

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland
Annual Grand Assembly
PROCEEDINGS



OCTOBER 28, 2017

Best Western Hotel & Conference Center

Westminster Maryland



GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF MARYLAND

GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL & SELECT MASTER OF MARYLAND

2017 ANNUAL YORK RITE SESSION FOR MARYLAND

BEST WESTERN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

451 WMC DRIVE, WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND

OCTOBER 27 - 29, 2017

August 1, 2017

Greetings,

On behalf of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, M.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, and the Most Illustrious Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland, M.I. Comp. John A. Rafine, the Annual Grand Convocation and Annual Grand Assembly are hereby announced. Attendance by all Companions is encouraged, though voting is restricted to members of the respective Grand Bodies. Please encourage all York Rite Masons to attend.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland will meet on Saturday morning, October 28, 2017, immediately following the introduction of distinguished guests around 9:00 a.m. At this time, there are no Constitutional amendments to announce for your consideration. The current elected officers will be installed again for the 2017 – 2018 Capitular Year during the meeting.

A men's lunch is offered, which will be served one half hour before the Ladies' lunch in the same location. Please see the registration form included in this mailing.

The Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland will meet on Saturday afternoon, October 28, 2017 immediately following the Men's Lunch. At this time, there are no Constitutional Amendments to announce for your consideration. The newly elected officers for the 2017 – 2018 Cryptic Year will be installed after all current business.

The Grand Commandery will issue its own announcement.

The York Rite Sessions Committee will provide schedule and agenda information at Registration, where you will secure all meals tickets and other materials. Please arrive at each meeting in time to sign in with the respective Credentials Committees, and collect the meeting agenda and any reports which may be printed.

The Grand Chapter and Grand Council Semi-Annual Proceeding are headed to the current web site. Please check there for the minutes of these prior meetings.

Respectfully & Fraternally,

Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP
Grand Secretary / Grand Recorder



Agenda:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Grand Council Opening | MIGM Rafine |
| 2. First Credentials Report | Comp. William Baldwin, GSentinel |
| 3. Reception of MIPGM | MIGM Rafine |
| 4. Proceedings | RI Comp. Huebschman |
| 5. MIGM's Report | MIGM Rafine |
| 6. Grand Recorder's Report | RI Comp. Huebschman |
| 7. Grand Treasurer's Report | MIPGM Curtis |
| 8. Accounts & Finance | RIDGM Lumbert |
| 9. CMMRF | Comp. Romeo |
| 10. Dispensations & Charter | RIDGM Lumbert |
| 11. Doing of Grand Officers | MIPGM Aughenbaugh |
| 12. Fraternal Relations | Comp. Spicer |
| 13. Grievance | MIPGM Ponzillo III |
| 14. Jurisprudent & Constitution | MIPGM Foreman Jr. |
| 15. Long-Range Planning | RIGPCW Watson |
| 16. Membership | TIM Hebbeler |
| 17. Recognition & Awards | TIM Hebbeler |
| 18. Ritual | MIGM Rafine |
| 19. TIM Degree | RI Comp. Huebschman |
| 20. Time & Place 2018 | RIDGM Lumbert |
| 21. Sessions 2017 | RIDGM Lumbert |
| 22. Youth Relations | RIGPCW Watson |
| 23. Electron Media | Comp. Brewer |
| 24. Unfinished Business | RIDGM Lumbert |
| 25. New Business | MIGM Rafine |
| 26. Election of Officers 2017-2018 | MIPGM Ponzillo III |
| 27. Closing Remarks | All Companions |
| 28. Closing | MIGM Rafine |



1. Grand Council Opening

MIGM John A. Rafine

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by Most Illustrious Grand Master, M.I. Comp. John A. Rafine with the following Officers in their respective place and stations:

M.I. Comp. John A. Rafine	Grand Master
R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert	Deputy Grand Master
R.I. Comp. Randall L. Watson	Grand Principal Conductor of the Work
R.I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman	Grand Recorder
M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis	Grand Treasurer
Comp. Arthur Hebbeler	Grand Chaplain Pro Temp
Comp. Randolph S. Disney	Grand Captain of the Guard
Comp. Alex A. Rodriguez	Grand Conduction of the Council
Comp. W. Michael Boughman	Grand Marshal
Comp. Kris D. Brown	Grand Steward
Comp. William J. Baldwin, Jr.	Grand Sentinel
Comp. John L. Thomas	Grand Lecturer Emeritus (Absent)
Comp. Jeffrey C. Ament	Grand Lecturer (Absent)
Comp. Alex A. Rodriguez	Deputy Grand Lecturer
Comp. John M. Greer	Deputy Grand Lecturer (Absent)

Pledge of Allegiance lead by MI Comp. Rafine, MIGM

Opening Prayer by Companion & Rev. Arthur Hebbeler,

“Supreme Architect of the Universe, we invoke Your blessing at this time upon this Grand Assembly. Guide us in our deliberations. May our work be found true and proper in Your sight. Amen. So Mote It Be.”

2. Credentials Reports

Comp. William J. Baldwin, Gr Sentinel

Preliminary Report at the opening of the Grand Assembly

Number of Councils Present	Thirteen (13)
Number of Voting Companions	Thirty-four (34)
Number of Non-Voting Companions	Two (2)

The MIGM acknowledged the presence of a quorum, and welcomed all for being present.

Final Report per Register submitted by the Grand Sentinel:

Number of Councils Present	Thirteen (13)
Number of Voting Companions	Thirty-four (34)
Number of Non-Voting Companions	Seven (7)
Number of Visitors from other Jurisdictions	Six (6)



Final Register of attending Companions:

1. Concordia	James B. Coker, MIPGM Edward A. Foreman, Jr. MIPGM Robert B. Lambert, RIDGM James J. Morgan, Jr. PTIM John A. Rafine, MIGM Frederick T. Rossmark, PCW Frederick A. Spicer, PTIM Bruce G. Colburn #	2. Jerusalem	W. Michael Boughman, PTIM Thomas G. Heimiller # Louis P. Romeo, Jr., PTIM
5. Hiram	William C. Eppig, PTIM Richard A. Eppler, MIPGM/CT William C. Hare, PTIM Vernon H. Huebschman, RIGRec John P. Mitchell, TIM Richard P. Naegele, MIPGM Marl Pearlstein # Stephen J. Ponzillo, III, MIPGM Robert Reynolds # Edsel Spellman # Spyridon G. Treklas, PTIM Thaddeus M. Vargo, PCW Randall L. Watson, RIGPCW	7. Carroll	
8. Jeshua	Robert M. Penny, PTIM	9. Zabud	Christian E. Jensen, TIM
10. Enoch	Dennis A. Brekhus, PTIM Gary J. Kennedy, TIM James King # Robert Koons #	11. Salem	Robert W. Hamilton, PTIM
12. Giblum	None Registered	13. King Solomon	John H. Austin, PTIM Kris D. Brown, PTIM Thomas A. Marraffa, PTIM
16. Palestine	None Registered	20. Harmony	Randolph S. Disney, PTIM Bennie G. Owens, MIPGM
21. Adoniram	Clifton R. Friel, MIPGM	23. York	Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM Mark Irwin, PTIM Randy Schoch, Grand Chaplain #
24. Acacia	Ronald L. Aughenbaugh, MIPGM	25. Samuel L. Clemens	Arthur F. Hebbeler, III, TIM
	# Non-Voting Companion		



3. Reception of MIPGM’s

MIGM John A. Rafine

The Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters of this Grand Council were invited to present themselves west of the Altar. Those present were:

MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo III	1983
MIPGM Bennie G. Owens	1989
MIPGM Edward A. Foreman, Jr.	2000
MIPGM Patrick A. Curtis	2002
MIPGM Clifton R. Friel	2003
MIPGM Richard P. Naegele	2008 -2009
MIPGM Ronald L. Aughenbaugh	2010 – 2011
MIPGM James B. Coker	2012 – 2013

Grand Honors were led by MIGM Rafine.

The MIGM greeted our MIPGM’s.

Since our 2016 Annual Grand Assembly, the following MIPGM’s have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above:

MIPGM Carl J. Wisner	1974
MIPGM Luther “Buddy” Bell	1991
MIPGM Robert H. McWilliams	1999

A moment of silence was observed for our MIPGM’s.

MIGM Rafine presented each of the MIPGM’s present a gift bag, thanking them for the guidance, support, and the occasional kick in the pants when needed.

The response for the MIPGM’s was given by M.I. Comp. Stephen J. Ponzillo III in the Closing Remarks.

“Your Past Grand Masters are pleased to be with you. We appreciate the gift. We appreciate the comments. None of us would ever kick you in the pants...just wanted them to know. We are most pleased to be with you and see you guide this Grand Council through this Grand Assembly. So congratulations to you, Sir. And good fortunes as you preside.



Carl Joseph Wisner



Carl Joseph Wisner was born on June 19, 1927 in New Windsor, Maryland the son of Joseph and Evelyn (Fowler) Wisner. He was called from labor here on earth January 12, 2017. He was the beloved husband of Doris (Hruska) Wisner and father of Joel and Lyle Wisner.

Brother Wisner started his Masonic travels by being raised in Door to Virtue Lodge No. 46 In December of 1948 serving as Master in 1957. Brother Wisner served the Grand Lodge of Maryland as Grand Treasurer for several years.

Companion Wisner was Exalted in Carroll Royal Arch Chapter No. 31 on June 27, 1949 serving as its Most Excellent High Priest on January 25, 1950. Companion Wisner served the Grand Chapter of Maryland as Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 1963.

Companion Wisner was greeted in Carroll Council No. 7 on October 10, 1949 and served as its Thrice Illustrious Master. Companion Wisner served the Grand Council as Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1974.

Sir Knight Wisner was Knighted on January 5, 1950 in Jacques DeMolay Commandery No.4 Transferring his membership to Carroll Commandery No.17 on June 14, 1972. Serving as Right Eminent Grand Commander in 1986. Receiving his Knight Commander of the Temple in 2004.

Companion and Sir Knight Wisner was a 33 Degree Scottish Rite Mason, member of the Knights York Cross of Honor and was the presiding officer of many other Masonic Bodies. Companion and Sir Knight served this Grand Jurisdiction with Dedication and Distinction for 69 years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Addison Foreman, Jr.

M.E.P.G.H.P., M.I.P.G.M., R.E.P.G.C.



Luther James “Buddy” Bell



Luther James “Buddy” Bell was born on July 17, 1924 in Dundalk, Maryland the son of Luther E. and Margaret Bell. He was called from labor here on earth January 27, 2017. He was the husband of Carole A. Bell and the late Ruth L. Bell, father of Luther Bell Jr., Samuel Bell and Karen Holbrook.

Brother Bell started his Masonic travels being raised in Patapsco Lodge No. 183 on April 15, 1954, he then demitted to Baltimore Lodge No. 210 Serving as Master in 1985.

Companion Bell was exalted in St. John’s Royal Arch Chapter No. 19 in 1966 and served several times as Most Excellent High Priest. Companion Bell served the Grand Chapter of Maryland as Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 1981.

Companion Bell was Greeted in Concordia Council No. 1. The records of which have been lost. Companion Bell served the Grand Council as Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1996. He also served this Grand Council as Assistant Grand Lecture.

Sir Knight Bell was Knighted in Monumental Commandery No. 3 on October 10, 1972 serving as Eminent Commander in 1982. Sir Knight Bell also served as Treasurer of Monumental for many years.

Companion and Sir Knight Bell was a member of the Knights York Cross of Honor, and was the presiding officer of other Masonic Bodies.

Companion and Sir Knight Bell served Masonry with Dedication and Distinction, for 53 years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Addison Foreman, Jr.

M.E.P.G.H.P., M.I.P.G.M.

4. Proceedings

R.I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, GRec

As the Grand Council website was not available for the posting of the Proceedings of the 2016 Annual Grand Assembly, a copy of the Proceedings as compiled by MIPGM Richard P. Naegele, Grand Recorder, was supplied as an attachment to the Agenda and distributed to all attending.

The Proceedings of a Special Grand Assembly called by MIGM Rafine held on April 29, 2017 for the purpose of conferring the TIM Degree were similarly attached. These are shown below.

A Motion was made to accept both Proceedings by the Grand Recorder; Seconded by RI Comp. Watson, and passed unanimously.



Special Grand Assembly

April 29, 2017 10:00 a.m.

Gothic Room, Freemason Hall

Cockeysville, Maryland

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Comp. John A. Rafine, opened a Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland in Ample Form. Due notice had been provided to the permanent members and members for the time being in the call letter for the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly sent of March 1, 2017. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer, MIGM Rafine declared the Grand Council open for the sole purpose of conferring the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree, and directed the Officers of the Thrice Illustrious Masters Council to take their respective places for the conferral of that Degree. The officers processed into the Assembly Room and took the following places:

R.I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, RIGSec	Thrice Illustrious Master
R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, RIDGM	Thrice Illustrious Senior Warden
III. Comp. Spyridon G. Treklas, PTIM	Thrice Illustrious Junior Warden
M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM	Thrice Illustrious Grand Steward
M.I. Comp. Gordon A. Davids, MIPGM	King David

The Candidates for the Degree had earlier attended the Grand Council Law School conducted by Past Grand Lecturer, MIPGM Gordon A. Davids. The Candidates were permitted to observe the opening of the TIM Council, as allowed in the ritual. The Candidates were:

Comp. John P. Mitchell, TIM-Elect	Hiram Council No. 5 R&SM, Cockeysville, MD
Comp. Gary Kennedy, TIM-Elect	Enoch Council No. 10 R&SM, Frederick, MD
Comp. Patrick Stangler, TIM-Elect	Salem Council No. 11 R&SM, Cumberland, MD
Comp. S. Dirk Wiker, TIM-Elect	Harmony Council No. 20, Annapolis, MD

The Degree was opened in Full Form, and in an excellent manner. Following the conferral, the TIM introduced the cast which received the thanks of the Candidates and the Companions present. The MIGM expressed his gratitude for the efforts of the cast, especially the very challenging parts rendered by MIPGM Curtis and MIPGM Davids. After the remarks were concluded, the TIM closed the TIM Council. MIGM Rafine the closed the Special Grand Assembly at 11:15 a.m. in Ample Form.

Respectfully and Zealously,

R. I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman
Grand Recorder.

The Proceedings of the 2016 Annual Grand Assembly were printed as received from MIPGM Naegele, and presented to each attendee with the agenda. RI Comp. Huebschman moved the adoption of the 2016 Proceedings together with the Proceedings of the Special Grand Assembly; seconded by MIPGM Curtis. Passed unanimously. The website has not been available up to this point. When available again the Proceeding will be posted there.



5. Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master MIGM John A. Rafine

142nd Annual Assembly Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Richard Naegele, Right Puissant General Grand Treasurer Charles Hollinger, Right Puissant Regional Deputy Grand Master, Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters, Thrice Illustrious Masters, and Companions,

Welcome to the 142nd Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Maryland. I hope that everyone is enjoying their stay in Westminster, Maryland and find our accommodations to your liking. If there is anything requiring our attention, please let me know so we can address your concerns promptly.

In-State Activity

I continue to be both impressed and proud of our Maryland Councils. Hiram Council has a number of young officers. It was gratifying to see them perform the Council closing from memory. Hiram is also aggressively working to make their meetings more productive. Meetings are being planned in advance, along with ritual work. Congratulations to Thrice Illustrious Master John Mitchell and the companions of Hiram Council.

Enoch Council No. 10, is growing in membership and has a sufficient number of officers conferring the work. Thrice Illustrious Master Gary Kennedy is active in all bodies of the Frederick York and Scottish Rites, and is an outstanding ritualist. Frederick's York Rite is a close-knit group that takes great pride and in their ritual conferral, attention to details, and friendliness to visitors.

Enoch Council elevated our normal Spring meeting strawberries and ice cream to a new level. Holding a joint open evening event with their Chapter, Council and Commandery members with their families was very well attended.

The DeMolay Conclave was very impressive this summer. Despite the usual Maryland July hot humid weather, this event continues to be very well planned, executed and attended. Companion William Eppig announced his retirement as Executive Officer of Maryland DeMolay after 10 years of outstanding service in preparation for his term as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in MD. I commend Companion Eppig for his service, and extend the Grand Council's support of his successor, Past Thrice Illustrious Master Carl Michael, Jr.

Montgomery York Rite relocated to Germantown, MD and held a York Rite Festive Board in September to raise funds and promote the York Rite to Pentalpha Lodge. Their Festive Board was well- attended, and I hope that their efforts are rewarded with new candidates.

Concordia Council No. 1 has conferred the Council Degrees on a number of candidates, several from other Councils. Their ritual work is outstanding.

Jerusalem Council No. 2, is equally proficient in their degree conferrals, as are Harmony 20. The Grand Visitation to the Eastern Shore was rewarding and I had the pleasure of witnessing a most impressive degree conferral.



Unfortunately, I was unable to schedule a visit to Carrol No. 7, York No. 23, or Samuel J. Clemmons No. 24. These Councils need our assistance, and the Grand Council stands ready to assist in every way possible.

Out-of-State Activity

I attended the New York Grand Sessions along with Most Illustrious Past Grand Master Ron Aughenbaugh and Right Illustrious Grand Master Robert Lumbert. New York's Grand Council holds their Annual Assembly separately from their Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, and I was impressed with their attendance.

I was unable to attend the triennial assembly in Portland, Oregon due to health restrictions. I thank Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Randy Watson, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master Richard Naegele, Grand Recorder Companion Vernon Huebschman and Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master Robert Lumbert for attending and representing Maryland.

I thank long-time friends Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work G. Thomas Taylor of Delaware and Dick Eppler Past Grand High Priest and Past Most Puissant Grand Master of CT and MD for their attendance. Right Puissant Regional Deputy Grand Master Jay B. Walsh, and Right Puissant General Grand Treasurer, and General Grand Treasurer Charles Hollinger, for their attendance.

Charity

Maryland continues to support the CMMRF by providing funds to this most-worthwhile charity. I thank Companion Lou Romeo for his service as CMMRF Committee Chairman. As of today, Maryland has donated the amount in Comp. Lou Romeo's Report to CMMRF during my term, and I am confident that RIDGM Lumbert will work diligently to provide more money during his term.

Grand Officers

I thank my Grand Officers for their service to the Grand Council of Maryland and wish you well on their future endeavors. I especially thank Right Illustrious Grand Recorder Vernon Huebschman for his service. He has worked diligently and tirelessly as evidenced by the timestamps on his emails, and getting the Grand Council records in order. There is still much work to be done, and I am confident that it will be done. Thank you, Companion Huebschman.

I also thank our committee members and chairman for their work throughout the year. This year has presented an unusual number of changes in Council meeting locations, and I am pleased that they have been handled efficiently.

Website

As reported in my semi-annual report, our website needs attention. We could not overcome the negative effects of outdated information. Although our webmasters have performed to the best of their ability, it is time for the Grand Council to recognize the importance of its website, and the need to allocate sufficient funds to keep the site updated and online. For my entire term, I have worked to get our information updated. Having the incorrect Grand Council Recorder listed resulted in the delayed receipt of



correspondence, and sister jurisdictions were unable to learn of our events and Grand Assemblies throughout the year.

Local Council are also affected. Council meetings are not correctly posted, and neither are the Council officers and contact information.

Our Grand Treasurer will report a substantial increase in the value of our investments. We need to use some of this increase to host our website on a reliable platform, and provide for backups and virus protection. I hope to be able to approve a motion to do so at this assembly.

Recommendations

We were unable to complete work on implementing the Louis F. Bandell, Jr. Ritual Award. Companions Ament and Rodriguez completed the initial draft of this award, and I recommend that Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master Lumbert pick up the ball and carry it through to completion.

The Grand Council hear and approve a motion to establish a professional webhost to assist Webmaster Giesbrecht with the resources he needs to provide us with the website we need.

Conclusion

One of my goals as Most Illustrious Grand Master was to demonstrate that the Grand Council is a viable organization to assist constituent Councils by providing information, assistance, conferral of the Royal, Select, Super Excellent Master and Thrice Excellent Master degrees.

I also stressed the need to have fun along with the degree work which the Grand Council Festive Board provided.

We will continue to learn from the past, provide for today, and form the framework for tomorrow. Having the honor to serve Maryland as its Most Illustrious Grand Master is one of the highlights of my life, and one that I will cherish forever. None of this would be possible without you. I appreciate your support. I will continue to do all that I can for Maryland Masonry. Thank you, Companions.

Respectfully submitted,

M.I. Comp. John Rafine

Most Illustrious Grand Master

Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Maryland

A motion was made to accept this report was made by Comp. Randall Watson RIGPCW; seconded by Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM Passed unanimously.



6 Report of the Grand Recorder

RI Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

MIGM,

Annual Reports.

All Maryland Councils have now submitted their Annual Reports to the Grand Council. Some were presented by the September 30 due. Most were not. A few still owe the Annual fees. This made for a very difficult period in compiling the data usually presented at this Grand Assembly. Perhaps this does hit home for most Companions because the brunt of this burden fall on only one person...the Grand Recorder. The data are assembled into the Annual Summary Report which tracks changes in membership status in each council, and the payments expected and donations made.

Grand Lodge Members Management System

Most of this benefit occurs at the Grand Chapter level, but has each council reports a change in membership status, the Masonic record for each new Companion or reported suspension, demit, or death is verified and the GLMMS number is verified or added to the member's record. Eventually every Companion in a Maryland Chapter and Council will have his Blue Lodge Number applied. This number provides a link to the Blue Lodges' best information on contact information and Lodge affiliation. This system does not automatically crosslink to the York Rite Data Base. Each record is verified whenever requested or a change is reported.

Database Security

Having endured the frustrations of more than one problem with access to the York Rite Database, an automatic program has been purchased to backup the entire laptop of the Grand Recorder. Also, a two terabyte memory has been purchased to receive and archive the regular back-up of the laptop. Thumb drives will now only be used for temporary portability of some specific files.

Grand Recorder's Account

The M&T Bank Account was established by the MIGM and Grand Recorder earlier this year as the checking functions were transferred to the Grand Recorder. The MIGM granted his permission for checks under \$500.00 to be processed routinely without two signatures, which speeds up payment immensely. In special circumstances, when time is of the essence, and the MIGM is specifically informed of the payment required, amounts over \$500.00 have also been approved.

A list of all checks written since the last Grand Assembly are attached. Also, a breakdown of all deposits made; and a breakdown by Expenses Account is also included.

When the final expenses of resulting for the Grand York Rite Sessions are tallied and paid, the books for 2017 – 2018 will be closed, and the End of Fiscal Year report will be prepared for the period November 1,



2016 through October 31, 2017. The new fiscal year begins with November 1, 2017 and will reflect expenses assigned to those accounts established at the May 2017 Semi-Annual Grand Assembly.

Thrice Illustrious Master Degree

The Special Grand Assembly for the purpose of conferring this degree will be held in coordination with the Council of Anointed High Priests on April 28, 2018 at Freemason Hall, Cockeysville Maryland. The required Council Law School will precede this by one hour. If the same schedule as last year applies, the Law School will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the TIM Degree will be conferred at 10:00.

The Grand Recorder/Grand Secretary will attempt to provide a lunch for those staying for the CAHP Degree .

Finally, I would like to commend the service our MIGM, Comp. John A. Rafine during his term of office. He has been generous with time in communicating with the Grand Recorder, to the point that he is among the most enjoyable presiding officers I have worked with. It is too often said that Communication is the Key to good organization...and it is never more true than in the relationship between a MIGM and his Grand Recorder. Without direction and encouragement, only the most basic functions can be accomplished. With cooperation, the operations of a Masonic organization can become complete and refined...polished to a luster that all can be proud of. Our MIGM has been a close companion in our duties, our complaints, and our successes. Thank you seems to be too small an expression but I assure each of you it is sincere.



Grand Council of R&SM of Maryland														Raw Data													
Summary Report of Membership Status.														28-Oct-17													
Council Number	Council Name	IRS 990-N	9/1/2016	Greetings	Re-Instatement	Plural	Total	Deaths	Suspended	Demit	Correction	Ending	Dues Remitted by Chapter	General Grand Council Life	Memberships	Gen Grd Council Life	Memberships (-\$2.50)	Assessment less Life	memberships	Greeting Fee (\$10.00 per Candidate)	Total Assessment	CMMRF Donation					
1	Concordia*	Y	110	3	0	0	113	2	8	0	0	103	3	7	0	0	0	762.50	0	30.00	792.50	326.00					
2	Jerusalem	N	71	4	0	0	75	0	6	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	(\$2.50)	510.00	0	40.00	550.00	75.00					
5	Hiram	Y	241	19	0	0	260	12	4	3	0	241	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	1,807.50	0	190.00	1,997.50	395.00					
7	Carroll	Y	67	0	0	0	67	5	3	0	0	59	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	427.50	0	-	427.50	44.00					
8	Jeshua	Y	36	1	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	37	0	4	0	0	(\$10.00)	277.50	0	10.00	277.50	17.00					
9	Zabud	Y	16	5	0	0	21	2	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	142.50	0	50.00	192.50	50.00					
10	Enoch	Y	75	2	0	0	77	3	0	0	0	74	3	7	0	0	(\$17.50)	555.00	0	20.00	575.00	135.00					
11	Salem	N	85	6	0	0	91	1	0	0	0	90	1	0	0	0	\$0.00	667.50	0	60.00	-	-					
12	Giblim	Y	57	1	0	0	58	1	4	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	330.00	0	-	-	-					
13	King Solomon	N	46	2	0	0	48	0	2	2	0	44	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	330.00	0	-	-	-					
16	Palestine	Y	53	0	0	0	53	1	1	0	0	51	7	0	0	0	\$0.00	832.50	0	20.00	350.00	-					
20	Harmony	N	133	2	0	0	135	7	13	4	0	111	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	615.00	0	10.00	852.50	-					
21	Adoniram	N	83	1	0	0	84	2	0	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	510.00	0	-	625.00	-					
23	York	Y	81	0	0	0	81	2	3	1	0	75	7	4	0	0	(\$10.00)	105.00	0	-	510.00	58.50					
24	Acacia	Y	15	0	1	0	16	1	0	0	0	15	1	2	0	0	(\$5.00)	105.00	0	-	105.00	20.00					
25	Samuel Clemens	N	11	0	0	0	11	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	-	0	-	-	-					
TOTAL			1180	46	1	0	1227	40	44	10	0	1132	19	17	0	0	-\$45.00	\$7,872.50	0	\$450.00	\$7,255.00	\$1,120.50					



Submitted respectfully

R.I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PTIM

Grand Recorder

I move the adoption of this report, and that it be spread upon the Proceeding of this Grand Assembly.
Seconded by MIGM Curtis, and passed unanimously.

7 Report of the Grand Treasurer

M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis

MIGM Rafine,

I want to thank the members of this body for electing me to serve as their Grand Treasurer. It has been an enlightening experience. I am still working on learning all the ends and outs of how to read the monthly statements provided by Morgan Stanley to me as well as learning the different terminology used in the report.

I believe we have recovered quite well from the events of two years ago when our stocks were suffering from the economic conditions prevalent at that time. I am pleased to report that our well diversified investments (Cash, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds) continue to support a significant increase this past year. With the wise investments made by those who served before me, I am able to report, during the past year, the investments with Morgan Stanley have grown by Two thousand, five hundred Ninety-Six dollars and Ninety-one cents (\$2,596.91), giving us a total for investments of One hundred Seventy-nine, Nine hundred and Thirty Three Dollars and Forty-five cents (\$179,933.45). With the check book balance, we have a total of o

Although I am new to the position of Grand Treasurer for the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland, I am willing to serve another y should the Companions see fit to elect me for another term.

The attached table provides a summary of our investments and their growth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ill. Companion Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM

I move the adoption of this report, and that it be spread upon the Proceeding of this Grand Assembly



Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters
Of Maryland
Investment Report of Grand Treasurer per
Statement of 9/30/2017
Account No. 633-151036

Morgan Stanley Grand Council	9/30/2016	9/30/2017	Increase / (Decrease)
Total Value	\$ 177,336.54	\$ 179,927.72	\$ 2,591.18
Total Cash, Bank Deposit Program(BDP), and Money Market Funds (MMF's)	Market Value	Market Value	
Cash	\$ 8159.06	\$ 5968.06	(\$ 2,191.00)
Common Stocks			
Exelon Corporation	\$ 19,474.65	\$ 22 036.95	
Magellan Midstream Partners	\$ 42,444.00.	\$ 42,636.00	
MMA Cap Mgms LLC	\$ 619.48	\$ 851.70	
Omega Healthcare Inv. INC	\$ 23,042.50	\$ 20,741.50	
Pembina Pipeline Corp. Com.	\$ 7,767.30	\$ 8,950.65	
Preferred Stocks			
Capital One Finl Corp	\$ 10,796.00	\$ 10,800	
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 104,143.93	\$ 106,016.65	\$ 1,872.72
Corporate Fixed Income			
Royal Bk Scotland RBS	\$ 14,591.23	\$ 14,657.25	
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 14,591.23	\$ 14,657.25	\$ 66.00
Mutual Funds			
American BD FD of America	\$ 23,536/92	\$ 23,668.99	
American Cap INC Builder	\$ 26,905.38	\$ 29,622.50	
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 50,442.30	\$ 53291.49	\$ 2,849.19

I move the adoption of this report, and that it be spread upon the Proceedings of this Grand Assembly;
Seconded by R.I. Comp. Randall L. Watson, and passed unanimously.



8 Accounts & Finance

R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

MIGM,

The Budget for the 2017 – 2018 was adopted at the 2017 Semi-Annual Grand Assembly.

The is no further business to report at this time.

Fraternally submitted,

R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, RIDGM
Chairman.

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland Adopted Budget for 2017 - 2018		2017 -2018
	Income	November 1- October 31
A Per Capita (1235) @ \$5 Md + \$2.50 GG		\$9,300.00
B New Companions (60) @ \$10.00		\$600.00
C Interest/Dividends		\$900.00
D Miscellaneous		\$200.00
E Transfer from Investment		\$5,950.00
F Ritual		\$50.00
G Raffle		
H SEM		
I Insurance		\$1,500.00
	Total	\$18,500.00
1 Grand Recorder Expenses		\$1,200.00
2 Grand Lecturer Expenses		\$100.00
3 Grand Treasurer Expenses		\$200.00
4 Grand Sentinel Gratuity		\$ 50.00
5 Grand Organist Gratuity		0



6	Officers' Travel Expenses		\$3,200.00
7	Per Capita General Grand		\$3,100.00
8	Office Expenses		\$850.00
9	Annual Proceedings & Postage		\$600.00
10	Flowers & Memorials		\$100.00
11	Sessions Expenses		\$1,600.00
12	Grand Master's Apron & Case		\$500.00
13	Triennial Expenses	\$	-
14	CMMRF		
15	Printing/Dues Cards		\$250.00
16	Equipment Purchase	\$	200.00
17	Bonnie Blink Church Service	\$	-
18	Awards & Recognition		\$200.00
19	Membership/Degree Teams		\$350.00
20	Youth Group/Hershey Trip		\$500.00
21	Web Site		\$500.00
22	Miscellaneous		\$100.00
23	SEM Degree		
24	Insurance		\$3,400.00
25	Anniversary		\$1,000.00
26	Festive Board		\$500.00
	Total		\$18,500.00

9 CMMRF

Comp. Louis P. Romeo, Jr. PTIM

As given from the floor...

Comp. Romeo turned over \$750.00 proceeds from the present raffle. A total of \$1170 was raised in the two raffles in this Cryptic year, compared to \$800 in the previous year.

One Maryland Council earned a bar for its CMMRF Plaque, representing a donaton of \$1000 or more in the year. Enoch Council earned this distinction this year. MIGM Rafine and General Grand Treasurer Hollinger presented the award to Companion Kennedy.



Comp. Fred Spicer was asked to assist in drawing the names for the raffle winner. Companion Fred Rossmark and Mr. Ed Heimiller each won \$100.00 paid from the proceeds of the raffle.

Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation Inc.
YTD-CMMRF State Report
January 1 through October 23, 2017

11:55AM

Cash Basis

Date	Name	Activities	Paid Amount
10/16/2017	001 Concordia Council		326.00
Total Concordia 001			
Jenksalem 002			
01/28/2017	002 Jenksalem Council	CMMRF Golf Colls	25.00
01/28/2017	Wiegman, Brent A.	CMMRF Golf Colls	25.00
01/28/2017	Thurford, Jr., Richard E.	CMMRF Golf Colls	25.00
10/04/2017	002 Jenksalem Council		75.00
10/20/2017	Rozmar, Jr., Louis P.	2*	300.00
Total Jenksalem 002			
Hiram 005			
10/16/2017	005 Hiram Council		75.00
10/15/2017	005 Hiram Council		395.00
Total Hiram 005			
Enoch 010			
07/03/2017	010 Enoch Council	CMMRF Day/2017...	300.00
10/16/2017	010 Enoch Council		133.00
Total Enoch 010			
Harmony 020			
04/26/2017	Trowbridge, Jim		24.00
08/14/2017	Blaish, Robert N.		5.00
Total Harmony 020			
York 023			
10/16/2017	023 York Council		58.50
Total York 023			
Acacia 024			
10/16/2017	024 Acacia Council		20.00
Total Acacia 024			
MD - Grand Council			
01/28/2017	MD Grand Council	MEM	30.00
02/07/2017	Viles, Jie		20.00
06/15/2017	MD Grand Council		60.00
07/03/2017	MD Grand Council	C. Herbert Gault...	1,706.31
Total MD - Grand Council			
TOTAL			4,384.81



2017 CMMRF Annual Report

1.1.1 Top Ten (10) States in Contributions

1) Florida	\$30,998.63	Dayle Schrock, Chairman
2) New Jersey	\$27,460.00	Newlin Williams, Chairman
3) Indiana	\$17,823.00	James Catania, Chairman
4) Colorado	\$14,059.66	Robert Gregory, Chairman
5) Kentucky	\$10,757.09	Douglas Bunch, Chairman
6) Oregon	\$ 9,786.20	Loren Schrock, Chairman
7) California	\$ 8,570.34	Frederick Potter, Chairman
8) Arkansas	\$ 7,021.38	Dr. Joe Rouse, Chairman
9) Georgia	\$ 6,876.02	James Bard, Chairman
10) Maryland	\$ 6,230.00	Louis Romeo, Jr., Chairman

1.1.2 Gold pins with a diamond representing each \$1,000.00 in donations were earned by:

Wallace D. Mays	Georgia	17 diamonds	Robert Gregory	Colorado	4 diamonds
Carl Gilmore	Florida	13 diamonds	Grover Sardeson	Colorado	4 diamonds
John Pickford	Florida	12 diamonds	Warren Almand, Jr.	Florida	4 diamonds
Michael Stoner	Indiana	12 diamonds	John Ridenour	Oregon	4 diamonds
Herald Reid	Oregon	12 diamonds	Thomas Olsen	Florida	3 diamonds
Alfred Mueller, Jr.	Florida	11 diamonds	Dayle Schrock	Florida	3 diamonds
Gary Wyne	Indiana	9 diamonds	Robert St. John	Florida	2 diamonds
S. Wayne Elder	Tennessee	9 diamonds	Roy Thompson	Florida	2 diamonds
Wm. Paul Wilson	Arkansas	8 diamonds	James Bard	Georgia	2 diamonds
Glenn Chandler	Florida	8 diamonds	James Castor	Indiana	2 diamonds
Charles Hollinger	Florida	7 diamonds	Sean Jones	Indiana	2 diamonds
Loren Schrock	Oregon	6 diamonds	Louis Romeo, Jr.	Maryland	2 diamonds
Paul W. Friend	Florida	5 diamonds	John Logan	Oklahoma	2 diamonds
James V. Jones	Kentucky	5 diamonds			

1.1.3 The following pins were awarded:

Bronze	(\$ 50.00 - \$ 99.99)	51
Bronze with Topaz	(\$100.00 - \$149.99)	47



Silver	(\$150.00 - \$299.99)	27
Silver with Topaz	(\$300.00 - \$499.99)	22
Gold	(\$500.00 - \$749.99)	26
Gold with Topaz	(\$750.00 - \$999.99)	09

1.1.4 Plaques were awarded to the following individuals:

371	Frederick Bailey, Jr.	AR	380	Gary L. Paquet	MI
372	Thomas E. Blackwood	SC	381	James D. Castor	IN
373	Ronald Snell	IN	382	Jerry W. Reeves	MS
374	Clyde Griffin	GA	383	Donald L. York	WY
375	Wayne Caruss	MI	384	Robert St. John	FL
376	David Chesebro	CA	385	John Rafine	MD
377	Smith, Welch, Webb & White, LLC	GA			
378	Gerald Ogle	NV	386	Donald DeMars	MN
379	William Price	CA	387	Larry Bilka	FL

1.1.5 Plaques were earned by the following councils and organizations:

Alabama	E. L. McConnell Council No. 40	North Carolina	Ionic Council No. 9
Iowa	Malachi Council No. 55	Oklahoma	Altus Council No. 33
Maine	Aroostook Council No. 16	Utah	Zion Council No. 7
Maryland	Jeshua Council No. 8	Washington	Everett Assembly #242, SOOB
Minnesota	Duluth Council No. 6		

1.1.6 Extender bars for subsequent donations of \$1,000.00 were awarded to:

Alabama	Eureka Council No. 5 Mobile Council No. 12	California	California Council No. 2 Ventura Council No. 15
Arizona	Adoniram Council No. 14		San Diego Council No. 23 Alhambra Council No. 25
Arkansas	English Council No. 14 Gideon Council No. 65 Paul C. Bush Council No. 80 – 3 bars North Central Council No. 82		San Luis Obispo Council No. 38 Hattie Givens Trust – 2 bars
Colorado	Denver Council No. 1 Tyrian Council No. 11 Larimer County Council No. 21 Jefferson Council No. 24	Maryland	Jerusalem Council No. 2 Enoch Council No. 10
Florida	Hallmark Council No. 3 – 6 bars Tyler Council No. 4 Orlando Council No. 5 Union Council No. 7 Tampa Council No. 8 – 2 bars	Michigan	Grand Ledge Council No. 62
		Minnesota	St. Paul Council No. 1 Minneapolis Council No. 2 Duluth Council No. 6 Austin Council No. 7
		Mississippi	Barney Trice Council No. 48
		Missouri	St. Joseph Council No. 9



	Bradentown Council No. 9		Independence Council No. 49
	Adoniram Council No. 10 – 2 bars	Montana	Adoniram Council No. 8
	Hiram Council No. 13	Nebraska	Hastings Council No. 8 – 2 bars
	Zabud Council No. 17	Nevada	Reno Council No. 4
	Sanford Council No. 20		Hiram Council No. 5
	Panama City Council No. 26		Grand Chapter O.E.S.
	Gainesville Council No. 27	New Mexico	Hiram Council No. 1
	Seminole Council No. 30		Santa Fe Council No. 5
	Marianna Council No. 31	North Carolina	Greensboro Council No. 3
Clearwater Council No. 34 – 2 bars		New Bern Council No. 12	
	Tyrian Council No. 36 – 4 bars		Goldsboro Council No. 33
	Melbourne Council No. 38 – 2 bars	North Dakota	Twin City Council No. 7
	Venice Council No. 41	Oklahoma	Guthrie Council No. 48
Georgia	Covington Council No. 41		Woodward Council No. 52
	Sardis Council No. 53	Oregon	Union Council No. 5 – 2 bars
	Marietta Council No. 74		Adoniram Council No. 9
	Fifth District CC		Columbia Council No. 19
Idaho	Jeremiah Council No. 9		Centennial Council No. 24 – 2 bars
bars			
Indiana	Indiana Council No. 1	South Carolina	Enoch Council No. 1
	Indianapolis Council No. 2 – 2 bars		Wynn Council No. 4
	Anderson Council No. 69		Petros Council No. 11
	Elkhart Council No. 79		Blake Council No. 19
	Valparaiso Council No. 86		Witherspoon Council No. 33
	Bloomington Council No. 87 – 2 bars	Tennessee	Nashville Council No. 1 – 2 bars
	Noblesville Council No. 89		Morristown Chapter No. 79
	Greenfield Council No. 94 – 2 bars		Athens Council No. 118
	South Bend Council No. 82	Washington	Tacoma Council No. 1
	Prather Council No. 100		Zadock Council No. 23
	Forrest A. Wakeman Council No. 110 – 3 bars		
Iowa	Gebal Council No. 5 – 2 bars		
	Joppa Council No. 15		
Kentucky	Kenton Council No. 13		
	Jeffries Council No. 33		
	A.E. Orton Council No. 93		
	Harry F. Walters Council No. 101		
	Scottsville Council No. 105		
	Bullitt Council No. 114		
	Hardin Council No. 115		

1.1.7 One Hundred Percent Certificates were awarded to:

\$18.00 - \$20.00 per member	Bloomington Council No. 87	Indiana
\$5.00 - \$6.00 per member	Noblesville Council No. 89	Indiana
	Columbia Council No. 19	Oregon
\$4.00 - \$4.99 per member	Brundidge Council No. 69	Alabama
	Multnomah Council No. 11	Oregon
\$3.00 - \$3.99 per member	Phenix City Council No. 82	Alabama
	Hodson Council No. 1	Oregon
\$2.00 - \$2.99 per member	Tuscaloosa Council No. 4	Alabama
	Mobile Council No. 12	Alabama
	Paul C. Bush Council No. 80	Arkansas
	Sardis Council No. 53	Georgia
	Minneapolis Council No. 2	Minnesota
	Solomon of the Silver Trowel No. 24	North Carolina
	Oregon Council No. 2	Oregon
	Centennial Council No. 24	Oregon
\$1.00+ - \$1.99 per member	Eureka Council No. 5	Alabama



Gadsden Council No. 56
Florence Council No. 74
Decatur Council No. 81
Austin Council No. 7
Sheridan Council No. 3

Alabama
Alabama
Alabama
Minnesota
Wyoming

At least 27 councils received certificates for \$1.00 per member

MEMORIAL DONATIONS: 109

HONORARIUM DONATIONS: 16

1.1.8 CMMRF Income

GRANTS TO INDIANA

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Contributions	\$211,813.25	2017	\$ 190,000.00
CMMRF Gold Coins	\$ 350.00	Total-to-date	\$ 4,685,464.86
CMMRF Day	\$ 8,378.21		
Misc. Income	\$ 653.54		
TOTAL	\$221,195.00		

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	TOTAL
ST						
FL	\$28,438.06	\$20,948.87	\$21,605.42	\$30,226.07	\$30,998.63	\$493,380.55
NJ	\$150.00	\$375.00	\$4,673.00	\$450.00	\$27,460.00	\$81,197.87
IN	\$24,773.58	\$14,701.36	\$14,829.32	\$17,026.88	\$17,923.00	\$527,222.02
CO	\$5,821.77	\$7,491.63	\$6,198.66	\$9,592.21	\$14,059.66	\$265,415.39
KY	\$4,064.67	\$5,624.65	\$8,390.07	\$11,080.51	\$10,757.09	\$340,309.16
OR	\$3,194.50	\$8,158.00	\$5,115.50	\$11,167.00	\$9,786.20	\$83,890.28
CA	\$20,218.00	\$6,329.61	\$15,623.50	\$8,675.00	\$8,570.34	\$676,257.55
AR	\$2,453.00	\$3,472.00	\$4,169.50	\$5,310.00	\$7,021.38	\$101,447.66
GA	\$3,590.00	\$3,385.00	\$6,858.50	\$7,837.00	\$6,876.00	\$189,700.38
MD	\$1,949.35	\$3,762.10	\$9,407.73	\$2,627.65	\$6,230.81	\$145,804.41
YRC		\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$33,500.00	
TN	\$6,857.25	\$7,018.51	\$7,008.90	\$8,474.75	\$5,896.20	\$162,141.56
SC	\$4,573.00	\$5,220.89	\$5,254.33	\$3,662.00	\$5,528.00	\$246,480.91
NC	\$2,302.87	\$3,641.00	\$2,833.55	\$3,616.33	\$5,404.33	\$215,687.80
NV	\$4,898.00	\$6,187.15	\$3,121.69	\$1,652.00	\$5,176.55	\$110,365.79
MN	\$1,514.33	\$1,770.00	\$2,232.42	\$1,183.60	\$4,948.33	\$62,002.76
IA	\$405.00	\$5,578.42	\$2,200.00	\$1,433.00	\$4,633.67	\$79,131.55
AZ	\$6,089.41	\$10,363.00	\$3,577.00	\$4,588.00	\$4,182.50	\$161,021.15
NE	\$2,229.60	\$3,532.00	\$4,445.73	\$1,064.83	\$3,930.34	\$69,461.00
MI	\$1,277.00	\$3,937.00	\$4,185.30	\$5,168.45	\$3,866.90	\$82,531.00
OK	\$1,027.00	\$2,736.50	\$1,365.00	\$1,686.00	\$3,574.00	\$101,476.34
WA	\$2,121.60	\$2,755.60	\$4,070.00	\$4,225.00	\$3,351.56	\$73,043.01
MO	\$1,641.37	\$1,722.63	\$2,888.75	\$1,287.85	\$3,162.10	\$130,895.28
AL	\$3,264.00	\$3,041.00	\$3,027.00	\$3,086.00	\$2,596.00	\$123,473.19
WI	\$3,000.00	\$10,080.00	\$10,320.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,278.00	\$126,165.21
MT	\$408.75	\$120.00	\$709.50	\$901.00	\$1,778.50	\$31,688.72
UT	\$50.00	\$1,550.00	\$9,961.33	\$1,335.00	\$1,456.83	\$117,339.94
NM	\$6,946.51	\$1,661.66	\$50.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,394.00	\$54,014.06



ME	\$928.24	\$946.17	\$1,584.54	\$1,502.20	\$1,387.42	\$85,624.96
CT	\$580.00	\$530.00	\$550.00	\$570.00	\$1,385.00	\$17,484.42
ID	\$2,051.12	\$2,254.69	\$8,020.00	\$1,838.00	\$1,324.90	\$46,409.38
WY	\$763.00	\$1,841.67	\$1,414.66	\$856.00	\$1,304.00	\$78,454.77
MS	\$2,692.20	\$440.00	\$810.00	\$1,587.00	\$1,166.00	\$49,302.21
LA	\$2,291.50	\$5,435.00	\$2,245.00	\$1,119.40	\$863.00	\$49,272.59
NH	\$450.00	\$795.00	\$520.40	\$840.93	\$714.00	\$23,502.90
SD	\$100.00	\$230.00	\$331.00	\$1,010.00	\$693.00	\$23,115.63
HI	\$409.00	\$264.00	\$561.00	\$684.00	\$634.00	\$7,632.00
DE	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$475.00	\$5,647.69
OH	\$305.80	\$500.00	\$230.00	\$940.00	\$382.00	\$5,198.30
GG	\$376.00	\$167.00	\$491.46	\$932.19	\$282.22	\$39,127.14
AK	\$193.00	\$216.00	\$500.00		\$250.00	\$20,358.35
ND	\$304.00	\$383.00	\$308.00	\$208.00	\$242.00	\$15,851.99
VT	\$171.00	\$257.00	\$250.00	\$477.75	\$203.00	\$27,886.80
RI	\$600.00	\$650.00	\$400.00		\$150.00	\$20,161.00
KS	\$268.00	\$275.00	\$558.00	\$100.00	\$145.00	\$47,845.93
VA		\$230.00		\$100.00		\$1,166.50

And I move the adoption of this report, seconded by RI Comp. Watson and Passed unanimously.

10 Dispensations & Charters

R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

There are no issues to be considered at this time.

11 Doings of Grand Officers

MIPGM Ronald L. Aughenbaugh

In order to have a successful year, it is always encouraging and necessary that your Grand Officers are ready and willing to help and join you in your programs. To that end, we wish to thank Randy Watson for his leadership in correlating the Super Excellence Master’s Degree (SEM) held at the Scottish Rite Temple. Bob Lumber in making several out of state Grand Visitations (NY, Mass, NJ, DE, RI & PA) on your behalf, playing Zedekiah in the drama in the SEM Degree, and Grand visitation to Cumberland & Denton. Bob was also able to attend the Triennial in Portland, Oregon in August. Thanks to Randy Disney in representing you at the International Assembly of Rainbow Girls, being the TIM in the SEM Degree, and conferring the Royal Master Degree at Grand Visitation at Harmony Council #20. Other officers noted who were a great help was John Mitchell who pulled together the Festive Board (Table Lodge-outstanding food) and he and the MIGM did the set-up. We want to thank Lou Rameo for the handling the ticket sales for the raffle. Also listed below are the travels and meeting of our MIGM. And thanks goes to those other members who supported and attended this year’s programs. I thank the MIGM for the opportunity to sever this Grand Body.

Sincerely;

Ronald L Aughenbaugh, MIPGM
Chairman



Attachment	2017 DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICER REPORT
	John A Rafine, MIGM, travels & meetings
11/18/16	Attended Grand Master's banquet
11/19/16	Attended Grand Lodge of MD Annual Communication
11/29/17	Visited Jerusalem Council # 5
12/03/16	Represented the Grand Council at Palestine Commandery # 7's Christmas Observance
12/08/16	Represented the Grand Council at the Druid/Hiram Festive
Board	
12/14/16	Represented the Grand Council at Jacques DeMolay Commandery # 4's Christmas Observance
12/15/16	Attended Hiram Council degree conferrals
12/16/16	Represented the Grand Council at the Druid, Hiram, Monumental holiday event
12/18/16	Attended the York Rite Religious Service at Bonnie Blink
12/20/16	Represented the Grand Council at Carroll Commandery # 17's Christmas Observance
1/20/17	Grand Council Visitation with Concordia # 1 and Acacia # 24
2/13/17	Grand Visitation to Harmony Council # 20
2/20/17	Super Excellent Master Degree practice
2/22/17	Grand Council visitation to King Solomon # 13
2/23-25/17	Attended New Jersey Grand Council Sessions
2/26/17	Super Excellent Master Rehearsal
2/28/17	Grand Council Grand visitation to Jerusalem Council #2
3/08/17	Super Excellent Master degree rehearsal
3/10-11/17	Attend Delaware Grand Council Grand Sessions
3/13/17	Degree exemplification – Enoch Council # 10
3/17/17	Attended Wash. DC Grand York Rite Sessions
3/20/17	Super Excellent Master degree rehearsal
3/23/17	Grand Council Grand visitation to Hiram Council # 5
3/24/17	Super Excellent Master degree rehearsal
3/25/17	Degree conferrals R&SM degrees and Super Excellent Master Degree
3/28/17	Visited Enoch Council # 10
4/18/17	Grand Council Grand Visitation to Salem Council # 11
4/24-25/17	Attended PA Grand York Rite Grand Sessions
4/27/17	Grand Council Festive Board
4/29/17	Thrice Illustrious Master Degree
5/09/17	Installed Jerusalem Council # 2 officers
5/10/17	Joint Grand Visitation with Eastern Shore Councils Jeshua # 8, Zabud # 9, Giblym # 12, Adoniram # 21
6/5/17	Grand Visitation to Palestine Council No. 16, Hagerstown, MD
6/8/17	Hiram Council # 5 Installation of Officers
6/12/17	Enoch Council No. 10 installation of officers



6/17/17	Frederick York Rite Strawberries and Ice cream social
7/16/17	DeMolay Conclave at Salisbury State University
7/26/17	Grand Chapter/Grand Council website meeting
7/27/17	Assist with Hiram Council # 5 rehearsal
8/12/17	Attended York Rite family picnic
8/18-20/17	Attend New York Grand Council Grand Assembly
9/28/17	Attended Montgomery York Rite Festive Board
10/27-28/17	Attended Maryland York Rite Grand Sessions

12 Fraternal Relations Committee

Comp. Frederick A. Spicer

Most Illustrious Grand Master,

It is with pleasure I report that there is perfect harmony throughout the jurisdiction between the Grand Bodies of Masonry.

Fraternally Submitted,
Fred Spicer

And move the adoption of this report. Seconded by and passed unanimously

13 Committee on Grievance

MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo III

MIGM,

I am pleased to report that none are aggrieved.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Grand Council in this regard.

14 Jurisprudence and Constitution

MIPGM Edward A. Foreman Jr.

MIGM,

Your Jurisprudence Committee report that all requests for the year have been addressed and found in order.

The members of the committee wish to thank the MIGM for his confidence in us in appointing us to this committee. We wish for you the very best in all your future endeavors. I move the adoption of this report, and that it be spread upon the proceedings. Seconded by MIPGM Curtis, Passed.



15 Long Range Planning Committee

RI Comp. Randal Watson

The Grand Council was represented at the August 15, 2017 meeting called by RWDGM Richard P. Naegele to coordinate the Masonic schedules for the various Grand Bodies and to learn about the Vision 2025 Plan. Many potential conflicts have already been addressed successfully.

Moved for adoption by RIDGM, Seconded by MIPGM Curtis and Passed.

17 Membership

TIM Arthur Hebbeler

A written report was promised.

18 Recognition and Awards

TIM Arthur Hebbeler

Deferred to the MIGM...

Companions those who have been nominated for the our personal awards are listed below.

There are also three Grand Council Awards.

- The Golden Trowel Award for the greatest percentage in growth in membership which goes to Zabud Council of Cambridge, MD.
- The William Smith Traveling Bible Award for contributions to CMMRF goes to Jerusalem Council No. 2 of Rosedale, MD.
- The Banner Council Award goes to Hiram Council No. 5, of Cockeysville is given for general high standards of performance and overall improvement.

2017 Grand Council Award Nominations

Cryptic Mason of the Year

Jeffrey Ament

Ish Sodi

John Mitchell

Thomas Heimiller

Gary Kennedy Nominated by Dennis Brekhuis

Austin Fogle, II Nominated by Dennis Brekhuis

Lady of the Council

Alison Coker

Historical:

2013

Ish Sodi



Jeffrey Dill

John Rafine

Cryptic Mason of the Year Randall Watson

2014

Ish Sodi

Christian Jensen

Richard Reccardi

Kris Brown

Order of the Secret Vault

John Thomas

Marlin Mills

19 Ritual

Most Illustrious Grand Master,

There is no action required at this time for any ritual related items.

20 TIM Degree

MI Comp. John A. Rafine

(Proceeding for Special Grand Assembly are included above)

21 Time & Place 2018

RI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

At the Semi-Annual Session in May, the bodies voted to hold the 2018 Session at the Radisson Hotel in Timonium on October 26-28, 2018 with the suggestion to see if possible to hold some or all of the meeting at the Grand Lodge. This was suggested due to the cost of the meeting rooms.

We signed the contract and paid the required deposit for the Radisson in June 2017.

We were able to secure the use of Freemasons Hall on Friday afternoon/night and all day Saturday. We also secured the use of the lower level social hall in the main building for lunch.



The tentative plan will be to use the hotel for rooms, breakfast, hospitality room, and Saturday night Banquet. We would use the Grand Lodge for a meeting on Friday afternoon/night. Saturday meetings and lunch. (We will have to decide about dinner on Friday night)

The Time and Place committee will begin looking at locations and hotels for the 2019 session after Session 2017. We are looking for areas that would increase the attendance. We have received a few suggested locations and will look into them.

If anyone has a suggestion for possible location, pass them along. If possible, to help the committee, please make an inquiry and pass any information and contact to the committee.

I like to thank all how served on this year's committee, especially Comp. Robert England how did the personal visit to all the hotels this year.

Fraternally,
William Eppig, REGK
Time & Place Committee

22 Sessions 2017

RI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

No report at this Grand Assembly.

Thanks were extended to all who have labored to make this a pleasant and rewarding weekend.

23 Youth Relations

MI Comp. John A. Rafine

We are pleased to report that 100 youths attend the Hershey Park Trip this summer. We are pleased to have supported this great annual event.

24 Electronic Media

Comp. Dan Brewer

The local website for the Maryland Grand York Rite bodies and subordinate bodies

(<http://yorkritemd.org>) continues to host the Maryland York rite calendar. The calendar is updated daily with data submitted by the local and Grand bodies of Maryland. The local body information is outdated, however, as local bodies provide this information it is corrected. The contact information remains current, for all bodies, so as to provide prospective members a human contact.



The list server (email group) Marylandyorkrite @ gmailgroups.com continues to provide calendar reminders and other timely notifications to subscribers. There have been 2024 messages sent via the email list and currently there are 185 companions which receive them.

The face book page, <http://facebook.com> (Maryland York Rite), has 185 members, however, this is an open list, therefore total number of viewers is unknown.

The primary focus of this page is for recruitment, however, general information and reminders are posted.

There has been an increase in the number of local Chapters submitting their schedules for posting to the calendar. We would like to see an increase of local chapter submissions, for degree work and regular communications.

I have truly enjoyed being able to provide this small service to our Grand Chapter and being appointed by Most Excellent Companion Randall L. Watson to continue to serve in this capacity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grover D. Brewer

Chairman

25 Unfinished Business

RI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

MIGM,

There is no unfinished business remaining from the 2017 Semi-Annual Grand Assembly.

Fraternally,

R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, RIDGM



26 New Business

MI Comp. John A. Rafine

- .New York Rite Web Site is now in development. We ask your patience and please look for its roll out in February of 2018. A motion was made to make up to \$2500 available for the development of the new website, motion by MIPGM Foreman, seconded by MIPGM Curtis and Passed.
- There will be a School for Secretaries and Treasurers for Chapters and Council organized by the Grand Recorder. The target date is February 17, 2018. This will be a six hour adventure with lunch offered. Cost will be \$15 per attendee for lunch and materials.

27 Election of Officers

MI Comp. John A. Rafine

No Vacancies required election at this Grand Assembly.

28 Closing Remarks

RP Comp. Charles L. Hollinger, General Grand Treasurer, brought the greeting of MP Comp. David Grindle, the Most Puissant General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International. He reported of the very busy and productive Triennium held in August 2017 in Portland, Oregon. Comp. Hollinger noted the division of the Northeast Region into a northern and southern territory. Similarly, California and Florida were divided into north and south to be served by two Ambassadors. Comp. Charles also spoke on the great work of CMMRF and said he would assist if we ever wished to have a speaker at our annual Grand Assembly. Comp. Hollinger congratulated Comp. Mark Irwin on receiving the Morehunt Award for his decade of service as Grand Recorder in Delaware. He expressed his gratitude for the hospitality and many kindnesses he had received in this return to the Mid-Atlantic area for him.

R.I. Comp. J.D. Walsh, the Region Deputy Grand Master for the Northeast Region – South also offered the greetings of the MPGGM, and his own gratitude for the many kind welcomes. Comp Walsh also confirmed that MIPGM Curtis had been appointed as the Ambassador for the General Grand Council to Maryland.

RWDGM Richard P. Naegele, MIPGM, was introduced and extended the greetings of the MWGM, Kostas Vourvoulas. He greeted MWPGM's Bennie G. Owens and Stephen J. Ponzillo III. Comp. Naegele noted with satisfaction that eleven of sixteen Councils had greeted new Companions in this Cryptic Year. He complimented MIGM-Elect Robert Lumbert on his announced plans for the coming year. He thanked Comp. Louis P. Romeo for his efforts to raise funds for CMMRF. He expressed his interest with that of the SGIG to see if there might be another joint Scottish Rite / York Rite Degree conferral, which pared the degrees of the two Rites in a complimentary sequence.

MIGM Rafine announce that an Open Installation of Officers would commence promptly at 4:00 p.m. and then adjourned the Grand Council to come on again at that time.



Installation

MI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

The Installing Officers were:

Installing MIGM
Installing Marshal
Installing Chaplain

M.I. Comp. James B. Coker
M.I. Comp. Ronald L. Aughenbaugh
M.I. Comp. Richard P. Naegele, RWDGM

2018 GRAND OFFICERS

M.I. Grand Master	Robert B. Lumbert
R.I. Deputy Grand Master	Randall L. Watson
R.I. Grand Principal Conductor of the Work	Randy Disney
R.I. Grand Treasurer	Pat Curtis
R.I. Grand Recorder	Vernon H. Huebschman
Grand Captain of the Guard	William Hare
Grand Conductor of the Council	Arthur Hebbeler III
Grand Marshall	W. Michael Boughman
Grand Steward	Thomas Marraffa, Jr
Grand Sentinel	William A. Baldwin, Jr
Grand Chaplain	Rev. Walter F. Burgess

All officer were installed, save the Grand Chaplain



2018 Grand Council Committees

First name is Chairman

Accounts and Finance

Randy Watson
Ronald Aughenbaugh
Patrick A. Curtis

Credentials

William Hare
Richard Smith
William Baldwin

CMMRF

Louis Romeo
Kris Brown

Dispensation and Charters

Randy Disney
Ron Aughenbaugh

Doings of Grand Officers

Ronald Aughenbaugh
Edward A. Foreman, Jr.
Cliff Friel

Fraternal Relations

Fred Spicer
Alex Rodriguez

Long Range Planning

Randy Disney
Alex Rodriguez

Membership

Art Hebbeler
Dennis Brekhuis

Recognition and Awards

Frederick Spicer
Carl A. Michael
Michael Boughman

Ritual and Degrees

Randy Disney
Frederick Spicer

Time and Place

Randy Watson
William Eppig
Charles Warns
Robert England

Sessions

Randy Watson
Charles Warns
William Eppig



Grievance

Bennie G. Owens
James B. Coker
Gordon Davids

Unfinished Business

Randy Disney
Vernon Huebschman

Jurisprudence

Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr.
James B. Coker
Michael Boughman

Youth Relations

Randall Watson
Carl A. Michael

Companions,

I wish to thank you for your confidence in me by electing me to the office of Illustrious Grand Master. I hadn't expected to be in this position so soon. I only served a year as Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work and Deputy Grand Master, just like in the old days. But I am here now, and I am ready to begin work as your Grand Master. I will also let you know now that, barring some major change in my life, I will accept nomination and election to a second year in May.

As I thought about what I wanted to do during my term, one thing that struck me is that the Council does not seem to have the same prominence that Chapter and the Commandery have. When I was at the York Rite Regional Meetings in Albany last month, I mentioned this concern. Several of the other attendees echoed and expanded on the thought. As one of them put it, the Council is the "stepchild of the York Rite". I can't disagree with this sentiment. As Rodney Dangerfield might have put it, "the Council don't get no respect". I was greatly surprised to learn that in New York only about 1/3 of Chapter members join the Council. In New York Council membership is not a prerequisite for Commandery.

One might ask why this is so. To some extent it's of our doing. Where do we meet? In the Secret Vault. When do we meet? From nine to twelve at night, the time when prying eyes are closed in sleep. Even the adjective we apply to ourselves, "cryptic", is used in its earlier sense of "hidden", although its more modern meaning as something difficult to understand is not much better. So we need to make ourselves better known than we do now.

The Council has much to offer. While the Royal and Select Masters degrees may not be as impressive as the Royal Arch degree or the Order of the Temple, they are important. The Royal Master is the only degree where the candidate gets to talk with Hiram Abif, and the Soliloquy is one of the great pieces of Masonic ritual. Council Masons are the Preservers. Without the events depicted in those two



degrees, the events depicted in the Royal Arch degree could not have happened, and Masonry would be very different.

For the young Mason seeking to get more involved, Council offers something more. It is a good place to get started in doing ritual or in leading an organization. The degrees are not long, which makes it relatively easy to learn them. I don't know of any other organization whose short form closing is just as long as the long form closing. And I consider the TIM degree the best of the three York Rite chair degrees. It's the one that really tells you what you need to know to lead an organization.

I hope to have some events this year that will give our name more prominence among our Masonic brothers. Last April we held a Festive Board up at Grand Lodge. It was more successful I think than anyone expected beforehand. I plan to hold another such event this year, and I hope we will find a site where we can accommodate more attendees. I would also like to hold some sort of social event which would include the ladies. I don't want it to be just a dinner out at a restaurant. That's nice, but it doesn't have much drawing power. I have some ideas, but would be happy to hear suggestions from you as well. This would probably take place early in 2018, after "installation season". Please also try to think of new ways that we can raise funds for our charity, CMMRF.

I suspect some of you listening to me talk about how to get better recognition for the Council have thought to yourself "we should have a Grand Council pin". I agree. That idea occurred to me even before I knew I was going to become Grand Master this month. I had planned to work on it over the summer. Unfortunately, I got involved in other projects and by the time I remembered, it would have been too late to get the pin done for Grand Sessions. And frankly, I haven't had any good ideas for the design. But I will get back to it, and I hope the pin will be available at our semi-annual in May.

Let me bring up one issue that is related to this. I don't know how big a problem it is, but I will be asking about it as I do my Grand Visitations. Many of our Councils meet on the same night as a Chapter. I think we all acknowledge that this is not the way things should be, but it is necessary right now if both bodies are to survive. I am aware that in some cases the meeting time is dominated by the Chapter. This should not be happening. The split doesn't have to be 50-50, but the Council should be able to do more than open, pay bills and close. If you are a TIM in this situation, talk to your High Priest and work out a fair sharing of time. I understand that often the Chapter needs more time, especially if degree work is involved. But remember the Council is important too, and it should not be overlooked.

Those of you who know me know that I have a great interest in Masonic ritual. And I have a few things to say on that subject. I'm sure you are all aware that a new Grand Chapter ritual book is in the works. We hope to see the physical object in the very near future. So the logical next step will be to develop one for Grand Council as well. I know it is a source of some frustration when we have a white ritual book and a purple ritual book which are not exactly the same, and no one knows which is correct. I will get this project underway during my term. But I think serious work will have to wait until the Chapter ritual book has been tried out by the Companions and any areas that need improvement identified. So the bulk of the work will be done after I leave office. I know Companion Watson is equally dedicated to seeing this project carried out.



When I became Recorder for my Council, one of the things I inherited from my predecessor was a copy of the General Grand Council ritual book. You won't be surprised to learn their degrees are a bit different from ours, and there are some places where I like what they do better. I do not have the power to change our ritual unilaterally. But I do have the power to authorize small variations which a Council could use or not use as they desire, and I am doing so. The prayer that Hiram Abif says in the Royal Master degree has always puzzled me. It doesn't seem to fit into the degree. The General Grand Council gives the PCW a choice of four prayers, and some of them seem more appropriate. Three of these will now be permitted in Maryland. I am also adding brief sections in the Select Master degree, one at the beginning of the section in the Ninth Arch, which explains what is going on better, and one at the end, which seems to be a better way to end the degree. I am also authorizing the use of the Apron Charge. This explains the symbolism of the Council apron. I have been giving the charge in Concordia Council for a few years, but I was always careful to note that it was not part of the degree. It is an analogue to the Apron Charge that General Grand Chapter has, which I know has been used in Druid Chapter. I have a handout which gives these changes, and it will be available after the meeting. I will also e-mail it to anyone who asks and is a Council member. I want to be a little careful with the handout, as it is ritual and should be handled with care.

I have not found a Grand Lecturer. To fill this gap, I am appointing men to serve as what I'm calling regional Grand Lecturers. They will each be responsible for a few Councils, as a resource when ritual questions arise and as someone who can certify that a man who desires to become TIM is able to confer the ritual. I am not asking them to go out and actively teach the ritual. So if you want their help, you will have to ask. I have been distracted in my search to fill these posts. At this point I am looking for someone to see to the four Councils on the Eastern Shore, as well as for Salem and Palestine and for Enoch and King Solomon. The latter Councils could be done by one or two Companions. And if you would like to volunteer to be Grand Lecturer, please let me know.

We conferred the Super Excellent Master Degree in March, so we will not be doing it in 2018. I still have not decided what to do in 2019. Putting on the degree takes a lot of work, especially on the part of the person who is "degree master". The Scottish Rite has been fantastic in their assistance in making this event a success, and I for one greatly appreciate that. But I would like to see if there are alternatives. I've recently learned that in other jurisdictions they will just do the "Lodge" part of the degree in individual Councils, saving the "drama" part as a regional or statewide event. I have not investigated what we can do legally about this degree or whether there is any interest in making changes, but I will be thinking about it. Let me know your thoughts.

You may not be aware of it, but General Grand Council now offers a Ritual Award, like that available from General Grand Chapter. You earn points for doing various parts, and you are allowed to earn some of them by exemplification. Each degree is graded separately, and the medal consists of a header and bars for whichever degree(s) you qualify in. The specifics can be found on General Grand Council's web site. (Look under "awards".) One complication is that points must have been earned after February 27, 2016, and you must apply before September 1, 2020. It sounds like you must qualify within one Triennial period, although it doesn't say so explicitly. Please look into this. Many Companions in Maryland have earned the Grand Chapter's Ritual Award, and there is no reason why we can't do the same in Council.



I will conclude with several short points.

Those of you who remember when I was Grand High Priest know the emphasis I placed on communication. I will continue that as Illustrious Grand Master. I put a sheet at registration to collect e-mail addresses from those who would like to be on a Grand Council mailing list. I will try to send out something once a month. If you have not signed up, I will have the sheet afterward and at the Banquet.

The committee which plans the Grand Sessions has in the past often been disorganized and even dysfunctional. We need to change that. It has been proposed that we set up a committee of nine members, three each representing the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery. Each person would serve a three year term, with one person from each Grand Body rotating off each year. In addition the three seconds in command would serve *ex officio*. This committee would be in charge of planning the Sessions, with the Time and Place Committee being a subcommittee. If you would like to serve on such a committee let me or Pat or Spyros know. And as far as I'm concerned, the Council representatives need not be PTIMs or current dais officers. In fact if there were ladies who wanted to participate, I would welcome their participation.

You are all aware that things change constantly. The Masonic Fraternity is not always good about keeping up with these changes, but we need to try. One area where things are much different today is how we pay for things. Many young people today have no use for cash or checks. They do everything electronically. I have already had one instance in my own Chapter when a man came to receive his Mark Master degree but had no way to pay us when he arrived. I am directing the Grand Treasurer to prepare a report for the May semi-annual which would describe what the Grand Council needs to do allow us to receive payments electronically and to tell subordinate Councils how they can do the same. I have suggested to the Grand High Priest and the Grand Commander that they do likewise, with all three Grand Treasurers producing a joint report. If you are concerned about loss of revenue due to the fees involved, things should be set up so that the user pays them, as a convenience fee.

Education is a topic that we constantly hear needs to be addressed. But we don't often do so. The Grand Council of New York has just finished a Council Education program, which will be released in nine parts, starting sometime soon. I will let you know about this as it happens, and I hope you will try to use it in your Council.

Membership is another topic that we hear a lot about. And of course we can't get new members unless they first join a Blue Lodge. I think it is appropriate to recognize those of our members who sponsor new Masons. So if you sign a petition, and the man goes on to complete his Master Mason catechism, let your Council Recorder know. He can let me know, and I will acknowledge that in some way next October. It won't be much, probably just a Certificate of Appreciation. But I do want you to know that I and the Council appreciate such efforts.



I'll let you know now that the Grand Council semi-annual is tentatively planned for Friday, May 18, 2018 at Odenton. The meeting will start at 7:30. Odenton Lodge will be sponsoring a dinner that evening, beginning at 6. I will let you know the menu when I find out.

Again thank you for electing me to this position. Now let us go forth and bring Cryptic Masonry to new heights.

Apron Charge

(done right before Select Master charge)

I now present you with the apron of a Select Master. Its color is white bordered with purple. The white is Ancient Masonry's final reminder of that Purity of Life, symbolized in the first apron you received as an Entered Apprentice; while the purple, the color of Kings, exhorts us to rule well our lives, that we may be numbered with that Select Nobility who truly practice our Royal Art.

The sword designates us as guardians, whose peculiar duty is the preservation of those sacred treasures, which are ours through Masonic heritage.

The trowel reminds us that we are builders, and that our lives should be constructive in their influence upon the Brotherhood and upon the world.

The broken triangle speaks to us of Mortality – of the uncertainty of our tenure of life - of the importance of an industrious use of our time and our faculties, and of the place of wages, refreshment and rest, which awaits our entrance through the Gate of Death.

Enclosing this emblem of our mortal life is the unbroken triangle, emblematic of the Deity, whose love enfolds us all, whose justice and mercy are alike infinite and alike perfect, and whose Word points the way of life immortal.

May you wear this apron with such honor that it may ever distinguish you as a Mason who is truly a Select Master.



Royal Master

Two alternatives to PCW's prayer before Soliloquy
(pages 10-11 of purple book, page 11 of white book)

Heavenly Father,

Let thy grace descend upon me as I kneel at the altar. May a portion of thy wisdom be received enabling me to draw designs upon the trestle board acceptable in Thy sight. Feed me with food convenient for me lest I be full and deny thee, for Thou art my rock and my fortress. Therefore for Thy Name's sake lead and guide me. AMEN

In Thee, oh Lord, do I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in Thy righteousness. Bow down Thy ear to me. Deliver me speedily. Be Thou my strong rock, for an house of defense to save me. For Thou art my rock and my fortress. Therefore for Thy Name's sake lead and guide me. AMEN [Psalms xxxi, 1-3]

Select Master

Replaces third paragraph of Select Master lecture
(page 32 of purple book, page 29 of white book)

This ninth arch, to which you have been admitted, has been erected as a place wherein we three can meet in Grand Council, and a place wherein to deposit those Sacred Treasures as enjoined in the Scriptures. You are fortunate in having arrived at this time, as we are about to make that deposit, and which you will have the privilege of witnessing. We will now make that deposit.

New ending of Select Master lecture
(page 33 of purple book, page 30 of white book)



O Lord God of Israel, we ask that Thou protect and preserve those Sacred Treasures until it pleases Thee to reveal them to future generations. AMEN

All is finished. (same gestures)



29 Closing

MI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

The MIGM closed this Semi-Annual Grand Assembly in Ample Form.

The Grand Assembly was declared closed at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PTIM
Grand Recorder.



APPENDIXES

Appendix 1: Summary of Council Reports

Concordia Council R&SM No.1	1206 Stehlik Drive Odenton, MD 21113	Meets: 3 rd Fridays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Richard D. Smith	DIM: John A. Rafine	PCW: Frederick T. Rossmark, Jr.
Recorder: Robert B. Lumbert	Membership: 103	
Thrice Illustrious Masters	James B. Coker, MIPGM Edward A. Foreman, Jr. MIPGM Charles E. McLaughlin James J. Morgan, Jr.	John A. Rafine, MIGM Richard D. Smith Frederick A. Spicer Charles W. Wagner, Jr.
Greetings: Jeff Clayton Geispert Scott Moston David Michael Smith Reinstated: None	Deaths: Luther J. Bell, MIPGM Demit: Michael T. Joyner Elwood Ulmer	Suspended: Leonard Bethards Harry Carter Roy Carter Morgan Jackson Roy Schrader John Stoneham Elmore Ulmer Howare Upperco Robert Zampini

Jerusalem Council R&SM No. 2	140 Orville Road Essex, MD 21221	Meets: 4 th Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Alex A. Rodriguez	DIM: William J. Wickham, Jr.	PCW: Arthur Gordon
Recorder: Thomas Heimiller	Membership: 68	
Past Thrice Illustrious Master	Jeffrey Ament W. Michael Boughman Robert C. Heinze William E. Lautenschlager Louis H. Ortt	Alex A. Rodriguez Louis P. Romeo, Jr. Richard F. Seim Richard H. Westermeyer, Jr.
Greetings: Richard E. Thurfield Grayson B. Chretien Brent Waggoner Randy S. Dietrih Reinstated: None	Deaths: Demit: Richard L. McClain	Suspended: Yona Adika Jonathan Comer Frederick C. Cosgrove Marcos Diaz Alexandru Manolea Howell F. Wallace



Hiram Council R&SM No. 5	304 International Circle Cockeysville, MD 2103	Meets: Irregular Schedule
TIM : John P. Mitchell	DIM: William C. Hare	PCW: Thaddeus M. Vargo
Recorder: Cameron B. Newman	Membership: 241	
Past Thirce Illustrious Masters	Jeffrey L. Dill William C. Eppig Richard A. Eppler, MIGPM/CT William C. Hare Vernon H. Huebschman, REGRC Millard W. Keller, Jr. Carl A. Michel, Jr.	Richard P. Naegele, MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo III, MIPGM Alex A. Rodriguez Howard E. Roe John L. Thomas Spyridon G. Treklas Randall L. Watson, RIDGM Robert E. Young
Greetings: Matthew L. Bishop George J. Christoff Joseph T. Cook Eric W. Grover Forest C. Gwynn III Robert E. Hansen Mbongue S. Labep Scott G. Lapp Robert C. Laws Philip K. Lee Christopher A. Luciano Joseph C. Martellotta Jarrett W. Messina Steven A. Reall David R. Rehmeyer Medgar L. Reid Philip Riggins, Jr. Chad E. Vaughn Robert A. Saunders Reinstated: None	Dual Members: Thaddeus M. Vargo Deaths: Michael J. Driggs Evan E. Evans Forrest J. Fox Calvin H. Price Jr. Paul P. Thomas John G. Winebrenner Joseph R. Sanchez, Sr. Robert S. Novak Robert Eckel Walter J. Kulesza Demit: John C. Birkenbach Sr. James W. Yingling Charles B. Burdette	Suspended: William E. Curlett III Richard S. France Phillip L. Powell Augustus R. Price Jr. William T. Dixon III Timothy Demski



Carroll Council R&SM No. 7	46 Monroe Street	Meets: 4 th Monday 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Vacant	DIM: G. Michael Robbins	PCW: Jeffrey L. Disney
Recorder: William J. Baldwin, Jr	Membership: 37	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	William J. Baldwin, Jr.	
Greetings:	Deaths: Robert Bare Carl J. Wisner, MIPGM Russell Gosnell Kenneth Krouse	Suspended: Clyde Boone
Reinstated:	Demit:	

Zabud Council R&SM No. 9	439 Race Street Cambridge, MD 21613	Meets: 4 th Mondays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Christian Jensen	DIM: George Wittstadt	PCW: Robert Wall
Recorder: Wallace Dodson	Membership: 19	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters	Wallace Dodson Christian Jensen	David Tibbets George Wittstadt
Greetings: Todd A. Mielke George L. Phillips George M. Phillips William S. Robbins Correll G. Windso	Deaths: Robert McWilliams Edward C. Burton	Suspended:
Reinstated: None	Demit: None	

Enoch Council R&SM No. 10	1203 N. Market Street Frederick MD 21701	Meets: 2 nd Mondays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Gary Kennedy	DIM: Ian Hongola	PCW: Austin Fogle II
Recorder: Dennis Brekhu	Membership:	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Dennis A. Brekhus Kenneth T. Crampton	George W. Shumard
Greetings: Robert L. Cage Gerald Alleva	Deaths: John Almancy John Justice Howard W. Schildt	Suspended: None
Reinstated: None	Demit: None	



Salem Council R&SM No. 11	15 Greene Street Cumberland, MD 21502	Meets: 3 rd Tuesdays, 4 times/year 7:30 p.m
TIM : Patrick A. Stangler	DIM: Jeffrey M. Grogg	Samuel J. Lane
Recorder: Robert W. Hamilton	Membership: 8	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	John Greer Robert W. Hamilton Kenneth A. Robertson	
Greetings: Christopher Atkinson Ronald E. Brown Jeffrey M. Grogg Duane L. Largent Christopher C. Lawson Terry E. Myers, Jr.	Deaths: Troy Campbell Demit: None	Suspended: None
Reinstated: None		

Giblim Council R&SM No. 12	110 S. Division Street Salisbury, MD. 21801	Meets: 4 th Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Robert Caldwell	DIM: Glynn Bridge	PCW: Joel Todd
Recorder: Franklin Williams	Membership: 53	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters	Norris Cartwright, Sr. Alonzo Conley, Jr. Charles Dashiell, Jr.	Arthur H. Tawes Joel J. Todd Dale E. Venable
Greetings: Franklin Williams	Deaths: Edwin Jones Warren T. Mason Lindley Lentz Demit:	Suspended: Robert T. Powell
Reinstated:		



King Solomon Council R&SM No. 13	20516 Boland Farm Road PO Box 2124 Germantown, MD 20875	Meets: 3 rd Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Kris Brown	DIM: Raymond Tayse	PCW: Skip Richard
Recorder: John Austin	Membership: 44	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Lee Brobst Kris D. Brown Walter Hagen Donald Holiday, Sr. Thomas Marraffa, Jr	Richard Parker, Sr. William Parsons Arthur Sellers Ward Taylor Royce Watson, MIPGM Robert E. Vitarelli, Sr.
Greetings: Charlton T. Howard III Raymond L. Tayse Reinstated: None	Deaths: Demit: William K. Parson (membership in Denton, MD)	Suspended: Joseph A. Parsons Aril C. S. Rao Richard D. Parker, St.

Palestine Council R&SM No. 16	11735 White Hall Road Smithburg, MD	Meets: 2 nd Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.
TIM : R. Joseph White	DIM: Joel D. Klimoski	PCW: James B. Bachtell
Recorder: Terry L. Smith	Membership: 51	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Jodie C. Arnold Russell S. Brewer Delancey L. Catlett Harvey L. Hogamier	Joel D. Klimoski Richard P. Marshall Marion F. Rickard, Jr. Terry L. Smith R. Joseph R. White
Greetings: None Reinstated: None	Deaths: Alvin Plummer Demit: None	Suspended: None



Harmony Council R&SM No. 20	162 Conduit Street Annapolis, MD 21402	Meets: 2 nd Mondays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : S. Dirk Wiker	DIM: George A. Marinez	PCW: Raymond H. Denmark
Recorder: Randolph S. Disney	Membership: 111	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Robert N. Brannan James H. Conboy Howard E. Culver, Jr. Gordon A. Davids, MIPGM Randolph S. Disney Roy E. Haugh Matthew D. Ingalls	Leland P. Linder Edward V. Matthais Bennie G. Owens, MIPGM Mark F. Owens W. Andrew Price Steven E. Robertson Jimmie E. Trowbridge Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr.
Exaltations: Norman D. Briggs Valdez Jenkins Reinstated: None	Deaths: Benjamin D. Conley Gary E. Pemberton Charles Mitchell, Sr. Raymond A. Harrington Earl R. Underwood Leroy Snowden Richard Garrant Eric D. Madison Demit: Frederick A. Gaul Richard H. Schneider Stanley D. Smith Thomas Hardesty James H. Dodson Robert E. Eck	Suspended: Matthew Ingalls Roy A. Thrift Charles B. Miller Richard T. Egtvedt John F. Brooks Harry E. Conway Jimmie Gotwald Ellis H. Stroup Edward V. Matthais John L. Basil



Adoniram Council R&SM No. 21	114 Market Street Denton MD 21628	Meets: 1 st Tuesdays 7:30
TIM : None	DIM: None	PCW: None
RECORDER: Non	Membership: 82	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Burt A. Dean III Clifton R. Friel Eugen D. Racz Robert E. Sparks	
Greetings: Christopher M. Bosley Reinstated: None	Deaths: Clement A. Davidson Jr. Harry J. Morris James S. Polk Demit:	Suspended: James O. Martin Philip D. Parks John S. Stephenson III

York Council R&SM No. 23	6311 Old Branch Avenue Camp Springs, MD 20748	3 rd Fridays 7:30 p.m. March, June, Sept, Dec.
TIM : Patrick A. Curtis	DIM: William Zarychta	PCW: Kenyatta Galbreath
Recorder: G. Daniel Brewer	Membership: 75	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Larry O. Bowen Grover. D. Brewer Donald Cheville Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM Mark E. Irwin Charles W. Lloyd, Jr. James Cloud	Robert B. Malwitz, MIPGM Harry Miller, Jr. S. Brent Morris Urban T. Peters MIPGM Ronald M. Rhine Charles E. Vannoy William B. Vansant Darrell T. Verner
Greetings: Reinstated:	Deaths: Ralph E. Hottle Ronald F. Perkins Demit: Brian Heider	Suspended: Donald Barnhart George E. Baxter Noyle P. Odom



Acacia Council R&SM No. 24	5585 Levering Avenue Elkridge, MD 21075	Meets: 3 rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. Oct, Feb, Apr.
TIIM : Ronald L. Aughenbaugh	DIM: Donald W. Thielman	PCW: Douglas Page
Recorder: Charles Malinowski	Membership: 14	
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters:	Ronald L. Augenbaugh, MIPGM	David W. Thielman David L. Sampson
Greetings:	Deaths: Douglas Page	Suspended: None
Reinstated: Charles Malinowski	Demit: Michael T. Joyner Elwood Ulmer	

Samuel L. Clemens Council R&SM No. 25	837 A Frederick Road Catonsville, MD 21228	Meets: 2 nd Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
TIM : Arthur F. Hebbeler III	DIM: Vacant	PCW: Richard Bolton
Recorder: Vacant	Membership: 10	
Past High Priests:	Arthur F. Hebbeler III Frederick A. Spicer	
Greetings: None	Deaths: Calvin H. Price, Jr.	Suspended: None
Reinstated: None	Demit:	



Appendix 2 Financial Exhibits by the Grand Recorder

Register Report - Year to Date
1/1/2017 through 10/25/2017

10/25/2017

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Clr	Amount
BALANCE 12/31/2016							3,885.92
1/23/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP				R	1,572.62
1/12/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP				R	270.00
2/10/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP			I. Insurance ...	R	331.20
2/24/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Operating Ac...		I. Insurance ...	R	236.78
3/11/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Operating Ac...Received fr...		J. Special Ev...	R	1,080.00
3/11/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Operating Ac...\$275 rec'd f...		G. Raffle	R	325.00
3/6/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Operating Ac...\$320 rec'd f...		G. Raffle	R	320.00
3/27/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac... Proceeds		J. Special Ev...	R	1,055.00
3/27/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac... Raffle Rece...		G. Raffle	R	180.00
4/28/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		D. Miscellan...	R	97.98
5/16/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		D. Miscellan...	R	200.00
5/16/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		D. Miscellan...	R	20.00
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		D. Miscellan...	R	8,210.00
10/5/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		A. Per Capita		3,877.50
10/13/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Checking Ac...		D. Miscellan...		2,116.18
10/25/2017	GCR&SM.MD	DEP	Carrot Coun... Annual Ass...		A. Per Capita		427.50
1/30/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1147	John Austin Sessions E...		11. Sessions...	R	-56.90
1/23/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1148	General Gra... Annual Ass...		7. General G...	R	-2,895.00
2/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1149	Hanover Ins...		24. Insurance	R	-60.00
2/21/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1150	Shipley's Badges		8. Office Exp...	R	-166.95
2/28/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1151	Vernon H. H... Grand Trea...		3. Grand Tre...	R	-144.10
3/25/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1152	John A. Rafine Certificates		8. Office Exp...	R	-70.49
3/25/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1153	Randall L. W... Super Exce...		19. Members...	R	-158.65
3/25/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1154	Scottish Rite... SEM Donat...		23. SEM De...	R	-500.00
3/25/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1155	Gleaner Cha... SEM Lunch...		23. SEM De...	R	-1,020.00
4/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1156	Prince Frede... Donation fo...		20. Youth Ch...	R	-100.00
4/29/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1157	John P. Mitc... Expenses: ...		26. Table Co...	R	-551.96
4/29/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1158	John A. Rafine Expenses: ...		26. Table Co...	R	-1,312.69
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1159	Vernon H. H... Expenses f...		1. Grand Re...	R	-600.00
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1160	Patrick A. Cu... Expenses f...		3. Grand Tre...	R	-100.00
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1161	William Bald... Grant Sentit...		4. Grand Se...	R	-25.00
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1162	Vernon H. H... Printing Ex...		8. Office Exp...	R	-72.14
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1163	Vernon H. H... Printing Ex...		9. Annual Pr...	R	-198.40
5/17/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1164	Lucas Camp... Distribution ...		G. Raffle	R	-500.00
5/30/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1165	CMMRF Distribution ...		14. Cryptic ...	R	-620.00
5/30/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1166	John A. Rafine Expenses f...		6. Officers Tr...	R	-1,225.00
5/30/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1167	Robert B. Lu... Expenses f...		6. Officers Tr...	R	-250.00
6/1/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1168	Randall L. W... Expenses f...		6. Officers Tr...	R	-125.00
7/16/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1169	General Gra... Secret Vaul...		18. Awards a...	R	-150.00
7/28/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1170	Robert B. Lu... Expense fo...		13. Triennial ...	R	-1,150.00
7/28/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1171	Randall L. W... Expense fo...		13. Triennial ...	R	-1,150.00
7/28/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1172	Vernon H. H... Expense fo...		13. Triennial ...	R	-1,150.00
9/12/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1173	Edward Jone... Lady of the ...		18. Awards ...	R	-125.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1174	Vernon H. H... Grand Rec...		1. Grand Re...		-600.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1175	Patrick A. Cu... Expenses f...		3. Grand Tre...		-100.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1176	John A. Rafine Expense of ...		6. Officers Tr...		-1,150.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1177	Robert B. Lu... Expense of ...		6. Officers Tr...		-250.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1178	Randall L. W... Expenses o...		6. Officers Tr...		-125.00
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1179	Vernon H. H... Publication ...		8. Office Exp...		-96.22
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1180	Vernon H. H... Production ...		15. Dues Ca...		-171.29



Register Report - Year to Date

1/1/2017 through 10/25/2017

10/25/2017

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Clr	Amount
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1181	Vernon H. H...	Storage Ra...	16. Equipment		-68.45
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1182	Vernon H. H...	Ish Sodie A...	18. Awards ...		-183.80
10/19/2017	GCR&SM.MD	1183	J. P. Luther ...	MIPGM Apr...	12. MIGM Pr...		-398.00
1/1/2017 - 10/25/2017							2,699.72
BALANCE 10/25/2017							6,585.64
TOTAL INFLOWS							20,319.76
TOTAL OUTFLOWS							-17,620.04
NET TOTAL							2,699.72



10/25/2017

Summary - Year to Date
1/1/2017 through 10/25/2017

Page 1

Category	1/1/2017- 10/25/2017
INCOME	
Uncategorized	1,842.62
A. Per Capita	4,305.00
D. Miscellaneous	10,644.16
G. Raffle	325.00
I. Insurance Assessment	567.98
J. Special Events	1,055.00
Festive Board	1,080.00
TOTAL J. Special Events	2,135.00
TOTAL INCOME	19,819.76
EXPENSES	
1. Grand Recorder Expenses	1,200.00
11. Sessions Expenses	56.90
12. MIGM Presentations	398.00
13. Triennial Expenses	
RIDGM	1,150.00
RIG Recorder	1,150.00
RIPCW	1,150.00
TOTAL 13. Triennial Expenses	3,450.00
14. Cryptic Masons Medical Research...	620.00
15. Dues Cards	171.29
16. Equipment	68.45
18. Awards & Recognition	308.80
18. Awards and Recognition	150.00
19. Membership & Degree Teams	158.65
20. Youth Charity	100.00
23. SEM Degree	1,520.00
24. Insurance	60.00
26. Table Council	1,864.65
3. Grand Treasurer Expenses	344.10
4. Grand Sentinel Expenses	25.00
6. Officers Travel Expenses	1,600.00
MIGM	1,150.00
RIDGM	250.00
RIPCW	125.00
TOTAL 6. Officers Travel Expenses	3,125.00
7. General Grand Council Annual Ass...	2,895.00
8. Office Expenses	405.80
9. Annual Proceedings & Postage	193.40
TOTAL EXPENSES	17,120.04
OVERALL TOTAL	2,699.72