

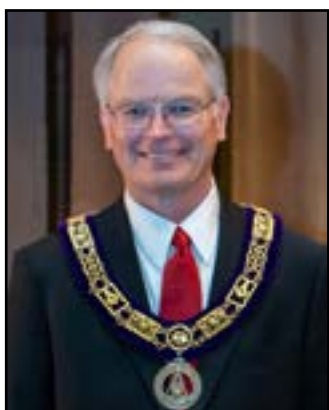


*Celebrating 130 years of Freemasonry in North Dakota.*

November 2018 — Volume 107, No. 2 — [www.ndmasons.com](http://www.ndmasons.com)

## Grand Master's Message: Share Masonry

Brothers,  
North Dakota's native son Eric Sevareid—one of the premier journalists of the Twentieth Century—once wrote that "North Dakota exists as a large rectangular blank spot in the nation's mind." But he also wrote of the



*Grand Master Dale V. Sandstrom*

brotherhood that grew from the equality and interdependence of life on the sometimes harsh North Dakota prairie. And he entitled his autobiography *Not So Wild a Dream*, taken from the words of Norman Corwin, "Post proofs that brotherhood is not so wild a dream as those who profit by postponing it pretend."

When we go back to the basics of Masonry, these are the basics to which we return: enduring principles that belong to no age or time, a commitment to helping good men become better, and the not so wild a dream of brotherhood.

We need to share Masonry with more good men.

We also need to reach out to our Masonic brothers to more deeply share Masonry with them. We need to reach out to our brothers who are no longer able to get to our meetings. We need to help our brothers in need. I am asking every lodge to have a program of outreach to our Masonic brothers. And I am asking every brother to help.

In our ceremonies we talk about widows and orphans. The operative Masons who built the great cathedrals were engaged in dangerous work, and there were many widows and orphans. Although modern Masonry is not physically dangerous, it is a fact of life that most Masons are survived by their wives. We must be concerned about the widows of our deceased brothers. We need to reach out to them with caring hearts. Many lodges maintain lists of their widows. Others can compile the names by looking in their records and asking longtime members. I am asking every lodge to have some widow's night in this Masonic year.

Masons have always cared about youth. I am asking every lodge to have one or more youth programs in the coming year.

- Support, start, or restart a DeMolay Chapter for young men 12-21 years of age.

- Support, start, or restart a Rainbow Assembly for young women 11-20 years of age.
- Hold a banquet to award scholarships and recognize achievement.
- Promote the North Dakota Spelling Bee. North Dakota Masons are the primary financial sponsor of the event that starts at the local level and leads to the state competition with the winner going to the national competition.
- Promote the Know Your State competition. North Dakota Masons are the primary sponsor of this event. County winners compete at the state competition in Bismarck to win valuable scholarships.
- Community grants and hometown grants through our North Dakota Masonic Foundation are there to help.

Remember that Masonry is all of us. And all of us can make a difference!

*Fraternally yours,  
Dale V. Sandstrom, Grand Master*

## 2018-2019 Grand Lodge Officers



L-R Row 1: JGD Jon Richards, GTr Doug Melby, JGW Danny Haugen, DGM Lowell Domier, GM Dale Sandstrom, SGW Bob Wedberg, GSec Lon Kvasager, DDGN Chad Kainz, GLib George Vettel, DDGM Darrin Galde

Row 2: GCh Robert Post Johnson, GTy Tyler Hall, DDGM Aaron Restad, SGD Kirk Akerson, GMar Paul Levchak, JGS Dennis Evans, SGS Merle Halvorson, DDGM Carl Edgerly, GHist Jim Savaloja

Row 3: GOr Michael Bakken, GLec Ronald Penfold, GLec Fred Kitko





## Upcoming Events

**Oct. 29**

District 5 Meeting and Instruction - Fargo  
6:30 dinner

**Nov. 6**

District 2 Meeting and Instruction - Rolla  
6:00 dinner

**Nov. 29**

District 6 Meeting and Instruction - Grand Forks  
7:30 pm

**Dec. 1**

District 9 Meeting and Instruction - Tioga  
10 am

**Dec. 8**

Grand Lodge Quarterly Meetings  
Bismarck - Noon

**Dec. 18**

District 6 Meeting and Instruction- Mandan  
6:00 dinner

**Feb. 2**

District 1 Meeting and Instruction - Cavalier  
10 am

**Mar. 8-9**

Grand Lodge Quarterly Meetings  
Fargo

**June 14-15**

Grand Lodge Annual Communication  
Bismarck Radisson

## Grand Master Dale V. Sandstrom

Dale V. Sandstrom is the 130th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota.

A fifth-generation North Dakotan, Dale Sandstrom was born in Grand Forks and is a graduate of the Fargo public schools, North Dakota State University, the University of North Dakota School of Law, and the National Judicial College. He did postgraduate study at Harvard Law School and the Graduate School of Business at Michigan State University.

He worked for the United State Senate under Senator Milton R. Young, and served on the staff of the North Dakota Criminal Justice Commission. He served as Assistant Attorney General for six years, heading the Attorney General's Consumer Fraud and Antitrust Division. After serving as in the Governor's cabinet as State Securities Commissioner, he served nearly a decade on the state Public Service Commission.



Dale served on the North Dakota Supreme Court from first being elected in 1992 until his retirement at the end of 2016. He chaired the North Dakota Judicial Conference, the North Dakota Judges Association, the Joint Procedure Committee, and the Court Technology Committee. He is the 7th longest-serving Justice since statehood. He served in elected statewide office for more than 33 years, making him North Dakota's 7th longest-serving elected statewide official. He was the first recipient of the Gerald W. VandeWalle Medal in recognition of his "significant dedication and contributions to the administration of justice and the improvement of the judicial system."

Dale was active in the Order of DeMolay in his youth, including serving as State Master Councilor. In 1979, he became the youngest state Executive Officer in DeMolay history. In 1994, he was installed as Grand Master of the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay during its 75th Anniversary Session.

A Mason for 47 years, he is Past Master of Lewis and Clark Lodge No. 132. He is a member of the El Zagal Shrine Dusters, a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of York Rite and Eastern Star. He is a Past Rainbow State Dad.

He served on the national Church Council of the 4.1 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 8½ years, chairing its Legal and Constitutional Review Committee, and serving on its 11-member Executive Committee. He is active in Rotary, having served as club president and as assistant district governor. An Eagle Scout in his youth, in 1997, he was the seventh North Dakotan named a Distinguished Eagle Scout by the national Boy Scouts of America. He was served Scouting at every level from Scoutmaster to member of the National Council.

He is married to District Judge Gail Hagerty, and they have three children.



## Jeff Nelson heads Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



Brother Jeffrey N. Nelson, Bismarck, has been installed as the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knight Templar of the United States. His three-year term will conclude with the Triennial in 2021 in Minneapolis.

Jeff was born and graduated from high school in Tioga, N.D. He has bachelor and law degrees from the University of North

Dakota. He is retired legal counsel and Assistant Code Revisor for the N.D. Legislative Council. He heads his family's mineral, farming, and ranching operations.

Jeff is past master of Bismarck Lodge 5. He is also a member of Mandan Lodge 8, Chancellor Walworth (Steele) Lodge 102, West Gate (Tioga) Lodge 125, Lewis and Clark (Bismarck) Lodge 132, International Lodge of Freemasons, Northern Lights Historic Lodge 68, and Yellowstone Historic Lodge 88. He is active in local and statewide Masonic activities, including

chairing the Grand Lodge bylaws committee and trial commission.

Jeff has headed all three North Dakota Grand York Rite bodies. He is a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the El Zagal Shrine Dusters (a classic car unit) numerous other Masonic organizations.

Jeff is an accomplished runner, having finished fifty-three marathons and completed marathons in thirty-one states, in two Canadian provinces, in seven countries, on four continents, and finished five of the six World Major Marathons.

## 38th Annual Fargo Masonic Corn Feed: Brotherly Love, Relief, & Truth

*By Darrin Galde DDGM*

The Annual Fargo All-Masonic Corn Feed was held on August 15th at El Zagal. Brotherly Love and teamwork was on display with Shiloh No. 1, Eastgate No. 120, Sunrise No. 130, Daylight No. 135, Mecca No. 5, and Rainbow No. 4 all working in harmony to put on a great event. The meal was sure to add Relief to everyone's hunger. We went through about 100 dozen ears of corn along with hot dogs, potato salad, and baked beans. The Truth was that everyone had a great time and no one went home hungry. The corn feed is a great example of the Masonic Bodies working together. The funds generated from the corn feed are used to maintain our Fargo Masonic Center. Thanks to all that attended and we look forward to next year's event!



*Deputy Grand Master Lowell Domier and wife Deb*



**Support Masonic Charities.**



Wayne Lee	Lauwers	Shiloh Lodge	1	8/26/2018
David C	Blair	Acacia Lodge	4	6/9/2018
Fred G	Stewart	Acacia Lodge	4	5/8/2018
Norbert C	Kinnischtzke	Bismarck Lodge	5	8/29/2018
Frank J	Bavendick	Bismarck Lodge	5	3/8/2018
Michael R	Kennedy	Bismarck Lodge	5	6/1/2018
Wesley D	Norton	Bismarck Lodge	5	7/8/2018
Donald C	Hanson	Mandan Lodge	8	9/17/2018
Jackson H	Brown	Tongue River Lodge	22	9/1/2018
Jason L	Laxdal	Tongue River Lodge	22	3/21/2018
Kenneth J	Bartron	Tongue River Lodge	22	9/27/2018
David P	Symington	Tongue River Lodge	22	8/30/2018
Marvin D	Hoffman	Star in the West Lodge	33	7/26/2018
Gary R	Rockefeller	Star in the West Lodge	33	7/31/2018
Robert M	Glessing	Star in the West Lodge	33	8/9/2018
Marvin Otto	Hoel	Lebanon Lodge	34	4/8/2018
Jim	Crooks	Fairmount Tri-State Lodge	37	3/29/2018
David F	Knecht	Fairmount Tri-State Lodge	37	9/11/2018
George D	Thompson	Welcome Lodge	54	5/2/2018
Richard W	Christ	Wimbledon Lodge	71	8/23/2018
Max	Hurdelbrink	Tyrian Lodge	113	8/10/2018
James C	Cook	Roosevelt Memorial Lodge	129	5/28/2018
Donald C	Wold	Sunrise Lodge	130	5/20/2018
H George	Poulson Pgm	Sunrise Lodge	130	7/11/2018
Raymond H	Severson	Sunrise Lodge	130	10/8/2018
Bobby G	Noblin	Malta Lodge	131	1/21/2018
Stanley H	Whicker	Malta Lodge	131	8/20/2018
Clarence L	Esser	Lewis & Clark Lodge	132	10/6/2018
Lowell F	Johnson	Fargo Daylight Lodge	135	1/8/2018

## Award recipients from 129th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of ND

By Mark Williamson, P.G.M.



The greatest Fraternity in the World can only exist because of its members. The stronger the individual becomes in Masonry, the stronger the group becomes as a whole. As leaders of any organization will tell

you, their success is directly related to the involvement and contributions of the members of that organization. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank some very special Brothers and to congratulate them on a tremendous year of growth and support of our Fraternity. Additionally, my term as Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted

Masons of North Dakota would not have been as successful as it was without them. Every mason in North Dakota has a special place in my heart and I would love to recognize every one of them, however, given space constraints and practicality here is the list of Brothers receiving special recognition at the 129th Annual Communications in Grand Forks.

### District 1

**Mason of the Year** – Harold McConnel  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Jack Ottem

### District 2

**Mason of the Year** – Bob Leonard  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Jim Bennington

### District 4

**Mason of the Year** – David Rustebakke  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Tom Moe

### District 5

**Mason of the Year** – Martin Kloster  
**Ritualist of the Year** – John Campbell

### District 6

**Mason of the Year** – Lynn Buri  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Ken Snyder

### District 7

**Mason of the Year** – Kelly Klusman  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Bob Brew

### District 9

**Mason of the Year** – Bill Rafferty  
**Ritualist of the Year** – Don Akins, Jr.

### Grand Jewel of Solomon

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of North Dakota, with sincere appreciation for your leadership and service to the craft, presents to Worshipful Brothers Darrin Galde and Chad Kainz the Grand Jewel of Solomon Award.

### The Ashlar Award

In Masonry, a rough ashlar is an allegory to the uninitiated Freemason prior to his discovering enlightenment.

A perfect ashlar is an allegory to a Freemason who through masonic education

works to achieve an upstanding life and diligently strives to obtain enlightenment.

So as the newer mason becomes more educated and grows, he improves his spiritual and moral being. This is a continual process that just keeps getting better.

How does this process start? We need an Educator, a Mentor and Teacher! The first two recipients of this award exemplified this process thinking only of helping the Brotherhood receive further light in Masonry. Lon Kvasager

and Fred Kitko, thank you for all of your hard work and congratulations on your award.

Next time you see any of these guys in lodge or socially, shake their hand and thank them for their contributions to our craft. I know I can't thank them enough!

Fraternally,  
Mark Williamson, PGM



# 129th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota

The Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of North Dakota met at the Grand Forks Masonic Temple, June 15-16, 2018, with Grand Master Mark Williamson, Larimore, N.D., presiding.

Thursday the Grand Lodge golf and skeet-shooting tournament was held at Larimore.

Friday, Grand Lodge elected committees met, followed by educational programs in the afternoon. After the evening banquet, the Banner Girls from the farming community of Leeds presented an impressive concert. The Banner Girls previously performed at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial and at the Rededication of Mount Rushmore.

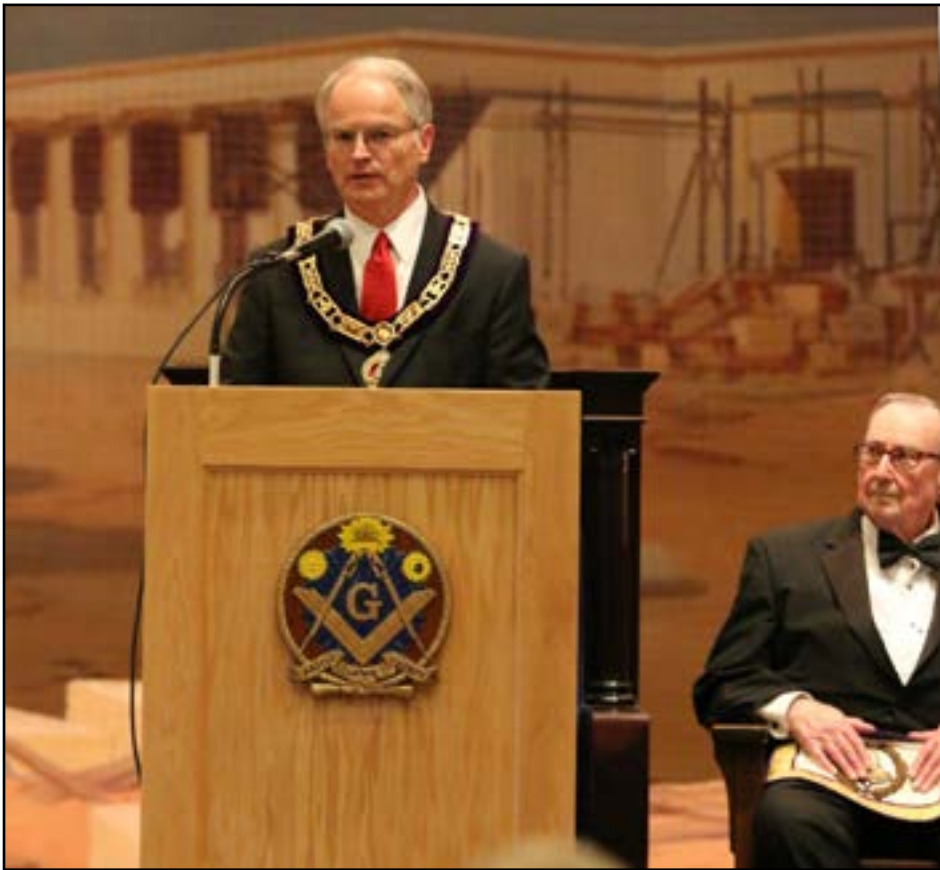
The Saturday business meetings included election of the Grand Line and committees.

Eric Roder, Langdon, was elected to the Policy and General Purposes Committee; Matt McGrew, Grand Forks, to the Finance Committee; and Bill Steckler, Grand Forks, to the North Dakota Masonic Foundation. Bylaw amendments provided for the addition of the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens to the Finance Committee, and requiring mandatory criminal background checks before balloting on petitioners. The Grand Lodge and the Masonic Foundation budgets provided for acquisition of a new database system to provide better information, to better maintain contact with members, and to facilitate fund raising.

The installation of officers included an entry arch by Rainbow Girls and arch to the East by members of DeMolay. North Dakota's new

Grand Master Dale Sandstrom is a past Grand Master of DeMolay International who recently retired after 24 years as a Justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court. Deputy Grand Master Lowell Domier, a contractor, is a Past Potentate of Kem Shriners. Senior Grand Warden Robert Wedberg, a farmer, is Past Potentate of El Zagal Shriners. The Junior Grand Warden Daniel Haugen, the Director of the North Dakota Law Enforcement Training Academy, is a previous District Deputy Grand Master in three different districts.

Grand Master Sandstrom outlined plans "to support our youth, care for our brothers' widows, and reach out to all our members."



GM Sandstrom delivers his address as Installing Office and PGM Gerald Skogley looks on.



Rainbow Girls form an entry arch of roses.



The Banner Girls from Leeds, N.D., present an impressive concert.



Members of DeMolay form arch to the East.



GM Mark Williamson presents the Grand Jewel of Solomon Award to Chad Kainz (L) and Darrin Galde (R).

**Support Masonic Charities.**

## Brother Sol Wezelman turns 100

On Sept. 21, 2018, Brother Sol M. Wezelman celebrated his 100th birthday at Touchmark, an assisted living community in Bismarck where he lives with his wife Sybil. Sol's daughter, Joy, lives nearby.

Sol's apartment was filled with flowers, balloons, and congratulatory cards. Calls and visit continued throughout the day. Among his visitors was Grand Master Dale Sandstrom who expressed the congratulations of the Masons of North Dakota.

Sol expressed his best wishes to his Masonic brothers, and his regret at not having been able to get to the Masonic meetings for the last year. Until a year ago, Sol had served as treasurer of the Masonic coffee group that meets at the Bismarck Masonic center every Wednesday morning at 9. Before he would leave, he would take treats to the Scottish Rite Speech Therapy Center.

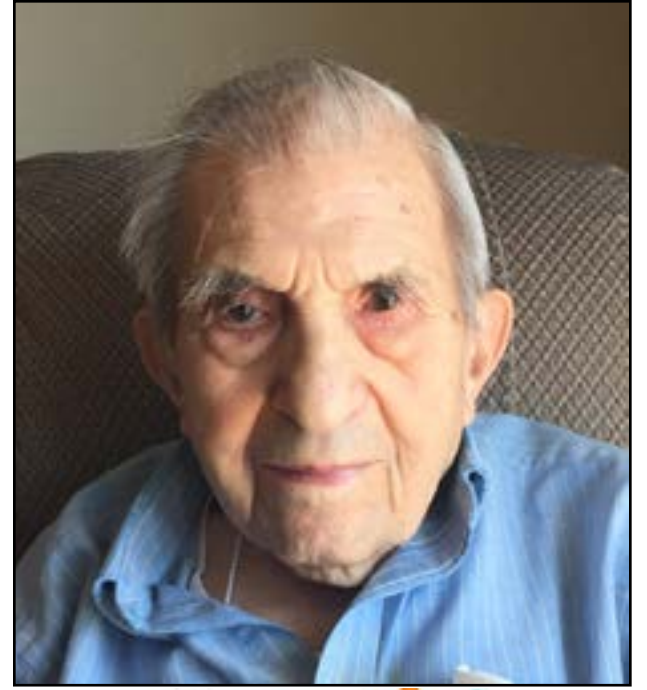
Earlier this year, Sol was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor awarded by the Scottish Rite Supreme Council. The special conferral in the library at Touchmark was presided over by Charles Ottem, the Sovereign

Grand Inspector General in North Dakota.

Sol joined Bismarck Lodge No. 5 in 1949, not long after he moved to the community. He was active in the lodge and in Scottish Rite degree work.

Sol grew up in Omaha, Nebraska, as the eighth of nine children. He attended Creighton University and then the University of Missouri. With his first wife, Natalie, Joy's mother, he moved to Bismarck in 1947 intending to work for only one year at the North Dakota Insurance Department as an assistant actuary. He ended up working for Provident Life Insurance for 30 years serving as chief actuary and vice president until his retirement when he turned 65. Intending to stay in Bismarck for only one year, he has actually stayed for 71+ years. As he says, "I was the longest temporary resident to Bismarck but don't regret it a bit."

Sol and family have been strong advocates for the developmentally disabled which include son Ira. He was active in the Rotary Club for fifty years. The Wezelman family was also recently honor by the Bismarck Library Foundation.



## Midwest Conference of Grand Lodges meets in Bismarck

The Midwest Conference of Grand Lodges met in Bismarck, August 17-18, with nine grand lodges represented. In addition to sharing Masonic knowledge and ideas, the conference showcased North Dakota. Representatives of several jurisdictions came in early to take in historic sites.

The conference began with a Friday-evening excursion and dinner on the Lewis and Clark Riverboat on the Missouri River.

Following breakfast at the Radisson on Saturday, the El Zagal Shrine Dusters with their Classic Cars helped transport the group to the Heritage Center.

The Saturday meetings were held at the North Dakota Heritage Center—the State Museum. "The Smithsonian of the Plains" located on the State Capitol Grounds. The recent \$52-million dollar expansion doubled the size of the Center. Exhibits include amazing Native American and dinosaur collections with one of only a handful of mummified dinosaurs ever found in the world. The venue also highlighted the partnership of the North Dakota Masons and the North Dakota Historical Society involving state historic sites.

Conference speakers included Joe Manning, PGM of Oklahoma, a Past Chair

of the Conference of Grand Masters in North America; N.D. PGM Arnold Ellingson, a Past Chair of the Conference of Grand Masters; N.D. PGM and Grand Historian Jim Savaloja and Historical Society Director Claudia Berg.

Past Imperial Potentate Dale Stauss was the Saturday evening banquet Speaker.

The Midwest Conference comes to North Dakota once every decade.



## State Spelling Bee

Since 2000, the North Dakota Masons have been a gold sponsor of the North Dakota State Spelling Bee for young people less than 16 years of age and not beyond eighth grade. Funding through the North Dakota Masonic Foundation is the most important financial support of the competition.

The competition begins in the local schools, moves to the county level and the state level at the end of March in Bismarck. Approximately 100 students compete at the state level.

The winner at the state level competes in the national spelling bee.

Contributions to the North Dakota Masonic Foundation help support this iconic competition.



## Looking to visit other lodges? There's an App for that!

The Grand Lodge of North Dakota has joined other grand lodges in participating in Amity, an online listing of recognized Masonic lodges in the United States and around the world.

The app can be downloaded for free. Our Grand Secretary will verify that you are a Mason in good standing. Then you will be able find lodges here and around the world recognized by the North Dakota Grand Lodge. Currently more 36,000 lodges worldwide are in the system. In addition, the app tells when and where a lodge meets.

The app can also be used by the tiler and other lodge officers to verify if the dues card of a visiting brother is from a recognized lodge.

Simply go to the Apple App Store or Google Play and search for "Amity." Download and follow the instructions.

More information is available from:  
<http://amity.copiri.com>



## H. George Poulson 1924-2018

Most Worshipful H. George Poulson, 93, the ninety-second Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota, died July 11, 2018, at Fargo.

M.W. Brother Poulson was born at Wishek, N.D., and at the age of 6 months was adopted by Harry and Rose Poulson. He grew up in Jamestown, graduating from Jamestown High School. His studies at Jamestown College were interrupted by his service as a U.S. Marine Corp officer during World War II.

After the war he returned to complete his degree from Jamestown College in 1947. In 1948, he married his college classmate, Marjorie Peeler of Chaffee.

In 1950, he received his law degree from the University of North Dakota. He never practiced as a lawyer but used his legal background as longtime Casselton Municipal Judge and as a Delegate to North Dakota's Second Constitutional Convention. He was a farmer and a banker.

Brother George was raised a Master Mason in Jamestown Lodge No. 6, in 1950. He affiliated with Casselton Lodge No. 3 in 1954, serving in as Worshipful Master in 1962. He later affiliated with Daylight Lodge No. 135 in Fargo. He was installed as Grand Master in 1980. As Grand Master he attended lodge

meetings throughout the state. George and Marj formed lifelong friendships in their travels to Manitoba, Minnesota, and Florida for Masonic events. He was an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

The Masonic Auditorium at the International Peace Garden was completed during his term as Grand Master. He was a board member and treasurer of the International Peace Garden Lodge. A supporter of Masonic youth organizations, he was invested with the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor. He served as Worthy Patron of the Eastern Star in Casselton for 16 years. He was a member of York Rite, Scottish Rite, and the Shrine.

He strongly believed in serving the community and was a member of many boards including Chaffee Lions Club, Chaffee Public School Board, Cass County School Reorganization Committee, N.D. Selective Service, and Bonanzaville, USA. After Marjorie was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, they became active in supporting the local Alzheimer's Association.

He was preceded in death by wife, parents, sister, and twin brother. He is survived by his children Kathryn Orban, Harrisburg, Penn.; Randy Poulson and Sean Nowak, Apple Valley, Minn.; Ann Poulson, Lakeville,



Minn.; Bruce (Diane) Poulson, Lynchburg, N.D.; Steve (Melissa) Poulson, Chaffee, N.D., and Gail McMartin, Detroit Lakes, Minn; 13 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren, two nieces and a nephew.

The funeral was at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Casselton, with burial at the Casselton Cemetery.

## IF YOU DON'T, WHO WILL?

By: *Daniel Haugen*  
*Junior Grand Warden*

In 2000, I started my career with the North Dakota Highway Patrol after my discharge from the U.S. Marines. I attended a 24-week academy and was assigned Crosby as my first post. When I got to Crosby, I began a long 8-week field training process. In this process, I had a 25-year veteran sergeant ride next to me in the passenger seat. For those eight long weeks, I was quizzed, questioned, second guessed, and critiqued. We had nothing in common, other than the Colonel that signed our checks. During one very boring night on patrol, I met a vehicle that had a headlight out. I continued driving, because for all in tense of purposes, it was just a headlight and we only give warnings for those. Not like, it was a serious crime. My sergeant looked at me and asked why I hadn't stopped that vehicle. I gave him my answer. What I heard next, was something I have applied in my life for the last 18 years. He had asked, "IF YOU DON'T, WHO WILL?" He was right. If everyone had the attitude that I held that night, no one would ever stop that simple headlight. No one would let that driver know that they had a headlight out, as they probably did not even know. No one would possibly find that they were actually impaired and minutes away from killing an innocent family. Or was that driver transporting a human-traffic victim?

I have used that simple question that I was asked 18 years ago, in everything I do in life, whether at work, home, or in lodge. I recently

have spent a large number of volunteer hours working on our lodge building doing drywall and other repairs. My wife asked me why, and I quickly responded, "If I don't, who will?"



The other day I heard a brother say that he hasn't attended lodge recently, because no one was showing up. Well, if we all had that mind set, no one would ever show up. If I don't attend lodge, who will? When we sit in lodge watching the most beautiful apron or G lecture given by an eighty-year-old mason by memory, shouldn't we ponder that we will need to replace him some day? Age and memorization do not tend to go together. If I don't attempt to learn a lecture, who will? Ah, someone else

will volunteer to work concessions at the Shrine circus. Yet again, if we all think that, no one will show up and the services that we provide will disappear.

We are all family members and co-workers in the world's greatest quarry, continuously building our symbolic temples. Just try to ask yourself these questions:

If I don't attend lodge, who will?

If I don't attend the annual communication, who will?

If I don't learn a lecture for degree work, who will?

If I don't help at a Shrine circus, who will?

If I don't volunteer at the lodge with maintenance and upkeep, who will?

If I don't help flip pancakes at a scholarship fund raiser, who will?

If I don't seek out worthy men to become brothers, who will?

If I don't live by my masonic obligations, who will?

We can't do all of these things without something being neglected in return, like family or employment. However, we all can try to ask ourselves that question and find a happy balance.

*Fraternally,*  
*Danny*



**Support Masonic Charities.**

## Herman Stern subject of a documentary film

Prominent Valley City Mason Herman Stern continues to be posthumously honored—this time with a documentary film, “The Mission of Herman Stern,” which chronicles his quiet work saving German Jews from the Holocaust.

In addition to a book which traces his extraordinary life, Stern was posthumously presented with North Dakota’s highest honor—the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award, in 2014. His portrait which now hangs in the State Capitol includes the Masonic emblem.

Governor Jack Dalrymple recognized Stern as a businessman, a visionary leader, and a humanitarian who quietly saved many from the Holocaust.

Stern was born in Oberbrechen, Germany in 1887. He came to America at the age of 16 to work at the Straus Clothing Store in Casselton, a clothing store established by his cousin, Morris Straus. In 1910, Herman became manager of the company’s second store located in Valley City, where he remained for the next 70 years. In addition to Casselton and Valley City, the company operated stores in LaMoure, Carrington, Grand Forks, Jamestown and Devils Lake.

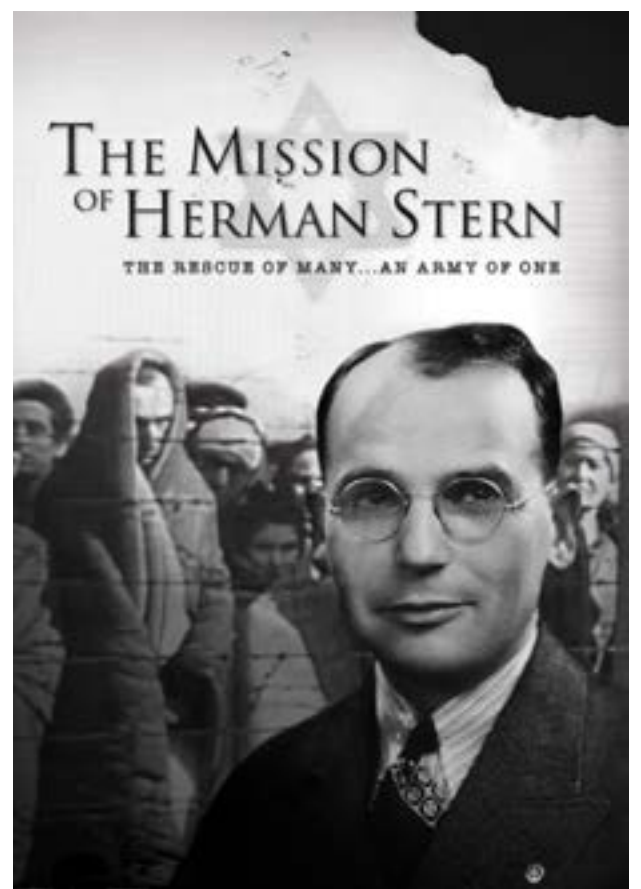
Herman Stern joined the Casselton Lodge No. 3 in 1908, and in 1913 transferred his membership to Valley City Lodge in 1913.

Stern founded the Greater North Dakota Association, known today as the Greater North Dakota Chamber, and served as the organization’s first president. He is also recognized as the founder of the Valley City Winter Show, and as a founder of Boy Scout Camp Wilderness.

With family and friends in Germany during the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, Herman became worried about their welfare and embarked on a mission to bring them to America. With assistance from state and federal leaders, he made it possible for between 175 and 200 German Jews to escape the Holocaust and come to America. The exact number he saved is uncertain because of his humility.

In addition to his involvement with the Masonic Order, Stern was active in Rotary. He was instrumental in founding the Community Chest, now known as the United Way of Barnes County.

Herman Stern died in 1980 at the age of 92. The book, *You Have Been Kind Enough to Assist Me: Herman Stern and the Jewish Refugee Crisis*, by Terry Shopbaugh, chronicles his life and is available from the NDSU Institute for Regional Studies and from Amazon.com.



“The Mission of Herman Stern” has had showings around the state and has been shown on Prairie Public Television. It is available for download and on DVD at [www.themissionofhermanstern.org](http://www.themissionofhermanstern.org). The website also contains links to related classroom lessons.

## Know Your State Contest:

North Dakota Masons have been the driving force behind North Dakota’s Know Your State Contest for more than 60 years, with funding through the North Dakota Masonic Foundation.

The Know Your State Contest was born in the year, 1954. It is a contest for juniors and seniors of North Dakota High Schools with the intent for students to learn more about North Dakota’s history, geography, politics, economy and current events.

North Dakota Masons have partnered with various institutions of higher education over the decade. Since 2012-13, the North Dakota Masonic Foundation partnered with Bismarck State College to sponsor the event.

The preliminary tests are online and the finals were held at the campus of Bismarck State College.

A banquet is held and in recent years the meal has been sponsored by Watford City’s Fort Union Lodge No. 128. Bismarck State administration and faculty, state government officials, Masons, students, and chaperones attend.

The North Dakota Masonic Foundation presents eight scholarship awards for prizes and a book to each of the students. The top two winners receive \$1,000 each; two second-place winners receive \$750 each; two third-place winners receive \$500 each; and two fourth-

place winners receive \$200 each. Each school library of a winning student receives \$100 to purchase North Dakota books for their library.

Contributions to the North Dakota Masonic Foundation help support this important program.



## North Dakota Masons support their communities

Working with the local Masonic Lodges, the North Dakota Masonic Foundation sponsors two types of grants for the lodges and their charities.

These grants are for the fiscal year from July 1 until June 30 of each year.

### (1) Hometown Grant:

The Hometown Grant was established by the Foundation in 1991. The program requests that lodges do fund raising events within their community and apply to the Foundation for a matching grant dollar for net dollar raised to \$1000.

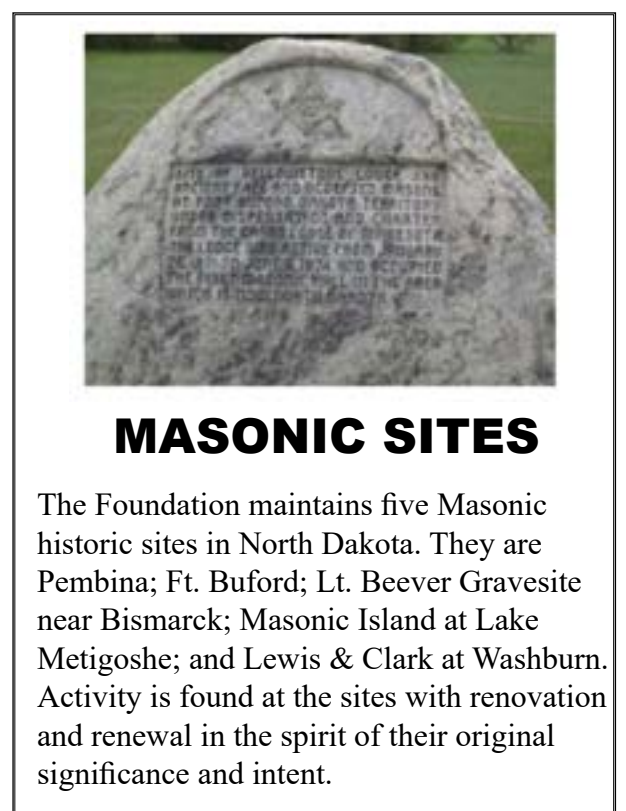
Through the years, most of the money has been used for student scholarships. Some of the other charities include Bikes for Books, Close Up Program, Boys Scouts and other youth activities, and Scottish Rite Language and Learning Centers.

### (2) Community Grant:

The North Dakota Masons through the N.D. Masonic Foundation sponsor \$500 nonmatching grants is to be used by local lodges to give for some charity within their community.

Lodges apply to the Foundation Board.

Guidelines have been developed and sent to the lodges.



## MASONIC SITES

The Foundation maintains five Masonic historic sites in North Dakota. They are Pembina; Ft. Buford; Lt. Beever Gravesite near Bismarck; Masonic Island at Lake Metigoshe; and Lewis & Clark at Washburn. Activity is found at the sites with renovation and renewal in the spirit of their original significance and intent.

# The North Dakota Masonic Foundation

Since 1978, the ND Masonic Foundation has funded/managed numerous North Dakota Projects that have provided assistance to youth and communities. These projects have made the Foundation's name synonymous with dedicated community service throughout the State.

**Current Projects like:**

- "Know Your State" scholarship program with Bismarck State College

- Hometown Matching Grant Program
- Community Grants without a required lodge match
- N.D. Masonic Historical Sites
- William Tuntland Foundation Scholarships
- Sponsor of North Dakota State Spelling Bee
- ND State Rainbow for Girls
- ND DeMolay for Young Men



## Becoming A Foundation Bridge Builder is an Investment in One's Values.

An individual or a lodge who contributes \$1,000 to the N.D. Masonic Foundation, will be recognized as a Foundation Bridge Builder.

Bridge Builder contributions are placed in an endowment fund. Only the interest will be used annually for state Masonic service projects.

An individual or lodge may give smaller amounts until they have contributed \$1,000 and then be recognized as a Bridge Builder.

Individuals become members of the Diamond Level of North Dakota Masonic Foundatoin with additional gifts of \$1,000.

All Bridge Builder donors will receive the Bridge Builder Medallion enclosed in a walnut and velvet shadow box for display along with a lapel pin.

Your NAME will be added to a Bridge Builder Plaque that is located in the Grand Lodge Office.

This award and recognition will be given at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.



**Funds contributed to the North Dakota Masonic Foundation are tax deductible in the U.S. under the provisions of the IRS Code 501(c)3.**

## History:

The endowment originally was created when an appeal was made to constituent lodges to take out an insurance policy on the life of some brother in favor of the Foundation.

The Foundation is an IRS 501(c) 3 Private Foundation and only the interest from the endowment can be used for the purposes of the Foundation.

The ND Masonic Foundation Board consists of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary- Treasurer, Finance Committee Chairman, and FIVE elected committeemen.

Other contributions have been encouraged by the Foundation Board to increase the endowment value:

1. Wills and Bequests:
2. Bridge Builder Program
3. Donations
4. Fundraisers (Affinity Marketing)

### Bridge Builder Program

In 1991, the Bridge Builder Program was developed. The Bridge Builder Program is designed to award the contributor of \$1,000 with a shadow box and medallion and a Bridge Builder lapel pin. For each additional \$1,000 contribution, a diamond is added to the medallion. The Bridge Builder money is invested in a restricted fund and only the interest is used for Foundation Programs.



Money can be contributed in smaller amounts to the Bridge Builder until the \$1,000 level is reached.

Forty-five Masons are Bridge Builders, five ladies, and Eight lodges and shrine groups are members.

### Harry Miller Masonic Endowment

In 1997, the North Dakota Masonic Found received a sizeable gift from the will of Harry Miller of Ambrose, ND. This money Is invested with only the interest used to support scholarships and other programs of the Foundation.



Since the beginning, the Foundation which is an IRS 501 (c) 3 Private Foundation has used the Interest to support various programs.

## FREEMASONS: PROUD OF OUR PAST, FAITH IN OUR FUTURE!

Yes, The NorthDakota Masonic Foundation can count on me to be a BRIDGE BUILDER!  
Here is my contribution:

\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to North Dakota Masonic Foundation. Funds contributed to the ND Masonic Foundation are tax deductible in the U.S. under provisions of the IRS Code 501(c)3. A letter of receipt will be provided after the Foundation receives the contribution.*

**Support Masonic Charities.**