

# 1991 Feb 17 Governing Board Meeting

## Master Stewards

**Meeting Date and Time: Sunday, Feb 17, 1991**

**Location: Uncertain**

## Meeting Notes

Attendees:

No 34 (Wendell Owen), Alan Jenkins, 21 (Raymond Brown), Ilona, Paul, Elden Kingston, Carl Kingston, Daniel Kingston, Ardous Gustafson

### **Paul Kingston (9):**

Our meeting today will be talking about Master Stewards. I would like to talk about the situation that has developed. To begin-with we need to go back a few years before Brother Ortell passed away.

There were not too many men in the order that had qualified and reached the point to be Master Stewards. It seemed like so many things that we faced there was a crisis situation and there wasn't too many of the individuals that were carrying the responsibility of the qualities of a master steward. We want to go into details enough so the ones who are going into that situation will be taking the responsibility and giving us a passing mark.

Some of us remember there was a time when the surplus was divided to those who made a surplus on the statements. The master steward division was held in reserve to cover those debts. That has been the pattern for several of those years now. There is more to it than that. Because the Master Steward fund has been there it has benefited every part of the Order. Some of the people we work with side by side on the outside have been acquainted with people that have gone bankrupt without a reserve. They have been closed out and it is all over. People lose their jobs, opportunities and they are out of luck.

One thing that has protected us against that is the Master Steward. One thing that has made it possible for that Master Stewardship to succeed, that benefit has been there and has continued clear on up to today. With the changes that took place with the people at Cottonwood and the situation that developed there brought to a head the percentage of Master Stewards we have with comparison to the weight and the rest of the order[.]

[I]n going over our books for 1990 we realized we needed to make some changes and spread that responsibility out a little more.

**No 34 (Wendell Owen):**

I wasn't familiar with these things as Sister Ardous was. I did know that the amount was \$12,000.00. Brother Charles Kingston was a Master Steward. Dean and I started working together and forming a company for hauling. We formed a trucking company. It was in 1949 or 1950 we started the trucking company. It produced a pretty good profit and Brother Ortell said it qualified as a Master Stewardship. Dean was made a Master Steward and I was not. When we were on Saratoga we accumulated a debt.

At the time I went to the mine I had a debt on my statement. Because of that debt Brother Ortell told Dean I did not have the required savings to meet that. As I began to build my statement up I was also made a Master Steward. Brother Ortell talked about the advantage there would be to a person in those things. If a person was thinking of that and looking at the worry and money side of it you would say what is the advantage of it. He would point out there would be a lot of advantages in being a Master Steward.

I remember some of the things that were said in regard to being a Master Steward. He said a Master Steward would guard his stewardship with his very life. I think when he referred to guarding your stewardship with you life by living your life style, with the idea of the stewardship being protected ahead of your own self. I think that privilege of being a master Steward is greater than your own life.

Along with the things Brother Paul has been talking about I remember a dram Brother Ortell had. He said that people outside were gathering around and approaching us and the idea was to destroy us. He wondered what would be the best thing to do. He said among our people there was five big great giant Indians. He decided to make a contest out of it and he said he would try to have a wrestling match. He said these Indians will take on any five of you people. These other people sent five men against these five Indians and they were no match. They were not able to over power them. When they found that out it made them back off.

Brother Ortell when he gave the interpretation of that dream he said those five great Indians were master stewards on master stewardships and those people upholding that plan would be strong for the protection of the order.

If the people of the order work in harmony with each other and help another master steward at the expense of their own stewardship that will help strengthen the whole order.

**No.21 (Raymond Brown):**

I would like to tell a dream I had on these conditions when the master stewardships were being set up. After father died I took over the dry farm. There was a few years there and it happened every year there would be a certain amount of the crop would be destroyed before I could get it. In this dream I went out in the field and I loaded up the grain that was cut. As the grain was loaded Brother Elden got up on the truck and he would throw off a certain number of the sacks and he said this is for the Lord and it wasn't too long when

we had our governing board meeting and he appointed himself and me and Merlin master stewards and the Lord had told him at that time it would be the master stewards that would save the order.

We went ahead on the farm and after that we saved all the crops. Before that no matter how I tried to save those crops there was a certain part of the crops that were lost. When that happened that all stopped. I drew from that the knowledge of true consecration that a master steward should be a man of that type, should give everything to the Lord.

That was the conclusion I came to for that purpose of have master stewards they would be consecrated men or women of that type. I always realized that person that would be a master steward everything he had had to be consecrated to the Lord.

**Wendell Owen (34):**

In regard to the trucking company when we first got together and formed a trucking company we hold a meeting and we dedicated that stewardship to the Lord. That is the first thing we did after we formed it.

**Paul Kingston (9):**

In the first of the order most of the stewardships were hold on individual statements. Shortly before the time Brother Elden passed away in the meetings of I think about 1945 and 1946 brother Elden began to talk about the master stewardship and it would develop so the successes of one person would benefit every person in the order.

In our governing board meetings about inheritances from father to son the master stewardships is another part for the success of an individual to really benefit every other person in the order. It lines it up in a way where we haven't been in a lot of cases as successful as we should be of teaching our children as a parent. We should plant in their hearts a deep respect that stewardship is benefiting everything they enjoy. When that young person went on that job that young person would be told what a wonderful benefit it was for that steward to take care of that stewardship.

I would like to talk about what is a master stewardship and a master steward is. When the Lord says "Well done thou good and faithful servant" that says a lot of what that stewardship and steward is, those that are on top and in a position of responsibility. It is where the people that had the most were willing to give us the most and that condition will continue.

A master steward to completely sit into that category in the order there is the storehouse; a part of that is the units that are deposited. A steward will come to the order treasury with a plan or opportunity to take a certain responsibility and make certain units productive. In that story what it means to be a master stewardship is brought out in the story about brother Ortell taking that stewardship to make it productive. That stewardship comes to the order treasury and they take units out of that treasury to be used on their stewardship. You could liken that to that story of giving those talents in the way the Lord wanted them to be developed.

One of the most important things a master steward has to do, they have to see their stewardship is operating in harmony with the order in that plan of one above another.

I spent quite a bit of time with each one of our stewardships to see why we had not enjoyed the success in a lot of cases that was there for us to have. If the Lord had allowed that success to be there it would be to our destruction. That success would have destroyed the order because we had not progressed to the extent we could have stood that success to the detriment of our people. Our people would not have worked in harmony with other stewards and stewardships.

We have to work in harmony with the goals and other goals the order has, to qualify for a master stewardship. It has to return the units it has drawn from the order treasury so there is something there for another stewardship to use and build on.

The things I am bringing out are guide lines.

We have talked about the importance of the stewardship being operated in harmony with the order. The responsibility of that stewardship rests on the shoulders of the man that is managing that stewardship. One of the first things of these guide lines there are going to be people who are going to be asked to take some of these responsibilities that haven't quite made some of these guide lines. The individuals that are taking these places before they made these guide lines they are going to have to put forth extra effort to meet these guide lines.

Generally from-here on out a master steward will have \$50,000.00 on their statement. That is our guide line and one of the more important part of the things you could put down in the guide line. They have to qualify on the spiritual side, as well as the temporal. If a person cannot meet their own needs they are not in a position to help their brothers and sisters. They would have the opportunity to perfect themselves in two areas, their own finances and the stewardship they are over.

The guidelines we are talking about they are to be able to prove themselves in their stewardship finances and their own personal finances, to be able to look out for the best interest of the stewardship. In the past when men were made master stewards in some cases the wives were placed on master steward statements. The difference has been the families have been very young and the family was in a position so that most of the incomes they could generate was used to raise their family. In some cases the woman have been placed along the side of the husband as master stewardship statements and some have not been.

I am going to give the women opportunities in Brother Ortell's family to be on the master stewardship statements. There will be some in brother Merlin's family and in some of the other families will have the opportunity of becoming master stewards. That condition will continue to exist as before and the master stewards will not draw service charge on that they have saved. That fund has been set aside. It has been used to cover a debt when there was no other way to cover that debt. There are some of the men that will have the opportunity of becoming a master steward and they have not met some of these guide lines to be made here in 1991. They will have to put out the effort to reach them.

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Brother Carl Kingston the stewardship he has worked on will be our legal work. It has been a wonderful benefit to have that help.

The next one is going to be Brother Daniel Kingston. He has helped on several stewardships. Some of the stewardships have been smaller and some have been larger. Every stewardship has not reached the guide lines we have talked about. I want to mention we want to mention those guide lines that can be reached in that way. The stewardships that will qualify are the alarm company and the [A]dvance [D]ata. We were able to pay out all that we spent on that by us. Each year there has been a profit on that alarm company and also on advance data. The printing and also the garbage company will qualify in that respect.

The next one will be Brother Ellery. That has been our tax accounting. There has been a tremendous amount of benefit that has come to the order from his activity on this part.

The next one that would have that opportunity and that is Brother Alan Jenkins. That would be because of his efforts on behalf of the pawn shops and also even the very best we have done on one part of our activity one of the things that has made that possible he has given us on the week end crews.

There is one other individual that isn't here today, Brother Gerald Hansen that is because of the efforts he has put forth over the years for the mine.

The others are the sisters of the order, Sister Ilona, Sister Mary Gustafson, Sister Coreen Gustafson, Sister June Kingston, Sister Marjorie Sister Myrna and Sister Ethel. In Brother Merlin's family Sister Anna Kingston, Sister Leona, and Sister Joyce.

Interest Rates:

8% on long term and 12% on short term

7% on long term and 11% on short term. *[(distinction missing, is it master steward versus not?)]*

Several years before Brother Ortell passes way he was paying off these debts and trying to lower that rate.

**Daniel Kingston (15):**

I would like to say I am very glad to be here today. It helps my understanding a lot of things that has taken place in my life.

There has been a certain dollar figure on my statement when I come close to hitting that amount so I haven't dropped below that dollar amount. Going to school has made hard to go ahead on my statement. I can see now we never really was going to build out to Cottonwood. I can see how if we built out there that would line it up so I would not be able to qualify for this.

On Reed Avenue we had a two bedroom house and ten children. The Lord in my case is that he has made it possible for me to be a master steward. I told Rachel the first week in January I did not know what it was the Lord had but he had something special for us and if we were ready and watching for it the Lord would

take care of us in a very special way. Although she had hopes and dreams of having a new house the Lord had something better for us. I told her the things the Lord had for us would be disguised in a package we would have to sure we recognized it. We thought when our children would be signing up in school for the next quarter we would be moving back to Reed Avenue. I wanted to do something else.

The second week in January I had a dream brother Elden came to me and said I had a new project for me and there was a new business if I wanted to do it, he would be there to help me. In the dream I realized it was something that wasn't in Salt Lake and it would still be a good situation. He said it was going to be a real struggle to start with. He showed me different things of that business and then I woke up. A few days later Brother Paul asked me if I wanted to go out and look at a ranch with him. Right then I wondered if that was the thing brother Ortell wanted me to do, One of the buildings at that ranch was one of the buildings I saw in that dream. I realized that was what brother Ortell was talking about and that was what was in that dream.

The way things worked out the day it was time for Rachel to move out there was the day the quarter ended in the school and they were to start the new quarter out there. I can see that opportunity has been given to me by the Lord. I also realize I haven't done everything like I should. I realize some of these qualifications need to be worked on. We really do have an opportunity out there. It will be a real opportunity for the children. I know anything that is done out there will be for the benefit of the whole order. I realize it is a wonderful privilege of taking this step. I realize all of my family is not able to take this step at this time.

I would like to say these things in the name of Jesus Christ Amen.

**Paul Kingston (9):**

I remember in the dream that brother Daniel had the radio antenna was right behind the house. When we went out to the ranch to main ranch had that antenna right behind it. We went on in the dream brother Ortell took me into this house and there was an old man sitting in the rocking chair looking out the window. It seemed like the things brother Ortell was showing me it was about twenty years ago. There was a window in front of the house. That night when I got to the woman I asked her did you used to have a rocking chair in the front room of the house, and I told her it was in this corner here. She said my father used to rock back and forth in that chair there.

**Carl Kingston (16):**

I am really glad to be here today and I consider this a real privilege that I have enough credit to make this step. I may have a little more work to do before I can qualify for that privilege. In thinking about what I do know about master stewardships the main thing I remember. I remember when I got that share on my statement. I asked my mother how it was. She explained to me-the amount of money I saved on my statement gave me a percent of that master stewardship division. I also noticed when that stopped and I did not know what it was; and I am glad some of those things have been brought out. I realize that the statement I have the money that is there is not mine, it is a record of what I have been able to do with the assets the Lord has given me to manage.

When I first stopped working for the law firm up town I worked with brother Wendell in plastics. I talked to brother Ortell about the wages I made on it. Most of you know the father of Keith Madsen. I handled his fathers will for him. It took three or four months to work on that. The attorney fee on that was about \$14,000.00. When that came in I asked brother Ortell what I should do on that. He said what are you going to do with that statement? I told him I was going to turn it in. He said as long as you recognize that as order money go ahead and turn it in on your statement.

Another big opportunity was Sandy Bank. They asked me if I wanted to do the legal work on Sandy State Bank. I was also doing work for United Bank. He said why don't you run it through like you do for United [B]ank. He said we probably are going to be making changes on some of these statements but now you should realize these things are for the benefit of the order.

I have always felt like what I have turned in it is not mine. I hope I can do the things that are necessary to qualify to be a master steward. I hope those who are in charge can fill me in on those things and that I can do things that are expected. I appreciate the opportunity I have. I feel like this is the answer to the prayers to lead me to the next step and I feel this is in answer to my prayers.

**Elden Kingston (22):**

I am pleased and grateful I am able to take this step. It seems like in my life I am just barely making the grade and getting under wire when these dead lines come. I wonder why I wasn't a little more prepared. When I took the covenant of consecration I did not feel I was prepared for that but I feel if the Lord wants us to take these steps I am thankful I am making the dead line.

I haven't understood about the master stewardships. That was shown more clearly to me in this Cottonwood deal.

If you think about the whole master stewardship program you can see the wisdom in that thing that was done there. In this order if you try to make things more fair and have the strong help the weak I don't see a better way to do that and help build them up; if that master stewardship division is divided among the other people that have made a profit on their statements. In my assets I have accumulated on my statement I don't feel like that is mine. I feel like all those things belong to the Lord, and that is fine with me. I am happy to help in this way. I am happy the Lord has enough confidence in me to be able to take this step. I hope if I am not qualified he will help me to qualify.

**Ellery Kingston (32):**

I appreciate the opportunity of being here and taking part in this. I probably don't know where I stand. I will have to find out how far I have to go to get going. From 1987 on as far as spiritual knowledge and enlightenment I have been able to receive has been really wonderful. I have thought why could not I have seen a lot of those things fifteen or twenty years ago when some of those things were given were being brought out. I listened to some of these old tapes and those things were brought out but I wasn't getting them. I feel like Brother Ortell is giving me a little extra help. If I could take the ten years back we have just gone through and used the things we have now ten years ago, things would really have been a lot different.

When we went into Standard there was a lot of mistakes made there and things would have been a lot different. One of the most important things we did not have in the beginning, it wasn't gone into with this idea of helping each other. One time there was something brought up and they said Standard wasn't part of the order in its operations. At first it made me feel bad.

In talking to Brother Ortell I realized we had not really brought that up so we were working with each other and helping the other businesses in the order; so I started working toward the goal of making sure the paths we went on would always be part of the order and the interaction of part of those stewardships. I was looking at the interest and I thought how in the world can we ever come out from underneath something like that. It came to me if we set this company up as an overall package and so that each business would be part of this package and this harmony, some time some where in the future the Lord would give that business the blessings so it would be able to carry that weight.

Since that time we have worked toward that goal. Certain opportunities have come up to make changes in the business but sometimes those changes would take us away from the overall package. We are right on the verge of putting this stewardship as a good order stewardship. Its very salvation will be determined on how it can operate and coordinate with the other order businesses. Without the order it would be nothing.

Sometime I hope it is in my life time it will be a real success and in complete success with the rest of the order. I know until we can get that business or any other business to that point where it is totally consecrated and is in perfect harmony with the rest of the order it will never be a success.

There are a lot of things that still bother me and I have a lot of things to over come and I have surely appreciated the extra spiritual help I have received during the last four or five years. I really appreciate the things we have been taught this last three or four months. As far as my spiritual understanding experience in the last four months it has really been a gift to me.

I am sorry that Brother Paul has to go through the things he has to go through to give us that knowledge. The only way we can make it easier and the load lighter is to make sure we use that knowledge to the very best of our ability.

**Alan Jenkins (58):**

I can plainly see Brother Ortell's hand in this. All of Sister Ethel's family in the order will be on this list. The rest of them are Brother Clyde's family. I realized the spiritual part of it was the most important part. The spiritual part of a master steward is to help the others. The Lord was the greatest master steward that ever was. The master steward never considered the monetary part. I know in order to continue on I will always need Brother Ortell's help and I know he will always be there. The Lord expects to get help to those other people in their weak points. Brother Ortell told us how.



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I remember when I and Janiel were going to get married[.] Brother Ortell said Janiel would be a benefit[,] eve[n] the money she had at that time not to consider it our money. The benefit should always be to the Lord. I tried to live up to that too.

**Ilona Kingston:**

I really appreciate the privilege of being to this meeting and it is really wonderful to have this kind of people. When we were growing up Brother Clyde let everyone know he was a master steward. When I was fasting my nerves were not very good when people wanted to use more money than I felt they should. I asked the Lord in my prayers to help me to help them to see what was right. It came to me this is the next step in helping other people. In my prayers I asked the Lord to help me to qualify to be with Brother Ortell when it is my time to go.

I appreciate the privilege of having this part in this step that I have had the privilege of taking. I ask the blessings of the Lord on each and everyone of us and I do it in His name amen.

*Meeting adjourned.*