



Proposal to Fund Museum Software

PastPerfect Museum Software in Support of KSLOR Objectives

November 5, 2016

Topeka, Kansas

ACTION FOR KSLOR MEMBERSHIP

Motion

That the Kansas Lodge of Research provide up to \$1,606 to the Grand Lodge Library and Museum for the purchase of Past Perfect Museum Software.

Funding is contingent upon Grand Lodge Library and Museum acceptance as a member of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) which allows for discounted costs.

Funding also contingent upon assurance that access to the catalog will be made available to KSLOR members via the KSLOR web site.

Background

KSLOR strategy of Research – Publish – Speak has included the objective of digitizing the catalog of holdings of the Grand Lodge Library & Museum (GLLM) and make that catalog available to Kansas Masons (especially to KSLOR members).

GLLM is currently under the care of Dylan Sweyko-Kuhlman, Archivist, who is in a fully funded position and has been extremely aggressive in his effort to evaluate, research, and catalog our holdings. Currently, the inventory is kept on spreadsheets available only at the Grand Lodge.

Dylan has evaluated software that would be more conducive to Library/Museum cataloging and making available the catalog via the Internet. His recommendation is Past Perfect Museum Software.

Specifications

PastPerfect Version 5.0 Basic Program	\$870/\$696*
Multimedia Upgrade	\$385/\$308*
PastPerfect Online Setup	\$285/\$228*
First 10,000 Catalog Records online**	\$450/\$360*
Shipping & Handling	\$14
Tax (PA)	<u>\$0</u>
Total	\$1,606*

*Institutional Members of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) receive a 20% discount on the majority of PastPerfect products and services.

** This is the annual hosting fee for the first year. Investigating whether we can have the catalog set up on the KSLOR.org web site since hosting is provided as a

free service from Signaleer® (except for the secure socket layer).

About the Product

PastPerfect is the world's leading software program for collection and contact management used by over 9,000 organizations worldwide.

The MultiMedia Upgrade for PastPerfect links digital assets to catalog records. With this optional add-on feature, it adds the ability to attach images as well as audio, video, PDF files, and more to the records.

PastPerfect Online enables the expansion of GLLM's audience to web users around the world by building an online collections database. The online add-on provides capability of searching and displaying hundreds of thousands of catalog records, providing an easy way for visitors to explore our collections.

The web site for further examination is: <http://museumsoftware.com>

Proposal Sponsors

Rick Reichert, Past Grand Master, M.: W.: Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Kansas 2013, Past Master, Kansas Lodge of Research 2014-2016, and current webmaster KSLOR.org

<placeholder>

<placeholder>

DIGITIZATION VISION for KANSAS MASONS

Excerpt from a paper published by Rick Reichert for KSLOR dated July 19, 2015

Highlights point out how this funding proposal supports our Digitization Vision

Library	<p>Kansas Masons are blessed with a Grand Lodge Library & Museum at the Grand Lodge building, directly across the street from the state capital building in Topeka. Many of the holdings are rare or limited edition publications that describe the history of Masonry, the philosophy of our Craft, and the details captured at thousands of events in which Kansas Masons have contributed their efforts.</p> <p>Although a card catalog of our holdings exists, it is neither exhaustive, easily searchable, nor easily searchable.</p> <p>The holdings at the Grand Lodge Library consist of books, magazines, bound papers, unbound papers, artifacts, files, correspondence, and ledgers.</p>
Branch Libraries	<p>Each of the ~217 A. F. & A. M. lodges in Kansas has a collection of materials ranging from less than a hundred to several thousand volumes of Mason-related materials. Usually, the minimum is enough material to know the history of the lodge, look at pictures of their lodge masters, the minutes of every meeting, a register of member and visitors, and financial records. Lodges with larger libraries will have Grand Lodge proceedings, various Masonic books donated by their members over the years, and possibly articles related to Masonic research or education written by their own members</p>
Digital Holdings	<p>In several cases, the Grand Lodge has digital copies of key publications. All the proceedings of the Grand Lodge Annual Communications have been scanned into digital format. Word searching of these holdings is limited. The reader has to open the PDF for each document and then use a word search to find what they're looking for. Kansas Mason magazine has been produced in digital format for several year and can be searched by document. The Kansas Lodge of Research has a handful of digital materials, mostly short articles and scanned versions of printed articles.</p>
Web Sites	<p>The Grand Lodge of Kansas and the Kansas Lodge of Research have distinct web domains and house a variety of articles and features on each.</p>
Masonic Education	<p>Over the years, the Masonic Education committee has produced many publications to assist members with education about their fraternity. These are primarily paper documents stored in boxes or cabinets at eth Grand Lodge office.</p>

OBJECTIVES

Electronic Catalog Objective

We want to accomplish a lot:

- Digitize the catalog at the library so we can see what's in the library without having to go there.
- To the best extent possible, we should have as much of a searchable abstract as possible for material holdings.
- Have searchable digitized material available to our subscribers online.
- Have all digitized materials completely searchable.
- Provide a digital repository for Masons who have provided materials
- Put Kansas Mason magazine in our digital library
- Put constitution, bylaws, etc. in digital library
- Make online books, e-book versions of Masonic books i.e. Idiot's Guide, books by Cliff Porter, Andrew Hammer, etc. available to our subscribers
- Any of our digital holdings would be readable on real reader applications on any platform the subscriber has: i-pad, nook, kindle, iphone, laptop, PC, Mac, etc.
- Be future-proof: Easily adapting to new technologies as they become available
- Secure: If we want it available only to our subscribers, we can secure it.

These are just a few ideas we want to accomplish. Until we know what capabilities there are in the new digital libraries, we won't know how to take advantage of them:

- Ability to reserve, check out, return, fine overdue for hard copy holdings.
- Ability for Lodge libraries to input what they have to the GL online catalog.
- Mechanism for loaning via mail for hard-copy materials.
- Group subscriptions to Masonic Society, Phylaxis, Quarantom, or the dozen other things I can't spell but are Masonic publications and research groups. We can provide our subscribers with access to those materials.
- Inter-jurisdiction sharing of catalog of holdings. Priority one is to compile list of available Kansas-based electronic and paper-based (scan-able) articles that can be made available to KSLOR subscribers on the KSLOR.org web site.

Electronic copies of GL KS Proceedings for our online library received from MW Tracy Bloom.

Next step is to create abstracts and make them available to KSLOR subscribers on the KSLOR.org web site.