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Greetings from the Grand Secretary

The Grand Lodge Messenger

December 2020

*Message From M.W. Chris J. Coffman
Grand Master*

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Rather than write some inspiring or educational article, I decided that something simple is what we all need. So here goes.

The holiday season is upon us. While it is not the same this year, it is a time for us to remember, be thankful for what we have and to visualize a future when we can get back to some semblance of normal. If I can give a little advice for the time being, it would be:

1. Have some fun with your family;
2. Take a walk;
3. Play a game;
4. Give your significant other a kiss;
5. Read a book;
6. Watch a movie you haven't seen before;
7. Start a new hobby;
8. Write a letter;
9. Listen to some music from your youth;
10. If it is not this list, do whatever it is that makes you happy.

May the season bring you joy and happiness.

Remember the Past, Visualize the Future

Chris Coffman
Grand Master

From the Desk of R.W. Clinton M. Brown, Jr. Grand Secretary

Dear Brethren,

On behalf of the Grand Lodge Elected officers and the Grand Lodge staff, I would like to wish you and yours a happy and joyous Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

This year has been a tough year for all of us. As the year comes to a close, let us not forget those who may not be able to be with their families during the holidays. Take time to reach out to those who are alone. We may not be able to get together in person, but we can still reach out to our Brothers and widows. Do not forget our Brothers who are abroad fighting for our freedoms. Something as simple as a phone call, an email or a care package can make their day a little brighter.

Brother Winston Churchill said that "Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection". Take the time to reflect on those things that are most important to us as Masons. Faith, hope and charity are the cornerstones of Masonry. Take a moment to reflect upon how we can best practice them not just during the holidays, but throughout the year.

Finally my Brethren, let the joy and peace of the season be with you and your family and let it spread throughout the world.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

From The Desk of V.W. Clayton LaVigne Assistant Grand Secretary

Holiday Greetings!

This is a time of year for family to be together and to be thankful for all that we have. However, there are cases where we've lost contact with some of our members that have been active in our Fraternity. In some cases, they might be a member of one of many branches of our Masonic family.

I had mentioned in a previous article that the Grand Lodge has means at their disposal to accomplish some tasks where other methods might not work. If you've lost contact with a member of your lodge, have your Lodge contact us and ask for a welfare check. We'll get to work and contact our counterparts in the Jurisdiction where the member last resided, and they will utilize the means at their disposal to answer your wellness check. I have recently requested two wellness checks in two different Jurisdictions, and while both of these are still pending, both Jurisdictions are doubling down in their efforts to locate the members. It is really impressive to see the E-mail strings of Lodge members in the local communities working together to locate and check on these members. I tell you, it's really been making my holidays better.

You might have a member of your Lodge that's in arrears that is now in danger of being dropped for NPD, that you have not been able to contact. While time is indeed tight by now, I'm working with a member of my Lodge who is now no longer in danger of being dropped, as there was a misunderstanding with the Lodge he joined in another Jurisdiction, and he thought he had dimitted, while our Lodge wasn't notified of that intent. Remember, other Jurisdictions have different methods of transferring memberships, so if you have a member who lives in another state and has joined a Lodge in his new community, keep in contact with him and find out if he wishes to remain a member of your Lodge or if he desires a dimit.

Finally, I know this has been a tough year for all of us. I hope you didn't find this year to be a waste. Many of our Lodges have been quite active over the last few months, and are actually doing quite well, despite the fact we cannot meet in person yet. And remember, even though we don't know the day yet, the time will indeed come where we will again be able to meet in person; only this time, we have more tools at our disposal to improve our Lodge experience.

Take it easy for this festive time of the year, and may you and your family have a great 2021.

Fraternally,
Clayton LaVigne
Assistant Grand Secretary

From The Accounting Department Kathleen Lau

Life Memberships

It is the time of year again for Secretaries to review your Lodge's Life Membership Report. This is closely followed by the annual audit of the Endowed Life Membership Fund by our CPAs in January 2021. Distribution of earnings to participating Lodges will occur in February 2021. In order for the Grand Lodge to

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should have already received an email on December 1, 2020 with the full letter and instructions from our Grand Secretary.

You may also [CLICK HERE](#) to review a copy of the full letter and instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at the Grand Lodge office:

kathleen@freemason-wa.org

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Graphic Design Skills

We are looking for Brothers who have a background in graphic design and editorial publication who would like to be considered for a role in creating new digital content for the Grand Lodge. Please send your name and contact information along with a brief description of your experience in these areas to the Grand Secretary at:

grandsecretary@freemason-wa.org.

Sickness & Distress – Masonic Outreach Services is Here to Assist

Do you know a Mason, Masonic widow, or member of our Masonic family who needs assistance due to age, illness, disability, or hardship? Maybe you could use a little help yourself? Masonic Outreach Services' Care Coordinators and Certified Senior Advisors spend time visiting with our clients to tailor solutions that help them lead dignified and meaningful lives by remaining independent or finding the right solution for their daily needs.

Please, if you know someone who can use our assistance, help them connect with us by calling, toll free, (844) 288-3531 or outreach@masonscare.org



Grand Lodge Events

***January 9, 2021 - 11:00 AM - District 10 Meeting - Zoom Teleconference
Links to the meeting are on the Seminar page on GrandView.***

***January 9, 2021 - 3:00 PM - District 9 Meeting - Zoom Teleconference
Links to the meeting are on the Seminar page on GrandView.***

***January 30, 2021 - 12:00 PM - District 8 Meeting - Zoom Teleconference
Links to the meeting are on the Seminar page on GrandView.***

***February 27, 2021 - 5:00 PM - District 4 & 5 Meeting - Zoom Teleconference
Links to the meeting are on the Seminar page on GrandView.***

The Grand Lodge Staff will be unavailable on:

***Wednesday, December 23 at 12:00 PM in observance of Christmas.
We will reopen on Monday, December 28.***

Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1 in observance of the New Year.

The Grand Lodge Office is closed due to the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Grand Lodge staff remain available by email during normal business hours.

Lodge Secretary Corner

2020 End of Year Report

Letter from the Grand Secretary with instructions on how to process your End of Year on Grand View will be going out to all Lodge Secretary.

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January 6th, 2021 – You must have all your information for the 2020 year entered into the Grand View system.

February 1st, 2021 – Your 2020 End of Year Return from Grand View, 2020 Financial Annual Report and 990's must be received or postmarked to Grand Lodge.

The End of Year packet will be available for you to download a copy from the Grand View database under forms & Docs. (2020 End of Year Forms and Procedures)

Secretary Resources

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