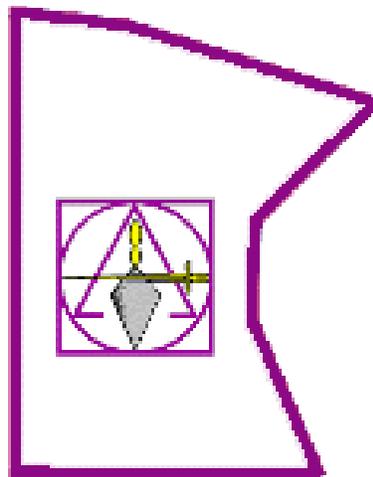


**The Proceedings
Of**

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota

**150th
Grand Assembly**

**Virtual Meeting
June 26, 2020**



**Carl F. Lidstrom
Most Illustrious Grand Master**



Most Illustrious Companion Carl F. Lidstrom
Illustrious Grand Master of The Grand Council of Cryptic
Mason of Minnesota

The Grand Assembly virtual Zoom meeting was called to order at 1:00PM Friday June 26th, 2020
By the Most Illustrious Grand Master Carl F. Lidstrom with the Grand Officers in attendance.

2019-2020 Minnesota Grand Council Officers

Most Illustrious Grand Master	MIC Carl F. Lidstrom
Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master	RIC L. Greg Schultz
Right Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work	RIC W. David Emery
Most Illustrious Grand Treasurer / Recorder	MIC Marvin W. Schendel
Illustrious Grand Chaplain	IC Vernon J. Schwalbe
Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard	IC Brian K. DiMatteo
Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council	IC R. Sean Gardiner
Illustrious Grand Marshal	IC R. James Luchsinger, II
Illustrious Grand Steward	IC Douglas A. Beach
Illustrious Grand Sentinel	IC Gerald E. Zierdt
Illustrious Grand Organist	IC William T. Hubbard
Illustrious Grand Arch Master	IC Thomas R. Hendrickson

Trustees:

Most Illustrious Grand Trustee 1 Year Term	MIC Hugh C. Swift, Jr.
Most Illustrious Grand Trustee 2 Year Term	MIC Ronald A. Miles
Most Illustrious Grand Trustee 3 Year Term	MIC Charles R. Marston

PAST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER IN ATTENDANCE

Russell K. Amling	1985 - 1986
Hugh C. Swift	1993 – 1994
Ronald A. Miles	2009 - 2010
Gary A. Odegard	2012 - 2013
Marvin W. Schendel	2015 - 2017
Clifford H. Isley	2017 - 2018

VISITING GRAND DIGNITARIES

Representing the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International were the Right Puissant Companion William G. Snyder, General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Right Puissant Companion Charles Hollinger, General Grand Treasurer, Right Puissant Companion Steve Balke, General Grand Recorder, and the North Central Deputy Grand Master, Right Puissant Companion Anthony “AJ” Johnson of Nebraska, Right Illustrious Companion Dennis Newman, Grand Recorder of Nebraska, MIC George E. Bauder, Grand Recorder and Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of South Dakota, MIC Richard A. McBride, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of South Dakota, MIC Herbert E. Cook, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of South Dakota, Right Illustrious Companion Bruce Crisman, Grand Deputy Master of South Dakota, Right Illustrious Companion Roger Hansen, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of South Dakota, MIC Leland L. Burlison, Past Illustrious Grand Master of Wisconsin, MIC Parker W. Dow, Past Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Wisconsin, MIC Terry Loper, Past Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Wisconsin, MIC Clinton Cagle, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Wisconsin, RIC Bradley Bingheim, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the Grand Council of Wisconsin, RIC George Vettel, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the Grand Council of North Dakota, MIC Mark Irwin Past Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Delaware, MIC G. Thomas Taylor Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Delaware, MIC Teko Foly, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of District of Columbia, Right Illustrious Companion, James S. McNeely, IV, Grand Deputy Master of Connecticut. Most Worshipful Brother Ethan A. Seaberg, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota

The Flag Presentation and Tributes

The Color Guard from Zion Commandery No. 2 presented the colors, MIC Hugh C. Swift, Jr. then gave the Tribute to the Flag followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of the Councils

The Councils present were:

St. Paul No. 1, St Paul	Minneapolis No. 2, Minneapolis
Ark No. 3, Owatonna	Tyrian No. 4, Rochester
Duluth No. 6, Duluth	
Alpha No. 8, Fergus Falls	Omega No. 9, Minneapolis
Zabud No. 10, Anoka	Northfield No. 12, Farmington
Central No. 14, St Peter	Red Rock No. 16, Marshal

One Council had no representation:

Austin No. 7, Austin

Eleven Councils present there was a Quorum and Grand Master Carl declared the 150th Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota open for the transaction of Business.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Registered (not all Attended or cast a ballot)

Grand Officers	11
Illustrious Masters	4
Deputy Masters	7
Principal Conductors of the work	4
Recorders	8
Past Illustrious Masters	23
Visitors	24
Guest	29
Balloting Members	53
Total That attended session	75

Roll Call of the Grand Officers

Most Illustrious Grand Master	MIC Carl F. Lidstrom
Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master	RIC L. Greg Schultz
Right Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work	RIC W. David Emery
Most Illustrious Grand Treasurer / Recorder	MIC Marvin W. Schendel
Illustrious Grand Chaplain	IC Vernon J. Schwalbe – Excused
Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard	IC Brian K. DiMatteo
Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council	IC R. Sean Gardiner
Illustrious Grand Marshal	IC R. James Luchsinger, Jr.
Illustrious Grand Steward	IC Douglas A. Beach
Illustrious Grand Sentinel	IC Gerald E. Zierdt
Illustrious Grand Organist	IC William T. Hubbard – Excused
Most Illustrious Grand Arch Master	IC Thomas R. Hendrickson – Excused
Trustee	MIC Ronald A. Miles
Trustee	MIC Hugh C. Swift, Jr.
Trustee	MIC Charles R. Marston – Excused

Roll Call of the Grand Representatives

Those present were thanked for their service.

Officers of Constituent Councils

Illustrious Grand Master Carl called for the four constituent Illustrious Masters to be given a round of applause.

Then the seven Deputy Masters were given a round of applause.

The four Principal Conductors of the Work were given a round of applause.

The eight Recorders were then given a round of applause.

Illustrious Grand Master Carl Thanked all the officers for their service to Minnesota Cryptic Masonry.

Reading of the 149th Proceedings

A motion was made that the named Proceedings of the 149th Annual Assembly have been published and posted on the web site, and that such proceedings contain matter that may be considered as the minutes of the last Grand Assembly, I move that the named publication be accepted as the minutes of the 149th Annual Assembly and be accepted by acclimation without reading.

Motion passed

THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF MINNESOTA

Report of the Nominating Committee MIC Hugh C. Swift, Jr. Chairman

2020 - 2021

ELECTED OFFICERS

Most Illustrious Grand Master	L. Greg Schultz
Right Illustrious Grand Deputy Master	W. David Emery
Rt. Ill. G. Principal Conductor of the Work	Brian K. Dimatteo
Most Illustrious Grand Treasurer	Marvin W. Schendel, MIPGM
Most Illustrious Grand Recorder	Marvin W. Schendel, MIPGM
Most Illustrious Grand Trustee - 3 Yr Term	Gary A. Odegard., MIPGM

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Illustrious Grand Chaplain	Ronald L. Jensen
Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard	R. Sean Gardiner
Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council	R. James Luchsinger, II
Illustrious Grand Marshal	Gerald E. Zierdt
Illustrious Grand Steward	Alan Mackenzie
Illustrious Grand Sentinel	Douglas A. Beach
Illustrious Grand Archmaster	
Illustrious Grand Organist	William T. Hubbard

TERMS NOT YET EXPIRED

Most Illustrious Grand Trustee - 1 Yr Term	Ronald A. Miles, MIPGM
Most Illustrious Grand Trustee - 2 Yr Term	Charles R. Marston, MIPGM

Appointment of Tellers

The following Illustrious Companions were appointed to serve as tellers MIC James S. McNeely, IV, Chairman, assisted by MIC Ronald A. Miles, MIPGM and MIC Cliff Isley, MIPGM

The Grand Captain of the Guard, IC R. Sean Gardiner was asked to give instruction on the use of the Ballot to all. Instruction was given.

The ballot box was declared open.

*Grand Council Cryptic Masons
of*

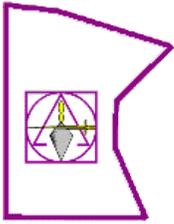
MINNESOTA

Organized December 12, 1870

Most Illustrious Grand Master

Carl F. Lidstrom

2019 - 2020



**Report of the
Most Illustrious Grand Master
Carl F. Lidstrom
2019 to 2020**

Thank you all for allowing me to serve the Grand Council for the past year. It was quite a journey for not only me, but all of the Grand Officers. We tried to make visiting not only the Councils of Minnesota, but Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, other Masonic organizations, other states in the North Central Region, and the North Central Regional Conference a priority, as is testified in the travels and visitation schedule that is part of this report. As you can see when examining that schedule, it was a very busy year and I likely saw you in several different venues.

I brought other Grand Officers along on my travels and visitations when they were available. We as a Grand Council tried to increase the visibility of the York Rite in Minnesota.

In the late summer, we celebrated the beginning of the 150th year of Cryptic Masonry in Minnesota with a banquet. At the banquet we had a special commemorative coin for each attendee and a large sized one for each Cryptic Council. One side of each of these coins has the working tools of Cryptic Masonry displayed, so the large coin could be used as a bible marker during the ritualistic opening of a Council.

The Grand Council has been emphasizing for a number of years the rebuilding of the Councils throughout the state. This can only be accomplished by being visible and one can tell by the activities of the Grand Council there was activity in this endeavor. Masons in Minnesota are not always familiar with the York Rite bodies, so York Rite Masons need to promote the York Rite. Remember our only source of new members is from the Blue Lodge, so we need to let all Masons know about the benefits of the York Rite. I urge all Companions to visit not only their own Blue Lodge, but other Blue Lodges to spread the message of the York Rite and aid Blue Lodge Masons in seeking further light in Masonry.

Traveling and visitations are important as the Grand Council wants to be present among the Councils in Minnesota. The reason for this was made evident to me early in my terms serving as a Grand Officer. I remember when MIC Marv Schendel, MIPGM, asked me to go with him to attend a York Rite meeting in Austin. Bill Newell, Austin's Secretary/Recorder at the time, was happy to have us come for a visit. When we arrived, he stated he thought it was the first time a Grand Officer had visited Austin since he was a Grand Officer. I thought that was a very poor reflection on the Grand Officers and I didn't want to leave the same legacy.

During our Council visits the Grand Officers emphasized our charity, Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (CMMRF), and the need to support the research of vascular disease. The support needs to not only come from each Council, but every Cryptic Mason. Vascular disease affects many of our members and the support is crucial.

The General Grand Council has a number of awards including the ritual jewel and the veterans medal. The Grand Officers followed up with the Councils to encourage members to work on attaining the ritual jewel with bars for Royal Master, Select Master, and Super Excellent Master. If you are a veteran the General Grand Council has a veteran's jewel available that can be ordered through their Web site.

The Illustrious Masters are encouraged to select candidates for Ish-Sodi. Ish-Sodi is the "chosen man" and can be thought of as similar to the Blue Lodge's Hiram award. The Grand Council wants those Cryptic Masons who are active in their Councils to be recognized when they go above and beyond to help their own Council.

Both the Grand Council and General Grand Council have Web sites that contain much useful information that keeps expanding continually. For the Grand Chapter the address is <http://www.mnyorkrite.org> and the General Grand Web site is <https://www.crypticmasons.org> and we encourage you to visit those Web sites and while on the General Grand's sign up for the Weekly Decryption under the News tab toward the top of the main page.

We had many new candidates as Masons in Minnesota learned about the York Rite as evidenced by the 26 Masons being Greeted into Cryptic Masonry during 2019, followed by 35 candidates being Greeted at the One Day Festival in February 2020 with an additional 6 being Greeted at another Festival in Fergus Falls at Alpha Council at the end of February. We are hopeful we can keep Greeting new candidates for the balance of calendar year 2020 as we have a good start with 41 between the two Festivals.

The Grand Officers met on a monthly basis at the Grand Council office at the Minnesota Masonic Home, at least until the Wuhan virus closed our access to the Home. Then we embarked on a new method of holding meetings, a video conference. We always had made the officers meeting available for those who were not able to attend in person by offering a conference call option at our regular meetings, but a video conference was now the new option offered to all of us. The video conference worked well and it was a

pleasure to see our Companions on the computer screen after being isolated due to the Governor's imposed lockdown.

Our in person Grand York Rite Session in Alexandria ended up being cancelled in favor of a virtual conference over the Internet. This was a very disappointing development as we had quite an event planned. This virtual conference will be a new experience for everyone as this type of Grand Session has never been done in Minnesota. Online preregistration is required so membership and voting rights can be verified.

We will be attempting to set up the Thrice Illustrious Master and Ish-Sodi Degrees later this summer connected with a dinner to do Grand Council honoring. We didn't get to have our Grand Session banquet, so an special event is needed in the mind of the Grand Officers. I trust we will all be ready to get together to see one another once again in person. This will be highly dependent on being able to book a facility for the event, so stay tuned and I hope it works out.

I would also like to express a thank you to my wife, Sue, for allowing me the time to go and spend time with all of you.

And thank you my Companions for all of the enjoyment I had in serving you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl F. Lidstrom

MIC Carl F. Lidstrom
Most Illustrious Grand Master 2019 to 2020
Cryptic Masons of Minnesota

Travels and Visitations

Carl F. Lidstrom, MIGM
The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota
Year of 2019 to 2020

July

- 2 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 6 Dan Patch Masonic Club, Bloomington, MN
- 7 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 9 Minnehaha No. 165 & Cataract No. 2 Joint, Minneapolis, MN
- 10 Omega Council & Ark Chapter Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
- 12 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
- 13 National Sojourners Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 14 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 16 MMES Board Meeting, Bloomington, MN

- 17 Minnehaha No. 165 Awards Dinner, Minneapolis, MN
- 18 Minneapolis Valley Court of Honour Dinner, Minneapolis MN
- 21 Grand York Rite Session Planning Committee, Minneapolis, MN
- 23 York Rite Picnic, Anoka, MN
- 24 Minneapolis Mounted Commandery Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
- 25 Meeting with the Grand Master, Red Wing, MN
- 27 Minnehaha No. 165 River Cruise, St. Paul, MN
- 29 AMD, Minneapolis, MN
- 30 Educational Lodge, Owatonna, MN
- 31 UMD Cornerstone Ceremony, Duluth, MN

August

- 3 Dan Patch Masonic Club, Bloomington, MN
- 3 DeMolay Conclave, St. Peter, MN
- 4 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 5 Phoenix Daylight No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
- 6 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 7 Minnehaha No.165, Minneapolis, MN
- 8 – 11 Iowa Grand Sessions, Des Moines, IA
- 11 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 12 St. John's Chapter No.9 and Minneapolis Council No. 2, Minneapolis MN
- 13 National Sojourners meeting, Richfield, MN
- 14 Phoenix Daylight No. 350, Savage, MN
- 14 Omega Council, Ark Chapter & Minneapolis Mounted Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
- 15 Minnehaha Chapter OES Officers Meeting, Rosemount, MN
- 19 Tyrian Council No. 4, Rochester, MN
- 20 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN
- 21 Minnehaha Lodge No. 165, EA Degree, Minneapolis, MN
- 25 150th Year Celebration, Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center, Bloomington, MN
- 28 Minneapolis Mounted Commandery, Minneapolis, MN
- 29 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 30 AMD, Minneapolis, MN

September

- 1 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 2 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
- 3 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 4 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 5 Cey-Note' #23 Stated, Bloomington, MN
- 7 Dan Patch Masonic Club, Bloomington, MN
- 10 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
- 10 Minnehaha OES Event, Rosemount, MN
- 11 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 11 Omega Council No. 9, Minneapolis, MN
- 12 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN

- 13 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
- 14 Noble Stone Court No. 106, Minneapolis, MN
- 14 Minnehaha Lodge No. 165 Open House, Minneapolis, MN
- 15 Omega Council No. 9 Waffle Breakfast, Minneapolis, MN
- 17 Nicollet Lodge No. 54, St. Peter, MN
- 18 Prince Hall Grand Session, Bloomington, MN
- 19 – 22 South Dakota Grand York Rite Sessions, Sioux Falls, SD
- 25 Phoenix Daylight No. 350 Meeting, Savage, MN
- 25 Minneapolis Mounted Commandery, Minneapolis, MN
- 27 – 28 Wisconsin Grand Council Session, Green Bay, WI
- 30 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN

October

- 1 Minnesota River Valley Lodge No. 6, Savage, MN
- 2 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 3 Cey-Note' #23 Stated, New Brighton, MN
- 4 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 5 Scottish Rite Council of Kadosh Feast, Minneapolis, MN
- 6 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 8 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
- 8 Austin Council No. 7 & Chapter No. 14, Austin, MN
- 9 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 9 Omega Council No. 9 & Ark Chapter No. 53, Minneapolis, MN
- 10 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 11 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
- 12 Knight Masons, UCCE & HRAKTP, Owatonna, MN
- 13 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 14 Minneapolis Council No. 2, Minneapolis, MN
- 15 MMES Board Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 15 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN
- 16 Minnehaha Lodge No. 165, MM Degree, Minneapolis, MN
- 18 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 19 Red Cross of Constantine, Minneapolis, MN
- 23 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 23 Minneapolis Mounted Commandery, Minneapolis, MN
- 25-27 North Central Conference, Sioux Falls, SD
- 29 Educational Lodge No. 1002, Anoka, MN

November

- 1 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 2 York Rite College & KYCH, Minneapolis, MN
- 2 Minnehaha Hiram Award Dinner, Minneapolis, MN
- 3 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN

4 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
 4 Red Wing Lodge No. 8, Red Wing, MN
 5 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
 6 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
 7 Cey-Note' #23, St. Louis Park, MN
 8 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
 10 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
 11 MMC Veterans Day Observance, Bloomington, MN
 11 Minneapolis Council No. 2, Minneapolis, MN
 12 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
 12 Nelson Lodge No. 135, Buffalo, MN
 13 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
 13 Omega Council & Ark Chapter Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
 14 Grand Court of Amaranth Session, Bloomington, MN
 15 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
 17 Grand Session Planning Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
 18 St. Cloud Chapter No. 10, St. Cloud, MN
 19 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN
 20 Ark Council No. 3 & Austin Council No. 7, Geneva, MN
 21 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
 23 Keystone Chapter No. 20, Duluth, MN
 24 Minnehaha No. 165 Installation, Minneapolis, MN
 25 North Field Council No.12, Farmington, MN
 27 Minneapolis Mounted Commandery, Minneapolis, MN

December

1 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
 2 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
 3 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
 4 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
 5 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
 6 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
 7 Anoka Lodge No. 30 Installation, Anoka, MN
 7 Cyrene Commandery Christmas Observance, Owatonna, MN
 8 Cey-Note' #23 Stated, Minneapolis, MN
 8 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
 9 Minneapolis Council No. 2, Minneapolis, MN
 10 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
 10 MMES Board Meeting, Bloomington, MN
 11 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
 11 Omega Council & Ark Chapter Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
 14 Masonic Order of Athelstan, Minneapolis, MN
 14 Excelsior Lodge Rose Dinner, Excelsior, MN
 15 Ivenhoe Commandery Christmas Observance, St. Peter, MN
 17 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN

- 18 MMC Audit & Finance Committee, Bloomington, MN
- 19 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Planning Meeting, Savage, MN
- 20 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 30 AMD, Minneapolis, MN

January

- 2 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 3 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 4 Joint Installation Lake Harriet & Excelsior Lodges, Minneapolis, MN
- 5 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Installation, Savage, MN
- 5 Cey-Note' #23, St. Paul, MN
- 6 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
- 7 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 8 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 8 Omega Council & Ark Chapter Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
- 9 Rush City Chapter No. 87, Cambridge, MN
- 10 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
- 11 Runestone Summit, Minneapolis, MN
- 11 St. Paul Council No. 1 & Minnesota Chapter No. 1 Installation, St. Paul, MN
- 12 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 13 St. Paul Council No. 1, St. Paul, MN
- 14 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
- 17 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 20 Grand Session Planning Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 21 MMES Board Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 22 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN
- 27 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 28 MMC Audit & Finance Committee, Bloomington, MN
- 29 Iron Range Chapter No. 70, Grand Rapids, MN

February

- 1 One Day to Royal Arch, Minneapolis, MN
- 2 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 3 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
- 4 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 5 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 7 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 9 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN

- 10 St. Paul Council No. 1, St. Paul, MN
- 11 National Sojourners Chapter No. 25, Richfield, MN
- 12 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 12 Omega Council & Ark Chapter Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
- 14 Zuhrah Shrine, Minnetonka, MN
- 18 Cey-Note' #23, Minneapolis, MN
- 19 Ark Council No. 3 & Austin Council No. 7, Austin, MN
- 21 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 22 One Day to Cryptic Council, Minneapolis, MN
- 26 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 26 Zabud Council No. 10, Anoka, MN
- 29 Alpha Council No. 8, Fergus Falls, MN

March

- 1 Grand Council Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 2 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, Chanhassen, MN
- 3 Scottish Rite, Minneapolis, MN
- 4 Minnehaha No. 165, Minneapolis, MN
- 6 Minnehaha OES, Minneapolis, MN
- 7 One Day to Templary, Minneapolis, MN
- 8 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Bloomington, MN
- 9 Minneapolis Council No. 2, Minneapolis, MN
- 11 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350, Savage, MN
- 11 Fraternal Lodge No. 92, Princeton, MN
- 12 Rush City Chapter No. 87, Cambridge, MN
- 14 Masonic Order of Athelstan, Minneapolis, MN
- 26 Zuhrah Shrine Membership Committee, video conference
- 30 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Officers Meeting, video conference

April

- 1 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 5 Grand Council Officers Meeting, video conference
- 8 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 15 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, video conference
- 19 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, video conference
- 21 MMC Audit & Finance Committee, video conference
- 21 MMES Board Meeting, video conference
- 21 Cey-Note' #23, video conference
- 22 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 25 Knight Masons Meeting, video conference

May

- 3 Grand Council Officers Meeting, video conference
- 4 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 6 Minnehaha No. 165, video conference
- 7 Grand Council Recorders Meeting, video conference
- 10 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, video conference
- 11 St. Paul Council No. 1, video conference
- 12 Grand Session Planning Committee Meeting, video conference
- 13 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 27 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference

June

- 1 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 3 Minnehaha No. 165, video conference
- 7 Grand Council Officers Meeting, video conference
- 10 Phoenix Daylight Lodge No. 350 Meeting, video conference
- 11 Grand Council Recorders Meeting, video conference
- 14 Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, video conference

Grand Treasurer's Report

Cryptic Masons of Minnesota				
2019-2020 BUDGET				
INCOME		Budget	Actual	Difference
Per Capita				
\$15.00/Per Member + Gen Gr @\$2.50 = \$17.50	431	\$ 7,542.50	\$ 7,647.50	\$ 105.00
Life Member Per Capita	228	\$ 3,990.00	\$ 2,702.51	\$ (1,287.49)
Greetings Fees at \$15.00 each	41	\$ 615.00	\$ 405.00	\$ (210.00)
150th Anniversary Income		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,397.80	\$ (602.20)
Miscellaneous Income		\$ 957.50	\$ 887.31	\$ (70.19)
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 17,105.00	\$ 15,040.12	\$ (2,064.88)
Investment Income				
Life Membership Enrollments	Pass Through		\$ 1,692.50	\$ 1,692.50
Life Membership Contribution		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 17,105.00	\$ 16,732.62	\$ (372.38)
EXPENSES				
GRAND OFFICERS EXPENSES				
Illustrious Grand Master		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Deputy Grand Master		\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work		\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	\$ -
Grand Treasurer/Grand Recorder		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Grand Arch Master		\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ (200.00)
Triennial Fund		\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ -
Grand Masters Apron and Jewel		\$ 550.00	\$ 1,375.05	\$ 825.05
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,125.05	\$ 625.05
Rent/ Shared with Grand Ram		\$ 775.00	\$ 782.00	\$ 7.00
Internet/Web Site/ Shared		\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 50.00
Supplies		\$ 500.00	\$ 78.03	\$ (421.97)
Postage		\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ (150.00)
Proceedings		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ (100.00)
Computer, Printer, and Software		\$ 600.00	\$ 491.56	\$ (108.44)
150th Expenses		\$ 4,500.00	\$ 5,748.03	\$ 1,248.03
General Meeting Expense		\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ (600.00)
Grand Session Expense		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,797.60	\$ 597.60
York Rite Display Expense		\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ (150.00)
Printing		\$ 300.00	\$ 247.17	\$ (52.83)
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 8,975.00	\$ 9,294.39	\$ 319.39
General Grand Council per-capita	700-34LM to GGCCMI @ \$2.50 Each	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 1,567.50	\$ (12.50)
Life Membership to Investments		\$ -	\$ 1,570.00	\$ 1,570.00
Bond		\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Insurance		\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ (400.00)
Awards	Jobies - Demolay - Youth Award	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ -
General Grand Council Life Membership	Pass Through		\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 3,912.50	\$ 1,282.50
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 17,105.00	\$ 19,331.94	\$ 2,226.94
	TOTAL INCOME MINUS EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ (2,599.32)	\$ (2,599.32)

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota
BALANCE SHEET
 As of May 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Checking	5,203.10
1001 Checking - WF Triennial Fund	900.00
1002 Checking - WF 150th Anniversary Fund	0.00
Total 1000 Checking	6,103.10
Total Bank Accounts	\$6,103.10
Total Current Assets	\$6,103.10
TOTAL ASSETS	\$6,103.10
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	6,384.30
Retained Earnings	1,868.12
Net Income	-2,149.32
Total Equity	\$6,103.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$6,103.10

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota

PROFIT AND LOSS

July 2019 - May 2020

	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Per Capita dues	10,350.01
4002 Life membership enrollments	1,692.50
4010 Greeting fees	405.00
4011 Miscellaneous income	20.00
4014 MIPGM Jewels	687.51
4015 Thrice Illustrious Master Income	90.00
4035 Banquet Sales	3,397.80
Sales	11.30
Uncategorized Income	78.50
Total Income	\$16,732.62
GROSS PROFIT	\$16,732.62
Expenses	
5001 Illustrious Grand Master	1,500.00
5002 Deputy Grand Master	750.00
5003 Grand Principal Conductor of the Work	550.00
5004 Grand Treasurer / Grand Recorder	1,500.00
5022 MIPGM Jewel Expense	1,375.05
6000 Rent/Shared Expenses with Grand RAM	932.00
6001 Supplies	38.03
6004 Computer, printer, and Software	491.56

6009 Thrice Illustrious Master Supplies	40.00
6010 150th Anniversary Fund	5,748.03
6012 Grand Session expenses	1,797.60
6014 Printing	247.17
7000 General Grand Council Per Capita	1,567.50
7002 Bond	200.00
7004 Awards	150.00
7010 New Life Memberships	1,570.00
7020 General Grand Council Life Membership	125.00
7030 Charitable Contributions	1,087.67
7031 CMMRF Contributions	-787.67
Total Expenses	\$18,881.94
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -2,149.32
NET INCOME	\$ -2,149.32

Notes:

The difference between the total on the 2019 – 2020 budget and this sheet is \$450.00 which is the Triennial fund which in QuickBooks comes out as a transfer to a different account within the program, and in the budget it is part of the expenses.

We also had money set aside from each of the last four years for the 150th Anniversary celebration, and here as our accounting is on a cash basis, all the expenses show up in one year.

The MIPGM Jewels – we purchased Jewels for the next several years and a few have been sold to Past Illustrious Grand Masters.

Because of the unusual circumstances this year, with the virtual meeting the financial reports were closed out a month early. We see no large changes happening in the month of June.

Marvin W. Schendel
Grand Treasurer / Recorder

Cryptic Masons of Minnesota				
2020-2021 BUDGET				
INCOME		Budget	Actual	Difference
Per Capita				
\$15.00/Per Member + Gen Gr @\$2.50 = \$17.50	422	\$ 7,385.00	\$ -	\$ (7,385.00)
Life Member Per Capita	222	\$ 3,885.00	\$ -	\$ (3,885.00)
Greetings Fees at \$15.00 each	41	\$ 615.00	\$ -	\$ (615.00)
Miscellaneous Income		\$ 950.00	\$ -	\$ (950.00)
	SUB TOTAL	\$12,835.00	\$ -	\$ (12,835.00)
Investment Income				
Life Membership Enrollments	Pass Through		\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL INCOME	\$12,835.00	\$ -	\$ (12,835.00)
EXPENSES				
GRAND OFFICERS EXPENSES				
Illustrious Grand Master		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Deputy Grand Master		\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ (750.00)
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work		\$ 550.00	\$ -	\$ (550.00)
Grand Treasurer/Grand Recorder		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Grand Treasurer/Grand Recorder Travel		\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ (250.00)
Grand Arch Master		\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ (200.00)
Triennial Fund		\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ (450.00)
Grand Masters Apron and Jewel		\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ (600.00)
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 5,800.00	\$ -	\$ (5,800.00)
Rent/ Shared with Grand Ram				
		\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ (700.00)
Internet/Web Site/ Shared				
		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ (100.00)
Supplies		\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ (600.00)
Postage		\$ 75.00	\$ -	\$ (75.00)
Proceedings		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ (100.00)
Computer, Printer, and Software		\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ (750.00)
General Meeting Expense		\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ (600.00)
Grand Session Expense		\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ (1,200.00)
Printing		\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ (320.00)
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 4,445.00	\$ -	\$ (4,445.00)
General Grand Council per-capita				
	685-35LM to GGCCMI @ \$2.50 Each	\$ 1,540.00	\$ -	\$ (1,540.00)
Bond		\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ (200.00)
Insurance		\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ (400.00)
Awards	Jobies - Demolay - Youth Award	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ (450.00)
General Grand Council Life Membership	Pass Through		\$ -	\$ -
	SUB TOTAL	\$ 2,590.00	\$ -	\$ (2,590.00)
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,835.00	\$ -	\$ (12,835.00)
	TOTAL INCOME MINUS EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Report of the Trustees

Report of the Trustees, 2019 – 2020

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota.

It has been with great pleasure to serve our officers and members of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota as your Trustees. 2019 – 2020 completes an 8-year service to the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota. We sincerely hope that your Grand Council Officers and membership of the respective Councils of Cryptic Masons in Minnesota have found value in the work that your Trustees have done for you since we began in 2012.

The Trustees communicated throughout the year serving the needs of Grand Officers, attending Grand Officers' meetings, Cryptic Rite Medical Research Fund, our Councils of Cryptic Masons in Minnesota, Grand Council of Cryptic Masons finances and investments. There were various topics of advisory were discussed.

On the investment side of your Grand Council:

January 1, 2019 Investment Fund Value: \$67,576.80 includes Life Membership Fund
June 30, 2019 Investment Fund Value: \$71,767.03 includes Life Membership Fund
December 31, 2019 Investment Fund Value: \$74,400.00 includes Life Membership Fund
March 31, 2020 Investment Fund Value: \$64,626.58 includes Life Membership Fund
January 1, 2019 Life Membership Fund Value: \$54,439.98
June 30, 2019 Life Membership Fund Value: \$58,059.53
December 31, 2019 Life Membership Fund Value: \$60,189.60
March 31, 2020 Life Membership Fund Value: \$53,947.50

Our Companions did not acquire life Memberships in 2019. Interesting to point out in 2014 our Life Membership portion of our Grand Council Investment Fund total was 74.5%. In 2019, our Life Membership portion of our Grand Council Investment total was 80.90%. So far, in 2020, our Life Membership portion grew to 83.09 with the final two installments paid and one fully paid Life Membership.

Our rate of return for our investments in 2019 is 4.49% resulting in \$2,702.51 allocation to our subordinate Councils for their Life Membership per capita. Your Life Membership per capita allocation based upon the December 31, 2019 value of your Life Membership fund of \$60,189.60. $\$60,189.60 \times 4.49\% = \$2,702.51304$ or \$2,702.51 for allocation.

Every month for the past 8 years your Grand Illustrious Master, Grand Recorder, and Trustees receive an investment report compared to the previous month. This report shows total investment, investment instruments, amount in each instrument, percent of total instrument, rate of return on each instrument, and the same for your Life Membership. The one item I stressed 8 years ago was open communication with our investments. The financial stability and accountability are important to all organizations including your Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Miles, PMIGM
Hugh C. Swift, PMIGM
Charles R. Marston, PMIGM

The Tellers report

The tellers reported that they were ready to give the outcome of the elections. Grand Master Carl, then ask if all who wished to vote, had voted. There was no response, at which point, he declared the ballot box closed.

He then asked for the results

Most Illustrious Grand Master	L. Greg Schultz was elected
Right Illustrious Grand Deputy Master	W. David Emery was elected
Rt. Ill. G. Principal Conductor of the Work	Brian K. Dimatteo was elected
Most Illustrious Grand Treasurer	Marvin W. Schendel, MIPGM was elected
Most Illustrious Grand Recorder	Marvin W. Schendel, MIPGM was elected
Most Illustrious Grand Trustee - 3 Yr Term	Gary A. Odegard., MIPGM was elected

Grand Master Carl then thanked the tellers and ordered them to destroy the ballots, and then thanked them for their service and dismissed them.

The Grand Recorder's Report

The 150th Anniversary Celebration was great, Carl Lidstrom put together a wonderful party. The challenge coins that were handed out to all who attended look good and the Bible Markers, which are an enlargement of the coin are a great addition to the Councils of Minnesota, it is hoped that each Council uses them on their open Bible during their meetings.

The One Day to Council this last February was wonderful, Joe Anderson worked hard to put on a great cast, who did great work for all the candidates. Welcome the new candidates to your Council, and make sure that they have an opportunity to participate.

Thank you, Companion Recorders, for all your help and hard work this year.

St Paul – Peter Laudert, Minneapolis – Joe Anderson, Ark – Steven Partridge, Tyrian – Zeb Dudek, Duluth – Alan Mackenzie, Austin – John Fair, Alpha – Stan Fetters, Omega – Carl Lidstrom, Zabud – W. David Emery, Northfield – Jerry Zierdt, Central – Clinton Firstbrook, III,

The Recorders and I have started to meet virtually each month, I have found this very helpful for me and the Council Recorders. The meetings add one more means of communication and interaction.

The job of Recorder involves more than just taking minutes and reports, it is tracking all the members. The Recorder does a lot of work behind the scenes to make your Council work, anything that you can do to help your Recorder is greatly appreciated by them and myself.

It has been interesting working on a virtual annual meeting and I believe that it will all go well, The registration seems to be going very good and I hope that all will find the session informative. Thank you for all of your cooperation and understanding.

The 2020 – 2021 Budget shows very little change from the previous year and is a balanced budget. Your Grand Council is working to keep expenses down while providing for all the necessary tools that are needed by both the Grand Council and the Constituent Councils of Minnesota.

We have a good space at the Masonic Home, and I am looking forward to it being utilized to the fullest, as soon as the Home opens up again we can get in and complete the clean up and organizing.

Marvin W. Schendel
Grand Treasurer / Recorder

The Grand Recorder's Business Report

We started off the year with 659 members we had 26 greetings, 1 restoration , and 5 joined other Councils total gains 32

We had 18 deaths, 11 demits, 15 NPDs, total losses 44, net loss of 12 for a total membership at the end of the year of 647

2019 MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS													
	1/1/2019	Greetings	Restored	Joined	2019 Gains	Demit	NPD	Death	2019 Losses	Net	Total Members	%	Living LM
St Paul 1	103	5	0	2	7	4	1	3	8	-1	102	0.99029	20
Minneapolis 2	129	6	0	0	6	1	3	1	5	1	130	1.00775	31
Ark 3	53	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	6	-6	47	0.88679	18
Tyrian 4	33	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	33	1	11
Duluth 6	74	2	0	0	2	3	2	2	7	-5	69	0.93243	19
Austin 7	17	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	-1	16	0.94118	9
Alpha 8	54	4	0	0	4	0	1	1	2	2	56	1.03704	17
Omega 9	21	1	0	1	2	1	0	2	3	-1	20	0.95238	2
Zabud 10	47	5	1	1	7	1	1	1	3	4	51	1.08511	18
Northfield 12	65	3	0	0	3	0	2	5	7	-4	61	0.93846	19
Central 14	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	1	23
Red Rock 16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	-1	15	0.9375	14
Totals	659	26	1	5	32	11	15	18	44	-12	647		201
* Corrected number from previous years													
Small Council = 49 or less members Large Council = 50 or more members													
Small Council most new % Companions Greeted - Omega #9													
Large Council most new % Companions Greeted - Zabud #10													

The Large Council with the largest percentage gain was Zabud Council No. 10

And the Small Council with the largest percentage gain was Omega Council No. 9

All of the Councils have submitted their reports on time and they have all paid their per capita for 2019.

MINNESOTA GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS

NECROLOGY REPORT

2019 - 2020

TO: THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND CRYPTIC COUNCIL OF MINNESOTA

It is that time of year when we look back and remember all those Companions who have passed. It is also a time of celebration and joy for those who have completed their time on earth and now rest with the Great Architect of the Universe.

The following Companions have laid down their working tools

Walter A. Jergensen – 7-6-19, Edward Zink – 8-30-19, John A. Noid – 11-6-19, David W. Dahlgren – 7-4-19, MIC Kevin V. Jones – 11-14-19, Stephen Neiswanger – 12-31-19, Leslie Lassila – 12-10-19, Lloyd E. Hanson – 6-12-19, Robert J. Pemberton – 12-23-19, John G. Boosalis – 8-1-19, William G. Boosalis – 12-1-19, Larry J. Wills – 10-12-19, Wallace C. Berger 1-28-20.

I ask that you keep each one of them in your thoughts and prayers along with their families remembering that our time here on earth is short and no one knows when our time may come.

As we enjoy this Grand Session may we keep in mind all of those who have gone to be with the Great Architect of the Universe.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernon Schwalbe

Grand Chaplain

Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

MIC Kevin Victor Jones

September 10, 1928 to November 14, 2019



Kevin Victor Jones 91, of Grand Rapids, MN passed away on November 14, 2019, at The Lodge at Grand Village.

Kevin was born in 1928 to Alfred and Nellie Jones in Truman, MN. Kevin grew up in southern Minnesota and Iowa in farm country. He attended Waldorf Junior College before enlisting in the United States Air Force where he served during the Korean Conflict. On February 1, 1952, he was united in marriage to Betty Carstensen and was stationed in England. After his discharge, Kevin worked for Diamond Match Co. in California as a manager of several lumber yards. Kevin earned two bachelor's degrees from Mankato State and his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. Kevin and Betty moved to Grand Rapids where he was employed as an instructor at Itasca Community College from 1970 until his retirement in 1991. After retirement, Kevin enjoyed repairing and refinishing old furniture and antiques.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; and three sisters. Kevin is survived by his wife of 67 years, Betty; daughter, Kay (Robert) Olson; granddaughter, Joan (Andrew) Olson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Kevin was a member of the Community Presbyterian Church and a 50 year member of the American Legion.

Kevin's Masonic History

Kevin was a 50 year member of Itasca Lodge 208, A.F. & A.M. of Grand Rapids, MN, he was also a Past Master and longtime Chaplain, he was Worthy Patron of the Mesaba Chapter #211 Order of Eastern Star of Hibbing, MN, he was a member of the Duluth Valley of the Scottish Rite, he was a Past High Priest of Pokegema Chapter and Keystone Chapter #20, Duluth, and received the degree of Order of High Priesthood, he was a life member of Tri-State (MN, WI, MI – UP) Chapter, Past Illustrious Master of Duluth Council #6, he was a Thrice Illustrious Master, and received the Ish-Sodi degree, and Past Commander of Duluth Commandery #18, he was awarded the Knight Templar Cross of Honor, he was a member of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest, he was the Secretary and Recorder of the Duluth York Rite Bodies for a many years.

He was a member of the Knight York Grand Cross of Honor, with two quadrants, he was a member of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, which awarded him the Order of the Purple Cross, he was a Knight Mason, Minnesota Council #34, and the Allied Masonic Degrees, he was a member of St. Olaf Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, also a member of the North Star College, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. He was a member of AAD Shrine Temple, and the North Star Shrine Club in Grand Rapids.

Kevin served as the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota in 1990 – 1991 Term, he was awarded the Ephraim Kirby Award by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons Int'l., he also served as the Illustrious Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota in the 2004 – 2005 Term, he was awarded the Knight for the Preservation of the Temple by the General Grand Council, Int'l. and he served as the Minnesota Ambassador for the General Grand Council, Int'l.

Report of Awards Committee

All elected Illustrious Masters who have been elected and served as Illustrious Master of their Council are eligible to receive the Thrice Illustrious Master degree which will be held at a future date.

Those elected by their Councils to receive the Ish-Sodi are

Todd Leek – St Paul Council

David Kampf – Minneapolis Council

Trent Gilbertson – Zabud Council

Clinton J. Christensen – Northfield Council

The recipient of the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award for 2020 is:

Alan Mackenzie

The recipient of the Adult Youth Leadership Award is:

Tony R. Krall

The recipient of the Minnesota Youth Award is:

Tarrance Aaron

CMMRF Report

**To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Council of Cryptic
Masons of Minnesota.**

Companions, The Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation is currently involved in cutting edge research on Peripheral Artery Disease, Stroke, COPD, Heart Failure, Juvenile Diabetes, and Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms. These conditions affect the lives of millions of Americans each year. Your donations are a huge part of making this research happen. Thank you for your continuing support of the CMMRF. In my report I have included the 2019 Foundation report, a Thank you Letter from Indiana University, and an updated history of the CMMRF. It has truly been an honor to serve on this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Douglas Beach
Grand Steward

HISTORY OF THE CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.

The Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation, (CMMRF), was incorporated in the state of Oklahoma, March 6, 1986. The driving force behind this new corporation was Most Puissant General Grand Master Ben Mandlebaum, of the General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons International. Companion Joe Lewis, Attorney at Law, was instrumental in quickly getting the Foundation a tax exempt status. CMMRF also had a tax attorney, James A. Hogue, PMIGM in Oklahoma. These men generously donated their time to the initial start-up of the Foundation. Earlier, at the meeting of the "General Grand Council Benevolent Foundation, Inc. held on November 11, 1985, Marion Keith Crum, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Cryptic Masons of Indiana, was elected Executive Secretary of the Foundation. Most Illustrious Companion Crum continued to faithfully serve in this position until his retirement in October 2012, a period of almost twenty-seven years.

CMMRF funds research at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana. Initial research focused on the cause(s) and eventually a cure for atherosclerosis and its complications. In later years, the research has implemented adult stem cell therapies to address a variety of mature health issues but not necessarily restricted to the adult population. This research was previously funded by an Indiana corporation, which ceased to do business upon the death of Dr. Owen L. Shanteau, October 17, 1985. While CMMRF is not a part of that preceding organization and the

General Grand Council was not its governing body, CMMRF is continuing the good work that it started. Dr. Shanteau met with Dr. Nils Bang at the Indiana University Medical Center in 1978 and discussed this new venture. Dr. Shanteau was able to give a grant of \$12,000.00 a year to this project, which was being done on a part time basis. The former Foundation gave the Medical Center grants totaling \$96,000.00.

Dr. Nils Bang, one of the founding researchers connected with the program, suggested that the most efficient way of investing the money donated by The Cryptic Masons International was to invest it in the salaries of young, talented investigators. Many of these investigators had papers summarizing their work accepted for presentation at the prestigious national conference of the American Federation for Clinical Research. (In order to have papers accepted, the subject matter must have been about new findings, not previously published.) All of these Doctors have moved on to more substantial positions and are no longer at Indiana University. CMMRF assumes they are still using their experience in the various fields of research.

At the February 1996 Board of Trustees meeting in Washington D.C. The Board agreed to fund a Chair at the Indiana University Medical Center at the cost of one million dollars. CMMRF contributed two hundred thousand dollars a year for five years to endow the chair. The final payment was made in December of 2000. The University offered as an incentive to guarantee a five per cent income on the endowment plus matching it with a five percent payout from the endowment.

Sometime in 2001-2002 the CMMRF-sponsored laboratory became the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine, (ICVBM). After a 3-year search for the best person to fill this newly created Chair, Dr. Keith March was selected. The creation of an endowed chair and this new Center attracted more than \$2,000,000 from non-Masonic sources. Dr. March served in this position until his resignation September 30, 2017. After an in-depth search, Dr. Jay Hess, Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine, announced on July 17, 2018, that Dr. Michael P. Murphy had been selected as the next holder of the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation Chair.

In 2007, a non-Masonic benefactor challenged CMMRF to match his \$50,000.00 donation to the Indiana Center of Vascular Biology and Medicine. By meeting his challenge, CMMRF contributed \$300,000.00 to ICVBM in 2007. In 2008 a Cryptic Mason donated \$20,000.00 which CMMRF matched and it enabled CMMRF to give \$240,000.00 to the Center for research. Today, upon requests, CMMRF will match \$5,000 donations, up to \$25,000.

Contributions are urgently needed. Most CMMRF donations are voluntary. Only three known jurisdictions have included CMMRF in their per capita dues. This is a decision that must be made by each Grand Council and not the General Grand Council. (CMMRF recommends that each jurisdiction consider this a worthy cause to be added to its per capita dues.) This is one reason a life sponsor program is not attractive to our members, we cannot offer them a savings for being a life sponsor. Contributions to CMMRF are tax deductible and that does have some appeal. CMMRF encourages all individuals as well as Cryptic Masons and their families to consider remembering CMMRF in their estate planning.

From time to time CMMRF publishes and makes available upon request, updated brochures, flyers, and supplementary information. Currently, research videos are downloadable from our web site, www.cmmrf.org.

In recognition of donations to CMMRF, there are six lapel pins presented to contributors for donations totaling \$50.00, \$100.00, \$150.00, \$300.00, \$500.00 and \$750.00. A plaque is presented to the Council or individual for a \$1,000.00 donation. An individual receives a gold filled 9 Arch Pin with a diamond chip for each additional \$1,000.00. After the first \$1,000.00 a Council is presented with an extender bar for its plaque for each additional \$1,000.00. These donations may be a onetime gift or an accumulation over the years since 1986.

The Board of Trustees meets at least once a year. The General Grand Master serves as the President during his triennial. The current President is David A. Grindle., MPGGM. The Executive Secretary is Gary G. Wyne, (PMIGM, Indiana), P.O. Box 1489 Nashville, IN 47448.

Each year CMMRF has continued to grow in financial assets. Expenses are paid from investment income. As of December 31, 2019, CMMRF has received \$6,205,770.75 in contributions. CMMRF has more than \$3,788,565.90 in financial assets. CMMRF has given the Indiana University School of

Medicine in excess of \$4,589,464.86. Prior to restructuring the foundation in 1986, the former foundation had given \$96,000.00 to the Medical Center for research. Cryptic Masons have given more than \$4,685,464.86 in grants from 1978 to the present time. Income from investments helps to fund these grants.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Foundation. CMMRF could not achieve its goals without your help.



2019 CMMRF Annual Report

TOP TEN (10) STATES IN CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1) Florida \$77,850.00 Dayle Schrock , Chairman
- 2) Indiana \$32,632.41 Todd Carpenter , Chairman
- 3) Kentucky \$17,690.50 Douglas Bunch , Chairman
- 4) California \$14,835.75 Brett MacDonald , Chairman
- 5) Oregon \$13,402.36 Loren Schrock , Chairman
- 6) Tennessee \$12,431.91 S. Wayne Elder , Chairman
- 7) Colorado \$9,545.68 Robert Gregory , Chairman
- 8) Georgia \$6,704.66 Robert (Rusty) Cordle , Chairman
- 9) New Mexico \$5,865.70 Stephen Balke , Chairman
- 10) Oklahoma \$5,149.36 Kevin Bardy , Chairman

GOLD PINS WITH A DIAMOND REPRESENTING EACH \$1,000.00 IN DONATIONS WERE EARNED BY:

Carl Gilmore Florida 21 Diamonds	Robert St. John Florida 6 Diamonds
Michael Stoner Indiana 19 Diamonds	Joe Rouse Arkansas 5 Diamonds
Dr. Wallace Mays Georgia 18 Diamonds	Charles D. Wood Jr. Indiana 5 Diamonds
Herald Reid Oregon 17 Diamonds	James Bard Georgia 4 Diamonds
Glenn E. Chandler Florida 16 Diamonds	Sean Jones Indiana 4 Diamonds
John Pickford Florida 16 Diamonds	David Ulrich Indiana 4 Diamonds
Alfred Mueller Jr. Florida 13 Diamonds	Peter Champion California 3 Diamonds
Gavin B. Reid Oregon 13 Diamonds	Eric G. Cole Florida 3 Diamonds
Gary Wyne Indiana 12 Diamonds	Gordon A. Davids Maryland 3 Diamonds
S. Wayne Elder Tennessee 11 Diamonds	John L. Logan Oklahoma 3 Diamonds
Charles Hollinger Florida 10 Diamonds	John Rafine Maryland 3 Diamonds
Wm Paul Wilson Arkansas 10 Diamonds	Thomas Rawsthorne Florida 3 Diamonds
Loren E. Schrock Oregon 9 Diamonds	John A. Bridegroom Indiana 2 Diamonds
John P. Ridenour Oregon 8 Diamonds	Howard T. Burgess S.Carolina 2 Diamonds
Paul W. Friend Florida 7 Diamonds	Todd Carpenter Indiana 2 Diamonds

James V. Jones Kentucky 7 Diamonds
Lloyd D. Newman Florida 7 Diamonds
Thomas A. Olsen Florida 7 Diamonds
Robert Gregory Colorado 6 Diamonds
David Miller Indiana 6 Diamonds

James R. Catania Indiana 2 Diamonds
John I. Gray Florida 2 Diamonds
Jerry Miller Florida 2 Diamonds
Tuoc Pham California 2 Diamonds

THE FOLLOWING PINS WERE AWARDED:

Bronze \$50.00 -> \$99.99 75 Donors Achieved
Bronze with Stone \$100.00 -> 149.99 70 Donors Achieved
Silver \$150.00 -> \$299.99 43 Donors Achieved
Silver with Stone \$300.00 -> \$499.99 33 Donors Achieved
Gold \$500.00 -> \$749.99 25 Donors Achieved
Gold with Stone \$750.00 -> \$999.99 21 Donors Achieved

PLAQUES WERE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

404 NC Robert Mullis 412 FL Robert W. Dennard
405 IN Frank E. Capler Jr. 413 FL John H. Donohoo
406 IN Charles R. Bowling 414 VT David W. Schuler
407 FL Jerry Miller 415 IN Chris Gamblin
408 NM Stephen Balke 416 IN Raymond A. Sipe
409 IN Stephen P. Kroman 417 TN Justin Huggins
410 SD Richard McBride 418 CA Eduardo Estrada
411 IN Todd Carpenter 419 FL Robert H. Eisenhardt

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILS AND ORGANIZATIONS EARNED PLAQUES:

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILS AND ORGANIZATIONS EARNED PLAQUES:

Colorado

Colorado Grand Chapter, OES
Harmony Lodge Council No. 61

Florida

NE FL YRC Council No. 114
St. Honore Conclave, RCC

New Hampshire Adoniram Council No. 3
Oklahoma Mysterious Nine Council No. 61

South Dakota Missouri River Council No. 11

Tennessee

Georgia Summit Council No. 19
Indiana Montgomery Council No. 34
Kentucky Somerset Council No. 68
Minnesota Omega Council No. 9

Jackson Council No. 13
Greeneville Council No. 77
Tullahoma Council No. 102
Park Ave Council No. 108
Lebanon Council No. 109

Mississippi Luther Walker Council No. 57 Vermont Burlington Council No. 5

SUBSEQUENT DONATIONS OF \$1,000.00 EXTENDER BARS AWARDED TO:

Alabama

Mobile Council No. 12 - 1 Bar(s)
Metro Council No. 43 - 1 Bar(s)
Dothan Council No. 68 - 1 Bar(s)

Arkansas

Occidental Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
English Council No. 14 - 1 Bar(s)
Gideon Council No. 65 - 1 Bar(s)
Paul C. Bush Council No. 80 - 2 Bar(s)

Arizona

Phoenix Council No. 4 - 1 Bar(s)
Agaman Council No. 12 - 1 Bar(s)

California

California Council No. 2 - 1 Bar(s)
Omega Council No. 11 - 1 Bar(s)
Oakland Council No. 12 - 1 Bar(s)
Orange County Council No. 14 - 1 Bar(s)
Ventura Council No. 15 - 1 Bar(s)
Scottsville Council No. 105 - 1 Bar(s)
Pacific Council No. 37 - 1 Bar(s)
San Luis Obispo Council No. 38 - 2 Bar(s)
Alpha Council No. 39 - 1 Bar(s)
Yosemite Lodge Council No. 99 - 2 Bar(s)

Colorado

Denver Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
Tyrian Council No. 11 - 1 Bar(s)
Larimer County Council No. 21 - 1 Bar(s)
Centennial YR College No. 87 - 1 Bar(s)

Connecticut

Wolcott Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)

Delaware

Gunning Bedford Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
Joppa Council No. 3 - 1 Bar(s)

Florida (1)

Hallmark Council No. 3 - 3 Bar(s)
Greensboro Council No. 3 - 1 Bar(s)
Tyler Council No. 4 - 1 Bar(s)
Orlando Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)
Union Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)
Tampa Council No. 8 - 2 Bar(s)
Bradentown Council No. 9 - 1 Bar(s)
Adoniram Council No. 10 - 1 Bar(s)
Polk Council No. 11 - 1 Bar(s)

Florida (2)

St. Augustine Council No. 15 - 1 Bar(s)
Lauderdale Council No. 24 - 1 Bar(s)
Ft. Myers Council No. 25 - 1 Bar(s)
Gulf Council No. 29 - 2 Bar(s)
Seminole Council No. 30 - 2 Bar(s)
Marianna Council No. 31 - 1 Bar(s)
Crestview Council No. 33 - 1 Bar(s)
Clearwater Council No. 34 - 3 Bar(s)
Tyrian Council No. 36 - 4 Bar(s)
Melbourne Council No. 38 - 2 Bar(s)
Lawtey Council No. 39 - 1 Bar(s)
Heartland Council No. 43 - 1 Bar(s)

Indiana

Ft. Wayne Council No. 4 - 3 Bar(s)
LaPorte Council No. 32 - 1 Bar(s)
Columbus Council No. 54 - 2 Bar(s)
Kokomo Council No. 60 - 1 Bar(s)
Valparaiso Council No. 86 - 5 Bar(s)
Bloomington Council No. 87 - 2 Bar(s)
Noblesville Council No. 89 - 1 Bar(s)
Greenfield Council No. 94 - 2 Bar(s)
Prather Council No. 100 - 1 Bar(s)
Forrest A. Wakeman Council No. 110 - 3 Bar(s)
Hamilton Council No. 114 - 1 Bar(s)

Kentucky

Jeffries Council No. 33 - 1 Bar(s)
Cumberland Council No. 77 - 1 Bar(s)
Bullitt Council No. 114 - 1 Bar(s)

Maryland

Concordia Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
Hiram Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)
Enoch Council No. 10 - 1 Bar(s)
Harmony Council No. 20 - 1 Bar(s)

Maine

Maine Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)
St. Croix Council No. 11 - 1 Bar(s)

Michigan

Marine City Council No. 59 - 1 Bar(s)

Minnesota

St. Paul Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)

Mississippi

Laurel Council No. 43 - 1 Bar(s)
Barney Trice Council No. 48 - 1 Bar(s)

North Carolina

Munson Council No. 4 - 1 Bar(s)
Enoch Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)

Nebraska

Omaha Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
Hastings Council No. 8 - 1 Bar(s)

New Mexico

Hiram Council No. 1 - 2 Bar(s)
Santa Fe Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)

Nevada

Capital Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)
Zabud Council No. 10 - 1 Bar(s)
Order of Eastern Star Council - 1 Bar(s)

Oklahoma

Woodward Council No. 52 - 2 Bar(s)

Georgia
Hugh L. Smith Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)
Covington Council No. 41 - 1 Bar(s)
Gwinnett Council No. 44 - 1 Bar(s)
Marietta Council No. 74 - 1 Bar(s)

Hawaii
Honolulu Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)

Iowa
Geba Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)
Joppa Council No. 15 - 1 Bar(s)
Mason City Council No. 45 - 1 Bar(s)

Idaho
Idaho Council No. 1 - 1 Bar(s)
Twin Falls Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)
Jeremiah Council No. 9 - 1 Bar(s)

Oregon
Oregon Council No. 2 - 1 Bar(s)
Union Council No. 5 - 1 Bar(s)
Adoniram Council No. 9 - 3 Bar(s)
Multnomah Council No. 11 - 1 Bar(s)
Columbia Council No. 19 - 1 Bar(s)
Centennial Council No. 24 - 2 Bar(s)

South Carolina
Wynne Council No. 4 - 1 Bar(s)
Blake Council No. 19 - 1 Bar(s)
Living Arch Council No. 32 - 1 Bar(s)

South Dakota
Black Hills Council No. 3 - 1 Bar(s)

Tennessee
Nashville Council No. 1 - 2 Bar(s)
Morristown Chapter Council No. 79 - 1 Bar(s)
Roy Holland Council No. 89 - 1 Bar(s)
Mt. Moriah Council No. 95 - 1 Bar(s)
Pride Council No. 103 - 1 Bar(s)
Kingsport Council No. 117 - 1 Bar(s)

Utah
Ogden Council No. 3 - 1 Bar(s)

Washington
Zadock Council No. 23 - 1 Bar(s)

Wyoming
Adoniram Council No. 7 - 1 Bar(s)

ONE HUNDRED PERCENT CERTIFICATES WERE AWARDED TO:

UP TO \$10 PER MEMBER

Alabama
Phenix City Council No. 82 - \$7.14 per Member

Oregon
Oregon Council No. 2 - \$9 per Member

UP TO \$7 PER MEMBER

Alabama
Tuscaloosa Council No. 4 - \$5.83 per Member

Indiana
Noblesville Council No. 89 - \$6 per Member

UP TO \$5 PER MEMBER

Alabama Mobile Council No. 12 - \$3.31 per Member
 Brundidge Council No. 69 - \$4.10 per Member

Kentucky Cumberland Council No. 77 - \$5 per Member

Oregon Columbia Council No. 19 - \$5 per Member
 Centennial Council No. 24 - \$5 per Member
 Adoniram-OR Council No. 9 - \$5 per Member

Minnesota Austin Council No. 7 - \$4.25 per Member

UP TO \$3 PER MEMBER

Alabama	Montgomery Council No. 3 - \$1 per Member Dothan Council No. 68 - \$1.05 per Member Decatur Council No. 81 - \$1.23 per Member Gadsden Council No. 56 - \$1.47 per Member Florence Council No. 74 - \$1.85 per Member Eureka Council No. 5 - \$2.08 per Member Metro Council No. 43 - \$2.24 per Member
Florida	Seminole Council No. 30 - \$2 per Member
Georgia	Marietta Council No. 74 - \$1 per Member
Kansas	Leavenworth Council No. 1 - \$1.2 per Member Zabud Council No. 4 - \$2.75 per Member
Kentucky	Danville Council No. 3 - \$1 per Member Russellville Council No. 102 - \$1.2 per Member
Oregon	Union Council No. 5 - \$1 per Member Oregon Council No. 2 - \$1 per Member Baker Council No. 16 - \$1 per Member Occidental Council No. 12 - \$3 per Member Hodson Council No. 1 - \$3 per Member

CMMRF INCOME GRANTS TO INDIANA

Contributions \$ 228,779.53
CMMRF Day \$ 5,238.00
Wills / Bequeaths \$ 30,000.00
Misc. Income \$ 4,499.83
TOTAL \$ 268,517.36

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2018 \$ 190,000.00
Total-to-date \$ 5,081,464.86



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Office of the Dean

February 14, 2020

Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation
C/O Gary Wyne
PO Box 210
Brownsburg, IN 46112-0210

Dear Friends:

Hello again from the IU School of Medicine! As we begin a new year and a new decade begins, this seemed like the perfect time to thank you for the incredible support you have given our vascular research program. Vascular issues affect so many areas of the body, and the research happening here at IU will positively affect patients for years and decades to come.

Our vascular program is a team effort, and the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation has been a vital part of that team.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay L. Hess".

Jay L. Hess, M.D., Ph.D., M.H.S.A.
Executive Vice President for University Clinical Affairs
Dean of the School of Medicine
Walter J. Daly Professor
Indiana University

Jurisprudence Committee Report

**To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Officers and Members of the
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota:**

Jurisprudence Committee Report, 2019 – 2020

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota.

It has been with great pleasure to serve our officers and members of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota in our role as members of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Your Jurisprudence Committee did not receive any Resolutions this past year for review,

Regarding Resolutions, your Jurisprudence committee only reviews to ensure that the resolution submitted is in proper format. We are not concerned with the topic or subject matter of the Resolution itself. Resolutions are one of the reasons your Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Minnesota holds its annual meeting.

Jurisprudence Committee has had no further business presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Miles, PMIGM

Charles Marston, PMIGM

Gary A. Odegard, PMIGM

Remarks for the Visiting Dignitaries

North Central Deputy Grand Master, Right Puissant Companion Anthony “AJ” Johnson of Nebraska, thanked Minnesota Grand Council for the hospitality and courtesies shown him these past three years that he has been the North Central Deputy Grand Master. He is sorry that because of the pandemic that he was not able to meet personally with everyone. He recommended that the new officers follow in the footsteps of the past officers and continue the great training program, which should also be a model for other jurisdictions. He then announced that MIC Carl Lidstrom will be his replacement at the North Central Representative for the next triennium.

Right Puissant Companion William G. Snyder, General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work gave a few short remarks and asked that we enter his extended remarks into our proceedings.

**EXTENDED REMARKS OF WILLIAM GENE SNYDER,
GENERAL GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK
PRESENTED TO THE GRAND COUNCIL OF MINNESOTA, JUNE 26, 2020**

I am delighted to have the opportunity to participate in your Grand Council’s session for 2020. I extend to you my appreciation for the great support given to me in my endeavors by many York Rite Masons in Minnesota. I appreciate the efforts of your leadership in Minnesota. I also thank your Grand Recorder for his exemplary efforts and our Regional Deputy General Grand Master for the North Central, AJ Johnson. I look forward to being with you in-person over the next three years if I am advanced to the position of Deputy General Grand Master later this year. While we are under special circumstances in this electronic session, I do ask each of you, as Master Masons and upon all of your further obligations, to maintain my remarks to you as intended for the Good of the Craft and not to be shared with any of the Profane or Unworthy. With that assurance, I will touch upon some dangerous thoughts in my remarks for you to consider. I presented similar remarks to the New Mexico, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas and Florida Grand Councils earlier this year with the same request.

WILL THE SOUL OF FREEMASONRY SURVIVE THIS PANDEMIC?

These are times that try our temperance, fortitude and patience. Bearing in mind that there will yet be justice delivered to us by the Great Architect of the Universe, I suggest to you that this is not the first time that Freemasonry has been confronted by these circumstances. Indeed, we have all been reminded of the pandemic of 1918 to 1920 in which the misnamed Spanish Influenza created havoc and danger throughout not only the world but our Masonic world.

However, I believe that our Ancient Masonic forefathers faced a greater danger and obstruction to our Brotherhood. I call to your attention the Black Plague of the 1300’s. I think that we can all see that having people drop dead at your doorstep or on your village’s streets may have disrupted the regular course of Freemasonry. We can also understand that some of the history or evidence of our Ancient roots was lost or became corrupted during this time period.

While we are often told that King Athelstan's gathering of the Craft in all of its forms in 926 A.D. is just a legend, not a fact, I think otherwise. Because you are the faithful of the York Rite, I believe that you wish that it is a fact, not just a legend.

So, I note that from the holes likely created in the fabric of Freemasonry by the Black Plague years, there was some confusion that followed about the past and the direction for the future. As a fact, we know that there were only two degrees conferred as the core degrees: Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft. Hence, the phrase "as all brothers and fellows have done" is a reference to those times. Permit me to speculate on how the Ancient Masonic World operated and consider these premises.

To be a "Master Mason", one had to actually be chosen to preside over a lodge. As the chosen leader, you were given many of the core lessons of what we now call the York Rite and the Scottish Rite as the Ancient version of a Masonic leadership seminar. There were operative lodges. There were well-hidden speculative lodges. There was Scottish Craft Freemasonry, Irish Freemasonry, English Freemasonry and many others. The confusion resolved by Athelstan now had resumed without true knowledge of the legendary Ancient Charges or a working knowledge of the Masonic Multiverse.

This culminated in the efforts of some fellows in the 1700's who self-styled themselves as the "Ancients" when, in fact, they were the "Revisionists" with the goal of making drastic changes to the way in which Freemasonry would be presented and maintained. They advocated a broader version of Freemasonry, wherein one could be a "Master Mason" without ever having presided over a lodge.

As most of you know, these Ancients succeeded, causing many degrees that had been conferred on Fellowcrafts who were selected by the elders to serve as Masters of local lodges to be cast aside as unnecessary. Unnecessary, because all one needed to aspire to in the New version of Freemasonry was the Master Mason degree and the concomitant Holy Royal Arch. I submit to you that each of the first three degrees of the Capitular Degrees and the entirety of the Cryptic Degrees are lessons derived from those Ancient teachings that were imparted to a new Master of a lodge before the Ancients had their way with our Craft. The same may be true of some portions of the Templar Orders.

In the North American colonies that became the United States, we grudgingly accepted the addition of the Master Mason degree but pointedly kept the Holy Royal Arch as a separate conferral available only for Past Masters of lodges. Over time, that developed into what we call the American York Rite, consisting of the Capitular and Cryptic Degrees and the Templar Orders. Out of this chaos, we have fashioned a system that acts as a United York Rite throughout the rest of the world. I am confident that all of you know of Mackey's viewpoints on the sheer genius of how the four parts (Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery) of the American York Rite serendipitously operate in harmony to give a complete measure of Ancient Craft Masonry to every Master Mason.

Well, I tell you that our HARMONY may be in danger and in danger, not from our enemies on the outside, but from within our ranks.

THE COMING THREAT TO FREEMASONRY AND THE AMERICAN YORK RITE

It is in times that we now face that some bright fellows are sitting at home right now, socially distancing, yet thinking of how they can "improve" the way we present and maintain Freemasonry. In particular, out of the short-sighted perspective of self-interest, I predict that there will be campaigns initiated in the coming months to eliminate parts of the York Rite as

“unnecessary” or to change the concept of the American York Rite. The same will occur with the Scottish Rite and our Grand Lodge systems. Much like the very misguided Shrine effort to broaden their membership base by diluting the quality of their membership, there will be those that claim that we do not need to continue the Cryptic tradition or to require the Royal Arch or Cryptic Degrees before one can receive the Templar knighthood. I submit that this is not the right direction for us to follow. To be sure, we can make some improvements, using the innovations required by the current crisis. However, **I do not want to ever see American Freemasonry lose any part of its York Rite heritage.**

Now before you call the Imperial Potentate or anyone else to tattle on me about my perspective on the Shrine or any other Masonic hierarchy, please note that while I am an ardent member of the Shrine, and a 33rd Degree in the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite, **I hold in due veneration the American York Rite as being equally important. For that matter, I contend that the Cryptic Degrees may not be the most important degrees but they are equally as important as any of our other Rites, degrees or orders. I ask each of you now, which degrees or orders do you want to eliminate? I might as well ask each of you which Masonic charity do you want to eliminate?**

I have spent most of my term working to promote York Rite Unity and to ensure that the American York Rite is the same not only in the United States but throughout the world. The General Grand Council officers have good working relationships with the General Grand Chapter officers and the Grand Encampment. We are building something that is very special and that can endure and prosper throughout our Nation and the World.

Often in the United States, we do not appreciate the vast amount of Masonic knowledge and traditions that are readily made available to our membership through the York Rite. The rest of the world sees its value and are embracing it in its entirety.

However, if we change our American York Rite or break up its harmonious components for short-term gains in membership, this will be a desperate action that will ultimately lead to the end of the uniqueness of the American York Rite. As for legends versus facts, I am a fan of an old John Wayne movie from 1962, The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance. Near the end of that tale of legends versus facts, it is said, “When the Legend becomes the Fact, Print the Legend.” So, therefore, my Brethren and Companions and Sir Knights in attendance, I choose to print the legend in all of its glory. I ask for you to join with me in these next few years as we overcome the challenges to Freemasonry and to preserve the York Rite, the American York Rite, pure and intact.

I have attached to my remarks additional thoughts on the Cryptic Rite for your consideration which you may share with your local Councils.

BONUS REMARKS OF WILLIAM GENE SNYDER

A Case for the THREE Degrees of the Cryptic Rite

It has been traditionally said that there are Nine (9) Degrees that comprise the American York Rite. Those Nine Degrees are the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, (Holy) Royal Arch in the Capitula Rite, the Royal Master and Select Master in the Cryptic Rite, and the Red Cross, Malta and Temple in the Templar Orders. As a result, the Super-Excellent Master Degree is viewed by many as an extra degree that is a wonderful but optional conferral. In most Masonic histories, the Cryptic Rite is left to have only TWO (2) degrees as its foundation. Most often cited is the authority of Albert G. Mackey who contended that since the number 9 is the recognized number of the York Rite for many purposes, there could only be NINE York Rite

Degrees. The Super-Excellent Master (SEM) Degree necessarily had to be relegated to the status of being an optional but beautiful ceremonial degree. Mackey and most of our Cryptic rituals tell our candidates that the SEM has little to connect it with the ritual or history of the Royal Master and Select Master degree. Mackey's focus was on the fidelity portion of the Super-Excellent Master Degree which focuses on the failings of the last King of Israel.

I suggest to you that Mackey was WRONG and our perspective on the SEM is WRONG. In like manner, I will suggest to you that we also neglect some important aspects of the Select Master and Royal Master Degrees. It is time to renew our commitment to excellence in the Cryptic Rite and that begins with our THREE (3) Degrees in the Cryptic Rite.

SUPER-EXCELLENT MASTER

First, this same Mackey told all of us that the first three Craft Degrees are a part of the American York Rite System. My Dear Albert, that would be a total of Twelve (12) Degrees, not Nine (9). As to the SEM, in most of our rituals throughout the States, there is the significant study of the Square, Circle and Triangle.

We are told that the Square represents the Perfect Ashlar, the Circle represents Unity or Completeness, and the Triangle represents Our Deity. Three symbols well-known to all of us in the Craft Degrees as well as the rest of the recognized York Rite Degrees. Mackey simply chose to ignore this part of the SEM in order to keep his conceptual reliance upon a perfect NINE being the number of the York Rite for all purposes.

As I have noted in many Grand Council sessions across the United States, is not the true Perfect Ashlar found in our God, our Deity? Is not the true realization of Unity found in our God? Is it not abundantly clear to all of us that the Square, the Circle and the Triangle all represent the Grand Geometrician of the Universe? Thus, it is difficult to continue to contend in our rituals and our perspectives the view that the SEM has no connection in history or ritual with the Cryptic Rite Degrees or the other York Rite Degrees. In my State, we present the SEM at least once a year in full form, with 44 cast roles. Yet, we also present it in a short form in several other locations and we are now working to place the emphasis on the symbolism. You may not serve as a local or Grand Council officer unless you have received the SEM in some form.

We need to begin to change this in our rituals and recognize that this is an important part of the Cryptic Rite and one that will be of great benefit to future generations if properly presented and not just treated as a grand yet cumbersome effort. We cannot let the SEM become only a rarely conferred degree nor let its very important symbolic lessons be lost over time.

SELECT MASTER

Our venerable Mackey also has told us that the Select Master Degree is deliberately conferred out of order, as Royal Master is truly the last degree of the Cryptic Rite. In most of our rituals, the fortunate Companion who is selected to play the role of Ahishar, the snoozing guard at the entrance to the Secret Vault, enjoys the benefit of this being the comedy relief moment of our conferrals. Ahishar is presented as a person of low rank, who can easily be put to death for the sake of Zabud.

For the sake of our number being 27, Ahishar dies and Zabud fills the vacancy. As the Biblical and Historical Ahishar is **not** a person of low rank but the head of all of King Solomon's household as well as a Guardian of the Secret Vault, a Select of the Twenty-Seven, perhaps we are missing some important point that would be of benefit to our new Companions.

I suggest to you that Ahishar's position was one that he held by virtue of being a blood relative, a kinsman of King Solomon, one who was in the familial and Royal Circle of Trust of King Solomon's Court.

Most likely, he was a descendant of King David and his part of the family was not part of any insurrection against Solomon being installed as King David's successor. While the proper number of Tyrians or those of other descent in the Select of Twenty-Seven may be debated for the purposes of our legends, it should be clear that some of the Twenty-Seven were likely citizens of Solomon's Kingdom and Ahishar's role as either Head of the Royal Household or the Guardian of the Secret Vault indicates that he was connected to King Solomon by more than a friendship.

What if the point of the Select Degree was that Ahishar had earned his position by his blood, his genetics, by his connection to King Solomon, but lost that position by failing in his trust, by a lack of effort? Thus, could it be that his position was filled by one Zabud, who had earned the right to that trust by merit, by effort and dedication to King Solomon? Is that not a lesson that confirms all that we teach about our Craft Degrees?

ROYAL MASTER

Turning now to the last of the Cryptic Degrees, we often speak of Hiram's instructive remarks to Adoniram, with the importance being where something will be found. In doing so, we may cause the candidates in our care to ignore the importance of Hiram's revelations to Adoniram. Hiram is telling Adoniram that there is an eternal destination to which all of us may aspire. I want you to reflect upon this point. Where else in our Degrees is there an explicit statement of that faith and hope of immortality? To be sure, it is inferred or implied elsewhere, but in the Royal Master, Adoniram learns that this hope, for Hiram, his mentor, is a FACT that will be fulfilled!

CONCLUSION

My Companions of the Purple, I leave you with these thoughts to ponder and for all of us to maintain due respect for Brother Mackey for he gave us much of benefit. As always, I do not contend that I am the sole authority on these assertions. You are Speculative Masons as well as Cryptic Masons, and you have the right to reason and judge these things for yourselves

Grand Master Ethan A. Seaberg thanked the Grand Council for putting together great sessions and allowing him to attend and be a part of them. He thanked Carl for all of his work around the state and to Greg his best wishes for a successful year.

The Grand Council will hold its 151st Annual Grand Assembly at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Alexandria, Minnesota as part of the Grand York Rite Session next year on June 24, 25, 26, 2021.

Grand Master Carl then called the session to refreshment until the start of the installation of Grand Officers.

The session was called to labor for the purpose of installation of the 2020 – 2021 Grand Council Officers.

The following Grand Council Officers were installed in their respective stations:

Illustrious Grand Master – MIC L. Greg Schultz

Deputy Grand Master – RIC W. David Emery

Grand Principal Conductor of the Work -RIC Brian K. Dimatteo

Grand Treasurer / Recorder – MIC Marvin W. Schendel, PMIGM

Grand Chaplain – IC Ronald L. Jensen

Grand Captain of the Guard – IC R. Sean Gardiner

Grand Conductor of the Council – IC R. James Luchsinger, II

Grand Marshal – IC Gerald E. Zierdt

Grand Steward – IC Alan Mackenzie

Grand Sentinel – IC Douglas A. Beach

Grand Archmaster –

Grand Organist – IC William T. Hubbard

Trustees are

MIC Ronald A. Miles, PMIGM

MIC Charles R. Marston, PMIGM

and MIC Gary A. Odegard. PMIGM

MIC Marvin W. Schendel, PMIGM presided at the installation with MIC Clifford H. Isley, PMIGM as the installing Chaplain.

Most Illustrious Grand Master L. Greg Schultz was then presented with his gavel and he stated that it was a most interesting session, and he thought that even though it was a virtual session it went well, he did miss that the ladies were not able to be present.

He then thanked Marv Schendel for all that he does and for the companionship following each other through the York Rite lines and traveling together. He also thanked MIC Cliff Isley for being the installing Chaplain and for his help through out the years and looks to continue with that relationship for many years to come. He then thanked James McNeely, IV for taking the time out to help out with the session from Connecticut. He and James go back to Blue Lodge together, been through some good times and some bad times in their personal lives together. And lastly he thanked his mentor Hugh C. Swift, for his mentorship and leadership, Hugh has helped him and prodded him into different organizations and jobs that he thought he would never be able to do. Hugh has always been there to help and support him. Hugh reminded him that we have a lot of men who are in limbo, waiting to join Lodge, or are between degrees, and that they are the perfect opportunity to have us be their mentors. We can ignite a spark in them to get them excited about the York Rite. If we each can mentor one of these new members and get them interested in the Chapter, Council and Commandery the way that we were, we can all make a difference. He then thanked everyone for putting your trust in him to lead this very stable line of offices for the upcoming year.

There being nothing further to come before this Assembly he declared the Grand Council Closed.