

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



May 18, 2018

ODENTON LODGE

ODENTON Maryland



**Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland
 Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland
 Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Maryland
 Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland
 Past Commanders Assn. of Maryland**



**Call Letter for Semi Annual Meetings, and
 Special Grand Assembly for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree
 Annual Council of Anointed High Priests**

Companions & Sir Knights

By order of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, ME Comp. Patrick A. Curtis. Most Illustrious Grand Master, MI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, and Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK Spyridon G. Treklas, Most Excellent President Robert M. Penny official notice is hereby given for:

**The Semi-Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland,
 The Semi-Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland, and
 The Semi-Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar.**

The Grand Commandery will meet in Grand Conclave **Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2019 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary.



Dress is Full Templar Uniform, Chapeau & Sword.

Location: Grand Lodge of Maryland, Freemason Hall, Gothic Room. 304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD. Coffee & Donuts before the Conclave and lunch afterwards, cost \$15.00.

The Association of Past Commanders will meet immediately following the luncheon.

The Grand Chapter will meet in Grand Convocation **Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2019 Officers and all other Officer and committee Reports as necessary.

Dinner at 6:00 pm, Cost \$15.00 (Sandwiches, Soup, and Dessert)

Dress is Tuxedo, Apron & Jewels for Officers; Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Chapter Apron.

Location: Enoch RAC No. 23, 6816 Blentlinger Road, Frederick, MD

The Grand Council will meet in Grand Assembly, **Friday May 18, 2018 at 7:30 .** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2019 Officers and all other Officer and committee Reports as necessary. Optional Meat Loaf Dinner at 6:00 p.m. by Odenton Lodge...\$10.00 usual cost.

Dress is Tuxedo, Apron & Jewels for Officers; Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Council Apron.

Location: Concordia Council No. 1 R&SM, 1206 Stehlik Road, Odenton, MD

Fraternally & Respectfully,

ME Comp Vernon H
 Huebschman
 Grand Secretary
 Grand Chapter of Maryland

RI Comp. Vernon H.
 Huebschman
 Grand Recorder
 Grand Council of Maryland

SK Thomas M. Heimiller,
 REPGC
 Grand Recorder
 Grand Commandery of KT in
 MD

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland
 Semi-Annual Grand Assembly
 May 18, 2018
 Odenton, Maryland
 7:30 p.m.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Grand Council Opening | MIGM Robert B. Lumbert |
| 2. Credentials Committee Members | Preliminary Report: Quorum & Voting |
| 3. Reception of MIPGM's | MIGM Robert B. Lumbert |
| 4. Proceedings | Grand Recorder Vernon H. Huebschman |
| 5. TIM Degree | Grand Recorder Vernon H. Huebschman |
| 6. Officer's Report Lumbert | <i>Most Illustrious Grand Master:</i> Robert B. |
| 7. Officer's Report | <i>Grand Recorder:</i> Vernon H. Huebschman |
| 8. Officer's Report | <i>Grand Treasurer:</i> Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM |
| 9. Officer's Report | <i>Grand Lecturer:</i> MIGM Robert B. Lumbert |
| 10. Accounts & Finance | RIDGM Randall L. Watson |
| 11. Dispensations & Charters | RIGPCW Randall S. Disney |
| 12. CMMRF | PTIM Louis P. Romeo, Jr. |
| 13. Festive Board 2018 | TIM John P. Mitchell |
| 14. Doings of Grand Officers | MIPGM Ronald L. Aughenbaugh |
| 15. Fraternal Relations | PTIM Spicer |
| 16. Grievance | MIPGM Bennie G. Owens |
| 17. Jurisprudence & Constitution | MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo, III |
| 18. Long-Range Planning | RIGPCW Randolph S. Disney |
| 19. Membership | TIM Hebbeler |
| 20. Recognition & Awards | PTIM Frederick A. Spicer |
| 21. Time & Place 2019 | RIDGM Randall L. Watson |
| 22. Sessions 2018 | RIDGM Randall L. Watson |
| 23. Youth Relations | RIDGM Randall L. Watson |
| 24. Unfinished Business | RIGPCW Randolph S. Disney |
| 25. New Business | MIGM Robert B. Lumbert |
| 26. Election of 2018 – 2019 Officers | MIPGM Edward A. Foreman, Jr. |
| 27. Remarks | |
| 28. Closing | MIGM |

The MIGM may alter is agenda as he sees fit, and may receive reports to be printed in the Proceedings as he may direct.

1. Grand Council Opening

MIGM Robert B. Lumbert

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

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| M.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert | Grand Master |
| R.I. Comp. Randall L. Watson | Deputy Grand Master |
| R.I. Comp. Randolph S. Disney | Grand Principal Conductor of the Work |
| R.I. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman | Grand Recorder |
| M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis | Grand Treasurer |
| M.I. Comp. Arthur F. Hebbeler | Grand Chaplain Pro temp |
| Comp. William Hare | Grand Captain of the Guard |
| Comp. Arthur F. Hebbeler | Grand Conduction of the Council |
| Comp. W. Michael Boughman | Grand Marshal |
| Comp. Thomas Marraffa, Jr. | Grand Steward |
| Comp. William J. Baldwin, Jr. | Grand Sentinel |
| Comp. John L. Thomas | Grand Lecturer Emeritus (Absent) |
| Vacant | Grand Lecturer |

Pledge of Allegiance lead by MI Comp. Lumbert, MIGM

Opening Prayer:

Comp.& Rev. Arthur F. Hebbeler, TIM

Supreme Architect of the Universe, we invoke Thy blessing at this time. Watch over this Grand Council in its deliberations. Guide the work of its Officers. Moderate the conversations of its members. May the work done here bring glory to Your Holy Name. Amen! So mote it be.

2. Credentials Report

Comp. William J. Baldwin, Gr Sentinel

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| MIGM, | |
| Number of Councils Present | Ten (10) |
| Number of Voting Members | Twenty-five (25) |
| Number of Non-Voting Members | One (1) |

The MIGM on receiving this report declared that the necessary number of Councils were represented to constitute a quorum, and that the Companions in the Grand Council Assembly were properly noted in the proceedings.

Final Register of attending Companions:

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Concordia | Edward A. Foreman, Jr. MIPGM Robert B. Lumbert, RIDGM John A. Rafine, MIGM Richard Smith, TIM <i>David Smith #</i> Frederick A. Spicer, PTIM Bruce G. Colburn # | 2. Jerusalem | W. Michael Boughman, PTI Louis P. Romeo, Jr., PTIM |
| 5. Hiram | Jeffrey L. Dill, MIPGM William C. Hare, PTIM Vernon H. Huebschman, RIGRec John P. Mitchell, TIM Stephen J. Ponzillo, III MIPGM John A. Rafine, MIPGM Thaddeus M. Vargo, PCW Randall L. Watson, RIGPCW | 7. Carroll | William J. Baldwin, Jr. |
| 8. Jeshua | NOT REPRESENTED | 9. Zabud | NOT REPRESENTED |
| 10. Enoch | Gary J. Kennedy, TIM | 11. Salem | NOT REPRESENTED |
| 12. Giblum | NOT REPRESENTED | 13. King Solomon | Kris D. Brown, PTIM Thomas A. Marraffa, PTIM Raymond Tayse TIM |
| 16. Palestine | NOT REPRESENTED | 20. Harmony | Randolph S. Disney, PTIM George Martinez |
| 21. Adoniram | NOT REPRESENTED | 23. York | Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM |
| 24. Acacia | Ronald L. Aughenbaugh, MIPGM | 25. Samuel L. Clemens | Arthur F. Hebbeler, III, TIM |
| | # <i>Non-Voting Companion</i> | | |

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 Edward A. Foreman, Jr | 2000 |
| MIPGM Patrick A. Curtis | 2002 |
| MIPGM Ronald L. Aughenbaugh | 2010 – 2011 |
| MIPGM Jeffrey L. Dill | 2015 – 2016 |
| MIGM John A. Rafine | 2017 |

Grand Honors were led by MIGM Lumbert. The MIGM greeted our MIPGM's. The response for the MIPGM's was given by M.I. Comp. Stephen J. Ponzillo III:

"You know I aspired to this present honor but was not sure it would arrive so fast. We are all sorry to hear companion Bennie G Owens has been taken ill. He was very much intent to be in attendance tomorrow at the Grand Lodge of Maryland Semi-annual Communication. He made sure that his tales were shipped up to Bonnie blank where he was rehabbing. He was with us on Wednesday when the past Grand Masters met with the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master for the luncheon held before each of the grand communications. He had an episode at the luncheon. Then he was supposed to respond tomorrow as he had asked for this privilege, for the past Grand Master's. So we surely miss him and wish him the very best and we miss him also as a member of our number here.

Certainly, Most Illustrious, I am privileged to offer my support and also on behalf of all those here at the Altar... If it be you need any of us at any time, all you need to do is call on us because none of us will ever tell Most Illustrious Grand Master what to do. Thank you very much.

4. Proceedings: Annual 2018

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

MIGM,

As the Proceedings of the 2017 Annual Grand Assembly have been posted to the Grand Council website on the Grand Recorder’s page, I move their adoption as published, subject to comments submitted for corrections, which after consideration of the MIGM shall be acted upon as he may direct.

Motion seconded by MIPGM Curtis and passed unanimously.

5. Proceedings: Special Grand Assembly

RI Grand Recorder Vernon Huebschman

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Comp. Robert A. Lumbert, 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, 2018. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer, MIGM Lumbert 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, RIGRec | Thrice Illustrious Master |
| R.I. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, MIGM | Thrice Illustrious Senior Warden |
| Ill. Comp. Spyridon G. Treklas, REGC | Thrice Illustrious Junior Warden |
| M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, MEGHP | 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. Arthur Gordon | Jerusalem Council No. 2 R&SM, | Rosedale, MD |
| Comp. Andrew Martinez | Harmony Council No. 20 R&SM, | Annapolis, MD |
| Comp. Raymond Tayse | King Solomon Council No. 13 R&SM, | Germantown, 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. MIGM Lumbert noted that the officers for this Degree were an unusual collection, being the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Patrick A. Curtis, the Most Illustrious Grand Master Robert B. Lumbert, the Right Eminent Grand Commander Spyridon G. Treklas, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master Gordon A. Davis, and the Grand Secretary/Grand Recorder Vernon H. Huebschman. The candidates expressed their deep

appreciation for the high quality of the work, and the profound meaning of the Ritual Work conferred. After the remarks were concluded, the TIM closed the TIM Council. MIGM Lumbert 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.

6. Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master MIGM Robert B. Lumbert

Semi-Annual Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master May 18, 2018

Report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master May 18, 2018

To begin, thank you all for attending. I know many of you have full calendars, like mine, and I appreciate that you took the time to come and help conduct the business of the Grand Council.

I would describe the state of the Grand Council in Maryland as good, but not great. In the past three months, I have visited almost all the Councils in the state. I am scheduled to go to York Council in June. And Monday we had a Grand Visitation to Enoch Council in Frederick, which was supposed to include Palestine Council in Hagerstown. Unfortunately, the members of Palestine were unable to attend. I will see what can be done to go out and visit them.

To explain the “good, but not great” description, my observation is that most of the Councils have a relatively small group of Companions who are keeping the Council going. Sometimes this group is as large as nine, but more typically, it is smaller. There are enough to run the Council and confer the degrees. But there really aren’t enough to do much else. To begin to correct this problem, each of us must work to convince our new initiates, and maybe some of the older members, that Council is a worthwhile organization, one that they need to get involved with.

One way we can do this is through the ritual. Our two degrees are relatively short. With the exception of the Soliloquy and the TIM parts, the Officer parts are fairly modest. And even the TIM parts can be shortened by having other Companions do the lectures. Consequently, a Council should be able to put on both degrees from memory, without having a big cast, as long as they are willing to do some work to accomplish it. Maryland Masonry has a superb tradition of excellence in ritual, certainly within the blue Lodges, but actually throughout the Masonic family, from the youth groups on up. The Soliloquy is one of the outstanding pieces of Masonic ritual. Several people have said that it was this particular piece that inspired them to become active in Council, because they wanted to do it. So I throw out this challenge to each of the Councils. Work on your ritual. Learn it well enough that the Council has a reputation for excellence in ritual. This will not only to impress their candidates, but it will be an accomplishment of which your Council can be proud.

While on the subject of ritual, we have an event coming up which will showcase York Rite ritual. That is the accelerated class that will be conducted this fall, in honor of Carl Wisner. Carl was one of the great Maryland ritualists, and I am pleased that I knew him. The details of this event have been well publicized within the York Rite community, and information is now beginning to spread throughout Maryland Masonry. Just to remind you, candidates will receive their Mark

Master and Past Master degrees in their home Chapters. Then on October 6 they will come to Cockeysville to receive the Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch, Royal Master and Select Master degrees after the Harvest Home Day festivities. On October 20, the Grand Commandery will confer the three Commandery Orders, also at Bonnie Blink. Many people are working hard to make this a success, and we hope to welcome a large number of new Companions and Sir Knights at this event. Jeff Disney, who is the overall coordinator, has said that he would like to see one candidate from each of the 100+ Lodges in Maryland there. I think that would be fantastic, but I wonder where we would seat all those Brothers.

I am just starting to work on the Grand Council's part of this event. My main task will be to assign the degree teams. I would like to get as many Companions involved as possible. So I am open to having different people do the TIM floor work, the History lecture and the Furniture lecture in the Royal Master degree. And we will also cherubim in that degree, so, if you want to participate without speaking, you can do so. Both degrees will be done in costume. And, in case you're wondering, the dress

code for sideliners and candidates will be "Harvest Home casual". The important part of this is the Degrees and the lessons they teach, not the way people are dressed. I had a sign-up sheet out on the registration table for those who would like to participate. If you did not see it, or neglected to sign up, it will be on the Treasurer's desk after the meeting. I am exercising my prerogative as Grand Master to assign the PCW part in the Royal Master to myself. Otherwise, all parts are open. I will let you know before September what the degree teams are. It would be nice to schedule a rehearsal, and I will look into that. But I suspect that finding an open date around the end of September will be very difficult.

One of the things I have been urging during the Grand Visitations is Council social events. These are good ways to promote Brotherhood among the Companions, as well as to get our ladies and other family members involved. It can be something as simple as going out to a restaurant as a group. Or it can be something more elaborate. I must confess that I have not done much these past few months to set up social events for the Grand Council. Frankly, those of you who know me know that I am not much of a social person, so I am looking to you to give me ideas on what you would like to do. And don't worry, if you do make suggestions, I won't put you in charge of the event if you don't want to be. I may, however, ask you to help. We do have one social event coming up, our Second Annual Table Council on July 26. Details are now ready to be announced, and I will call upon the Table Council committee to do so later on.

I have made trips to several out-of-state Grand Council Sessions to represent the Grand Council of Maryland. So far I have been to New Jersey, Delaware, North Carolina, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania. I will be going to Connecticut and Vermont in June and probably New York in July. My trips after that are still up in the air. It is always useful to see what other Jurisdictions are doing and looking for ways that we can improve our own Grand Council. Of course it also means occasionally sitting while over 100 Companions vote using paper ballots.

I have also represented the Grand Council at several events in Maryland. Most recently I was at the dedication of Artisans' Hall by the Grand Lodge. It was an enjoyable day, although the wind blowing while we were marching was not all that pleasant. But in a show of York Rite – Scottish

Rite unity, Grand Steward Tom Marraffa and I marched with Companion and SGIG Marlin Mills. We were able to block the wind for him at least a little bit.

I was pleased that we were able to confer the TIM degree on three TIMs-elect last month. Congratulations to Art Gordon, Andy Martinez and Ray Tayse for their achievements in this regard. I am sure they will lead their Councils well, and we all wish them the best. For those of you who did not attend the degree this year, you missed something unusual. It is not often that you see a degree conferred by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Right Eminent Grand Commander, along with the Grand Secretary/Recorder and another Past Most Illustrious Grand Master.

Most of the Grand Visitations I made were Joint Visitations with Most Excellent Grand High Priest Pat Curtis. I think this format worked well. Much of the information that Pat or I wished to obtain from the Chapter or Council or that we wished to impart was the same. With a Joint Visitation this can all be accomplished at one meeting, with only one disruption to the Chapter or Council's normal schedule. We opened the floor at the end of our presentations for comments and questions by the Companions, and this was also a useful part of the meeting. For next year, we will be going back to the old method, since the Grand High Priest-elect does not wish to do Joint Visitations. And as this will be my second year in office, should you Companions choose to reelect me, I will make the same statement

I made for my second year as Grand High Priest. I will not insist on a Grand Visitation to any Council this year (except my home Council, Concordia #1). But if you wish me to come, I will do so. I will contact the Council Recorders over the summer to see if you are interested. But if you do want me to come, I will need some suggested dates. When we were doing Joint Visitations, it didn't matter if we came on a "Chapter night" or a "Council night". But if only the Grand Council is coming, we shouldn't come on a night which is supposed to be just for the Chapter.

Finally, the other big thing that happened in the past few months was that our new web site is up and running. If somehow you are not aware of this site, it can be found at yorkritemaryland.org. I once again want to thank everyone who made this possible, but especially Grand King Bill Eppig. This is a site we can be proud of. But it will only be useful if we keep it up to date, and part of this task devolves on you. If you see something that is wrong or has changed, let the webmasters know. If your Council is having an event that you would like to publicize, let the webmasters know. This is the online face of York Rite Masonry in Maryland. Let us be sure it is the best face possible.

Companions, I thank you for your attention and for your confidence in electing me to this office. I hope I have met your expectations so far.

Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, I move that this report be accepted and spread upon the minutes of this meeting.

Respectfully submitted Robert Lumbert Most Illustrious Grand Master.

Motion to accept by MIPGM Curtis, seconded by TIM Arthur F. Hebbeler.

7. Report of the Grand Recorder

RI Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

MIGM,

The School for Secretaries and Treasurers,

On February 17th 2018, a school was held for the administrative officers of our Chapters and Councils in Maryland. The Recorders of Commandries and their Treasurers were also invited. A list of the attendees is appended to this report. The presentations began in the morning with a review of the new ritual book by Past Grand High Priest Randy Watson which included the physical makeup of the book and the new content and some hints about how to use it. He responded to some questions from the attendees. Past Grand High Priest John Maclay, Secretary of Tuscan chapter, did the next presentation on the various methods our bodies have for communicating with their membership. The third presentation of the morning was given by past Grand High Priest Ed Foreman, Secretary of St. John's chapter. Companion Foreman reviewed the different kinds of minutes they may need to be taken in the course of a given year.

MIGM Bob Lumbert coordinated lunch boxes at the beginning of the morning and saw to the delivery in time for a lunch break. Panera Bread did a great job with the lunch boxes for us.

At 1:00 we came back on with past Grand High Priest Randy Watson giving a presentation on the work of our treasurers. Combined with this presentation, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master John Rafine gave a talk on how to properly discharge of responsibilities concerning the annual IRS 990 n forms. He also covered the rigorous and unpleasant process of restoring not for profit status if a chapter or council fails to report in a three-year. Hopefully everyone was impressed by the simplicity of how to file properly and to avoid the pain and and discomfort of the restoration process.

. Companion Foreman reviewed the different kinds of minutes that need to be taken in the course of a given year.

The feedback from this event has been one hundred percent positive and we are grateful for the cooperation and participation of all those the gave their Saturday

IRS 990

This is the annual official notice that this is the appropriate time for our secretaries and recorders to go to the IRS 990 website and file their annual report. To properly file it is necessary to have the EIN number the name and address of the secretary and the name and address of the presiding officer. You must be able to report that the income of the body is usually less than

\$50,000 and that the body has not going out of existence. If you have this information prepared and at hand, this report takes 10 to 15 minutes to complete successfully. It is necessary that the preparer print a confirmation copy which must be later attached to the chapter or Council annual report as proof of this work being done.

Annual report forms

The annual report forms for chapters and for councils will be posted to the appropriate websites for the Grand Secretary and the Grand Recorder. This report is necessary to identify the elected officers and those past presiding officers who are qualified members of the grand body and therefore have voting privileges. These are the companions that are listed on the registration forms for the annual Grand meetings. The annual reports are also used to identify changes in membership status for new members, members who have died, members who have been suspended for non-payment, members who have been suspended for Lodge action, or those who have requested and been granted demits. Also this is the appropriate place to give information concerning changes in address finally. Finally the last page is the summation and reckoning of the membership data.

Operating Fund

The Records of the Operating Fund were reviewed by the Finance Committee, and will be reported upon by RIDGM Watson. Hopefully the records are satisfactory. With the possibility of a new Grand Treasurer coming on board in October 2018, I intend to prepare the necessary amendments to the Grand Council Constitution to place the Operating Account under the management of the Grand Treasurer. The present situation seems to make a number of Companions uneasy...with the Grand Recorder managing the Operating Fund. It is very functional to write checks when needed without the delays of contacting and coordinating with another officer. I am sure the Grand Council will make a wise choice on how to best see to the management of the Operating Account when given the choice.

My plans

It is my intention to be available for service for the next two capitular and cryptic years. After that time which should be the October meetings of 2020, I intend to retire from service in my two positions as Grand Secretary and Grand Recorder. I asked that those with the talent, the willingness and the determination to serve, to let their availability be known. I would love to have the opportunity of the next two years to train my successor so that the early years of his service are not spent learning by running Full Tilt into the walls of administration. The greatest joy I have known has been found in those moments when I have been able to competently serve those you have elected to lead us. I have deeply enjoyed the time spent in my various jobs and one of the tasks of being a good secretary is to train the person who will next fill that position.

I have enjoyed serving this year with you and look forward to our preparations for the annual Grand Assembly in October.

Respectfully submitted,

Companion Vernon Huebschman, Grand Recorder

8. Report of the Grand Treasurer

M.I. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis

. Most Illustrious Robert Lumbert,

Thanks to the wise investments by my predecessors, the investments of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland, continue to perform well over the long run. Given the daily ups and downs of the stock market, like all other stocks and investments ours also change from day to day, but over the long run increase in value.

The attached table provides a summary of our investments and their growth for the past six months.

Finally, it has been my pleasure to serve this Grand Council for the past six months, however, the time has come when I need to start cutting back on my activities. For that reason, I have determined I will step aside this coming fall. I will continue to be active, but not on such a daily routine. I will endeavor to work with my successor, as much as possible, and will seek to have all the necessary paperwork ready to hand over to him when he is installed in October. I thank all who have helped me in accomplishing the duties of Grand Treasurer. It has been an eyeopening adventure.

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. Second by MIPGM Rafine and passed Unanimously.

Grand Council of Royal and Select
Masters Of Maryland
Investment Report of Grand Treasurer
per
Statement as 30 April 2018
Account No. 633-151036

| Morgan Stanley Grand Council | 10/1/2016 | 10/1/2017 | 4/30/2018 | Increase / (Decrease) |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Value | \$ 177,336.54 | \$ 179,927.72 | \$ 176,172.59 | (\$ 3,755.13) |
| | | | | |
| Total Cash, Bank Deposit Program(BDP), and Money Market Funds (MMF's) | Market Value | Market Value | | |
| Cash | \$ 8159.06 | \$ 5968.06 | \$ 9119.85 | \$ 3151.79 |
| | | | | |
| Common Stocks | | | | |
| Exelon Corporation | \$ 19,474.65 | \$ 22,036.95 | \$ 23,212.80 | |
| Magellan Midstream Partners | \$ 42,444.00. | \$ 42,636.00 | \$ 39,498.00 | |
| MMA Cap Mgms LLC | \$ 619.48 | \$ 851.70 | \$ 948.60 | |
| Omega Healthcare Inv. INC | \$ 23,042.50 | \$ 20,741.50 | \$ 16,887.00 | |
| Pembina Pipeline Corp. Com. | \$ 7,767.30 | \$ 8,950.65 | \$ 8,124.30 | |
| | | | | |
| Preferred Stocks | | | | |
| Capital One Finl Corp | \$ 10,796.00 | \$ 10,800.00 | \$ 10,484.00 | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL VALUE | \$ 104,143.93 | \$ 106,016.65 | \$ 99,154.70 | (\$ 6,861.95) |
| | | | | |

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|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Corporate Fixed Income | | | | |
| Royal Bk Scotland RBS | \$ 14,591.23 | \$ 14,657.25 | \$ 15,207.02 | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL VALUE | \$ 14,591.23 | \$ 14,657.25 | \$ 15,207.02 | \$ 549.77 |
| Mutual Funds | | | | |
| American BD FD of America | \$ 23,536.92 | \$ 23,668.99 | \$ 23,110.87 | |
| American Cap INC Builder | \$ 26,905.38 | \$ 29,622.50 | \$ 29,580.15 | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL VALUE | \$ 50,442.30 | \$ 53,291.49 | \$ 52,691.02 | (\$ 600.47) |
| Checking Account (M&T Bank) | Deposits | Amount | | |
| Beginning Balance (4/3/2018) | Deposits Date | | \$ 2860.98 | |
| | 4/12/2018 | 50.19 | \$ 2911.17 | |
| Ending Balance (5/1/2018) | 5/1/2018 | 716.37 | \$ 3827.54 | |

Ambassador to Maryland, CRYPTIC Masons Medical Research Foundation Report

In March, the CMMRF Board of Trustees declared March 6th, 2018, as CMMRF, a day to celebrate the remembrance of the chartering of the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. They requested all Cryptic Masons to make a donation of five (\$5.00) dollars as tribute to this philanthropy and its great works. They subsequently collections of such donations be ended on May 15th, 2018

As your Ambassador to Maryland for the General Grand Council, I would like to report I have collected a sum of Three Hundred (\$300.00) dollars, over the past two months, at four of the joint Grand Visits held by our Most Illustrious Grand Master.

The table below provides an accounting of the money collected at each Grand Visit.

| Grand Visit | Councils | Date | Amount. |
|---------------|--|---------------|------------------|
| Eastern Shore | Jeshua #8 Zabud # 9 Giblim #12 Adoniram #21 | 6 March 2018 | \$ 60.00 |
| Annapolis | Harmony # 20 | 12 March 2018 | \$ 60,00 |
| Westminster | Carroll # 7 | 26 March 2018 | \$ 95.00 |
| Germantown | King Solomon #13 | 25 April 2018 | \$ 75,00 |
| | Donation | 17 May 2018 | \$ 10.00 |
| TOTAL | | | \$ 300.00 |

Patrick A. Curtis, MIPGM,
Ambassador to Maryland, General Grand Council
Royal and Select Masters

9. Report of the Grand Lecturer

No Report at this time

10. Accounts & Finance

R.I. Comp. Randall L. Watson

**Report of the
COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS & FINANCE
For the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly May 17, 2018**

Most Illustrious Sir and Companion:

The Grand Treasurer's records were reviewed and the investment information is in his report.

The Grand Recorder's records were reviewed, and the following operating account information is presented in the attached spreadsheet:

- Approved budget and actual income and expenses for the 2017 operating year (November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017); and
- Approved budget and year-to-date actual income and expenses for the 2018 operating year (November 1, 2017 through October 31, 2018).

The attached spreadsheet also contains the proposed budget for the 2019 operating year (November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2019), which was prepared based on previous actuals and the Most Illustrious Grand Master's plans for the year. Moved acceptance of the budget, seconded and passed

The Committee recommends that the Grand Recorder be authorized to rename income category G in the Chart of Accounts from "Raffle" to "Fund Raising" to allow a broader range of activity to be recorded in that category.. So moved, seconded and passed

Fraternally submitted,

Randall L. Watson, RIDGM

Chairman

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland

Budgets & Actuals for 2017 & 2018 (YTD) - Proposed Budget for 2019

| | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>Actual</i> | | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>Actual</i> | <i>Proposed Budget</i> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | <i>2016-2017</i> | <i>2016-2017</i> | | | <i>2017-2018</i> | <i>2017-2018</i> | <i>2018-2019</i> |
| | | <i>November 1 - October 31</i> | <i>November 1 - October 31</i> | | | <i>November 1 - October 31</i> | <i>November 1 - October 31</i> | <i>November 1 - October 31</i> |
| Income | | | | | | | | |
| Chart of Accounts | | | | | | | | |
| A | Per Capita | \$9,300.00 | \$5,805.00 | | | \$9,300.00 | | \$8,625.00 |
| B | New Companions | \$600.00 | \$80.00 | | | \$600.00 | | \$400.00 |
| C | Interest/Dividends | \$900.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$900.00 | | \$0.00 |
| D | Miscellaneous | \$200.00 | \$2,644.16 | | | \$200.00 | \$90.00 | \$100.00 |
| D | Uncategorized | \$0.00 | \$4,502.62 | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| E | Transfer from Investment | \$8,500.00 | \$8,000.00 | | | \$5,950.00 | | \$6,150.00 |
| F | Ritual | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 |
| G | Fund Raising (formerly "Raffle") | \$0.00 | \$875.00 | | | \$0.00 | \$240.00 | \$500.00 |
| H | SEM | \$750.00 | \$1,055.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| I | Insurance | \$1,500.00 | \$567.98 | | | \$1,500.00 | \$900.00 | \$1,750.00 |
| J | Festive Board | \$0.00 | \$1,080.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$1,500.00 |
| Total | | \$21,800.00 | \$24,609.76 | | | \$18,500.00 | \$1,230.00 | \$19,075.00 |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Grand Recorder Expenses | \$1,200.00 | \$1,200.00 | | | \$1,200.00 | | \$1,200.00 |
| 2 | Grand Lecturer Expenses | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$100.00 | | \$100.00 |
| 3 | Grand Treasurer Expenses | \$200.00 | \$444.10 | | | \$200.00 | | \$400.00 |
| 4 | Grand Sentinel Gratuity | \$50.00 | \$75.00 | | | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 |
| 5 | Grand Organist Gratuity | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 6 | Officers' Travel Expenses | \$3,200.00 | \$3,250.02 | | | \$3,200.00 | | \$3,500.00 |
| 7 | Per Capita General Grand | \$3,100.00 | \$2,895.00 | | | \$3,100.00 | \$2,760.00 | \$2,875.00 |
| 8 | Office Expenses | \$850.00 | \$537.19 | | | \$850.00 | \$5.00 | \$600.00 |
| 9 | Annual Proceedings & Postage | \$600.00 | \$198.40 | | | \$600.00 | | \$250.00 |
| 10 | Flowers & Memorials | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$100.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 11 | Sessions Expenses | \$1,400.00 | \$8,876.06 | | | \$1,600.00 | | \$1,600.00 |
| 12 | Grand Masters's Apron & Case | \$500.00 | \$398.00 | | | \$500.00 | \$20.64 | \$600.00 |
| 13 | Triennial Expenses | \$3,500.00 | \$3,450.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 14 | CMMRF | | \$1,170.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$500.00 |
| 15 | Printing/Dues Cards | \$250.00 | \$171.29 | | | \$200.00 | | \$200.00 |
| 16 | Equipment Purchase | \$200.00 | \$68.45 | | | \$0.00 | | \$200.00 |
| 17 | Bonnie Blink Church Service | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$200.00 |
| 18 | Awards & Recognition | \$200.00 | \$458.80 | | | \$200.00 | | \$200.00 |
| 19 | Membership/Degree Teams | \$350.00 | \$158.65 | | | \$350.00 | \$90.00 | \$350.00 |
| 20 | Youth Group/Hershey Trip | \$500.00 | \$100.00 | | | \$500.00 | | \$500.00 |
| 21 | Web Site | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$500.00 | \$1,100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 22 | Miscellaneous | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$100.00 | | \$100.00 |
| 23 | SEM Degree | \$500.00 | \$1,520.00 | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 24 | Insurance | \$3,300.00 | \$3,334.00 | | | \$3,400.00 | \$3,404.00 | \$3,500.00 |
| 25 | Anniversary | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | | | \$1,000.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 26 | Table Council (see detail) | \$500.00 | \$1,864.65 | | | \$500.00 | | \$2,050.00 |
| Total | | \$21,800.00 | \$30,169.61 | | | \$18,250.00 | \$7,379.64 | \$19,075.00 |

11. Dispensations & Charters

R.I. Comp. Randolph S. Disney,

There are no issues to be considered at this time.

12. CMMRF

Comp. Louis P. Romeo, Jr. PTIM

CMMRF FINAL REPORT

AFTER HOLDING 2 RAFFLES WITH THIS ADMINISTRATION I HAVE EXHAUSTED MY SOUL FOR THE ENDEAVOR OF RAISING MONIES FOR A GREAT CHARITY CMMRF.THIS CHARITY HAS MADE GREAT EFFORTS TO THE CHALLENGES OF HELPING THOSE IN NEED WITH QUITE A FEW DISEASES SUCH AS DIABETES , HEART & QUITE A FEW OTHERS, HOWEVER, IT IS TIME FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO TAKE OVER THIS JOB OF TRYING TO RAISE MONIES & TO WHOMEVER GETS THE JOB I SAY GOOD LUCK.WE HAVE RAISED WELL OVER 1500.00 SINCE I BECAME CHAIRMAN FOR THE GRAND COUNCIL HOWEVER WHEN I AM TOLD THAT ANY DECISION MADE TO RAISE FUNDS, THEN TOLD NO THAT’S NOT HOW IT IS GOING TO BE, THEN IT’S TIME FOR ME TO JUST SAY NO & STEP DOWN & THAT IS WHAT I AIM TO DO EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THIS MEETING.ORIGINALY I PURCHASED 500 TICKETS TO RAISE \$ 2500.00 & IF ALL WERE SOLD \$ 2000.00 WOULD BE SENT TO CMMRF & THERE WOULD BE 5 DRAWINGS FOR \$ 100.00 EACH BUT THAT WILL NOT HAPPEN BECAUSE AS OF THIS DATE THAT I WRITE THIS WE HAVEN’T SOLD 200 TICKETS 5/15/18, WE HAVE BROUGHT IN \$ 670.00

ALL THE EXCUSES IN THE WORLD CANNOT EXPLAIN WHY WE CANNOT ALL WORK TOGETHER TO MEET THE GOAL IN THIS ENDEAVOR. I HAVE HEARD MANY BUT NOTHING MAKES SENSE TO NOT WORK TO THE COUNCILS GOAL FOR OUR CHARITY.

FRATERNALLY & RESPECTIVELY,

1 LOUIS P ROMEO JR,CHAIRMAN GRAND COUNCIL OF MARYLAND

11:06 AM

**Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation Inc.
CMMRF State Report
January 1 through May 16, 2018**

Cash Basis

| Date | Name | Activities | Paid Amount |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Jerusalem 002 | | | |
| 03/12/2018 | Romeo, Jr., Louis P. | | 100.00 |
| 04/02/2018 | 002 Jerusalem Council | | 200.00 |
| Total Jerusalem 002 | | | 300.00 |
| MD. Grand Council | | | |
| 02/22/2018 | MD Grand Council | | 1,235.00 |
| Total MD. Grand Council | | | 1,235.00 |
| TOTAL | | | 1,535.00 |

Following the report of CMMRF, MIPGM John A. Rafine was called to the Altar for the presentation of a CMMRF Plaque for his personal donations of \$1000. A drawing was then held for the fund-raising raffle for two \$100.00 prizes which were the paid.

13. Festive Board

Comp. John P. Mitchell, TIM

The budget attached is moved for adoption:

Proposed Budget 2018 Grand Council Festive Board

| INCOME | PROPOSED | ACTUAL | DIFFERENCE |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Ticket Sales 60 @ \$25 | \$ 1,500.00 | | |
| Grand Council Contribution | \$ 750.00 | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| TOTAL INCOME | \$ 2,250.00 | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|--|

| EXPENSES | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----------|--|
| 66 Meals | \$ | 1,155.00 | |
| Dinnerware | \$ | 120.00 | |
| Steam Trays and Racks | \$ | 20.00 | |
| Wine | \$ | 245.00 | |
| Shot Glasses | \$ | 225.00 | |
| Flyers | \$ | 100.00 | |
| Envelopes | \$ | 25.00 | |
| Postage | \$ | 40.00 | |
| Table Cloths | \$ | 10.00 | |
| Soft Drinks | \$ | 30.00 | |
| Grape Juice | \$ | 20.00 | |
| Carryout containers, wraps | \$ | 60.00 | |
| Contribution to GWMNM | \$ | 200.00 | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 2,250.00 | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|--|

* includes 6 complimentary meals

MIGM, GM, DGM, GHP, GC, Speaker

Seconded, and passed unanimously. This budget include a \$250.00 increase in Grand Council support for this activity.

14. Doings of Grand Officers

MIPGM Ronald L. Aughenbaugh

Doings of the Most Illustrious Grand Master

| Date | Event |
|--------------------|---|
| October 27-8, 2017 | Maryland Grand Sessions |
| November 18, 2017 | Grand Lodge Annual |
| December 1, 2017 | Baltimore Area Christmas Observance |
| December 15, 2017 | York Rite Dinner Dance |
| January 6, 2018 | Odenton Lodge Installation |
| January 9, 2018 | King David Lodge Installation |
| January 19, 2018 | Ionic Lodge Installation |
| January 20, 2018 | Camp Springs and St. Alban – Birmingham Lodge Installations |
| February 16, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Concordia and Acacia Councils |
| February 17, 2018 | York Rite Secretaries seminar |
| February 27, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Jerusalem Council |
| March 2-3, 2018 | New Jersey Grand Council (and Chapter) |
| March 6, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Eastern Shore Councils * |
| March 9-10, 2018 | Delaware Grand Council (and Chapter) |
| March 12, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Harmony Council * |
| March 14, 2018 | King Solomon Council – rehearsal and exemplification |
| March 16, 2018 | Rainbow Grand Assembly |
| March 19, 2018 | North Carolina York Rite Grand Sessions |
| March 22, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Hiram Council |
| March 24, 2018 | Rhode Island Grand Council (and Chapter) |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| March 26, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Carroll Council * |
| March 28, 2018 | King Solomon Council – rehearsal and exemplification |
| April 11, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Samuel Clemens Council * |
| April 17, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Salem Council * |
| April 23, 2018 | Pennsylvania Grand Council |
| April 25, 2018 | Grand Visitation – King Solomon Council * |
| April 26, 2018 | Hiram – Druid Joint Festive Board |
| April 28, 2018 | TIM degree (served as TISW) |
| April 29, 2018 | Artisan’s Hall dedication (Grand Lodge) |

Scheduled before semi-annual

| | |
|--------------|---|
| May 5, 2018 | Grand Commandery semi-annual |
| May 7, 2018 | Grand Chapter semi-annual |
| May 14, 2018 | Grand Visitation – Enoch and Palestine Councils * |

Visitations marked with * are joint Visitations with Grand Chapter. The only Council that won’t have been visited by May 18 is York, and that is scheduled for June.

I have only listed events where I attended as MIGM. There are many more where I was really doing Chapter or Lodge work (degree work, etc.) The Installations listed are those the Grand Line did and I was recognized as MIGM.

Doings of the Grand Officers: May 18, 2018

To: Robert B Lumbert
 Most Illustrious Grand Master

Do to the fact, that I only received a report from the MIGM, this is a preliminary report.

Congratulations to our MIGM Robert Lumber for keeping Maryland's customs by making five out of state visitations to date. Maryland has a long history of supporting our sister states in their Grand Sessions. Thus keeping Maryland's companions abreast of what is happening in the NE Region and around the USA.

He has made 9 Grand Visitation to our local councils and represented the Grand Council at a number of Masonic Installation where he was recognized as MIGM.

Attached is his list of travels and visitations to date.

Sincerely;

Ronald L Aughenbaugh, MIPGM, Chairman

15. 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 and with our sister jurisdictions.

Fraternally Submitted,

Fred Spicer

16. Committee on Grievance

MIPGM Bennie G. Owens

This Committee has not received any communication to date that indicates any action needed for the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly.

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

17. Jurisprudence and Constitution

MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo, III

The Chairman had no formal report but offered the following informal comments.

18 Long Range Planning Committee

Randolph S. Disney, RIGPCW

This report will be submitted for the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly

19. Membership

Comp. Arthur F. Hebbler, TIM

This report will be given at the Annual Grand Assembly.

20. Recognition and Awards

Comp. Frederick A. Spicer, PTIM

Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons in Maryland,
The awards this Committee is responsible for receiving names and resumes from the Councils of R&S Masters are:

- Lady of the Council Award
- Ronald L. Thomas General Grand Council Ritualist Award
- General Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the Year
- General Grand Council International Adult Leadership Award
- Ish-Sodi Award – First Line Signer on 5 Petitions

To date, we have not received and names from the Councils of R&S Masters of Maryland, but hope names will be coming in shortly.

Sincerely & fraternally,

Fred Spicer

21. Time & Place 2018

RI Comp. Randall L. Watson

**Report of the
COMMITTEE ON TIME & PLACE
For the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly May 17, 2018**

Comp. Robert B. Lumbert
Most Illustrious Grand Master
Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland

Most Illustrious Sir and Companion:

The following Time & Place Recommendation for the October 2019 Grand Sessions was approved by the Grand Commandery at their Semi-Annual Grand Conclave on May 5, 2018 and by the Grand Chapter at their Semi-Annual Grand Convocation on May 7, 2018.

The Committee recommends that the Grand Council approve the recommendation.

Fraternally submitted,

Randall L. Watson, RIDGM

Chairman

Time and Place Report

Submitted to the May 2018 Semi-Annual

Annual Session Dates: Friday, October 25th and Saturday, October 26th, 2019.

Proposed Location: Near Live! Casino

Hotel:

The Live Lofts Hotel

3159 New Ridge Rd.

Hanover, Md. 21076

www.livecasinohotel.com/hotels/live-lofts

The Lofts

Rooms: All rooms are \$119.00 per night + 13 % tax

30 room per nights guaranteed (will need to raise)

Meeting Room: \$350 charge per day

Microphone and Podium will cost \$250 for the weekend

Meal Room: NO Charge for Saturday Lunch

Friday Dinner: No decision. Rental may be included with Meeting room rental.

Saturday Banquet: \$700 for room

Hospitality Room: No charge if we meet 30 room min. (may rise if we add to the block)

Meals: Lunch Average - \$27.00 - Banquet Average - \$45

Hotel "Atmosphere": Each of Live Lofts' 250 hotel rooms, suites, and meeting facilities have been fully renovated, combining style and sophistication, comfort and convenience, accessibility and affordability. Dozens of amenities including indoor pool, business center, free wi-fi and hard-wired internet for secure communications, free parking on-site and the Live! Grill Restaurant. Complementary shuttle service whisks guests to nearby BWI Airport and Amtrak station, the gaming action at Live! Casino & Hotel, Arundel Mills outlet mall and other destinations.

Hospitality Room

We will be using a two bed room suite. This will allow us to bring in alcohol. Will be no charge as long as we meet the room 30 night booking for each night.

Meal Costs

The actual meal costs will depend on the menus selected by the Session Committee, but will keep them as low as possible as was done last year.

Notes: We checked a number of hotels last year and this year. Room cost started at \$119 and up. Room rentals average \$500 and up. The Lofts was the best of the hotels we looked into over the last two years.

The Lofts are located near the Casino and have shuttles that make runs to the Casino and Mall. This gives the session committee greater opportunity for activities for our attendees.

We did not plan for dinner on Friday night at this time, but can be added when we finalize with Hotel reservation. The thinking was to have the Royal Arch do an afternoon meeting and see if the hotel has a package for those that wish to spend the evening at the casino/mall for dinner or vice versa, meeting starting at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Eppig, REGK, PTIM

22. Sessions 2017

RI Comp. Randall L. Watson

No report at this Grand Assembly.

23. Youth Relations

RI Comp. Randall L. Watson

No Report at this Grand Assembly.

24. Unfinished Business

RI Comp. Randolph S. Disney

MIGM,

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

25. New Business

MI Comp. Robert B. Lumbert

A motion was made to contribute \$100.00 to the Relief of Shamokin Lodge in The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, seconded and passed unanimously.

27. Election of Officers

MIPGM Edward A. Foreman

Credentials Committee reported that no change had taken in the original total of voting members and Councils present.

The following Companions were nominated and seconded to their respective offices. There being no further nominations, the nominations were declared closed. The Grand Recorder was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for each of the following:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| MIGM Robert B. Lumbert | Most Illustrious Grand Master |
| RIDGM Randall L. Watson | Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master |
| RIGPCW. Randolph Disney | Right Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work |
| RIG Rec Vernon H. Huebschman | Right Illustrious Grand Recorder |

As MIPGM Patrick A. Curtis has decided to no longer service as Grand Treasurer, nominations were opened for th that position. MIPGM Stephen J. Ponzillo, III nominated MIPGM John A. Rafine as the

Grand Treasurer for 2018 – 2019. There being no further nominations, the ballot was closed and the Grand Recorder was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for MI Comp. Rafine.

All consented to serve. The MIGM directed a single unanimous ballot be cast in favor of all those so elected. The Installation of these officers will occur at the Annual Grand Assembly in October.

28. Closing Remarks

Various Companions

The Grand Recorder reminded those present that each Council has three elected officers who should be attending all Grand Assemblies, plus all PTIMS. There were six Councils which did not attend this Grand Assembly. We need to work on improving attendance.

29. Closing

MI Comp. Robert A. Lumbert

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

Closing Prayer:

Comp. Arthur F. Hebbeler, TIM

Supreme Architect of the Universe, we give You thanks for the work of this Grand Council this evening, for the deliberations which have been conducted in harmony. We ask you blessings and healing touch upon our Most Illustrious Companion Bennie G. Owens and all who are sick or recovering from surgeries...or who are facing death. Be with their care-givers and families Be with those who defend our country both here and abroad. Protect them with you divine gentle arm. We ask this in you Holy Name. Amen. So Mote it be!

The Grand Assembly was declared closed at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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