



Oregon Masonic News



Volume XXXVI No. 5, January 2019

The Grand Master's Message: Masonic Charity

One of the first lessons taught in the Entered Apprentice Degree is about Masonic Charity. From that time on, we continue to learn about the rewards of helping others. As Masons, we have an opportunity to share our good fortune with our Brothers and others outside the Craft through our philanthropic charities.



M.W.B. James L. Morgan
Grand Master

The Masonic and Eastern Star Home Endowment Fund (Home Endowment) and the Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation (OMCF) allow us to assist our members and communities. If you are not sure what these charities do, think of it this way.

Home Endowment helps our membership, while OMCF helps those outside of our organization, mostly school children in the communities served by our Lodges.

To expand the reach of these charities, we depend on the contributions of our members.

Since these charities are already established, the question becomes why do we need to donate? In the case of Home Endowment, we have been building that fund for nearly 100 years. Through the generous contributions of our members and Lodges, it has grown to its current level. However, we can become limited in the assistance we can provide to our members if we do not continue to give to the fund.

While the OMCF fund is smaller in comparison to the Home Endowment fund, we are moving in a direction that will allow OMCF to be responsible for the Creating A Partnership (CAP) programs, currently funded by the Grand Lodge. Once OMCF is capable of funding the current CAP programs, Grand Lodge can put its funds to use to help Lodges or find other avenues to help our members and those outside the fraternity.

Both the Home Endowment and OMCF funds have been established

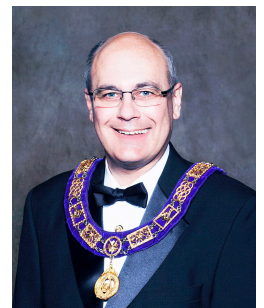


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Long Range Planning A change in direction

At the direction of M.W.B. James Morgan, the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

has undergone a significant change in membership and direction this year. Your committee is meeting on a monthly basis with a new focus to generate long-term goals for Masonry in Oregon. These long-term goals are being developed under the umbrella of the Grand Lodge Vision and Mission statements provided by the Trustees, including the identified Values and Priorities. Focus areas have already been selected, which are as follows: Membership Development, Lodge Reform, Community Involvement, Member Services, Marketing, and Ambitious Projects. This structure is similar in nature to the original "pillars" which were created in the early days of this committee. LRPC began its work this year by taking a look back at where we have been

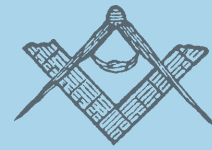
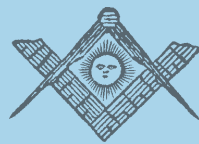
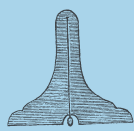
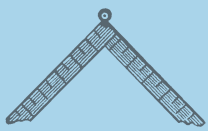


W.B. Mark L. Posler
Senior Grand Deacon

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Mason of the Month – *The Lodge anchor*

It is my great honor to nominate W.B. Noel Lynn Bessonette, Jr., known to all as “Skip”, the anchor for Ashland Lodge No. 23. He has served as Worshipful Master three times, most recently in 2016. W.B. Skip now serves as Lodge Secretary, a demanding and taxing position. W.B. Skip has reconciled our records sacrificing numerous hours in an attempt to bring the Lodge up to date.



W.B. Skip Bessonette

Not only has he served the Blue Lodge with distinction, but W.B. Skip has held offices in Royal Arch and Commandery for years. He has almost single-handedly kept both organizations viable in the Southern Oregon area.

W.B. Skip also takes on the responsibility of preparing the Lodge dinners before each Stated meeting. His culinary background ensures our members and their ladies are treated to a sumptuous feast and great fellowship. His wife, Caroline, is his primary assistant, and if I could, I would recommend her for recognition as well.

W.B. Skip is also an excellent musician and is called upon by various local Lodges to display his vocal skills and musical artistry at many Lodge functions.

Lastly, W.B. Skip is one of our finest Masonic ambassadors. He cheerfully volunteers his time to sell cotton candy and popcorn at various local events in the promotion of Masonry. His love of Masonry is evident in his dedication to the Craft. If one attends our annual Grand Lodge, they will see that W.B. Skip is well-known among many attendees.

Not only would Brother Skip deserve the honor of Mason of the Month, he truly is our Mason of the Year... every year.

- nominated by W.B. Robert D. Smith

THANK YOU, W.B. SKIP BESSONETTE!

The Grand Lodge Trustees welcome you to nominate that Mason who, in your experience, exemplifies what it is to be a Mason. To do so, we ask that you submit a short bio on the Brother (500 words or less) and send it to our Grand Secretary, R.W.B. Rick Komraus, by email to grandsecretary@masonic-oregon.com. Submission deadline is the fifth of the month to be considered for that month's award. The Trustees will review all entries. One nominee will be selected each month through May 2019. One will be Mason of the Year and presented with a plaque.

Countless Masons are working tirelessly for their Lodge. Please nominate a Brother today.



Grand Master's Message,

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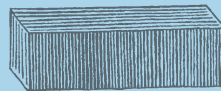
and supported by our members and Lodges over the years. Currently, neither fund receives substantial or regular contributions from our members. While some Lodges and Brothers contribute regularly, many of us are not holding up our end of the bargain. It is incumbent on us to continue the charitable ways of our predecessors as we continue to grow these foundations so that our charity lives on after we are gone.

Not everyone may feel that they can contribute to this endeavor, but if you can find \$5 to give, it will help. For many, a regular stop at the coffee shop or a six-pack of their favorite beverage can cost \$5 or more. Is helping others not as important as one cup of coffee a month or a six-pack of that favorite beverage? As OPB tells us every spring and fall, pennies a day can add up to a big difference. Currently, we have about 7,000 Masons in our Grand Jurisdiction. If each member gave \$5, we would raise \$35,000 this year. Think how much we could raise if even half of those Brothers contributed \$5 a month.

Brothers, at my installation I told you we were going to focus on giving this year. It is not just this year but every year that your contributions are needed to maintain our ability to share our Masonic Charity with our members and the public. I know that most of you give to one or more Masonic charities through the Shrine, Scottish Rite and York Rite, but please do not forget our Grand Lodge funds also need your help to remain viable. I encourage you to start the new year out by supporting our efforts and donating to Home Endowment or OMCF. An envelope is included in this issue for your convenience.

We all need to remember our first lessons in Masonic Charity and share what we can.

Fraternally,
M.W.B. James L. Morgan, Grand Master,
A.F. & A.M. of Oregon



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial

Situated on the highest hill in Alexandria, Va., the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (GWMNM) overlooks the city, and if you are flying into Reagan National Airport, you can see it out your window. It is an unforgettable trip for those that have visited the Memorial. When you walk through the doors, your focus is not only on the grandeur of its surroundings but on why we need, as Masons, to preserve and restore this magnificent building. This is a testament to the character of George



Washington, a man of courage, strength, and the kind of man every Mason should be.

This Memorial is not only for Masons but a place where the public can view artifacts from the 1700s when George Washington was president. Some of the floors depict the

various Masonic bodies, a library containing valuable manuscripts, and at the top of the Memorial, a remarkable view of Alexandria and Washington D.C.

Brethren, your help is needed to continue supporting the Memorial. The Grand Lodge of Oregon participates in the \$1 Per Member Campaign to help ensure the Memorial's future. You or your Lodge can also help preserve the Memorial's legacy.

In the most recent issue of LIGHT, there are many ways an individual or Lodge can contribute to this worthy cause. Please set some of your budgeted funds aside and contribute to the Memorial and its ongoing preservation. Restoration is the key and The Landmark Century Campaign, currently underway, will allow the Board of Directors to further implement projects that will enhance the Memorial for years to come.

Fraternally,
M.W.B. Don Stapleton, P.G.M.,
GWMNM Board Member



Contributions

October 25, 2018 – November 28, 2018



Masonic & Eastern Star Home

Petitioner Club

Kelly Barnett (57) Arthur D. Case, Jr. (44) Martin Falk (195)
Daniel F. Harmon (57) Walter H. Johnson (96)
Rick Komraus, GS (100) Howard Leachman (103)
Russell Madison (195) Robert J. Matthews (78)
Nancy & Jerry McClelland Jeanette & Mark Posler, SGD (221)
David E. Riggs (76) John O. Trueb (160)
Arthur & Viola Dickson Memorial (77)
Robert E. Tremain Living Trust (34)

Fellowcraft Club

George & Carolyn Goodall Foundation (114)

Oregon Masonic Youth Education & Literacy Foundation

Petitioner Club

Russell Madison (195)

Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation

Petitioner Club

Kelly Barnett (57) Mark Cook (207) George Currin (195)
Rick Komraus, GS (100) Howard Leachman (103)
James L. Morgan, GM (133)
Wabanang Chapter No. 127, O.E.S.
Portland Lodge No. 55

Oregon Masonic Library Foundation

Petitioner Club

Judy & Ed Bousquet, P.G.M. (139)

Educational Assistance

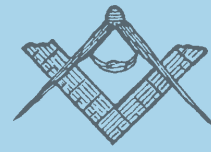
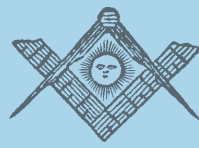
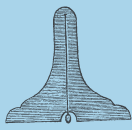
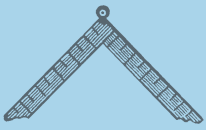
Petitioner Club

Kelly Barnett (57) Daniel Harmon (57)
Howard Leachman (103) Walter A. Pose (201)

MasonicAid: OutReach Giving Tree

Petitioner Club

Steve Becker (163) James R. Belshe, PGM (15) William Bitar (114)
Robert I. Boyd (59) Harry R. Canfield (56) S.M. & C.R. Erwin (103)
R. D. Fletcher (30) Matthew Gerbrandt (3) Calvin Kinney (11)
Rick Komraus, GS (100) Richard A. Martin, PGM (207)
Philip McClure (95) Roma & J. Evan Nelson (30) Audrey P. Pearn
Lloyd C. Peterson (109) Jeanette & Mark Posler, SGD (221)
R. Michael Wick, PGM (138)
Holbrook Lodge No. 30 Milwaukie Lode No. 109
Bandon Lodge No. 130 Sidney Croft Lodge No. 206
Doric Chapter No. 53, O.E.S. Valiant-Sellwood Chapter No. 92, O.E.S.
Rogue River Daylight Chapter No. 186, O.E.S.



OFFICER CHARGES

REGISTRATION



The 2019 Masonic Charges will take place in March at the new Masonic library and museum in Forest Grove. The Junior Warden's Charge, aimed at the sitting Senior Deacon, is scheduled for March 16, followed by the Senior Warden's Charge, on March 23, intended for the sitting Junior Warden. The Charges will end with the Worshipful Master's Charge, on March 30, designed for the sitting Senior Warden.

A light breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. The Charges are free to attend and will begin at 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided, and the program will conclude by 3:30 p.m. Attire is business casual.

Using the feedback provided by past attendees, we plan to include the requested topics and information into this year's program. Please bring your Ritual, Officers Handbook, and the Code Book. These publications will also be available for purchase at the training. Registration is required so we have enough food and handouts for the classes. We will provide reimbursement up to \$100 for one night's lodging for Brothers traveling over 50 miles to attend. Receipts will be required for reimbursement. Please mark your calendar for your office's training and make it a point to attend the Charges this year.

Long Range Planning,

continued from page one

and what has already been done. It is interesting and humbling to see what has been accomplished by Oregon Masons since the LRPC was implemented over 10 years ago. With enjoyment, I read the minutes from years ago, when they were discussing a new idea called the "Child ID" project. In future meetings, LRPC will identify specific goals in each area of focus, then create benchmarks, which are steps to achieve each goal. As sets of goals and benchmarks are developed (referred to as Strategies), the proposed Strategies will be provided to the Trustees for consideration of implementation. The members of the LRPC are always interested in the views and opinions of our Brothers in the Craft. If you have an idea regarding a long-range plan for the future, which you would like the committee to consider, please submit it in writing to me. Submissions can be mailed to SGD Mark Posler at the Grand Secretary's office or emailed to mposler@masonic-oregon.biz.

Fraternally,

W.B. Mark L. Posler, Senior Grand Deacon,
Chairman, Long Range Planning Committee

CHARGES REGISTRATION

Register online, www.masonic-oregon.com/charges, mail this form to the Grand Lodge office, or call (503) 357-3158. Questions? Contact R.W.B. Greg Jenkins, Junior Grand Warden at (503) 474-7449.

SELECT A TRAINING

NAME

Junior Warden's Charge
(Senior Deacons)
MAR 16

LODGE NAME & NO.

Senior Warden's Charge
(Junior Wardens)
MAR 23

OFFICE HELD

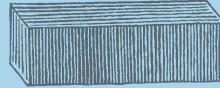
Worshipful Master's Charge
(Senior Wardens)
MAR 30

PHONE NO.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you have Lodge stories of community involvement, events, etc. you are invited to submit your articles and pictures to Erin Evans at eevans@masonic-oregon.com. Deadline: The 5th of the previous month (i.e., articles for the June issue are due by May 5).





2019 Secretary Seminar

This year we will be changing the format of the Secretary Seminar on Jan. 18-19. **The training on Friday will be replaced with an informal forum from 4-6 p.m. called, "Ask the Grand Secretary" at the Grand Lodge office.** Lodge supplies will be available for purchase during this time.

The Secretary Seminar on Saturday will be held at Holbrook Lodge, located at 2019 Main St. in Forest Grove. The training begins with the Nuts and Bolts and other relevant topics including the membership database, *Grand View*, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The Grand Lodge invites all Master Masons to attend this free seminar but strongly recommends the attendance of each Secretary as the presentations and shared information are pivotal to the role. **Please register and submit supply orders to the Grand Secretary's office no later than Jan. 10.** There is no fee to attend; simply bring a current copy of the Oregon Masonic Code and the Secretary's Handbook, which are available by logging into the Grand Lodge website. Register online at www.masonic-oregon.com/secretary-seminar or call the Grand Lodge office at (503) 357-3158 to reserve your spot.



Secretary Seminar REGISTRATION

Please fill out & return to:
Masonic Grand Lodge
2150 Masonic Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116

NAME _____

LODGE _____

OFFICE _____

PHONE _____

I PLAN TO ATTEND: FRIDAY - Informal Forum
 SATURDAY - Training Session

Have you attended before? YES NO

GRAND MASTER'S TENTATIVE ITINERARY

January 2019

- 2 – Gateway No. 175, Warrenton, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 3 – Salem Scottish Rite Honors the Grand Master: reception & dinner, 5:30-8 p.m. - U, L
- 5 – Tuality No. 6, Hillsboro, Official Visit: breakfast, 9 a.m.; Lodge, 10 a.m. - U, L
- 5 – Al Kader Potentate Installation: Wilsonville, 5 p.m. - T, L, Fez
- 9 – Columbia No. 114, Portland, Official Visit: dinner, 6 p.m.; Lodge, 7 p.m. - U, L
- 10 – Kenton No. 145, Portland, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 12 – MESH/Trustee Meeting: Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, 8 a.m. - S
- 15 – St. Johns No. 17, Albany, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 21 – Medford Scottish Rite Honors the Grand Master: reception & dinner, 5:30 p.m. - T, L
- 26 – Oriental Band Crab Feed: Al Kader Shrine Center, Wilsonville, 5:30 p.m. - SU, L
- 27 – Amaranth & O.E.S. Scholarship Night: Al Kader Shrine Center, Wilsonville, 5:30 p.m. - U, L

February 2019

- 2 – MESH/Trustee Meeting: Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, 8 a.m. - S
- 6-9 Grand Lodge of Alaska - U, T, L
- 11 – Multnomah No. 1, Portland, Official Visit: dinner, 6 p.m.; Lodge, 7 p.m. - U, L
- 14-20 Conference of Grand Masters of North America, Rapid City, SD - U, L
- 22 – DeMolay Crab Feed: Al Kader Shrine Center, Wilsonville, 5 p.m. - U, L
- 23 – Duke of Connaught No. 64, Vancouver, B.C., Official Visit with Grand Masters from Washington and British Columbia & Yukon - U, L
- 26 – Tillamook No. 57, Official Visit: dinner, 6 p.m.; Lodge, 7 p.m. - U, L

U = Uniform; L = Ladies; T = Tuxedo; S = Suit; BC = Business Casual

In Loving Memory



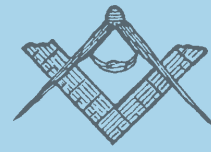
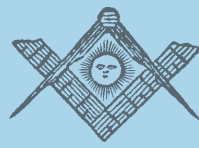
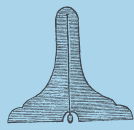
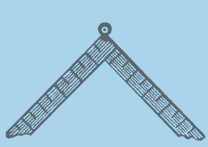
Jack and Mary Maxwell



Jack Maxwell: July 13, 1928 to December 8, 2018

Mary Waxwell: October 1, 1926 to December 9, 2018

Jack and Mary were approved to the MESH/Care Program on May 1, 2013, shortly after moving to the Jennings McCall Center. Jack was a member of Holbrook Lodge No. 30 and Sheridan-Dayton Lodge No. 64. Mary was a member of Newberg Chapter No. 55. Jack and Mary were also members of Home Star Chapter No. 187. Jack and Mary passed away within 24 hours of each other – a true love story! They leave behind a large family and many friends. They were a dear couple loved by many and will be missed.



NEWS FROM OUR LODGES —

Medford No. 103



Pictured left to right: R.W.B. John Lohrfink, District Deputy No. 17; Bro. Bob Rammin; W.B. Howard Leachman; W.B. Jim Pringle; Bro. Ken Adams and wife, Katherine; Bro. Gerald Simmons; W.B. Robert Stark; W.B. Harry Baker; and W.B. Kent Clinkinbeard.

Bro. Kendall A. Adams of St. Helens Masonic Lodge No. 32, who now lives in Medford, was presented with his 70-year Jewel on Nov. 16. Bro. Ken was unable to make it to Lodge to receive this honor, so the Brothers at Medford Lodge No. 103 traveled to his residence for this special presentation. Bro. Ken's wife pinned his 70-year Jewel on him, and his son was also in attendance to witness this special event.

- submitted by R.W.B. John J. Lohrfink and W.B. Howard E. Leachman

Tigard-Orenomah No. 207



On Nov. 14, Tigard-Orenomah Lodge No. 207 presented Mrs. Susan Miller, widow of Bro. Eryk Miller, with a certificate from the George Washington Masonic National Memorial confirming the dedication of a tree on the grounds of the Memorial dedicated by the Lodge to Bro. Miller's memory. The Memorial was special to Bro. Miller who visited it following his raising to Master Mason. Mrs. Miller, in turn, presented a U.S. flag to the Lodge in accordance with Bro. Miller's wishes. This flag had flown over the Washington residence at Mount Vernon in Virginia.

- submitted by W.B. Thomas D. Pierce

Scio No. 39



In an effort to bring community members into our Lodge, the Brothers of Scio No. 39 offered a concealed carry class on Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Masonic/Odd Fellows Hall in Scio. Over a dozen people participated in the course, which included a license for Oregon as well as Utah, which allows carry in 35 states. Scott Turner of Northwest Self Defense, a local training group, taught the course. Seven Brothers attended the class and proceeded to the Scio Masonic shooting range for some hands-on practice. All enjoyed the training, and two attendees had questions about Freemasonry.

We are attempting to bring attention to our Lodge with classes like this as well as the self-defense class for young women, that we had a few months ago. More than a dozen young ladies left with far superior self-confidence and independence. We hope to offer many more community-focused classes in the near future.

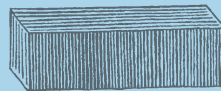
- submitted by W.B. Duncan S. Tucker

Newport No. 85



Newport Lodge was privileged to initiate eight fine men in 2018. Six are pictured wearing their aprons, while a seventh one (back row, left) is a Fellowcraft who is about to receive the Master Mason degree.

-submitted by W.B. Mark C. Phillips



Friendship Masonic No. 160



Whether to commemorate an occasion, celebrate a Master's success or hopes for his year, or just because they are cool and trendy, challenge coins have become popular in Masonry over the past decade. Most coins are given at events, on special occasions, or used as a fundraiser.

However, there are some that can only be earned. In 2018, W.B. Walter Lee designed a challenge coin for Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 160 (pictured). W.B. Lee challenged Lodge Brethren to share a piece of Masonic education during Friendship's Stated meetings or at another Lodge, and those that did receive a coin.

As Worshipful Master for 2019, I am continuing the challenge coins with a focus on ritual. To earn a coin, contact Friendship Masonic Lodge and volunteer to participate in a degree. Any non-Friendship member who successfully takes on a part in our degree, Senior Deacon and above, will receive a challenge coin.

If a Brother from Friendship Masonic Lodge successfully participates in another Lodge's degree at Senior Deacon and above, they will receive a coin not only for themselves but for the Worshipful Master who invited them. So, if you want help with a degree, contact us, you may be able to earn a coin in the process.

Friendship Masonic Lodge is dedicated to exemplifying the ritual that forms the cornerstone and foundation of our Masonic labor and is willing and happy to help. Contact our Secretary, W.B. Jim Loennig, friendship160@gmail.com, or me by phone, (503) 449-6670 or email, christopher.chase13@gmail.com. Visit www.friendship160.org/calendar, to see upcoming degrees and events.

- submitted by W.B. Christopher M. Chase

OCCASIONAL GRAND LODGE EAST – REGISTRATION

One more Occasional Grand Lodge is scheduled at La Grande Lodge No. 41, in La Grande on March 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Check-in for this free training begins at 8 a.m., and a light breakfast will be served. The Occasional Grand Lodge of Oregon will open at 9 a.m. and then go to refreshment for a closed session meeting. Attending Worshipful Masters or Lodge representatives will be asked to report on Lodge activities, issues, and solutions, as well as any community involvement. The attire is uniform for the Grand Lodge Officers and business casual or suits for Lodge members. Ladies are invited as a program will be offered in the morning.

Lunch will be provided for all attending. The afternoon session, open to all attendees, from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., will include the introduction of attending Masonic bodies and youth groups. Registration will be open until one week before the session. Space is limited, so register early to reserve your place and allow for a proper headcount for food.

REGISTRATION FORM O.G.L. EAST - LA GRANDE

WE ARE FROM LODGE: _____

NAME: _____

OFFICE HELD: _____

MY LADY WILL BE ATTENDING:

LADY'S NAME: _____

Register for the FREE Regional Gathering online, masonic-oregon.com/regional-gathering or mail this form to the Grand Lodge office. For more information, contact R.W.B. Greg Jenkins, Junior Grand Warden, at (503) 474-7449.

REMINDER TO ALL LODGES:

PROPOSED LEGISLATION IS DUE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE BY JANUARY 7, 2019.

OREGON MASONIC NEWS

The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of OR
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HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE RECENTLY?

1. Visit <http://or.gvsoftware.com> & click "Member Portal."
2. Sign in with your existing account. If you don't already have one, click "Member Registration" & follow the prompts to create an account.
3. Update your information from your member profile to stay up-to-date with Lodge & Grand Lodge news.
4. Questions? Call the Grand Lodge (503) 357-3158.



Oregon Masonic News

The Oregon Masonic News is published monthly (except July and August) by authority of the trustees of The Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Oregon. Editors are the trustees of the Grand Lodge. Deadline for copy is the fifth of the month preceding the publication date. Example: May 5 for the June issue.

High resolution photos, along with story submissions, may be sent electronically to the Grand Secretary. Photos should not be reduced in size. Printed photos are also acceptable. If you scan your own photos, they should be at least 300 dpi. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.

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