



Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York

Dear Companion,

Each Cryptic year our Grand Council and the General Grand Council International recognize individual Companions and Councils who have promoted and enhanced Cryptic Masonry by their service and activities. These awards present a distinctive opportunity for you, your Companions and your Council to receive honor and recognition. There are four categories of awards: Individual Achievement, Ish Sodi, Council Membership Gains & Attendance, and Council Support of the New York Charity Fund.

I. INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT:

A. GRAND COUNCIL OF N.Y. CRYPTIC MASON OF THE YEAR:

This award is given by the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York to a Companion who has done outstanding work in Cryptic Masonry. One Companion from your Council may be recommended each Cryptic year.

B. GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL CRYPTIC MASON OF THE YEAR:

This award is given by the General Grand Council International to a Companion who has done outstanding work in Cryptic Masonry. Your Council may recommend one Companion each Cryptic year.

(Note: Past and present Grand Masters and advancing Grand Council line Officers are not eligible for this award.)

C. GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL ADULT LEADERSHIP AWARD:

This award is given by General Grand Council International to a PERSON who has done outstanding work with youth organizations recognized by the General Grand Council, namely: Order of DeMolay, Order of Rainbow for Girls or Order of Job's Daughters. Your Council may recommend one Companion each Cryptic year.

RECOMMENDATION PROCEDURE:

(Cryptic Mason of Year Awards & Adult Leadership Award)

- a. Recommendation must be in writing (max.: 2 paragraphs) citing:
 - (1) The recommended Companion's accomplishments
 - (2) The Council's reasons for recommendation
 - (3) Signed by the Illustrious Master signifying concurrence of the Council
- b. Submit to the District Deputy Grand Master
- c. DDGM will forward with comments to the Grand Master by JUNE 1.

II. ISH SODI AWARDS:

A. ISH SODI AWARD:

This award is presented to every Companion who is the recommending signer on Five (5) Petitions for the Cryptic degrees Presented beginning August 2003, after the petitioners have received both the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees.

Each qualifying Companion will be presented with a Certificate of Award and the ISH SODI JEWEL at the Annual Assembly of Grand Council.

B. MERITORIOUS ISH SODI AWARD:

This special award is presented to every Companion who is the first line signer on Twenty Five (25) Petitions for the Cryptic Degrees in his life time where the Petitioners have received both the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees.

Each qualifying Companion will be presented with a Certificate of Award at the Annual Assembly of Grand Council.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: (*Ish Sodi & Meritorious Ish Sodi Awards*)

- a. Application must be received by Chairman of awards Committee

(mail to the Grand Recorder who will forward to the Awards Committee Chairman)
no later than JULY 10

- b. Application must include:

- (1) Name and address of Companion receiving the award.
- (2) Names of the Five [*for Ish Sodi*] or Twenty Five [*for Meritorious Ish Sodi*] Companions qualifying the recipient for the award.
- (3) Dates when each received his Royal and Select Master Degrees, and/or Grand Council numbers, if available from Council Recorder.
- (4) Signature of Council Recorder with Seal of the Council.

III. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP GAIN & ATTENDANCE AWARDS:

The following awards will be presented at the Annual Assembly of Grand Council to recognize, before the Companions present, those Councils whose zeal for and efforts on Cryptic Masonry have resulted in noteworthy membership growth and exemplary support of our Grand Council.

A. MOST GREETINGS IN THE CRYPTIC YEAR:

This award is presented to the Council having Greeted the most new Select Masters during the past Cryptic year (July 1 - June 30).

B. GREETINGS OF 5 OR MORE COMPANIONS IN THE CRYPTIC YEAR:

This award is presented to each Council having Greeted five (5) or more new Select Masters during the past Cryptic year (July 1 - June 30).

C. 10% OR GREATER INCREASE IN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IN THE CRYPTIC YEAR:

This award is presented by General Grand Council International to each Council whose membership increase is 10% or greater during the past Cryptic year (July 1 - June 30).

AWARD CRITERIA: (Most Greetings, Five Or More Greetings, 10% Increase)

The above awards will be based on each Council's ANNUAL REPORT to the Grand Recorder. Annual Reports **must** be received by the Grand Recorder no later than JULY 10.

NOTE:

Councils whose Annual Reports are received after July 10th will not be considered for these awards.

D. BEST ATTENDANCE AT GRAND COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:

This award is presented to the Council (other than the host Council) having the most Companions in attendance at the Annual Assembly of Grand Council. All Select Masters of your Council qualify toward your Council's receiving this award and are encouraged to attend, and register their attendance.

AWARD CRITERIA: (Best Attendance at Grand Council Annual Assembly)

The above award will be based on the number of properly registered Companions reflected in the report of the Committee On Credentials and Registration as received at the Annual Assembly.

IV. SUPPORT OF THE NEW YORK GRAND COUNCIL CHARITY FUND:

Charity is one of the oldest and most important hallmark of Masonry. The following awards will be presented at the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council to recognize before the Companions present those Councils whose Companions have taken this to heart, resulting in exemplary support of our Grand Council Charity Fund.

A. GREATEST DOLLAR AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED IN THE CRYPTIC YEAR:

This award is presented to the Council contributing the greatest total dollars* to the Charity Fund for the past Cryptic year (July 1 - June 30).

B. AVERAGE CONTRIBUTION PER COMPANION OF \$5.00 OR MORE:

This award is presented to each Council whose total dollar contributions* to the Charity Fund for the past Cryptic year (July 1 - June 30) averages \$5.00 or more per Companion.

(= Total contributions includes Life Memberships)*

AWARD CRITERIA: *(Greatest Dollar Amt. & \$5.00 Avg. Per Companion Awards)*

The above awards will be based on each Council's contributions to the Grand Council Charity Fund received by the GRAND TREASURER as of JUNE 30.

(NOTE: Contributions received after June 30th will not be included in the consideration for these awards, as they will be credited to the succeeding Cryptic Year.)

Zealously,

Chairman, Ish Sodi & Awards Committee