

PROCEEDINGS

36th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

April 19-20, 2024

MW Dustin T. Verity
Grand Master 2023

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





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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 19th, 2024 at 1:10 pm, Most Worshipful Dustin T. Verity, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii, 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 turned 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 Dustin T. Verity	Grand Master
Right Worshipful Gloriani A. Lontoc	Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Michael J.W. Lopez.....	Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Chris N. Kaminaka	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 Oscar M. Jayme	2007
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 Michael P. Baker Sr.....	2015
Most Worshipful Albert B. Alvarez	2017
Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan.....	2018
Most Worshipful Garry Graham	2020 &2021
Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai	2022

The credentials committee reported 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 Verity started the business session by first introducing the past grand masters of Hawaii listed above. He then introduced our visiting dignitaries in attendance who were as follows:

Sitting Grand Masters

MW CHARLES WIEGERT Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri

MW CRAIG SIPP, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon

MW DOUGLAS STUBER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alaska

Grand Master Personal Representatives

Past Grand Master MW H. SHERMAN BURGER III, who is representing MW GARY LABRUYERE Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Idaho

Past Grand Master MW STUART WRIGHT, who is representing MW G. SEAN METROKA Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California

Deputy Grand Master RW. ZAK GULLING who is representing MW TED BENDURE Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nevada

Sr. Grand Warden RW ROGER NELSON, who is representing MW STEVE MARTIN Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington

Jr. Grand Deacon WOR. JAMES XIE, Jr. who is representing MW GEORGE RUSK Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arizona


Past Master WOR. JASON VARNER, who is representing MW DAVID TINGEY
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Utah

Past Master WOR. DAISUKE ITABASHI, who is representing MW EARL SMITH
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Japan

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

GRAND CHAPLAIN'S SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The Grand Master then called upon Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II, our
Grand Chaplain and Chairman of the Memorial Service Committee, to present the Service
of Remembrance for our departed brethren, who were as follows:



These brothers have reached the end of their earthly toils
this last year. The silver cord is loosed: the golden bowl is
broken: the pitcher is broken at the fountain: and the wheel is
broken at the cistern.

• Robert Austin	• John Gopliss III	• Warren Schappell
• Solomon Chung	• Richard Burt	• Donovan Young
• Philip eddy	• Donald Fisher	• Sterling Cale
• Raymond Lowman	• John Jones	• Charles Hibbs
• Rudolph McIntyre	• Deogracias Maniego Jr.	• Jeffrey Low
• Maurice Pierce	• Frank Morrow	• Tommy Thompson

The dust has returned to the earth as it was, and the spirit
has returned to God who gave it.

*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 2023 - 2024 Annual Financial Statement which was as follows:

	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	P/L
INCOME			
Affiliations	\$ 150.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 30.00
Degrees (\$1.00 per Degree)	\$ 100.00	\$ 202.00	\$ 102.00
Dispensations (\$25.00 Per Request)	\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00	\$ (25.00)
Geo. Washington Memorial (\$5.00 per new initiate)	\$ 150.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 170.00
Grand Lodge Fee (\$20.00 per initiate)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,280.00	\$ 280.00
Hawaii Masonic Charities (\$15.00 per new initiate)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 960.00	\$ (40.00)
Per Capita Tax (\$43.00 per member)	\$ 64,000.00	\$ 62,565.00	\$ (1,435.00)
Awards and Certificates	\$ 500.00	\$ 405.00	\$ (95.00)
One Day Class Registration (\$100.00 x 50 initiates)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,600.00	\$ (400.00)
Misc. - Donations - Ciphers	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,433.40	\$ (66.60)
TOTALS	\$ 74,500.00	\$ 73,020.40	\$ (1,479.60)

EXPENSES			
Annual Communication Expenses (2023)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,121.00	\$ (1,121.00)
Delegate Airfare	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,268.00	\$ 232.00
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	\$ 4,090.63	\$ 2,309.37
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	\$ 391.96	\$ (291.96)
Conference of Grand Secretaries Travel	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,572.78	\$ 427.22
Grand Secretary - California ANCOM Travel	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 443.31	\$ 1,056.69
Travel Expenses	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,949.50	\$ (949.50)
Grand Lodge of California - ANCOM	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Conference of Grand Masters Airfare	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Grand Lodge of Philippines - ANCOM	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Grand Lodge of Japan - ANCOM	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Grand Lodge of Washington - ANCOM	\$ 1,102.60	\$ 1,102.60	\$ -
Grand Lodge of Oregon - ANCOM	\$ 2,658.00	\$ 2,658.00	\$ -
Grand Lodge of Nevada - ANCOM	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Interisland Airfare	\$ 3,492.43	\$ 3,492.43	\$ -
Interisland Rental Cars	\$ 538.30	\$ 538.30	\$ -
Misc. Expenses	\$ 158.17	\$ 158.17	\$ -
George Washington Masonic Memorial Foundation	\$ 1,639.00	\$ 3,425.00	\$ (1,786.00)
Hawaii Masonic Charities	\$ 750.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00
Grand Master Pins / Emblematics	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 1,430.00
Pins	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 1,170.00	\$ (20.00)
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	\$ 3,544.00	\$ 2,097.50	\$ 1,446.50
Tracers	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 997.50	\$ 2.50
Office Supplies	\$ 800.00	\$ 116.13	\$ 683.87
Engraving	\$ 200.00	\$ 216.56	\$ (16.56)
Phone	\$ 250.00	\$ 350.54	\$ (100.54)
Postage	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 114.77	\$ 885.23
PO Box Rental	\$ 294.00	\$ 302.00	\$ (8.00)
Past Grand Master's Apron and Jewel	\$ 650.00	\$ 436.00	\$ 214.00
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	\$ -
GL Secretary's Honorarium	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ -
Secretary's Workshop/Leadership Workshop	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Tax Preparation Fees	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ (500.00)
Grand Lodge Inspector's Travel	\$ 500.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 75.00
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -
Grand Lodge Website	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,382.19	\$ 117.81
Youth Groups	\$ 500.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 125.00
Executive Committee Meeting Refreshments	\$ 500.00	\$ 470.76	\$ 29.24
Groupable Hosting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,861.20	\$ 138.80
One Day Class Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 945.10	\$ (445.10)

	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	P/L
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 75,133.00	\$ 76,312.90	\$ (1,179.90)

BEGINNING BALANCE: 1 May 2022	\$ 55,298.38	GL of HI 2023/2024 Profit / Loss \$ (1,653.50)
Income:	\$ 74,659.40	
Expenses	\$ 76,312.90	
Ending Balance 7 April 2023	\$ 53,644.88	

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, 2023 through December 31, 2023, 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 2023 were 55 which included raisings, affiliations and restorations.
This was down from our 108 gains from the previous year*

*Our losses for 2023 were 104 which included deaths, suspensions and demits.
This was increase from our 82 losses from last year.*

So, when all was said and done, we had an overall decrease of 49 members for 2023 for a total 2023 ending membership count of 1567.

In gong back for a few years to see what the trend is and where we are leaking members at here are a few figures for you.

<i>2023 34 Deaths 22 Demits 8 Expulsions</i>	<i>40 NPD's</i>
<i>2022 27 Deaths 14 Demits 0 Expulsions</i>	<i>41 NPD's</i>
<i>2021 13 Deaths 14 Demits 0 Expulsions</i>	<i>47 NPD's</i>

While all in all, 2 of the major losses come from deaths and expulsions which are unavoidable. Our NPD's are slowing down albeit not fast enough, but it appears an alarming increase in demits has happened from over the previous 2 years.

How can we reverse this trend? Well, many man thousands of man-hours over the years have been spent across the jurisdictions to try to answer that common questions with nothing conclusive figured out. Maybe we need to make a concerted effort into exploring what we are doing in our individual lodges to see what might work for us here in Hawaii. And if we can't find out how to reverse it, at least find out what are the causes of NPD's/

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

AGAIN, 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.

We are in our 2nd year of our virtual dues card system and kudos to the team at Groupable, with little or no bugs. The only true bug reported was that there are a few having difficulty gaining access with the new Galaxy S23 phones. But that is being looked into as to why most work but only a few don't. Individual phone settings seem to be the culprit at this point.

On the bright side, the virtual dues cards now display a "Life Membership" status for those who have a life membership. This had been a common request the last 2 years and the Groupable Team just made it happen. It took a little while mainly because any changes

made to Groupable, OLP of Passport have to be acceptable for all jurisdictions using the same product.

They have also implemented a new user interface to help simplify and streamline input making our job as secretaries simpler as well. But probably the biggest improvement this year, at least in my opinion, is their self-help option. Besides having a list of help videos that are all on YouTube as well as listed in Groupable, they have included icons in every window for help specific tasks. What a great time saver that is.

What is in store for the future for Groupable? Some of our secretaries have been experiencing a few issues when trying to communicate with the WePay people. Not just in our jurisdiction but also other jurisdictions as well. So, with that in mind, the gang at Groupable are almost done with negotiations with PayPal to convert over to them. The problem actually stems from JP Morgan Chase who is the parent corporation of WePay and is trying to phase out the whole WePay system.

Then the next thing on the horizon is an integration between the Groupable membership system and OLP (Our Lodge Page) web sites. They will merge together into 1 system instead of being 2 separate systems, making communication between the 2 simpler and only requiring 1 log in. They are both owned by Groupable anyways.

I would like to express our thanks to the whole Groupable Team for continually working with their jurisdictions to help make a better product. Especially that of Mark and Sylva Manard, the owners for allowing us personal and even after-hours access to them whenever something is needed.

Most Worshipful Sir, this concludes the Grand Secretary's report for this year. With your permission I move to accept this report....

Most Worshipful Sir, 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.

FOREIGN RECOGNITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Grand Master then called upon our Grand Secretary, Right Worshipful Michael Lopez, our Foreign Recognitions Committee Chairman for his annual report and recommendations.

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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 requests for recognition by the Grand Lodge of Hawaii:

<i>Requested Date</i>	<i>Grand Lodges</i>
<i>March 20,2023</i>	<i>Gran Logia Equinoccial Del Ecuador</i>
<i>May 3, 2023</i>	<i>The Grand Lodge of Belarus</i>
<i>July 19, 2023</i>	<i>Grande Oriente Da Bahia</i>
<i>July 22, 2023</i>	<i>Grande Loge Régulière de Tahiti et des Archipels (GLRT) aka Regular Grand Lodge of Tahiti and Archipelagos</i>
<i>September 1,2023</i>	<i>Grand Lodge of Macedonia</i>
<i>September 12, 2023</i>	<i>Grande Oriente Paulista</i>
<i>January 6,2024</i>	<i>Grande Oreinte do Rio Grande do Norte</i>
<i>February 13, 2024</i>	<i>Grand Orient of Paraiba</i>

Your Committee on Recognition finds that, based upon the due diligence referenced in report for 2023 and 2024 of the Commission on Information for Recognition, that the Grand Lodges above have continually operated as a regular Grand Lodges meets all requirements for Recognition.

It is therefore the recommendation of the Committee on Recognition that the requests above are in Due form and eligible for consideration for recognition.

*Fraternally,
Michael J.W. Lopez, SGW
Committee on Recognition - Chair*

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It was then regularly moved and seconded to extend recognition to all requests listed above in the same motion. Motion was carried.

2024 ANNUAL BUDGET

The Grand Master then called upon our Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Gloriani Lontoc to present the 2024 Proposed Budget for approval which had been previously approved by the Finance Committee.

5	INCOME:	
6	Affiliations	\$ 150.00
7	Degrees (Est. 100 at \$1.00 per Degree)	100.00
8	Dispensations (Est. 4 at \$25.00 per Dispensation)	100.00
9	G. Washington Memorial Foundation (Est. 30 at \$5 per initiate)	150.00
10	G. Washington Memorial Foundation (Est. 1616 at \$1 per member)	1,616.00
11	Grand Lodge (Est. 50 at \$20 per new initiate)	1,000.00
12	Hawaii Masonic Charities (Est. 50 at \$15 per initiate)	750.00
13	Per Capita Tax (EST. 1616 at \$43 per member)	69,488.00
14	Donations / Other Income	25,000.00
15	GM's One-Day Class (Est 50 at \$100 per candidate)	5,000.00
16	Fundraising	2,000.00
17		
18	Total Income	\$105,354.00

21	EXPENSES:	
22	Annual Communications	
23	Supplies / Refreshments	\$ 1,500.00
24	Travel / Hotel	2,000.00
25	Delegate Airfare	
26	Conferences	
27	Conference of Grand Master's Registration	450.00
28	Conference of Grand Master's Dues	850.00
29	Western Conference of Grand Masters	1,500.00
30	Conference of Grand Secretary's Dues	450.00
31	Conference of Grand Secretary's Travel	2,000.00
32	Grand Secretary, California AnCom Travel	
33	G. Washington Memorial Foundation (Est. 1616 at \$1 per member)	1,616.00
34	Hawaii Masonic Charities	750.00
35	Grand Master's pins and emblems	
36	Pins	1,150.00
37	Grand Lodge Neckties / Shirts	850.00
38	Plaques / Mementos	600.00
39	Masonic Education	3,000.00
40	Masonic Services Association Dues	300.00
41	Name Badges	500.00
42	Office Supplies	
43	Administrative (Postage, PO Box rental, Office supplies, etc.)	1,000.00
44	Copier / Computer Supplies / Tracers	800.00
45	Phone	250.00
46	Past Grand Master's Apron and Jewel	650.00
47	Photography and printing	750.00
48	Rental (HMTA)	6,000.00
49	Secretary's Honorarium (\$1750.00/month)	21,000.00
50	Secretary's Workshops / Leadership Workshop	200.00
51	Tax Preparation fees	3,000.00
52	Travel (Greater of \$12,000 or 23.4% of Revenue)	9,500.00
53	Grand Lodge Inspector's Travels	1,000.00
54	Pillar Travel (Conferences of Grand Masters, AnComs, etc.)	3,000.00
55	Treasurer's Expenses	1,500.00

56	Grand Lodge Website	2,000.00
57	Youth Groups	500.00
58	Executive Committee Meeting Refreshments	1,000.00
59	GROUPABLE Hosting	2,200.00
60	GM's One-Day Class Expenses	500.00
61	Jurisprudence Committee Expenses	1,200.00
62	Miscellaneous / Other Expenses	500.00
63		
64	Total Expenses	\$ 74,066.00
65		
66		
67	NET INCOME:	\$ 31,288.00

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the proposed 2024 - 2025 Annual Budget and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

The Grand Master then called upon Most Worshipful Stuart Wright of the Masonic Service Association for a special presentation of a plaque thanking our Grand Master for his service and contributions to the MSA over the last year.

2024 PROPOSED LEGISLATION

With all committee reports completed for the day, 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.

Listed here are the results of the voting. The full form Resolutions may be found at the end of this document.

2024 Proposed Resolution Results

Res.#	Description	Req%	For	Against	
2024-01	New secretaries' proficiency requirements	2/3	82%	18%	Pass
2024-02	Digital archival of lodge records	2/3	86%	14%	Pass
2024-03	NPD restoration with demit	2/3	78%	22%	Pass
2024-04	Change in dispensation fees	2/3	84%	16%	Pass
2024-05	Suspended vs. Dropped - clarification	2/3	60%	40%	Fail - Carry Over
2024-06	Warden's proficiency requirement	2/3	94%	6%	Pass
2024-07	Asst. Grand Lecturer and Inspector Titles	2/3	86%	14%	Pass

CALL TO REFRESHMENT

At 3:48 pm and approaching the end of business for the day, Most Worshipful Verity directed our Jr. Grand Warden Right Worshipful Chris Kaminaka 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 20th, 2024

The Most Worshipful Dustin T. Verity, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii called the Grand Lodge of Hawaii from refreshment and resumed labor at 9:04 am.

MASONIC CHARITIES OF HAWAII ANNUAL REPORT

The Grand Master then called upon Worshipful David H. Gomes, chairman of the Masonic Charities Committee for their annual report.

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Aloha Most Worshipful Verity, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii,

I'm writing to you today with a look back at the Masonic Charities of Hawaii's (MCoH) activities in 2023. As you'll see in this report, our brothers have been busy making a positive impact across the islands and in the larger world around us.

MCoH continued its mission to support our local communities throughout the year. We examined and started a variety of projects, from neighborhood beautification through anti-graffiti efforts to fostering future leaders through the Knights of Rizal program. These initiatives, along with our ongoing support for the Wounded Warriors Program, reflect our commitment to serving Hawaii.

Financially, 2023 presented both challenges and triumphs. While maintaining complete financial transparency at every meeting proved difficult, we received significant donations and actively fundraised to ensure our projects had the resources they needed. Our board

meticulously reviewed investments and expenses to guarantee alignment with our mission and financial well-being.

One of our proudest moments in 2023 was our response to the Lahaina Wildfire. MCoH played a vital role in aiding victims. We launched fundraising campaigns, like a GoFundMe page, and collaborated with other organizations to maximize the impact of our assistance. This exemplified the MCoH spirit of community engagement and responsiveness in times of crisis. Our main bank account now holds over \$500,000, with many of those funds being given through the generosity of the Masonic Family for the victims of the Lahaina Wildfire. Your diligence in traveling to different jurisdictions to request their assistance in raising the funds necessary for those affected by the wildfire have been vital to our efforts to be able to consistently give relief to those in need of it most.

Internally, we also focused on strengthening our organization. Discussions on bylaws, mission/vision statements, and internal audits were ongoing throughout the year. The board deliberated on paraphernalia sales, investment opportunities, and potential improvements to our infrastructure, including website development and improved communication tools.

The annual report details the specific outcomes of projects like the Anti-Graffiti Project, which not only beautified neighborhoods but also helped deter vandalism. The Knights of Rizal program continued to engage young people in leadership and community service activities, despite some participation hurdles. We remain dedicated to finding solutions to these challenges and ensuring these vital programs thrive.

MCoH, like many organizations, grappled with operational hurdles in 2023. We're actively seeking solutions to improve our financial reporting, project management, and strategic planning. The board is committed to enhancing our organizational performance and maximizing our community impact.

Overall, the 2023 report reflects a year of unwavering dedication, responsible financial stewardship, and a deep commitment to serving the people of Hawaii. The achievements

outlined within highlight our unwavering commitment to our mission. We look forward to building on this success in the coming year.

Fraternally,

David Gomes President, Masonic Charities of Hawaii

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

2024 GRAND ORATION

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

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MWM and Esteemed Brethren,

I Bring you greetings from Kauai Lodge established in October 1924 under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California.

Last year, returning from a cruise through the Panama Canal I was quite surprised and perplexed to be honest to be informed that I had been appointed Grand Lecturer for this upcoming ANCOMM. I pondered why me? scratched my head in wonderment until I remembered that, yes this was the 100th year anniversary of Kauai Lodge and

WE ARE STILL STANDING !!

Those who know me know that I have worked hard to bring Kauai Lodge to this milestone in our history.

I have been Master of Kauai Lodge more times than I care to sit down and count. Also, I have been assisted by some fine Past Masters who are now along in years but will not be forgotten.

Before I begin my message to you I would like to invite you all to join with us to celebrate Kauai Lodge's 100th anniversary on Oct 19th at the Hookllau Hotel dining Hall at 5:30 PM .

More detailed information will be forthcoming through the Grand Lodge channels. Please, bringing your family to Kauai for the weekend, enjoy our island and celebrate with us.

I also would be remiss if I did not mention that Pearl Harbor Lodge will be celebrating their 100th anniversary as well this year.

In My message this morning I would like to consider these historical milestones in the context of the flow of Masonic history over the past centuries.

Masonry has persisted through wars, where the Fraternity of Masons served as the only real family men had as they were deployed.

Masonry was present during births of nations and contributed greatly to the concepts of governance that we now enjoy.

Masonry has been around during peace and prosperity and has been a beacon of stability and an example of what it means to be a good man.

So in the context of this flow of history, where do we stand today?

*I believe that we are in a period to quote from Bob Dylan “ The Times they are a Changin”
Come gather round people wherever you roam
and admit the waters around have grown
and except it that soon you'll be drenched to the bone
If the time to you is worth savin,
Then you better start swimming or you'll sink like a stone
for times they are a changin.*

We are currently in a Tsunami of CHANGE and people are frantically looking for something to hold on to.

In these days in which we live all traditions and standards are up for grabs. Throughout the ages all societies change. But what is different today is the speed of the transition facilitated by modern media.

There are many areas we could consider but for us here today I would like to consider what it's like to be a young man growing up in today's world.

A time when the term toxic masculinity has been thrown around.

Male heroes in the media are few and far between these days.

And the numbers of young men in our universities has dropped sharply.

I've put 4 kids into UH over the past years. I have noticed more and more as I walk on the UH campus.

Where are the young men?

University of Hawaii at Manoa has a total undergraduate enrollment of 14,198 (fall 2022), with a gender distribution of 40% male students and 60% female students.

My experience with Medical Students, 2 out of 12 were males

WE live in a world today where role models for young men are few and far between. Especially in broken homes.

This brings us back to Freemasonry.

WE my brothers are the guardians of a time capsule. In that time capsule are foundation stones and time-tested guide stones that are fabric of society. It's why we work hard to keep Freemasonry alive and our Lodges alive. Because we have been entrusted with a very precious thing.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GOOD MAN?

*There is a generation of men out there looking for a life line and we need to be ready to throw it out there. TODAY
The time is today. WE need to think about some things.*

I would like to bring this out of theoretical oratory to sharing A bit of my personal love and experience with Freemasonry. I fully understand that many men come to Freemasonry for different reasons.

This is my story. I am taking the time to share it for a reason.

I was born in 1953 and was growing up as a young man in the late 60s and early seventies a time much like this with cultural and societal change and turmoil.

Growing up in Southern Calif in a divorced household, without a strong Father figure in the house: like many I gravitated to other role models Trying to figure out what kind of man I would become. I was heavily influenced by what could be called the counter coulter. The fact that I just quoted Bob Dylan might have been a clue.

*It was the culture of,
"1.2.3 what are we fighting for?
Don't ask me, I don't give a damn.
Next stop is Vietnam*

That was Country Joe and the Fish not Bob Dylan

I later found faith in the Jesus people movement just before getting my draft number picked at #33.

I will fast forward through a teenage marriage of 17 years with 2 kids who are both now fine adults.

My experience as an army medic and medical training at Emery Medical School as a PA on the GI Bill.

I joined a Christian mission's group and served as a medical missionary in SE Asia and central America during the 80s. I organized medical teams and helped bring equipment for a whole surgical suite to the Belmopan Hospital in Belize.

In the late 80s I was awarded the Humanitarian of the Year award by the American Academy of Physician Assistants at their convention in LA. My divorced mother and father were sitting together in the audience and they were proud. It was at this time my marriage was coming apart as well as my religion.

I did not have a loss of faith but a crisis of my religion not being big enough .

I entered a time of great turmoil in my life but ended up meeting my wife Mary Ann and moving to Kauai to find wonderful happiness.

It was on Kauai that I discovered the Masons and a place where my faith was not bound to dogmas that I found intellectually unacceptable. I truly found a home in Masonry where I was still challenged to be a good man but my personal quest for faith was respected by my brothers as I respected theirs.

This is my very personal love for Freemasonry

And this is why I feel strongly that the time is now for the Fraternity to step up.

I would like to point out that during all this time while I was going through life I never once heard about the Freemasons. I often wonder what turns my life would have taken had I found the Masons earlier.

I believe Freemasonry missed the boat when comes to my boomer generation. This is born out by cold facts.

In these changing times, We don't want to sink like a stone, but we want to be the one with a lifeline to other men.

In my medical Training I went to a very good medical school, Emery university. It was world renown in the area of Cardiology.

There was a physician on the staff that had written a book about patients who had died on the table and were brought back to life. I actually had a chance to speak to some of these patients that had such experiences, and they all seem to come back with a sense of what's really important in life and forget the small stuff.

Kauai Lodge also has had many such experiences and we keep coming back .

But I tend to focus on what is important and forget the small stuff.

Fortunately we don't need to spend time figuring out what is really important in Masonry. Our ritual has clearly spelled it out for when it says... BTW inspectors, I'm over 70 and not trying to get every word right.

Be especially careful to maintain in its fullest splendor !

Brotherly love, relief and Truth

Brotherly Love:

In Masonry We can find friendships that will last a lifetime and I so relate to this poem by our Masonic Brother

RUDYARD KIPLING

The Thousandth Man

One man in a thousand, Solomon says,

Will stick more close than a brother.

And it's worth while seeking him half your days

If you find him before the other.

Nine hundred and ninety-nine depend

On what the world sees in you,

But the Thousandth Man will stand your friend

With the whole round world agin you.

'Tis neither promise nor prayer nor show

Will settle the finding for 'ee.

Nine hundred and ninety-nine of 'em go

By your looks or your acts or your glory.

But if he finds you and you find him,

The rest of the world don't matter;

For the Thousandth Man will sink or swim

With you in any water.

You can use his purse with no more talk

Than he uses yours for his spendings,

And laugh and meet in your daily walk

As though there had been no lendings.

Nine hundred and ninety-nine of 'em call

For silver and gold in their dealings;

But the Thousandth Man he's worth 'em all,

Because you can show him your feelings.

His wrong's your wrong, and his right's your right,

In season or out of season.

Stand up and back it in all men's sight—

With that for your only reason!

Nine hundred and ninety-nine can't bide

The shame or mocking or laughter,

But the Thousandth Man will stand by your side

To the gallows-foot—and after!

That is the brotherly love that can be found in MAsonry.

Relief is the Tangible Expression of Brotherly Love.

AS FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD SO BROTHERLY LOVE WITHOUT RELIEF IS DEAD

Truth:

For it was the Daily custom of THE GMHA.

Your suggestion was good and timely >>

Great Architect.....

A Builder and His Temple

I'm building myself a temple

Where I can go alone

I know just how

I will build it now

Permanent stone

I've searched for a place to hide it

Away from prying eyes

I've found A spot

Where one cannot find it

Even though he tries

Here in this arch will be a shrine

No idle there for me

But a living truth in with you youth

Which Will last through eternity

Here will hang my draperies

To add color to it all

Gossamer, thin with lights within

Like columns in a hall

And here there will be an altar

Where I can kneel and pray

None can see my bended knee

I'm sensitive that way

I've found my place of worship

To God on heavens

Until that day

Should it chance I may

Be worthy and go home

*So, here is my cathedral
I'll build it part by part
And when it's done,
I will be gone
For my temple
Is my heart*

Galen G. McLaughlin

Thank you MW Master for the Honor of being asked to speak at The annual Communication.

=====

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the Grand Oration for 2024 and become a part of these proceedings. Motion was carried.

GRAND MASTER'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

The Grand Master then vacated the Grand East so that he could deliver his State of the Craft Address with the Deputy Grand Master occupying his seat.

=====

Distinguished brethren, esteemed guests, and beloved brothers:

As I stand before you today, reflecting on the culmination of my term as the Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons in Hawaii, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and accomplishment. Over the past year, we have embarked on a journey together—a journey marked by challenges, triumphs, and moments of profound growth for our Fraternity. And as I look back on all that we have achieved, I am humbled by the privilege of having served as your leader during this historic time.

Let us begin by acknowledging one of the most significant accomplishments of the past year: the successful transition from virtual and hybrid meetings back to in-person gatherings in our Lodge rooms. In the wake of the disruptions caused by the pandemic, it was heartening to see our brothers come together once again, reinvigorating our lodge rooms with the spirit of fellowship and camaraderie that has always been the hallmark of Freemasonry. It is a testament to the resilience and strength of our fraternity that we were able to overcome these challenges and emerge even stronger than before.

Central to our efforts to revitalize our lodge rooms has been the reintegration of our Inspectors, who play a vital role in teaching and mentoring our brethren. By empowering our Inspectors to perform their duties as the Grand Master's representatives, we have strengthened the foundation of our fraternity and ensured the continued transmission of our Masonic teachings from one generation to the next. I am proud to say that our lodge

rooms are once again vibrant centers of learning and growth, thanks to the dedication and commitment of our Inspectors.

In addition to our internal initiatives, we have also remained steadfast in our support of the Masonic Charities of Hawaii's charitable efforts. Through their hard work and dedication, they have made a tangible and lasting impact on the lives of our Maui Brothers and the Maui community as a whole, embodying the spirit of charity and compassion that lies at the heart of Freemasonry. Whether through providing financial assistance to those facing hardship or necessary supplies, the Masonic Charities of Hawaii has been a beacon of hope and light in our community.

Furthermore, we have taken great strides in promoting our jurisdiction and building bonds with other Grand Lodges and concordant bodies both nationally and internationally. From attending the Shrine Imperial Session, the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons Triennial Sessions, and the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry's Biennial Session to official visitations to eight sister Grand Lodges across the US and Asia Pacific, we have strengthened the global network of Freemasonry, fostering collaboration and cooperation across borders.

These interactions have not only deepened our understanding of Freemasonry but have also enriched our fraternal bonds and expanded our horizons as Masons. In total and for those that like numbers: we represented the Jurisdiction of Hawaii as its Grand Master at 45 events, which resulted in approximately 55 nights in hotel rooms, and 98,000 miles flown.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our Deputy Grand Master, RW Ani Lontoc, for representing me at home and abroad when I was unable to attend events, to our Senior Grand Warden, RW Michael Lopez, for accompanying me on my travels, keeping us on schedule, and for all of his support – which is too numerous to detail here - to the Grand Secretary for his invaluable counsel and attention to detail throughout the year. Without their support and guidance, to the Grand Lecturer, MW Dennis Ing, and Chair of the Jurisprudence Committee, MW Frank Condello, for their sage advice and temperance. We would not have been able to accomplish all that we have.

As my term comes to an end, I am reminded of the bitter-sweetness of this moment—the joy of looking back on all that we have achieved together, tempered by the knowledge that my time as Grand Master is drawing to a close. It was sage advice from Past Grand Masters that guided me through this year—to plan meticulously in advance, to create a checklist, mark off events and tasks as they were accomplished, and most importantly to enjoy the once in a lifetime opportunity and have fun doing it. And yet, perhaps the most important piece of wisdom I received was to have no regrets.

So, my charge to my successors is this: work your plan, heed the advice of your predecessors and fellow Grand Lodge officers, but above all, accomplish everything you set out to do and have no regrets. Let us continue to uphold the timeless principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth that define us as Freemasons, and may the blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe be upon us all.

Thank you, brethren, for your unwavering support and dedication to our beloved Craft.

=====

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

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Most Worshipful Verity then resumed his chair in the East, to open the floor for presentations. He led the way by personally presenting McKee awards to Right Worshipful Michael Lopez and Very Worshipful Marc Rubenstein and the 2023 Mason of the Year Award to Very Worshipful David Gomes.

Afterwards, representatives from other jurisdictions met Most Worshipful Verity on stage to present him with gifts from their home jurisdictions.

After completion of presentations, the Grand Master then moved 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 2024 Grand Lodge year.

Grand Master	Gloriani A. Lontoc
Deputy Grand Master	Michael J.W. Lopez
Senior Grand Warden	Chris N. Kaminaka
Junior Grand Warden	Herman K. Wilson
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 11:25 am, the Grand Masters directed our Junior Grand Warden to call the Grand Lodge from labor to refreshment until 3:00 p.m. this afternoon for the public Installation of Grand Lodge Officers to be held on site at the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

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 3:00 pm. With Most Worshipful Oscar M. Jayme PGM as Installing Officer; Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan PGM as Installing Master of Ceremonies, Most Worshipful Albert B. Alvarez PGM as Installing Chaplain and Honorable Lee Gordon as the Installing Organist.

The 2024 Grand Lodge officers were installed as follows:

Elected Officers

Grand Master - *Gloriani A. Lontoc*
Deputy Grand Master - *Michael J.W. Lopez*
Sr. Grand Warden - *Chris N. Kaminaka*
Jr. Grand Warden - *Herman K. Wilson*
Grand Treasurer - *Robert A. Schultz*
Grand Secretary - *Marty P. Alexander, PGM*
Grand Lecturer - *Dennis S.A. Ing PGM*

Appointed Officers

Grand Chaplain - *Randolph V.N. Albano*
Asst. Grand Lecturer - *Seth A. Connell*
Asst. Grand Lecturer - *Dino J. Fernandez*
Grand Orator - *Andrew L. Geiser PGM*
Asst. Grand Secretary - *Marc E. Rubenstein*
Grand Marshal - *David H. Gomes*
Grand Standard Bearer - *Alexander M. Patino II*
Grand Sword Bearer - *Keith N. Isaacson*
Grand Bible Bearer - *Bernard C. Baldueza*
Senior Grand Deacon - *Aaron P. Daguio*
Junior Grand Deacon - *Arnold C. Sarinas*
Senior Grand Steward - *Christopher H. Pang*
Junior Grand Steward - *Dino V. Montalbo*
Grand Historian - *Stephen D. Carroll*
Grand Organist - *Lee D. Gordon*
Grand Pursuivant - *Dado C. Lajola*
Grand Tiler - *Gerald V. Mateo*

Inspectors

Hawaiian - <i>Mark P. Leo</i>	Honolulu - <i>Ric V. Gloria</i>
Kauai - <i>To be announced</i>	Kilauea - <i>Troy D. Gibson Sr.</i>
Kona - <i>Michael D. Janovsky</i>	Ko'olau - <i>Lee K. Kaneakua</i>
Le Progres - <i>Anthony Escasa</i>	Leeward - <i>Marlon A. Calventas</i>
Maui - <i>To be announced</i>	Pearl Harbor - <i>James A. Sullivan</i>
Schofield - <i>Kevin R. Perdue</i>	

After the Grand Lodge officers for 2024 were installed, our newly installed Grand Master, Most Worshipful Gloriani A. Lontoc addressed the assembly and thanked all for coming. After saying a few words about his plans for the upcoming year, he invited all Grand Lodge of Hawaii Past Grand Masters present west of the altar for introductions.

They were as follows:

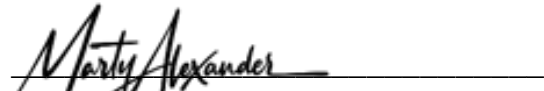
Most Worshipful Oscar M. Jayme	2007
Most Worshipful Dennis S.A. Ing	2008
Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander.....	2009
Most Worshipful Antonio M. Ligaya	2012
Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II.	2013
Most Worshipful Andrew L. Geiser.....	2016
Most Worshipful Albert B. Alvarez	2017
Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan.....	2018
Most Worshipful Alexander A. Escasa	2019
Most Worshipful Garry Graham.....	2020/21
Most Worshipful Edde T. Kanai	2022
Most Worshipful Dustin T. Verity	2023

At that point, it was discovered that Most Worshipful Verity 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 for this Annual Communication having been completed, Most Worshipful Lontoc thanked everyone in attendance then closed the 2024 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii by proclamation.

Respectfully Submitted: May 6, 2024



Marty P. Alexander, PGM, Grand Secretary
Grand Lodge of Hawaii F&AM



Reviewed and approved by:



MW Gloriani A. Lontoc,
Grand Master 2024



MW Dustin T. Verity
Grand Master 2023

Past Grand Masters - Grand Lodge of Hawaii

* Indicates the brother listed has laid down his working tools and entered the Celestial Grand Lodge Above

1989	* William K. McKee, Jr.	Waikiki
1990	* William K. McKee, Jr.	Waikiki
1991	* William K. McKee, Jr.	Waikiki
1992	* Ernest Y. Yamane	Hawaiian
1993	* David K. Lindsey	Honolulu
1994	* Frederick H. Overstreet	Le Progres De L'Oceanie
1995	* Richard W.M. Dang	Le Progres De L'Oceanie
1996	* Bennett K.C. Ing	Schofield
1997	* Stuart M. Cowan	Pearl Harbor
1998	* Paul D. Jones	Le Progres De L'Oceanie
1999	* Randy T.S. Chang	Hawaiian
2000	* Mason E. Teter	Kilauea
2001	* Donald W. Wilson	Ko'olau
2002	* Lyle G. Phillips	Hawaiian
2003	A. Lee Skinner	Pearl Harbor
2004	Walter L. Hager	Maui
2005	Raymond Wieckowicz, Jr	Ko'olau
2006	* Bruce H. Bonnell	Pearl Harbor
2007	Oscar M. Jayme	Hawaiian
2008	Dennis S.A. Ing	Hawaiian
2009	Marty P. Alexander	Maui
2010	* Charles L. Wegener Jr	Ko'olau
2011	Monty J. Glover	Honolulu
2012	Antonio M. Ligaya	Hawaiian
2013	Frank M. Condello II	Honolulu
2014	Richard B. Huston	Hawaiian
2015	Michael P. Baker Sr.	Kona
2016	Andrew L. Geiser	Le Progres De L'Oceanie
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
2022	Edde T. Kanai	Maui
2023	Dustin T. Verity	Ko'olau

Lodges constituted under the Grand Lodge of Hawaii January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Grand Lodge of Hawaii - Constituted May 20, 1989

Grand Master	Dustin T. Verity
Deputy Grand Master	Gloriani A. Lontoc
Senior Grand Warden	Michael J.W. Lopez
Junior Grand Warden	Chris N. Kaminaka

Annual Membership Count Since Electronic Age (Calendar years)

2008 (1,699) ?	2009 (1,740) +41	2010 (1,748) +48	2011 (1,807) +59
2012 (1,777) -30	2013 (1,785) +8	2014 (1,721) -63	2015 (1,733) +12
2016 (1,661) -72	2017 (1,649) -12	2018 (1,656) +7	2019 (1,671) +15
2020 (1,574) -97	2021 (1,594) +20	2022 (1,616) +22	2023 (1,567) -49

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

Worshipful Master	Jonjie Punzalan
Sr. Warden	David Gomes
Jr. Warden	Alfred Martin
Past Master's Rep.	Ricarte Taylan

Honolulu Lodge - Constituted May 20, 1989 (First chartered in 1895 - Scotland)

Worshipful Master	Aaron Daguio
Sr. Warden	Vernon Jarvis
Jr. Warden	Dwayne Kelley Jr.
Past Master's Rep	Jan Kershner

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

Worshipful Master	Francis Cleland
Sr. Warden	Herman Wilson
Jr. Warden	David Mason
Past Master's Rep	Herman Wilson

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

Worshipful Master	Richard Stueber
Sr. Warden	Christopher Leeper
Jr. Warden	Douglas Hoomanawanui
Past Master's Rep	Michael Janovsky

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

Worshipful Master	Arthur Cope
Sr. Warden	Dvid Williams
Jr. Warden	Nicco Colprit
Past Master's Rep.	James Lysiuk

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

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

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	Rudy Alvarado
Past Master's Rep	Dino Montalbo

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

Worshipful Master	Larry Julian
Sr. Warden,	Domingo Gumpal
Jr. Warden	Chad Kistler
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	Wilson Camagan
Jr. Warden	Dimitar Georgiev
Past Master's Rep	Roy Ota

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

Worshipful Master	Jeremy Hollaway
Sr. Warden	James Sullivan
Jr. Warden	Ricarte Taylan
Past Master's Rep	Keith Isaacson

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS
2024 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01
New Secretary's Proficiency**

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

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 can hinder a lodge so much that it takes years to get the lodge 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 position which is only 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 following addition to the Hawaii Masonic Code to put safeguards 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: April 25, 2023
Respectfully submitted,
Marty P. Alexander PGM
Grand Secretary, GL of Hawaii
Proponent

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02
To Allow Electronic Archival of Lodge Records**

BACKGROUND: The Hawaii Masonic Code (§2086n) allows that "microfilming of Lodge records is permissible" under the conditions that only a Mason may read the records during the archival process, and that the singular archival copy may be made for the Lodge.

Microfilming was a popular method for records retention in the later decades of the last century. Unfortunately, microfilms are subject to the same deterioration that impact paper records - heat, humidity, and mishandling lead to the degradation of microfilms. As archival technologies progressed, access to the specialized cameras (to capture the document), film processing (to develop the microfilm), and readers (to review the archives) have become increasingly scarce.

INTENT: With the near-universal adoption of modern electronic document management systems, the practice of microfilming paper records is obsolete. This resolution proposes to modernize Article 2086n to allow digital scanning and archiving technologies instead of using microfilm/microfiche to preserve our most critical Lodge records.

HMC §2548 describes the First Duty of the Secretary to present approved or corrected minutes "...to the Master *for his signature*" (emphasis added). While it is a common practice for minutes (and other documents) to be prepared electronically, they are not lodge records until signed by the Master.

This proposed revision to HMC §2086n is not directive; it offers an updated option to the Lodge to preserve its records. The proponent encourages constituent Lodges to assess the current physical condition of their records and to consider digital preservation.

REFERENCES: HMC §2086 standardizes the By-Laws of every Lodge of this Jurisdiction. Article XI, Section 1 of the By-Laws codifies that any proceeding of the Lodge, not proper to be made public, shall not be disclosed outside of the Lodge. HMC §2086n is an annotation to Article XI, which allows for microfilming. HMC §2548b assigns the duty of keeping and maintaining records to the Secretary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that section §2086n of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

~~"§2086n. Annotation to Article XI, Section 1, Uniform Code of By-Laws. Microfilming Digital archiving of Lodge records is permissible under the following conditions: If circumstances do not exist where only a Mason may read the records during the microfilming process, then, a legally binding contract shall be entered into with a reputable company, individual or organization that specifies only one (1) each microfilm copy shall be made of each document or page of lodge records. This copy shall be for the lodge; and that no other microfilm copies shall be made at the time, under any circumstances for either company records/samples or for sale or donation to any individual or organization. by, or under the direction of, the Lodge Secretary. Access to these archives shall be at the discretion and direction of the Master and coordinated by the Secretary.~~

~~The Grand Lodge will provide an appropriate contract upon receipt of a written request from the Master of the Lodge.~~

~~The microfilming digital archiving of trial records is not permitted."~~

DATED: 07 NOV 2023
Respectfully submitted,
Br. Stephen D. Carroll, Proponent

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03
NPD Restoration With Demit**

To amend Section 2820 of the Hawaii Masonic Code by clarifying certain sections and allowing members suspended for non-payment of dues to be restored for purposes of demitting.

A brother suspended by his lodge for more than two years for non-payment of dues may wish to settle his debt to the lodge and then demit from that lodge. Under present rules, his application for restoration must be made at a stated meeting, lay over till the next stated meeting (presumably to allow for investigation), and be approved by two-thirds of those attending the second stated meeting in a secret ballot. Unfortunately, the suspended brother might encounter difficulty getting his application approved. He might not be known to the current lodge members, or the composition of the lodge might now be very different from when the brother was active.

If the brother pays the arrears owed for members suspended “NPD” and simply wishes to demit from the lodge, it makes little sense to place obstacles before him in order to prevent his moving on. Both sides should be satisfied – the Lodge will obtain what is owed, and the brother will settle his accounts and be able to move on. This proposed amendment was part of an edict issued by the Grand Master during his 2023-24 term.

IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED to amend HMC Section 2820 as follows [*deleted material is crossed out, new material is underscored*]:

§2820. RESTORATION AFTER TWO YEARS. ~~Should~~ If any member has been suspended by his Lodge for non-payment of dues or have the same remitted by his Lodge for more than two years for non-payment of dues, said member may apply to his Lodge for restoration; however such member shall not be restored except by a two-thirds vote by secret ballot of all members present at the next stated meeting after the application for restoration is presented. He shall thereafter pay, as a condition of his restoration, the ~~arrears~~ dues in arrears for the two years before his suspension plus the current year (two plus one) unless such arrearage and dues have been remitted by his Lodge.

§2820a. No formal application for restoration is required, and the Lodge should use any means of investigation to ascertain whether the applicant is worthy. The Master and the Lodge, however, shall satisfy themselves fully before proceeding to a vote on the application for restoration. A committee may be appointed as in the case of other applications or any other steps may be taken to ascertain the conduct of the member during the time of his suspension.

§2820b. A petition denied may be renewed at a subsequent stated meeting.

§2820c. A member suspended for more than two years for non-payment of dues may also apply to his Lodge for restoration for the sole purpose of demitting from such Lodge immediately after restoration. If such member's application for restoration contains a request to demit and is accompanied by payment of the dues in arrears for the two years preceding his suspension plus dues for the year of restoration, his membership shall be restored forthwith without any waiting period, investigation or balloting. Immediately after restoration and the validation of said payment, the Lodge shall grant him an open demit.

DATED: November 21, 2023
Respectfully submitted,
MW Dustin T. Verity, Proponent

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04
Increase Dispensation Fees**

To amend Article IV, Section 1702, of the Hawaii Masonic Code by updating the amount of fees charged for Dispensations.

Article IV, Section 1702 of the Code provides for specific fees to be charged by the Grand Lodge for Dispensations to form a new Lodge, to ballot on an applicant without investigation, and so on. This fee schedule has not been changed for many years, and is therefore obsolete and unnecessarily detailed. It also does not provide for every instance when a Dispensation is required or desired.

It is therefore proposed that Article IV, Section 1702, be amended as follows [*deleted material is crossed out, new material is underscored*]:

§1702. FEES. The following fees shall be charged by the Grand Lodge:

~~1st.~~ For a Dispensation to form a new Lodge, the sum of seventy-five dollars.

~~2nd.~~ For a charter to perpetuate a Lodge, the sum of fifty dollars.

~~3rd.~~ For each Dispensation to ballot for an applicant for the degrees, without the reference to a committee, the sum of ten dollars.

~~4th.~~ For each Dispensation to receive and act upon the application of a rejected candidate for the degrees, within a period less than twelve months, the sum of ten dollars.

1st. For any Dispensation, the sum of one hundred dollars; provided, that the Grand Master may for good reason waive or lower the fee.

~~5th.~~ 2nd. For a diploma of any kind, a sum to be fixed from time to time by the Grand Secretary, except when issued for the widow or minor children of a deceased Mason, in which case there shall be no charge, but no diploma shall issue except upon the presentation to the Grand Secretary of a certificate from the Secretary of a Lodge, on one of the forms prescribed therefore.

~~6th.~~ 3rd. For the Annual Proceedings, other publications, blanks and supplies required by Grand Lodge to be produced and sold, such sum or sums as fixed from time to time by the Grand Secretary.

In no case shall any of the documents or supplies referred to herein be issued until the fees therefore shall have been paid to the Grand Secretary, unless the Grand Secretary has arranged beforehand to issue the documents or supplies and then send an invoice to the recipient of such documents and/or supplies.

DATED: November 21, 2023
Respectfully submitted,
MW Dustin T. Verity, Proponent

GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05
Terminology Change Between "Suspended" and "Dropped" Members

Our Hawaii Masonic Code outlines the notification procedure that lodge in this jurisdiction must follow in order to suspend a member for non-payment of dues. When the suspension process has been completed, the HMC directs that *"member shall immediately, and of itself, suspend his membership in all Lodges in this jurisdiction"* without any further action by the other lodges.

This means that the other lodges he was a member of has had his membership automatically terminated without that lodge going through an actual suspension process themselves. Therein lies the confusion. Using the term "suspended" in the lodges a member was terminated from may be misinterpreted especially when it comes to the case of the reinstatement process by those lodges in which he was automatically terminated from.

IN order to clarify the distinction between being officially suspended by one lodge and being automatically terminated in another lodge, this proponent suggests to change the words "suspend or suspended" to "drop or dropped" in certain areas of the HMC to avoid confusion and misinterpretation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a new section §2402(6) of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

§2402. MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIP. This Grand Lodge recognizes and authorizes membership in more than one Lodge under the following conditions...

6. Suspension by a Lodge in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for non-payment of dues of a multiple member shall immediately, and of itself, ~~suspend~~ drop his membership in all other Lodges in this jurisdiction, and the Secretary of any Lodge suspending such a member shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary and also every other Lodge in which the multiple member holds membership. Like notice shall be given in case of reinstatement by a Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii which shall immediately and automatically restore him to membership in every other Lodge in this jurisdiction of which he was dropped as a member upon payment of any dues required or the performance of any other obligation required for such restoration to membership.

When non-payment of dues is the cause of suspension, such action shall become effective only after a sixty-day prior Notice of Intent to Suspend has been sent to every other Lodge in which the member holds membership, during which period such other Lodge may contact the member in an effort to avoid such suspension. If within said sixty-day period such member has failed to obtain good standing in all Lodges involved, he shall be suspended, and such suspension shall immediately ~~terminate~~ drop his membership in all Lodges in this jurisdiction.

Suspension by a Lodge in any other Grand Jurisdiction for non-payment of dues shall forthwith ~~suspend~~ drop his membership in all Lodges in this jurisdiction but shall be handled in the same manner as provided in this section for members suspended by a Lodge in this jurisdiction by giving sixty days notice, and provided further, that the restoration of such a member shall be in the same manner as provided in section §2820 of this Code.

DATED: November 24, 2023
Respectfully submitted,
MW Marty P. Alexander PGM
Grand Secretary, Proponent

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII, F&AM
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024 –06**

To amend Sections 2516, 2518 and 2520 of the Hawaii Masonic Code to make clear that the Wardens must know the work of the Senior Deacon in order to qualify for office, and to specify the Senior Deacon’s work in the second section of the Third Degree.

Some have suggested that one may become a Junior Warden without knowing the Senior Deacon’s work or lectures, as long as he can confer the First Degree and give the First Degree Lectures, because the HMC does not expressly say that. In other words, one could become a Junior or Senior Warden without ever knowing the Middle Chamber Lecture or other work of the Senior Deacon

Since §2514 requires the Master-elect to know the work and lecture of “all three degrees”, the clear implication is that the Wardens must also be so qualified. Indeed, the “established practice” in this and other jurisdictions with a progressive line is that the Junior (and Senior) Warden must know the work of the Senior Deacon, even if he has never been installed in that office. This requirement is also contained in the charge to the Wardens in the installation ceremony.

Under this proposed amendment knowing the work of the Senior Deacon will no longer be merely implied, but will be expressly required in order to qualify as a Warden. (Note: the requirement is that the Warden must “know” the work, but he need not actually serve as Senior Warden.)

The proposed amendment will also specify that the Senior Deacon’s “work” will include his performance in the second section of the Third Degree only up to the point where the Senior Deacon turns into the Third Fellowcraft. (Although the cipher refers to the actor as “SD” after that point, such reference is continued in order to avoid confusing the reader by suggesting that they are two different officers.)

THEREFORE, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS BE MADE TO SECTIONS OF THE CODE PERTAINING TO QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE (*deleted material is crossed out, added material is underscored*):

§2516. QUALIFICATIONS OF SENIOR WARDEN. Before a Senior Warden-elect can be installed there shall be presented to the installing officer the certificate of either the Grand Lecturer, the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the District in which his Lodge is situated, or the Inspector of the District in which his Lodge is situated, certifying that he has personally examined such Senior Warden-elect, and that he is qualified to give the work and lectures of the First and Second Degrees and of the Senior Deacon and; if he is to be installed on or after May 20, 1989, that he has received a certificate of proficiency in the Candidate’s Lecture of the Degree of Master Mason, and is thoroughly proficient in those portions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge which relate to the government of a Lodge.

§2518. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUNIOR WARDEN. Before a Junior Warden-elect can be installed there shall be presented to the installing officer the certificate of either the Grand Lecturer, the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the District in which his Lodge is situated, or the Inspector of the District in which his Lodge is situated, certifying that he has personally examined such Junior Warden-elect, and that he is qualified to give the work and lecture of the First Degree and of the Senior Deacon; if he is to be installed on or after May 20, 1989, that he has received a certificate of proficiency in the Candidate’s Lecture of the Degree of Master Mason,

and is thoroughly proficient in those portions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge which relate to the government of a Lodge.

§2520. QUALIFICATIONS OF SENIOR DEACON. Before a an appointed Senior Deacon ~~appointed~~ can be installed there shall be presented to the installing officer the certificate of either the Grand Lecturer, the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the District in which his Lodge is situated, or the Inspector of the District in which his Lodge is situated, certifying that he has personally examined such Senior Deacon ~~Appointed~~ appointee; and that he is duly qualified to give his work, and in particular the lecture of the Second degree and the Senior Deacon's introduction, perambulation and "travel" with the candidate up to the point in the second section of the Third Degree when he becomes a Fellowcraft.

DATED: December 15, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
DENNIS S. A. ING, PGM
Grand Lecturer

**GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2024-07
Assaistant Grand Lecturer and Inspector Titles**

Section 8 of the Hawaii Masonic Code outlines Grand Lodge Officer titles. As part of this section, Assistant Grand Lecturers are to be addressed as, "Worshipful."

Additionally, Section 1120, Inspectors, is silent as to the official title of Inspectors and they are recognized by their Past Master title of, "Worshipful."

However, it is common practice in other North American Grand Lodge Jurisdictions to recognize Assistant Grand Lecturers and Grand Lodge Inspectors as Very Worshipful in recognition of their commitment and dedication to the Grand Lodge. The title is also consistent with the level of authority in this Jurisdiction, that of being the Grand Master's representative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that sections §8 and §1120 of the Hawaii Masonic Code be amended as follows:

§8. MEMBERS AND ADDRESS. The Grand Lodge shall be composed of a Grand Master (whose address shall be Most Worshipful), a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, and a Junior Grand Warden (whose addresses shall severally be Right Worshipful), a Grand Treasurer, and a Grand Secretary (whose addresses shall severally be Very Worshipful, or if not a P.M., Honorable), a Grand Lecturer (whose address shall be Very Worshipful), a Grand Chaplain (whose address shall be Very Reverend), the Assistant Grand Lecturers, (whose addresses shall severally be **Very** Worshipful), a Grand Orator, an Assistant Grand Treasurer, an Assistant Grand Secretary, a Grand Marshal, a Grand Standard Bearer, a Grand Sword Bearer, a Grand Bible Bearer, a Senior Grand Deacon, a Junior Grand Deacon, a Senior Grand Steward, a Junior Grand Steward, a Grand Historian, a Grand Director of Special Activities, a Grand Organist, a Grand Pursuivant, and a Grand Tiler (whose addresses shall severally be Worshipful, or if not a P.M., Honorable); together with all Past Grand Officers and Past Masters of this jurisdiction, and the Master and Wardens of the several chartered and duly constituted Lodges or the representatives thereof duly elected. A Past Grand Officer is one of the seven elective Grand Officers who has been regularly elected and installed and has served his term as such in this Grand Lodge.

§1120. INSPECTORS. The Grand Master shall divide the jurisdiction into districts, and shall appoint for each district an Inspector **whose address shall be Very Worshipful**, who shall be a Past Master of this jurisdiction, and who shall, before entering upon his duties, produce a certificate from the Grand Lecturer or an Assistant Grand Lecturer that he is proficient in the work and lectures adopted by the Grand Lodge and is qualified to act as Inspector. Each Inspector shall serve for a term of one year commencing in May, following the Grand Masters installation and terminating when his successor is installed.

DATED: December 18, 2023
Respectfully submitted,
MW Dustin T. Verity
Grand Master, Proponent