel	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$1,000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
Grand Lodge Website	\$1,500.00	\$393.22	\$1,106.78
Youth Groups	\$500.00	\$-	\$500.00
Executive Committee Meeting Refreshments	\$1,000.00	\$470.76	\$529.24
Groupable Hosting	\$2,200.00	\$1,861.20	\$338.80
One Day Class Expenses	\$500.00	\$945.10	(\$445.10)
Misc. Expenses			,
TOTAL EVENUES	<b>#</b> 07 004 00	AFO FOO OO	A0 004 70

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$67,901.00 \$59,536.22 \$8,364.78

BEGINNING BALANCE: 1 May 2022 \$55,298.38

Income: \$74,659.40

Expenses \$59,536.22 Profit \$15,123.18

ENDING BALANCE: 7 April 2023 \$70,421.56

It was then regularly moved and seconded that the Grand Treasurer's report be accepted and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

#### **GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Grand Master then called upon our Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander and Past Grand Master of Hawaii for his Annual Report

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Most Worshipful Sir and Esteemed Brothers all,

#### **MEMBERSHIP COUNT**

As always, first, let's talk numbers for this last year,...

For the period covering January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, we started off the year with 11 chartered lodges and I am happy to report that at this time all lodges are current in their per-capita payments and all are authorized to have representation at this year's Annual Communication.

Falling under the category of encouraging news,...

Our gains for 2022 were 108 which included raisings, affiliations and restorations.

Our loses for 2022 period 86 which included deaths, suspensions and demits.

So, in spite of Covid still looming over us, we actually had a gain of 22 members for 2021 for a total 2022 ending membership count of 1616. We have seen an upswing for 4 of the last 5 years after we were hit hard with many lodges culling their membership list in 2020.

A full membership report including individual lodge membership counts will be published along with the proceedings of this Annual Communication when they come out.

#### GROUPABLE ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

Groupable:M2 continues to evolve adding more features to make our lives as secretaries even simpler and reporting more accurate. Their 3 products, Groupable M2: (the membership system), OLP (Our Lodge Page lodge web site) and Passport (the virtual dues card system all work together with each other and sync most of their information automatically.

But going to a virtual dues card system this year has been our biggest advancement by far. To use them, the app called Groupable Passport can be downloaded for either the Android or iPhone.

It also has the ability to utilize a bar code or QR code to be scanned for membership status verification along with helping you pay lodge dues on-line. While this is now our primary method of distributing dues cards, a physical dues card can still be requested from your lodge secretary if you are traveling to a jurisdiction that does not recognize virtual dues cards yet or if you are unable to use this new system with your smart device.

As with anything new, there may be a few ways to do something a little better or display things in a different manner, but rest assured, Groupable is continually working with their jurisdictions to help make a better product.

Most Worshipful Sir, this concludes the Grand Secretary's report for this year, thank you for your time.

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It was then regularly moved and seconded that the Grand Secretary's report be accepted and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

#### MASONIC CHARITIES OF HAWAII ANNUAL REPORT

The Grand Master then called upon Worshipful Anthony Escasa for the Masonic Charities of Hawaii's Annual Report.

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Dear Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren,

I write to you on behalf of Masonic Charities of Hawaii (MCH), a non-profit corporation approved under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, making it eligible for tax-deductible donations. It has been my privilege to serve as a member of the board of directors for MCH and be part of its charitable initiatives.

Although separate from the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, MCH receives its funds primarily from Freemasons within our jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge maintains oversight over MCH activities, but it does not run the corporation. MCH was initially formed to fund and operate the Keiki I.D. program as part of a national Masonic initiative called CHIP. However, due to privacy considerations, the program lost its purpose.

In 2016, we decided to revamp MCH's organizational structure, creating a new, smaller board of directors and amending our bylaws. With these changes in place, we are now seeking another charitable purpose. We have many good ideas on how to make MCH more impactful in our community and promote Masonry among our citizens.

As of January 31, 2023, MCH's bank account holds \$36,273.03. Once our purpose is redefined, we will be looking into investing our funds in higher-yielding investments. We welcome input from Masonic members and their families, and we encourage anyone who wishes to contribute to our cause to contact us.

I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to serve as a member of the board of directors for MCH. It has been a pleasure working alongside dedicated individuals who are committed to making a difference in our community.

In closing, I extend my sincere gratitude to you, Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren, for your continued support of MCH and its endeavors. Together, we can make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

Fraternally yours, David Gomes Masonic Charities of Hawaii

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It was then regularly moved and seconded that the Masonic CHarities's report be accepted and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

#### FOREIGN RECOGNITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Grand Master then called upon our Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Marty Alexander to report on our Foreign Recognitions Committee as its chair, Most Worshipful Monty Glover was unable to attend.

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To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Hawaii

Most Worshipful, Right Worshipfuls and Brethren all,

In the matter before the Grand Lodge concerning the request for recognition by the Grand Lodge of Hawaii;\

The Grand Lodge of Georgia A.F.& A.M. (The Country) in a letter dated 10 March 2023 seeks to gain recognition. Your Committee on Recognition finds that, based upon the due diligence referenced in report for 2023 of the Commission on Information for Recognition, that the Grand Lodge of Georgia A.F.& A.M. having been Chartered in 2015 and has continually operated as a regular Grand Lodge meets all requirements for Recognition.

It is therefore the recommendation of the Committee on Recognition that the request or the Grand Lodge of Georgia A.F.& A.M. is in Due form and eligible for consideration for recognition.

Fraternally, Monty J. Glover, PGM Committee on Recognition - Chair

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It was then regularly moved and seconded that the Foreign Recognition Committee's report be accepted and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

#### **2023 ANNUAL BUDGET**

The Grand Master then called upon our Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Dustin Verity to present the 2023 Proposed Budget for approval.

1		2023-24 PROPOSED 0	RANDMASTER	'S BUDGET	
2					
3			2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET	
4					
5	AS	SUMPTIONS:			
6		No. of members		1,650	
7		Per capita		\$ 40	
8		Degrees		50	
9		CPI		6.5%	
10					
11		ASSESSMENTS			
12	1	Per Capita Tax (1650 x \$39 per member)	\$ 62,282	\$ 66,000	
13	2	One Day Class (50 x \$100)	5,000	2,500	(
14	3	George Washington Memorial Foundation (1639 x \$1 per member)	1,639	1,650	
15	4	George Washington Memorial Foundation (Est. 30 x \$5 per new initiate)	150	1,500	
16	5	Donations & Other Income	1,800	1,500	
17	6	Grand Lodge (50 x \$20 per new initiate)	1,000	1,000	
18	7	Masonic Charities of Hawaii (50 x \$15 per new initiate)	750	750	
19	8	Affiliations	150	150	
20	9	Dispensations (\$25 per dispensation)	100	100	
21	##	Degrees (\$1.00 per degree)	100	50	
23		TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	72,971	75,200	

24				
25		EXPENSES		
26		Annual Communications		
27	1	Supplies/Refreshments	1,500	2,500
28	2	Travel/Hotel	2,000	2,500
29	3	Banquet, Entertainment, Swag	-	1,500
30			3,500	6,500
31		<u>Conferences</u>		
32	4	Western Conference of Grand Masters	1,500	1,500
33	5	Conference of Grand Master's Dues	850	850
34	6	Conference of Grand Master's Registration	450	450
35	7	Conference of Grand Secretary's Dues	100	450
36			2,900	3,250
37		Charitable Contributions		
38	8	George Washington Memorial Foundation	1,639	3,150
39	9	Masonic Charities of Hawaii	750	750
40			2,389	3,900
41		Grand Master Pins/Emblematics:		
42	10	Masonic Education	3,000	3,000
43	11	Plaques & Mementos	600	750
44	12	Name Badges	500	500
45	13	Masonic Services Association Dues	300	300
46	14	Pins	1,150	-
47	15	Grand Lodge Neckties/Shirts	850	-
48			6,400	4,550
49		Honorarium & Stipends		
50	16	Secretary's Honorarium (\$1,500 per month)	12,000	21,000
51	17	Treasure's Expenses	1,800	1,800
52			13,800	22,800
53		<u>Travel</u>		
54	18	Travel (Greater of \$15,000 or 20% of Revenue)	9,500	10,000
55	19	Pillar Travel to Conference of Grand Masters	3,000	3,500
56	20	Conference of Grand Secretary Travel	2,000	1,500
57	21	Grand Lodge Inspector Travel	1,000	1,500
58			15,500	16,500

59		Other Operating Expenses		
60	22	Rental (HMTA)	6,000	6,000
61	23	GL Website	2,000	2,500
62	24	GROUPABLE Hosting	2,200	2,500
63	25	Tax Preparation Fees	3,000	1,200
64	26	Executive Committee Meeting Refreshments	1,000	1,000
65	27	Youth Groups	500	750
66	28	Past Grand Master's Apron & Jewel	650	650
67	29	Administrative Supplies (Postage, etc)	1,000	500
68	30	Photography & Printing	750	500
69	31	Copier & Computer Supplies	800	250
70	32	Miscellaneous Expenses	500	250
71	33	Telephone	250	250
72	34	One Day Class Expenses	500	250
73	35	Leadership & Secretary's Workshops	200	200
74			19,350	16,800
75				
76		TOTAL EXPENSES	63,839	74,300
77				
78		NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 9,132	\$ 900

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the proposed 2023 Annual Budget and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

#### JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Grand Master then called upon Most Worshipful Frank Condello II the chairman of our Jurisprudence Committee to give their annual report before beginning this year's legislation.

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#### REPORT OF THE JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE ON MASONIC TRIALS AND EXPULSIONS

#### Masonic trial against Brother David A. Floirendo

A trial master was appointed (reference Masonic Trial 2022-01) and after due diligence and strict adherence to our Hawaii Masonic Code, he rendered his findings and delivered his decision. The violations had to do with significant financial discrepancies and not filing taxes appropriately, with respect to Brother Floirendo acting as lodge Treasurer of Leeward Lodge.

Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai, Grand Master of the State of Hawaii reviewed the findings of the trial and agreed to the conclusions of the trial master as well as the penalty that was suggested.

On January 1, 2023, Brother David A. Floirendo was expelled from Freemasonry, in accordance with our Hawaii Masonic Code and was no longer entitled to any rights, benefits or privileges of a Mason.

It was regularly moved and seconded to codify the Grand Master's decision to expel Brother David A. Floriendo. Motion was carried.

#### Removal of 7 members from the rolls of Masonry from the Grand Lodge of Hawaii

It was discovered by the Grand Lodge of Hawaii that Tony Arruda; Dennis Carter; John William Elliott; Daniel Gleason Kelley; Joseph Edward Miller; Oscar Caalin Tuano; and Cyrus H. Wilson had joined a new Prince Hall Masonic lodge created in Hilo, without first renouncing their membership in Free and Accepted Masonry. They also failed to notify their lodge and the Grand Lodge of Hawaii that they had done so.

After confirming that these individuals had done so, and as they had voluntarily done so of their own free will and accord, Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai, Grand Master of the State of Hawaii, proclaimed in Grand Master's Decision 2022-03, that they be removed and withdrawn from membership in the Grand Lodge of Hawaii F&AM, as well as any lodge in our jurisdiction they may be a member of along with the expunction of all the rights, benefits, privileges, and titles that come from any connection with said membership.

It was regularly moved and seconded to codify the Grand Master's decision to expel and remove Brothers Tony Arruda; Dennis Carter; John William Elliott; Daniel Gleason Kelley; Joseph Edward Miller; Oscar Caalin Tuano; and Cyrus H. Wilson from the rolls of Masonry and expel them. Motion was carried.

Dated 4/13/2023

Respectfully submitted, Frank M. Condello II, PGM, Chair

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#### 2023 PROPOSED LEGISLATION

With all committee reports completed for this year, the Grand Master then called upon Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II, Past Grand Master and the chairman of our jurisprudence committee to present the proposed resolutions for this year.

Resolutions 1 through 8 were presented and voted upon today and Resolutions 9 through 14 were present the following day on April 22, 2023. Listed here are the results of BOTH DAYS of voting. The full form Resolutions along with the Jurisprudence Committee Reports may be found at the end of this document.

2023 Proposed Resolutions					
Res.#	Description	Pass	Fail	Needed	Got
01	990n Filing Requirements	Х		2/3	90%
02	Forfeiture of Application Fees	Х		2/3	100%
03	NPD Suspension Procedure	Х		2/3	100%
04	Commercial Fund Raising		T	ABLED	
05	Charitable Organizations	Х		2/3	80%
06	Sponsoring Girls' Youth Org.	Х		2/3	98%
07	Credit or Debit Card Activity		T/	ABLED	
08	WITHDRAWN by proponent		WITI	HDRAWN	
09	Dues Remission - Elderly Members	Х		2/3	92%
10	Ancient Landmarks	Х		2/3	80%
11	Access to Plain Text Ritual	Х		1/2	57%
12	Dues Reduction - Elderly Members	Х		2/3	88%
13	Reimbursement for Lodge Reps	Х		2/3	96%
14	(EMERGENT) Secretary's Prof.	FAILE		BE CONSI	

#### **CALL TO REFRESHMENT**

At 4:15 pm and approaching the end of business for the day, Most Worshipful Kanai directed our Jr. Grand Warden Right Worshipful Michael Lopez to call the Grand Lodge of Hawaii from Labor to refreshment wherein he directed that labor is to be resumed at the sound of the gavel in the East at 9 am "sharp" Saturday morning.

# SATURDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION APRIL 22nd, 2023

The Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii called the Grand Lodge of Hawaii from refreshment and resumed labor at 9:00 am.

#### **2023 GRAND ORATION**

Most Worshipful Kanai then called upon our Grand Orator, Honorable Jonathan Todd to deliver this year's Grand Oration. Honorable Todd spoke from a set of slides instead from a written report. Those slides are shown here;

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MW Sir; Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Lodge Members, Distinguished Visitors; Brethren., all..... ALOHA!

MAGIC ROPE TRICK PERFORMED HERE!

#### 2023 GRAND LODGE OF HAWAI'I

GRAND LODGE ORATOR Under Direction of Grand Master Edde Kanai MASONIC DEATH? SURVIVE AND THRIVE!

Presented by Jonathan Todd, Grand Orator

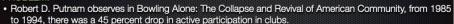
- Special Thanks to Brother Angel Millar and the Scottish Rite Research Society Publication Plumbline Vol.26, #4. Full Info at http://scottishriteresearch.com/ wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SRRS-The-Plumbline-Winter-2019-Angel-Millar.pdf
- Is Masonry Doomed? Why?
- The Statistics and Research
- A Hawaiian Planning Session to Fix This!

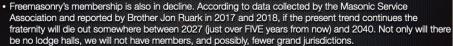


GRAND LODGE of HAWAII F&AM

Not If We Act Now With Changes







• In 2016, Ruark organized a survey on Masonic membership, and received responses from over 2,300 members, making the findings statistically significant. Speaking in 2017 at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial's tercentenary he reported that almost one in four members say they did not find what they were looking for in joining Freemasonry, or are uncertain if they did.

• MEMBERS are CUSTOMERS: The number of "customers" walking out the door is called "churn" or "churn rate" in business. There can be different reasons for churn. One of them is appealing to the wrong audience in the first place. Another is not providing what was promised, or not living up to a customer's expectations.

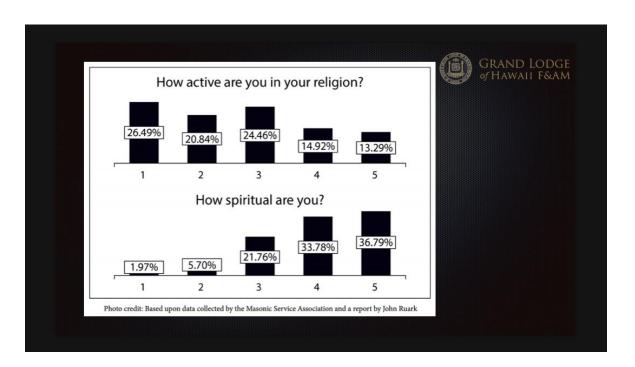
• Expectations of TRUE brotherhood, TRUE personal development, Ancient Mysticism REVEALED and APPLIED to today's PERSONAL growth, REAL Mentors.

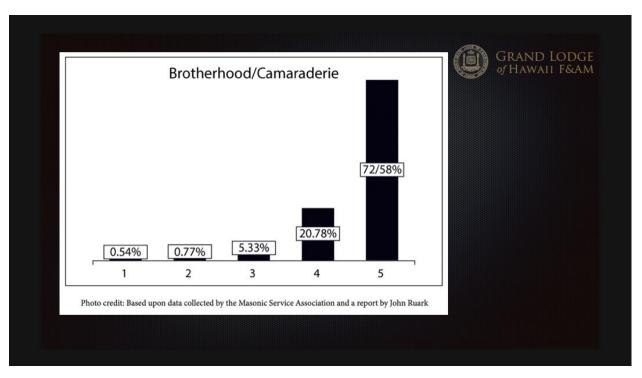
· We are doing this WRONG!

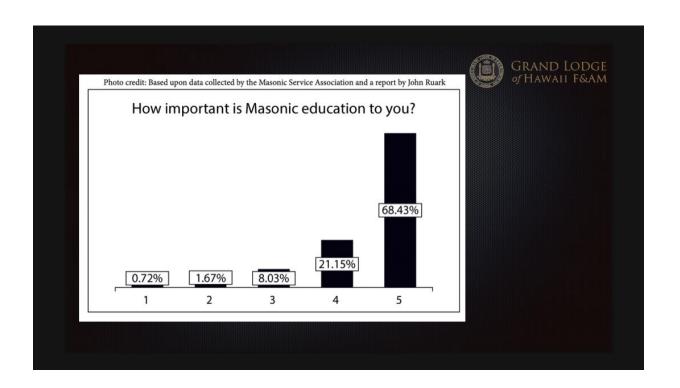
## The Death of Masonry?

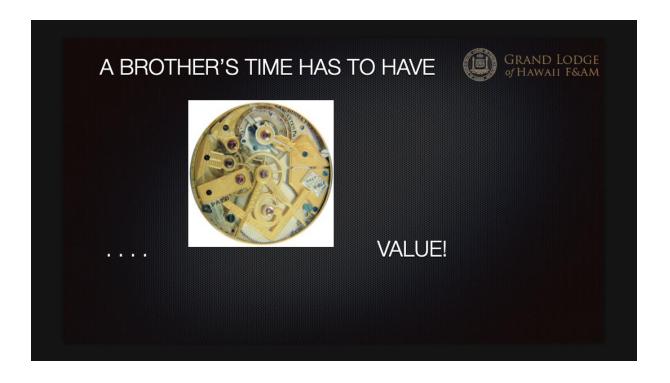












#### TIME = MEANING





GRAND LODGE

#### THE KNOWN BASED ON THE SURVEYS:

- Brother Johnny Arias of Los Angeles has a great saying that should be remembered: "focus on the stairs, not the chairs." People today are busy, and time is precious. And the lodge has to be a place of experience more meaningful than that of the humdrum of everyday life, not a part of it.
- If lodges provide that kind of value, members will remain and give back to lodge culture by taking the chairs or taking on other
- Fortuitously, we know who we are and what we want. As noted, according to Ruark's survey results, nearly 90% of brothers consider Masonic education to be either important or very important. Over 90% of consider themselves between moderately or very spiritual. And over 90% appreciate the camaraderie of the lodge. From that survey, it is clear that we need to focus on

  - One, understanding the mysteries, symbolism, and history of Freemasonry, and understanding ourselves.
     Two, fostering a non-sectarian and non-dogmatic spiritual environment, where good men of all faiths and of different spiritual beliefs, convictions, and backgrounds are welcomed and can participate in and discuss the mysteries of Freemasonry. (OVERVIEWS OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS CONCEPTS BY BROTHERS OF ALL RELIGIONS?)
  - . Three, fostering camaraderie and the strong bonds of brotherhood. (CREATE WORK TO CREATE BOI • THIS PRESENTATION WILL FOCUS ON THE HOW - HOW TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS ABOVE, PRACTICALLY!
  - The essence of the Craft must once again become the focus. To that end, each Mason can contribute his skills and talents, and can be an active part of the legacy that we leave for our descendants.

#### of HAWAII F&AM NOT EVERYONE IS A LEADER, BUT EVERYONE CAN TEACH US SOMETHING.

A VALUED BROTHER IS A PARTICIPATING BROTHER.

#### GOOD MEN = GOOD MODELS





- THE MAN PARENTING PROBLEM AND EDUCATION/MORALITY
- Men face many serious issues that society does not want to acknowledge. Over the last century, men have found
  themselves increasingly lacking positive male role models. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics,
  77% of teachers at public schools are female (up from 75% around a decade ago).
- In the USA, where almost half of all marriages end in divorce, a majority of mothers are granted custody of their children.
- A large population of men come from families where the father frequently worked late, was emotionally disengaged
  from his son(s). Some had fathers who were emotionally or physically abusive (or both). Alcohol, gambling, infidelity
  may also have been involved. They could not impart knowledge, wisdom, or a sense of dignity that young men need.
- The reality of modern society is that despite social media or identity politics, people feel more isolated and lonelier than ever before. Dubbing it a "loneliness epidemic," Psychology Today noted in 2018 that "rates of loneliness" have doubled over the last fifty years, and report that 20% of Americans say that they "rarely or never" feel close to other people. As author and journalist Johann Hari stated, "people's sense that they live in a community, or even have friends they can count on, has been plummeting."
- DON'T confuse fraternity, Brotherhood or camaraderie with Cigar and Alcohol Nights. There must be a VALUE to the BROTHER attending LODGE.

# LODGE IS ONLY PART OF THE ANSWER





#### BROTHERS FOR BROTHERS

- Currently, in New York City, there is an initiative called "Brothers for Brothers." The program, according to its founder, Brother Teodorescu, "offers an internal platform for Masons to foster, develop and enhance the qualities of well-rounded upright men through mentorship and knowledge sharing." Presentations on practical life skills are to be given for members of the Masonic fraternity free of charge.
   There is also an opportunity for Brothers to speak with the presenter on a one-to-one basis to discuss
- There is also an opportunity for Brothers to speak with the presenter on a one-to-one basis to discuss
  the issue on a more personal level. Subjects include developing communication skills, personal and
  professional development, developing confidence and self-esteem, health and nutrition, bookkeeping,
  and developing appropriate business attire and grooming skills.
- Although these are skills that would take a considerable amount of time or money to acquire, Bro.
  Teodorescu remarked that "the response and reception of the program, and its long-term potential to
  develop Master Masons within our ranks, has been exceptional." It provides a tangible benefit to
  members of the fraternity. It also promises to provide a benefit to the fraternity itself. As Bro.
  Teodorescu stated, our members are "ambassadors" for the fraternity.
  - Who will start this AT EACH LODGE?

#### GOOD MEN = MASONIC MODELS





- Currently, According to Ruark's survey, nearly 90% of members believe masonic education is either important or very important. However, 65% of members say that their Lodge provides Masonic education between sometimes and never. Additionally, he discovered that the nearly one-in-four members who weren't satisfied, or who were perhaps dissatisfied, with their Masonic experience were in those Lodges.
- Masonic Education needs to RELATE the STORIES of our CRAFT to the REAL WORLD and become PERSONAL.
- · We don't want to hear about dogmatic info on what brotherhood is. Instead we DO want to be inspired by a sincere talk about a wartime experience that illustrates the Masonic values of brotherhood, of facing danger, mortality, and what illustrates our potential and capacity to endure or to overcome by a war veteran or active service member!
- LEADERS NEED TO PAIR TOPICS AND BROTHERS WITH SPECIAL INFO AND GUIDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHORT TALKS OR PAPERS OR BOTH!
  Who will be a LODGE LEADER for EACH LODGE?
- Why do lodges with ten or twenty active members find it so difficult to put on Masonic education?
- Simply, public speaking is America's number one fear.
- In Compact Lodge in New York City, newly initiated, passed, and raised brothers are asked to give a short presentation. After the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft degrees, the talks are just a few minutes long, and are generally a personal reflection of the experience. After the Master Mason degree, the talk is roughly 15 minutes, focusing on some area of interest. The point is to get brothers comfortable with speaking in lodge and to be able and willing to contribute to the lodge and to its Masonic education later on.
  - Who will be THE LODGE LEADER for EACH LODGE?





• In an age when more people consider themselves "spiritual but not religious" and are seeking life's profound truths, we need to embrace the mysteries of Freemasonry and not, as has been the case over the last few decades, present our fraternity as having "no secrets" or as being merely a charitable club. It is a society with symbols, mysteries, profound depth, and a history and a lineage evocative of medieval craftsmen's guilds.

#### GOOD MEN = SPIRITUAL MODELS



#### SPIRITUAL EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT

- When asked about how active they were in their religion, only slightly over 13% of members considered themselves very active. However, nearly 37% of Masons consider themselves very spiritual. In fact, according to Ruark's data, over 90% of the fraternity considers itself somewhere between moderately and very spiritual.
- The fraternity would seem to be loosely comprised of those who regard themselves as both religious and spiritual, and those who regard themselves as spiritual but not religious.
- In America, these two groups constitute 75% of the population, though the RELIGIOUS group appears to be in decline while the SPIRITUAL/NOT RELIGIOUS group is currently growing.
- According to the Pew Research Center, between 2012 and 2017 the percentage of Americans who described themselves as "spiritual but not religious" rose from 19% to 27% of the population (an eight percent rise). During the same period, however, those describing themselves as "religious and spiritual" declined 11% from 59% to 48%.
- Chuck Dunning, author of Contemplative Masonry, said that those identifying as spiritual but not religious "tend to see the development of personal wellness as a significant element of spirituality."
- Bestselling author Dan Brown told The Associated Press, "I have enormous respect for the Masons. In the most fundamental terms, with different cultures killing each other over whose version of God is correct, here is a worldwide organization that essentially says, 'We don't care what you call God, or what you think about God, only that you believe in a god and let's all stand together as brothers and look in the same direction'."

#### LEADERS NEED TO **CREATE NEW LEADERS**



- WHAT WE ARE DOING WRONG: ORATOR'S OPINION
- ASKING WHAT PEOPLE WANT WE KNOW!
- NOT REWARDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS THE WAY A FAMILY DOES, YET WE ARE A FAMILY!
- STOP DOING CHARITY WITHOUT MEANING.
  - WHAT DID LOCO MOCO MEAN FOR LODGE MAUI? WHAT DOES YOUR LODGE CHARITY MEAN FOR YOUR MEMBERS?
- HOW DID WE HELP THE PEOPLE GETTING FOOD DURING COVID? REQUIRE AN ANONYMOUS LETTER OF WHY IT MATTERED TO THEM? MARKET THE SUCCESS IN REAL WAYS THE BROTHERS CAN FEEL GOOD ABOUT. AFFIRM THE MEANING AND VALUE TO THE PARTICIPANTS DOING THE WORK.
- FOCUS ON MYSTICISM INSTEAD OF RELIGION.
- BIBLE NOT SVL? PRAYER? NO NEED TO CHANGE BUT EXPLAIN OUR SYMBOLS WHEN WE USE THEM OVER AND OVER!
- NOT ENOUGH MASONIC AND SEVEN ARTS AND SCIENCES EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND PROPER PROMOTION OF THEM.
- FOCUS ON TEACHING NEEDED SKILLS NOT JUST DOGMA OR CHAIRS.
- SORRY BUT WE NEED MORE AWARDS, LETTERS, ACCOMPLISHMENT PINS AND PRAISE.
  - DO A 3 MIN PRESENTATION ON ZOOM OR LODGE AND GET AN EDUCA
  - BACK TO PAIRING THE OLD GUARD WITH THE NEW AS REAL MENTORS WITH METRICS.
    CREATE A LEADERSHIP ROSTER WITH EACH MAN AND HIS GROWTH-TASK EVERY QUARTER.

  - ATTACK "KNOCKERS BRINGING KNOCKERS" BEFORE THEY ARE EA'S BECAUSE THEY CANI (I LOST SLEEP OVER THIS ONE!)
- PARTICIPANT IDEAS?

# Questions to Discuss: - HOW DO WE MAKE THESE CHANGES? - THE CURRENT LEADERS NEED TO MANAGE IT! - NOW LET'S DISCUSS WHO WANTS TO DO WHAT! - HINT - RUN THROUGH THIS PRESENTATION AND FIND THE YELLOW

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the Grand Oration for 2023 and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

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#### MASTER MASON OF THE YEAR AWARD

At this point, Most Worshipful Kanai then called upon Most Worshipful Garry Graham, Past Grand Master from 2020 and 2021 to announce who his choice for Master Mason for the year for the year 2021 was. MW Graham then called upon Worshipful Marc Rubenstein of Ko'olau Lodge to the floor to present him with his plaque.

After that, Most Worshipful Kanai then called Brother Vernon Jarvis of Leeward and Honolulu Lodges to the floor to present him with the 2022 Mason of the year award.

#### **2023 PROPOSED LEGISLATION CONTINUES**

The Grand Master then called upon Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II, Past Grand Master and the chairman of our jurisprudence committee to continue with the unfinished proposed resolutions from yesterday's business session.

Resolutions 1 through 8 were presented and voted upon yesterday and Resolutions 9 through 14 were presented today. Listed here are the results of BOTH DAYS of voting. The full form Resolutions along with the Jurisprudence Committee Reports may be found at the end of this document.

2023 Proposed Resolutions					
Res.#	Description	Pass	Fail	Needed	Got
01	990n Filing Requirements	Х		2/3	90%
02	Forfeiture of Application Fees	Х		2/3	100%
03	NPD Suspension Procedure	Х		2/3	100%
04	Commercial Fund Raising		T/	ABLED	
05	Charitable Organizations	Х		2/3	80%
06	Sponsoring Girls' Youth Org.	Х		2/3	98%
07	Credit or Debit Card Activity		T/	ABLED	
08	WITHDRAWN by proponent		WITI	HDRAWN	
09	Dues Remission - Elderly Members	Х		2/3	92%
10	Ancient Landmarks	Х		2/3	80%
11	Access to Plain Text Ritual	Х		1/2	57%
12	Dues Reduction - Elderly Members	Х		2/3	88%
13	Reimbursement for Lodge Reps	Х		2/3	96%
14	(EMERGENT) Secretary's Prof.	FAILE		BE CONSI	l l

#### **GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS**

After the voting on legislation was completed, Most Worshipful Edde Kanai then vacated the Grand East so that he could deliver his State of the Craft Address with the Deputy Grand Master Right Worshipful Dustin T. Verity occupying his seat.

\_\_\_\_\_

Most Worshipfuls, Right Worshipfuls, Very Reverend and Honorable Sirs, Worshipful Sirs, and Brothers All,

Good afternoon! Thank you all for attending the Grand Lodge of Hawaii's Annual Communication. I am deeply humbled to stand before you today, and am honored to be your Brother. This has been one of the best experiences of my life, and I am proud to have represented the Grand Lodge of Hawaii and you, in my travels throughout the world to spread Brotherly Love with our other Masonic brethren.

My Grand Lodge year started with resolving an issue that had been festering for a while. What I learned out of that is that we need to work together and especially communicate, with just a simple sit down for a couple of hours, we were able to resolve an issue that had been festering for quite some time. We can often get an idea solidified in our minds of what we believe is right, but we need to listen to find the truth. It can be challenging, but that's what I would like to ask you to continue to strive for, kulia I ka nu'u, to strive for the summit, so that we can all become better men and Masons.

Unfortunately, that didn't happen in at least one instance this year involving the misappropriation of funds. That situation deeply saddened me, but it keeps the fire burning in me to keep encouraging all of you, and myself, that we need to do what is right.

I wanted to quickly touch upon yesterday's Jurisprudence Committee report, where seven of our members are no longer a part of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, as they decided to join the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii, which is entirely within their right, and to start a new Prince Hall Lodge on Hawaii island. As they cannot be members of both Grand Lodges, we had to remove them from our rolls, as they renounced their membership in our Grand Lodge of Hawaii in order to begin their new Masonic journey. Due to their disassociation with us, that means that they could no longer maintain membership in our Scottish Rite, York Rite, or Shrine organizations, and lost any honoraries, including 33rd degree, KCCH, and any past titles, along

with their life memberships. Please afford the Prince Hall Brothers the respect and courtesy due to them as fellow Masonic brethren.

This year, I had the great honor of making a Mason at sight. I was informed of circumstances involving a knocker at Hawaiian Lodge, and after reviewing the details, decided that it was appropriate to make Brother Adarna an Entered Apprentice Mason, where he went through the obligations, then subsequently became a Master Mason through the one-day class. Brother Adarna, as with all other Brothers, I am looking forward to seeing you travel through your Masonic journey!

Other accomplishments include the implementation of the virtual dues card, although that credit goes to Most Worshipful Garry Graham who got the ball rolling on that. Mahalo MW for helping to relieve some of the duties of our Lodge secretaries and our Grand Lodge secretary, who already do enough work.

One of my great joys in being a Mason is traveling and enjoying the Brotherly Love and Fellowship from other Masons. I needed a break from work and as I can't bring my laptop or work outside of our country, found that the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was holding their ANCOM last year, and enjoyed their Masonic hospitality. It was the first time that they had any US Grand Lodge visitations, and enjoyed that with our Brothers from the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

I also had the opportunity to travel with many of you to the Grand Lodge of Japan's ANCOM, where one of our own Brothers, Joel Encarnacion who is affiliated with Hawaiian Lodge, was installed as the Grand Master of Masons of Japan! It truly is one of my great joys to travel and make new friends and get refresh old friendships, and I hope that you can also! Now for some mahalos.

Most Worshipful Brother Garry, mahalo for your continued mentorship over the past few years and insights to help guide my term this past year. You have knack for speaking up and volunteering to help out, I really appreciate everything that you have done and continue to do to support the Grand Lodge!

Right Worshipful Dustin, for helping keep me upright and on the right path, having an attentive ear to listen as I worked through various situations, and providing wise counsel. I am

looking forward to serving you in the best capacity that I can so that you can have a successful Grand Lodge year!

Right Worshipfuls Ani & Mike, mahalo for your continuous support, along with the rides to and from the airport and the discussions that we've had about our Fraternity. I will be here to support you in your travels to the Grand East, don't hesitate to call upon me for service to you.

Most Worshipful Brother Marty, I cannot thank you enough for your contributions to myself and the Grand Lodge. While a Master or Grand Master is in charge, we all know that Secretaries and Grand Secretaries are the backbone, mahalo nui loa for whispering good counsel and supporting me to be the best that I can be.

To the Past Grand Masters, thank you for allowing me to bend your ear and giving suggestions from your experiences on handling different matters, while also allowing me to be the Grand Master.

I wouldn't have been able to do this without the love and support from my wife Amber and daughter Lily. They have been so supportive of me during this entire journey, and without their support, I would not have made it to this point.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, I am eternally grateful for the opportunity that you have given me to serve you as Grand Master. I will continue to do what I can to keep supporting you, don't hesitate to call on me if you need anything.

Mahalo nui loa.

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It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the Grand Master's address and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

Most Worshipful Kanai then resumed his chair in the East, to move forward with the election of Grand lodge officers for the ensuing Grand Lodge year.

#### **ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**

The following Grand Lodge officers were then elected to serve this Grand Lodge for the 2023 Grand Lodge year.

Grand Master	Dustin T. Verity
Deputy Grand Master	Gloriani A. Lontoc
Senior Grand Warden	Michael J.W. Lopez
Junior Grand Warden	Chris N. Kaminaka
Grand Treasurer	Robert A. Schultz
Grand Secretary	Marty P. Alexander, PGM
Grand Lecturer	Dennis S.A. Ing, PGM

Upon completion of the election of officers at 11:55 am, Most Worshipful Kanai directed our Junior Grand Warden to call the Grand Lodge from labor to refreshment until 5:00 p.m. this afternoon for the public Installation of Grand Lodge Officers to be held at the Waikiki Prince Hotel with the Installation Banquet to be held directly afterwards.

#### **INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**

The Installation of officers for the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii began at 5:00 pm. With Most Worshipful Garry Graham PGM as Installing Officer; Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan PGM as Installing Master of Ceremonies, Most Worshipful Alexander A. Escasa PGM as Installing Chaplain and Honorable Lee Gordon as the Installing Organist.

The 2023 Grand Lodge officers were installed as follows:

Grand Master	Dustin T. Verity
Deputy Grand Master	Gloriani A. Lontoc
Senior Grand Warden	Michael J.W. Lopez
Junior Grand Warden	Chris N. Kaminaka
Grand Treasurer	Robert A. Schultz
Grand SecretaryMar	ty P. Alexander, PGM
Grand Lecturer	Dennis S.A. Ing, PGM
Grand Chaplain	
Grand Orator	Donald W. Traller
Grand Marshal	Aaron P. Daguio
Grand Standard Bearer	Alex M. Patino II
Grand Sword Bearer	Gerhard W. Rickert
Grand Bible Bearer	Guy Hess
Senior Grand Deacon	Jonathan P. Cross
Junior Grand Deacon	Mark P. Leo
Senior Grand StewardS	amson S.I. Thompson
Junior Grand Steward	Dino V. Montalbo
Grand Historian	Keith N. Isaacson
Grand Organist	Lee D. Gordon
Grand Pursuivant	Dado C. Lajola
Grand Tiler	

#### **Grand Lodge Inspectors**

Anthony A. Escasa James A. Sullivan Owen H. Shieh Troy D. Gibson Sr. Chris N. Kaminaka Kevin R. Perdue Randy E. Rivera

David H. Gomes Michael D. Janovsky Ric V. Gloria After the Grand Lodge officers for 2023 were installed, our newly installed Grand Master, Most Worshipful Dustin T. Verity addressed the assembly and thanked all for coming as well as those that had meant so much to him over his Masonic career.

After saying a few words, he invited all Grand Lodge of Hawaii Past Grand Masters present west of the altar for introductions. They were as follows:

Most Worshipful Dennis S.A. Ing	2008
Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander	2009
Most Worshipful Antonio M. Ligaya	2012
Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II.	2013
Most Worshipful Andrew L. Geiser	2016
Most Worshipful Albert B. Alvarez	2017
Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan	2018
Most Worshipful Alexander A. Escasa	2019
Most Worshipful Garry Graham	2020/21
Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai	2022

At that point, it was discovered that Most Worshipful Edde Kanai was not properly clad as he was wearing a white lambskin apron. To remedy this situation, he was then presented with his Past Grand Master's apron, collar and jewel.

#### **CLOSING OF THE GRAND LODGE**

As all business and presentations for this Annual Communication having been completed, Most Worshipful Verity asked if any brother had anything else to bring before this Grand Lodge. There being none, he thanked everyone in attendance then closed the 2023 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii by proclamation.

Respectfully Submitted: April 28, 2023

Marty P. Alexander, PGM, Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Hawaii F&AM

Reviewed and approved by:

MW Dustin T. Venty, Grand Master 2023 MW Edde T. Kanai, Grand Master 2022

#### **Grand Lodge Officers 2022**

#### **Elected Grand Lodge Officers**

Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai	Grand Master
Right Worshipful Dustin T. Verity	Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Gloriani A. Lontoc	Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Michael JW Lopez	Junior Grand Warden
Very Worshipful Robert A. Schultz	Grand Treasurer
Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander, PGM	Grand Secretary
Most Worshipful Dennis S.A. Ing, PGM	Grand Lecturer

#### **Appointed Grand Lodge Officers**

Very Reverend Randolph V.N. Albano	Grand Chaplain
Honorable Jonathan Todd	Grand Orator
Worshipful Aaron P. Daguio	Grand Marshal
Honorable Nicolai M. Khiterer	Grand Standard Bearer
Worshipful Stewart H. Enger	Grand Sword Bearer
Worshipful Vincent L. Gusman	Grand Bible Bearer
Worshipful Jonathan P. Cross	Senior Grand Deacon
Worshipful David H. Gomes	Junior Grand Deacon
Worshipful Troy D. Gibson Sr	Senior Grand Steward
Worshipful Bernard C. Baldueza	Junior Grand Steward
Honorable Stephen D. Carroll	Grand Historian
Honorable Lee D. Gordon	Grand Organist
Worshipful Dado C. Lajola	Grand Pursuivant
Worshipful Lee K. Kaneakua	Grand Tiler

#### **Grand Lodge Inspectors**

Marlon A. Calventas	
Michael D. Janovsky	
J. Daniel Miller	
Marlon A. Calventas	

Anthony J.A. Escasa Chris N. Kaminaka Kevin R. Perdue

Dino J. Fernandez Mark P. Leo James A. Sullivan

#### Past Grand Masters - Grand Lodge of Hawaii

\* Indicates the brother listed has dropped his working tools and entered the Celestial Grand Lodge Above

2017 Albert B. Alvarez Leeward 2018 Wilson S. Camagan Hawaiian 2019 Alexander A. Escasa Hawaiian 2020 Garry Graham Ko'olau 2021 Garry Graham Ko'olau	arbor an an lu an gres De L'Oceanie d an
2021 Garry Graham Ko'olau 2022 Edde T. Kanai Maui	

# Lodges constituted under the Grand Lodge of Hawaii January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

#### Grand Lodge of Hawaii - Constituted May 20, 1989

Grand Master	Edde T. Kanai
Deputy Grand Master	Dustin T. Verity
Senior Grand Warden	Gloriani A. Lontoc
Junior Grand Warden	Michael J.W. Lopez

#### **Annual Membership Count Since Electronic Age (Calendar years)**

2008 (1699) ?	2009 (1740) +41	2010 (1748) +48	2011 (1807) +59
2012 (1777) -30	2013 (1785) +8	2014 (1721) -63	2015 (1733) +12
2016 (1661) -72	2017 (1649) -12	2018 (1656) +7	2019 (1671) +15
2020 (1574) -97	2021 (1594) +20	2022 (1616) +22	

#### Hawaiian Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1851 - California)

Worshipful Master	Jonjie Punzalan
Sr. Warden	Rudy Alvarado
Jr. Warden	<b>David Gomes</b>
Past Master's Rep.	Chris Kaminaka

#### Honolulu Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989

#### (First chartered in 1895 - Scotland)

Worshipful Master	Aaron Daguio
Sr. Warden	Donovan Young
Jr. Warden	Frank Condello II
Past Master's Rep	Lee Kaneakua

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#### Kauai Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1924 - California)

Worshipful Master	Francis Cleland
Sr. Warden	Herman Wilson
Jr. Warden	Daniel Whitehead
Past Master's Rep	Karvel Rose

#### Kilauea Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1897 - California)

Worshipful Master
Sr. Warden
Jr. Warden
Past Master's Rep
Sr. Warden
John Nordblom
Christopher Leeper
Nicolas Lopez

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Kona Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1982 - California)

Worshipful Master
Sr. Warden
Jr. Warden
Past Master's Rep.
Ramon Villasenor
Arthur Cope
Robert Brogan Jr.
James Lysiuk

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Ko'olau Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1961 - California)

Worshipful Master Guy Hess

Sr. Warden Marc Rubenstein
Jr. Warden Chris Kaminaka
Past Master's Rep. Seth Connell

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#### Leeward Lodge - Constituted May 2, 2003

Worshipful Master Alexander Patino II

Sr. Warden Ric Gloria
Jr. Warden Hugh Madula
Past Masters' Rep. Ric Gloria

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lodge Le Progres De l'Oceanie - Constituted January 30, 2015 (First chartered in 1843 - France) (Next chartered in 1989 - Hawaii)

Worshipful Master Dino Montalbo Sr. Warden Christopher Pang

Jr. Warden Kealiihooululahui Ichimura

Past Master's Rep Jeffrey Low

#### Lodge Maui - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1872 - California)

Worshipful Master
Sr. Warden,
Jr. Warden

Timothy Torres
Larry Julian
Domingo Gumpal

Past Master's Rep Gerald Mateo

#### Pearl Harbor Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1924 - California)

Worshipful Master Andrew Geiser PGM Sr. Warden Jonathan Cross Dimitar Georgiev

Past Master's Rep Roy Ota

#### Schofield Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1914 - California)

Worshipful Master
Sr. Warden
Jr. Warden
Past Master's Rep
Jado La Jola
James Sullivan
Ricarte Taylan
Keith Isaacson

# PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND JURISPRUDENCE REPORTS

2023 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

#### **Udpate Requirements for 990n Filings**

While the mandatory filing of a lodge's 990n is referenced in our Hawaii Masonic Code to wit;

#### §2546. DUTIES OF TREASURER. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

**6th** To file all required State and Federal reports and returns including but not limited to the State of Hawaii annual registration and the Federal 990N.

#### §2548. DUTIES OF SECRETARY. It shall be the duty of the Secretary;

**11th** To verify to the Grand Secretary in the manner prescribed by him that the lodge has filed all required State and Federal reports and returns in a timely manner, within 30 days after the filing thereof.

Many lodges have had the tendancy to ignore this responsibility whether it be from anything from a lack of knowledge to just outright ignoring this adminsitrative requirement. Some lodges have even notified the Grand Lodge that they ineed have filed only to find out later that it actually wasn't.

Because of this we have had several lodges over the year lose their Tax Exepmt status and one lodge in particular has lost their Tex Exempot status twice. Not only does it take a lot of time and effort to reestablish this status but it also creates an issue for the rest of our lodges as we operate under a Parent and Subbordinate organization with the Internal Revenue Service wherein we are all connected. So, when there is an issue with one lodge, it sends a red flag to to the IRS to scrutinize all EIN's that are connected.

This resolution proposes to standardize the practice of filing our 990n's to create consistency on how we handle these filing obligations from year to year...

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that section §2548 of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

### §2548. DUTIES OF SECRETARY. It shall be the duty of the Secretary;

11th To verify report in writing to the Grand Secretary in the manner prescribed by him that when the lodge has filed all a required State and or Federal reports and or returns in a timely manner, within 30 days after the filing thereof accompanied with a copy of proof of filing.

DATED July 29, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Marty P. Alexander PGM Grand Secretary, GL of Hawaii Proponent

### **Update Requirements for 990n Filings**

### TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to which proposed Resolution 2023 -01 has been referred, reports as follows:

The proponent argues that many lodges have had the tendency to ignore filing the required Federal 990n report with the IRS, due to a lack of knowledge or just outright ignoring this requirement. Some lodges have even notified the Grand Lodge that they had filed the 990n, to find out later that it actually wasn't.

The proponent further argues that several lodges over the past year have lost their tax exempt status and one lodge has lost it twice. It takes considerable time and effort to reestablish and sends a red flag to the IRS with respect to all lodges that operate under the same parent and subordinate organization.

The resolution proposes to standardize the practice of filing the 990n to create consistency throughout the jurisdiction. It also requires that the lodge Secretary provide proof that the 990n was in fact filed with the IRS to the Grand Secretary.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023–02

#### **Updated Procedure For Forfeiture of Applicant's Application Fees**

In today's age of technology, more efficient and and quicker methods are available to everyone instead of relying on the USPS mail system. This resolution proposes to give a lodge secretary additional options in contacting a candidate before resorting to the additional cost and time it would take via the United States Postal Service.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that section §2670 of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

**§2670. FORFEITURE OF FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**. If a candidate does not present himself qualified for the Second and Third Degrees within a period of three years from the date of his initiation as an Entered Apprentice, the Master shall direct the Secretary to <u>either</u>

a) reach out to the candidate by telephone; or

b) reach out to the candidate by email; or

and if neither of these two methods are successful, then the secretary shall

<u>c)</u> forward to such candidate either by registered letter or certified mail, with return receipt requested, deposited in the U.S. Post Office, addressed to him at his last known address.

a-Said notice shall advise advising him that unless he shall present himself for advancement, on or before a specified date (at least sixty days in advance) his fees for the unconferred degrees and all of his previous contributions will be declared forfeited.

The foregoing actions shall not be taken by the Master or Secretary, however, until after the Master has appointed a committee of two or more members of the Lodge to investigate and report back to the Master, why the candidate has not presented himself qualified for the Degree or Degrees involved. A candidate thus denied advancement shall be considered only as an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft with the right of applying for the remaining Degree or Degrees, and paying the fees and contributions therefor, subject to investigation and election, the same as any other candidate.

DATED September 9, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Marty P. Alexander PGM Grand Secretary, GL of Hawaii Proponent

### **Updated Procedure for Forfeiture of Applicant's Application Fees**

The proponent argues that in today's age of technology, more efficient and quicker methods are available instead of relying on the US Postal Service as the only avenue to reach out to a candidate who has not advanced to the Second or Third degrees within a period of three years from the date of their initiation as an Entered Apprentice.

The resolution seeks to allow the lodge Secretary to reach out to the candidate by telephone and email prior to sending out a registered or certified mail to the candidate's last known address.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

#### Clarification and Update of NPD Suspension Procedure

With regards to the process for brothers who are eligible for suspension due to non-payment of dues and in light of today's age of technology, there are more efficient and less expensive methods of communication available to us instead of relying solely on the USPS mail system.

This resolution proposes to give lodge secretaries additional options in contacting a member before a brother is suspended.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that section §2814 of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

**§2814. SECRETARY TO SEND NOTICE**. In case any member shall have refused or neglected to pay his regular dues during a period of twenty four months commencing at the time the dues become payable pursuant to the By-Laws, the Secretary shall give him 60 days' notice by <u>either e-mail</u>, <u>or USPS</u> mail <u>service</u>, deposited in the U. S. Post Office addressed to him at his last known address, or by <u>personal delivery</u> actual service of notice, duly certified by the Tiler, that unless by the end of December 31st at the end of that 24th month period either his dues be paid, or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of such refusal or neglect, he will be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

A letter of suspension will be sent to members who have been suspended for non-payment of dues notifying them of their suspension which is to include in full, sections §2818 & §2820 of the Hawaii Masonic Code informing them of how they can reactivate their membership.

DATED September 9, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Marty P. Alexander PGM Grand Secretary, GL of Hawaii Proponent

### **Clarification and Update of NPD Suspension Procedure**

The proponent argues that with respect to the process for brothers who are eligible for suspension due to non-payment of dues, that there are more efficient and less expensive methods of communication available than solely relying on the US Postal Service for delivery.

The resolution seeks to add email as an option for the lodge Secretary to notify the brother with a 60 day notice.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

## GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04

## Provides that Lodges May Engage in Commercial Ventures to Raise Funds for Their Own Operations

The proponent of this Resolution seeks to permit lodges to supplement their income by sponsoring or operating commercial ventures to raise funds for their own operations.

WHEREAS, no lodge can sustain any meaningful operations on the basis of dues alone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Lodge of Hawaii has raised, and will continue to raise, its *per capita* tax on its constituent lodges; and

WHEREAS, without an operating surplus no saving or investment is possible; and

**WHEREAS**, no lodge has a reason for existence except to serve the community of which it is a part; and

**WHEREAS**, no lodge can sponsor meaningful public- or community-service projects if it cannot sustain its own operations; and

**WHEREAS**, no rational person would join an organization which, in addition to dues, demands or continually requests contributions to fund operations and/or projects; and

**WHEREAS**, it is highly improbable that an organization can attract potential new members without the public visibility afforded by public- or community-service projects; and

**WHEREAS**, without a means of generating income or attracting new members the demise of a lodge is inevitable,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended by deleting the existing text in its entirety and replacing it with new text as follows (new matter is underscored, deleted material is crossed out):

**2070. COMMERCIAL VENTURES.** A Lodge shall not sponsor, or by resolution or otherwise sanction, or permit the use of the name of the Lodge in connection with, or for the purpose of furthering any collateral financial undertaking, or commercial venture, whether for profit or not, which shall not have been approved by the Grand Master, nor shall any member of any Lodge be permitted to do so except in his individual capacity, and without the use of the name of the Lodge.

2070. COMMERCIAL VENTURES. A lodge may sponsor or operate a commercial venture for the purpose of augmenting its income over and above member dues and contributions. Such venture shall require the approval of the lodge by resolution at a Stated Meeting and the lodge may openly identify itself with the venture if such is authorized by the resolution. An accounting of all receipts and expenditures shall be made to the lodge at every Stated Meeting following the start of the venture until the venture is terminated.

Dated: December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey A. Low, PM Proponent

## Provides that Lodges may Engage in Commercial Ventures to Raise Funds for their own Operations

The proponent argues that lodges can no longer sustain meaningful operations on the basis of dues alone. This is partly due to Grand Lodge of Hawaii continuing to raise per capita tax on the constituent lodges. Without an operating surplus, lodges cannot involve themselves in meaningful community service projects or make investments for their future.

The proponent argues that the lack of funds and demands on brethren to continually contribute to projects out of their own pockets hurts the viability of attracting new members. Without a means of generating income a lodge's demise is inevitable.

The proposed legislation seeks to delete Section 2070 in its entirety and replace it with new language that allows lodges to seek commercial ventures.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05

### Permits a Lodge to Openly Associate Itself with Recognized Charitable and/or Public-Service Organizations

The proponent of this Resolution seeks to increase the favorable visibility of the Fraternity by permitting lodges to openly sponsor, associate or affiliate themselves with recognized charities and/or public-service organizations.

**WHEREAS**, no lodge has a reason for existence except to serve the community of which it is a part; and

**WHEREAS**, no organization can be a meaningful contributor to any cause or project if it is not recognized; and

**WHEREAS**, Freemasonry does not enjoy widespread recognition in the community and, in fact, is largely unknown or misunderstood; and

**WHEREAS**, the current regulations of the Fraternity do not promote any coherent image and, in fact, seek to hide its identity; and

**WHEREAS**, the survival and growth of the Fraternity depend upon its favorable public image; and

**WHEREAS**, a favorable public image can only be created by visible public service and sponsorship,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended by deleting the existing text in its entirety and replacing it with new text as follows (new matter is underscored, deleted material is crossed out):

**§2070b.** Lodges are forbidden to sponsor, or by resolution or otherwise directly to sanction, or to permit the use of the name of the Lodge in connection with collateral financial undertakings, such as thrift societies and assessment funds for widows and orphans.

2070b. PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF THE FRATERNITY. A lodge may openly sponsor, associate, affiliate or otherwise identify itself with one or more recognized charitable or public-service organizations for the purpose of furthering the mutual charitable or public-service objectives of the organization and the lodge. Such association shall require the approval of the lodge by resolution at a Stated Meeting and shall not become effective sooner than ninety (90) days after approval. During this period the Grand Master may, for good cause given, veto the resolution.

Dated: December 19th 2022

Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey A. Low, PM Proponent

## Permits a Lodge to Openly Associate Itself with Recognized Charitable and/or Public Service Organizations

The proponent of this resolution seeks to increase the favorable visibility of the fraternity by permitting lodges to openly sponsor, associate or affiliate themselves with recognized charities and/or public service organizations.

The proponent argues that the lodges exist in part to serve the community of which they are a part of. Freemasonry does not enjoy widespread recognition and is misunderstood by many. By being able to openly sponsor and affiliate with charities in the community, it will create a favorable public image which will help its ultimate survival and growth in the future.

The proposed legislation seeks to delete the current wording of Section 2070b and replace it with new language supporting the resolution.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

## GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-06

### Provides that Lodges May Sponsor Girls' Youth Organizations in Addition to Sponsoring DeMolay

The proponent of this Resolution seeks to permit lodges to sponsor any or all three Masonic youth organizations in any combination, removing any implied exclusion of organizations for girls.

**WHEREAS**, Masons established organizations to support and promote the education and development of both boys and girls; and

**WHEREAS**, current moral trends increasingly recognize the importance of the inclusion of girls in educational and developmental activities and organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, our current Code appears to emphasize the development of boys to the exclusion of girls,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows (new matter is underscored, deleted material is crossed out):

§2070c. Sponsoring of DeMolay Masonic Youth Organizations: A lodge or its concordant and appendant bodies, by resolution may sponsor a Chapter or chapters of the Order of DeMolay, a Bethel of Job's Daughters, or an Assembly of Rainbow for Girls. Nothing herein shall preclude a lodge from sponsoring more than one organization, more than one unit of an organization or any combination thereof.

Dated: December 1st 2022

Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey A. Low, PM Proponent

## Provides that Lodges may Sponsor Girls' Youth Organizations in Addition to Sponsoring DeMolay

The proponent argues that the Masonic family established organizations to support and promote the education and development of both boys and girls. Current moral trends increasingly recognize the importance of the inclusion of girls in educational and developmental activities and organizations. Our current code appears to emphasize the development of boys to the exclusion of girls by not allowing for a lodge to officially sponsor a girls Masonic organization.

The proposed legislation would modify the current section to allow for a lodge to sponsor a DeMolay Chapter, a Bethel of Job's Daughters, or an Assembly of Rainbow for Girls. And a lodge could also sponsor more than one if desired.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07

### Provides that Lodges May Not Sponsor, Promote or Otherwise Affiliate with Any Credit or Debit Card Activity

The proponent of this Resolution seeks to dissociate lodges from credit and/or debit card activities.

**WHEREAS**, lodges have little or no expertise with credit card or debit card laws, regulations, operations, risks or safeguards; and

**WHEREAS**, lodges stand to gain no benefit from any affiliation with companies which provide or service credit cards or debit cards except as customers; and

**WHEREAS**, Prudence suggests that credit be used for emergencies rather than as a primary source of funding; and

**WHEREAS**, much of today's advertising promotes credit as a primary source of funding, a position which we would be supporting by affiliating with a credit card company; and

WHEREAS, our current Code does not address debit cards; and

**WHEREAS**, our current Code permits the use of credit card programs as commercial ventures of lodges under certain conditions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows (new matter is underscored, deleted material is crossed out):

**§2070d.** Grand Masters are authorized to approve credit card programs as commercial ventures of prerequisite organizations, provided that the Grand Master's approval first be sought; that only members of the prerequisite organization be participants; that the membership roster of the organization be used only for Masonic purposes; and that no Masonic fraternal emblem, logo, or name of any fraternal organization, sub organization or charity be imprinted or otherwise contained in or on any credit card issued in connection with such program to any Freemason subject to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

§2070d is hereby repealed in its entirety, the use of credit cards or debit cards as a commercial venture being reserved to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Charities of Hawaii.

Dated: December 19th 2022

Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey A. Low, PM Proponent

## Provides that Lodges may not Sponsor, Promote or Otherwise Affiliate with any Credit or Debit Card Activity

The proponent argues that lodges have little or no expertise with credit card or debit card laws, regulations, operations, risks or safeguards. Lodges stand to gain no benefit from affiliating with credit card companies, except as customers. Prudence suggests that credit be used for emergencies rather than as a primary source of funding. Our current code does not address debit cards.

The resolution seeks to completely repeal Section 2070d and reserving it only for the Board of Directors of the Masonic Charities of Hawaii.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08

#### Formalizing Grand Lodge of Hawaii Investment Committee

The proponents of this Resolution seek to formally create and define the Grand Lodge of Hawaii's Investment Committee.

**WHEREAS**, while an Investment Committee has been in use and operating under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii for some time, there is no mention of such a committee within our Hawaii Masonic Code nor a clarification on how it is determined who is to be a member of that committee or how long their term lengths are; and

**WHEREAS**, since there is no mention of an Investment Committee they are often mistaken by many for our Finance Committee which is outlined in the Hawaii Masonic Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following section XXX be added to the Hawaii Masonic Code as well a section §1202 be amended as follows to match. (New matter is underscored, deleted material is crossed out):

§1218. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE. The Committee on Finance shall be a standing committee, and shall consist of the following persons and not others; The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and the sitting Masters of each constituent Lodge. The Chair of the Committee on Finance shall be the Deputy Grand Master; provided that, in his absence, the following committee members shall act as temporary chairman at any meeting at which a quorum is present: Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, a sitting Master elected by a majority of those present at the meeting.

§12??. COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS. The Committee on Investments shall be a standing committee, and shall consist of the following persons and not others;

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and the sitting Masters of each constituent Lodge. The Chair of the Committee on Finance shall be the Deputy Grand Master; provided that, in his absence, the following committee members shall act as temporary chairman at any meeting at which a quorum is present: Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, a sitting Master elected by a majority of those present at the meeting.

**§2070d.** Grand Masters are authorized to approve credit card programs as commercial ventures of prerequisite organizations, provided that the Grand Master's approval first be sought; that only members of the prerequisite organization be participants; that the membership roster of the organization be used only for Masonic purposes; and that no Masonic fraternal emblem, logo, or name of any fraternal organization, sub organization or charity be imprinted or otherwise contained in or on any credit card issued in connection with such program to any Freemason subject to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

§2070d is hereby repealed in its entirety, the use of credit cards or debit cards as a commercial venture being reserved to the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance or to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Charities of Hawaii as the Grand Master shall direct. If this proposal is adopted, the Grand Master shall make his direction within ninety (90) days of the close of the Annual

Communication. Further, the Grand Master shall invest only one of the organizations with the authority to decide on the use of credit and debit cards as a commercial venture.

### §1202. STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following standing committees shall be appointed by the Grand Master at each Annual Communication just before the close thereof, viz: On Jurisprudence, on Policy and Long Range Planning, on Temple Properties, on United States Constitution Observance, on Finance, on Credentials, on Foreign Jurisdictions, on Masonic History, on Masonic Education, on Ritual, on Masonic Code on Investments, and on Emergency Action. The duties of such committees shall continue during the year thereafter, and shall cease at the close of the next succeeding Annual Communication except as to members of committees whose terms do not end with the close of that Annual Communication.

Dated: December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey A. Low, PM Proponent

### Formalizing a Grand Lodge of Hawaii Investment Committee

The proponent argues that although there has been an Investment Committee in use at the Grand Lodge level for some time, it has not officially been codified within the Hawaii Masonic Code. Because of this, the Investment Committee is often mistaken for the Finance Committee.

The resolution will add a section to the HMC creating a Committee on Investments and who shall be a designated member of such committee.

There was an erroneous mention to Section 2070d, which was addressed in Proposed Resolution No. 2023-07. This section of the resolution should be removed as such.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-09

To amend Section 2800 of the Hawaii Masonic Code allowing a Lodge to reduce the annual dues of its elderly members to an amount equal to the Grand Lodge per capita tax.

With increasing frequency we are discovering members who have become incompetent or who are so incapacitated that they are unable to manage their affairs. Payment of lodge dues might be their least concern, and we may discover their circumstances after they have been suspended for nonpayment of dues. A member should not be suspended for non-payment of dues because he is unable to manage his affairs because of illness or old age.

THEREFORE, it is hereby proposed that Part I, Article VI, Section 2810, of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended by adding a new subsection 2810c, which reads as follows:

§2810c. A lodge may remit the annual dues of a member if the lodge determines with reasonable certainty that the member has become incapacitated or so ill that he has been and is unable to manage his affairs, notwithstanding his failure to request a remission. The remission shall occur retroactively for the period during which the lodge has determined the aforesaid incapacity or illness has occurred, and the lodge shall be entitled to a reimbursement or waiver of the per capita tax attributable to that member for the period of remission. The lodge shall thereafter report to the Grand Lodge the condition of the member and the necessity of the remission of his dues for each of the subsequent years in which remission of dues is granted.

[Deleted material herein is crossed out. Added material is underscored.]

Dated: December 22, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Garry Graham, PGM Proponent

To Amend Section 2800 of the HMC Allowing a Lodge to Reduce the Annual Dues of its Elderly members to an Amount Equal to the Grand Lodge per Capita tax.

The proponent argues that lodges are discovering members who have become incompetent or so incapacitated that they are unable to manage their affairs. Payment of lodge dues might be their last concern and lodges only discover this many times after the member has been suspended for nonpayment of dues.

The resolution seeks to amend Section 2810 and add a new subsection 2810c. A lodge may remit the annual dues of a member if with reasonable certainty they are able to determine that the member has become incapacitated or so ill that he has been and is unable to manage his affairs, notwithstanding his failure to request a remission of dues.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

## GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10

To amend Article II, Section 7, of the Hawaii Masonic Code by adding language to Subsection b of that section, and by adding a new subsection 7d, concerning the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry

Whereas, the Grand Lodge of Hawaii adheres to the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, and all its members, constituent lodges and the constitution, bylaws, rules, regulations and other transactions and business of the Grand Lodge are subject to the Ancient Landmarks;

Whereas, the Ancient Landmarks are certain fundamental attributes or principles of Freemasonry that are ancient and unchangeable, but may be interpreted, defined and described differently in other grand jurisdictions;

Whereas, it would be advantageous and appropriate for the Grand Lodge to specify and describe the Ancient Landmarks as they are understood and defined in this jurisdiction;

NOW, THEREFORE, Article II, Section 7, of the Hawaii Masonic Code ("HMC") is hereby amended as follows:

1. Article II, Section 7, Subsection 7b, of the HMC is hereby amended by adding the language underscored below:

§7b. This Grand Lodge adheres to the American doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction, which is as follows: Whenever there are three or more chartered lodges in any state or territory in which no Grand Lodge exists and there is substantial unity among Freemasons of such State or territory in favor of forming a new Grand Lodge, they have the absolute right to meet in convention, and a majority of them, not less than three, can organize a Grand Lodge for such state or territory; and when once regularly formed, such Grand Lodge has control and government of all Masons and all Lodges of the three degrees, with full and original legislative, judicial and executive power over all Masons and all Lodges within that state or territory, subject to the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry, as described in Subsection 7d hereinbelow; and no other Grand Lodge can in any way interfere with its jurisdiction, establish new Lodges in such state or territory. with the exception of those Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Hawaii, and its Jurisdiction, Inc., or maintain those already established. The foregoing will not apply to the Lodges or the Members of the Lodges of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii, and Its Jurisdiction. Inc.

This doctrine applies to the United States and its territories and not to other countries including the Latin countries. This Grand Lodge will recognize only one Grand Lodge and one Prince Hall Grand Lodge in any state or territory, and will regard all others as irregular and clandestine.

2. Article II, Section 7, of the HMC is hereby amended by adding a new Subsection 7d, as follows:

- 7d. The Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry adhered to by the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, and to which said Grand Lodge, its members, constitution, bylaws, rules, regulations and other transactions and business are subject, are as follows:
  - 1. <u>Freemasonry is a fraternity of men, who are freeborn and of mature</u> age.
  - 2. <u>A requirement of membership in Freemasonry is a belief in the Supreme Being and in an afterlife of immortality.</u>
  - 3. Freemasonry is a moral science taught through ritualistic ceremonies which progress from lower to higher status known as the First or Entered Apprentice Degree, the Second or Fellow Craft Degree, and Third or Master Mason Degree.
  - 4. <u>Freemasons identify one another through secret or esoteric Modes of Recognition.</u>
  - 5. <u>Freemasonry has adopted and utilizes the symbolic legend of Hiram Abiff.</u>
  - 6. <u>Freemasons within a specified jurisdiction are governed by a Grand Lodge, whose chief executive is the Grand Master.</u>
  - 7. <u>Freemasons meet and conduct business in an assembly known as a "lodge", under the authority of a Grand Lodge.</u>
  - 8. <u>Each constituent lodge is governed by a Master, a Senior Warden and a Junior Warden.</u>
  - 9. The Grand Master has the power to make Masons "at sight".
  - 10. <u>Every Master Mason in good standing has the right to attend every</u> regular lodge, subject to exclusion by the Master for good reason.
  - 11. No unknown visitor shall be allowed to attend a tiled (i.e., closed) meeting of a lodge without first being examined and found to be a Master Mason and a member in good standing of a regular lodge.
  - 12. No lodge can interfere in the business of another lodge.
  - 13. The Holy Bible is considered a "Book of the Law", or a history illustrating certain moral and ethical principles, and which shall be opened at every meeting of a lodge of Freemasons.
  - 14. These Ancient Landmarks cannot be changed.

[Note: deleted material herein is crossed out. Added material is underscored.]

Dated: December 22, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Dennis A. Ing, PGM, Grand Lecturer In behalf of the Ritual Committee

### To Amend Article II, Section 7 of the HMC, by Adding a new Subsection 7d, Concerning the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry

The proponent argues that the Grand Lodge of Hawaii adheres to the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, and all its members. The Ancient Landmarks may be interpreted, defined and described differently in other grand jurisdictions.

The current section of the HMC does not specifically identify what the Ancient Landmarks are. The resolution would specify and describe them as they are understood and defined in this jurisdiction. A new subsection 7d would describe the Ancient Landmarks.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11

### Motion to adopt rules governing the safekeeping and access to the Grand Lodge Plain Text Ritual.

Section 2689b of the HMC provides for the creation of one plain text ritual to be kept at the Grand Lodge office in a secure location. The Ritual Committee has finalized and printed the Plain Text Ritual and proposes the adoption of the following rules pertaining to its safekeeping and access.

Therefore, it is moved that the following rules be adopted by majority vote of the Grand Lodge as applicable to the plain text ritual:

#### RULES APPLICABLE TO THE PLAIN TEXT RITUAL

- Location. The Plain Text Ritual (APTR@) shall at all times be kept in a safe at the Grand Lodge Office, the combination for which may be changed by the Grand Lecturer from time to time and which shall be known only to Eligible Persons. The safe shall have an electronic (battery operated) combination lock, equipped with a back-up key to be utilized only if the battery dies. There shall be two such keys, which shall be kept by the Grand Lecturer and Assistant Grand Lecturer or one other member of the Ritual Committee.
- 2) **Eligible Persons** are those entitled to legitimate access to the PTR, who are limited to the following: current members of the Grand Lodge Ritual Committee (ARitual Committee@), the incumbent Grand Master and the incumbent Grand Secretary.
- 3) Manner of access. The PTR may be examined and reviewed only if at least two (2) Eligible Persons are present at the same time, at least one of whom must be a member of the Ritual Committee. A log or registry shall be kept with the PTR, and any person examining or reviewing the PTR must enter his name, date, time of access and the portions of the PTR reviewed. Such research shall be limited to no longer than thirty (30) minutes.
- 4) **Use**. The PTR is intended for reference only. If any person has a question concerning ritual, he should address his inquiry to his Officers= Coach, Master or the Inspector assigned to his lodge. The answer to that inquiry shall be researched by the Inspector, transmitted to the Coach and then to the person asking the question.
- 5) **No duplication**. No portion of the PTR may be copied or duplicated by any means. There shall be only one electronic copy of the PTR, which shall be kept in the safe holding the PTR.
- 6) **Violation** of these rules shall be deemed a Masonic offense.

Dated: December 22, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Dennis A. Ing, PGM, Grand Lecturer In behalf of the Ritual Committee, Proponents

## Motion to Adopt Rules Governing the Safekeeping and Access to the Grand Lodge Plain Text Ritual

The proponent argues that Section 2689b of the HMC provides for the creation of one plain text ritual to be kept at the Grand Lodge office in a secure location. This resolution would provide for the more specific rules applicable to the Plain Text Ritual and its safekeeping, and access to it.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. This resolution proposes the adoption of rules pertaining to Section 2689b. It requires a majority vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-12

To amend Section 2800 of the Hawaii Masonic Code allowing a Lodge to reduce the annual dues of its elderly members to an amount equal to the Grand Lodge per capita tax.

Many constituent lodges have elderly members who in their advanced age seldom participate in lodge activities and although their financial circumstances do not merit a remission of dues, they find it no longer worthwhile to continue their membership. Some of them request a demit or allow their membership to be suspended for non-payment of dues. Rather than "lose" a valued veteran member, it would seem better to reduce that member's dues, while he continues supporting the lodge by paying the per capita tax incurred for his membership.

THEREFORE, it is hereby proposed that Part I, Article I, Section 2800, of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended by adding a new subsection 2800b, which reads as follows:

§2800b. A lodge may (but need not) amend its bylaws to provide that the annual dues for a member who has remained in good standing for a continuous period of at least fifteen (15) years and who is at least eighty (80) years of age, at his request, may be reduced to the amount equal to the annual per capita tax assessed by the Grand Lodge attributable to that member.

[Deleted material herein is crossed out. Added material is underscored.]

Dated: December 22, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Garry Graham, PGM Proponent

## To Amend Section 2800 of the HMC Allowing a Lodge to Reduce the Annual Dues of its Elderly Members to an Amount Equal to the Grand Lodge per Capita Tax

The proponent argues that lodges have elderly members, who due to their age seldom participate in lodge activities any longer. Because of this, they no longer find it worthwhile to keep paying dues. They many times either demit or allow themselves to be suspended for non-payment of dues.

The resolution seeks to allow a member of a lodge who is at least 80 years old and a member for at least 15 years, to request that the lodge lower their annual dues to that of only the per capita tax assessed by the Grand Lodge.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-13

To amend Section 1148 of the Hawaii Masonic Code to reimburse the elected Lodge representative for round trip air fare to and from communications of the Grand Lodge.

Under HMC §11 an elected representative of a constituent Lodge is a member elected to represent the Lodge at the next regular or special communication of the Grand Lodge in case none of the Lodge pillars is able to attend. HMC §1148 provides that the Grand Lodge will reimburse the Lodge for one pillar's round-trip airfare to and from any Annual or Special Communication of the Grand Lodge. This proposal would provide for the reimbursement of the Lodge for the airfare of its elected representative, should all the pillars be unable to attend, thereby correcting an oversight in this section of the HMC.

THEREFORE, it is hereby proposed that Part I, Article I, Section 1148, of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended to read as follows:

#### '1148. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF LODGE REPRESENTATIVES.

One authorized pillar (or if all the pillars cannot attend, the elected representative of the Lodge) and the Past Masters= representative of each Lodge in the jurisdiction present at either the Annual or a Special Communication shall be reimbursed, by the Grand Lodge, for his round trip air fare from the location of his Lodge in the jurisdiction to the site, for attendance at the relevant communication with an amount that has been approved by the Grand Master. Any further expense to these Grand Lodge Communications is to be borne by such representative or voting officer as approved by their lodge.

Receipts for reimbursement shall be submitted no later than the date of the ending of the Annual Communication for that year as accounting for the Grand Lodge=s fiscal year ends at that time.

[Deleted material herein is crossed out. Added material is underscored.]

Dated: December 22, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Dennis A. Ing, PGM, Grand Lecturer Proponent

### To Amend Section 1148 of the HMC to Reimburse the Elected Lodge Representative for Round Trip Air Fare to and From Communications of the Grand Lodge

The proponent argues that Section 1148 currently only allows for the reimbursement of airfare for a lodge representative that is also a pillar of the lodge to attend the Annual Communication. There are times when none of the pillars are able to attend and a representative is elected to represent all voting members, but is not a sitting pillar of the lodge. This resolution would correct an apparent oversight with respect to this section.

The resolution seeks to amend Section 1148 to allow for the elected representative who is not a pillar of the lodge to be reimbursed for their round trip air fare when representing the lodge at an Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. As it intends to amend the HMC, it requires a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,

### GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2023-14 (EMERGENT)

### **New Secretary's Proficiency**

Proficiency requirements exist in our Masonic code for many different officer but they are primarilly for positions in regards to ritual and not administrative. Over the years it has proven that serious problems are created when a lodge transitions to a new secretary with little or no training and is not prepared for the requirements of that postion.

A lodge's ability to function properly can be severely hampered by a lodge secretary who does not understand the requirements and procedures that this position demands. A poorly prepared secretary cand hinder a lodge so much that it can take years for a lodge to get back on track as there are occasions when problems are not discovered until it is too late to rectify easily.

If there are proficiency requirements for certain officer positions to advance to a postion which is only be expected to be held for 1 year, why isn't there a proficiency requirement for a secretary who is hoped to hold that position for years to come.

As this is a chronic situation year after year, this proponent asks a favorable vote that this legislation be approved as emergent and proposes the follow addition to the Hawaii Masonic Code to put step guards in place sooner rather than later.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that a new section §2521 be added to the Hawaii Masonic Code as follows:

§2521. QUALIFICATIONS OF SECRETARY. Before a brother who has never held the position of Lodge Secretary in this jurisdiction before or one has not held the position for more than 5 years, he must first pass a satisfactory proficiency as prescribed by the Grand Secretary before he can be installed as such. This proficiency is to include but not necessarily be limited to a familiarity with 1) Usage of current membership system; 2) knowledge of procedures such as acceptance of membership applications, annual reporting responsibilities, and communication protocols with other lodges within our jurisdiction and without, and 3) a general familiarity of the Hawaii Masonic Code and how to search its contents.

DATED: December 30, 2022 Respectfully submitted, Marty P. Alexander PGM Grand Secretary, GL of Hawaii Proponent

### **New Secretary's Proficiency**

The proponent argues that proficiency requirements exist in the HMC for certain officers, but is in regards to ritual rather than administrative duties. Over the years, lodges have placed a member in the chair of lodge Secretary, with little or no training. This has caused problems and has sometimes caused a setback that can take years for a lodge to get back on track. The proponent believes that the important position of Secretary should also have a proficiency component to have a safeguard in place and provide important training for someone taking this position.

The resolution seeks to add a new section to the HMC that specifies the qualification requirements for someone seeking to be elected to Secretary of a constituent lodge.

The proposed legislation is in proper form and its subject is appropriate for the Grand Lodge to consider. Because this resolution is emergent and was not submitted within the 120 day period required by the HMC, it will require a 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge to determine whether it is emergent or not. If the resolution passes this vote, then it also requires an additional 2/3 vote of the Grand Lodge for passage.

Dated 2/7/2023

Respectfully submitted,