

## **Grand Council Minutes 200<sup>th</sup> Assembly August 18-19, 2023**

The 200<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York was held on Friday, August 18th and Saturday, August 19th 2023 at The Desmond Hotel, 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211.

### **OPENING BY THE GRAND MASTER AND OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL:**

Acting Grand Master, Right Illustrious Donald R. Kunego was introduced by the Grand Marshal Right Illustrious Ernest Parker and given Grand Honors. R.:I.: Kunego welcomed all to the 200<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly.

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

A constitutional quorum of Grand Council Officers and of Constituent Councils was determined to be present. The Grand Assembly was opened by Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Kunego and the Grand Line officers in ample form on Friday, August 17th at 8:00 PM. M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts, appointed Deputy Grand Master (pro-tem). The Grand Post of Masonic War Vet's Honor Guard presented the colors. Grand Chaplain Charles M. Roberts gave the invocation. It was declared that all councils present were entitled to vote.

### **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

The following companions were assigned to committees, Credentials: M.:I.: David H. Raymond, R.:I.: Joshua DeLeon and R.:I.: Steven Howard, with M.:I.: Charles M. Roberts as advisor. Committee on Grand Master's address: M.:I.: Richard Fowler, M.:I.: Francis Karwowski and M.:I.: Phillip Chandler.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

The Committee on Standard Resolutions for this assembly made the following Resolutions. They were seconded, voted upon and passed:

- A) M.:I.: Richard Fowler: Moved that that the Minutes of the 200th Annual Assembly be approved when finalized by the Grand Recorder's office for publication and posting on the Grand Council Website.
- B) M.:I.: Gary Hutchurson: Moved that the Annual Reports of the elected Grand Council line officers with the exception of the Deputy Grand Master which are to be published as part of the 200th Annual Proceedings be approved.
- C) M.:I.: Steven Licht: Moved 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.
- D) M.:I.: Charles Roberts: Moved that the Election of Officers be the Order of Business at 1:45 PM on Saturday, August 19, 2023; and that the nominating speeches be limited to three (3) minutes and seconding speeches to two (2) minutes.
- E) M.:I.: Francis Karwowski: Moved that our visiting Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters who are not already Honorary Members of this Grand Council be made so.

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

The motion to accept the submitted report on the Condition and Extension of the rite and spread it upon the minutes was made by the Grand Recorder it was seconded, voted upon and passed.

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

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R.:I.: Stuart Card announced that the job of Assistant Grand Lecturer is a very important one. Having a love of ritual is the most important. He presented the current AGLs and they were given a round of applause. He thanked his Deputy Grand Lecturer, V.:I.: Frank Fancher for his help, insight and enthusiasm. Two Grand Lecturers awards were presented, the M.:I.: Jay Kosseff, for the required level of attendance and the M.:I.: Rex Long award for the best attendance at a Grand Lecturers Convention. The winning councils were announced and all were given a round of applause. R.:I.: Card presented a few items that the Grand Assembly need to review and vote on. There are two changes for the wording in our Royal Master Degree. The options of “labors of a man” and “reward” were proposed, voted on and accepted. R.:I.: Card made the motion that his amended report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved. R.:I.: Card announced that this is his last year as Grand Lecturer. He thanked the Companions for all the help with his tenure and he looked forward to V.:I.: Frank Fancher taking over the position. R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego raised the Companions and presented Grand Honors to R.:I.: Card for all his hard work and years of service.

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

The web site report was given by M.:I.: John Gallant, Grand Recorder. He made the motion to have the report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

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

#### **RELATIONS:**

The Masonic Education, Membership and Public Relations report was given by R.:I.: Dan Elliott, Grand PCW. He highlighted a few points in the report, the use of the Cryptic Education Course, we are holding monthly Grand Council zoom meetings, we have added a Facebook page and have submitted articles to the Empire State Mason magazine. R.:I.: Elliott made the motion to have the report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

#### **LIBRARY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT:** (No Report)

#### **RITUAL COMMITTEE:** (Given as part of the Grand Lecturers Report)

### **REPORT OF THE GRAND HISTORIAN:**

With the absence of R.:I.: Harry Williams, the Grand Historian, the Grand Recorder made the motion to have the submitted report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **JURISPRUDENCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:**

The report of the Jurisprudence and By-Laws Committee was given by M.:I.: Richard Fowler. There were two Councils requesting By-Laws changes. Motions were made to approve the requested changes, they were seconded and approved. He made a motion to make R.:I.: Harvey Eysman a Judge Advocate Emeritus for his long standing membership and guidance to this committee, it was seconded and approved.

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### **REPORT OF THE GRAND TRUSTEES**

The Grand Trustees report was given by M.:I.: Garry Hutchurson. As part of the report, the Trustees recommend to the membership that they be authorized to transfer the Permanent Fund investments held with Mark J. Snyder Royal Alliance Associates, Medford, NY to Charles Schwab Investment Firm located at Pittsford, NY effective as soon as feasibly possible. M.:I.: Hutchurson made the motion to have the report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER:**

The Grand Treasurers report was given by R.:I.: Ken Lockard. He presented a number of highlights on the General Fund and Escrow accounts. He made the motion to have the report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **REPORT OF THE REVIEW AND AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

With the absence of audit committee members, the Grand Recorder made the motion to have the submitted report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Budget Committee report was made by M.:I.: John Gallant, the Grand Recorder. The overall numbers are consistent with last year. With a beginning balance \$29,246.10, a projected income of \$40816.00, expenditures of \$43,225.00, the projected balance as of July 31, 2024 will be \$26,807.10. With the expected per-capita for the year, we are projecting a budget in the red. However, as can be expected not all line items are expended resulting in the budget being “ok” at the end of the year. There are two new line items for “pass-thru” where we support other organizations in making payments. These will no longer going through our “Misc” budget line item. M.:I.: Gallant moved to have report spread upon the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:**

Acting Grand Master, R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego presented his report. Started with holding a Moment of Silence for our passed Most Illustrious Grand Master Stephen Rubinstein. “His sudden and untimely passing in November of last year, came as a shock to us all.” R.:I.: Kunego reported on the 200th Anniversary plans. There is a medallion and pin designed, a planned all day event and a time capsule to be sealed for 100 years. R.:I.: Kunego reported on his travels during the year and is looking forward to serving next year. He moved to have his report spread upon the minutes, it was seconded and approved. M.:I.: Charles Roberts, Deputy Grand Master-(pt), raised the Companions. R.:I.: Kunego was given Grand Honors for stepping up to serve our Grand Council and having an outstanding year. The Companions are looking forward to next year.

### **VESPERS SERVICE:**

The Vespers Service was conducted under the direction of M.:I.: Charles Roberts, Grand Chaplain. A copy of the Order of Service is appended to these minutes to be included in the proceedings of this assembly. M.:I.: Roberts extended his gratitude to R.:I.: Gerald Irwin, Grand Musician, who was here

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to help the Companions with the singing. A collection of \$410.00 was offered by the Companions and presented to the Charity Corporation.

### **CALL FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT:**

R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego announced that Grand Council will resume in the morning at 8:30 AM with the reception of distinguished visitors follow by Necrology Report. Grand Council officers will be in their places at 8:20 AM. Ladies and guests are invited to take their seats by 8:30 AM. Labor will resume following the Necrology Report. He reminded everyone that room 156 is our hospitality room. R.:I.: Dan Elliott, Grand Conductor of the Council, called the Companions for Labor to Refreshment to resume their labor in the Secret Vault at the sound of the gavel in the East. Labor was suspended at 9:40pm.

### **THE NOBLE ORDER OF LARKS:**

The inaugural conferral of the special and unique Noble Order of the Larks degree was performed following the end of the Friday night Grand Council session. The "Grand Lark" reported that \$600 dollars was collected by the flocks of Larks and donated to the Grand Charity Corp.

### **ASSEMBLY RECONVENED:**

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council was reconvened in Public Session by Acting Grand Master, R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego on Saturday, August 20th at 8:30am.

### **RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:**

The following delegations were received and greeted personally in the East by the Acting Grand Master, R.:I.: Kunego, Pro-temp Deputy Grand Master M.:I.: Roberts and Grand Principal Conductor of the Work R.:I.: Elliott:

M.:I.: Manuel Ferreira III, Grand Master of Massachusetts,  
M.:I.: Michael L. Terry, Grand Master of Ohio,  
M.:I.: Prince D. Salvaraj, Grand Master of Ontario Canada,  
M.:P.: Richard Fessler, Grand Master of Pennsylvania,  
M.:I.: William "Sandy" Karstens IV, Grand Master of Vermont,  
Commander General Ray Roche, Masonic War Vets of the State of NY,  
Ms. Alyssa DiBartolo, Grand Worthy Advisor of The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls,  
Ms. Kaitlin Piston, State Representative of the Organization of Triangles,  
Illustrious David Barnes, Representing G. Michael Morris of the Council of Deliberation of NY, AASR,  
M.:E.: Larry Barnard, Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of the State of NY,  
R.:E.: David Barkstedt, Grand Commander of Grand Commandery of the State of NY,  
The Past Grand Masters of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of NY,  
R.:P.: Paul Smith, DDGGM North-East Dist., General Grand Council International  
R.:P.: G. Thomas Taylor, Deputy General Grand Master, General Grand Council International

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The Deputy Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York entered and announced that Right Worshipful Steven A. Rubin Deputy Grand Master was about to enter. He was received by Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego, given Grand Honors and was seated in the East. The Grand Marshal entered the Council and announced that the Most Worshipful Richard J. Kessler Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York was about to enter. He was received by in the East by R. .I. . Kunego, given Grand Honors and was seated in the East.

The Representatives of the Youth Groups present were conducted to the East and presented their Messages for the year. Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego thanked them for their presentations and presented them with their gifts from Grand Council to help them with their programs.

### **NECROLOGY REPORT:**

The Necrology Report was given under the direction of the Grand Chaplain: M. .I. . Charles M. Roberts. PMIGM Roberts gave eulogies for R. .I. . Jose L. Valencia, Jr., Grand Chaplain Emeritus and M. .I. . Stephen A. Rubinstein, MIGM (2022-2023) and the 28 Companions who have left us. See the submitted written Necrology Service for details.

### **LABOR RESUMED IN THE SECRET VAULT:**

Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego excused all non-Cryptic Masons, Ladies and guests from the assembly room and then graveled the 200th Annual Assembly to Order and it was reconvened at 10:25 AM Saturday, August 19th 2023.

### **RECOGNITION OF 2022-2023 DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS;**

As the Grand Recorder read the roll, each individual present assembled in the East where Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego greeted each.

- District 1 - R. .I. . Grant Held (Present)
- District 2 - R. .I. . Steven Koch (Excused)
- District 4 - R. .I. . Richard Transue (Present)
- District 6 - R. .I. . Steven Howard (Present)
- District 7 - R. .I. . Wade Caler (Present)
- District 8 - R. .I. . Terry Mehlenbacher (Present)
- District 9 - R. .I. . Mark Seeloff (Present)

R. .I. . Kunego raised the Council and R. .I. . Ernest Parker, Grand Marshal, lead the Companions in presenting Grand Honors to the DDGMs.

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

As the Grand Recorder read the roll, each individual present assembled in the East where Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego greeted each.

- Most Ill. John Mauk Hilliard, 1990-91 (Excused)
- Most Ill. Joseph A. Peloso, 1993-94 (Excused)
- Most Ill. Edward P. Fagan, 2000-2001 (Excused)
- Most Ill. Donald Harrison, 2003-2004 (Excused)

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Most Ill. Stephen A. Licht, 2004-2005

Most Ill. Charles M. Roberts, 2005-2006

Most Ill. Francis I. Karwowski, 2007-2008

Most Ill. Arnold E. Palmer, 2009-2010, (Excused In a Care Facility)

Most Ill. David H. Raymond, 2010-2011

Most Ill. Richard C. Anderson, 2012-2013 (Excused)

Most Ill. Leonard W. Mason, 2013-2014, (Excused In a Care Facility)

Most Ill. Garry R. Hutchurson, 2016-2017

Most Ill. Richard C. Fowler, 2018-2019

Most Ill. Phillip J. Chandler, 2019-2021 (Excused)

Most Ill. John A. Gallant, 2021-2022

R.:I.: Kunego raised the Council and R.:I.: Parker lead the Companions in presenting Grand Honors to the Past Grand Masters.

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

As the Grand Recorder read the roll, each Grand Representative present assembled in the East where R.:I.: Kunego greeted each.

It was announced that R.:I.: Nathan Metlitz is the new Grand Representative of Rhode Island near the Grand Council of NY. He was presented his appointment patent and letter.

R.:I.: Kunego raised the Council and R.:I.: Parker lead the Companions in presenting Grand Honors to the Grand Representatives.

### **PRESENTATION OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO OUR VISITORS:**

As the Grand Recorder read the esteemed list, the visiting Grand Masters assembled in the East where R.:I.: Kunego greeted each and presented them with their Certificates.

M.:I.: Riley D. Greenwood, Most Illustrious Grand Master of Maine

M.:I.: Manuel Ferreira III, Most Illustrious Grand Master of Massachusetts

M.:I.: Michael L. Terry, Most Illustrious Grand Master of Ohio

R.:I.: Kunego raised the Council and R.:I.: Parker lead in presenting Grand Honors to the Grand Representatives.

### **REMARKS FROM OUR VISITORS:**

M.:I.: Manuel Ferreira III, Most Illustrious Grand Master of Massachusetts brought fraternal greetings and appreciation on behalf of the distinguished guests present today. He thanked the Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Kunego for all the courtesies extended to him and his guests. It has been a great weekend with the companions of New York.

### **REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE:**

R.:I.: Paul Huck, Judge Advocate, presented his report, he listed two changes for our Constitution. First was the creation of the Grand Archivist, as a Grand Council position and the creation of the Cryptic Council of Research for Grand Council. The Council of Research was patterned after the Research

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Chapter in Grand Chapter. Motions presented, seconded and approved. R.:I.: Huck moved to have report spread upon the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

A motion was made by R.:I.: Elliott that the appropriate regalia be purchased for the Grand Archivist, it was seconded and approved.

### **REPORT OF THE GRAND RECORDER:**

M.:I.: John Gallant, Grand Recorder presented his report, he highlighted that we completed three Grand Representatives positions, however the pending nominations continue to take too long. In this Cryptic year our membership has dropped below 1000, he referred everyone to the membership report. He made the motion that the Grand Recorders report and the supporting documents be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

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

Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Donald Kunego turned the gavel of authority over to the Acting Deputy Grand Master M.:I.: Charles Roberts, and he gave his Most Illustrious Grand Master's Allocution. A sounding round of applause was given to R.:I.: Kunego for his dedication to our craft this year. Deputy Grand Master Roberts made the motion that the Allocution turned over to the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, for reporting on later today, it was seconded and approved. The gavel was returned to Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Kunego.

### **GRAND COUNCIL CHARITY CORPORATION:**

Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Donald Kunego announced that it was eleven o'clock am and called M.:I.: Roberts, President of the Charity Fund Corporation to the East to convene the annual meeting. M.:I.: Roberts made the motion that the minutes of the last Charity Fund Corporation be accepted, it was seconded and approved. M.:I.: Roberts reported that it has been quite a challenging year, with the untimely death of M.:I.: E. William Whittaker, the Treasurer, the efforts to get the books and accounts in order was not simple. He called upon all Councils to make donations to the Charity Funds and all Council Recorders to rapidly turn around the received donations to the Charity Fund officers. He made the motion that the Charity Fund Corporation report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved. The Charity Corporation Audit committee presented its report and made the motion that the Audit report be spread across the minutes, it was seconded and approved.

### **ADDRESS OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:**

Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Kunego called upon R.:W.: Steven A. Rubin, Deputy Grand Master for his brief remarks. R.:W.: Rubin spoke on his visit to the DeMolay convention where they played "We are Family". As we celebrate 200 years of Cryptic Masonry we praised all our Companions working together in harmony and be "As Family". He was given a warm round of applause by the Companions.

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

Acting Grand Master R.:I.: Kunego called upon M.:W.: Richard J. Kessler, Grand Master for his brief remarks. He recognized the distinguished Companions in the East and called R.:I.: Ken Lockard to the East and R.:I.: Lockard was presented with his Green Ribbon Solomon Arch Society jewel. It is a great

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day to be a traveling Mason here in NY. We will be supporting York Rite Unity at the dinner. He announced that Masons truly make a difference. He was given a warm round of applause by the Companions.

### **LUNCHEON:**

Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego ordered the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work to call the Assembly to recess until 1:15 PM for lunch. The Grand Chaplain gave a blessing for lunch.

### **RECONVENE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:**

The Annual Assembly was reconvened by Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego at 1:25 PM in the Assembly room.

### **REMARKS BY GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OFFICERS IN THE EAST:**

Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego invited the Right Puissant Paul Smith, Regional Deputy General Grand Master of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International to address the assembly at this time. Right Puissant Smith gave his remarks and was accorded a warm round of applause. He presented an Alpha-Omega coin for the 200th time capsule.

Acting Grand Master R. .I. . Kunego invited the Right Puissant G. Thomas Taylor, Deputy Grand Master of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International to address the assembly at this time. Right Puissant Taylor gave his remarks focusing on membership and retention and was accorded a warm round of applause.

### **ISH-SODI AND AWARDS:**

R. .I. . Richard Kerimouglu presented the report on the Ish Sodi and Awards committee. There were no companions eligible for the Ish Sodi awards this year. Membership Gains & Attendance Awards: Most Greetings and 5 or more Companions: Adelpic Council No. 7 {5 new companions}; 10% or Greater Increase in Membership: Joseph Warren Council No. 37 {3 new companions for 12.5% increase} and Hornellsville Council No. 35 {2 new companions for 10% increase}. Best Attendance at Grand Council Annual Assembly: Rotica Council No. 12 had 8 companions present. The following Awards will be presented at the Annual Banquet: Grand Council State of NY Cryptic Mason of the Year and NY Giles Fonda Yates Medal Award; General Grand Council International Cryptic Mason of the Year, General Grand Council International Adult Youth Leadership Award, and the Lady of the Council Award.

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

M. .I. . Richard Fowler reporting for the Committee on the Grand Master's address wished to thank Deputy Grand Master Kunego for stepping into the "breech" following the passing of our Grand Master Rubinstein. M. .I. . Fowler congratulated him for continuing the plans for our 200th Anniversary and that the committee commends him for all his hard work and accomplishments this past year. In closing we expect this next Cryptic year will be a memorable one. The motion was made to spread in full the Most



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Illustrious Grand Master's message in the proceedings of this Annual Assembly and to spread this report upon the minutes, it was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE:**

M.:I.: David Raymond presented the report of the Credentials Committee. There were 18 Illustrious Masters; 3 Deputy Masters; 2 Principal Conductors of the Work; 57 Past Illustrious Masters for a total of 77 Companions; 9 Official Visitors and 19 Ladies were present for this Annual Assembly. There were 25 of our 27 Councils represented. M.:I.: Raymond made the motion to spread this report upon the minutes, it was seconded and passed.

### **REPORT OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

R.:I.: Kerimoglu presented the Long Range Planning Committee report. He referenced the three page report in the proceeding for the Companions to review. R.:I.: Kerimoglu made the motion to spread this report upon the minutes, it was seconded and passed.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The following Companions were appointed tellers for the elections: M.:I.: Garry Hutchurson, M.:I.: Francis Karwowski, and M.:I.: Steve Licht. The Companions were reminded to the time limitations on nominating and seconding speeches by the Acting Grand Master. The gavel was turned over to M.:I.: Richard Fowler to conduct the Election of Officers for the 2023-2024 Cryptic Year.

M.:I.: John Gallant nominated R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego for the Office of Most Illustrious Grand Master. The motion was seconded by R.:I.: Ken Lockard. No further nominations were made. Nominations were declared closed. The Tellers found one unanimous ballot for R.:I.: Donald R. Kunego 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.: Francis Karwowski and seconded that all elected Grand Line officers, with the exception of the Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer and Grand Steward, be "moved up" or advanced one station in line as they were all unchallenged. The Grand 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 by the Tellers. M.:I.: Garry Hutchurson made the nomination of M.:I.: David Raymond as Grand Treasurer. It was seconded by M.:W.: Richard Kessler. The Grand Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for M.:I.: David Raymond. M.:I.: Steven Licht made the nomination of M.:I.: John Gallant as Grand Recorder to succeed himself. The Grand Treasurer was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for M.:I.: John Gallant. In honor of his service R.:I.: Ken Lockard was given Grand Honors by the companions.

The office of Grand Steward was now in order. The declared candidate was R.:I.: Steven Koch. He was placed in nomination and duly seconded. There being no other nominations, the assembly elected R.:I.: Koch by acclamation. The Grand Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for R.:I.: Koch. M.:I.: Richard Fowler was nominated for the office of Trustee for three years and R.:I.: Ken Lockard was nominated for the office of Trustee for one year. There being no other nominations, the Grand Recorder was ordered to cast one unanimous ballot for the Trustee nominations. All accepted to serve in their new office.

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

The tiled installation of M.:I.: Donald Kunego. took place, with M.:I.: Richard Fowler conducting the private installation of the Most Illustrious Grand Master-Elect. The Grand Master following his private installation was escorted to the East and given Private Grand Honors. Highlighted parts of his address 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 201st Annual Assembly was given by M.:I.: Gallant. The 201st Annual Assembly of the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of NY will be held on August 23-24, 2024 at The Desmond Hotel & Conference Center, Albany, NY.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Most Illustrious Grand Master called for any unfinished business at this time. The Grand Recorder reported that there was no unfinished business to come before this Annual Assembly.

### **CLOSING OF THE GRAND ASSEMBLY:**

Most Illustrious Grand Master called upon M.:I.: Roberts for the Benediction. The 200th Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of NY was closed at 2:45pm.

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

The Open Installation took place in the Grand Assembly room at 3:00pm. The Elected and Appointed officers of Grand Council and District Officers were installed in their several places and stations.

### **THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER DEGREE CONFERRAL:**

The TIM degree was conferred in the Grand Assembly room at 4:15pm. There were 14 incoming Illustrious Masters who received the TIM degree.

### **THE GRAND ASSEMBLY BANQUET:**

The banquet took place in the Grand Assembly room at 7:00PM. Additional presentations and awards were presented by Grand Master Kunego and Right Puissant Taylor, DGGM of the General Grand Council International. The following awards were given: the NY Cryptic Mason of the Year to Ill Edward W. Mosso and R.:I.: Stewart W. Card; General Grand Cryptic Mason of the Year to Illustrious David E. Barnes; Ladies of the Council: Lady Brenda Card. Words of wisdom were delivered by our all distinguished Guests of the East. MIGM Kunego gave closing remarks of thanks and introduced the Most Worship Richard J. Kessler, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York for concluding remarks. The benediction was given and all assembled retired in Peace and Harmony.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M.:I.: John A. Gallant, PMIGM  
Grand Recorder