

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons

Of the State of New York

2012-2013

190<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly



M.:I.: Richard C. Anderson

Most Illustrious Grand Master

2012-2013

August 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

Clarion Hotel  
Batavia, NY

# **MINUTES OF THE 189<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

## **GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

The 189<sup>TH</sup> Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York was held on Friday August 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Dunkirk Clarion Hotel, Dunkirk NY.

### **OPENING AND RECEPTION OF GRAND MASTER AND OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL:**

A Council of Select Masters was opened by the Illustrious Master and Officers of Dunkirk Council No. 25 on Friday August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM. The Most Illustrious George B. Whitmer, Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Council were received, and by order of the Grand Master, assumed the stations and places.

### **OPENING OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF GRAND COUNCIL:**

A constitutional quorum of constituent Councils was determined to be present, and the Grand Master declared the 189<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York opened in ample form. In accordance with New York State Fire Laws, he then advised the Companions of the exits in case of emergency. The Grand Recorder then advised that all Councils were eligible to vote at this Assembly.

### **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

The Grand Master then appointed a Credentials Committee, consisting of R.:I.: John Sundeen as Chairman, together with R.:I.: Leland Sperry, and R.:I.: Kenneth Kohlhausen.

The Grand Master appointed a Committee on the Grand Master's Address, consisting of M.:I.: David Raymond and M.:I.: Lester G. Weinheimer.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

The following standard Resolutions were duly proposed, seconded, and approved by vote of the Companions:

A Motion that the minutes of the 188<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly as distributed on the Proceedings CD be approved.

A Motion that all the reports of the elected Grand Line Officers, from Grand Principal Conductor of the Work to Grand Steward inclusive, as will be published on the 2012 Proceedings CD, be approved.

A Motion that all Companion Select Masters in good standing be invited to remain as visitors to this Annual Assembly, except at such time as provided by the Constitution.

A Motion that the Election of Officers be the Order of Business at 1:45PM on Saturday August 18, 2012; that each officer be nominated individually; and that the nominating speeches be limited to three(3) minutes and seconding speeches be limited to two (2) minutes.

A Motion that our visiting Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters who are not already Honorary Members of this Grand Council be made so.

### **CONDITION AND EXTENSION OF THE RITE:**

The report of the Committee on the Condition and Extension of the Rite was given by R.:I.: Richard Anderson.

### **GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT AND RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS:**

The Grand Lecturer's Report was given by R.:I.: Curtis A. Banks

The following Assistant Grand Lecturers were recognized: R.:I.: Robert Bukowski, V.:I.: Steven P. Koch, V.:I.: H. David Strong, R.:I.: Mark Hatswell. They were each personally thanked by the Grand Master for their work in the past Cryptic Year.

### **REPORT ON THE WEB SITE:**

His report on the Web Site was given by M.:I.: Charles Roberts, Webmaster.

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION, MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLIC**

#### **RELATIONS:**

The report was given by R.:I.: Richard Anderson.

### **RITUAL COMMITTEE:**

The ritual Committee reports the following proposals:

No. 1 - p.47 – change to “and as an amended method of conferring the Master's Word”. The Committee recommends this be adopted. Moved, Seconded and Passed by the Companions present.

No. 2 – in the closing, change to “twenty-two from Gebal, Zabud, and our three Grand Masters.” The Committee does NOT recommend this change.

**JURISPRUDENCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:**

M.:I.: E. William Whittaker, Chairman gave the following report:

The committee recommends approval the By-Laws changes of the following Councils; Central City No.13, Doric No. 19, Adoniram Council No. 36 and Cayuga No. 90.

A proposed addition to the General Regulation in section 14 (a) of a subpart to be 1.

1. Each Grand Line Officer will visit each Council in the district(s) assigned to him in order to receive any expense money appropriated for such in the budget.

**REPORT OF THE GRAND FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENT:**

The report was given by R.:I.: James Keane.

**REPORT OF THE GRAND TRUSTEES:**

The report was given by M.:I.: Charles Roberts.

**REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER:**

The report was given by M.:I.: Donald Harrison.

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

The report was read by M.:I.: Harrison.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

The report was given by M.:I.: Donald Harrison.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:**

The report was given by R.:I.: Richard Anderson.

**CALL FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT:**

M.:I.: Whitmer ordered the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work to call the Craft from Labor to Refreshment, for the purposes of conducting the Vespers Service. The Assembly will reconvene at 8:45AM Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for the admission of Distinguished Guests and ladies, followed by the Necrology Report, labor to resume in the Secret Vault following the Necrology.

**VESPERS SERVICE:**

The Vespers Service was conducted under the direction of R.:I.: and Reverend Charles Lee.

**ASSEMBLY RECONVENED:**

The Annual Assembly was reconvened at 8:45AM on Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:**

The following delegations were received and greeted personally by the Grand Master:

Maryland

Ohio

Pennsylvania

Province of Ontario

General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International

Additionally, the following Concordant Bodies were greeted:

Red Cross of Constantine

Grand Chapter R.A.M.

Grand Commandery KT

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, NMJ

Grand Line Officers, Grand Lodge State of New York

The Most Worshipful James Sullivan, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York, was received under escort, invited to the East, and accorded Grand Honors.

**NECROLOGY REPORT:**

The Necrology Report was given under the direction of R.:I.: and Rev. Jose Valencia

**LABOR RESUMED IN THE SECRET VAULT:**

Following the Necrology, the ladies and non-Cryptic Masons were excused, and Labor resumed in the Secret Vault.

**RECEPTION AND GREETING OF THE PAST MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS:**

The Past Grand Masters were introduced, and personally thanked by M.:I.: Whitmer.

**ISH-SODI AND AWARDS:**

The report was given, and awards presented by R.:I.: Harley R. DeShane.

**ROLL CALL AND RECOGNITION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES:**

The Grand Representatives were presented in the East, and personally thanked by M.:I.: Whitmer.

**RECOGNITION OF 2011-2012 DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS:**

The District Deputies were recognized and personally thanked by M.:I.: Whitmer.

**REPORT OF THE GRAND RECORDER:**

The report was given by M.:I.: Pozefsky. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the report.

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS:**

Remarks were received from M.:E.: Michael Dunn, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter State of New York Royal Arch Masons.

**MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS:**

M.:I.: Whitmer turned the gavel of authority over to the Deputy Grand Master, and gave his address. The DeputyGrand Master ordered the Address turned over to the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, then returned the gavel to the Grand Master.

**GRAND COUNCIL CHARITY CORPORATION:**

The Grand Master then declared it to be the hour for the Annual Meeting of the Charity Corporation. Report was made by M.:I.: Charles Roberts, President. Awards were then presented. The meeting was then closed.

**ADDRESS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:**

Most Worshipful James Sullivan honored us with his words.

**LUNCHEON:**

The Assembly was ordered at recess until 1:00PM for lunch.

**RECONVENE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:**

The Annual Assembly was reconvened at 1:00PM

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS:**

The report was given by M.:I.: Lester G. Weinheimer, who thanked M.:I.: Whitmer for his years of service to the Craft.

**TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE:**

The time and place for the 190<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly will be August 16-17, 2013, Clarion Hotel, Batavia NY.

**CREDENTIALS:**

The report of the Credentials Committee was given by R.:I.: John Sundeen:

There were     14 Illustrious Masters  
                     6 Deputy Masters  
                     4 Principal Conductors of the Work  
                     68 Past Illustrious Masters  
                     107 Select Masters  
                     35 Ladies

Additionally, 9 visitors and 3 lady visitors

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

All officers were "moved up" unchallenged, with the exception of Grand Recorder. Two Companions were nominated for that office, a ballot was taken, and M.:I.: Victor Versace was declared to be the new Grand Recorder. R.:I.: David Robling was elected to assume the chair of Grand Steward.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

It was declared that there was no unfinished business to come before this Annual Assembly.

**THE TILED INSTALLATION OF THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER-ELECT:**

The tiled installation of M.:I.: Richard Anderson took place, after which the Annual Assembly was declared closed.

**OPEN INSTALLATION OF ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS:**

The open installation was then conducted.

**THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER DEGREE CONFERRAL:**

The Thrice Illustrious Master Degree was conferred on all newly elected Illustrious Masters, in accordance with Article 11, Section 41(a) of the General Regulations of this Grand Council.

**THE GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET:**

Took place at 7:00PM, with presentations to the Youth Groups invited to speak, together with the Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the Year award to R.:I.: John Sundeen, The General Grand Council Youth Leadership Award was presented to Mrs. Gretchen Tuttle, Deputy State Director of the Organization of Triangles. The General Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the Year award will be presented to its recipient at a later date by M.:I.: Pozefsky.

Respectfully Submitted,

M.:I.: Joseph P. Pozefsky  
Grand Recorder, 2009-2012

## **Grand Master's Message Grand Council August, 2013**

It has been my Honor and Pleasure to represent the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York for this past year and I thank all for their support. When this Cryptic year began last August, Grand Council had existing problems that needed direction, which left this Grand Council in a less desirable condition. One early issue was the Constituent Council of Lebanon #UD was said to be in violation of procedures. It was under directions of this Grand Council to cease all business until this matter could be resolved. The nature of these violations was finally resolved by Grand Lodge and that Council is now defunct.

The last five years we have had three different Grand Recorders which have presented one common problem, transfer of information and helpful communications to conduct Grand Council business. It goes without saying that the recorder of any organization is a very critical link. The transition changes have been very time consuming, expensive, painful and difficult as our records reflect. Our current Grand Recorder has had a difficult challenge acquiring needed past records, materials and directions.

Another issue that was not kept current, is our program on Grand Representatives, at one time we had 9 sister jurisdictions open for Representatives. We went back and found some past Grand Representative applications that had not been processed and still not completed, so we reissued them to other jurisdictions. However, we have entertained 2 new applicants. One being Past Grand Master M.W. Bruce Widger -- Central City Council #13 and another Ill. George Emmons -- of Suffolk Council #76.

Though we are creatures of habit and reluctant to change, we must face reality for the betterment of the Craft. We need the experience and knowledge of the former officers while at the same time making way for new officers.

I still have concerns for some of the constituent councils. In recent years we have seen unsettled relocation, finances and membership as challenges. There are Councils that need assistance and/or continual guidance. The District Deputies, as they are our important life line, need to address these challenges and request assistance where needed.

Requests for dispensations for changes at the various Councils were as follows. This year there were twelve granted as documented below and in the Proceedings of this Grand Council . They were requests for special meetings contrary to By-Laws to authorizing administrative changes.

1. Hold election to fill officer vacancy at Doric Council No. 19.
2. Hold meeting for degree work in sister jurisdiction, in Mt. Joy PA. Ahwaga 30
3. TIM Degree make-up Degree at St. George's No. 74
4. Meeting in Northville for St. George's No. 74
5. Meeting to draft new By-laws for Flatbush No. 80
6. Meeting at temporary location for King Hiram No. 18
7. Meeting to vote on new By-laws Flatbush No. 80
8. Meeting to hold Tri-State Festival & the Super Excellent in larger bldg. King Solomon's No. 31
9. Meeting to be held in different location for Ahwaga No. 30
10. Ballot for candidate needing five or more Ahwaga members (Cayuga No. 90 and Ahwaga No. 30)
11. Select Master Degree on non meeting night at Suffolk No. 76
12. Select Master Degree by PA Grand Council Ritual Ahwaga No. 30

At the workshop one year ago in Dunkirk, I had made a request of the Grand Line Officers to make their visitations to their assigned Councils as early as possible and provide me a copy of their schedule. Most did well , a couple ran a little short. Another verbal directive was for every council to update their By-laws during the year. Some were completed but evidently some didn't understand and didn't get er done or didn't bother to to ask what I had requested.

I appointed R. I. John Gallant, District 8 Deputy as the new WEB Master to replace MIGM Charles Roberts. This was done to provide M.I. Roberts with more time for his many other commitments. He has served our Grand Council for a number of years doing a great job. R. I. John Gallant has completed the year with an exceptional job. My compliments.

We have made good progress stimulating new candidates with some festivals and several Councils rising to the occasion of performing most of the work in their own Vaults. This indicates a greater interest and rise in qualifications

to perform their own ritual work. We have greeted over 70 new members this past year, but our total numbers are still at a negative loss of 12. The Super Excellent Degree was performed this year on both ends of the state, which has helped stimulate candidates. We still need to improve our hosting of Grand Lecturer's Conventions throughout the state. Thanks to everyone for their efforts in improving membership.

Efforts have been expended to improve the education of all officers in the state with the developing of a CD for all Council Masters and recorders along with all District Deputies and Assistant Grand Lecturers. It has also been made available to interested members. A training session was added to our curriculum of Work-Shops for training Grand Line Officers, DDGIM's and AGL's by R.I. Leonard Mason , Deputy Grand Master.

I was accompanied on many of my travels by one or more Grand Line Officers. New York was quite often well represented. This year I visited thirteen Grand Sessions. Two were Grand Sessions of youth groups, Rainbow Girls and DeMolay. I attended the Receptions of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York and the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York. I visited each district in the state and as many different councils as possible. Some councils were visited on special occasions such as Presentations of Certificates and Awards, Past Grand Ill. Master's Jewel, witnessed or assisted with degrees and attended a Table Council. I traveled approximately 11,000 miles, plus two plane trips to New York City.

In closing, I want you to know how much I appreciate being a part of this Grand Council of Cryptic Masons and this York Rite Group. I also have appreciated the new association with M. W. James Sullivan, Grand Master of Masons State of New York, M. E. Richard Kessler Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons State of New York, R.E Sir Knight Donald Berry, Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Knights Templar State of New York.

M. I. Richard C. Anderson

M. I. Grand Master Cryptic Masons



State of New York

Attached

September	2012	Grand Commandery Conclave
October	"	Grand Session of Ohio
October	"	Grand Session of Maryland
October	"	Grand Commander Reception
March	2013	Grand Chapter of New York
April	"	Grand Session of Rhode Island
April	"	Grand Session of Rainbow
April	"	Grand Session of Pennsylvania
May	"	Grand Lodge of New York
May	"	Grand Session of Ontario, Canada
June	"	Grand Session of Connecticut
June	"	Grand Session of Vermont
July	"	Grand Session of C.O.D.
August	"	Grand Session of DeMolay
August	"	Grand Session Cryptic of N.Y.

Subj: **RE: dispensations**  
 Date: 7/30/2013 9:58:51 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [randerson53@rochester.rr.com](mailto:randerson53@rochester.rr.com)  
 To: [VVers131@aol.com](mailto:VVers131@aol.com)

Victor ---- There were 12 in total granted.

- 1) Doric Council #19 [To hold special election to fill vacancy of PCW office]
- 2) Ahwaga Council #30 [To hold meeting for Degree work with a sister jurisdiction in Mt. Joy PA. Candidates were from Grand Council of NY jurisdiction.- Oct. 6, 2012]
- 3) St. George's Council #74 [Special meeting Makeup TIM Degree - Oct. 18, 2012.]
- 4) St. George's Council #74 [To hold meeting @ Northville Masonic Temple for Membership involvement @7:30 PM -Nov. 5, 2012.]
- 5) Flatbush Council #80 [Special meeting - A) to elect & install a new recorder to replace R.J. James Keane, - B) To draft new BY-LAWS to be proposed to Jurisprudence and By-Laws Committee -- Nov 27, 2012.]
- 6) Hiram Council #18 [Request to meet @ Seneca Falls Temple- Jan, Feb, & Mar due to leaking Roof @ King Hiram Temple @ Port Byron -- Jan. 15, 2013.]
- 7) Flatbush Council #80 [Special meeting @ NY City -71<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Building, to vote on Council By-Laws -Jan.22, 2013.]
- 8) Ahwaga Council #30 [Request to open Council 1 hr. earlier @ 6:30 PM for Grand Ill. Master visit, Granted But explained not needed. -Feb. 12, 2013.]
- 9) King Solomon Council #31 [Hosting the Tri-State Festival Degrees @ New Windsor, Hudson River Lodge #309 -Mar. 23, 2013.]
- 10) Ahwaga Council #30 [To ballot on a candidate in a sister Council Cayuga #90 prior to the Royal

Master Degree,

Granted with conditions that Ahwaga Council #30 have present 5 or more members to conduct the balloting.

Apr. 15,2013.]

11)Ahwaga Council #30 [Request to host meeting @ Grantville, PA as their scheduled meeting. The Ill. Master &

and many members of this Council were attending Grand Session of PA. & to accommodate the availability of

Membership attendance request was Granted. Apr. 23, 2013.]

12) Suffolk Council #76 [To conduct the Select Master Degree on a non-meeting night Apr 30,- regular schedule for

-Apr. 12, 2013.]

## CONDITION AND EXTENSION OF THE RITE 2013

As chairman of the committee I haven't had meetings with the group but only made observations. I am submitting this report to the other members of the committee for their own personal observations.

As defined in the Rules of Order, *Section 46, Standing Committees*, Item 4. Committee on Condition and Extension of the Rite, summarizing the description, assist Grand Master in gathering information on condition of various Councils, upon prospect and localities for formation of new Councils and to take necessary steps to place new Councils under the direction of the Grand Master.

There has been discussion of Joseph Warren Cryptic Council since the Illustrious Master failed to be present to receive the TIM degree. The District Deputy did not follow up closely and the Council did not have a replacement Illustrious Master in place in a reasonable length of time. The discussion between the Grand Master and the District Deputy Grand Master of what resources they had for a solution to get this Council back to operating was evidently in vain.

I was approached by an individual at Grand Chapter indicating that he wanted to start a new Council on Staten Island. I indicated it would be necessary to prove he was not just pulling members from one Council to start another. He should be sure he had new members and that the District Deputy was aware and involved.

There has been some indication that one Council wants to relocate from its present meeting place to another and the person discussing this has been advised that he must comply with having the District Deputy involved as well as the members of that Council.

In all cases, it is important to have all members of a Council and the District Deputy aware of any possible changes. He can review the immediate affect on the remaining Councils in the same District.

The Phoenician Council UD for one year in Lebanon was ordered to stop all operations due to official complaint of the violation of Constitutional requirement. Masonic charges were brought up on the three top officers by Grand Lodge of the State of New York for which they were Tried and Expelled in March 2013. The duration of time for Dispensation was exceeded and determined defunct. The remaining members in Lebanon will re-petition this fall for a new Council.

There has been a great deal of effort through out the state this again year to increase our membership. Reports from the Tri-State Festival , Mt. Joy Degrees, (jointly with Pennsylvania), Super Excellent Degrees on both ends of the state and Councils that have not degrees in some time will all help the final numbers. We need to improve our scheduling of Grand Lecturer's Conventions to help bring the Districts together.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leonard Mason

## DEPUTY GRAND MASTER's REPORT 2012-2013

This year has been the fastest year yet. Not only has it been a year of preparation for next year but it has been a year to support the MIGM in completing his year. It has been very enjoyable.

I started thinking about how this year was starting like last year and decided if I was going to start making changes, I better think how those I was visiting compared with what I had seen in our own organization. As the year went along it was more evident that we needed a better education program for our officers. This would improve our communications and help us grow.

Although we need to grow, we need to mature in our total approach, not just in numbers. If our membership is satisfied there will be fewer demitting and fewer leaving for non payment of dues.

I spoke to many Companions while visiting this year to find out how they handle problems like ours. I received the program used in Vermont for tracking their members in their Grand Lodge and also their Grand Council. This along with the thought of the use of the MORI system used by Grand Lodge or the YRIS system used by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars throughout the country will at some point in time happen.

It is not economically possible to go into a major short term education program so I believe we need to take a different tack. I think that if we have each officer become familiar with a single major problem we face almost yearly, we will have all officers become fluent in the operation of our Grand Council by the time he becomes Grand Master.

This will carry us through until we accept and adopt one of the currently used systems used by other York Rite groups.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Mason  
Deputy Grand Master

Bee  
27 June 13

Subj: **Annual Report for G.P.C.W.**  
Date: 6/26/2013 10:06:15 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [hdesbane@twcny.rr.com](mailto:hdesbane@twcny.rr.com)  
To: [VVERS131@AOL.COM](mailto:VVERS131@AOL.COM)  
CC: [randerson53@rochester.rr.com](mailto:randerson53@rochester.rr.com), [Muffinkilts@gmail.com](mailto:Muffinkilts@gmail.com)

Grand Recorder:

The Annual Report from the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

2012-2013

First, I was assigned District 6 & 7 for this year. I visited all the Councils at least once and some more than two times. I saw some GOOD THINGS happening in some of the Councils with an increase in membership. All of the Council seems to be in good hands with experience leadership available to the I.M. and his current officers.

Second, I went to Mount Joy, PA on Oct 6th for combined degrees (New York - the ROYAL DEGREE and PA conferred the SELECT DEGREE) on 5 NEW companions from Flatbush Council No. 80, in New York City. On Nov 27th P.M.I.G.M. E. William Whittaker and I went down to NYC for Flatbush Council to make sure that they had enough to OPEN. The I.M. Adams appointed the three that showed up (the other two: one was working and the other was home sick) to positions (one as Recorder as the former Recorder had resigned) that needed to be filled.

Third, this year I have traveled to three (3) other jurisdictions, as I was informed by a P.M.I.G.M. that I should be traveling to other than just New York Councils. 1st I traveled to PA Grand Council (which was really great the way they have things scheduled). 2nd, I went NH (with our D.G.M. Leonard Mason) for there York Rite Annual Meetings – it was nice but very different from any that I had ever seen. Also, I renewed old Friendships and made a few new ones. 3rd, I went to VT (with our G.M. & D.G.M.) again I renewed some old Friendships and made some more new ones. Again it was different but nice.

I have all ready researched most of the Grand Council Annual Meeting for this coming year for dates and whom to contact (I will be checking with the ones that show up for the NorthEast Conference on September 6 & 7, 2013). This year has been a new and different experience for me.

F & S

R.I.Harley R De Shane  
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work  
P.O. Box 105  
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E-Mail: [hdesbane@twcny.rr.com](mailto:hdesbane@twcny.rr.com)

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## **Report of the Grand Recorder 2012-2013**

To: The Companions of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York.

I would like to thank the Companions present at the Annual Assembly held in Dunkirk, NY in August 2012 who elected me to the Office of Grand Recorder.

If you noticed me smiling at that time...remember that look for that was the last time I had a smiled on my face since then!

After the logistics were ironed out between me and the Past Grand Recorder, the property held by the then Grand Recorder was moved to our new storage building near my home. It was then that I found out there was no printer, no word processing program or virus protection program on the PC.

Once I got all things up and running I found that there were no files on the hard drive from the last Grand Recorder, they may have been erased when I installed the MS Office ten program. I want to thank MI Paul Matthews, PMIGM for helping me in retyping all the missing forms and rebuilding files for the PC and for being the Assistant to the Grand Recorder.

One of the major problems that I encountered was that there was NO past correspondence passed on to me. I started getting complaints from sister jurisdiction and our Councils about Grand Representatives appointments that were long overdue in appointment. This is still an ongoing work in progress, to try and clear this backlog.

My next challenge was to get the Annual Election reports and Annual Returns reports sent out during the last week of April and first week of May. I did this in two separate mailings with "return service requested" on my return label. The Election Reports are supposed to be returned right after the Council's holds their elections. The Annual Returns are supposed to be returned to me by June 30<sup>th</sup> the latest. As of July 16<sup>th</sup> I still had NOT received nine [9] Council's Election or Annual returns reports...it was not till July 31<sup>st</sup>. that the last Council's finally came in to me.

This is very frustrating as I have to compile several lists to send to different committees for their awards...I blame this problem on two factors, [1] Council Recorders not reading the Constitutions and General Regulations...to read their assigned duties or to use the Officer Training Guide CD sent to all Council's. [2] The same holds true to the Illustrious Master's who failed to monitor his Officers. There are nine Councils now unable to vote [by the Constitutions] at this year's Annual Assembly, unless the Grand Master gives them a dispensation to vote.

Which I am happy to report that the Grand Master has given the dispensation to allow all Council's the right to vote this year.

I hope that this is not a harbinger of things to come with faltering Council leadership.

Now that I have a greater understanding of the requirements of the Grand Recorders Office...I know that things will be a lot easier next year.

I want to thank ALL the Grand Line Officers and Council's of the state for bearing with me while my wife spent several weeks in the hospital...and then a long recuperating period, which is still ongoing.

While my first year as Grand Recorder has been very trying and filled with many a pot hole...I will persevere...going on with the knowledge of what has to be done in the future.

Again, thank you to all the Companion I have done right by...and to those that I didn't do right by....I will try to do a better job next year if you let me continue as your Grand Recorder

By the way...I think the smile is finally coming back now!

Zealously,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Victor S. Versace".

MI Victor S. Versace, PGM  
Grand Recorder

Annual Return report for 2012-2013:

Membership as of June 2012      1,361    (corrected from 1,358)

During the year we:

Greeted	73
Affiliated	6
Died	39
Demitted	27
NPD.....	12
Drop RAM	10
Expelled	1
Indigent	10

TOTAL membership as of June 30, 2013    1,348

An overall total drop in membership of 13 Companions.

Monies collected by the Grand Recorder and deposited in the bank:

Ritual books sales & shipping fees	\$711.59
Per capita fee	\$20,170.00
Gen. Grand per capita fee	\$1,349.00
Greeting fees	\$730.00

Total monies collected:                      \$22,960.59

Respectfully submitted,



MI Victor S. Versace, PGM  
Grand Recorder



GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD REPORT 2012-2013

I am concerned because we do not communicate. Last year, I was assigned to visit the Second Cryptic District.

I went to the computer, our website and downloaded all of our constituent councils.

I arranged my visits, composed and drafted my communications; only to discover them cancelled/changed. No one called me.

I took time away from my business, drove a distance and stayed at a hotel.

Not wanting to abandon the Second entirely, I arranged a visit to Union Council No. 2 this year.

According to our directory, Union Council met on the Second Thursday.

I arranged for a visit on April 11th

At the Annual Grand Chapter Convocation, I had a conversation with Illustrious Michael Quigley and announced my visit to White Plains.

The directory was in error. That is not their meeting night.

I will visit Union Council during the 2014 calendar year.

This year, I was assigned to the Fourth District and paid a visit to Bloss-DeWitt Clinton Council No. 14.

They meet in the beautiful Albany Masonic Temple.

That evening they conferred the Select Master Degree.

The use of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite meeting room on the fourth floor, their equipment/props and arches constructed of real looking granite, and the actual memory work by many, made for a great evening.

Also, I had a chance to fly to the State of Washington, where I attended their Annual Grand Assembly in Everett on May 17th.

I was welcomed and well received.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles V. Bunton

Rec  
6/24/13

## REPORT OF THE GRAND MARSHAL 2012-2013

(...as of 06/30/13)

*This year I was assigned District 9 to visit. My visit on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to Dunkirk Council No. 25 at the Masonic Hall in Fredonia, NY went extremely well. I was joined by The DDGM, R.:I.: Ron Baumler and the several officers/companions of Dunkirk Council at Bob Evans Restaurant prior to the assembly for a nice pre-dinner meeting. In the assembly we were joined by a couple of companions visiting from Buffalo-Keystone Council No. 17 & Hamburg Council No. 91. My congratulations to the new elected and installed officers of this council as I was treated to being present to witness this occasion that night as well.*

*While it is not my job to bring the message of the Grand Master, I find it rewarding in my visits to bring his "ad hoc" words and message along with my own – which as been the potential ideas and growth of what Cryptic Masonry can do to improve itself in a short, but yet, long range plan. The companions gave me GREAT feedback, both present and private (email) about what they either expected from being a Cryptic Mason to what they ARE expecting.*

*I am looking forward to being with R.:I.: Russ Barber who is scheduled to have a picnic on his grounds in East Aurora on July 21<sup>st</sup> where there will be a fair amount of companions from the other two councils of District 9 that I was not able to make an actual meeting of theirs due to logistics and timing. Both of the meetings conflicted with Grand Lodge (Buffalo-Keystone – May 6<sup>th</sup> and Hamburg Council – May 8<sup>th</sup>). It is my ardent desire to talk to the companions (ALL) present at that event and enjoy a day of fellowship as we would've in the stated assembly to complete my duty in visiting with as many companions of the 9<sup>th</sup> Cryptic District as possible.*

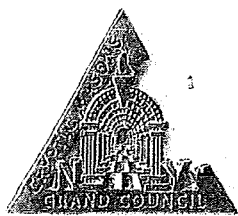
*My other upcoming planned travels (which will have taken place by the time this has been published) will be at the Chambers of Commerce of Oswego annual parade marching with our Cryptic Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Line, alongside our Royal Arch Companions, Sir Knights of the Commandery and our Grand Master – The M.:W.: James E. Sullivan, and the rest of the Grand Lodge Grand Line Officers.*

*I was unable to march alongside our Cryptic Grand Line at St. Johns Day 2013 (06/21-06/23) due to my commitment as Symbolic Lodge DDGM. I think that "trumps" all other Masonic obligations (smile), but gave my regrets & excuse to M.:I.: Richard Anderson in advance. This is my last year as DDGM (2014) so I will be at St. Johns Day 2014 next year in full Purple & White with Cryptic regalia.*

*Finally companions, thank you for your vote of confidence as Grand Marshal and look forward to continuing to work for YOU via our Grand Council. Let us think forward and continue to look for that blissful day of **YORK RIGHT UNITY** as we triumph towards a TRUE York Rite Weekend of maybe having Grand Assembly on Thursday, Grand Commandery on Friday, Grand Chapter on Saturday, have a **BIG YORK RITE BANQUET** celebration Saturday Night and a Vesper/Religious service on Sunday!!*

*Zealously & Fraternally*

*R.:I.: Curtis Alan Banks  
Grand Marshal (2013-2014)*



R.: I.: Steven P. Koch  
Grand Standard Bearer 2012-2013  
Grand Council Cryptic Masons State of New York

First I would like to thank M.:I.: Richard Anderson, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in the State of New York, for the opportunity to serve our Grand Council by appointing me Grand Standard Bearer in February 2013. The appointment coming with half the Cryptic year completed, left me with much to do and little time to do it. When combined with my recovery from knee surgery, in March, scheduling was a challenge.

Of primary concern were visits to the Councils in the 8<sup>th</sup> Cryptic District. Fortunately, with the assistance of R.:I.: John A. Gallant and the understanding of the Illustrious Masters of the five Councils in the District, a successful game plan was arranged and completed.

The Cryptic Councils were visited on the following dates:

Palmyra Council No. 26	April 4, 2013
Skoï Yase Council No. 75	April 15, 2013
Doric Council No. 19	April 17, 2013
Nun Da Waga Council No. 92	April 22, 2013
Hornellsville Council No. 35	May 9, 2013

Overall the experience of visiting these Councils confirmed what I knew about Masons and Masonry, especially in this, the smallest of the York Rite bodies. Beginning with Palmyra Council, the warmth of the fellowship began with dinner and conversation, continued through the meeting in which Companions from other Councils attended to assist in the opening of the Council, and continued through collation at the end of the meeting. This general experience was duplicated in each of the Councils. I was encouraged by the dedication of the officers and members of these Councils who were working hard to strengthen and grow.

There were a number of new Companions trying out new roles and responsibilities. They are to be applauded in their efforts. This same is seen in my own 2<sup>nd</sup> Cryptic District as some Councils are in the process of rebuilding; openings and closings are done with books open more often than we would like. In time, with some patience, I am sure each of these Councils will soon be able to put the books aside and enjoy conferring Degrees – making new Cryptic Masons.

While visiting Skoi Yase Council No. 75 and Nun Da Waga Council No. 92, I had the privilege of being a part of a Royal Master Degree in which five candidates were introduced to Cryptic Masonry in each. For Skoi Yase, it was their first Royal Master Degree in five years. This is a good start that I believe will lead to more Degrees in the not too distant future.

I am particularly grateful to R.:I.: Gary Hutcherson, Grand Conductor of the Council (and Master of Doric Council) and M.:I.: E. William Whitaker, Past Grand Master, for their companionship during my visits, especially on April 15-17 when I made the trek north with my

wife, Linda. A visit to local wineries on the off day capped a pleasurable mini-vacation for Linda and the two birthday cakes didn't hurt either.

Finally, I would like to thank Illustrious Masters Lee Collier, Ernest Day, Dennis Parmerter and William Learn for the warm welcome and enjoyable evening in their respective Councils. It is my hope to see each of them again in the future.

In addition to my visits, I also attended training sessions in March, at Grand Chapter, and in April at Utica. Marching in the parade on St. John's Day with the Grand Council taught me an important lesson – next time wear a hat.

Looking forward, I am excited about the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead as we grow our Grand Council.

3

Respectfully submitted,

R.:I.: Steven P. Koch  
Grand Standard Bearer  
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons  
In the State of New York

2

3

## GRAND STEWARD REPORT 2012-2013

This report will cover the time from February 15, 2013 thru August 15, 2013. My term began after the resignation of the previous Grand Steward and I was appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master to fulfill the remaining time until the next Grand Session. I received my regalia at Grand Chapter in March and was installed as Grand Steward at that time.

On March 13 I accompanied my district's District Deputy Grand Master on his official visit to Central City Council #13. We enjoyed a Festive Board after the meeting with lots of fellowship. I accompanied the DDGM again on his official visit to Rotica Council #12. April 10 was the occasion of the Most Illustrious Grand Master Richard Anderson's visit to Central City Council to present a certificate of appointment as Grand Representative to Rhode Island to Right Illustrious Bruce Widger. I was there as well as most of the Grand Line.

I visited Columbian Council #1 and Adelpic Council #7 on May 23. They met the same night in adjoining rooms at the Grand Lodge Building in New York City. I observed Adelpic from their opening to their closing and then we went to join Columbian while they presented the Super Excellent Master Degree. I was unable to meet with Adoniram #36 due to heavy rains that closed the tunnel from New Jersey to New York for fears of flooding.

I traveled to Gananoque, Ontario, Canada to observe the Royal Ark Mariner Degree on May 21, 2013.

I was present and assisted the Grand Standard Bearer while marching in the St. John's Day Parade at the Masonic Care Community in Utica.

On July 7<sup>th</sup> I participated with the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Deputy Master, Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Marshal and Grand Standard Bearer in the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade in Oswego, New York.

I thank the Companions of the Grand Council for the trust in me as I represented our Council in my travels. I look forward to serving this Grand Council in the future.

Fraternally,



Richard C. Fowler,  
Grand Steward,  
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons,  
State of New York

TRUSTEES REPORT ON THE PERMANENT FUNDS  
OF THE GRAND COUNCIL FOR THE CURRENT CRYPTIC YEAR 2012-2013

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Line Officers, Past Grand Masters and Companions All:

The Trustees of the Grand Council submit the following written Annual Report on the funds in the Permanent Funds of the Grand Council of the State New York for the 2012-2013 Cryptic Year.

PERMANENT FUND

PERMANENT FUND BALANCE on June 30, 2012:

\$105,220.46

INCOME/REVENUE

American High-Income Trust Class A Funds	Gains &		Fund Value
	Dividends	Shares	
July – September 2012 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	\$ 606.52	3,082.703 (\$11.18)	\$34,464.62
October – December 2012 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	\$ 626.16	3,138.177 (\$11.36)	\$35,649.69
January – March 2013 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	\$ 566.13	3,187.516 (\$11.46)	\$36,528.93
April – June 2013 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$ 560.09	3,022.016 (\$11.12)	\$33,604.82
	+\$2,358.90		
Withdrawal - May 21, 2013			-\$ 2,500.00
		June 30, 2013 Fund Value:	\$33,604.82

Putnam Investments High Yield Trust A	Gains &		Fund Value
	Dividends	Shares	
July – September 2012 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	\$1,144.68	9,637.107 (\$7.880)	\$75,940.40
October – December 2012 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	\$1,162.35	9,784.807 (\$7.940)	\$77,691.37
January – March 2013 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	\$1,180.04	9,931.825 (\$8.070)	\$80,149.83
April – June 2013 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$1,197.69	9,759.092 (\$7.850)	\$76,608.87
	\$4,684.76		
Withdrawal - June 24, 2013			-\$ 2,500.00
		June 30, 2013 Fund Value:	\$76,608.87

TOTAL REINVEST INCOME FOR THE YEAR FROM FUNDS: + \$7,043.66

DISBURSEMENTS

There was one withdrawal from American High-Income Trust of \$2,500.00 and one withdraw from Putnam Investments Funds of \$2,500.00 during this time period for Grand Council operational expenses.

PERMANENT FUND BALANCE on Hand as of June 30, 2013:

\$110,213.69

The financial market this year has shown signs of recovery and yet volatile fluctuations too. We had an approximate increase of \$9,993.23 or 8.7% prior to withdrawals. We had a net increase after withdrawals of \$4,993.23 which is 4.33% since our last Grand Council Assembly. Your Trustees will be looking at this year how to grow the funds even more and therefore recommends for the moment that we continue the investments as they are and make no necessary changes.

The Trustees realize that the 2013-2014 Budget for the Grand Council may need resources from the Permanent Fund in the order of \$5,000 - \$7,000 to balance it. We cannot continue on this path. Grand Council must plan now on how to increase its revenue and for ways to enhance growth of the Permanent Fund. We would suggest that an increase in Per Capita over the next five years is one solution to address the budget shortfall but also increasing membership can do the same thing too. Finally, we remind the Grand Recorder that the Grand Council Officers' & Past Grand Master jewel/apron forms must be signed and current each year for such current and past Officers.

Respectfully submitted,

M.: I.: Charles M. Roberts, Chairman (2010-2013)

M.: I.: Edward P. Fagan Jr. (2012-2015)

M.: I.: David H. Raymond (2011-14)

**GRAND COUNCIL OPERATING FUND BUDGET 2013 – 2014**

<u>Income</u>		Budget <u>12-13</u>	Actual <u>12-13</u>	Budget <u>13-14</u>
R-1	Dues	24,500	22,632	20,000
R-2	Fees (Greetings)	0	0	720
R-3	Permanent Fund, Investments	3,300	5,000	0
R-4	Miscellaneous	0	0	0
R-5	Refund Host Council for A-1	200	5,098	4,000
R-6	Escrow Funds	0	0	0
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>32,730</b>	<b>26,720</b>
<u>Disbursements</u>				
A-1	Annual Assembly	4,500	8,395	4,500
A-2	Annual Proceedings	1,500	0	1,000
B-1	Grand Master's Expense	4,000	3,649	4,000
B-2	Grand Master's Apron & Jewel	1,500	1,053	1,000
B-3	Grand Lecturer's Expense	700	200	700
B-4	Grand Officers' Expense	2,450	2,450	2,450
C-1	Grand Recorder's Salary	2,000	2,000	2,000
C-2	Grand Treasurer's Salary	1,000	1,000	1,000
C-3	Office Expense	4,000	4,261	3,600
C-4	Taxes	400	0	400
C-5	Mileage & Travel	2,000	1,706	1,875
C-6	Grand Council Storage	0	0	1,440
D-1	Supplies	500	1,452	250
D-2	Printing	500	290	300
D-3	Postage	500	222	250
D-4	Telephone	240	297	250
D-5	Eqmt. Purchase & Repair	150	0	100
D-6	Insurance & Bonding	129	127	130
E-1	Gen. Grand Council per capita	1,531	1,351	1,375
E-2	General Grand Triennial Fund	300	0	0
E-3	Regalia - New York	0	0	0
E-4	History Fund	0	0	0
E-5	Miscellaneous	100	1,505	100
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>29,958</b>	<b>26,720</b>

To The Grand Council:

The Committee on Finance & Accounts – Budget has held its required meeting to complete the Budget and review the accounts. We find that all is in order.

Respectfully Submitted,

M.:I.: Donald Harrison, PGM, Grand Treasurer, Chairman

M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, PGM, Grand Trustee

R.:I.: Leonard W. Mason, DGM

M.:I.: Victor S. Versace, PGM, Grand Recorder

R.:I.: Harley R. De Shane, GPCW



## OPERATING FUND 2012/2013

BALANCE August 1, 2012

241.08

### INCOME

R-1	Dues	22,632.00	
R-2	Fees (Greetings)	0	
R-3	Permanent Funds	5,000.00	
R-4	Miscellaneous	0	
R-5	Host Council Return A-1	5,098.49	
R-6	Escrow Funds	0	32,730.49
32,971.57			

### DISBURSEMENTS

A-1	Annual Assembly	8,395.10	
A-2	Annual Proceedings	0	
B-1	Grand Master's Expense	3,648.55	
B-2	Grand Master's Apron & Jewel	1,053.00	
B-3	Grand Lecturer's Expense	200.00	
B-4	Grand Officers' Expense	2,450.00	
C-1	Grand Recorder's Salary	2,000.00	
C-2	Grand Treasurer's Salary	1,000.00	
C-3	Office Expense	4,260.93	
C-4	Taxes	0	
C-5	Mileage & Travel	1,706.32	
D-1	Supplies	1,452.02	
D-2	Printing	290.09	
D-3	Postage	222.23	
D-4	Telephone	296.50	
D-5	Equipment Purchase & Repair	0	
D-6	Insurance & Bonding	126.00	
E-1	General Grand Council Per Capita	1,351.00	
E-2	General Grand Triennial Fund	0	
E-3	Regalia	0	
E-4	History Fund	0	
E-5	Miscellaneous	1,505.00	29,956.74

BALANCE July 31, 2013

3,014.83

Respectfully submitted,

*Donald Harrison*

M. °. I. °. Donald Harrison, Grand Treasurer



Grand Council  
Cryptic Masons  
of the State of New York

Most Ill. Donald Harrison  
Grand Treasurer  
108 Strathmore Village Drive  
Centereach, NY 11720-1224  
(631) 698-7763  
E-Mail: DonHpdgim@verizon.net

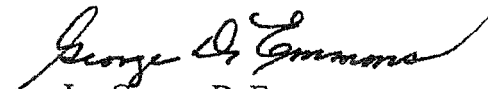
July, 2013

**Finance and Accounts – Audits**

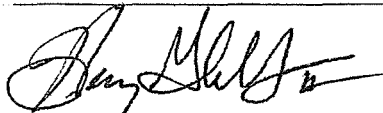
The Committee on Audits has reviewed the accounts and records kept by the  
Grand Treasurer M.:I.: Donald Harrison.

We have found them to be in good order and declare them approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
I.: George D. Emmons

  
I.: Kenneth J. Lockard

  
A. Henry G. Abel III

Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York Charity Corporation					
SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY August 1, 2012 thru July 31, 2013					
Checking Account Balance 8/1/12				\$27,074.25	
Investment Account Balances 8/1/12					
	American High Income Trust Fund (AHITX)		\$91,240.10		
	DWS Global High Income Fund (SGHSX)		\$97,645.91		
	Janus Balanced Fund (JABAX)		\$108,906.33		
	Loomis Sayles Bond Fund (LSBDX)		\$111,112.85		
Misc (cash and checks in hand)				\$408,905.19	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 8/1/12</b>				\$0.00	\$435,979.44
ACTIVITY 8/1/12-7/31/13					
Income					
	Donations		\$7,731.00		
	The Solomon Arch Society		\$6,400.00		
	Dividends/Interest/Realized Capital Gains(Losses)		\$23,822.97		
	Misc		\$0.00		
<b>Total Income</b>				\$37,953.97	
Expenses					
	Contributions to Charity		\$18,000.00		
	Operating/Administrative Expense		\$9,127.78		
<b>Total Expense</b>				\$27,127.78	
Net Unrealized Change in Investment Value (gain/loss)			\$21,398.42		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 7/31/13</b>					\$468,204.05
ASSET DISTRIBUTION AS OF 7/31/13					
Checking Account Balance 7/31/13				\$26,940.89	
Investment Account Balances 7/31/13					
	DWS Global High Income Fund (SGHSX)		\$99,502.94		
	Janus Balanced Fund (JABAX)		\$123,197.60		
	Loomis Sayles Bond Fund (LSBDX)		\$114,354.58		
	Pimco Income (PONDY)		\$52,277.86		
	Ridge Worth High Income (STHTX)		\$51,930.18		
Total Investment Balances 7/31/13				\$441,263.16	
Misc (cash and checks in hand)				\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 8/1/13</b>					\$468,204.05

22-C

Charity Fund Contributions  
2012 - 2013

<u>Council &amp; No.</u>	Gift Level	S-P-GM Levels	Council Totals
Columbian-1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Union-2	\$40.00	\$200.00	\$240.00
Adelphic-7	\$20.00	\$200.00	\$220.00
Rotica-12	\$235.00	\$300.00	\$535.00
Central City-13	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Bloss-DeWitt Clinton-14	\$100.00	\$350.00	\$450.00
Buffalo-Keystone-17	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
King Hiram-18	\$25.00	\$100.00	\$125.00
Doric-19	\$5.00	\$400.00	\$405.00
Dunkirk-25	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Palmyra-26	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$72.00
Ahwaga-30	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
King Solomon-31	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
Hornellsville-35	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Adoniram-36	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Joseph Warren-Cryptic-37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fulton-50	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Peekskill-55	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
St. George's-74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Skoi-Yase-75	\$55.00	\$400.00	\$455.00
Suffolk-76	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
Flatbush-80	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$15.00
Oneonta-87	\$171.00	\$74.00	\$245.00
North Shore-88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cayuga-90	\$20.00	\$100.00	\$120.00
Hamburg-91	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Nundawaga-92	\$45.00	\$450.00	\$495.00
Goshen-93	\$60.00	\$200.00	\$260.00
King David-97	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Misc. Donations	\$25.00	\$599.00	\$624.00
 TOTALS	 \$1,088.00	 \$6,643.00	 \$7,731.00

22-D

Sponsor - Patron - Grand Master Levels  
1966 -2013

<u>Council &amp; No.</u>	<u>1966-2012</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Columbian-1	46	0	46
Union-2	56	1	57
Adelphic-7	31	2	33
Rotica-12	228	4	231
Central City-13	66	0	66
Bloss-DeWitt Clinton-14	102	4	106
Buffalo-Keystone-17	55	4	59
King Hiram-18	15	2	17
Doric-19	255	3	258
Dunkirk-25	20	1	21
Palmyra-26	6	0	6
Ahwaga-30	69	1	70
King Solomon-31	65	1	66
Hornellsville-35	39	15	54
Adoniram-36	91	0	91
Joseph Warren-Cryptic-37	19	0	19
Fulton-50	25	1	26
Peekskill-55	88	2	90
St. George's-74	85	0	85
Skoi-Yase-75	79	2	81
Suffolk-76	70	2	72
Flatbush-80	31	0	31
Oneonta-87	116	1	117
North Shore-88	47	0	47
Cayuga-90	35	2	37
Hamburg-91	32	2	34
Nundawaga-92	52	5	57
Goshen-93	12	3	15
King David-97	9	2	11
Other	72	6	78
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1916</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1981</b>

22-E

*To the Most Illustrious Grand Master and Companions of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York:*

The following is the Report of the Grand Fraternal Correspondent for the Cryptic year ending August, 2013.

As I am revisiting this office this year, I would like to thank Most Illustrious Richard C Anderson for the honor of serving as Grand Fraternal Correspondent. It has been a privilege to be one of your officers. Please accept my thanks.

The Proceedings of 3 jurisdictions of Cryptic Masons or Royal and Select Masters on your behalf, as well as 1 Proceedings from Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masonry, where Cryptic Masonry is under the government of the Grand Chapter. Analysis has been done with an eye towards subjects, issues, problems and ideas that we may discuss among ourselves, both formally and informally. In addition, we are always looking for things that are interesting, unusual and fascinating.

Over the past few years, there are two major themes which have become apparent.

The first area concerns the declining membership. For many years, we have credited death as the major cause of attrition in our ranks. As we can see within this report, the Grim Reaper can still be credited with stealing our membership, oftentimes a considerable percentage. However, the categories of "Dimits" and "Suspensions" show results that the drop in then current membership can be credited to an act of conscious choice; that Cryptic Masons are *choosing not to continue* their memberships.

This writer has additional data suggesting that this is also true in Royal Arch Masonry and the Knights Templars.

"Good Communication" is always an issue and an area of concern. However, from the reports that I received from the Grand Representatives of the jurisdiction with whom we are in amity, these companions are not in touch with their counterparts in those jurisdictions or with the jurisdictions themselves.

Respectfully and Fraternally Submitted,



Rt. Ill. Mark L. Adler  
Grand Fraternal Correspondent

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: "If we do not show interest in them . . . how do we expect them to show an interest in us?"**

*92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Assembly, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Washington Plaza Hotel, Washington D.C. at 9:00 AM; Councils: 5; Membership: 326; Net Change: -13*

M.: I.: Charles W. Wagner, Grand Master for 2009 - 2010, mandated that those companions who requested dimits and /or were candidates for suspension for non-payment of dues be contacted directly by their respective councils to establish the reason(s) for this action. Those councils that were unsuccessful in making this contact inform the Most Illustrious Grand Master before any action is taken. During the year, no issues were referred to the Grand Master. The one instance of suspension for non-payment of dues stemmed from a suspension in the companion's lodge.

R.: I.: Richard Firestone, Grand Visitor and Lecturer, spoke on ritual. The companions should not wait until the last second to achieve a high level of proficiency in their work, and offered to hold Councils of Instruction to assist the companions in achieving this goal. In this vain, the Work and Lecturers Committee suggested that one companion in each council be appointed as Instructors of the Work.

The Alexander R. Green Council was formed to confer the Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master and the Order of Ish Sodi.

## **OKLAHOMA: "How rewarding and humbling it has been."**

*Annual Assembly, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at 1:00 PM; Councils: 18 Membership: 1,365; Net Change: -26*

M.: I.: William Pearce, Grand Master for 2012 - 2013, addressed the question of declining membership and its impact on the financial stability of Cryptic Masonry by appointing a committee to recruit new members and to retain the existing membership where possible.

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons continues to support the Order of DeMolay and hopes that it will serve as a source of future membership in the Masonic fraternity.

## **ONTARIO: "You set the standard to those who will follow . . ."**

*112<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, St. Catherines, Ontario at 9:10 AM; Councils: 22; Membership: 1,077; Net Change: -13*

M.: I.: William D. Amendola, Grand Master for 2011 - 2013, reported that membership throughout the York Rite bodies in Ontario is declining and recommended using the 2009 Long Range Planning Report either as presented or tailored to the needs of the specific council. A questionnaire had been sent to each Council with a request that they respond. The questions were:

- (1) Has \_\_\_\_\_ Council in functions to promote Masonry in general over the last year.
- (2) Is \_\_\_\_\_ Council planning any function to promote Masonry in general and / or the Cryptic Rite for the year 2012 - 2013?

- (3) Has \_\_\_\_\_ Council participated in any social functions as a whole or with another Masonic Body along with their ladies and friends within the past year?
- (4) Is \_\_\_\_\_ Council planning in any social functions as a whole or with another Masonic Body along with their ladies and friends for the 2012 - 2013 year?
- (5) Has \_\_\_\_\_ Council have completed a planned function for the increasing of membership and has this been communicated to the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for inclusion in the 2012 Long Range Plan Report?
- (6) Has \_\_\_\_\_ Council perused the 2009 Long Range Planning Report as to the implementation of the suggested items?
- (7) Does \_\_\_\_\_ Council have the promotional material available from the Committee on Publications/

He also mentioned that some Councils have their own websites and published a list of guidelines with respect to content.

William H. Eastwood, Grand Inspector General of District "A," indicated that there is a "resurgence" in interest in Craft Masonry, with Lodges experiencing in increase in membership and retention. He looks forward to this filtering into Cryptic Masonry. Unfortunately, there will always be last minute replacements for those doing ritual work. There is, however, no excuse for those who had adequate time to prepare themselves for "not knowing their work."

The Committee on the Condition of Cryptic Rite Masonry indicated that no one can control the decline in membership due to deaths or members moving away. It was reported that a companion had been suspended for non-payment of dues. Upon application for readmission, he was rejected. He was, at one point, good enough to join Cryptic Masonry. He may have experienced financial difficulties, causing the suspension, gotten his act together to repay his arrearages, and now wished to re-join. But, he was told that "*now he's not good enough.*"

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*The following was culled from the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of the respective jurisdictions. In Scotland, Virginia, and West Virginia, Cryptic Masonry is under the government of the respective Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. For that reason, the following information is included here:*

**SCOTLAND:** “. . . being conscious of the fact that the Bicentenary of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter will be observed in less than five years, the time is now opportune for all companions to consider the most appropriate manner in which this noteworthy event should be commemorated . . . ”

*Annual Convocation, Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Freemasons' Hall, 96 George Street, Edinburgh, Scotland*

Cryptic Masonry is under the government of The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland was formed in August, 1817.



Scotland has chartered 169 councils in 26 countries, as follows:

Country	Number of Councils
Scotland	85
Bolivia	1
Bahamas	1
Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean	4
Bermuda	1
<u>Cape Province of South Africa (Eastern Division)</u>	1
Cape Province of South Africa (Western Division)	1
Central South Africa	7
East Africa	3
Ghana	4
India and Ceylon	12
Jamaica	5
Natal	2
New Zealand (North Island)	4
New Zealand (South Island)	3
Nigeria (Bendel State)	2
Nigeria (Eastern Division)	3
Nigeria (Lagos State)	3
Peru	1
Sierre Leone	2
Tasmania	5
The Far East	2
The Middle East	5
Trinidad and Tobago	5
Western Australia	6
Zimbabwe	1
Total	<u>169</u>

The oldest Council is Edinburgh Council No. 1, in Scotland, which was chartered in 1878, while the youngest Council is Javier Baquerizo Zuzaita Council No. 837, in Lima, Peru, which was chartered 2010.

## REPORTS FROM GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Of the Grand Chapters with whom we are in amity, we have 45 accredited Grand Representatives, as of this writing. A questionnaire was sent out earlier this year to assist them. Responses were received from 10 of those Grand Representatives. The information from those questionnaires is as follows:

- 1) Are you in touch with your counterpart:  
YES 1  
NO 9
- 2) Have you been ever attended the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the jurisdiction you represent? (If "No", please explain why)  
YES 0  
NO 10
- 3) Do you regularly attend the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York? (If "No", please explain why not)  
YES 9  
NO 2
- 4) Are you in possession of the latest Proceedings of the jurisdiction you represent?  
YES 3  
NO 7
- 5) If your answer to question #5 above is "Yes", to the best of your knowledge, does either the Grand Recorder or Grand Fraternal Correspondent of New York possess of a copy of these proceedings  
YES 0  
NO 10

**Alaska** - R.: I.: Harold Aldrich reported that " No, they meet in March, not a great time to travel to Alaska since I winter in Arizona. Alaska is very hard to communicate with and thus I have very little knowledge of what conditions are in that Jurisdiction."

**Delaware** - R.: I.: David Goodwin reported that "I have attended the Grand Assembly of Delaware several times over the years. I have not attended the Grand Assembly of New York Not recently due to my commitments to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. During the course of the year I have been in contact with the Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, and several of the Past Grand Masters of the Grand Council of Delaware via phone, email, and in person. I am told that the Grand Council is struggling due to low membership and participation, but continues to carry on as it has for many years."

**District of Columbia** - M.: I.: Edward Fagan reported that "I have received no correspondence nor proceedings from the Grand Council of the District of Columbia."

**England & Wales** - M.: I.: Francis Karwowski reported that "No, traveling to England is something I would like to in the future, but I am not able to at present. I have traveled there, in the past several times, however due to a hectic schedule I have missed the last Assemblies. I would like to thank the MIGM for my position as Grand Representative."

**Idaho** - R.: I.: Norman Hopson reported that "I have received no replies from my counterpart over the years. I have not attended the Grand Assembly of Idaho, as I have never been notified of the date of their annual assembly. In additions, recently I have additional travel restrictions. Likewise, I have been unable to attend the annual assembly of the Grand Council of New York due to the same travel restrictions. A comprehensive "Code of Laws and Regulations of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons os the State of Idaho" is available (in PDF format) on the Internet, compiled in 1992, revised in 2008 / 2009. Many interesting items may be found there. The Grand York Rite bodies (Chapter, Council & Commandery) meet jointly each year in April to conduct business separately in one-half day sessions each. Similarly, local York Rite bodies meet in joint sessions throughout the year. Also, the Recorder and Treasurer duties are commonly combined at all levels."

**Iowa** - R.: I.: Ronald White reported "I am unable to make contact with my counterpart. I have made several attempts with past State of New York Recorders. Plan to be at the Grand Assembly this August and renew relationship with Iowa through the present Grand Recorder. Perhaps you could e-mail me the contact person's name, telephone number and e-mail address for the State of Iowa. I would greatly appreciate it."

**New Hampshire** - M.: I.: Donald Harrison reported that " I have attended the Grand Council of New Hampshire, except for this year. The Deputy Grand Master and Principal Conductor of the Works of New York went this year."

**New Jersey** - R.: I.: Walter Hilsenbeck reported that "I attended the Grand Council of New Jersey in 2005. Unfortunately, I have not attended their Grand Assembly in the past 7 years. When I was Grand High Priest of New York, we were cordially welcomed to their Annual meeting. The Grand Recorder basically ran this and the Grand Chapter meetings. I understand he has since passed on. Just like New York, they are lacking in membership becoming active and the leadership os almost non-existent. We need to encourage the younger members to step up to the plate, instead of discouraging them, which most of us do so well. I hate to be critical of our craft, but feel it is time to look into the mirror to see what is causing our demise."

**Scotland** - M.: I.: Fred Hickein reported that " I was sent Roll Books & Semi-Annual Communications of Scotland for 2012 & 2013"

**Texas** - R.: I.: Donald Brugger reported that "I have only missed one Grand Assembly of New York since my appointment. I just received the 2012 Proceedings from the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas and will give it to the Grand Recorder. I do not know if the Grand Council of New York has a copy of the 2012 Proceedings. Since my appointment in 2007, I have been trying to contact my counterpart in Texas. The Grand Council of Texas maintained that a Richard Hargraves of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the Grand Rep of New York. The Grand Council of New York has maintained that the Grand Council of Texas had not

communicated this information and, therefore, had not one listed for that position. According to the 2012 Proceedings of the CGR&SM, Texas, has appointed Timothy M. LaVerne Sr., GPCW, who by now is Grand Master, to that position. I have no idea if he has been approved by New York or not. My contact with the GCR&SM, Texas, has been through through their Grand Recorder, Orville O'Neill, who has kindly forwarded their Proceedings, which I passed on the the Grand Council of New York."

**Vermont** - R.: I.: Harvey Eysman reported that "I tried to contact my counterpart, but without success. I have been unable to attend the Grand Assembly of Vermont due to other Masonic obligations."

## New York Cryptic Membership Report

Membership is the life blood of all organizations and as memberships continues to slide as in the recent years for most all civic, religious and Masonic groups. We need to continue our efforts and battle to survive.

This past year, the Grand Lecturer has tried to organize Grand Lecturer's Conventions and Degree festivals to stimulate members. He assisted in arranging a joint Festival with jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, the Tri-state Festival, and a number of strong Councils capable of conducting the Degrees.

This past year's final results are no different than the previous except the number of the greeting of new members. I thank all that gave of their time and efforts to promote these Degrees and Greetings. The Grand Recorder's totals show we took in over 70 new Companions, however the negative side Dimits, NPDs, Deaths & Others left us at a loss of 12 total. Deaths, we have to accept, but dealing with Dimits and NPD's is possible to influence those Companions from losing those numbers or Companions. Let's put more efforts on keeping those Companions as well as continuing the Greetings of new. Even though this is a report, I charge ever Companion to continue to create new members. Make it your goal to recruit new members from the local RAM and the Knights Templar.

Grand Council of New York's members now shows 1,348 members vs 1,361 members @ the beginning of the year. Totals are disclosed in the Grand Recorder's Report.

Submitted by

Committee on Membership

## MASONIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE 2013

The Masonic Education and Communications have been expanded from last year by creating a disc for that portion of the Officer's Manual that pertains to District Deputies and Assistant Grand Lecturers only. This reduces the cost of reproduction for Grand Council.

Along with this change, one of the sheets used by the District Deputies has been changed. One sheet of checks to be made by the District Deputy reflects a change which will determine if the Constituent Council has made a change which required or requires a By-Laws change. Along with this, the sheet presented to the Council Recorder also has a question which reflects the same information.

This has been done to help maintain the up-to-date status of each Council's By-Laws.

During this coming year it may be possible to move the Officers Manual to the WEB site. All with access to the WEB site will have access to the manual.

Control of any changes will need to be in place so that only desired changes can be made by Grand Council.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Mason

Grand Council Cryptic Masons  
State of New York  
Awards committee report 2012-2013

Individual Achievements

- A. Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the year  
Will be presented during Grand Session on Saturday
- B. General Grand Council-International Cryptic Mason of the year  
Will be announced at the Grand-Council Banquet
- C. General Grand Council-International Adult-Youth leadership  
To be announced at the Grand Council Banquet

**Ish-Sodi Awards**

- A. ISH—SODI Awards The first line signer for 5 Petitioners since August 2003  
No Companion eligible
- B. Meritorious ISH—SODI Awards The first line signer for 25 Petitioners  
No Companion eligible

Council Membership Gains & Attendance Awards

- A. Most Greetings of new select masters in the Cryptic year  
Two Councils tied for the top honors  
**Central City Council #13 -- greeted (10) new Companions**  
**St. Georges Council #74 -- greeted (10) new Companions**
- B. Greetings of 5 or more new Companions in the Cryptic year  
**Adelphic Council #7      Rotica #12      Central City #13**  
**Bloss-DeWitt #14      St. Georges#74      Skoi-Yase #75**  
**Flatbush #80**
- C. Best Attendance at Grand Council Annual Assembly

To be announced @ Grand Council Assembly.

Submitted by

Richard Anderson Committee Chairman

## NORTHEASTERN YORK RITE REGIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE 2013

This year the Northeastern York Rite Regional Conference will be September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> held in Albany, NY. Grand Council will be responsible for helping with the registration of attendees. There is a registration fee of \$20.00.

The Conference is designed as an educational program with Grand Chapter, RAM International, General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International and the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States welcoming all members of all organizations to attend.

This is an opportunity for newer members to become familiar with some of the workings of Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery as well as with the new program which will be in its third year. It is for up and coming leaders and sponsored by Grand Encampment.

Along with the programs, it provides an opportunity to meet members from all the organizations from the Northeast that will be the key players in the years to come.

Literature will be available for those interested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Mason



LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2012-2013

Attempting to arrange another meeting night can be a challenge. All elected progressive Grand Line Officers are committee members.

However, we live in all areas of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Bearing that in mind, I tried a different approach.

I arranged for a dinner/meeting on Wednesday February 27th at the Holiday Inn, Albany, New York.

This is the day before the Annual Grand Chapter Convocation.

I was hoping that those attending could arrive a day earlier.

Maybe, those living close enough could make the easy drive.

The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and I were in attendance.

Although this meeting did not actually accomplish all that it could have, it did benefit me in knowing and learning more from my two guests.

We are concerned about communication, and Right Illustrious Leonard Mason has addressed this item many times.

Although it was enjoyable breaking bread with Richard and Leonard, we missed the others.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles V. Bunton



## Report of Grand Council Newsletter Editor Committee

As this report is being written, a new issue of the Cryptic Corner is being composed and will be out before our Grand Assembly in August. It will be the only issue before that time.

Following our Grand Assembly, I expect to contact each of the District Deputy Grand Illustrious Masters and as many of the Illustrious Masters as I can, to let them know that the Cryptic Corner is alive and well and looking for their input. I see this newsletter as an opportunity, not only to blow our own horns and proclaim our accomplishments, but to let the rest of the Masonic world in New York know that our Grand Council is vibrant and growing. We may be small, but we are proud of our Grand Council, proud of our ritual, and proud to be Cryptic Masons.

As is the case with our Grand Chapter counterpart, NYRAM News, we are not going to set a schedule for our issues. They will be prepared as events warrant. It is my hope that we will see many issues in the 2013-2014 year. With your help, we can make it happen. It starts with you – our Council members. Thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

R.:I.: Steven P. Koch  
Chairman Grand Council Newsletter Editor Committee  
Grand Standard Bearer  
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons  
In the State of New York

Judge Advocate Report  
2012 – 2013

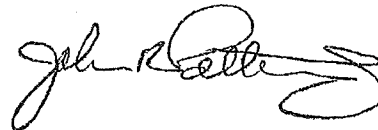
Illustrious Grand Master:

As in for a report of the Judge Advocate, I offer as follows:

1. Legal advice provided to the Illustrious Grand Master:
  - a. During the Cryptic year, the Illustrious Grand Master requested advice on pending Masonic charges against Razmig Djinbachian, which had been previously forwarded to Grand Lodge, State of New York involving an assembly held on September 23, 2011 where the number of Select Masters in attendance is in question. These charges were preferred by Grand Master George B. Whitmer and are still pending.
  - b. Advice was requested by the Illustrious Grand Master regarding a personnel matter involving a member of the Grand Line. This matter was adjusted to the satisfaction of the Illustrious Grand Master.
  - c. Advice was requested by the Illustrious Grand Master regarding an article about forced guardianship of a Mason and his wife after Superstorm Sandy. Given the lack of information in the article, it will be very difficult to follow up on this matter. If further information develops in researching this article, the Illustrious Grand Master may wish to contact Grand Lodge in Rhode Island to further investigate the matter.

It has been a pleasure to have been of service to the Illustrious Grand Master and Council this year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Patterson, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John R. Patterson, Jr.

## Report of the Jurisprudence and By-Laws Review Committee

July 6, 2013

The committee recommends approval the By-Laws changes of the following Councils; King Hiram Council No. 18 and North Shore Council No. 88.

Proposed changes to the Grand Council General Regulations as follows:

Article I section 6 (i) Change the statement to read – To grant dispensations to Councils to hold special assemblies for the transactions of all regular business to other locations *and/or times than their* regular stated assemblies.

Article I section 10-1 (c) Change the statement to read - To receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Council. *To receive all requests for dispensations, prepare and submit same to the Grand Master for his review and approval.*

Article III section 46-

2. A Committee on Jurisprudence, to consist of *three or* five members. . . . .

M.:I.: E. William Whittaker, Chairman

R.:I.: Richard M. Clark

R.:I.: John R. Patterson, Jr.

## **The Grand Council Website Committee Report 2012-2013**

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Council.

I would like to thank Most Illustrious Richard C. Anderson for my appointment to the position of Chairman of the Website Committee. With the help of my committee members, who have always extended words of encouragement and good advice, I am pleased to report that I have had a successful first year as chairman.

The following is a brief synopsis of my accomplishments and goals over the past year while performing my duties as Webmaster.

My primary task has been to provide a rapid turn around of simple changes and updates to the web site and down-loadable documents. It is my personal goal to respond to requests within a 24 hour period.

I was able to introduce a new set of web pages, linked off of our main page. These pages provide the viewing of the Grand Council's public Calendar as well as state-wide maps of our Councils and Districts as color coded "pins". The maps page also provides state-wide maps of the Grand Chapter, Grand Commandery and link to the Grand Lodge's Lodge locator page.

As the webmaster, I have been the primary contact for keeping our public calendar up to date with Grand Master visits, Grand Line visits to other conferences, and Grand Assemblies and any other "Grand Line" related events.

I have been slowly converting some of the Web site down-loadable documents (in MSoft Word format) to Portable Document Format (PDF) for easier viewing. During this conversion I have also been able to update the documents' internal layout to use embedded tables for more consistent spacing within the page.

The following is a brief list of the "Futures" I have planed for the upcoming year(s).

I will continue to convert more of the down-loadable documents files to PDF. I do not plan on converting everything, only the documents that do not need to be modified by the viewer.

I want to make small & simple changes "under the hood", to make the pages slightly more dynamic. An example is the Memorial banner on the main page I put in place for M.: I.: Jay Kosseff. Currently setting the banner is a manual process and I have two duplicate main pages.

I have a longer term goal to investigate what would be required to provide the Grand Council website in a Mobile format. With the continued proliferation of smart phones, this will allow the web site to be viewable "on the road". I have also been requested to provide a mechanism for "Private" pages accessible by the Grand Recorder/Grand Line officers.

In conclusion, it has been a good year and I have had the opportunity to learn a lot during the first year of my tenure as Chairman of the Website Committee. I look forward to continuing to serve the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council and our companions.

Zealously,

R.: I.: John A. Gallant  
Chairman of the Grand Council Website Committee

## **DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER REPORT**

### **First District 2012 – 2013**

This Cryptic Year for the First District was a very trying year. Our appointed District Deputy Grand Master, RI Spiridon Arkouzis, passed away unexpectedly on December 16<sup>th</sup> after several months of illness and hospitalizations. Later that month, I was asked by our Grand Master, MI Richard Anderson, to complete his term until August, as I was Spiro's immediate predecessor as DDGM. Although I wasn't able to attend to all the details and events in the District these last several months, I was able to 'hold the torch' till this year's Grand Assembly.

Throughout the entire year, RI Robert Bukowski served as Assistant Grand Lecturer (AGL) and was present at several District functions in either Spiro's or my absence. He is to be commended for his dedication and support throughout the year.

I submit short summaries of the Councils in the First District below.

#### **Columbian Council #1**

Columbian Council normally meets three months of the year, January to March in Masonic Hall – 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. I visited this Council in January as Acting DDGM. The Council conferred the Royal Master degree in February and the Select Master degree in March. A special meeting was held in May to confer the Super Excellent Master degree and to receive the Grand Steward, RI Richard Fowler, on his visit to the District. The Council is very strong and is well-supported by its members. The Master this past year was Ill. Gilbert Ferrer.

The Recorder and Treasurer have good records, and there is a thriving officer line, with several Companions waiting to enter the line. The ritual work of the Companions is very good.

#### **Adelphic Council #7**

Adelphic Council meets on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. The Master is Ill. Arthur Fisch, a current Director of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. The Council meets on the Fourth Wednesdays of the month. The Council held a memorial service for RI Spiridon Arkouzis, and hosted the Super Excellent Master degree and the Grand Steward's Visit in May.

The Recorder's and Treasurer's books are well kept by the Recorder RI George Harrison and the Treasurer RI Leon Weinstein.

#### **Adoniram Council #36**

Adoniram Council has been meeting in Advance Temple, Long Island City, Queens. The Council is still experiencing financial problems resulting from possible illegalities (with pending Masonic Charges) by a past Treasurer of the Council. The Council struggles to have enough members to open and is in desperate need of rejuvenation and increased participation. The Illustrious Master this past year was Ill. Andreas Dimitropoulos.

The Grand Steward was expected to visit this Council at its May meeting but missed it due to severe flooding. At its May meeting, the Council held elections, voted to move (with Trinity Commandery) to Whitestone Temple (soliciting companions from the 9<sup>th</sup> Masonic District) and to meet on the Second Friday of the months of December – February.

#### **Suffolk Council #76**

Suffolk Council meets in Sayville, Long Island in Suffolk County NY. RI Bob Bukowski, AGL, is a member of this Council. The IM this past year was Ill. Frank Parrella. The Council is well organized, has several active Past IMs and has an active membership. The ritual is very good and there are several past and current Grand Council Officers that are active members. The Council is very strong.

#### **Flatbush Council #80**

Flatbush Council meets on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street on the Fourth Tuesdays of March, April, May and June. This is also the meeting night (and location) of Bay Ridge Commandery. Both Flatbush Council and Bay Ridge Commandery have undergone a resurgence in participation these past several years. With the active participation of several Masonic leaders, including the current IM, Ill. Stenrick Adams, the Recorder, Comp. Anthony Mongelli Jr., and the Grand Marshal, RI Curtis A. Banks, and others, Flatbush Council has come back to life.

#### **North Shore Council #88**

North Shore Council meets in Matinecock Lodge in Oyster Bay, Long Island. This year's officers were led by the Ill. Michael O'Shaughnessy, with help from past IMs, Ill. Stephen Lovasz and Ill. Larry Tuck. The Council is holding its own with membership and ritual activity.

#### **General**

I'd like to thank the Grand Master, MI Richard Anderson, for appointing me to fill the remainder of RI Spiridon Arkouzis' term as District Deputy Grand Master. My service was made immeasurably easier by the officers of the several Councils and by the many active Companions in the District, especially RI Bob Bukowski, RI Curtis Banks, RI Charles Bunton and MI Donald Harrison.

Respectfully submitted,

RI Richard T. Schulz  
District Deputy Grand Master (Acting)

## **District Deputy Grand Master 8<sup>th</sup> District Report 2012-2013**

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Council.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Most Illustrious Richard C. Anderson for my appointment to the position of District Deputy in this district and to all who extended words of encouragement, brotherly advice and best wishes. With their help, I have had a successful and memorable first year of office.

The following is a brief synopsis of my observations over the past year while performing my duties as District Deputy.

[Doric Council #19] Meets monthly on the third Wednesday of the month. The Council is able to confer its own degrees. The officers perform their ritual acceptably. There are many new companions in new office positions this year. The recorder has stated that he would like to have more interaction and a check on membership, perhaps at mid-year, with the Grand Records office.

[Palmyra Council #26] Meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month. Unfortunately, this year I did not have the opportunity to attend any degrees. On my visits the officers performed their ritual acceptably. The recorder stated that he would like to see a Recorder's seminar at Grand Assembly.

[Hornellsville Council #35] Meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month. Unfortunately, this year I did not have the opportunity to attend any degrees. On my visit the officers performed their ritual acceptably. Their recorder also stated that he would like to see a Recorder's seminar at Grand Assembly.

[Skoi Yase Council #75] Meets monthly on the third Monday of the month. The council is able to do its own degrees, with a little bit of help from outside councils and special guests. On my visits the officers performed their ritual acceptably. It is my pleasure to report that they are actively receiving new companions. Their recorder also stated that he would like to see a Recorder's seminar at Grand Assembly.

[Nun Da Waga Council #92] Meets monthly on the fourth Monday of the month. Unfortunately, this year I did not have the opportunity to attend any degrees. On my visits the officers performed their ritual acceptably.

It is my opinion that overall, the 8<sup>th</sup> Cryptic District is a solid and growing district. All of the councils are active and have well attended meetings. This year I also had the pleasure of attending four of the official visits of R.: I.: Steven P. Koch, Grand Standard Bearer. R.: I.: Companion Koch is an excellent speaker and he was well received by the councils.

In conclusion, I have had a very pleasant and memorable year and would like to thank all the companions I met and had the opportunity to work with in the course of the first year of my tenure as District Deputy. I look forward to continuing to serve the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council and the 8<sup>th</sup> Cryptic District.

Zealously,

R.: I.: John A. Gallant  
DDGM 8th Cryptic District