

other jurisdiction, the administration of the perpetual membership of that individual shall continue as if such demit had not been granted. Re-affiliation of that member with the lodge from which such demit was granted will automatically cover the brother with his existing perpetual membership.

j. The fee paid with a perpetual or memorial perpetual membership may, after being received and accepted by the Executive Director, be voluntarily increased in whole dollar amounts by the purchaser. Such increase in funds shall inure to the benefit of the lodge by being treated as an addition to that portion of the original fee attributable to Lodge Dues as specified in Section 3e(3) above.

k. Upon the death of an individual with an established perpetual membership, the administration of that perpetual membership and annual disbursements of investment income thereon will continue as if the individual were still alive, except that amounts listed in Section 3e(1), above, will no longer be paid for the benefit of those entities.

l. If a perpetual member is suspended or expelled from membership, the perpetual membership will be automatically suspended and all investment income from fees paid therewith will revert to the Grand Lodge. The restoration to good standing of such individual in the lodge from which suspended or expelled will, upon notice to the Grand Lodge thereof, restore such perpetual membership.

m. When a lodge has lost contact with any perpetual member, and such lack of contact shall have continued for more than seven (7) years, the Worshipful Master shall direct the secretary to report the name of such missing brother to the Grand Lodge on the monthly report form as being deceased. Upon the report of the death of an individual with an established perpetual membership, the administration of that perpetual membership and annual disbursements of investment income thereon will continue as if the individual were still alive, except that amounts listed in Section 3e(1), above, will no longer be paid for the benefit of those entities.

n. An Administrative Fee may be charged by Grand Lodge for the administration of this program. Such fee shall not exceed 5% of the annual gross investment income derived from Perpetual Membership Program funds.

o. Nothing in this program should be construed as prohibiting individual lodges from establishing and adopting a program for the purchase of Perpetual

Memberships on an 'installment' basis. HOWEVER, receipt and accounting for funds involved in such programs must be handled solely within the local lodge and such applications, when finally completed and submitted to the Executive Director, must meet the full requirements of Section 4b(3), below, as of the date of receipt by the Executive Director of the completed application.

#### SECTION 4

##### Purchase of Perpetual Memberships

a. Eligibility. Any member in good standing possessing a current dues card in a subordinate lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction is eligible to become a Perpetual Member of that lodge pursuant to the provisions of this program.

b. Application Procedure.

(1) All applications for perpetual membership must be made through the secretary of the lodge where the applicant (member) is in good standing.

(2) Application must be made on forms provided by the Grand Lodge for that purpose (Form GL-2010).

(3) Completed applications, accompanied with payment in the amount of (i) twenty (20) times the annual lodge dues (see Section 2c, above) in effect at the time of application, OR (ii) One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00), whichever is greater, shall be forwarded by the lodge secretary immediately after receipt to the Executive Director of the Perpetual Membership Program at the Grand Lodge Office.

c. Effective Date. The date the completed application is received in proper form and accepted by the Executive Director shall determine the effective date of the Perpetual Membership. Purchases of Perpetual Memberships must be postmarked on or before December 20 or hand delivered to the Grand Lodge Office on or before December 23 for the perpetual membership to be deposited and included in the current year. All payments postmarked after that date will be deposited and credited in the following year.

#### SECTION 5

##### Purchase of Memorial Perpetual Memberships

a. Eligibility. Any deceased member who was, at the time of death in good standing in his lodge, is eligible to become a Memorial Perpetual Member of that lodge pursuant to the provisions of this program. Memorial

Perpetual Memberships may be purchased in the name of a deceased member by any individual or group of individuals.

b. Application Procedure.

Application for a Memorial Perpetual Membership must be made through the lodge secretary where the deceased member was in good standing at the time of death.

Application must be made on the forms provided by Grand Lodge for that purpose (Form GL-2015).

Completed applications accompanied with payment in the amount of (i) twenty (20) times the annual lodge dues (see Section 2c, above) in effect as of the date of death, OR by a minimum payment of at least Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) shall be forwarded by the lodge secretary immediately after receipt to the Executive Director of the Perpetual Membership Program at the Grand Lodge Office. A Memorial Perpetual Membership may be purchased for any dollar amount in excess of the minimum amount.

c. Effective Date. The date the completed application is received in proper form and accepted by the Executive Director shall determine the effective date of the Memorial Perpetual Membership. Purchases of Memorial Perpetual Memberships must be postmarked on or before December 20 or hand delivered to the Grand Lodge Office on or before December 23 for the perpetual membership to be deposited and included in the current year. All payments postmarked after that date will be deposited and credited in the following year.

APPROVED THIS 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2013.



Thomas L. Hauder  
Grand Master

# PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



**GRAND LODGE  
A.:F.: & A.:M.:  
OF NEBRASKA**

# PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

*This Perpetual Membership Program, authorized under the provisions of Section 2-405 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge, supersedes that Perpetual Membership Program previously approved by the Grand Master.*

## PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE ALL MEMBERS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES UNDER THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA A METHOD WHEREBY THEY MAY ENDOW THEIR LODGES, AND THE GRAND LODGE, WITH THE ANNUAL PAYMENT OF THEIR DUES IN PERPETUITY.

## SECTION 1

### Historical Background

At the 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Communication held on February 5 and 6, 1988, with M.:W.: Wayne G. Lueningborg as presiding Grand Master, the Grand Lodge adopted by better than an 80% majority vote, a recommendation of the Grand Master which authorized the Grand Master, together with an appropriate committee, to implement a program, based upon sound actuarial principles, for the establishment of Perpetual Memberships within the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. The original program was approved on September 12, 1988, by M.:W.: Paul R. Eveland. On July 31, 1992, the original program was amended by M.:W.: James L. Eatmon, and subsequently by M.:W.: Rex J. Moats on April 11, 2012.

Since its original creation, the Perpetual Membership Program has found favor with the membership and is constantly growing. However, experience has shown that, as in all things, from time to time prudent refinements may be appropriate to update and adapt any existing program to our ever-changing environment. Accordingly, by order of the Grand Master, the following revised Perpetual Membership Program is herewith approved and adopted as the Perpetual Membership Program of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

## SECTION 2

### Definitions

a. PERPETUAL MEMBER. An individual who has met all prerequisite requirements as set forth in Section 4, below. For accounting purposes, perpetual memberships may be further sub-classified as “active” or “deceased.”

b. MEMORIAL PERPETUAL MEMBER. Any deceased individual in whose name a Memorial Perpetual Membership has been purchased as set forth in Section 5, below.

c. ANNUAL LODGE DUES. That amount established in the Bylaws of a subordinate lodge as necessary to be paid annually by members of that lodge to remain in good standing as a member of that lodge. For purposes of this program, Annual Lodge Dues are defined as including that portion of the dues normally retained by the lodge plus Grand Lodge Per Capita tax.

d. GRAND LODGE PER CAPITA. That amount (sometimes referred to as Grand Lodge Dues) set forth in Section 2-601 of the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge as the annual tax to be paid to Grand Lodge by subordinate lodges for each member thereof, with disbursements attributable in the amounts in effect at the time of application, to the Grand Lodge General Fund, the Nebraska Masonic Home, the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, the George Washington Masonic Memorial and the ToLight Education Publication.

e. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. That person designated by the Grand Lodge Office Committee as being the individual responsible for the administration of the Perpetual Membership Program.

## SECTION 3

### General Provisions

a. One full year is the minimum time necessary for funds to be on deposit with the Grand Lodge to earn sufficient money from any investment to allow for return to lodges of dues of perpetual members. Accordingly, applicants for a perpetual membership should be aware and must be advised that it will be necessary that they pay one additional year’s dues to their lodge at the same time the application for a perpetual membership is made.

b. Once an application and fee for perpetual membership has been received and accepted by the Executive Director, no increase in Grand Lodge Per Capita or Lodge Dues shall be assessable to or against the perpetual member and said member shall be considered as a member in good standing in perpetuity. Except as provided in Section 3a, above, a perpetual member shall owe no further dues to the lodge in which he is a perpetual member. An annual dues card, furnished by the Grand Lodge Office, shall be issued to perpetual members by the lodge secretary, which shall denote PERP in that space normally used to show the dollar amount of annual dues paid.

c. All applications for Perpetual Membership or a Memorial Perpetual Membership must be signed by or on behalf of the applicant and certified by the lodge secretary. All applications must be completed in full and accompanied by a check for the proper funds made payable to Perpetual Membership Fund. Applications shall not become effective until received and accepted by the Executive Director. If the Executive Director determines that the minimum fee tendered by the applicant is in excess of that required, the Executive Director shall have the power to correct the application and the lodge secretary’s computations of the fee, accept the application as corrected and refund any excess fee to the applicant through the subordinate lodge secretary. If the fee tendered is insufficient, the Executive Director shall return the application and fee to the subordinate lodge secretary for correction and resubmission. A Perpetual Membership certificate, pin and card shall be furnished to the applicant through the lodge secretary by the Executive Director.

d. After an application and fee has been received and accepted by the Executive Director, the fee shall not be refundable except under circumstances determined by the Executive Director, and as approved by the Grand Master, to be mistakes of fact rendering the applicant ineligible for perpetual or memorial perpetual membership as of the date of application.

e. After an application and fee has been received and accepted by the Executive Director, the funds shall be placed collectively in restricted accounts designated for the perpetual membership program. Such accounts shall be under the administration of the Grand Lodge Finance Committee or any duly established successors thereto. These funds shall be audited annually as required by the Bylaws of the Grand Lodge. These funds shall be accounted for on an individual basis, listing the amount the applicant paid into the fund for (i) Grand Lodge Per Capita, with amounts attributable to the Grand Lodge General Fund, the Nebraska Masonic Home, the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, the George Washington Masonic Memorial and the ToLight Education Publication listed individually, and (ii) lodge dues.

(1) That portion of the paid funds attributable to the Nebraska Masonic Home, the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, the George Washington Masonic Memorial and the ToLight Education Publication shall be so administered and the original amount considered as principal with the investment income thereon payable annually to the proper recipient of said assessment.

(2) That portion of the paid funds attributable to the Grand Lodge General Fund then in effect shall be considered principal and property of Grand Lodge with the investment income thereon payable annually to the Grand Lodge on behalf of the lodge of said member.

(3) The balance of said paid funds shall be considered to be principal attributable to Lodge Dues and the investment income thereon payable annually to the lodge on behalf of said member.

(4) Funds received to establish Memorial Perpetual Memberships in amounts less than the full Perpetual Membership Fee then required for the lodge being endowed will be divided as follows with the investment income thereon payable annually as follows:

(a) One-third (33.33%) to Grand Lodge General Fund.

(b) Two-thirds (66.67%) to Lodge Dues.

f. The obtaining of a perpetual membership in one lodge by a member shall have no effect on membership(s) held in any other lodge by said member. Multiple perpetual memberships are authorized.

g. A perpetual membership in one lodge is not transferrable to another lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction except as provided in Section 3h, below.

h. If a lodge consolidates, goes extinct or has its charter arrested, the funds credited to any members of that lodge in the perpetual membership fund shall follow the members according to the relevant sections of the Bylaws dealing with consolidations, the surrender or arrest of charters, except that individuals holding perpetual membership in a lodge that goes extinct will be allowed to transfer such perpetual membership to a new lodge at the original amount of purchase, and such perpetual membership shall be administered in the same manner to the lodge accepting the affiliated perpetual member. A favorable vote by the lodge on the Application for Affiliation shall be considered acceptance of the perpetual membership in the original purchase amount and the annual disbursements to be made to the lodge associated therewith. Funds of deceased perpetual members whose lodge subsequently surrenders its charter, for whatever reason, or has its charter arrested, and does not consolidate with another lodge in this jurisdiction, shall become property of the Grand Lodge.

i. If a demit is granted to a perpetual member, as a condition precedent to his joining a lodge in some