**2012 Western Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges**

Sheraton Atlanta Hotel

Atlanta, Georgia

February 18, 2012

The Western Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges was called to order at 9:00am by the 2012 Chairman, Most Worshipful William J. Bray III, immediate Past Grand Master of California. He welcomed the delegates representing the six member jurisdictions—Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

The Invocation was given by Right Worshipful Russell E. Charvonia, Junior Grand Warden of California.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the chairman, Most Worshipful William J. Bray III, Past Grand Master of California.

The chairman then introduced the Grand Master of each state and invited him to introduce the representatives and visitors from his jurisdiction:

* California
  + Most Worshipful Frank Loui, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful John F. Lowe, Deputy Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful John L. Cooper III, Senior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful Russell E. Charvonia, Junior Grand Warden
  + Most Worshipful M. William Holsinger , PGM, Grand Treasurer
  + Very Worshipful Allan L. Casalou, Grand Secretary
  + Most Worshipful William J. Bray III, Immediate Past Grand Master
  + Most Worshipful Kenneth G. Nagel, Past Grand Master
  + Most Worshipful William F. Stovall, Past Grand Master
  + Worshipful Cline “Cub” Jack, Assistant Grand Lecturer
  + Worshipful James E. Banta, Assistant Grand Secretary
* Oregon
  + Most Worshipful Richard A. Martin, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Hunt M. Compton, Deputy Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful David H. Fryday, Senior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful Michael Wick, Junior Warden
  + Right Worshipful Paul N. Temple, Grand Secretary
  + Most Worshipful Ed Bousquet, Immediate Past Grand Master
* Arizona
  + Most Worshipful D. Brook Cunningham, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Jeffery S. Carlton, Senior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful William A. Garrard, Junior Grand Warden
  + Very Worshipful W.E. “Bill” Robertson, Grand Secretary
  + Worshipful Michael E. Manning, Senior Grand Deacon
* Alaska
  + Most Worshipful Jerry W. Pinion, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful James R. Herrington, Deputy Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful David Worel, Senior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful Jerome P. Wasson, Grand Secretary
* Washington
  + Most Worshipful Michael L. Sanders, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Dean W. Heinemann, Deputy Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Bruce E. Vesper, Junior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful David P. Owen, Grand Secretary
  + Most Worshipful G. Santy Lascano, Immediate Past Grand Master
* Hawaii
  + Most Worshipful Monty J. Glover, Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Antonio M. Ligaya, Deputy Grand Master
  + Right Worshipful Frank M. Condello II, Senior Grand Warden
  + Right Worshipful Richard B. Huston, Junior Grand Warden
  + Most Worshipful Marty P. Alexander, PGM, Grand Secretary

The following visitors were also present:

* Most Worshipful Earl J. Washburn, Past Grand Master of Vermont, and Executive Director of the National Masonic Foundation for Children
* Right Worshipful Simon R. LaPlace, Grand Senior Warden of Connecticut

The chairman called for the adoption of the agenda. It was moved, seconded and unanimously adopted by the conference.

The chairman sought approval of the 2011 Western Conference Minutes. A correction was offered by D. Brook Cunningham, Grand Master of Arizona, who stated that he did not make a presentation during the 2011 Conference. The minutes were then approved as corrected.

The chairman then requested any reports of sickness and distress. There were none.

Nominations for the selection of two candidates to be considered for service on the Commission on Information for Recognition were then opened. Most Worshipful M. William Holsinger, Past Grand Master of California and current representative to the Commission, explained the qualifications and responsibilities for service on the Commission. The chairman reviewed the procedure for selection and the eligible voters from each jurisdiction. Five nominees were suggested—Ed Bousquet, William J. Bray, John “Bo” Cline, Mark Carlton, and Jeffery S. Carlton. Ed Bousquet and William J. Bray III were selected to be the nominees presented to the Conference. The representative, M. William Holsinger, reported the selections to Glenn Means, Secretary-Treasurer for the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, who requested that the Western Conference make one selection. A follow-up ballot was taken and William J. Bray III was elected.

The chairman invited Grand Lodge representatives to make presentations in the following order:

* Michael Wick of Oregon on Masonic Aid
* Jeffery S. Carlton of Arizona on Membership and Retention

The chairman recessed the conference from 10:15am until 10:30am. After returning from the break, the chairman invited Most Worshipful Earl Washburn, Past Grand Master of Vermont, and Executive Director for the National Masonic Foundation for Children, to address the conference. He thanked the jurisdictions for their continued contributions to the Foundation in support of its Masonic Model Student Assistance Program.

Presentations then resumed with:

* Jerry W. Pinion of Alaska on Effective Communication-I’m Ok, You’re Ok
* Bruce E. Vesper of Washington on Tools for Success for the JGW and Elected Officers

The chairman introduced visitors Most Worshipful William F. Stovall, Past Grand Master of California and Sovereign Grand Inspector General in California for the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, and Right Worshipful Simon R. La Place, Grand Senior Warden of Connecticut. The Conference recessed for lunch at 11:50am. John L. Cooper III, Senior Grand Warden of California gave the blessing for the noon meal.

Presentations then resumed at 1:00pm with:

* Monty J. Glover of Hawaii who yielded his time
* Allan L. Casalou of California on Online Candidate Education

There was no old business to be brought before the conference.

The chairman entertained items for consideration under new business.

Right Worshipful David P. Owen, Grand Secretary of Washington, presented the following amendment to the by-laws for consideration:

Article II Definitions, C. 2. – The minutes shall be distributed to the member Grand Lodges ~~within~~ at least 30 days ~~of the conclusion of the conference~~ prior to the subsequent Western Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges.

The amendment was seconded by Right Worshipful Jerome P. Wasson, Grand Secretary of Alaska. The amendment was adopted by a unanimous vote in favor of the amendment.

Most Worshipful Monty J. Glover, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii, requested time be set aside during the Western Conference to address current issues of mutual concern especially any that may be considered during the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. The conference agreed and two topics were discussed:

Right Worshipful David P. Owen, Grand Secretary of Washington, regarding the Grand Lodge of Washington’s issues with the Grand Encampment of Knight Templars;

Most Worshipful Michael L. Sanders, Grand Master of Masons in Washington, regarding the two Grand Lodges, Arkansas and Michigan, pulling recognition of the Shrine of North America.

The chairman then requested each jurisdiction provide a topic for presentation at the next Western Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges. The topics submitted are:

* Alaska-Communication and Growth
* Arizona-Membership Retention
* California-Update on Online Candidate Education Program
* Hawaii-The Future Starts Today
* Oregon-Masonic Public Relations in Community Involvement
* Washington-Practical Application of a Long Range Plan

The benediction was offered by Right Worshipful John Lowe, Deputy Grand Master of California.

The chairman adjourned the Western Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges at 2:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan L. Casalou

Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of California