

**THE GRAND LODGE
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF MINNESOTA**



DOUGLAS J. CAMPBELL

Grand Secretary

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**TO BE READ IN EVERY CONSTITUENT LODGE AT THE
FIRST COMMUNICATION AFTER ITS RECEIPT AND BE FILED
BY THE LODGE SECRETARY FOR READY REFERENCE**

**SUMMARY OF THE 163rd ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF
THE GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF MINNESOTA
APRIL 8 and 9, 2016 - BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA**

The 163rd Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington, Minnesota on April 8th and 9th, 2016. Of the 136 Constituent Lodges currently chartered by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, 104 were represented. A total of 470 Masons registered.

During 2015 there were 316 Master Masons raised, 460 affiliated, and 43 restored, for a total gain of 819. Losses were 548 withdrawn, 324 stricken, 1 suspended or expelled, and 483 deceased, for a total loss of 1,356; leaving a net total membership of 12,125 as of January 1, 2016. (Mergers inflate the withdrawn and affiliated numbers.)

The following Grand Officers were elected and installed:

Grand Master Robert L. Darling (16-23) 12959 Carole Drive, Becker, MN 55308
Deputy Grand MasterJohn B. Studell (2-165-243) 2436 37th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406
Senior Grand WardenEdward R. Halpaus (23-125-223), 612 McLean Street, Mora, MN 55051
Junior Grand WardenSteven D. Johnson (290-8) 4152 Arbor Lane, Eagan, MN 55122
Grand TreasurerBrent L. Metcalf (263-290) 3785 Mt. Vernon Lane, Woodbury, MN 55129
Grand SecretaryDouglas J. Campbell (2) 5841 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55417

The following Grand Officers were appointed and installed:

Grand L.E.O.Mark G. Robbins (12)Grand ChaplainJames A. Johnson (165-213)
Grand OratorGregory J. Lane (1)Sr. Grand DeaconEthan Seaberg (8)
Jr. Grand DeaconRolf M. Widstrand (293)Grand MarshalJesse Hopkins-Hoel (23)
Gr. Standard Bearer Dwight W. Day (239)Grand Sword BearerLee A. Craig (92)
Sr. Grand StewardTony R. Krall (165)Jr. Grand StewardDayton L. Berg (125)
Grand PursuivantBryce A. Stoltenberg (114)Grand TylerHerman Aschnewitz (16)
Grand PiperRalph L. Magnusson (344)Grand OrganistGlen H. Carlson (263)

There were three resolutions to amend the Minnesota Masonic Code presented at the 163rd Annual Communication. Only one passed, #2 concerning an alternate proficiency examination:

2016 No. 1, Constitutional Amend - Elective Officers - Defeated
2016 No. 2, Gen. Reg. Amend - Alternate Proficiency Exam. - Passed
2016 No. 3, Gen. Reg. Amend - Ancient Penalties Ritual Changes - Defeated

Resolution No. 2 will be published in an updated version of the Minnesota Masonic Code as soon as possible.

Elected as Directors of the Minnesota Masonic Charities board, all three year terms:

M. W.B. Roger J. Taylor, North Star Lodge No. 23 and Fraternal Lodge No. 92
M. W.B. John L. Cook, Jr., Tusler-Summit Lodge No. 263
Past Grand Matron Mary Hanson from Austin, Minnesota

Highlights of the Annual Communication would have to include the visit to our Annual Communication by many distinguished guests from other jurisdictions. In all, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota was honored by the attendance of seventeen representatives from nine sister jurisdictions and sixteen representatives of

nine appendant or concordant bodies. The Grand Lodge Banquet served some 342 members and guests. Another highlight would be the presentation of the Duane E. Anderson Excellence in Masonic Education Award to Most Worshipful Brother Russell Charvonia, representing the Civility Center.

Formal requests for recognition were received from four foreign Grand Lodges this past year, but only one request was granted, to the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Paraguay, whose Grand Master is Edgar Sanchez CABALLERO.

An Open Installation of Grand Lodge Officers, Area Deputies, District Representatives and Custodians was held Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. and was well attended.

The 164th Annual Communication will be held at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, Minnesota, on April 7th and 8th, 2017.

A full report of the actions taken at the 163rd Annual Communication, along with all of the reports presented, will be printed in the 2016 Annual Proceedings, which will be available for distribution as soon as possible. The Preprinted Report booklet containing most of the reports presented at the 163rd Annual Communication is available on the Grand Lodge of Minnesota website at www.mn-masons.org.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas J. Campbell".

Douglas J. Campbell,
Grand Secretary