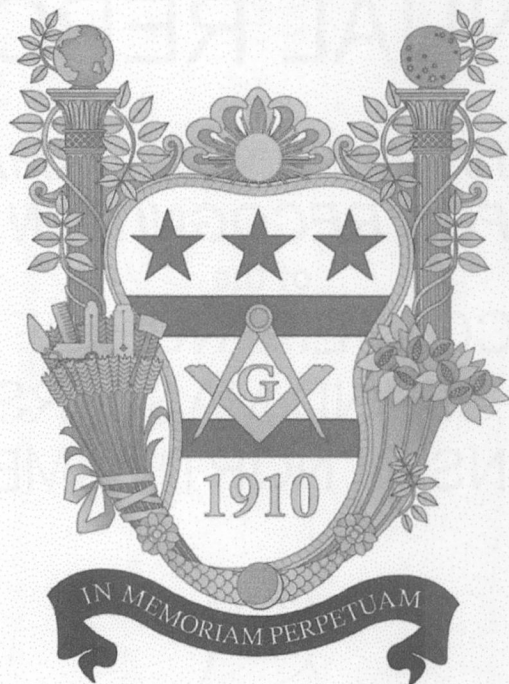


1995
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA



A.D. 1995 / A.L. 5995

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PREFACE

The Commission on Information for Recognition was organized in 1952 as a facility to gather, collate, and from time to time revise information on Grand Lodges in other lands, as a service to the Grand Lodges of this Conference.

The Commission neither advises nor recommends that recognition be given to any Grand Lodges, but merely indicates whether or not it considers that a Grand Lodge in question satisfies the conditions of regularity.

The Commission consists of six members of wide geographical distribution. One new member, usually a Deputy Grand Master, is elected each year, and serves for six years.

After each Annual Meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters, the report, given to and adopted by the Conference, is printed and copies mailed to the Grand Secretaries and to the Chairmen of the Committees on Fraternal Relations of the Grand Lodges of the Conference. Copies are mailed to many interested brethren who are not members of the Conference.

This report is based upon the most recent information available, and in some cases after a conference with members of some of the Grand Lodges mentioned in the report.

All comments on this report and all inquiries on other matters of information on Grand Lodges throughout the world may be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.O. Box 1850, Dallas, Texas 75221.



Front Row (left to right): William A. Gallmeister, Robert L. Dillard, Jr., G. Ray Marsh
Back Row (left to right): Leopold L. Otway, David J. Morgan, Dale C. Edwards, Harald R.K. Weiland

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

February 21, 1995

To the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America:
Most Worshipful Brother Chairman:
Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren:

Six years ago I was honored to have been chosen to serve on this important committee and now have come to the point when I am to present to you the 43rd Annual Report of the Commission on Information for Recognition.

It is my privilege to introduce to you the other members of this Commission:

M:W: Bro. G. Ray Marsh, P.G.M., South Carolina, Vice-Chairman
M:W: Bro. Leopold L. Otway, P.G.M., New Jersey
M:W: Bro. Harald R. K. Weiland, P.G.M., Nova Scotia
M:W: Bro. David J. Morgan, P.G.M., Nevada
R:W: Bro. Dale C. Edwards, D.G.M., Michigan
R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M., Texas - Secretary-Treasurer
of the Commission

I am William A. Gallmeister, P.G.M., Grand Lodge of Indiana, Chairman.

This Commission which was established in 1952, 43 years ago, has been fortunate to have, for the last 28 years, as its Secretary-Treasurer, R:W: Bro. Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. of Texas. R:W: Bro. Dillard is most knowledgeable in the field of recognition and continually corresponds with Masons in all parts of the world to keep the Commission and, through this Commission, the constituent Grand Lodges of this Conference fully informed of the Masonic situation in every country. His work in continuity is absolutely invaluable and of the utmost importance to Masonry and he does it thoroughly, intelligently and indeed beautifully. In addition, he has been the guiding light for all of us who have served on this Commission. It is my privilege to present him to you now - R:W: Bro. Dillard.

Each year delegates to this Conference change, therefore, I should like to repeat this year, the Standards of Recognition laid down for our guidance from the time of origin of this Commission. These are the guidelines which indicate whether a Grand Lodge is regular or not, and therefore whether or not it is worthy of recognition. When the Commission has come to a decision in this regard, it advises the constituent Grand Lodges of this decision, but in no way attempts to dictate to any

Grand Lodge what its individual action should be. The Commission therefore serves this Conference only in an advisory capacity.

These Standards of Recognition are:

1. Legitimacy of origin
2. Exclusive territorial jurisdiction
3. Adherence to the ancient landmarks; specifically a belief in God, the Volume of the Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the furniture of the Lodge, and the prohibition of the politics and religion.

The deliberations of this Commission during the past year involved several Grand Lodge Jurisdictions and are summarized as follows:

BENIN

The Grande Loge Nationale Francaise consecrated a new Grand Lodge in Africa on January 14, 1995 in Cotonou, Benin. It is Grande Loge Du Benin. The Grand Master is M:W: VINCENT-NICOUE. The Grand Lodge has seven constituent Lodges. These are French speaking Lodges.

Since the consecration of the Grand Lodge was just over a month ago, the Commission is of the opinion that it cannot comment at this time.

BRAZIL

The Commission recently received a list of addresses of all the State Grand Lodges in Brazil from the Confederation of Symbolic Masonic Grand Lodges of Brazil. The secretary of the Commission will be glad to furnish the list on request.

BULGARIA

Several Grand Lodges represented in this Conference received invitations to attend the Second Annual Conference of the "Grand Lodge of Bulgaria" on December 4 and 5, 1994 in Sofia. This is the group organized by Zoran D. Nenezic in December, 1992 without appropriate authority from the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. For this and other violations of Masonic principles Nenezic was expelled from Freemasonry in March, 1993.

The situation in both Yugoslavia and Bulgaria was set out in the Commission Reports of 1993 and 1994.

The Commission considers this so-called "Grand Lodge of Bulgaria" irregular and not entitled to recognition.

The Grand Lodge A.F.& A.M. of Germany, one of the five Grand Lodges constituting the United Grand Lodges of Germany, has in the last two years constituted three Lodges in Sofia, Bulgaria. They are "Zora" Lodge No. 1001, "Swetlina" Lodge No. 1002 and "Serdika" Lodge No. 1003. It is anticipated that the formation of a Grand Lodge will be delayed until such time as the Lodges have gained experience and are stable.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia changed its name after the Czech Republic had a peaceable separation from the Slovak Republic. The present name of that Grand Lodge is Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic. At the time of the separation all the members were Czechs and there were no Lodges in Slovakia. The first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was M:W: Jiri Syllaba who died some time ago. The Grand Lodge has elected a new Grand Master, M:W: Cestimir Barta. R:W: Christian Weger continues as Grand Secretary. This is the same Grand Lodge with a new name.

The Commission has considered this Grand Lodge as regular since 1991. It is recognized by 31 Grand Lodges in this Conference and by England, Ireland, Scotland, France and most of the Grand Lodges in Europe and elsewhere.

GREECE

The National Grand Lodge of Greece has again sought recognition from the Conference through this Commission as it had done in 1987, 1992, and 1994.

The Grand Lodge of Greece is the oldest Masonic power in Greece, having existed since 1868. It is recognized by all the Grand Lodges represented in this Conference. In 1993 the Grand Lodge of England withdrew its recognition of the Grand Lodge of Greece and granted recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Greece.

The Commission reaffirms its previous positions that the Grand Lodge of Greece is regular, entitled to continued recognition and is of the opinion that the National Grand Lodge of Greece does not, at this time, meet all the standards of the Commission for recognition.

RUSSIA

The GLNF (Grand Loge Nationale Francaise) is pleased with the progress made by the Russian Lodges sponsored by them. The GLNF is being pressured to organize a Grand Lodge in Russia, but is of the opinion that these lodges are not far enough along and that organization should be deferred. We understand that Alaska is no longer actively pursuing their effort to establish Lodges in Eastern Russia.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia changed its name in 1993 to the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. Its regular "Annual Assembly" was held in Belgrade on June 5, 1994 under the leadership of its Grand Master, Dragan Tanasic. The Constitution was revised and other minor actions taken which do not affect its regularity. The territory of the Grand Lodge was limited by the Constitution to Serbia and Montenegro. It has survived in spite of the turbulent conditions in other parts of the old country of Yugoslavia. In the opinion of the Commission it is still regular.

A new Grand Secretary was elected. The new name and address of the Secretary is:

M:W: Milorad Simic, Ph.D., Grand Secretary
Bulevar Revolucije 54
11000 Belgrade
Yugoslavia
Phone/Fax: 011/345-406

TREASURER'S REPORT
DALLAS, TEXAS
February 21, 1995

TO: THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

This Report is an accounting of the funds of the Commission on Information for the year just past, ending at December 31, 1994. Since January 1, 1994, 60 Grand Lodges have contributed \$3,010.00.

Balance from Report dated February 22, 1994 \$ 7,883.54

Receipts from Grand Lodges between
January 1, 1994 and December 31, 1994:

Alaska	15.00
Alberta, Canada	15.00
American-Canadian, Germany	15.00
Arizona	15.00
Arkansas	50.00
British Columbia, Canada	15.00
California	100.00
Colorado	50.00
Connecticut	50.00
Delaware	15.00
District of Columbia	15.00
Florida	100.00
Georgia	100.00
Hawaii	25.00
Idaho	15.00
Illinois	100.00
Indiana	100.00
Iowa	50.00
Japan	15.00
Kansas	50.00
Kentucky	100.00
Louisiana	50.00
Maine	50.00
Manitoba, Canada	15.00
Maryland	50.00

Massachusetts	100.00
Mexico	15.00
Michigan	100.00
Minnesota	50.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Montana	15.00
Nebraska	50.00
Nevada	25.00
New Brunswick, Canada	15.00
New Hampshire	15.00
New Jersey	50.00
New Mexico	15.00
New York	100.00
North Carolina	100.00
North Dakota	15.00
Ohio	100.00
Oklahoma	50.00
Ontario, Canada	100.00
Pennsylvania	100.00
Prince Edward Island, Canada	15.00
Puerto Rico	15.00
Rhode Island	15.00
Saskatchewan, Canada	15.00
South Carolina	100.00
South Dakota	15.00
Tennessee	100.00
Texas	100.00
Utah	15.00
Vermont	15.00
Virginia	\$100.00
Washington	50.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Wyoming	15.00
Total Contributions	<u>\$3,010.00</u>

EXPENSES between January 1, 1994 and December 31, 1994:

Check Order Fee	\$ 8.95
500 Envelopes	35.00
Miscellaneous Postage for 1994	100.93
Photographs of Commission Members for inclusion in 1994 Report	132.00
Secretarial Expense	1,500.00
Travel Expense	1,272.81
Typesetting and Mailing Expense of 1994 Commission Report	704.38

Total Expenses	<u>\$3,754.07</u>
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Balance as of December 31, 1994	\$ 7,139.47
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Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

This concludes the 43rd Annual Report of this Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

William A. Gallmeister, P.G.M.
Chairman

G. Ray Marsh, P.G.M.
Vice-Chairman

Leopold L. Otway, P.G.M.

Harald R.K. Weiland, P.G.M.

David J. Morgan, P.G.M.

Dale C. Edwards, D.G.M.

Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION FOR 1995

At a meeting of the Commission on February 21, 1995, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

Chairman

M:W: G. Ray Marsh
Past Grand Master of South Carolina

Vice-Chairman

M:W: Leopold L. Otway
Past Grand Master of New Jersey

Secretary-Treasurer

R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Past Grand Master of Texas

**NAMES, ADDRESSES AND YEAR OF RETIREMENT
OF COMMISSION MEMBERS
INSTALLED FEBRUARY 21, 1995**

- 1996 - M:W: G. Ray Marsh, Chairman
Past Grand Master, South Carolina
P.O. Box 566
Anderson, South Carolina 29622
- 1997 - M:W: Leopold L. Otway, Vice-Chairman
Past Grand Master, New Jersey
RD #4
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
- 1998 - M:W: Harald R.K. Weiland
Past Grand Master, Nova Scotia, Canada
P.O. Box 91
New Germany, Nova Scotia, Canada - B0R 1E0
- 1999 - M:W: David J. Morgan
M:W: Past Grand Master, Nevada
1475 Coronet Drive
Reno, Nevada 89509
- 2000 - R:W: Dale C. Edwards
Deputy Grand Master, Michigan
20235 Woodbend Drive
Northville, Michigan 48167
- 2001 - R:W: Neil M. Smalley
Deputy Grand Master, Ohio
3400 Wilmington Pike
Kettering, Ohio 45429
- R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Past Grand Master, Texas
P.O. Box 1850
Dallas, Texas 75221
Secretary-Treasurer

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INSTALLED FEBRUARY 21, 1995**

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