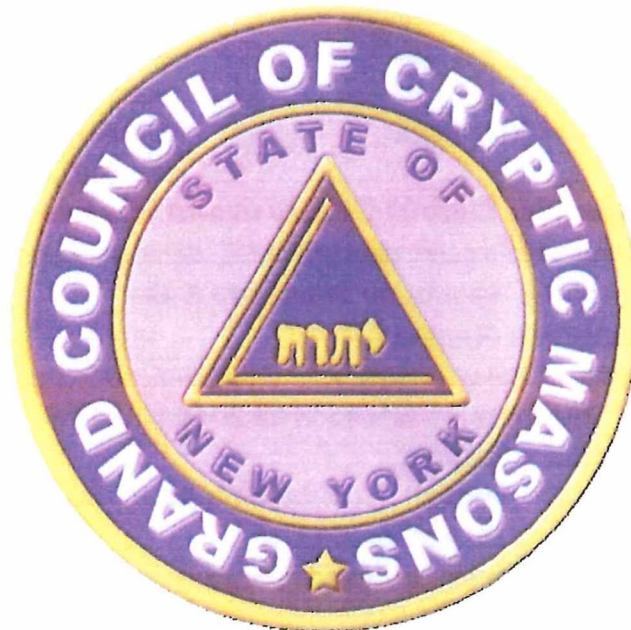


Grand Council of Cryptic Masons

Of the State of New York

2016-2017

194th Annual Assembly



M.: J.: Garry R. Hutchurson
Most Illustrious Grand Master
2016-2017

August 18th & 19th, 2017

Ramada Plaza Hotel Rochester Airport
Rochester, N.Y.

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

1.) The Call To The 194th Annual Assembly Of The Grand Council Cryptic Masons Of The State Of New York

2.) The Minutes Of The 193rd Annual Assembly Of The Grand Council Cryptic Masons Of The State Of New York

3.) The Annual Reports Of The Grand Line Officers

Deputy Grand Master

Grand Captain of the Guard

Grand Marshal

Grand Steward

Grand Historian

Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

Grand Conductor of the Council

Grand Standard Bearer

Grand Fraternal Correspondent (None)

Judge Advocate

4.) The Annual Committee Reports

By-Laws Review & Jurisprudence

Condition & Extension of the Rite

Masonic Education & Communications

Library & Museum

Ritual

Northeastern York Rite Conference

Website

Long Range Planning

Membership

Concordant Bodies & Youth

Vespers & Necrology

Northeast Cryptic Festival

Cryptic Newsletter (None)

Masonic Veterans (None)

5.) Annual Reports From The District Deputy Grand Masters

6.) Grand Lecturer's Annual Report and the AGL Annual Reports

No Summary AGL Reports for Districts #6 & #9

7.) Annual Grand Treasurer's Report

Financial Accounting for 2016-17 Budget Escrow Accounting for 2016-17

Financial Review/Audit for 2016-17

8.) Annual Grand Recorder's Report

The Office of the Grand Recorder Financials for 2016-2017

Proposed Budget for 2017-18

9.) Annual Report of the Trustees of Grand Council

10.) Annual Awards Report

Greetings, Attendance, Ish Sod, Meritorious Ish Sod and other Awards

11.) The Annual Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master – Allocation

12.) The Annual Grand Council Charity Corporation Meeting

Agenda

Annual Summary

Charitable Distribution

Minutes

Financial Review/Audit

Election of Directors

Charity Fund Awards Presentations

13.) The Report On The Most Illustrious Grand Master's Address

14.) The Report Of The Registration and Credentials Committee

15.) The Election of Officers

16.) The Address Of The Newly installed Most Illustrious Grand Master

17.) The Remarks Of The Most Worshipful Grand Master Of Grand Lodge

18.) The Closing Of The Annual Assembly

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York

THE CALL TO THE 194th Annual Assembly

MAY 2017

Official Notice is hereby given that the One Hundred Ninety-Fourth Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York will be held on **Friday Evening, August 18, 2017** at the Ramada Plaza Hotel at Rochester Airport (*Former Lexington Hotel*) Rochester, NY and continuing through Saturday, August 19, 2017.

The Grand Council extends a cordial invitation to all Grand Council Officers, Past Grand Masters, Permanent Members of this Grand Council, Grand Representatives of other Grand Councils and all Illustrious Masters, Deputy Masters, Principal Conductors of the Work and Select Masters of the constituent Councils of this jurisdiction to attend.

HEADQUARTERS: There has been a change in ownership of the hotel since our posting of the call in April. On May 17, 2017 the Lexington Hotel at the Rochester Airport became The Ramada Plaza, Rochester Airport, 911 Brooks Avenue, Rochester, NY. Reservations can be made with the Front Desk at (585) 328-6000. Mention Grand Assembly of Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of NY for \$99.00 room rate plus tax. If you have any difficulty in making your room reservation please ask to speak directly with Asonte Harris who has been assigned to our event.

REGISTRATION: Friday, August 18, 2017: Noon to 9:30 PM and Saturday, August 19, 2017: 7:30 – 10:00 AM opposite the meeting room. Registration and Credentials will close at 10:00 AM on Saturday August 19th. Certificates of Appointment as Proxies for the Illustrious Master, Deputy Master and Principal Conductor of the Work, bearing the Council Seal, should be presented to the Credentials Desk before the Opening of the Grand Council. Aprons are to be worn in all Tiled Sessions. Don't forget to bring yours.

RESERVATIONS: Hotel and Meal Reservation Form is enclosed or you can go to the website: www.nycryptic.org and download a copy.

The Schedule Of The Annual Assembly

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017

9:30 - 11:30AM	Conference: Directors of the Grand Council Charity Corp. – (Executive Board Room)
11:30 – 4:00 PM	Conference: Grand Council Line Officers & Past Grand Masters - (Executive Board Room) with Lunch provided around Noon
1:00 – 5:00 PM	Hospitality Suite will be open (<i>Coachman Room</i>)
6:00 - 7:30 PM	Welcome Buffet – Informal! All are Welcome. Reservations required. (<i>Dress Code: Casual Dress for All</i>) - (<i>Rooms 1901, 1902, & 1903</i>)
8:00 PM	Opening of the 194 th Annual Assembly (<i>Dress Code: Elected Grand Council Officers & Past MIGMs: White Jacket & Purple Tie; Appointed Officers & DDGMs: Tuxedo & Purple/Black Tie; Companions: Jacket and Tie. All Wear Aprons If Available!</i>) Business Conducted: (Room 1904) Reception of Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Council Officers; Roll Call of Councils; Previous Minutes; Appointment of Committees; Resolutions; <u>Reports of:</u> Website; Education, Membership & Public Relations; Library & Museum; Ritual Committee; Grand Lecturer and Awards; Condition & Extension of the Rite; Grand Historian; Jurisprudence & By-Laws Committee; Grand Trustees; Grand Treasurer; Audit; Budget; Deputy Grand Master.
9:15 PM	Vesper Service (<i>The Offering for the evening will go to the Grand Council Charity Fund</i>)
9:45 PM	Recess. Hospitality Suite will be open to 11:30 PM. (<i>Coachman Room</i>)

Saturday, August 19, 2017

(Dress Code: Elected Grand Council Officers & Past MIGMs: Morning Suits; Appointed Officers & DDGMs: Tuxedo/Black Tie; Companions: Jacket & Tie; All Wear Aprons if Available)

Breakfast on Your Own

8:30 AM Assembling of Distinguished Guests (Outside of Conference Room 1904 – Hallway)
8:45 AM RECONVENE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY - (Room 1904) - Ladies, Guests & Members Invited
9:00 AM Reception of Distinguished Guests
9:30 AM Necrology Ceremony - Ladies and Non-members excused following the Ceremony
10:00 AM Business Conducted:
Roll Call of AGLs; Roll Call & Recognition of DDGMs; Recognition of Past Grand Masters; Roll Call & Recognition of Grand Representatives; Reports of: Grand Fraternal Correspondent; Grand Recorder; Presentation of Honorary Memberships; Remarks from Visitors; Most Illustrious Grand Master's Address.
11:00 AM Annual Meeting of the Charity Corporation
11:30 AM Remarks by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of NY

Recess For Lunch

NOON LUNCHEON (Reservations required) - Men's Luncheon in Brooks Avenue Grill
Ladies Luncheon and Program (Room 1904)

Reconvene Business of the Annual Assembly

1:15 PM RECONVENE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY (Room 1904)
Business Conducted: Reports of: Ish Sodi & Awards; Committee on the Most Illustrious Grand Master's Address; Time & Place Committee; Credentials; Election of Officers; Unfinished Business; Tiled Installation of the Most Illustrious Grand Master-Elect; Closing of the 194th Annual Assembly.
3:00 PM Public Installation of Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council Officers & District Deputy Grand Masters - (Room 1904) - Ladies & Guests Invited
4:15-5:30 PM Conferral Of The Thrice Illustrious Master Degree - (Victorian Room)
(Per Article 11, Section 41(a) of the General Regulations of this Grand Council, ALL newly elected Illustrious Masters are required to receive this degree prior to presiding in his elected office.)
6:00 PM Social Hour prior to the Grand Council Annual Banquet (Cash Bar)
7:00 PM GRAND BANQUET (Rooms 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904)
(With Remarks and Presentation of Awards - Reservations required)
{Dress Code: Elected Grand Council Officers & Past MIGMs: White Jacket and Purple Tie; Appointed Officers & DDGMs: White Jacket or Tuxedo & Purple Tie; Companions: Tuxedo or Dark Suit & Tie; Ladies: Formal or Semi-Formal}
9:30 PM Hospitality Suite will be open until Midnight. (Coachman)

Fraternally,

Attest:

*W - 1 - Garry R. Hutcherson
Grand Master*

*W - 1 - Charles M. Roberts
Grand Recorder*

MEAL DESCRIPTIONS

Friday's Welcome Buffet:

Garden Greens with Assorted Dressings; An Assortment of Fresh Baked Rolls with Creamy Butter. Buffet to consist of the following dishes: Cold Pasta Primavera Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad, Green Beans and Slivered Almonds, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Chicken Marsala with light sauce and mushrooms, Sliced Flank Steak, Seafood Stew Newburg, and warm Apple Crisp with Caramel Sauce and Whipped Cream. Beverages will be freshly Brewed Regular/Decaffeinated Coffees, Hot/Iced Teas and Lemonade.

Saturday's Lunches:

Ladies: First served, Vegetable Soup with Crackers. Field Green Salad: Field Greens with Walnuts /Goat Cheeses/Cranberries and Fruits, Topped with Crusted Chicken Strips and lightly drizzled with Balsamic Dressing and Garlic Bread Sticks. Lemon Ice for Dessert. Coffees/Teas/Lemonade Station. The Ladies Program will be the Traveling Cabaret Performance Group.

Men's: Soup of the Day with Crackers. Garden Salad with assorted dressings. Fresh Fruit Salad, Pasta Primavera Salad, Assorted Breads and Deli Rolls, Tuna Salad, Assorted Luncheon Meats and Cheeses to include: Ham, Turkey, Salami, & Roast Beef, Swiss, American, Provolone Cheeses. Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Pickles, and Condiments. Cookies and Brownies, Coffees/Teas/Lemonade Station.

Saturday Banquet:

Social Hour: 6:00 PM

An array of Imported & Domestic Cheeses with Gourmet Crackers and Heavily Garnished with Fresh Seasonal Fruit. Cash Bar will be available.

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Served Garden Fresh Tossed Salad with Assorted Dressings. Fresh Assorted Baked Rolls with Creamy Butter. Coffees/Teas/Lemonade Station. Choice of Main Entrée of one of the following:

- a.) 8 oz. Choice Flank Steak prepared with seasonings served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Fresh Asparagus. Dessert will be Strawberry Short Cake with Whipped Cream.
- b.) Chicken French (Boneless Breast of Chicken dipped in Egg Batter) sautéed in a lemon butter sauce and topped with Artichoke Hearts and Roasted Tomatoes accompanied by Rice Pilaf and Fresh Asparagus. Dessert will be Strawberry Short Cake with Whipped Cream.
- c.) Shrimp Scampi prepared with Tomatoes and Scallions in a Garlic, Lemon, Butter Sauce over a bed of Linguine. Side of Fresh Asparagus. Dessert will be Strawberry Short Cake with Whipped Cream.
- d.) Slow Roaster Marinated Portabella Mushroom atop seasoned Roasted Vegetables served over Chef's Choice of Pasta. Dessert will be Strawberry Short Cake with Whipped Cream.

MINUTES OF THE 193rd ANNUAL ASSEMBLY GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The 193rd Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York was held on Friday, August 12th and Saturday, August 13, 2016 at the Lexington Hotel Rochester Airport, Rochester, 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 Nundawaga Council No. 92 on Friday August 12th at 7:30 PM. The Officers of Grand Council were received into the Council and formed lines for the reception of the Right Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson, Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master. Right Illustrious Hutchurson was received and escorted to the East where Grand Honors were accorded. He thanked the Officers of Nundawaga Council for their service this evening and asked they vacate their stations and the Grand Line Officers assume their stations and places for the Grand Council Annual Assembly.

ENTERED:

The Right Worship Peter A. Flihan, III, Grand Treasurer, representing the Most Worshipful Jeffrey M. Williamson Grand Master of Masters in the State of NY was received and escorted to the East and accorded Grand Honors. A welcome was extended to him by Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson and he was accorded a seat in the East.

OPENING OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF GRAND COUNCIL:

In accordance with New York State Fire Laws, the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master advised the Companions of the exits in case of emergency. He then advised all Companions present that they must register with the Credentials & Registration Committee in order to vote...he advised all present that the Registration desk was located in the lobby outside the doors to the Assembly room.

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson asked the Grand Recorder if any Councils were not entitled to vote at this Annual Assembly. The Grand Recorder reported that all Councils of this jurisdiction were entitled to vote.

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master requested that the Grand Recorder call the Roll of the Councils to determine a constitutional quorum was present. Councils present were: Columbian No. 1; Adelpic #7; Rotica #12; Central City #13; Buffalo-Keystone #17; King Hiram #18; Doric #19; Dunkirk #25; Palmyra #26; Ahwaga #30; King Solomon #31; Hornellsville #35; Adoniram #36; Peekskill #55; St. George's #74; SkoiYase #75; Suffolk #76; Faltbush #80; Oneonta #87; Northshore #88; Cayuga #90; Hamburg #91; Nundawaga #92; Goshen #93; and King David #97. Grand Recorder informed the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master that a quorum was duly present. Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master then declared the 193rd Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of NY duly opened in ample form.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

The Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master then appointed a Credentials Committee, consisting of R.:I.: Kenneth Lockard #76, Chairman; R.:I.: Kenneth Kohlhausen #92; R.:I.: Vernon G. Rupert #92; I.: Phillip Valot #76; and R.:I.: George Emmons #76 if needed.

The Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master appointed a Committee to reply to the Grand Master's Address, consisting of M.:I.: David Raymond, Chairman; M.:I.: Richard Anderson; M.:I.: E. William Whittaker.

The Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master appointed M.:I.: Richard C. Anderson as Deputy Grand Master pro tem for the 193rd Annual Assembly.

RESOLUTIONS:

1] A Motion that the minutes of the 192nd Annual Assembly as distributed in the packet and will be printed on the 2015-16 Proceedings CD as amended be approved by M.:I.: Paul B. Matthews.

- 2] 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 Constitutions by M.:I.:Donald Harrison.
- 3] A Motion that the reports of the Elected Grand Line Officers, from Grand Principal Conductor of the Work to the Grand Judge Advocate inclusive, as are printed or will be published on the 2015-16 Proceedings CD, be approved by M.:I.:Leonard Mason.
- 4] A motion that the Election of Officers be the Order of Business at 1:45 PM on Saturday, August 13, 2016; and that nominating speeches be limited to three [3] minutes and that seconding speeches to two [2] minutes by M.:I.:Francis Karwowski.
- 5] A Motion that our visiting Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters who are not already Honorary Members of this Grand Council be made so by M.:I.:Richard C. Anderson.

All Motions were made, seconded and passed unanimously. Copies of all Annual Reports can be found in the handout packet at the Registration desk. All other reports will be made as part of the permanent record of this 193rd Annual Assembly upon motion.

CONDITION AND EXTENSION OF THE RITE REPORT:

The Report of the Committee on the Condition and Extension of the Rite was highlighted by R.:I.:Curtis Banks, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work. On motion duly seconded the report was unanimously adopted and spread upon the minutes.

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

(Report was given Saturday, August 13th) The Grand Lecturer's Report was given by R.:I.: Stuart W. Card. A motion was made seconded and passed unanimously to accept the report and to spread upon the minutes. No request for modifications of our present ritual was received this year. Ritual presentation has greatly improved over the past few years. So we see an upward movement in a positive way with performing the ritual. Still work to be done.

The Assistant Grand Lecturers were recognized and each personally thanked by the Grand Master for their work in the past Cryptic Year, and given Grand Honors.

REPORT ON THE WEB SITE:

A report on the Web Site was given by R.:I.: John Gallant, Webmaster; a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the report and to spread upon the minutes.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS:

The report was given by R.:I.: Curtis Banks. On motion duly seconded the report was unanimously to accept the report and to spread upon the minutes.

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT:

The report was given by R.:I.:Phillip Chandler. On motion duly seconded the report was unanimously to accept the report and to spread upon the minutes.

RITUAL COMMITTEE: *(Report was given Saturday, August 13th)*

R.:I.:Stuart Card reported that there is no written report since no changes to the Ritual were presented this year as he mentioned in his Grand Lecturer's Report.

REPORT OF THE GRAND HISTOTIAN:

R.:I.:James Reichman was not present and No Report was given in written or oral form.

JURISPRUDENCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:

M.:I.: E. William Whittaker, Chairman gave the following report: The committee recommends the approval of the By-Law change for Buffalo-Keystone Council No. 17. The Committee recommends the approval of the merger between Doric Council No. 19 and Palmyra Council No. 26 to be known as Doric Council No. 19 with its By-Laws and Structure and Officers. On motion duly seconded the report was unanimously adopted and to be made a part of the annual proceedings.

REPORT OF THE GRAND FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENT: *(Information Only)*

M.:I.:Paul B. Matthews stated that No Report was prepared. He did not received anything from the Grand Representatives nor from the Grand Jurisdictions, except two from M.:I.:E. William Whitakker of Oklahoma and R.:I.:Donald Brugger of Texas. He mentioned that he would address this by securing where possible the information directly from the Grand Recorders of the Grand Jurisdictions we are in fraternal relations with for next year.

REPORT OF THE GRAND TRUSTEES: *(Report was given on Saturday August 13th)*

M.:I.:Richard C. Anderson on behalf of the Trustees of Grand Council presented the Annual Trustee Report which was printed and in the packet. On motion duly seconded the report was unanimously adopted and to be made a part of the annual proceedings.

REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER: *(Report given on Saturday, August 13th)*

The report on the 2015-16 Operating Budget (Income and Expenses), the full reports were printed in the handout packet was given by M.:I.:Donald Harrison, Grand Treasurer. M.:I.:Roberts made a motion that the reports be accepted and spread upon the minutes as printed in the handout packet, was seconded and passed unanimously. M.:I.:Harrison spoke on the Escrow Funds and that it will take a year hopefully to update these with appropriate transfer of funds from the Operating Account because of the unavailability of funds for the past several years. But with the increase in Per Capita in place we should have funds available to get these accounts up to date hopefully.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE: *(Report given on Saturday, August 13th)*

The report was printed in the handout and R.:I.: George Emmons on behalf of R.:I.: Kenneth Lockard asked that it be spread upon the minutes as printed, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REORT:

The report was printed in the handout packet and M.:I.: Harrison and M.:I.: Roberts asked that the proposed 2016-17 Budget be accepted as amended and spread upon the minutes as printed, passed unanimously. The Budget was amended prior to opening the Annual Assembly at the Grand Line Officers workshop---i.e. Amend Line E-2 to \$2,800.00, each Grand Line Officer except MIGM to receive \$400.00 for the year. Amend G-1 to \$900.00 in order to address the upcoming Triennial in August 2017. There was discussion by the Grand Recorder that he was trying to downsize office expenses for the 2017-18 Budget and maybe adjust some other line items as well.

REPORT OF THE CONCORDANT BODIES AND YOUTH COMMITTEES:

M.:I.:Roberts Grand Recorder presented this annual report as printed in the packet. It was moved and duly second and unanimously carried to receive the report and to spread it upon the minutes.

LONG RANGE PLANNING REPORT:

M.:I.:Richard Anderson speaking on the behalf of the Committee highlighted the Long Range Planning report in the annual packet. He then moved to accept and spread full upon the proceedings of this Annual Assembly motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

REPORT BY THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:

R.:I.: Garry R. Hutchurson reported that he would give his report at Saturday's session as the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master.

CALL FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT:

The Acting Grand Master 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 8:30AM Saturday, August13, 2016 for the reception of Distinguished Guests and Ladies, followed by the Necrology Report and remaining business of the Grand Council. All were invited to attend the Hospitality Room following the Vespers Service.

The Annual Assembly was then called from Labor to refreshment, to resume labor at the sound of the gavel in the East on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016 at 8:30 AM. The Grand Conductor of the Council attended to the altar and Grand Captain of the Guard did so notify the Grand Sentinel.

VESPERS SERVICE:

The Vespers Service was conducted under the direction of Right Illustrious Stenrick Adams, Grand Chaplain. A copy of the Order of Service is appended to these minutes.

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council was reconvened in Public session by R.:I.: Garry R. Hutchurson, Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master on Saturday, August 13, 2016 at 8:30 AM.

RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The following delegations were received and greeted personally in the East by the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson, Acting Deputy Grand Master and Grand Principal Conductor of the Work: Grand Councils of Connecticut; Delaware; Maine; Vermont; Ohio; Ontario Canada; NY Organization of Triangles, Inc.; NY International Order for Rainbow; NY DeMolay; Grand Chapter of NY, Royal Arch Masons; Grand Commandery of NY, Knights Templar; General Grand Council International and Grand Lodge of NY. See attached addendum for the list of attendees.

Right Worshipful Peter A. Flihan, III, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of NY was received under escort and accorded Grand Honors and a seat in the East.

NECROLOGY REPORT:

The Necrology Report was given under the direction of R.:I.: and Rev. Jose Valencia, Jr., M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, PMIGM gave a eulogy for M.:I.: Robert W. Wallace and M.:I.: Douglas M. Swan. See the written Necrology Service for details.

ASSEMBLY RECONVENED TO LABOR:

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson excused all non-Cryptic Masons, Ladies and Guests from the Assembly room and then gaveled the 193rd Annual Assembly to order and it was reconvened at 9:45AM on Saturday, August 13, 2016.

RECOGNITION OF 2015-2016 DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS:

The District Deputy Grand Masters were recognized and personally thanked by R.:I.: Hutchurson for their service this past Cryptic year. Those present were: R.:I.: Michael Quigley #2; R.:I.: Dennis S. Davis #6; R.:I.: Mark J. Robson #9. Those who were excused: R.:I.: R. Conrad Johnson #1; R.:I.: Gerald Dievendorf #4; R.:I.: Dennis G. Parmerter. Those who were absent without excuse: R.:I.: Marty DeVault. He greeted all present in the East and they were accorded Grand Honors.

RECEPTION AND GREETING OF THE PAST MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS:

The Past Grand Masters were introduced and asked to rise and approach the East to be personally recognized and thanked by R.:I.: Hutchurson and they were accorded Grand Honors. Those present were: MIPGMs Weinheimer, Hickein, Hadley, Matthews, Fagan, Whittaker, Harrison, Roberts, Karwowski, Pozefsky, Raymond, Anderson, and Mason.

ROLL CALL AND RECOGNITION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES:

The Roll Call of Grand Representatives was called, those present were presented in the East, and personally thanked by R.:I.: Hutchurson. There were 17 Grand Representatives present, 12 were either excused. 15 absent without excuse and there were 13 vacant positions. All who were present were accorded Grand Honors.

REMARKS FROM OUR VISITORS:

MIGM Michael Seamon of the Grand Council of Connecticut expressed the sincere thanks of the Visitors for all the hospitality and courtesies extended to them this weekend. He talked about the friendships formed and the relationships that are developed by visitations. He mentioned this is much of Freemasonry as the meetings are.

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO OUR VISITORS:

The Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master with the assistance of the Grand Recorder presented Honorary Membership certificates to all our Visiting Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters from our Sister Jurisdictions.

ORDER OF THE SECRET VAULT

Upon order of the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master, Right Puissant Monty Glover, GGCPCW, Right Puissant Rev. Charles M. Roberts, GGCChaplain of the East and M.:I.:Frank Karwowski, PSV Recipient convene a College of Honor for the purpose of conferring the Order of the Secret Vault upon Companion Robert Finley.

REPORT OF THE GRAND RECORDER:

The Annual Report of the Grand Recorder was given by M.:I.:Charles Roberts. He also gave the Annual Report on the Membership of the Grand Council for the previous year. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the reports as read and that they be made a part of the proceedings of this Annual Assembly.

BRIEF REMARKS BY NY PRESIDING OFFICER

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master invited the M.:E.:Cyril Francis, Grand High Priest of NY Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons to address the Assembly at this time.

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master invited the Right Eminent Grand Commander SK Frederick Beitter, Grand Commandery Knights Templar address the Assembly at this time.

ACTING MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER'S ALLOCUTION:

R.:I.:Garry R. Hutchurson turned the gavel of authority over to the Acting Deputy Grand Master Anderson, and he gave his Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master's Allocution inclusive of his Deputy's duties. The Acting Deputy Grand Master Anderson ordered the Allocution turned over to the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, for reporting on later today after Lunch. The gavel was returned to the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master for presiding. The Allocution is appended to these minutes.

GRAND COUNCIL CHARITY CORPORATION:

The hour being 11:00 AM the Grand Council Charity Corporation was called to order for its Annual Meeting of the Charity Corporation. M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, President presided for the meeting. See attached written report for details. Certificate & Solomon Arch Awards were then presented. A New Program was highlighted for this year which is the Children's Tumor Foundation. The Corporate meeting was adjourned upon motion at 11:35 AM.

REMARKS OF RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER OF GRAND LODGE OF NY:

Right Worshipful Peter A. Flihan, III brought fraternal greetings on behalf of our Grand Master M.:W.:Jeffrey M. Williamson. Due to the calendar change of this Annual Assembly and an already scheduled event for the Grand Master he regrets he could not be present. But R.:W.:Flihan was grateful to represent him at this Annual Assembly. He gave an inspiring message on Masonic relationships and living as true Masons and the important role Grand Council, though small in size to the other concordant bodies, plays a very significant role in the historical understanding of Masonry. He thanked the Grand Council for all the courtesies that had been extended to him for the weekend and looks further to speak at the Banquet in the evening.

LUNCHEON:

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master ordered the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work to call The Assembly to recess until 1:00PM for lunch. The Grand Chaplain gave a blessing for lunch.

RECONVENE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:

The Annual Assembly was reconvened by Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson at 1:00 PM in the Assembly room.

REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE:

R.:I.:Harvey Eysman highlighted his written report. On motion duly seconded it was made a part of the proceedings of this Annual Assembly.

ISH-SODI AND AWARDS:

The report was given by M.:I.:Richard C. Anderson, and the awards were presented by M.:I.:Richard C. Anderson with R.:I.:Hutchurson assisting. Ish-Sodi Awards: R.:I.:Earl L. Tuttle, Central City Council No. 13 {5 Petitions}; I.:Grant Held, Adelpic Council No. 7 {6 Petitions}. Meritorious Ish-Sodi Awards: No Companion eligible this year. Membership Gains & Attendance Awards: Most Greetings this Cryptic Year Columbian Council No. 1 {7 Companions}; Greetings of 5 or More Companions: Columbian No. 1 {7 Companions}; St. George's Council No. 74 {6 Companions}; 10% or Greater Increase in Membership: Buffalo-Keystone Council No. 17 {11%}; King David Council No. 97 {20%} Best Attendance at Grand Council Annual Assembly. There was a tie this year between . The following Awards were presented at the Annual Banquet: Grand Council State of NY Cryptic Mason of the Year-Companion Dean Stenshorn; Giles Fonda Yates Award: M.:I.:Donald Harrison; General Grand Council International Cryptic Mason of the Year: R.:I.:Norman P. Austin; General Grand Council International Adult-Youth Leadership Award: William (Bill) Williams of NY DeMolay; Most Illustrious Grand Master's Service Awards were Posthumously awarded to the Ladies of R.:I.:Ruel Lovett and R.:I.:Ted Powley; Lady of the Council Award: Mrs. Marilyn Powley and Mrs.

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

M.:I.:Richard C. Anderson reporting for the Committee on the Grand Master's address made a motion to accept the Acting MIGM Hutchurson's Address, and that the Committee commends him for stepping up and assuming the reins of this Grand Council under some trying circumstances. The Committee congratulates him on all the work he was able to accomplish in such a short period of time. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously to spread the Acting Grand Master's message upon the minutes of this Annual Assembly. PMIGM Anderson also congratulated the Grand Recorder and other Officers for stepping up in their roles to assist the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master during this year.

CREDENTIALS:

The report of the Credentials Committee was given by I.: Philip Valot of Suffolk Council No. 76 as follows: There were 13 Illustrious Masters; 5 Deputy Masters; 7 Principal Conductors of the Work; 56 Past Illustrious Masters; 8 Select Masters; 15 Official Visitors and 31 Ladies were present for this 193rd Annual Assembly. **TOTAL PRESENT: 117 (86 Men and 31 Ladies).** **Total Eligible Votes: 105.** Joseph Warren Cryptic Council No. 37 and Fulton Council #50 had no representation at this Assembly. The following Councils did not have their ballots picked up: Columbian #1; Adelpic #7; Bloss DeWitt Clinton #14; Buffalo Keystone #17; Palmyra #26; Ahwaga #39; Joseph Warren Cryptic #37; Fulton 350; SkoiYase #75; Flatbush #80; Northshore #88; Cayuga #90; and Goshen #93. The Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master requested if any Council Officers of those Councils are present now they must secure your ballots immediately since we are going into Elections next.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following Companions were appointed tellers for the elections: Rt. Ill. Dennis David #12, Rt. Ill. Terry Byard #97, and Rt. Ill. Ralph Rosenthal #74. The Companions were reminded to the time limitations on nominating and seconding speeches by the Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master. The gavel was turned over to M.:I.:E. William Whittaker to conduct the Election of Officers for the 2016-2017 Cryptic Year.

I.:Donald Kunego #19 placed in Nomination for the Office of Most Illustrious Grand Master, RI Garry R. Hutchurson of Doric #19 and Nundawaga #92. The nomination was seconded by I.:Robert G. Ball of Nundawaga Council #92. No further nominations were present. Nominations were declared closed. The Tellers found one unanimous ballot for R.:I.:Garry R. Hutchurson as Most Illustrious Grand Master. The Assembly extended him a round of applause. He thanked all and agreed to serve.

A motion was made by M.:I.:Paul B. Matthews and seconded by M.:I.:Fred Hickein that all elected Grand Line Officers be “moved up” or advanced one station in line as they were all unchallenged. The Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for the slate of Grand Line Officers. One ballot was found for the slate of officers duly elected. All accepted to serve in their new office.

The Office of Grand Steward was now in order. Upon several appeals for a nominee, no one step forward. The election to this Office was closed upon order and that the newly elected Most Illustrious Grand Master will have the prerogative to appoint someone qualified to serve in this Office for the term of his year.

M.:I.:Donald Harrison moved that R.:I.:George D. Emmons who is running unopposed for Grand Treasurer be elected by unanimous ballot and the motion was duly seconded. The Grand Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for R.:I.:Emmons. One unanimous Ballot was found. He accepted to serve.

R.:I.:George Emmons moved that M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts who is running unopposed for Grand Recorder be elected by unanimous ballot and the motion was duly seconded. M.:I.:Harrison Grand Treasurer Emeritus was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts. One unanimous Ballot was found. He accepted to serve. He is in hopes to have an Assistant Grand Recorder appointed.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED GRAND LINE:

THE ELECTED OFFICERS: M.:I.:Garry R. Hutchurson, Most Illustrious Grand Master; R.:I.:Curtis A Banks, Deputy Grand Master; R.:I.:Stephen P. Koch, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work; R.:I.:George D. Emmons, Grand Treasurer; M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts, Grand Recorder; R.:I.:Richard Fowler, Grand Captain of the Guard; R.:I.:Phillip Chandler, Grand Conductor of the Council; R.:I.:John A. Gallant, Grand Marshal; R.:I.:Stephen Rubinstein, Grand Standard Bearer; and Grand Steward (*Office Vacant at Present*).
THE APPOINTED OFFICERS: R.:I.:Robert G. Ball of Nundawaga Council #92, Grand Sentinel; R.:I.:Stuart W. Card, Grand Lecturer; R.:I.:Kenneth J. Lockard, Assistant to Grand Treasurer; R.:I.:Jose Valencia, R.:I.:Stenrick Adams, R.:I.:Mark D. Issacs, M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts, Grand Chaplains; M.:I.:Paul B. Matthews, Grand Fraternal Correspondent; R.:I.:Harvey Eysman, Judge Advocate; R.:I.:Stephen J. Lovasz, Grand Historian; R.:I.:David E. Shire, R.:I.:Eric S. Howd, R.:I.:Gerald F. Irwin, Grand Musicians; R.:I.:John A. Gallant, Webmaster; R.:I.:Stephen P. Koch, Newsletter Editor.

ELECTION OF THE GRAND TRUSTEE::

It was moved by M.:I.:Frank Karwowski and seconded by Ill Robert Ball that R.:I.:Frederick Beitter be reelected as a Trustee of the Grand Council to succeed himself for the next three years. There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed and the Grand Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot to elect R.:I.:Beitter to a three year (3) term as Trustee of the Grand Council. He agreed to serve.

DEPARTURE OF THE GRAND MASTER:

Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master Hutchurson did not depart from the Annual Assembly since he was duly elected and was going to be installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master for the 2016-17 Cryptic Year.

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

The tiled installation of M.:I.:G.:M.:Garry R. Hutchurson took place, with M.:I.:E. William Whittaker as the Installing Master and M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts as the Installing Marshal and R.:I.:Rev. Jose Valencia as the Installing Chaplain. The Grand Master following his private Installation and Grand Honors just highlighted his address at this time and stated his full address would be given at the Public Installation Ceremony.

TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE:

The report of the Time and Place Committee for the 194th Annual Assembly was given by R.:I.:Robert G. Ball, Grand Sentinel. It will be on August 18 - 19, 2017 at The Lexington Hotel Rochester Airport, 911 Brooks Avenue, Rochester NY. That's right---right here again!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

It was declared that there was no unfinished business to come before this Annual Assembly. MIGM Hutchurson announced the Time and Room for the Thrice Illustrious Master degree which will follow the Public Installation of Officers. He announced that the Public Installation would be at 3 PM in this room all including Ladies and guests are invited. The arrangements for the Banquet this evening (6 pm Social Hour and 7 PM dinner) and the Hospitality Room be open after Installation for short time and then after the Banquet. The Basket Raffle will take place after public installation and TIM or whenever Wendy says so. The Most Illustrious Grand Master then proceeded to close the Annual Assembly in due form.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF GRAND LINE OFFICERS:

The Public installation of Grand Line Officers was then conducted by M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, Presiding Officer, M.:I.:E. William Whittaker as the installing Marshal and R.:I.: & Rev. Jose Valencia as the Installing Chaplain. Full Ceremony was conducted. The MIGM Hutchurson installed his District Deputy Grand Masters for the ensuing Cryptic year who were present. They being: R.:I.: John B. Covell and R.:I.: Mark J., Robson. Others have already been invested into office and Certificates will be presented to them. The Grand Lecturer installed his District Assistant Grand Lecturers who were present.

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 either at this Annual Assembly on Saturday, August 13, 2017 or at the makeup TIM degree at St. George's Council No. 74 in November 2016. Those Illustrious Masters receiving the degree are as follows: John D. Samuel, Columbian No. 1; Aram Adishian, Union Council No. 2; Grant S. Held, Adelphic Council No. 12; William H. Toth, II, Central City Council No. 13; Michael Slattery, Bloss-DeWitt Clinton Council No. 14; David C. Krysztofowicz, Buffalo-Keystone Council No. 17; Jay Marksheid, Adoniram Council No. 36; William M. Korn, St. George's Council No. 74; Philip M. Valot, Sr. Suffolk Council No. 76; David Diamondstein, Northshore Council No. 88; Dean Stenshorn, Nundawaga Council No. 92.

THE GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET:

Took place at 7:00PM. Youth Group Leaders gave their speeches and M.:I.: Hutchurson presented to each Youth Group a monetary gift from the Grand Council. Additional presentations and awards were presented by Grand Master Hutchurson and Right Puissant Monty Glover, GGCPCW, General Grand Council International. Awards given were the NY Cryptic Mason of the Year; Adult Youth Leader, Cryptic Mason of the Year and Ladies of the Council from International and several special recognition awards were given posthumously by M.:I.: Hutchurson. Words of wisdom were delivered by our all distinguished Guests of the East. MIGM Hutchurson gave some closing remarks of thanks and introduced the Right Worship Peter A. Flihan, III, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New York for concluding remarks on behalf of M.:W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of NY.

The benediction was given and all assembled retired in Peace and Harmony.

Respectfully submitted,

M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, PMIGM
Grand Recorder

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER 2016-2017

(...as of 07/15/17)

My report as Deputy Grand Master is not too lengthy but hopefully indicative of the job that I was tasked to do upon being elected by you, my companions.

Several times I was called upon by our Grand Master to "mind the fort" as he left the state on business, personal, as well as non-Cryptic yet masonic endeavors. Some of those calls were for the good such as him wanting me to represent NY Cryptic Council in VT. Other calls were those that found me in positions less appealing than I actually wanted to be in. I joined a caravan of Grand Line companions, tasked by our Grand Master, to arrest the charter of one council as well as deeply scrutinize the records and its keeping of another. In essence, both of these councils belong to not only the same district from which I hail but one was actually my 2nd home council. The results played out and the charter was returned to the one council and my 2nd home council books were put to the test and passed. Both of these were led by an able bodied individual who served as the DDGM of the 1st Cryptic District to which I applaud R.:I.: Conrad Johnson for maintaining a high standard in his checks and balances while exercising candor and wise counsel for resolutions. He showed that the work he was tasked to do by the Grand Council was not limited by the individual council members of rank and status.

Inclusive of my marching in the annual St. Johns Day Parade on 06/24/17, my complete itinerary of visits representing our Grand Council were as follows:

- Grand Council of Royal & Select Masons of OH [10/02 – 10/04/2016]
- Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of MD [10/28 – 10/30/2016]
- Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in VA [11/18 – 11/19/2016] *
- Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of VT [06/11 – 06/12/2017]
- Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of NY, PHA [07/08/17] **

(*) This was the first time since 1841 that the Council existed

(**) This completes the mutual recognition & visits with all three York Rite Bodies

I attended the Northeastern York Rite Conference held at the Holiday Inn in Mansfield, MA on 09/09/16 along with several other companions from the Grand Line including our Grand Master (more to expound upon in a later report).

I was also happy to have attended and participated in our Tri-State Cryptic Festival held in Poughkeepsie NY on 01/28/17. New York had the honor of performing the Royal Master Degree. I would like to thank Companions James Gregg & Oneil Bryan from my Mother Council (Columbian# 1) who the three of us split the work of King Solomon.

Finally, companions, thank you for your vote of confidence as your Deputy Grand Master.

Zealously & Fraternally

R.:I.: Curtis Alan Banks
Deputy Grand Master (2016-2017)

Grand Principal Conductor of the Work 2016-2017

This past Masonic year has been very difficult resulting in sober consideration and agonizing decisions. Due to my job in retail and the fact that the department in which I am employed is somewhat specialized, it has been impossible to get the time off I requested to make key events in the Masonic calendar. My work schedule changes every week which makes it challenging to establish plans for the simplest meetings. When coupled with the turnover in employees, my department is often shorthanded. The last major Grand Council event I attended was our last Grand Assembly. I submitted a request for time off for our current Assembly in March 2017, which was ultimately rejected in June.

This was the last straw. I discussed the situation with my wife, Linda, who has always been completely supportive of all my Masonic endeavors and in our minds it came down to one simple question: What is the best for the Grand Council?

Since I don't see the situation changing or improving over the next year or two the course of action was clear. Being unable to perform the functions of my office and not wanting or willing to rely on my other Companions in line to perform my duties just so I can attain a title it is best that I resign, which I did in June 2017. Holding on for another year and taking one more step up the Grand Line ladder, with no foreseeable change in my flexibility, would have been unfair to the rest of my Companions in the Line especially RI Dick Fowler, who is right behind me.

I have enjoyed my time working and traveling with the Grand Council. I have many fond memories of my many visits to constituent Councils around the state. I will always be grateful to MI Dick Anderson for appointing me at Grand Standard Bearer, and MI Len Mason for his wise council and support during my time in the line. Linda and I will miss sitting with you all at our Annual Assembly in August. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. We wish you all the best.

On a more positive note, my sole accomplishment this year was participating in the Tri-State Festival hosted by King Solomon Council No. 31, in Poughkeepsie, this year which report will be found elsewhere in this package.

Thank you for your support.

Zealously,

R.:I.: Steven P. Koch
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons
In the State of New York

Grand Captain of the Guard Report for 2016-17

After being elected in August to this office I began my duties with the Reception of our Most Illustrious Grand Master in Rochester. It was a pleasure to be with all the Companions from around the state as we celebrated our Most Illustrious Grand Master's elevation to his high office.

My first visit was to Nun Da Waga Council where I joined with my fellow Grand Line Officers for an evening of fellowship and food. Most Illustrious Garry Hutchurson was in attendance with M.: I.: Len Mason PMIGM, M.: I.: Richard Anderson PMIGM, R.: I.: John Gallant, R.: I.: Donald Kunego and R.: I.: Dennis Parmerter DDGM of the 8th Cryptic District. This was the evening of the DDGM's visit and the meeting concluded with his remarks.

Next I journeyed to Hornellsville Council. A lack of sufficient number of companions to open the Council, we met in the dining area and had a lively discussion while enjoying the camaraderie of each other. The Grand Master's concerns were given and well received. Though small in number the evening was very enjoyable.

My visit to Doric Council on November 16 was a working evening. After a delicious dinner prepared by M.: I.: Garry Hutchurson & staff we adjourned upstairs to perform the Royal Master degree. I assumed the cast character of Conductor of the Council and assisted the degree team in that capacity. After the work of the evening was over we remained in the lower degree to allow the new Royal Masters to hear and participate in the Official Visit. The work of the evening was very good and I am sure that the new Royal Masters took many good experiences away with them that night. The down side of the evening was the calamity that befell our Grand Recorder while leaving the building.

My attempt to complete my visits before the end of the year did not succeed. One of our winter storms arrived and forced me to reschedule when the roads were better for travel. I finally made it to Skoi Yase Council in April and enjoyed a wonderful dinner at the local Ristorante. With a Blue Lodge function that evening visiting companions filled the chairs to open and conduct business in the Council.

I was present at the Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons to be received with the Grand Cryptic Line. I also marched in the parade of Masons at the St. John's Day celebration at the Masonic Care Community in Utica.

As in the years past, I attended the annual meeting of St. Lawrence Lodge No. 23, Royal Ark Mariners, in Gananoque, Ontario, Canada. The Grand Council was represented by Most Illustrious Garry Hutchurson, M.: I.: E. William Whittaker, M.: I.: Harley DeShane, R.: I.: Donald Kunego and myself. R.: I.: Philip Chandler received the degree of Royal Ark Mariner that evening with 10 others. The evening was preceded by a dinner at the local curling club. It was an entertaining evening with fellowship and friendship confirming the brotherly love between our two countries.

I was in Utica for the St. John's Day Parade and workshop on 6/24. Thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe for the sunny weather to march in.

I wish to thank my lady Linda for traveling to my visits and all the courtesies we received from the companions we visited.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fowler, Grand Captain of the Guard
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, State of New York



Grand Conductor of the Council Annual Report - 2016-17

R.:I.:Phillip J. Chandler
Grand Conductor of the Council

Cryptic District #4

As the Grand Line Officer with District #4 I did accomplish my visits and found most of the Councils in fairly good shape. Yes we must all keep working to keep each Council viable with some needing to work a little harder.

That being said we have one Council which is struggling but has Officers who are being diligent in their duties and have tried to attend to Ritual as it should be. This Council has Companions who have voiced a desire to become Cryptic Masons but have to complete their Royal Arch Degrees first. I have pledged my support to the Council and advised them that I am only a phone call away!

During the year I did attend two District Deputy Visitations in the District and had the honor of presenting a Solomon's Arch Medal (Green) to one of the Companions of Oneonta Council # 87. This was a personal Honor as the Companion requested that I present the medal for his donation.

During my visits I did a brief history about my life and events that have brought me to become a Cryptic Mason. I did discuss the importance of Ritual, Membership and the Charities that we support not only in Cryptic Masonry but Masonry in general.

One of the more important topics that I covered was the use of the internet and the social media and how it is very disheartening to read some of the postings of Brothers and Companions that are filled with filth and profanity. I freely admitted that I had un-friended several Brothers because of the use of pornography while sending emails and messages. We as Masons must set a higher bar for all to strive to live by!

During each of my visits a meal was always presented prior to the visit and every Council was very gracious during my time with them.

I have attended the local Youth Groups, Fidelity Assembly #30 of Rainbow and Mohawk Valley of DeMolay. I did introduce myself as the Grand Conductor of the Grand Council of the State of NY. I pledged the support of the Grand Council on behalf of the M.:I.:Garry Hutchurson and conveyed his best wishes to them.

I enjoyed the year and look forward to visiting each Council again along with the Youth Groups.

Fraternally Submitted,
R.:I.:Phillip J. Chandler

Grand Marshal Report for 2016-2017

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Council.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Most Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson and the Officers of our Grand Line who all extended words of encouragement, brotherly advice and best wishes. With their help, I have had a successful and memorable year as Grand Marshal.

This year I was able to visit all of my assigned councils, the five councils in District 6 and the two councils in District 7. I had a wonderful time at all seven councils and I want to extend a special thanks to Central City Council, who allowed me to visit on the evening of their Annual meeting. Five of the seven councils, Ahwaga, Cayuga, Central City, Fulton and King David were able to open and close their meetings. Unfortunately, things did not go as well for the other two. The three principle officers of Rotica Council were unable to attend the meeting and King Hiram Council did not have enough companions present. However, I know that Rotica is a very stable council and the lack of all three principle officers was unexpected. With the influx of new companions at King Hiram, I know they will have an excellent start for next year. I did notice that all the Companions were knowledgeable and presented the ritual very well. It is my continuing recommendation that the Councils either continue their tradition, or start the tradition, of holding a meal before the meetings to extend the evening of fellowship and increase attendance of their members.

Due to unforeseen events, I was unable to attend the Sixth District Grand Lecturers Convention and the Grand Line Installation of Officers at King Hiram. However, did have the honor to participate in Central City's Installation of officers.

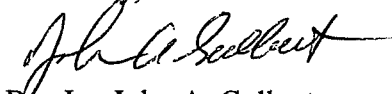
My tenure as Grand Marshal was filled with a number of events other than Official visits. I attended New York's Grand Encampment and Grand Chapter with my fellow Grand Line Officers. I was able to represent our Grand Council at the York Rite Assembly in New Hampshire. I attended the Grand Lodge Forrest Lawn re-dedication in Buffalo, the Tri-State Cryptic Degree festival and Grand Master MW Jeffery Williamson's Banquet. I participated in the Saint John's Day parade and our workshop in Utica. I attended the annual assemblies of our three youth groups: DeMolay, Triangle and Rainbow, as a representative of our Grand Council, and assisted with their ceremonies for the "Order of York Rite Tribune" and "Order of Deborah". These young men and women are truly amazing in what they can, and will, accomplish. On a more local level, I was part of the our Grand Council delegation at the homecoming for Ms. Samantha Miller of Rainbow and the installation of officers at Fidelity Triangle.

All in all another very exciting Cryptic year.

I wish to extend a special "Cryptic Thank You" to the DDGM of Distinct #6: R.: I.: John Covell and the DDGM of District #7: R.: I.: Scott Kinne. It has been a delight to work with them on both a Distriot and Grand Council Level.

In conclusion, I have had a very enjoyable 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 year as Grand Marshal. I look forward to continuing to serve our Grand Council.

Zealously,



R.: I.: John A. Gallant

Grand Marshal of the Grand Council of New York

GRAND STANDARD BEARER REPORT FOR 2016-2017

As a member of the Grand Line this year, I wish to thank the Past Illustrious Grand Masters, my colleagues of the Grand Line, the Illustrious Masters of the Councils I visited, and especially Grand Master Hutchurson for providing an atmosphere where I was able to continue growing both personally and Masonically.

I was able to visit the Councils of District 9 where I was graciously received, and observed Councils where the Companions enjoyed each other's company, were able to open and close proficiently and seemed to be active Councils. Grand Master Hutchurson was present at each of the visits, and was truly supportive of my efforts. I visited Dunkirk, No. 25 on October 26th, Buffalo-Keystone, No. 17 on November 7th and Hamburg, No. 91 on November 11th.

On September 9 & 10, I attended the Northeast Conference in Milford, MA where, on Saturday, I was the instructor for the first year of the Emerging Leader Training. The next weekend, I attended the 203rd Annual Assembly of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of New York in Albany. On September 23 & 24, I attended the Middle Atlantic Department Meeting (Grand Encampment) in Alexandria, VA and once again presented the Emerging Leader first year program. At the end of September, I was at the 147th Convocation of the New York Council of Deliberation Meeting in Syracuse.

The next weekend, I was the Installing Chaplain at the installation of officers for my mother Lodge in Fitchburg, MA. On October 14, I attended the annual meetings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Massachusetts and the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Massachusetts, where I was re-installed as a Grand Chaplain.

On October 21st my Lady Nancy and I traveled to Rochester for the testimonial honoring Most Illustrious Garry Hutchurson, and the next evening we were in Buffalo at the dinner honoring Most Worshipful Jeffrey Williamson. (Yes! It was a busy Autumn.)

On Saturday, January 28, in Poughkeepsie, NY we held the Tri-State Festival. Some Companions from Vermont were there, and after a few discussions, they will be joining us in what will be now be the Quad-State Festival. Three jurisdictions will present the degrees of Cryptic Masonry (one each) and the fourth will be in charge of arrangements. The next Festival will be held in New Haven, CT. The date has not been set.

In March, I attended the Grand Chapter of New York Annual Convocation. During that time, I also attended the Grand Council Officers' Workshop

In May, I attended the Grand Council of New Hampshire's Annual Assembly where I represented the Grand Council of NY. On June 13th, I journeyed to Auburn, New York to participate with the MIGM in the installation of officers for King Hiram Council, and later in the month to Utica to participate in the GLO Workshop and march in the St. John's Day Parade.

During the year I gave a number of presentations on York Rite Masonry to lodges in my area. They were received well, and we look forward to receiving some petitions from them. As you can see, I remain active in both New York and Massachusetts York Rite. On June 1, I was presented the Benjamin Hurd, Jr. Medal for Meritorious Service by the GHP of MA.

WITHIN THE CRYPT LIES THE SOUL OF FREEMASONRY

Fraternally,

Steve Rubinstein

R.:I.: Stephen A. Rubinstein



Grand Council

Cryptic Masons of the State of New York
of the State of New York



R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego
Grand Steward

Cell: (585) 301-2933
E-mail: nanapopa6@gmail.com
Address: 46 Kaymar Drive
Bergen, NY 14416

TO: M.:I.: Garry R. Hutchurson
Grand Master

R.:I.: Curtis A. Banks
Deputy Grand Master

M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts
Grand Recorder

SUBJECT: Annual Report - 2016-2017 Grand Steward

The following Annual Report for 2016-2017 is submitted. The following places and events were attended during a very productive and worthwhile year:

9/20/2016	King Hiram Council No. 47	11/28/2016	North Shore Council No. 88
10/13/2016	Hornellsville Council No. 35	1/11/2017	Columbian Council No. 1
10/13/2016	OES Grand Session, Binghamton, NY	1/12/2017	Adoniram Council No. 36
10/17/2016	Skoï Yase Council No. 75	1/13/2017	Suffolk Council No. 76
10/19/2016	Doric Council No. 19	1/28/2017	Tri-State Festival, Poughkeepsie, NY
10/21/2016	GM Reception – Cryptic, Rochester, NY	5/1-2/17	Grand Lodge, NYC, NY
10/22/2016	GM Ball - NY Mason, Buffalo, NY	5/16/2017	Arc Mariner – Gananoque, Ont, Canada
10/24/2016	Nundawaga Council No. 92	6/8/2017	Hornellsville Council No. 35
10/29/2016	Letchworth District Council, LeRoy, NY	6/13/2017	King Hiram Council No. 47
11/7/2016	Buffalo-Keystone Council No. 17	6/15/2017	DeMolay International Session
11/9/2016	Hamburg Council No. 91	6/19/2017	Skoï Yase Council No. 75
11/16/2016	Doric Council No. 19	6/24/2017	St. Johns Day, Utica, NY
11/22/2016	Flatbush Council No. 80		

During the year, I traveled and represented the Council as the Grand Steward combined various rolls and assignments [AGL 8th District, Acting Grand Marshal, Member – By-Lays Review Committee & Jurisprudence]. Traveling to apron and award presentations with the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Treasurer and having the opportunity to meet the members of various Councils throughout the State was very rewarding.

Thank you for the privilege and honor to serve and represent the Grand Council. I am looking forward to continue serving as a member of the Grand Line.

Sincerely,

Don

R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego
Grand Steward

May God Bless Our Troops and May God Bless America

Grand Fraternal Correspondent Annual Report 2016-17

(Nothing was submitted by M.:I.:Paul B. Matthews)

Grand Council Of Florida, 2017 Report

R.:I.:William J. Thomas, Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Florida near the Grand Council of New York.

I was appointed Grand Representative in early 2017, and attended the Grand Council of Florida at its annual assembly in May 2017, at which Benjamin J. Holland, Most Illustrious Grand Master, presided. Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master Robert St. John, Jr., was elected MI GM, to preside through May 2018. There were about 500 representatives and guests present.

I was introduced as Grand Representative and Past Grand Master, and given private Grand Honors, after which I was elected to Honorary Membership in the Grand Council of Florida. There is no appointed corresponding Grand Representative of New York near the Grand Council of Florida.

The Grand Council is facing similar challenges as the Grand Council of New York: declining membership, retention, education and ritual proficiency. They seem to be in good financial shape. There are about 3300 Cryptic Masons in Florida. A suggestion was made to consider 2-year terms due to leadership needs; no action was taken on the topic.

A review of the Proceedings reflects a significant concern with membership. Membership is down 50% from 10 years ago; and the projection is for another 50% drop over the next 10 years. Many Councils have ceased to exist. Over the past year, the Councils were challenged to engage in some sort of serious education at each and every meeting. There was a positive result of membership and enthusiasm in those Councils which implemented this challenge. Recommendations of interest:

1. Every Council should conduct a Table Council annually, with a theme of engaging interest to the Companions.
2. The Grand Council's website should add Council education items to challenge the Companions.

In addition to Grand Council, I was invited to several local Councils, where I was warmly received. I have seen no degree work. Most local Councils seem to rely on annual or semi-annual York Rite Festivals, where degrees of all three bodies are conducted for the benefit of all District Councils. The Super Excellent Master Degree is done once a year on a statewide basis.

It is noteworthy that the York Rite Grand bodies of Florida all meet on three consecutive days. The schedule provides economy of time and costs, as many of the members have overlapping responsibilities in the three bodies. They meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; and their order of meeting alternates on a 3-year cycle.

Zealously yours,

R.:I.:William J. Thomas

Grand Historian Report 2016-2017

Trying to procure the history of our Grand Council is moving along. The proceedings disk has been a great source of information. I started putting together the names of Past Grand Masters using the information from the proceedings disk and with much assistance from our Deputy Grand Master, Right Illustrious Curtis A. Banks and our Grand Marshal, Right Illustrious John A. Gallant. Strangely, we had more information about the 1900's than the 2000's. As a thought, we should consider an annual directory booklet.

As we go forward, I would like to reach out to the Constituent Councils, their Illustrious Masters and Secretaries. And ask them if they have their Councils history including mergers. I will also be looking for council's that have pictures and write ups of their milestone celebrations within the last 5 years. They will be encouraged to forward the photos and information to me. I want to encourage the Companions to look through the proceedings disk for their Councils history and information.

July 8, 2017 – Mutual recognition was agreed upon between Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in the State of New York and Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters in the State of New York & Jurisdictions.

Respectively Submitted,
R.:I.: Stephen J. Lovasz, Grand Historian

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE 2016-2017

Most Illustrious Grand Master, my Grand Council Companions, and Companions all: The 2016-2017 Cryptic year, was a relatively quiet one from a Masonic legal standpoint. No formal legislation was proposed before the Annual Assembly, nor were any formal opinions issued. Frequent consultations and conferences with the Grand Master were had on general matters, and as in past years, requests for informal advices and opinions were rendered to the Grand Master and to the Grand Recorder's Office, as well as to Committee Chairmen, with the permission of the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

As we have experienced each year, we receive, almost on a regular basis, requests for advice on both Cryptic and general Masonic law from the membership and from Committee Chairmen, and we must emphasize that these opinions are unofficial and gratuitous, as they were not solicited by or through the Grand Master who alone functionally and constitutionally enjoys the prerogative of seeking counsel from the Judge Advocate.

When we receive calls from the Companions requesting legal opinions upon matters of Cryptic law, we prefer to respond to these questions, both as a courtesy to the Companions and as a matter of Masonic education, but it is clearly to be understood that these opinions do not carry the sanction of the Grand Council, and that only the Grand Master may, with any degree of authority, advise the Companions on Cryptic law.

As we have iterated in the past, the proper procedure to secure an opinion is to pose the question in writing to the Grand Master. If he deems it appropriate, he may seek our counsel, and we may be requested to issue either a formal, written opinion or an informal opinion. It should be understood that the Grand Master is the primary source of all Cryptic legal authority in this Grand jurisdiction and while the Grand Council itself is not in session. Where an issue involves civil law, of course, one must retain private counsel.

Most Illustrious Grand Master, we have enjoyed working with and serving you, the Grand Council, and all the Companions this year. We also extend considerable appreciation to our Grand Recorder for his support, counsel, and wise input, and we respectfully move that our Annual Report be entered into the proceedings of this Assembly.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Section 8 of the Constitution provides that a proposition to amend the Constitution may be adopted if submitted in writing at one Annual Assembly, laid-over to the next for consideration, and then consented to by a two-thirds majority vote of the Members present; the amendment, however, may be adopted at the Annual Assembly at which it was presented, if by a unanimous vote.

Section 58 of the General Regulations provides that the General Regulations may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present at any Annual Assembly.

PROPOSITIONS BEFORE THE GRAND COUNCIL

The following Sections of the Constitution of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York, will be submitted in writing in 2017 and held over for consideration and a final vote in 2018, unless adopted in 2017 by unanimous vote of the members present: NONE

The following Sections of the General Regulations of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York, will be submitted for a final vote in 2017: NONE

Respectfully Submitted,

HARVEY A. EYSMAN
Judge Advocate

Report of the Jurisprudence Committee

June 30, 2017

- 1.) Recommends the following by-laws changes for the following Councils:
Buffalo Keystone Council No. 17 (change months they meet) and King Hiram Council No 18 (change place of meeting).
- 2.) We concur with the Grand Master's action of the temporary suspension of the Warrant of Peekskill Council No. 55, for failure to hold meetings and the Recorder's unexcused failure to respond to letters from Grand Master Hutchurson. We feel that permanent suspension should be authorized by the Grand Council at the Annual Assembly.
- 3.) We concur with and endorse the Resolution for Mutual Recognition between Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York and Jurisdiction and our Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York. Said Resolution is attached for the Grand Council to approve at its Annual Assembly in August 2017.

Respectfully submitted by the Jurisprudence Committee,

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

M.:I.: Joseph P. Pozefsky

R.:I.: Richard M. Clark

R.:I.: Harvey E. Eysman

R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego

Jurisprudence Committee

Resolution concerning the Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction

Most Illustrious Companion John C. Williams, Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction (2016-2017)

And

Most Illustrious Companion Garry R. Hutchurson, Most Illustrious Grand Master of The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in the State of New York (2016-2017)

Both having the desire to build a true brotherhood in New York State and to promote the Fundamental Tenets of Freemasonry of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth,

And

Whereas: on Saturday, August 20, 2016, the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in the State of New York voted by acclamation to begin the mutual recognition between said Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in the State of New York with the Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction, and

Whereas: on Saturday, July 8, 2017 The Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction at a duly summoned Annual Assembly at Boston/Dedham, Massachusetts did affirm upon a favorable vote for mutual recognition with the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York, So therefore

Let It be Known that the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York does hereby affirm by favorable vote at its duly summoned Annual Assembly held in Rochester, NY on Friday, August 18, 2017 such mutual recognition with the Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction, and

That Most Illustrious Companion Lionel S. Jones Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction and Most Illustrious Companion Garry R. Hutchurson, Most Illustrious Grand Master of The Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York, in the spirit of universal brotherhood, proclaim and make known that there now exists fraternal recognition and amity between the Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York and Jurisdiction and the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York; And further that

It is understood that each Grand Council remains independent and sovereign and this mutual recognition is subject to the Constitutions, Laws, Rules, Regulations and Edicts of each Grand Council, consistent with this mutual recognition.

In recognition of this auspicious and historic occasion, the Most Illustrious Companions John C. Williams, Lionel S. Jones. Garry R. Hutchurson and Curtis A. Banks have signed their names to this Resolution this 19th Day of August in the year 2017, or the Year of Deposit 3017.

ANNUAL LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2016-2017

To many general consciences [Grand Council of Cryptic Masons] of the York Rite Organizations of N.Y. is considered the least involved and recognized. One fact being that the Degrees of Cryptic Masons is not a requirement to become a Knight Templar. Although it was said that the members that belong as Cryptic Masons is needed to complete the Circle of Perfection in the York Rite Masonry, [meaning that part of the story/ Degrees would be missing as we know it]. So Cryptic Masons belong because they want to and to know the rest of the story. This consistency is the same and will continue to be unless changes are made.

At the recent Workshop in Utica, all present had the opportunity to offer what Grand Council needs to do to become more involved and accepted in the Masonic Family. Different issues were discussed. One major change is that this being the last year for election of the experienced Recorder [Rev – Charles M. Roberts]. Knowledge and Procedures to fulfill the required and timely records has been a great direction for the Grand Council Officers.

Future Grand Masters commented on the continued need for visitation programs - not only the important required District visits, but other Grand Sessions in and out of State. One being to push for an increase attendance of Cryptic Officers and Members at the Northeast Conferences. Other issues addressed were a needed Educational Officer Training of Grand Council Officers duties and responsibilities. The value of Grand Lecturer's Conventions, which was needed throughout the Districts, which was reported on by our Grand Lecturer and offered more in the future. All Officers will be promoting for future Grand line members and not wait for them to come to them. There was discussion on how to assist the Grand Recorder in a needed recording program [Yris/Mori]. This year Grand Council will be attempting along with Grand Chapter to enter the Yris Program for a more complete Records crossing over between Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery.

Due to the continued changes of locations for Grand Assemblies, **discussion has taken place on adopting and agreeing to book Future Grand Council Sessions at one suggested Hotel or City, like Grand Chapter or Grand Lodge, but not necessary the same location.** The Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Grand Recorder have surveyed this possibility with a hotel in Albany, NY. Future correspondence are planned in the near future. However, hopefully you have planned to attend this Grand Council Session here in Rochester, NY. in support of M.I. Garry Hutchurson.

These issues were discussed at the Workshop of Grand line Officers and not just a committee. There is hope that each will promote these in the Future to make Grand Council of Cryptic Masons more productive and recognized.

Respectfully Submitted,

M.I. Richard C. Anderson, PMIGM, [Chairman]

R.I. Curtis Banks, DGM

R.I. Stephen Koch, GPCW

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CONDITION & EXTENSION OF THE RITE COMMITTEE
2016-2017
(...as of 07/15/17)

Greetings and Salutations Companions,

A lot of good has come from the companions and councils since last year's report. The importance of communication from the DDGMS and his councils seem to have taken a good turn, while there is still room for growth and participation between our AGL's and the Grand Lecturer. Hopefully the AGL's will become more instrumental in assisting the Grand Lecturer in the charge he is leading for each district. An education course is in the plans and will hopefully boost better interactions between the DDGM, AGL & companions in general.

Accountability has been a main thrust with our Grand Master and myself. As reported last year we were looking to make changes in and within the position of Grand Representatives and this coming year those discussed changes will be put in place and action. All of our current Grand Representatives will be receiving a letter by September 1st outlining this.

The proceeding project has been reviewed by many companions and has assisted our Grand Historian in tailoring a project that he is sure to be reporting on. All the councils should have received their 3 CD's. Thank you to those councils who have contributed the \$50 donation. We are, however, short these donations from the majority of councils. M.:I.: E. William Whittaker should have a list of all those councils who made their donations. Some of you companions have also purchased the DVD. There will be some available at the registration desk for \$10

In conclusion, we continue to want to improve our Grand Council. We must hear from you to do this. Feel free to add your opinions, good bad or indifferent, to your DDGM who in turn will turn it over to the Grand Council – who WILL respond to you one way or another!

Zealously & Fraternally

R.:I.: Curtis Alan Banks
Deputy Grand Master (2016-2017)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR THE 2016-2017 CRYPTIC YEAR

This Cryptic Year was a continual of last year with regards to membership. We had more gains but we had major losses as well. Recorders continue to clean up their rolls so we had only a few minor corrections to make in the overall area of membership. That's a good thing since it means we are completed on having an accurate count from all Councils as we consider entering the Membership Solutions Program of Grand Encampment. I believe once I secure the present rosters from all Recorders we will be able proceed forward with this in the coming year.

The following is the statistics for the Year End report from the Grand Recorder's Office for this Grand Council:

Membership as of June 30, 2016 - 1,227

Greeted:	70
Affiliated:	19
Restored:	<u>3</u>
Total Gains:	92

1,319

This was the good news in fulfilling the Most Illustrious Grand Master's theme "If You Build It They Will Come." Unfortunately we continually see membership falling, though at a somewhat slower rate it seems overall.

Died:	39
Demitted:	22
Suspended NPD:	37
Suspended in Chapter:	7
Expelled:	0
Previous Return Adjustments:	<u>9</u>
Total Losses:	115

Membership as of June 30, 2017 - 1,204

A complete breakdown of the membership by Council is attached.

Fraternally yours,
M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts
Grand Recorder

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES BY COUNCIL 2016-17

COUNCIL	No.	6/30/2016	GREETED	AFFIL.	REST.	DIED	DEMIT	SUSP. NPD	SUSP. CHAP.	EXPELLED	6/30/2017	NET GAIN/LOSS
Columbian	1	120	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	6
Union	2	30	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	3
Adelphic	7	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	0
Rotica	12	58	9	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	62	4
Central City	13	55	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	53	(2)
Bloss-DWClinton	14	67	0	0	0	5	1	2	1	0	58	(9)
Buffalo-Keystone	17	53	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	57	4
King Hiram	18	8	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	14	6
Doric	19	29	0	9	0	2	0	0	1	0	35	6
Dunkirk	25	32	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	29	(3)
Palmyra	26	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(9) Merger
Ahwaga	30	39	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	37	(2)
King Solomon's	31	19	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	23	4
Hornellsville	35	36	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	32	(4)
Adoniram	36	27	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	1
JWarren-Cryptic	37	35	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	30	(5)
Fulton	50	34	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	31	(3)
Peekskill	55	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0
St. George's	74	100	5	1	0	5	4	2	0	0	95	(5)
Skoi Yase	75	21	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	18	(2) Adjusted
Suffolk	76	88	2	0	0	1	2	18	0	0	69	(19)
Flatbush	80	30	18	1	1	0	1	2	1	0	46	16
Oneonta	87	55	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	54	(1)
North Shore	88	41	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	0	35	(6) Adjusted +1
Cayuga	90	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0
Hamburg	91	47	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	44	(3)
Num Da Waga	92	34	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	34	0
Goshen	93	40	3	1	0	1	3	3	0	0	37	(3)
King David	97	24	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	4
TOTALS		1,227	70	19	3	39	22	37	7	0	1204	(23)

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE MASONIC EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE 2016-2017
(...as of 07/15/17)

Greetings and Salutations Companions,

GREAT NEWS!!! The projected Grand Council Education Course first outlined in the 2015-2016 report will be available to EACH AGL by September. This course will help our new companions understand Cryptic Masonry better and our seasoned companions to challenge their already acquired knowledge. There will be a cost associated with it which will basically pay for the printing, enrollment, testing and "Cryptic Diploma" that identifies you as one who has appreciated the fruits of labor in becoming a Cryptic Mason.

The AGL's will be tasked with holding these educational courses throughout the year. It is designed to do both in the Assembly room as well as taking home. Many of our councils are looking for programs to do to attract members. This is one of them! You can also plan to do this as a District Wide event with assistance from the DDGM.

Our Website has been viewed and has been given constant praise for user access ease and visibility. Our social media outlets have increased with many councils have Twitter, FaceBook & GroupMe accounts. We must continue to govern ourselves accordingly with common sense practice and rules of conduct when engaging in electronic media conversations and/or postings.

This will be my last year, for now, as the Chairman of this committee. I would like to think that for the last couple of years we gained a new-found love and respect for educating our members. Now it's time for me to assist in the quarries and make the seeds grow and populate. Thank you, my companions, for believing in the concept in order to make it a reality!

Zealously & Fraternally

R:.I.: Curtis Alan Banks
Deputy Grand Master (2016-2017)

CONCORDANT BODIES AND YOUTH COMMITTEE 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters, Distinguished East, Grand Line Officers, and Companions All. This is the Annual Report of the Grand Council's Concordant Bodies and Youth Committee for the 2016-2017 Cryptic Year.

Concordant Bodies

Upon appointment by M.:W.:Jeffrey M. Williamson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York the Concordant Bodies Committee consisting of the following individuals of Grand Lodge of NY: M.:W.:Jeffrey M. Williamson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of NY, R.:W.:Charles Catapano, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NY (Chairman), R.:W.:James Kintzel, Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of NY; R.:W.:Richard H. Swann, Jr., Deputy Grand Marshal of the Grand of NY; Royal Arch Masons: M.:E.:Raymond Roche/M.:E.:Bruce Testut, GHP, R.:E.:Allan M. Bryant, Jr., GK; Cryptic Rite: M.:I.:Garry R. Hutchurson, MIGM, R.:I.:Curtis A. Banks, DGM; Commandery Knights Templar: SK Frederick A. Beitter, REGC,/ SK Richard Kerimoglu, REGC; SK Stenrick B. Adams, DGC; Scottish Rite: Ill. Peter J. Samiec, Grand Almoner, Ill. David P. Spencer, Deputy for NY State; R.:W.:George Emmons, Past Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of NY for Remember The Blue Lodge Program . This Committee did convene three times this year.

The meetings of this committee provide a general round table opportunity for discussions of mutual interest. Membership will change with the annual meetings of the various bodies, except for COD which changes ad hoc. Members of this committee have one vote at the Grand Lodge Annual Communications.

Several focuses for the meetings: to make sure all were aware of pending upcoming and projected dates that each of the Grand Lines can publish to avoid conflicts. The Grand Marshal who is also the Webmaster for Grand Lodge created a calendar that included some of the upcoming events for RAM, joint reception for Cryptic & Commandery in November and the Grand Communications of RAM in March 2018, Cryptic in August 2017 and Commandery in September 2017 and COD in October 2017. AASR reminded that two weeks after Grand Council Assembly there will be the Supreme Council Session in Rochester, NY also.

Discussion took place on how the Shrine and now the Grotto are a concern in not cooperating with overall plan of Grand Lodge. That they are each recruiting members right after becoming Master Masons and not giving brothers enough time to flourish in the blue lodge. The thoughts were shared around the room and the DGM took notes and mentioned that further discussions should continue and to possibly invite them to one of these meetings. The Grand Master reminded us all that the Shrine is NOT a concordant body and our brothers need to be educated in this.

The DGM asks what each of the concordant bodies had to invest in the growth of our body and how it related to Blue Lodge growth. Each representative spoke about programs that were geared to show how the blue lodge is needed and necessary. All representatives agreed not to go after newly raised master masons until after at least 1 year of them being in lodge and then determine what the strength of the lodge is might make the efforts go 2 years or more. This formula will help Grand Lodge identify weaker lodges so they know where their AGL's, Staff Officers & DDGM's need to focus concentration on. It was agreed that while the York & Scottish Rite concordant bodies provide more light, we need to make sure the principles are met that the average Master Mason has received ALL the light and that the concordant bodies fill in gaps to complete the story.

R.:W.:George Emmons gave us an update on Remember the Blue Lodge Program. The jewels for first line signers and that the program is and has come to an end. He was thanked by all those present and even as those of us who were offering ideas for continuity, Bro. Emmons felt it had run its course and to just let it die out. The new Lewis jewel is making some good hits and advised that we should be concentrating our efforts to that with family bonds.

The Grand Master encouraged the meetings to keep going and was glad that more representation showed up to this meeting then the last one which was poorly attended except for Cryptic which he commended for making sure we had our say. He hoped to see everybody at various events throughout the year and eventually at Grand Lodge in May and then St. Johns Weekend in June.

The respective Concordant Bodies representatives are open to receiving ideas, thoughts or comments from you to present at any of the meetings of the Committee to better the advancement of Freemasonry in this state.

Youth Groups

The three Youth Groups in New York State are: The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, The Organization of Triangles, Inc., and The Order of DeMolay. They were all active this past year and represented at many Masonic functions and activities throughout the state.

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls Grand Assembly was held on March 30 - April 2, 2017 at the Villa Roma, Calicoon, NY. At this annual assembly Miss Samantha Miller Grand Worthy Advisor's reign came to a close and Miss Melissa Osorio was elected Grand Worthy Advisor and her theme for the year is "Do The Impossible." Her charity cause is America's Vet Dogs. Mrs. Gale Gould is serving the Supreme Assembly as Supreme Nature for 2016-18. She presently is the Supreme Deputy/Inspector for NY Rainbow since 2004. The 2017 recipient of the Order of Deborah Award was conferred upon Miss Ariana Altman.

The Organization of Triangles, Inc will hold its 28th Biennial Convention this coming October 6-9, 2017. The State Representative Miss Samantha Miller's term came to a close on October 8, 2016. Miss Samantha Dugan was elected NY State Representative (2016-17). Her theme for the year is "Together, We Can Achieve Much." Her charity cause is Pediatric Palliative Care. The Organization of Triangles celebrates its 90 years of existence in NY State. The "Ninety for 90 Program" is taking place now, it looks to develop the organization and its members in making great strides to help the organization to grow and thrive. The program emphasizes growth in the areas of Personal Development, Leadership Education, Values, Ritual and Public Speaking, Community Relations, Masonic Relations, Membership, Fun and Friendship, Fundraising, and Community Service. Each Triangle is given a guide to reach their goals but are in charge of how they will reach them. The hope is that at their Biennial Convention in 2017, every Triangle will have grown in several areas continuing their mission for a Finer American Womanhood. The 2016 recipient of the Order of Deborah Award was bestowed upon Miss Meghan Williams by representatives of the York Rite Bodies of NY.

This past year was an exciting year for New York State DeMolay, not only with the growth of DeMolay and the establishment of new chapters throughout our state but our own NY DeMolay Executive R.:W.: William Sardone was elected and served DeMolay International as Grand Master of DeMolay International concluding his term in June with its Annual Convention in Buffalo, NY. He was also elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of NY this past May. NY DeMolay held its 50th Annual Convention on August 4-6, 2017 at the Utica Community College Campus and the Masonic Care Community in Utica, NY just two weeks ago where Brother Edward Bartels concluded his term as Master Councilor. DeMolay Brother Peter Stokke, Jr. was duly elected NY State Master Councilor for 2017-18. The 2017 recipient of the Order of Tribune was bestowed upon DeMolay Brother Christian James Schoonmaker by representatives of the York Rite Bodies.

The Youth Organizations are grateful for the attendance of Most Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson, MIGM and R.:I.: John Gallant and others of the Grand Council for attending several of their functions and activities throughout this past year.

I move that this Annual Report be accepted and made a part of the full proceedings of this 194th Annual Assembly of the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of NY.

Respectfully submitted,

M.:I.: Garry R. Hutchurson, MIGM (*Chairman of Concordant Bodies Committee*)

R.:I.: Curtis A. Banks, DGM (*Concordant Bodies Committee Member*)

M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, PMIGM (*Youth Committee Chairman*)

R.:I.: Daniel Elliot, PDDGM (*Youth Committee Member*)



Annual Report for the Library and Museum- 2016-17

Submitted by: R.:I.:Phillip J. Chandler Chairman

It was a very quiet year for the Museum and Library as there were no artifacts donated for posting or viewing.

The one very important task undertaken was to update the Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters pictures in the museum. Sadly we have been negligent in keeping the pictures updated and this problem dates back to M.:I.:Stephen Licht 's picture of 2004 – 2005.

This was a daunting task as finding pictures of twelve Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters seemed to be impossible! But, with the help of M.:I.:E. William Whitteker, M.:I.:David Raymond and M.:I.:Leonard Mason we did accomplish 95% of the task. We still at this time lack one picture but should have that very soon.

A second problem was matching any new frames with those already in the library! We didn't want a mix and match assortment of frames! So we endeavored to match what we have already had on display.

Unfortunately vendors today only want to sell generic frames which are mass produced and made anywhere but the USA.

After many hours of travel and weeks of stopping at every shop along the way, we found a vendor in Canastota, NY who was willing to research the frames and contact a wholesaler who still carried a pattern that everyone else said was obsolete since 1985!

After finding the frame material we asked the Trustees to purchase three frames for the future. This was done and we now have frames and vendors with purchasing information so we can continue using the same frames in the future.

This was a task that we should never have to do again! We were so very fortunate to receive these pictures and the time to procure them was something that should have never had to be done!

I would ask that we now and in the future have the new M.:I.:Grand Master have a picture taken for the purpose of posting in the library and museum at the Grand Assembly.

Fraternally Submitted,

R.:I.:Phillip J. Chandler

Northeast Cryptic Festival 2017

On January 28, 2017 King Solomon Council No. 31 hosted the annual Northeast Cryptic Festival, also known as the "Tri-State Festival" in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The Royal Master Degree was conferred by Companions of the host Council with the Select Degree presented by The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Massachusetts and the Super Excellent Degree was conferred by the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut.

The Degrees were well done and an enjoyable day was had by all. In all we greeted 33 new Companions, 23 from New York, seven from Connecticut and two from Massachusetts. Over forty Companions witnessed the Super Excellent Master Degree for the first time. In all more than 135 Companions attended the event.

In addition to the great numbers, we were also honored to have the Grand Masters of all three participating States attend the festival – a first in my memory. So a big thank you to MP J. Andrew Birdsall from Connecticut and MI Demetrios John Sarantopoulos of Massachusetts; and of course a big thank you to MI Gary Hutchurson from our own State of New York. Accompanying MI Hutchurson from our Grand Line were RI John Gallant, Grand Marshal, RI Stephen Rubinstein, Grand Standard Bearer, RI Donald Kunego, Grand Steward and RI Robert Ball, Grand Sentiel. A special thanks to RI Curtis Banks, Grand Deputy Master, for not only attending, but for taking part in the Royal Master Degree at the last minute with two other Companions from Columbia Council No. 1 Comp Oneil Bryan (who did the 2nd part of King Solomon) Companion James Gregg, (who did the 1st part and the lecture) while RI Banks did the obligation and the final part. King Solomon is a small Council, so without the help and support of those mentioned about, the event would have been difficult and its ultimate success, impossible.

It is fitting that we also thank the Knights of St. Andrews Chapter, associated with the Valley of the Hudson, A.A.S.R. who provided much needed manpower in manning the registration table. Thanks go to Bro. Bill Nugent and Bro. Robert Siebold.

Finally, since we all like to eat, a special thank you to I. David Barkstedt, who worked in the kitchen and behind the scenes to make sure everything went smoothly and all concerns addressed. All in all a great day.

We took a chance scheduling this festival in January. You never know what the weather will bring. But since the traditional months of March and April are so busy, we decided to take a select a time when there were fewer conflicts in our respective Masonic calendars. (We were also wise enough to plan a backup date for the following Saturday if there was inclement weather, but fortunately didn't need it). Judging by the numbers, the risk was worth taking. We will see what the future brings.

As of this writing the date and place for the 2018 Tri-State Festival has not been set. We will be sure to spread the word when that time comes. It is a great opportunity to see Degrees conferred by other jurisdictions and share fellowship with our Companions from other states. It is also a terrific opportunity to see the Super Excellent Master Degree.

Respectfully submitted,

R.I.: Steven P. Koch
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons In the State of New York

REPORT OF THE 2016 NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

(...as of 07/15/17)

The 2016 Northeast York Rite Conference was held September 9th through the 10th at the Holiday Inn located in Mansfield, MA.

The Officers of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International, General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International and Grand Encampment Knights Templar United States of America were all present to listen to the companions and Sir Knights assembled. The General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council held their sessions on Friday, September 9 at 8:00AM. Grand Encampment will hold their session on Saturday, September 10 at 8:00 AM also. The Emerging Leaders program which was originally spearheaded and produced by our own R.:I.: Steven Rubinstein, Grand Standard Bearer, was held on Saturday as well.

There was much discussion from the floor as it pertained to leadership and membership. There was a bit of heat and contention when the Cryptic Session began as it had spilled over from the Royal Arch session. While not all Grand Councils belong to General Grand it was discussed with reason as to why a Grand Council should join. There were pro's and con's mentioned – but there was a main theme that seemed to resonate throughout which was there being a lack of communication as well a sense of companions being talked "down to" which lead to some companions being turned off at the idea of joining and/or wanting to stay a part of General Grand Council. Present was the General Grand Master, The M.:I.: Lawrence Weaver, who seemed to have been taking a field of questions, yet also seemingly not being able to get his answers and points across without exasperation and frustration.

However, with all said and done, I feel that General Grand Council has been attentive whenever I have been around. Myself and the Grand Lecturer, Stu Card, assisted a couple of times in working with R.:I.: Charles "Buddy" Wagner. The General Grand PCW, R.:I.: Monty Glover, all the way from HI came to our session last year and was very positive with his words while R.:I.: Charles McCollum has been at our last couple of sessions as I have seen him at several of the other Grand Councils during my visits.

In closing, I cannot say that General Grand Council is not trying to work and be visible for the Grand Councils. The question is...are the Grand Councils supplying them with enough "wants" that are/can be satisfied? Let's see what change brings at the 46th Triennial in Portland, OR on 08/23 – 08/29/17 that we may get a peek at the 2017 Northeast York Rite Conference which will be held in Albany, NY at the Desmond Hotel & Conference Center on 09/08 – 09/09/17.

Zealously & Fraternally

R.:I.: Curtis Alan Banks
Deputy Grand Master (2016-2017)

The Grand Council Website Committee Report 2016-2017

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Council.

I would like to thank Most Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson for my re-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 very solid advice, I am pleased to report that I have had another successful 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 continues to be the ability 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 am the contact for keeping our public calendar up to date with Grand Master visits, Grand Line visits to other conferences, Grand Assemblies, other Grand Line related events and DDGM visits to our constituent Councils.

Unfortunately this year we had two breakdowns with the hosting of our Web site and our email forwarding. The first down time was in the beginning of March when the Web site and email were not available for about a week. During the down time I was unable to contact the representative of our hosting company. The second occurrence was in early May with our email forwarding not working for a week. Like the time in March I was unable to contact our representative. During the second outage, I worked with Bro. Ken Stuczynski, who's company is hosting the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Web sites. At that time we transitioned the hosting of our Web site and email forwarding to Br. Stuczynski's systems. I fully expect that the support provided to us by Br. Stuczynski will be superior than our previous provider.

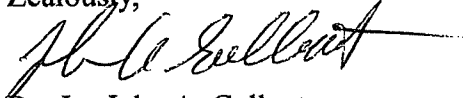
The following is a brief list of the "Futures" I have planed for the upcoming year(s).

I have been in contact with the Officers of Grand Chapter and they are making excellent progress toward the implementation of their use of MSS (YRIS) project. Once their implementation is completed we should be able to take advantage of their Companion database to build our implementation for Grand Council.

It is still a goal of the committee to provide selected "electronic" forms to allow Council Recorders to dynamically fill in their "end of year" information and email the report to the Grand Recorder's Office. We have updated the Grand Line Officer Visitation report to a PDF dynamic form. The next set to be worked on will be the Council Reports

In conclusion, it has been a good year with a couple of rough spots that we have put behind us. I have had the opportunity to learn a lot during 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

Report of the District Deputy Grand Master of the First Cryptic District

Firstly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Grand Line members, past and present, for my appointment as District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York. It has been a pleasure to work with the Cryptic team this year and I look forward to another successful year.

Here is a summary of observations over the last year I have regarding the Councils in the First District, in alphabetical order. In general, the Councils are vibrant and interested in prospering, each with senior members of the Craft guiding and mentoring the more junior Companions. In general also, I observed some strong ritual work – accurate memorization and emphatic delivery, and some work that was neither and could benefit from additional guidance.

Like many Masonic bodies I have visited in various District Deputy capacities (Lodges, Chapters, and Councils), there can be a broad range of what is acceptable or standard in terms of books and records. The result is that each Council has its own framework and expectations.

Adelphic Council No. 7 meets the fourth Wednesday of October, January, March, and May. I visited on March 22nd, 2017. The Officers performed well with a combination of general command of the material and some reading or reference to the ritual during the opening. Right Eminent Past Grand Commander George Harrison is the Recorder and the books and records are immaculate and very well organized.

Adelphic Council has a number of York Right luminaries involved, including REPGC Don Berry, incoming Grand Commander Ritchie Kerimoglu, and Grand Captain of the Host Paul Huck, to name a few. Adelphic Council is an exceptional Council.

I was unable to confirm the filing of the 990N, but I understand this is done annually.

Adoniram Council No. 36 meets on the second Thursday of January, February, and March. Adoniram has gone through many changes recently including moving from Whitestone to Advance Temple in Long Island City, which should be beneficial for the members, since the associated Chapter and Commandery also meet in Advance Temple.

This Council is led by several Companions of the Council including R.:I.: Ari Chisin, R.:I.: James Reichman, I.: Jay Marksheid, John McKoy, and I.: Joe Savaglio. I met with the Council on January 12th, 2017, along with the Deputy Master R.:I.: Curtis Banks and Grand Steward R.:I.: Don Kunego. Nonetheless, only five Companions showed up so the Council was not able to open.

The Recorder was not present, so his books and records (minutes, membership roster, etc.) were not reviewed on the official visit.

The Treasurer was present; I reviewed the checks and ledger, bank statements, Constitution, bylaws, Charter and equipment; the condition of their books and records and paraphernalia is fair to good, and in a nice touch they have custom Council nameplates with Office.

They have filed their 990N, and subsequent to the meeting I was able to review books with the

Recorder. From an administrative perspective they seem to be in pretty good shape. They do have a fair bank balance, and can sustain activity with no income for a decade or so. However, there is clearly an issue with collecting membership dues (they collected dues for five members out of 28) which they need to address.

Over the past two years this Council has made huge strides, but they need to continue bringing new members in, affiliating Companions who want to do the work, and opening regularly with the goal of performing the degrees.

Columbian Council No.1 meets on the second Wednesday of January, February, and March. I attended both January and February meetings, but business travel in March precluded some Masonic activity for me, including the conferral of the Super Excellent Master Degree in March. My Official Visit was the night of January 11th, 2017. All paperwork and books were in order, complete with proof of the filing of the 990N. Books and records are complete and in good shape.

Ritual work in general at Columbian is quite excellent, with most if not all of the work memorized and delivered with authority and passion. All the seats of the Line are committed and it is unusual for any position not to have its elected or appointed Officer attendant. Fellowship follows every meeting with a dinner, with opportunity to engage in educational discussion. Generally the equipment is available and in good shape, but the Charter is quite old and battered and should be replaced.

Columbian Council also has the unique distinction that it performs the Most Excellent Master degree each year, which usually hosts Companions from the First District as well as visitors.

Flatbush Council No. 80 meets the fourth Tuesday, September through June. However, Flatbush Council meets on the same night as its Commandery of Knights Templar, so more focus may be given on the night of the meeting to one or the other, depending on the work of the evening (for example conferring the Royal Master versus the Order of Malta). I visited Flatbush on November 22nd, 2016. Again, a very strong culture and a close-knit group of individuals working to enrich both Flatbush Council and Bay Ridge Commandery. Several senior members of the York Rite Grand Bodies (including R.:I.: Curtis Banks) are involved in this Council as well, contributing to the stability of the Council. The junior Companions and Officers generally speaking are quite solid with the ritual work and are passionate about their involvement. You really get the sense that the line works hard to be professional in their roles.

The books and records need to be reviewed in depth this year, since many of them were not available at the visit, again.

On July 12th it was my pleasure to join Flatbush at a specially convened Council to conduct the Select Master Degree on several candidates, including the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. The Companions of Flatbush did exemplary work.

North Shore Council No. 88 meets the fourth Monday in September, November, January, March, and June. I visited North Shore February 27th, 2017. We were warmly received and dined prior to the meeting with the Illustrious Master David Diamondstein and several of the Companions. During

the opening, there was a combination of Companions who had some command of the material while others resorted to reading. However I appreciate the strong culture and close fellowship of the Companions and there is great history to the Council and the other York Rite bodies associated with this location. Also, the Companions and Sir Knights in the other York Rite bodies in the area are quite involved.

North Shore has a core group of stalwarts, and the condition of their books and records is fair to good, and paraphernalia is excellent, however the evening of the first visit in November neither the Treasurer nor Trustee was present to walk me through the financials of the Council. It turns out that the Treasurer goes to Florida this time of year, each year, to be with his family and celebrate his birthday. I suggested to the Secretary and Illustrious Master that they should avoid November for the official visit, that being the case.

On the 26th of June I joined the Companions of North Shore to present a new reproduction of the North Shore Charter, provided by the will and work of our Grand Recorder MI Charles Roberts and our Grand Master MI Garry Hutchurson. The previous charter had been damaged in the fire which destroyed much of the original Lodge building and all associated body documents and paraphernalia. The Companions were exuberant and reinvigorated to do the work of the Council.

Suffolk Council No. 76 meets on the second Friday of September through June (except April). My visit was scheduled Friday the 13th of January in 2015. This Council is a pleasure to visit – I was quite warmly greeted and quite a few Companions showed up for both the visit as well as the dinner beforehand. The Council finished the evening by presenting a custom ordered cake with a welcome written in icing!

The books and records are in good shape, the paraphernalia and equipment is also in good condition. Suffolk Council No. 76 is a class act and always a pleasure to visit.

In summary, the books and records of the First Cryptic District, as well as the paraphernalia are in good condition with some follow-ups to be performed. With one exception all Councils have filed their 990N's. In two cases and possibly three (North Shore and Columbian, possibly Suffolk) need replacement Charters.

The ritual work of the First District is quite solid, with exceptional standouts as well as some room for improvement. My perception is that all Companions are interested in improving their work as well as open for additional educational opportunities. I look forward to visiting all the Councils again this year and continuing my support for the District.

Zealously,

R.:I.: R. Conrad Johnson
DDGM 1st Cryptic District

District Deputy Grand Master Annual Report for the 2nd Cryptic District

The following is what is happening in the 2nd Cryptic District.

Peekskill Council No. 55

Peekskill Council did not meet or call to cancel mine and Dan Elliot's visit on March 8, 2017. We talked to the landlord of the building who was there the same night we were and he told us that the other masons not blue lodge canceled their lease, as they would not be meeting anymore. They have not had a proper meeting in years as an AGL and DD in both Royal Arch and Council I have never had a meeting with any members present.

Union No. 2; King Solomon Council No. 31; Goshen Council No. 93

The other three councils are still struggling to stay afloat. The one problem is age we are losing a lot of members coming out to meeting because of age. The other problems that I find for DDs is that when they do their visits, each council does not have a standard way to keep the minutes or books. Just like blue lodge we should have a secretary's book. There should also be a class for the secretaries. No one who goes and does this for the council ever did secretary or treasurer work in their private life, most times both the secretary and the treasurer don't have the experience to do the jobs. Most of your secretaries and treasures are the oldest members and don't come out to meetings.

This is even true for my own council which I am trying to fix now. It very hard for one mason to confront another mason who has 30 plus years and question their ability, most times you take their word. Most times these jobs are just past off to another mason after a secretary or treasurer has died and they didn't want the job to begin with, it's just has to be a name in the position.

I do see hope as my RAM are bring in younger men who are eager to learn and take part. They have expressed their desire to move on to the council and commandry. I also hope that this new push to try and bring in new members to the blue lodge, that they in turn point to us as the further learning in masonry.

**R.:I.: Michael Quigley
DDGM #2**

District Deputy Grand Master Annual Report
For The 4th Cryptic District

This past year, I have had the honor of serving as District Deputy Grand Master of the 4th District of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York which includes: Bloss-DeWitt Clinton Council #14, St. George's Council #74, Joseph Warren-Cryptic Council #37, and Oneonta Council #87.

Working with and getting to know the members of the Cryptic bodies in my district, many of whom I have known for a long time, but many more are new faces; as well as R.:I.: Phillip J. Chandler, Grand Conductor of the Council has been a pleasure.

The ritual of our Cryptic Degrees are among the best in Masonry and I have witnessed fine examples of ritual work this year. Word perfection may be the goal, but a good try showing effort is always appreciated.

I made my Official Visits as follows: 02/16/17 Bloss-DeWitt Clinton Council #14; 02/22/17 to Oneonta Council #87; 03/16/17 St. George's Council #74 and 03/17/2017 to Joseph Warren-Cryptic Council #37

On my visits to each Council in the District I reviewed the books and records of each of the District's Councils and observed them in opening, closing, and degree work and found all to be acceptable and some exceptional. The Cryptic Councils I visited were in fine shape monetarily and with strong leadership. With one notable exception, that of Joseph Warren-Cryptic Council #37. This exception has been discussed with Grand Council and I continue to work with their leaders to restore good function and rebuild their base.

I look forward to another rewarding year working with Grand Council as well as my local Councils.

Sincerely and fraternally,

R.:I.: Gerald Dievendorf
DDGM, 4th Cryptic District

District Deputy Grand Master 6th Cryptic District 2016-17 Annual Report

This is my annual report as the District Deputy Grand Illustrious Master for the 6th Cryptic District of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York during the 2016-2017 Masonic year.

I followed the same program for each of my official visits. This included the greetings from the Grand Master and the presentation of his "If we build it they will come" message. I then followed with a discussion of all our Cryptic Mason programs. I ended each visit with some personal comments about my work in the quarries the past 45 years. For details of each official visit see the report for each specific Council.

On August 12 & 13 I attended the Grand Council meeting in Rochester and attended all required meetings.

September 14 I attended Central City Council #13 for my District Deputy Apron presentation and then performed the part of Adoniram in the conferral of the Royal Master Degree.

September 16-18 I attended Grand Commandery and attended the Grand Council meeting that weekend.

October 12th I attended the 6th Cryptic District Grand Lecturer's Convention at Central City Council # 13 in Liverpool. The Grand Lecturer gave an elegant presentation on the Super Excellent Master Degree and then conferred the degree in short form to all the companions present.

October 17 I made my official visit to Rotica Council #12 in Vernon. This Council is strong and capable of performing both Royal & Select Master degrees.

October 21 my wife and I attended the Grand Master's reception at the Rochester Airport Hotel and participated in all the festivities of the evening.

On November 10 I fell and suffered a severe injury to my spinal cord at the T10 level which has required two surgeries and continued rehab and medical care since. I remain partially paralyzed in both legs and suffer from continual sciatica. Recent MRI's and Nerve testing suggests that these will be continual life-long problems. My rehab has been complicated by multiple falls, two different R knee injuries, bursitis in both hips, R plantar fasciitis, and a new ruptured disc at the L4 level. These injuries have caused me to miss some Masonic meetings and responsibilities this year and I have been forced to cut back on future Masonic responsibilities and roles.

On November 15, against my wife's and my doctor's wishes, I attended my official visit to King Hiram Council #18. Over the past 5 years I have been one of many who have helped the late RI Don Ellinwood and MI E. William Whittaker in keeping this Council alive. Although we did not have enough companions to open, I inspected the books and found everything in order. The exciting news is that 7 new candidates for the Cryptic Degrees from Auburn Lodge will join the several members of Auburn Lodge who have taken the degrees in the past two years. The plan is to move this Council from Seneca Falls, where it has met temporarily for the past few years after the Port Byron Lodge was condemned, to a new home at the Auburn Lodge. See my notation from June 13, 2017 for the latest on this rehabilitation of a failing Council.

March 8 I attended my official visit to Central City Council #13 in Liverpool. This Council is strong and conferred both the Royal & Select Master Degrees this Masonic year.

April 12 I attended Central City Council #13 and portrayed the part of King Solomon for the Select Master Degree.

April 26 I made my Official Visit to Fulton Council #50 in Phoenix. 7 members attended and the Grand Marshall, RI John Gallant, who was simultaneously making his Grand Line Officer visit, and I made 9 to officially open. This is the first official visit in several years that this Council did not have at least 9 members present. The active members of this Council are older and some are dropping out due to deaths and health issues. This Council has not conferred the degrees in years. They have no new candidates, despite some efforts to find some. They are doubling down this year to find some candidates as the companions of this Council are aware they need new blood.

May 25 I made my Official Visit to Kind David Council #97 in Dexter. This Council is strong and doing good work. They are capable of conferring both degrees.

June 13 I attended the rededication of King Hiram Council #18 in Auburn. This meeting was attended by the Grand Master and several of his Grand Line, who presented King Hiram Council #18 a new warrant, as their original was lost in the condemned Port Byron Lodge in years past. This council voted to change it's bylaws to meet permanently at the Auburn Lodge and they have a full line of younger and eager officer's. The Grand Master then installed the officers of King Hiram Council for the ensuing year. This Council, which has been so close to losing their warrant the past few years, now has a bright future.

June 14 I participated in the installation of officers of Central City Council #13 in Liverpool.

If called by the Grand Master this upcoming Masonic year and if my back cooperates, I anticipate serving the Grand Council for my 2nd year as District Deputy.

Zealously,

R.:I.:John B. Covell, M.D.
DDGM 6th Cryptic District

District Deputy Grand Master 7th Cryptic District: 2016-17

Ahwaga Council No. 30

A group of core members keeps this Council moving . With 35 members, attendance at meetings could be improved. They are able to open, but many times the chairs are filled with substitutes, requiring the use of books. There has been some active recruiting taking place and Ahwaga is expecting to have three new Companions by September, 2017. This obviously is a positive and can be used to build momentum moving forward. Recorder and Treasurer books are in order, but need to re-apply for tax-exempt status.

Cayuga Council No. 90

With 25 members, they struggle at times with attendance. They do open regularly, with some Companions quite proficient. Cayuga has candidates in the pipeline and this bodes well for the future. They have performed degree work well this past year for their own and visiting candidates. All books in order and they are current with 990-N filings.

Respectfully Submitted,

R.:I.: Scott Kinne, DDGM 7th Cryptic District

District Deputy Grand Master 8th Cryptic District **2016-17 Annual Report**

As my term of District Deputy comes to a close I would like to thank Most Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson for my appointment of District Deputy.

This is my report of the Councils of the 8th Cryptic District:

Doric Council #19

Doric Council conferred the Royal Degree on November 19, 2016 and the Select Degree on January 18, 2017. Companions were greeted from SkoiYase #75, King Hiram #18, and Nundawaga #92 for a total of nine. The Ritual work went very well. Doric Council opens and closes with some use of the Ritual book.

Hornellsville Council #35

The Council can open and close with some use of the Ritual Book, but I am pleased to see them functioning with the members they have. Some concern about future financial stability and viability.

SkoiYase Council No. 75

This Council needs assistance of the Ritual Book for the opening and closing. I am also pleased to see them functioning with their membership. New members greeted this year.

Nundawaga Council No. 92

The Council is able to open and close with very little use of the Ritual Book. Nundawaga is able to do Degree work but decided to travel to Doric for the Degrees in November and January this year.

In closing I would again like to thank MI Garry Hutchurson and RI Donald Kunego for traveling with me to the respective Councils. It has been a very rewarding and memorable experience that I will miss as I will be relocating to the state of Virginia. Thank you to all the Companions for their fellowship and kindness.

Fraternally,

R.:I.:Dennis G. Parmerter

District Deputy Grand Master 9th Cryptic District **2016-17 Annual Report**

Visits and Events

St. John's Weekend parade, 2016

August 12-13, 2016 Grand Council

October 21, 2016 Grand Master's Dinner

Grand Lodge Officer visits with R.:I.: Steve Rubenstein:

Buffalo Keystone no. 17 – Oct. 26

Dunkirk no. 25 – Nov. 7

Hamburg no. 90 – Nov 11

DDGM official visits:

Dunkirk no. 25 – 1/28/17

Hamburg no. 90 – 2/8/17

Buffalo Keystone no. 17 – 3/6/17

Degrees

RM – BK17 2/6/17

SM – BK17 6/5/17

Meritorious Apron Presentation

Dunkirk no. 25 – Nicholas Andin, April 26, 2017

M.:W.: Grand Lodge of New York, Prince Hall Affiliation,

Rochester, NY June 8th, 2017 - Met R.:I.: Charles Parker, GPCW

Juneteenth Festival, Buffalo, NY, June 17th, 2017

In the Concordant Body section of the 7th District, MWGL, PHA, NY, parade, accompanied by R.:I.: Stanley Mack, IM, and R.:I.: Robert Grice, DDGIM.

Little has changed over the past year respecting the three Councils in this District. BK17 is conferring degrees and promoting new IM's. Dunkirk 25 is struggling but holding its own with one new member. Hamburg 90 has also promoted a first time IM, but they need to recruit more new members. Both Dunkirk and Hamburg point to weak Royal Arch Chapters from which to draw candidates. Four Commanderies have merged in Erie County, leaving two. Lodges are consolidating across the District, and the same demographic and social challenges face the 9th District, Cryptic Masons.

S&F,

R.:I.: Mark J. Robson

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York
Grand Lecturer's Report for 2016 – 2017

Conventions were held in 4 of 7 Districts. All host Councils turned out a good crowd of their own members (some also recruited participants from other Councils). Most opened and closed, *either* without errors *or* without using a book, so keep at it! ☺

The Convention focus was the Super Excellent Master degree ritual, history and symbolism. The earliest reliable record of the conferral of this degree was by our own Columbian Council #1 on December 22nd, 1817, so we are approaching its bicentennial. We encourage each District, perhaps in conjunction with one of its adjacent Districts, to confer it before the end of the Cryptic year now beginning, and Grand Council will help!

As a full-form conferral requires at least 30 participants, most Councils, indeed most Districts, feel it is beyond their capacity. Yet there are options to make it feasible. Columbian Council has developed a version, also performed with great flair by a team from Western New York, which consolidates some of the spoken lines, so that a smaller cast can perform the drama, without losing any of the content; this version can be used at will by Columbian Council and with a dispensation from the MIGM by other Councils.

Our Grand Council has also long permitted a very short form, which omits the drama entirely. Why would you use such a mutilated form of this impressive degree? So you can confer it upon a large group of Companions, who can then study its ritual, and a few months later perform the full dramatic form of the degree! At the Convention in the 6th Cryptic District, we conferred the short form on enough Companions to form a cast for a full form conferral this coming Cryptic year. Think how exciting it would be, especially for our newer Companions, if you were to do the same in your District? Again, *we will help!*

If I am re-appointed, that (plus any other ritual topics requested by the Companions of the District) will be the work of the Conventions in the coming year. Also, Grand Council will work, through our District officers, with the Councils, to offer degrees in venues that reinforce their impact (such as the Select Master in actual caverns or tunnels).

My job and that of all the Assistant Grand Lecturers is to *help* the Councils in the primary function of Cryptic Masonry: by performing ritual competently and with feeling, to transform the hearts and minds of Companions, making us all ever better ashlar.

Our ritual is what distinguishes us from all other organizations. It is the means by which we transmit the unique message of Cryptic Masonry. It is the structure into which we pour our energies to provide the transformative experiences our ceremonies should be, that they *must* be to have any value. Whatever else you do in Cryptic Masonry, we ask you to remember the central and essential role of our ritual, and to give it the respect, attention and effort it deserves. This starts with the opening: experienced members need to exemplify this and train our eager newer members to do it in a manner that prayerfully attunes the minds of all Companions present, preparing them to perform effectively and benefit abundantly from the Masonic work of our Assemblies.

Zealously,

R.:I.: Stuart W. Card

Report Of The Assistant Grand Lecturer - 1st Cryptic District 2016-17

Date: August 2017

The Grand Lecturers Convention

Columbian Council No. 1, R.S. and S.E.M. hosted the Grand Lecturer's Convention for the 1st Cryptic District 2016- 2017 on Wednesday March 08, 2017 at Grand Lodge in the Chapter Room. The focus was the conferral of the Super Excellent Master degree by the officers and members of Columbian Council from memory. The version that was conferred is the standard Columbian Council work. Grand Lecturer R.:I.:Stuart W. Card gave complimentary remarks on the work of Columbian Council and the version of the SEM. Additionally, Grand Master M.:I.:Garry R. Hutchurson and Deputy Grand Master R.:I.:Curtis A. Banks were in attendance. All attended a Cryptic Table Council following the Grand Lecturer's Convention.

Council Visits

The following councils were visited and proficiency noted:

Columbian Council No. 1: [Grand Lodge-23rd St.], Opening and Closing from memory. It confers Royal, Select and Super Excellent Master degrees annually in full form and from memory.

Flatbush Council No. 80: [Grand Lodge – 23rd St.], Opening and Closing must be assisted with aid of ritual books. This Council is working on degree conferrals.

North Shore Council No. 88: [Oyster Bay, NY], Opening and Closing must be assisted with aid of ritual books. This Council is working on degree conferrals.

Respectfully Submitted,

R.:I.:Henry G. Abel, III

Assistant Grand Lecturer - 1st Cryptic District

Assistant Grand Lecturer's Report For 2nd Cryptic District 2016-17

Once again, I had the honor to travel the district with R.:I.: Mike Quigley, DDGM for the 2nd Cryptic District. We have enjoyed working together these past four years. Most of these Councils have not changed very much from the previous year. I have broken down each Council below.

Union #2

This is a small Council but will soon be growing thanks to the influx of Companions from Royal Arch. Most recently, they have several Companions who are Most Excellent Masters and are in waiting to take their Royal Arch Degree. I had the honor to speak to these Companions about Cryptic Masonry in an open meeting. Hopefully, I peaked their interest in joining Council after they complete their Royal Arch Degree. Most members of this Council are still using the books for opening and closing. However, I feel if they continue to build their membership through the Royal Arch and the Lodges that their ritual will get better. They have tried to do the Royal and Select Degrees on their own and are making great progress. I would like to see them take part and assist other Councils with degree work as well.

King Solomon #31

This Council has been very strong with ritual in the past. They have done the Royal Master Degree on their own. Some Companions can do the ritual without the books. This Council hosted the Tri-State Festival this year and was able to bring in new Companions who are also good ritualists. They have many Companions in Royal Arch that are interested in joining Council as well. The membership for this Council and the rest of the 2nd Cryptic District should improve soon. Therefore, the ritual should improve also.

Peekskill #55

This year was the same as last year. The DD and I did not get an opportunity to meet with Peekskill Council. Grand Council is aware of the situation with this Council.

Goshen #93

Goshen is working on building their membership up also. They have 2 Companions that they brought in this year that are also good at Ritual. Most of the Companions are still using the books. This Chapter hosted the Grand Lecturer's Convention in April for the 2nd Cryptic District. The Companions that were present got a lot out of R.:I.: Stu Card's lecture as he covered the Super Excellent Master Degree. It was very informative. This Chapter is not yet ready to do any of the degrees on their own. However, I believe that there are a few Companions that are good at ritual and can assist King Solomon and Union with putting on one of the degrees. This Council is also doing a good job at trying to get either a guest speaker or some type of education program for each meeting relating to the ritual. This Council meets 8 times a year. So, there are plenty of opportunities to practice and memorize the ritual.

Overall, as a District the Ritual would be considered fair. Some Companions can open and close without the books. However, most cannot. I would recommend that all the Councils continue to try to increase membership. I would also suggest teaming up with another District to perform the Super Excellent Master Degree. This was also suggested by the Grand Lecturer, R.:I.: Stu Card at the Grand Lecturers Convention. I don't believe that each individual Councils can do all the degrees consistently without the books. However, if they team up and work together, I believe this can be accomplished. I look forward to working with the great Companions we have in our District in the future in whatever capacity they need me to assist with.

Submitted Respectfully,
R.:I.: Dan Elliott
AGL 2nd Cryptic District

AGL Report for the 4th Cryptic District

Bloss-DeWitt Clinton No. 14

I attended Council No. 14 on January 13, 2017. The assembly was opened and closed in good form, with some of the positions occupied by "fill-ins". The officers did a good job, just using their books for a quick reference whenever they forgot the next line. Even so, the assembly was conducted with the proper decorum. They informed me that they were going to take six candidates to the Tri-State Cryptic Festival in Poughkeepsie, thereby having a positive influx of new members. Overall, the Council functions well and I am sure the new members will expand the pool for officers, thereby eliminating the need for fill-ins. I had a most enjoyable evening talking with the many illustrious members of the Council.

Joseph Warren Cryptic No. 37

I attended Council No. 37 on April 21, 2017 with one traveling companion from Oneonta Council No. 87. The Council opened and closed in proper form, the "only" problem being that they all used their books, and by the way they read, this must be the usual way they conduct business. I explained that they will never learn their parts by reading, that a better way is to have a prompter to help when they get stuck. Overall, the council functions very well. They explained they were having problems attracting candidates as Royal Arch was having difficulties. After I was introduced, we had a lengthy discussion, where I, hopefully, answered their question correctly.

St. George's No. 74

I attended Council No. 74 on October 20, 2017. The Assembly was conducted in good form, although a few relied heavily on their books. It was the Illustrious Master's first Assembly as master. He did a good job, although he did incorporate some Royal Arch signs (to the amusement of all). In attendance were: R.I. Curtis A. Banks, DGM, R.I. Conrad Johnson, DDGM District #1, and R.I. Henry Abel III, AGL District #1. The Council was well attended with much enthusiasm. They had four candidates with another four scheduled for fall. After the regular assembly, they conferred the T.I.M. Degree on three candidates, with the Grand Lecturer, R.I. Stew Card in attendance. Overall, the Council is doing very well and I had a most enjoyable evening in a Council that obviously enjoys Cryptic masonry.

Oneonta Council No. 87

The Grand Lecturers Convention was held at the Oneonta Lodge on October 26, 2016. The Grand Lecturer, R.I. Stew Card was escorted to the East and afforded Grand Honors. The work of the evening was practice of Royal Master Degree, with the Grand Lecturer providing pertinent guidance. In attendance were: R.I. Phillip J. Chandler, Grand Conductor of the Council and R.I.

Gerald Dievendorf, DDGM 4th Cryptic District. On January 25, 2017, R.I. Phillip Chandler was present for his Official Visit, giving an interesting talk about his life. The Council then installed the Principal Conductor of the Work, M.I. Fred Hickein doing the honor. February 22, 2017, official visit of the DDGM. R.I. Gerald Dievendorf delivered the Grand Master's message, making a few personal comments. R.I. Phillip J. Chandler was in attendance and presented R.I. James W. Hemstrought Jr. with his Solomon Arch Jewel, Green Ribbon. Oneonta Council No. 87 does exceptional work, opening and closing with the officers doing their parts without books. They are also able to confer degrees without books. Overall, Oneonta #87 is a vibrant Council, fulfilling the ideals of Cryptic Masonry in a meaningful manner.

Most Illustrious Charles M. Roberts, PMIGM
Grand Recorder
158 Meadowbriar Road
Rochester, NY 14616-2339

Dear Most Illustrious Companion Roberts,

It has been my honor to serve as the AGL for the 7th district. There are only two councils in the 7th district, Ahwaga Council #30 in Vestal and Cayuga Council #90 in Trumansburg.

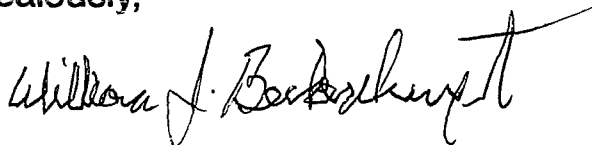
DDGIM Scott Kinnee and I had planned a couple of visits with Ahwaga Council, but we were finally able to visit on June 21st. They had only seven members, but with Scott and myself we were able to open the council. Our council has sometimes only three or four times that we can open during the year; I imagine Cayuga has the same problem. We were dressed in tuxes, and they knew we were coming. They seem to dress very casual up there. I feel as being that we were coming, a shirt and tie and slacks would have been more appropriate.

The ritual was done with some help from the books. The captain of the guard knew his ritual quite well, needing only a peek or two, as well as a prompt or two. This is normal being that we don't meet very often. We did have refreshments after the meeting and we talked about how important it is to talk to our members in the Blue Lodge and tell them about Royal Arch and Cryptic masonry, that there is so much more to learn in the degrees that would help them do what they became Masons to be: what they believe that a gentleman should be.

We also did an official visit to our own lodge and our ritual is getting better each time we meet. In our lodge we've always met usually with a business suit; as weather appropriate we may take the jacket off. I think doing that keeps us more focussed on our purpose.

RI Companion Kinnee spoke first about the message from the Most Illustrious Grand Master. I gave a short talk about why ritual is done in meetings: doing the ritual takes us from our every day life, helping us to focus on the reason we come to meetings.

Zealously,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William J. Beckenhaupt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Zealously,".

V I William J. Beckenhaupt, AGL 7th District

AGL REPORT FOR THE 8th CRYPTIC DISTRICT

I am pleased to report that I have successfully completed visits to all Councils within the 8th Cryptic District. The enthusiasm and courtesies displayed and extended throughout the District were over-whelmingly VERY POSITIVE. The elected officers, appointed Companions and visiting Brethren deserve a 'Well Done' for their efforts in advancing Cryptic Masonry in New York!

The following Councils were observed and evaluated:

Councils

Doric No. 19, Masonic Temple, 17 Church St., Pittsford, NY 14534-2005

Date of Visit/Evaluation: 10/19/2016

Ritual Performed: Opening and Closing: 4 of 9 present used ritual book

Degree performed: Royal Master and Select Master for 11 candidates representing 3 Districts

Ritual performed with little or no prompting. Great work.

Palmyra No. 26 [Merged w/Doric Council No. 19] Masonic Temple, 161 E. Main St. Palmyra, NY 14522

Hornellsville No. 35, Masonic Temple (South Dansville NY) 9652 County Rd #46, Arkport, NY 14807

Date of Visit/Evaluation: 10/13/2016

Ritual Performed: Opening and Closing: 9 of 9 present used ritual book

Degree performed: None

Skoi Yase No. 75, Masonic Temple, 553 Exchange St. S., Geneva, NY 14456

Date of Visit/Evaluation: 10/17/2016

Ritual Performed: Opening and Closing: 0 of 9 present used ritual book

Degree performed: None

Nun Da Waga No. 92, Masonic Temple, 39 Main St., Attica, NY 14011

Date of Visit/Evaluation: 10/24/2016

Ritual Performed: Opening and Closing: 8 of 10 present used ritual book

Degree performed: None

Overall the District is struggling with securing the elected and appointed members to attend Council and with 'fill-ins' at the last minute, performing the Ritual without books is challenging. Please note that the Annual Grand Lecturer's Convention was cancelled and not rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts.

Thank you for the privilege and honor to serve and represent the Grand Council and the Grand Lecturer.

Sincerely,

Don

R.: I.: Donald R. Kunego

Assistant Grand Lecturer 8th Cryptic District 2016-2017

May God Bless Our Troops and May God Bless America

OPERATING FUND 2016/2017

Balance as of 1 August 2016

-\$575.06

INCOME

R-1	Member NY Per Capita	\$27,381.00
R-2	Member GGC Per Capita	\$2,426.00
R-3	New Member Greeting	\$490.00
R-4	Permanent Funds	\$0.00
R-5	Bank Interest	\$0.00
R-6	Late Annual Return Fees	\$0.00
R-7	Refund Host Council	\$8,292.00
R-8	Escrow Funds	\$0.00
R-9	Miscellaneous	\$187.05
		\$38,776.05

\$38,200.99

DISBURSEMENTS

A-1	Annual Assembly (Meals & Hotel)	\$13,229.52
A-2	Annual Proceedings	\$0.00
B-1	Grand Master's Expenses	\$4,501.00
B-2	Grand Master's Apron	\$791.95
B-3	Grand Master's Jewel	\$0.00
C-1	Grand Recorder's Salary	\$2,000.00
C-2	Grand Treasurer's Salary	\$1,000.00
D-1	Office Expense	\$3,600.00
D-2	Grand Council Storage	\$1,200.00
D-3	Grand Council Supplies	\$388.71
D-4	Grand Council Postage	\$266.94
D-5	Grand Council Printing	\$500.00
D-6	Mileage & Travel	\$0.00
D-7	Telephone	\$0.00
D-8	Insurance & Bonding	\$252.00
D-9	Taxes	\$0.00
E-1	Grand Lecturer's Expenses	\$0.00
E-2	Grand Line Officers' Expenses	\$1,600.00
F-1	General Grand Council Per Capita	\$2,426.00
F-3	Youth Support Fund	\$500.00
G-1	General Grand Triennial Fund	\$0.00
G-2	Ritual/Constitution Fund	\$0.00

G-3	Regalia Fund	\$0.00	
G-4	History Fund	\$0.00	
G-5	Equipment Repair & Purchase Fund	\$0.00	
H-1	Miscellaneous	\$2,253.56	
			\$34,509.68

Balance as of 31 July 2017

\$3,691.31

Respectfully submitted,

George D. Emmons

R.: I.: George D. Emmons
Grand Treasurer

Escrow Funds 2016/2017

S-1 Rituals - Constitutions - Guides - Ish Sodi Awards

S-2 Regalia Fund

S-3 Triennial Fund

S-4 Equipment Purchases & Repair Fund

S-5 History Fund

S-6 Grand Master's Fund

	<u>S-1</u>	<u>S-2</u>	<u>S-3</u>	<u>S-4</u>	<u>S-5</u>	<u>S-6 *</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Balance as of 30 June 2016	4,111.84	673.60	70.66	1,990.90	1,332.70	0	\$8,179.70
Income	417.29	0	0	0	0	2,118.29	2,535.58
Interest	1.77	0.23	0.06	0.55	0.34	0	2.95
Sub-totals	4,530.90	673.83	70.72	1,991.45	1,333.04	2,118.29	10,718.23
Disbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balance as of 30 June 2017	4,530.90	673.83	70.72	1,991.45	1,333.04	2,118.29	\$10,718.23

* New Fund Established on 10/14/2016

Respectfully submitted,

George D. Emmons

R.: I.: George D. Emmons
Grand Treasurer

Finance & Accounts:

Review / Audit of the Grand Treasurer

9 August 2017

To The Grand Council,

We, the undersigned, have completed our review / audit of the Grand Treasurer's records, accounts and reports. We have found them to be in apparent good order and in entirely satisfactory condition.

Respectfully submitted,

ss Donald Harrison

M.: I.: Donald Harrison
Chairman

ss Stephen J. Koferl

I.: Stephen J. Koferl
Committee Member

ss William E. Mc Cauley

Comp. William E. Mc Cauley
Committee Member

The Annual Report Of The Grand Recorder 2016-2017

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

This year as in the past was a very busy year in the Office of the Grand Recorder. I have continued to work on the files of the Grand Council Computer cleaning up items and creating new files for storing information. The Computer has become much more efficient and is easier to find things.

We did bring to a successful conclusion the issue with the former Marriott Hotel in Islandia, NY with regards to the contractual arrangements. The Grand Council owes a debt of gratitude to Companion Harold Trabold who gave numerous hours of his law practice experience free of charge to making this happen. Our Grand Council has been truly blessed because of his services. We did not incur any major financial obligations with this issue.

Communication is a major task of the Grand Recorders Office. I have kept up with all the written and verbal communications. Many hundreds of emails, letters and phone calls have been addressed on various matters by the Grand Recorder this year. I have assisted Recorders and Grand Line Officers with needed information to make their roles easier and more efficient.

All Grand Council Membership Numbers have been assigned and Recorders have been informed. The 2016-17 Grand Council Membership numbers have been finalized and Recorders should be receiving them shortly. I wish to thank the Recorders who have submitted their Rosters on Membership for the Grand Recorder's Office. Several others still need to do so in order for the Office to do a comparison to the last known data it has on membership. I received from former Grand Recorder Pozefsky this year a disk on membership rosters of Councils from 2012. This will help to develop an accurate membership data base in order to proceed forward with entering the Membership Solution program (former YRIS) of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar of the USA. We are hopeful to enter into this process this year thereby creating a new efficient way of tracking membership data by local Recorders and the Grand Recorder's Office.

The Office this year had paid to have several boxes of historical Annual Returns and Election Certificates scanned to eliminate storage space and for them to be much more accessible. Such work will continue this year to further efficiency and storage costs. A major task this year will be to begin the scanning of the old file cabinet (3x5 Membership cards) in order to reduce further storage of this item.

The Office continues to track and keep current all Grand Representative Appointments. I wish to thank R.:I.:John Gallant for his continued support and assistance with this program.

The Office has developed a new electronic template for Grand Council Warrants. This was used this year to issue new duplicate warrants to Northshore Council No. 88 and King Hiram Council No. 18.

With regards to the financial condition of this Grand Council. With the recent increase in Per Capita this Grand Council is on a solid financial ground for the future. We have enough income at present to meet all our current expenses and a surplus to stabilize past year deficits. This year we hope to balance all outstanding escrow accounts for money due them and we have begun a process to reduce expenses in the 2017-18 Operating Budget. Please see attached the Grand Recorder's Financial Ledger for revenue received and vouchers issued for expenditures for details.

Finally, I commend most recorders to getting their Annual Returns submitted in a timely manner. I only had nine to remind several times to get them in. We have made great strides forward on this front too. Let us continue to build on this solid foundation as we move forward into the future as a Grand Council.

Respectfully Submitted,
M.:I.:Charles M. Roberts, Grand Recorder

Grand Recorder's Financials for 2016-2017

Balance as of July 31, 2016:

- \$575.06

Income/Revenue

Deposit #1: NY Per Capita Assessments	\$24,515.00
Deposit #2: Gen GC Per Capita Assessments	\$ 5,782.00
Deposit #3: Suffolk Council No. 76 for Meal Revenue	\$ 7,658.00
Deposit #4: Suffolk Council No. 76 for Meal Revenue	\$ 634.00
Deposit #5: St. George's Council Balance of Grand Master's Fund	\$ 2,068.29
Deposit #6: Ritual Sales	\$ 15.00
Deposit #7: Kaiser Aluminum Corp. Dividend	\$ 0.90
Deposit #8: Ritual Sales and Historical CD Sales	\$ 362.58
Deposit #9: Kaiser Aluminum Corp. Dividend	\$ 1.00
Deposit #10: Ritual Sales	\$ 105.00
Deposit #11: Kaiser Aluminum Corp. Dividend	\$ 1.00
Deposit #12: Ritual Sales and Shipping	\$ 78.25
	\$41,221.02

TOTAL REVENUE: \$40,645.96

Expenditures/Expenses

Voucher #17-1403: Lexington Hotel for 193 rd Annual Assembly Expenses	\$10,102.25
Voucher #17-1404: Lexington Hotel for 193 rd Annual Assembly Expenses	\$ 243.52
Voucher #17-1405: Charles M. Roberts Refunds for Annual Assembly	\$ 365.28
Voucher #17-1406: John Knox Presbyterian Church Printing Costs for 193 rd Annual Assembly	\$ 518.47
Voucher #17-1407: R/G Award Systems (Ladies Name Badges)	\$ 150.75
Voucher #17-1408: CAN Agency (Bond Insurance)	\$ 126.00
Voucher #17-1409: Couer DeLeon Commandery No. 23 (Journal Ad)	\$ 100.00
Voucher #17-1410: R?G Award Systems (Ladies Name Badge)	\$ 29.00
Voucher #17-1411: Grand Council Charity Corporation (Hathaway)	\$ 50.00
* Voucher #17-1425: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 1,125.00
Voucher #17-1426: George D. Emmons 1 st Quarter Grand Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 625.00
Voucher #17-1427: Charles M. Roberts 1 st Quarter Grand Recorder's Expenses	\$ 1,124.97
Voucher #17-1428: General Grand Council International Annual Assessments	\$ 2,426.00
Voucher #17-1429: Rainbow Charities of NY (Journal Ad)	\$ 75.00
Voucher #17-1430: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 418.14
Voucher #17-1431: George D. Emmons 2 nd Quarter Grand Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 625.00
Voucher #17-1432: Charles M. Roberts 2 nd Quarter Grand Recorder's Expenses	\$ 1,072.49
Voucher #17-1433: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 174.12
Voucher #17-1434: Grand Council Charity Corporation (Beardsley)	\$ 50.00
Voucher #17-1435: Children's Dyslexia Center Central NY (Widger)	\$ 25.00
Voucher #17-1436: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 451.89
Voucher #17-1437: Lexington Hotel Down Payment for 194 th Annual Ass.	\$ 2,000.00
Voucher #17-1438: CAN Surety (Bond Insurance)	\$ 126.00
Voucher #17-1439: Los Angeles Fraternal Supply Co. (Gr. Officer Jewels)	\$ 114.95
Voucher #17-1440: Charles M. Roberts (Office Supplies & Expenses)	\$ 113.42
Voucher #17-1441: Grey Barn Art & frame Shop (MIGM Picture Frames)	\$ 1,200.00
Voucher #17-1442: Shriners Hospital for Children (Long)	\$ 50.00
Voucher #17-1443: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 1,777.88
Voucher #17-1444: Charles M. Roberts 3 rd Quarter Grand Recorder's Expenses	\$ 1,259.44
Voucher #17-1445: George D. Emmons 3 rd Quarter Grand Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 625.00

Voucher #17-1446: Los Angeles Fraternal Supply Co. (PMIGM Apron)	\$ 791.95
Voucher #17-1447: Freeport L.I. Chapter #302 (GHP Journal Ad)	\$ 75.00
Voucher #17-1448: Peck's Graphics (Pocket badges & Name Tags)	\$ 42.50
Voucher #17-1449: Charles M. Roberts (Annual Storage Fee)	\$ 1,200.00
Voucher #17-1450: Richard C. Fowler (Gr. Officer Travel Expenses)	\$ 400.00
Voucher #17-1451: Curtis A. Banks (Scanning Expenses)	\$ 500.00
Voucher #17-1452: Donald R. Kunego (Gr. Officer Travel Expenses)	\$ 400.00
Voucher #17-1453: Garry R. Hutchurson Grand Master's Expenses	\$ 552.97
Voucher #17-1454: John A. Gallant (Gr. Officer Travel Expenses)	\$ 400.00
Voucher #17-1455: Curtis A. Banks (Gr. Officer Travel Expenses)	\$ 400.00
Voucher #17-1456: Transfer to Escrow Account for Triennial	VOIDED
Voucher #17-1457: Simpson Jewelry & Uniforms, Inc. (Silver Trowels)	\$ 183.00
Voucher #17-1458: Grand Chapter of NY State (Youth Program Awards)	\$ 500.00
Voucher #17-1459: Pecks Graphics (Pocket Badges & Name Tags)	\$ 47.61
Voucher #17-1460: George D. Emmons 4 th Quarter Gr. Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 625.00
Voucher #17-1461: Charles M. Roberts 4 th Quarter Gr. Recorder's	\$ 1,246.08
NA Error Adjustment in Expenses:	\$ 1.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR 2016-17: \$34,509.68

Balance as of July 31, 2017:

Total Income:	\$40,645.96
Total Expenditures:	- \$34,509.68
Escrow Transfer:	- \$ 2,444.97
Balance on Hand:	\$ 3,691.31

BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2016: \$ 3,691.31

Of this balance there will be a transfer from the operating account budget for 2017-18 to the Escrow Funds to cover non-available funds for these accounts for the past three years due to insufficient funds available. This will be approximately \$2,000.00. This action will get us current with all funds.

Respectfully Submitted,
M.: I.: Charles M. Roberts, Grand Recorder

PROPOSED VERSUS ACTUAL OPERATING BUDGET 2016-2017

		<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Balance as of 1 August 2016			<u>(\$575.06)</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
R-1	Member NY Per Capita (1227)	\$25,932.50	\$27,381.00
R-2	Member Gen GC Per Capita (1227)	\$3,162.50	\$2,426.00
R-3	New Member Greeting (49)	\$480.00	\$490.00
R-4	Permanent Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
R-5	Bank Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
R-6	Late Annual Return Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
R-7	Refund Host Council	\$7,000.00	\$8,292.00
R-8	Escrow Funds	\$800.00	\$0.00
R-9	Miscellaneous	\$800.00	\$187.05
		\$38,175.00	\$38,776.05
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>			
A-1	Annual Assembly (Meals & Hotel)	\$10,000.00	\$13,229.52
A-2	Annual Proceedings	\$700.00	\$0.00
B-1	Grand Master's Expenses	\$4,500.00	\$4,501.00
B-2	Grand Master's Apron	\$900.00	\$791.95
B-3	Grand Master's Jewel	\$400.00	\$0.00
C-1	Grand Recorder's Salary	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
C-2	Grand Treasurer's Salary	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
D-1	Office Expense/ Travel	\$4,000.00	\$3,600.00
D-2	Grand Council Storage	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
D-3	Grand Council Supplies	\$250.00	\$388.71
D-4	Grand Council Postage	\$450.00	\$266.94
D-5	Grand Council Printing	\$500.00	\$500.00
D-6	Mileage & Travel	\$2,850.00	\$0.00
D-7	Telephone	\$250.00	\$0.00
D-8	Insurance & Bonding	\$150.00	\$252.00
D-9	Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00
E-1	Grand Lecturer's Expenses	\$700.00	\$0.00
E-2	Grand Line Officers' Expenses	\$2,800.00	\$1,600.00
F-1	General Grand Council Per Capita	\$3,213.00	\$2,426.00
F-2	Youth Yearly Program Support	\$500.00	\$500.00
G-1	General Grand Council Triennial	\$300.00	\$0.00
G-2	Ritual/Constitution Fund	\$300.00	\$0.00
G-3	Regalia Fund	\$300.00	\$0.00
G-4	Equipment & Repair Fund	\$450.00	\$0.00
G-5	History Fund	\$100.00	\$0.00
G-6	Grand Master's Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
H-1	Miscellaneous	\$400.00	\$2,253.56
		\$38,213.00	\$34,509.68
Balance as of 31 July 2017		<u>(\$38.00)</u>	<u>\$3,691.31</u>

Respectfully submitted,

M. J. Charles M. Roberts

Grand Recorder

	Grand Council Proposed Budget 2017-2018			
			Budget 2017-18	
	INCOME	Comments		\$3,691.31
R-1	Member NY Per Capita (1227)	\$20.50 per member	24,783.00	
R-2	Member GC Per Capita (1227)	\$ 2.50 per member	3,067.50	
R-3	New Members-Greetings (70)	\$10.00 per member	700.00	
R-4	Permanent Fund Income		0.00	
R-5	Bank Interest		0.00	
R-6	Late Annual Return Fee		0.00	
R-7	Refund Host Council for A-1		8,500.00	
R-8	Escrow Funds		100.00	
R-9	Miscellaneous		800.00	
	Totals		37,950.50	
				\$41,641.81
	Disbursements			
A-1	Annual Assembly (Hotel/Meals/Etc.)		12,000.00	
A-2	Annual Proceedings		700.00	
B-1	Grand Master's Expense		4,500.00	
B-2	Grand Master's Apron		900.00	
B-3	Grand Master's Jewel		250.00	
C-1	Grand Recorder's Salary		2,000.00	
C-2	Grand Treasurer's Salary		1,000.00	
D-1	Office Expense & Travel	GR=525 and GT=375	4,000.00	
D-2	Grand Council Storage		800.00	
D-3	Supplies		400.00	
D-4	Postage		300.00	
D-5	Printing		500.00	
D-6	Telephone		150.00	
D-7	Insurance & Bonding		150.00	
D-8	Taxes		500.00	
E-1	Grand Lecturer's Expense		900.00	
E-2	Grand Line Officers' Expenses		2,800.00	
F-1	Gen. Grand Council Per Capita (1227)		3,067.50	
F-2	Youth Yearly Program Support		500.00	
G-1	General Grand Triennial Fund		1,200.00	
G-2	Ritual/Constitution NY Escrow Fund		400.00	
G-3	Regalia - New York Fund		400.00	
G-4	Equipment Repair & Purchase Fund		400.00	
G-5	History Fund		200.00	
G-6	Grand Master's Fund		100.00	
H-1	Miscellaneous		2,000.00	
	Totals		40,117.50	
	Balance as July 31, 2018			\$ 1,524.31
	Respectfully Submitted,			
	M.: I.: Charles M. Roberts, Grand Recorder			

TRUSTEES REPORT ON THE PERMANENT FUNDS
OF THE GRAND COUNCIL FOR THE CURRENT CRYPTIC YEAR 2016-2017

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 held in trust for the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State New York for the 2016-2017 Cryptic Year.

Grand Master's Fund (St. George's Council) Balance as of June 30, 2016: **\$2,068.29**
Additional Income for 2016-2017: 5 Historical CDs Sold **\$ 50.00**
Withdrawals for 2016-17: (III. Master Silver Trowel Jewels-CK#1457) **\$183.00**
Grand Master's Fund (Grand Council of NY) Balance as of June 30, 2017: **\$1,935.29**

Due to bank fee costs of having this fund in a local bank in the Schenectady area it was decided by St. George's Council via RI Phil Arony to have said funds in the Grand Master's Fund (\$2,068.29-check #108) transferred to the Grand Council of NY Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer so that they may establish a new Escrow Line (S-6: NY Grand Master's Fund) for future accounting purposes of said fund. This was accomplished on October 14, 2016 by the Grand Recorder with the Grand Treasurer.

PERMANENT FUNDS

PERMANENT FUND BALANCE on June 30, 2016: **\$115,287.34**

INCOME/REVENUE

	<u>Gains & Dividends</u>	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Fund Value</u>
American High-Income Trust Class A Funds			
July – September 2016 – 1 st Quarter	\$ 480.25	3,682.819 (\$10.18)	\$37,491.10
October – December 2016 – 2 nd Quarter	\$ 546.48	3,736.446 (\$10.26)	\$38,335.94
January – March 2017 – 3 rd Quarter	\$ 503.57	3,784.847 (\$10.40)	\$39,362.41
April – June 2017 – 4 th Quarter	<u>\$ 535.05</u>	3,836.062 (\$10.43)	\$40,010.13
	+\$2,065.80		

June 30, 2017 Fund Value: \$40,010.13

	<u>Gains & Dividends</u>	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Fund Value</u>
Putnam Investments High Yield Trust A			
July – September 2016 – 1 st Quarter	\$1,011.19	10,962.066 (\$7.590)	\$83,202.08
October – December 2016 – 2 nd Quarter	\$1,023.62	11,096.643 (\$7.630)	\$84,667.39
January – March 2017 – 3 rd Quarter	\$1,036.14	11,231.330 (\$7.640)	\$85,807.36
April – June 2017 – 4 th Quarter	<u>\$2,108.70</u>	14,954.456 (\$5.900)	\$88,231.29
	+\$5,179.65		

June 30, 2017 Fund Value: \$88,231.29

Increase Value of Permanent Funds from June 30, 2016 --- to June 30, 2017: **\$12,954.08**

PERMANENT FUND BALANCE on June 30, 2017: **\$128,241.42**

DISBURSEMENTS

There were No Withdrawals from the Permanent Funds this Cryptic Year.

We again remind the Grand Recorder and Current Grand Council Officers of the importance of the property held in their trust [Jewels, Collars, Aprons/Cases, Badges and etc.]

Respectfully Submitted,

M.: I.: Richard C. Anderson, Trustee (2014-2017), Chairman

M.: I.: Victor S. Versace, Trustee (2015-2018)

R.: I.: Frederick A. Beitter, Trustee (2016-2019)

Most Illustrious Garry R. Hutchurson's Allocution

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, Distinguished East, Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters, Grand Line Officers, and Companions All:

This past Cryptic Year has been one long wonderful journey of which I will never have a chance to do again. I was able to travel to places I have never been to before and met brothers and companions and instantly became friends. I have had so much fun with these wonderful friends as I travelled about the state and to our sister jurisdictions.

I had the opportunity to appoint the Grand Steward this year due to a vacancy at the 193rd Annual Assembly. After careful search throughout the state my first act was to appoint I.:Donald R. Kunego of Doric Council No. 19 as Grand Steward. He has proven to be a wonderful addition to the Grand Line.

My year of travel started out by going to the Northeast Conference in Milford, Massachusetts on September 10th. I learned about the General Grand Council International through its workshop and fellowship time, and I also learned of the Charities we support through them.

Accompanied by Lady Wendy, I attended on the third weekend of September the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of NY, Knights Templar and the installation of Sir Knight Richard Kerimoglu as the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

The next weekend had Lady Wendy and I attending the New York Council of Deliberation, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and were greeted and treated very well.

On Friday, October 21st I had my Reception at the Lexington Hotel in Rochester NY. It was a great success with over 100 people attending from New York and other Jurisdictions including a representative from the Province of Ontario, Canada.

The following weekend, Lady Wendy and I drove to Middletown, NY on October 29th for the Reception of Sir Knight Richard Kerimoglu, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of NY. We both had a great time representing our Grand Council.

November 23rd our Grand Steward R.:I.:Donald Kunego and I drove to NYC City and attended Flatbush Council No. 80 and gave counsel on the Election of 9 new Candidates, we were treated to dinner and a great meeting and it was wonderful to see this Council being rejuvenated and moving forward.

After the Christmas break we had our biggest success and best moment of the year as we held the Tri-State Festival in Poughkeepsie NY on January 28th where three Grand Councils (New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut) all joined in conferring the Royal, Select and Super Excellent Master degrees. It was a fun-filled day affair of which we had over 110 Companions plus we greeted 42 new companions. We filled the room to overflowing and New York received many congratulatory thanks for running such a fine program. Rumor has it that next year's festival may have four states taking part.

In February, I attended the Homecoming for Samantha Miller of the Rainbow Girls in Auburn NY of which I gave a speech on the Future and how it related to our Masonic Youth.

On March 3rd and 4th we attended the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of NY, Royal Arch Masons in Albany, New York and represented the Grand Council with other Grand Line Officers, and took part in our Grand Council workshop that weekend as well.

On March 8th our Grand Sentinel and I flew to New York City for a visit at Columbian Council No. 1 and were treated to the conferral of the Super Excellent Degree and a wonderful Table Council, at which our Grand Sentinel and I were presented with a special jewel from their Council commemorating 200 years. They also presented a cake in my name of which all enjoyed, making it a very exciting night.

On April 20-23 Lady Wendy and I made our official visit to Bar Harbor, Maine for The Annual Assembly of Grand Council of Maine. We met the new incoming officers and represented New York well.

The next weekend I went to Pennsylvania accompanied by RI Norman P. Austin for their Grand Assembly and was honored by being selected by their Grand Council to receive "THE ERNEST C. REYNOLDS GRAND MASTERS FELLOWSHIP AWARD" and I had the opportunity to address their Grand Assembly.

On May 16th I represented the Grand Council of New York in Gananoque, Ontario, Canada at the Royal Ark Mariners meeting of Frontenac Council with others from New York State and where I had a part in that degree for 13 candidates.

On May 26-27th Lady Wendy and I attended the Grand Council in St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada of which we were very well received. At their banquet, I was asked to give the response to the speeches of the evening of which I did.

In June, Lady Wendy and I went to Meriden, Connecticut for their Grand Assembly and had a wonderful time. I also in this month attended the Supreme Council of DeMolay International in Buffalo, NY and gave remarks at it's opening on Thursday night. On June 24th the Grand Council held its workshop at St Johns Day Weekend in Utica, NY and marched in the Annual Parade.

Lady Wendy and I attended M.:E.:Bruce Testut, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of NY Royal Arch Masons' Reception on Sunday, July 9th at Russo's on the Bay Restaurant, Howard Beach, NY. The next day we attended Suffolk Past Masters and District Deputies' dinner out on Long Island. I would like to extend Lady Wendy's and mine thanks to our Grand Treasurer George Emmons and his Lady Maureen for their hospitality in hosting us during this time.

I visited many of our Councils throughout this state over the past year and I had the opportunity to preside as the Installing Officer for four of our Councils' Installation of Officers Ceremonies.

I am deeply grateful for the Grand Officers who stepped up to the plate to cover for me at some events and some 'sister Jurisdictions Annual Assemblies, when my personal schedule would not allow me to be present this year. Thank you my companions for your dedication and friendship through the years.

I also had the opportunity to appoint new Grand Representatives and issue several Dispensations for the betterment of Cryptic Masonry this past year, which are attached to this allocution and I had the opportunity to see that King Hiram Council No. 18 and

Northshore Council No. 88 had new Duplicate Warrants issued to them. I wish to thank the Grand Recorder for researching the information and having these new Warrants designed for them.

I am grateful to have had R.:I.: Curtis Banks to lead the effort on the mutual recognition of our Grand Council with that of Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in New York and Jurisdictions. This Annual Assembly is historic because we have ratified this mutual recognition last evening. I personally want to recognize and welcome the Prince Hall Grand Council delegation who is with us this morning.

Overall, I had a very good year with very few challenges, and those that did arise we have been able to resolve. There is one situation with Peekskill Council No. 55 that I had to address and it was an unpleasant duty to lift Peekskill Council's Warrant for failing to hold assemblies and not electing officers for several years. This is truly unfortunate. Yet, it is my recommendation that this Assembly ratify the suspension of their Warrant permanently and that it would only be re-issued back to them when they can prove that they have duly elected officers and can be a viable Council again.

My slogan this past year was geared toward membership, "If we build it, they will come." I can state that it was successfully heard, for we greeted 70 companions all over the state. Yet more must be done my companions, especially in the area of demits and suspensions. I charge all Councils to make a very concerted effort this year to avoid demits and suspensions wherever possible.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped me this past year, especially the Grand Line Officers and my Committee. What a great bunch of guys and gals. Thank you to all. I want to give Special thanks to our Grand Recorder and our Grand Marshal who constantly kept me going in the right direction and were there always to give sound guidance. Thank you to you both. And last but not least, a Very Special thanks to my wife, Wendy for all her help, dedication and support! Great job honey!

Thank you all for this opportunity to have been able to serve you. Remember, "If we build it, they will come!"

Respectfully,

M.:I.: Garry R. Hutchurson, Most Illustrious Grand Master

APPENDIX

Warrants Reissued:

King Hiram Council No. 18 on June 13, 2017 by myself.

Northshore Council No. 88 on February 27, 2017 by DDGM R. Conrad Johnson

Dispensations Issued:

1. Union Council No. 2 to change their meeting nights from 1st Thursday to 2nd Monday for the remainder of the year.
2. Union Council No 2 to hold a Special Assembly on September 29, 2016 for the conferral of the Royal and Select Master Degrees.
3. King Hiram Council No. 18 to hold a Special Assembly on October 17, 2016

for voting on petitions of membership to be held at SkoiYase Council Assembly.

4. Ahwaga Council No. 30 to bring two candidates to Cayuga Council No. 19 for the Royal Master Degree.
5. St. George's Council No. 74 to hold its assembly at Masonic Lodge in Northville, NY on November 17, 2016.
6. Rotica Council No.12 to hold a Special Assembly on January 12, 2017 at Utica Masonic Lodge for the purposing of balloting upon petitions for membership in order to attend Tri-State Festival for degrees.
7. Northshore Council No. 88 to hold a Special Assembly on February 27, 2017 in Oyster Bay, NY for the purpose of receiving the DDGM in order for him to present the replacement Warrant to Northshore Council No. 88.
8. Flatbush Council No. 80 to have conferred the Select Master Degree upon one of its Royal Masters at Columbian Council No. 1 on February 8, 2017 when they plan to confer the Select Master Degree at their Assembly.
9. King Hiram Council No. 18 to hold a Special Assembly on June 13, 2017 at the Auburn Masonic Temple located at 5643 NY-34, Auburn, NY 13021 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of receiving annual reports, approve a contribution to the Grand Council Charity Corporation, approve a By-Laws change, and the Installation of Council Officers and Warrant presentation..
10. Flatbush Council No. for holding A Special Assembly on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at the Masonic Hall in NY, NY for the purpose of conferring the Select Master Degree upon four of its Royal Masters.

**Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York
Charity Fund Corporation**

GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, August 19, 2017 – 11:00 AM

Convening of the Annual Meeting	President Charles M. Roberts
Invocation	
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of August 2016	Secretary Richard J. Kessler
Board of Directors Highlights for 2016-2017	President Charles M. Roberts
Financials of the Corporation for 2016-2017	Treasurer E. William Whittaker
Financial Review/Audit Report	R.:I.: Donald Kunego, Chairman
Charitable Distribution for 2016-17 year	President Charles M. Roberts
Election to the Board of Directors for 3 Years	M.:I.: Donald Harrison, Chairman

Report of the Nominating Committee

R.:I.: Ralph H. Rosenthal replacement for R.:I.: Ralph H. Rosenthal, term expired
R.:I.: R. Conrad Johnson replacement for R.:I.: Curtis A Banks, term expired

Charity Fund Awards Presentations	Directors of the Corporation
Approval of Minutes of this Annual Meeting	Secretary Richard J. Kessler
Benediction	
Adjournment	President Charles M. Roberts

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

M.:I.: & Rev. Charles M. Roberts, President (2016-2019)
R.:I.: Curtis A. Banks, 1st Vice President (2014-2017)
R.:I.: Ralph H. Rosenthal, 2nd Vice President (2014-2017)
M.:I.: E. William Whittaker, Treasurer (2016-2019)
I.: Richard J. Kessler, Secretary (2015-2018)
R.:I.: Stuart W. Card, Assistant Secretary (2015-2018)

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York Charity Fund Corporation

General Meeting Rochester, NY

Minutes August 12, 2016

Open: President Roberts called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM

Invocation: Rev. Jose Valencia

Opening Remarks:

President Roberts opened the annual meeting of the Charity Corporation

- The reports of the Charity Corporation are on pages 50-56 in the Grand Assemblies Annual Report
 - The Directors of the Charity Corporation held all required meetings as required by our bylaws
 - Board of Directors are constantly reviewing our portfolio to ensure the best and safest return on our money
 - The Charity Corporation operating expenses were under budget for the year
 - Expenses are constantly reviewed and proposed budget will reflect less expense for the upcoming year.
 - The goal of the Board is to ensure that the highest percentage of income is directed to the chosen charities
 - The Board of Directors recommend unanimously the addition of the Children's Tumor Foundation to our list of approved charities
 - The Charity Corporation has contributed approximately \$400,000 cumulatively to the Parkinson Disease Foundation
 - Donations continue to be down with many councils having zero participation
 - President Charles challenged all Councils to participate
- Motion to approve the President's Report was made, seconded and approved.**

Minutes:

Minutes of the August 22, 2015 General Meeting from Oswego, New York was approved.
A copy of the minutes is included in the annual proceedings.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer presented the following reports

- Council Giving in Dollars
- Sponsor, Patron, & Grand Master Levels Report
- Council \$5 per Member Report
- Annual Financial Investment Report
- Current status of checking Account
- Our donations will increase from \$12,000 to \$13,000
- Operating expense was reduced from the previous year and a breakdown is available upon request
- The Charity Corporation is not charged for any financial transactions.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and approved.

Audit Report:

R.:I.:Dennis Davis; chairman, R.:I.:Ralph Rosenthal, and R.:I.:Richard Fowler reported that the Audit Committee found all records in good order. Motion to accept the audit report was made and approved by acclamation. President Roberts thanked the committee for their diligence and hard work.

The audit committee recommended the adoption of a voucher system as well as having the approved annual budget in place for publication in the annual records. Both recommendations have been enacted. Copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

Donations: The directors recommended the following donations:

- Parkinson Disease \$ 7,000
- Order DeMolay \$ 1,500
- International Order of Triangles \$ 1,500
- Order of Rainbow \$ 1,500
- Children's Tumor Foundation \$1,500
- The body unanimously approved the recommended giving levels.

Election of Directors:

- M.:I.: Donald Harrison, chairman of the nominating committee, nominated M.:I.: Charles Roberts and M.:I.: E. William Whittaker as directors of the Charity Corporation for the ensuing three years.
- There were no further nominations and a motion to close nominations was made and approved.
- The president directed the Treasurer to cast one ballot for the unanimous election of Roberts and Whittaker
- The elections were closed.
- All business being conducted, President Roberts closed the general meeting at 11:45 AM.

Awards Ceremony:

Will be held at the General Assembly afternoon session.

Benediction: Rev. Charles Roberts

Adjourned: 11:45 AM

Respectfully submitted,

R.:I.: *Richard G. Kessler*

Secretary

Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of New York Charity Corporation

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY August 1, 2016 thru July 31, 2017

Checking Account Balance 8/1/16			\$18,389.02
Investment Account Balances 8/1/16			
	Deutsche Global High Income Fund (SGHSX)	\$96,557.40	
	Janus Balanced Fund (JABAX)	\$158,981.12	
	Loomis Sayles Bond Fund (LSBDX)	\$112,981.84	
	Pimco Income (PONDY)	\$65,302.96	
	Ridge Worth High Income (STHTX)	\$60,298.75	
		\$494,122.07	
Misc (cash and checks in hand)		\$0.00	
TOTAL ASSETS 8/1/16			\$512,511.09
ACTIVITY 8/1/16-7/31/17			
Income	Donations	\$7,122.00	
	The Solomon Arch Society	\$3,500.00	
	Dividends/Interest/Realized Capital Gains(Losses)	\$21,990.12	
	Misc	\$0.00	
Total Income		\$32,612.12	
Expenses	Contributions to Charity	\$13,000.00	
	Operating/Administrative Expense	\$4,705.50	
Total Expense		\$17,705.50	
Net Unrealized Change in Investment Value (gain/loss)		\$31,133.84	
TOTAL ASSETS 7/31/17			\$558,551.55
ASSET DISTRIBUTION AS OF 7/31/17			
Checking Account Balance 7/31/17			\$21,060.73
Investment Account Balances 7/31/17			
	Deutsche Global High Income Fund (SGHSX)	\$101,319.10	
	Janus HendersonBalanced Fund (JABAX)	\$174,965.74	
	Loomis Sayles Bond Fund (LSBDX)	\$37,302.69	
	Pimco Income (PONDY)	\$75,657.86	
	Schwab S&P 500 Index Fund (SWPPX)	\$44,670.76	
	Virtus Seix High Income (STHTX)	\$103,574.67	
		\$537,490.82	
Misc (cash and checks in hand)		\$0.00	
TOTAL ASSETS 8/1/17			\$558,551.55

Council Giving in Dollars
2016-2017

	A	B	C	D
1	Council & No.	Gift Level	S-P-GM Levels	Council Totals
2				
3	Columbian-1	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
4	Union-2	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
5	Adelphic-7	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
6	Rotica-12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$189.00
7	Central City-13	\$0.00	\$115.00	\$115.00
8	Bloss-DeWitt Clinton-14	\$95.00	\$0.00	\$95.00
9	Buffalo-Keystone-17	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
10	King Hiram-18	\$50.00	\$1,270.00	\$1,320.00
11	Doric-19	\$120.00	\$250.00	\$370.00
12	Dunkirk-25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
13	Ahwaga-30	\$50.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
14	King Solomon-31	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
15	Hornellsville-35	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
16	Adoniram-36	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
17	Joseph Warren-Cryptic-37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	Fulton-50	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
19	Peekskill-55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	St. George's-74	\$70.00	\$100.00	\$170.00
21	Skoi-Yase-75	\$7.00	\$300.00	\$307.00
22	Suffolk-76	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
23	Flatbush-80	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$200.00
24	Oneonta-87	\$163.00	\$400.00	\$563.00
25	North Shore-88	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
26	Cayuga-90	\$50.00	\$82.00	\$132.00
27	Hamburg-91	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
28	Nundawaga-92	\$55.00	\$650.00	\$705.00
29	Goshen-93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
30	King David-97	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
31	Misc. Donations	\$641.00	\$300.00	\$941.00
32				
33	TOTALS	\$1,521.00	\$5,162.00	\$7,122.00
34				
35	Note: S-P-GM denotes Sponsor, Patron, Grand Master Levels			

5 dollars per members
2017

Council	No.	membership	at\$5/member	total gift	/member
Columbian	1	120	\$600.00	\$50.00	\$0.42
Union	2	30	\$150.00	\$250.00	\$8.33 x
Adelphic	7	56	\$280.00	\$50.00	\$0.89
Rotica	12	58	\$290.00	\$189.00	\$3.26
Central City	13	55	\$275.00	\$115.00	\$2.09
Bloss-DWC	14	67	\$335.00	\$95.00	\$1.42
Buff-Keystone	17	53	\$265.00	\$400.00	\$7.55 x
King Hiram	18	8	\$40.00	\$1,320.00	\$165.00 x
Doric	19	38	\$190.00	\$370.00	\$9.74 x
Dunkirk	25	32	\$160.00	\$50.00	\$1.56
Ahwaga	30	39	\$195.00	\$300.00	\$7.69 x
King Solomon's	31	19	\$95.00	\$125.00	\$6.58 x
Hornellsville	35	36	\$180.00	\$100.00	\$2.78
Adoniram	36	27	\$135.00	\$70.00	\$2.59
JWarren-Cryptic	37	35	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fulton	50	34	\$170.00	\$20.00	\$0.59
Peekskill	55	17	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. George's	74	100	\$500.00	\$170.00	\$1.70
Skoι Yase	75	21	\$105.00	\$307.00	\$14.62 x
Suffolk	76	88	\$440.00	\$100.00	\$1.14
Flatbush	80	30	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$6.67 x
Oneonta	87	55	\$275.00	\$563.00	\$10.24 x
North Shore	88	41	\$205.00	\$50.00	\$1.22
Cayuga	90	23	\$115.00	\$132.00	\$5.74 x
Hamburg	91	47	\$235.00	\$100.00	\$2.13
Nun Da Waga	92	34	\$170.00	\$705.00	\$20.74 x
Goshen	93	40	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$5.00 x
King David	97	24	\$120.00	\$150.00	\$6.25 x

..

Life sponsors by Councils
1966-2017

	A	B	C	D
1	Council & No.	1966-2017	2016-2017	TOTAL
2				
3	Columbian-1	46	0	46
4	Union-2	63	1	64
5	Adelphic-7	35	0	35
6	Rotica-12	240	1	241
7	Central City-13	68	1	69
8	Bloss-DeWitt Clinton-14	109	0	109
9	Buffalo-Keystone-17	79	7	86
10	King Hiram-18	25	4	29
11	Doric-19	279	5	284
12	Dunkirk-25	21	0	21
13	Ahwaga-30	79	3	82
14	King Solomon-31	71	2	73
15	Hornellsville-35	64	1	65
16	Adoniram-36	93	1	94
17	Joseph Warren-Cryptic-37	19	0	19
18	Fulton-50	26	0	26
19	Peekskill-55	11	0	11
20	St. George's-74	87	2	89
21	Skoi-Yase-75	87	1	88
22	Suffolk-76	80	1	81
23	Flatbush-80	32	1	33
24	Oneonta-87	123	1	124
25	North Shore-88	49	0	49
26	Cayuga-90	39	1	40
27	Hamburg-91	39	1	40
28	Nundawaga-92	74	4	78
29	Goshen-93	15	1	16
30	King David-97	17	3	20
31	Other	88	2	90
32				
33	TOTALS	2058	44	2102

NOMINATION FOR GRAND COUNCIL OFFICE

Goshen Council #93
Hoffman Masonic Lodge
112 North St.
Middletown, NY 10940

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters, Right Illustrious's,
Very Illustrious's, Illustrious's, and Companions all,

We, the Companions of Goshen Council #93 recommend R.:.I.: Dan Elliott for the position of Grand Steward for the Grand Council of the State of New York for the 2017-2018 ensuing year.

R.:.I.: Dan Elliott is a Past District Deputy Grand Illustrious Master and Past Assistant Grand Lecturer for the 2nd Cryptic District. He is very active in several Masonic Organizations. Please see his resume that is attached to this letter.

Dan is currently a Safety and Security Officer for Vassar College. He is also currently the Chair Person for the Hudson Valley Safety and Security Officers Union. Dan also has a law enforcement background as a former Loss Prevention Investigator for Gap Inc. He has a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Dan has excellent leadership and communication skills and would be an excellent addition to the Grand Line for Grand Council.

Fraternally,

Illustrious Bruce Bogerd
I.M. for Goshen Council #93

R.:.I.: Murry Cohen
Recorder for Goshen Council #93
Past DDGM 2nd Cryptic District

Daniel D Elliott

Masonic Resume

63 Cedar Ave.
New Windsor, NY 12553
(845) 926-2377
Blitz422@hotmail.com

EXPERIENCE

Hudson River Lodge #309 F&AM

Initiated, Passed, and Raised on 3/27/2003

Worshipful Master 2007 - 2012 (5 years)

Membership Chairman 2010-2016
DDGM Staff Orange-Rockland District

Highland Chapter #52 R.A.M

Excellent High Priest 2015 to present

Charity Chairman 2015-2017 Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

Assistant Grand Lecturer 2017-2019 Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

Goshen Council #93

Illustrious Master 2011 - 2012

DDGM 2nd Cryptic District 2013-2015 Grand Council of Cryptic Masons

Assistant Grand Lecturer 2015 -2017 Grand Council of Cryptic Masons

Cyprus Commandery #67 Knight Templar

Commander 2011 - 2016

Hawthorne-Ramapo Temple Star #286

Order of the Eastern Star

Worthy Patron - 2016 - present

Other Masonic Bodies

Hudson Valley Forest #215 Tall Cedars of Lebanon

Tri-Po-Bed Grotto

Valley of the Hudson - Scottish Rite

AWARDS

Masters Award - Hudson River Lodge #309 - 2015

Keystone Award - Royal Arch Masons - 2015

Youth Award - Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons - 2017

Education

Masonic Development Course

Road to the East Course

Who Comes Here? GL Reading Program

Knight Templar - GL Reading Program

Committees

Membership Committee - Grand Lodge of New York, 2016 to present.

Chapter Renewal Team - Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, 2017 to present.

Concordant Bodies and Youth - Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, 2015- to present.

Membership Committee - Grand Commandery Knights Templar, 2016 to present.

Youth Organizations

Advisor - Pearl River Assembly # 28 - International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Honorary Member - Solomon Chapter #1 - Order of DeMolay

