

GRAND COUNCIL
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS

of the

STATE OF VERMONT

CONSTITUTED AUGUST 10, 1834

Proceedings of the

ONE HUNDRED SIXTY NINTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Held

Sunday, June 12, 2022, A.D. 3022*

DAVID W. SCHULER, M.I. Grand Master

BRUCE R. HOWARD, R.I. Grand Recorder



- Cryptic or Council Masonry (Royal and Select Masters) date from the year of deposit in the secret vault, Anno Depositionis (A.Dep.)
Add 1000 to the common date, (2022 + 1000 = 3022)

Grand Council Royal and Select Masters
Of the State of Vermont



COMPANION JOSHUA. RETCHLESS
MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER

Companion Joshua Ames Retchless was born on July 16th, 1977, at Central Vermont hospital in Berlin Vermont. His father Robert W. Retchless was a school administrator and his mother Kathryn Retchless worked for the state of Vermont. Companion Retchless graduated from Williamstown high school in 1995 and after spending a year at Lyndon State started working for G.W. Plastics now Nolato G.W. in Bethel Vermont. He has worked there for the past 26 years and has held a variety of rolls within the company. Companion Josh has many hobbies including golf, collecting sports cards and fishing. He has resided in Randolph Vermont for the past 15 years and enjoys living in a small town.

Companion Josh's masonic career started in White River Lodge #90 when he was raised to the sublime degree of a master mason on June 14th, 2007. Soon after he started his York Rite journey and took his Chapter, Council and Commandery degrees in Barre. It was at this time he became a dual Blue Lodge member in Granite Lodge #35 and sat as master in 2013. The following year he became master of White River Lodge #90. Companion Josh is a past D.D.G.M. of the sixth masonic district. He holds a dual chapter membership in Whitney chapter #5 as well. Companion Josh has been active in York Rite as he has been the head of all three York Rite bodies and is currently the Secretary of the Barre York rite bodies. He is also a member of St. Helena conclave and is a past Puissant Sovereign, he is also a member of Green Mountain York rite college #39 and KYCH Priory #45. In addition to these he is The Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Vermont as well as the Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandry of Vermont.

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL
OF
CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL, 2020-2023

Monty J. Glover General Grand Master
87-1069 Anaha Street, Waianae, HI 96792-5407

William G. Snyder Deputy General Grand Master
2830 S. Brentwood Ct, Independence, MO 64055-2158

G. Tomas Taylor General Grand Prin. Cond. Of Work

Charles McCollum General Grand Treasurer

Stephen Balke General Grand Recorder

REGIONAL DEPUTY GENERAL GRAND MASTERS

William Karstens, IV N.E. Region- North

James B. Walsh N.E. Region - South

Northeast Regions Consists of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, New Jersey Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Eastern Canada (Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Eastern Canada are not members of GGC)

OFFICERS
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT
for the Year 2022 - 2023

M.I. GRAND MASTER	Joshua A. Retchless 38 Highland Avenue Randolph, VT 05060	(802) 272-1845 moldent@gmail.com
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R.I. PRIN. COND. OF WORK	Jon W. Hosford, III 82 East Hill Road Plainfield, VT 05667-9505	(802) 223-5301 jhosford@gmail.com Lady: Jeanette
R.I. GRAND TREASURER	Russell J. Slora 316 Farwell Street Barre, VT 05641-9071	(802) 476-3580 rislora@aol.com Lady: Sue
I. ASST. GR. TREASURER	Jon W. Hosford, III 82 East Hill Road Plainfield, VT 05667-9505	(802) 223-5301 jhosford@gmail.com Lady: Jeanette
R.I. GRAND RECORDER	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701-2544	(802) 223-0411 howard47@myfairpoint.net Lady: Sharon
I. ASST. GR. RECORDER	Jon W. Hosford, III 82 East Hill Road Plainfield, VT 05667-9505	(802) 223-5301 jhosford@gmail.com Lady: Jeanette
I. GR. CAPT. OF THE GUARD	William Ormerod 21 Wheeler Road Fairfax, VT 05454-9710	(802) 849-9762 WilliamOrmerod@comcast.net
I. GRAND CONDUCTOR OF THE COUNCIL	Vincent Robinson 5 Lent Road Sharon, VT 05065-6705	(802) 765-4529 mostwisemaster@gmail.com

OFFICERS
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT
for the Year 2022 - 2023

I. GRAND CHAPLAIN	Donald C. Murray P.O. Box 24 Graniteville, VT 05654-0024	(802) 839-0421 alba3498@aol.com Lady: Lynn
I. GRAND MARSHALL	Richard Button 132 Bobbin Shop Road Chelsea, VT 05038-8951	
I. GRAND STEWARD	Leon R. Dion PO Box 221 Newbury, VT 05051-0221	(802) 439-9320 leedion@gmail.com
I. GRAND SENTINEL	Douglas K. Boardman 27 Upper Village Road, Apt 2 Chelsea, VT 05038-8992	(802) 685-4565 dkjnboardman@gmail.com Lady: Joan
I. GRAND HISTORIAN	James Dolan 131 Stefansson Road Bethel, VT 05032	jhamdolan@gmail.com

**Committee Assignments
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT
for the Year 2022 - 2023**

CREDENTIALS	David Schuler, John Montross, Daniel Nye
FINANCE	Willis J. Morse, Donald C. Murray, John Montross
JURISPRUDENCE	Bruce R. Howard, Jon Hosford, III, , Russell J. Slora
GRIEVANCES	Kirk C. White, Douglas K. Boardman, Bruce R. Howard
DISPENSATIONS & CHARTERS	William Ormerod Willis J. Morse, Donald C. Murray
PLACE AND TIME	Joshua Retchless, Roland Woodard, Robert Bryant
DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS	Belford A. Belles, Russell J. Slora, Kirk C. White
NECROLOGY	Bruce R. Howard, Donald Murray, David Schuler
FRATERNAL RELATIONS	Bruce R. Howard, William Karstens, IV
MEMBERSHIP	Jon Hosford, III, William Karstens, IV, Willis J. Morse

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION	Joshua Retchless, Roland Woodard
YORK RITE COLLEGE LIAISON	Kirk C. White, William Karstens, IV, Roland Woodard

GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT
T. I. MASTERS AND RECORDERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS
for the Year 2022 - 2023

<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>T.I. MASTER</u>	<u>RECORDER</u>
5 BURLINGTON	John Montross 99 Staniford Farms Road Burlington, VT 05408-2458 845-489-5155 jmontross@outlook.com	Daniel Nye PO Box 186 Stowe, VT 05672-0186 802-307-698 danielnye9@gmail.com
12 DAVENPORT 51 Washington Rutland	NO REPORT	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701 (802) 223-0411 howard47@myfairpoint.net
14 MIDDLEBURY Park Sreet Brandon, VT	William H. Grant, Jr. 2766 Pearson Road New Haven, VT 05472-1062 butch@gmavt.net	James Selleck P O Box 652 Middlebury, VT 05753-0652
18 SPRINGFIELD 71 Main Street Springfield	NO REPORT	Johann J Nortz PO Box 755 Brattleboro VT 05302-0755 njq2468@gmail.com
19 ORLEANS 41 Masonic Lane Newport	Robert L. Booth 6169 VT Route 14 Irasburg, VT 05845	Roland Woodard PO Box 151 Glover, VT 05839 802-525-8885 woodard51@myfairpoint.net
22 BARRE 2 Academy St Barre	John Hosford, III 82 East Hill Road Plainfield, VT 05667-9505	Joshua Retchless 38 Highland Avenue Randolph, VT 05060 vtmolder@gmail.com

PLEASE CHECK WITH THE TIM OR RECORDER BEFORE ATTENDING A MEETING

GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT
Meeting Dates
for the Year 2022 - 2023

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 5 | BURLINGTON
Dorset St
S. Burlington | 4th Thursday - 7:30 PM
Open Jan- October Dark November - December |
| 12 | DAVENPORT
51 Washington
Rutland | 4th Tuesday
7:30 PM
Dark June - August |
| 14 | MIDDLEBURY
1046 Park Street
Brandon | 4th Tuesday
7:30 PM |
| 18 | SPRINGFIELD
71 Main Street
Springfield | 3rd Monday
7:00 PM |
| 19 | ORLEANS
41 Masonic Lane
Newport | 1st Monday
7:30 PM
Dark January - February |
| 22 | BARRE
2 Academy St
Barre | 3rd Thursday
7:00 PM
Dark July-August
April- 2nd Friday |

**PLEASE CALL THE T.I.M. OR RECORDER
PRIOR TO ATTENDING A MEETING.
SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR LISTING**

Proceedings of the GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

Companion David W. Schuler, Most Illustrious Grand Master convened the One Hundred Sixty Ninth Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 2:05 P.M. There being a constitutional number of officers and members present, and after tiling the room, the Grand Council was declared opened by our Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Grand Chaplain, Companion Donald C. Murray, gave the opening prayer.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

The Grand Recorder compiled the following list of all Grand Officers in attendance. The following officers were properly accounted for:

David W. Schuler	M.I. Grand Master
Joshua A. Retchless	R.I. Deputy Grand Master
Roland E. Woodard	R.I. Principal Conductor of Work
Russell J. Slora	R.I. Grand Treasurer
Jon W. Hosford, III	I. Assistant Grand Treasurer
Bruce R. Howard	R.I. Grand Recorder
Jon W. Hosford, III	I. Assistant Grand Recorder
Vincent Robinson	I. Grand Conductor of the Council
Donald C. Murray	I. Grand Chaplain
Kirk C. White	I. Grand Marshal
Wm Karstens, IV	I. Grand Steward
Wm. Ormerod	I. Grand Sentinel

Absent: Ill. Grand Captain of the Guard, Pierre-Denis Leger (died in office). In memory of our Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard, his station was draped with a black shroud and a moment of silence was held in his memory. Companion Cedric Tashro was appointed to fill this station for the purpose of tiling and reception of guests..

PAST GRAND MASTERS IN ATTENDANCE

The following Most Ill. Past Grand Masters of Vermont were present and introduced by our Illustrious Deputy Grand Master Joshua Retchless

James E. Selleck	1978	Russell J. Slora	2008
Donald C. Murray	2007	Douglas K. Boardman	2009
Palmer E. Martin	1991	Bruce R. Howard	2011
Willis J. Morse	1995	Kirk C. White	2015
Donald C. Murray	2007	William Karstens, IV	2016

Companion Schuler then led the assembled Companions in giving of Grand Honors to the Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE 2021 PROCEEDINGS

There being no objection, M.I.G.M. Schuler declared that the minutes of the 2021 Annual Assembly approved as printed and to be distributed in the proceedings

RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The following Distinguished Guests were received into the Assembly

CONNECTICUT by Companion Palmer E. Martin, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. James McNeely, Most Puissant Grand Master
Comp. Clyde Kayser, II, Most Puissant Past Grand Master

NEW YORK by Companion Willis “Bill” Morse, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. John A. Gallant, Most Illustrious Grand Master
Comp. Richard Fowler, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

NEW HAMPSHIRE by Companion Donald C. Murray, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Paul Smith, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master
Comp. Earl Cole, Jr., III, Grand Conductor of the Council
Comp. Dennis Tuttle, Grand Lecturer

MASSACHUSETTS by Companion Palmer E. Martin, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Glen Cunningham, I, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

MAINE by Companion Willis “Bill” Morse, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Timothy E. Libby, Most Illustrious Grand Master

RHODE ISLAND by Companion Donald C. Murray, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Mark Thomson, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

NEW JERSEY by Companion Palmer E. Martin, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Sean H. McNorton, Most Illustrious Grand Master
Comp. John D. Barnes, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

MARYLAND by Companion Willis “Bill” Morse, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Robert Lumbert, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master & Ambassador for Maryland

ONTARIO by Companion Donald C. Murray, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Prince D. Selvaraj, Most Illustrious Grand Master

TEXAS by Companion Willis “Bill” Morse, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Jack M. Harper, II, Illustrious Grand Chaplain

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS, INTERNATIONAL

by Companion Kirk C. White, M.I.P.G.M.

Comp. Paul Smith, General Grand Council Marshal
Comp. William “Sandy” Karstens, IV, G.G.C. Northeast Regional Deputy Grand Master and personal representative of Monty J. Glover, General Grand Master.
Companion Schuler then personally escorted Companion Karsten to the East and afforded him Private Grand Honors.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Our Most Illustrious Grand Master then led the assembled Companions in the Pledge of Allegiance to our nations flag. Following the Pledge of Allegiance one verse of our National Anthem and O'Canada was sung. Our Grand Recorder, in honor of Queen Elizabeth's diamond jubilee God Save the Queen was played.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE (see page 19)

Companion William Ormerod from the Credentials Committee reported 44 Companions were present. Details as reported by the Grand Recorder are included later in these proceedings. After ascertaining that everyone had registered, the report was motioned, seconded, and voted in the affirmative.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

All Grand Representatives to sister jurisdictions were then called up with a rap of the gavel and their service to the Grand Council was acknowledged by our M.I.G.M. The Grand Representatives were given a round of applause for their service.

RECOGNITION OF HEADS OF VERMONT BODIES

The following is a list of Heads of Vermont Bodies in attendance at the Annual Assembly.

Companion David W. Schuler, Intendent General for the State of Vermont Red Cross of Constantine

Sir Knight Eric C. Steele, Right Eminent Grand Commander Grand Commandery of Vermont

Knight Roland E. Woodard, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of Vermont

William Karstens, IV York Rite Sovereign College of North America Grand Governor for Vermont

Kirk C. White, Governor Green Mountain York Rite College #139

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS ADDRESS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The Most Illustrious Grand Master passed the gavel to the Deputy Grand Master and gave his address: The M.I.G.M. address presented in writing to Grand Recorder is reproduced in its entirety as follows:

“To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont now Assembled:

I'll be presenting a brief summary of what was given in the book of reports. There was one (1) error in what went out in the book of reports that I have corrected in the final copy. I'll give a brief summary here unless people ask would like do the entire thing, word by word. (laughter). I agreed that was going to be the case. Has to be a majority, not just a single person.

Companions it has been a great honor for the last two (2) years to have been able to have served as Most Illustrious Grand Master for the State of Vermont. Obviously when I joined Freemasonry, when I joined York Rite it was certainly something I never anticipated, never expected, never, to be honest never even desired. I never knew, you know, this office was here. So, I thank everybody

who has been a part of this journey, our visitors, our Vermont officers, past officers, grand officers, travel companions everybody who has helped to make, to make this richer for me but also that I can bring that knowledge that I received. Bring it forward to the people that are here. Two (2) years ago, or a year ago, when I was first installed, two (2) years ago now prior term, we were in COVID and obviously there was a significant problem going on, we were having trouble meeting, we were meeting indirectly via ZOOM, and quite frankly that time didn't always go when it happened. It's a pleasure to be here today, to see everybody that's here. To be able to have you come, have you be in person, and again we are resuming what we, what we know best, fraternalism. But this void brings up one of the first challenges that I've seen and that's our reengagement of our members. Obviously, in the past we've had many more people here our reengagement in Vermont, some Councils are doing great, some are still having a little trouble getting members out. It's hard and I know it's difficult. Everybody is a personal decision when it's the appropriate time to resume, but we still need to try to do as much as we can to try to get them reengaged. Second really, one of the things that we have had to do is when we stopped, we had people in many different places. Some people who were waiting to even start entering the grand, Council, their local Councils, some of them were part way through, had the Royal Master had not yet had the Select Master and it's really been a problem all throughout. Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery have people in the same situation. It's not unique to us in any manner, any means, but it is something important. In our second challenge and it's still somewhat ark building is try to make sure that any Companions that are working, or Sir Knights, that was last year, any Companions are taken care of, make sure that we get them moving, if they are not moving, we need to get them moving as one of the most important things. Many have been starting to go through we had several Councils here that have done degrees. They have moved some members along, we have some that obviously for personal reasons they still are not being engaged, but we need to get them moving. That's really challenge number two (2) that I've seen is making sure that our remaining candidates get timely execution of their orders and get to be complete members they get the chance to complete their Council Degrees. And finally, the other thing that's coming out is, we are an older group of people. No surprise, even the younger people are an older group of people. But overall, each of you could try to get younger members, not exclusively younger members but we need to do more. We need to try sure our Blue Lodges are recruiting, and our Chapters are receiving members and into Council because we are quite frankly running out of people. We have people that are, you will see in Necrology we have people that are expiring at a rate that's actually exceeding our intake right now. That's a problem. But once we have new younger members join, we also have to make sure they are engaged. How do we engage them? We give them roles; we give them ask them to learn a part of the ritual. We actually ask them to sit in a chair. Cedric (Cedric Tatro- Captain of the Guard pro tem) is an example of one of our newest members who is actually able to fill in today and thank you Cedric for being able to do that. But we need to get them engaged. If you join and you're just sitting in the sidelines it's not going to be very exciting, you have to be a part of it. As we know, in order to experience Freemasonry, you need to experience it, not just watch it. You need to really experience it. And actually, the third challenge at this point. So those three (3) challenges are what we have begun to work with on this last two years, and it's something that's going to go forward, Josh (referring to the Deputy Grand Master) unfortunately you are going to be having to take up, you know, where we lay you off right now. And it's not a magical solution. During this past year as things have opened up, I fortunately have had the opportunity to travel to many jurisdictions. I just made a quick list here, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut. Also, I had a chance via zoom this year to attend most of the Eastern Jurisdictions in Canada of the Royal and Select Masters. So, this Spring and last fall and this spring we pretty much reengaged. Not the same number of people but the fact that we are together again, we're meeting again, it's very important. It's good to see friends, but it's also good to see

how other states are responding as well. And it's probably good for other states to see how we are responding; cause together we take the best of what everybody has to offer. I'll thanklessly borrow something that I think is the best, and hopefully you are doing the same thing. You see something that is a success, you are going to shamelessly borrow it and take it back to your own jurisdiction. So, I think we'll see the effects of Covid-19 linger for a number of years yet. So, be a lasting effect you know on society it's going to have lasting effect. We can do what we can we need to try to encourage when we can and try to overcome what we can. Recognizing that it's not something you just turn a light switch on or off.

For Necrology as you heard one of our numbers is missing. And we lost a total of fourteen (14) Council Companions during this last year. And one was Pierre-Denis Leger He was in line of the Grand Council. But we have two (2) Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters Companion Mo (Morris) Tucker and Companion Alex "Bill" Parent. And Josh (referring to Joshua Retchless, Deputy Grand Master) would you please call the room up. Companions I would just like to ask you to take a moment to remember those members in our Council, our Grand Council who have passed. (Moment of silence). May the Lord receive these Companions into the Grand Lodge above and into his loving arms. We will miss their earthly presence. The official report of the Necrology Committee will appear elsewhere as we go through the proceedings.

I had the chance to attend the Northeast Conference this last year, and I will certainly thank my Companion here for the work that he did to make it a success for all of the Councils that had representatives present, thank you Companion Sandy Karstens for everything you did to make that a success. Really, we hope others will be able to join us next year enjoy that as well.

Dispensations and edicts, there were no dispensations or edicts that I had to issue this past year. However, we do have a Middlebury Council #14 this is a process they are moving, revised by-laws, and the final approval of Davenport Council #12 is still due and that is something that will be one of your first (referring to incoming MIGM Retchless) activities to finish. I think it is important to note a number of bodies this year have issued edicts this year regarding COVID-19, our Most Worshipful Grand Master Jim Stevens earlier this year had issued one covering all Masons in the State of Vermont. We felt at that time that what we did was not only adequate but was certainly appropriate and felt nothing additional was needed. So hence there was no, people are probably wondering, there was no specific edict regarding COVID-19, reactions needed, we needed to work out.

As a State we supported CMMRF or Cryptic Masons Masonic Medical Research Foundation, could we do better, yes, but did we support them, yes and we will continue to support them, yes. So, we ask again, those who can please consider doing so and I will also note that the raffle, the basket raffles, the 50/50 raffles we will have today they will be receiving one third of the proceeds for from whatever is received.

A full copy of my visitations is available. Of all the stuff printed in the proceedings the final copy will be in the final proceedings in the, wasn't in the book of reports but if you would like I can read all four (4) pages, seeing a lot of no's. So, I will dispense with the reading of my travels. Needless to say, the travels were extensive this year, fortunately with COVID things eased up and this year the most common location was no longer ZOOM as my location travel, or as some people would say my living room.

Awards, we were pleased this year that several awards will be presented, one will be presented in a little while and two (2) awards will be presented this evening at the banquet. So, a full copy of that will be in the final proceedings once the awards have all been presented.

Condition of the Order, I think little has changed since last year's report. Condition of York Rite in Vermont and that of the Councils in particular, the York Rite in General is concerning. It's not a surprise that the number of Master Masons has been in decline and consequently our York Rite membership is under a pretty much equal decline. It's that some of our Councils without the ability to do all the work themselves and we must not let that be the excuse, an excuse to sit back and just allow things to happen. We need to be more active. It also means Councils need to work together. We need to work together to make sure that degrees can be done, that we support those who cannot do them themselves. It's a, we also support those who can do them themselves. Would you rather sit in a room with one or two people on the sidelines or in a room with many in the sidelines? And so, we need to really support each other. We need to support as much as we can. And as I like to say, a Blue Lodge Mason's journey should not be considered complete until they receive the Holy Royal Arch and have continued to receive further light through the experience of the Cryptic, Cryptic degrees. It's only with that completion where you understand a lot of what happens. As we all know there is this kind of this little time warp that happens, a little bit in York Rite you know, back and forth in time, time travelers, but once you really have a chance to see all the degrees, understand how they fit together, you really, gives a much more complete story, or as Companion Fowler would say the rest of the story. So, I have to agree that was really, when you made that point, I really took that to heart. We also have to make sure that our new Council members receive a proper education. Don't just do Royal Master and Select Master in one night and say you're done. Don't do it on two (2) different nights and say you're done. Is education required? There's educational resources available we need to sit down and lead them in discussions. Talk about the opening, talk about the closing, talk about the ritual, and then go from there because that is a starting point not an ending point. But if we don't understand what we went through don't have a chance to process and digest it, you can't do all of this in one (1) night. It takes a while to really understand how everything fits together. That's very important. So, we need to make sure that all of our members fully understand the degrees and I'm not talking only about the newest members I can be some faces talking about some of our older members who may or may not have had experience. So, for those who are able to we ask you, who are members, we ask them to be an educator for those that are the receiving end, well maybe do a little studying for something you've learned. You'd be surprised how you can learn and be a teacher at the same time. I see a lot of heads nodding, you understand what I am saying, that's, that's very important. So being together you can really bring experience to our members. And finally, communications is important. I think that in the last two years there has been communication but we've, we've lost a lot, we are not doing enough personal communication, by that I mean picking up a cell phone or a real phone for those who might still have one and calling up members, talking to them. You know, just an e-mail helps, saying, you know, come to the meeting might be enough. It's getting them involved, it's getting them there, it's important. But to do that we have to have purpose for our meetings. Our meetings have to have a reason for people to come out. So, that purpose needs to be something thought about ahead of time, planned and executed. We don't do that, in the long term, that's going to be more of a problem, almost death to us. So, frankly we know this, you know, these same issues are also affecting our Grand Council as well. Our numbers are, have declined a little bit, we had to several years ago go to effectively two (2) one (1) year terms because we didn't have enough people to fill all the seats and we need to continue the cognizance of that and make sure we can continue.

So, with that there are a couple of recommendations I have for next year, so Josh (referring to the Deputy Grand Master) if you are paying attention, these are some of the challenges you may want to consider taking up.

First of all, continuing to encourage Masonic education at meetings. Utilizing existing materials from General Grand Council, from other states and even material you find yourself. Direct each Grand Council Officer to have an educational program ready they can present to a Council that may not have something much in their program that evening. Have each person, have, has a program that they are able to deliver. Encouraging Councils to communicate with their members, can't say that enough, communication I think is lacking and we need to be, we need to be effective with that. This also means Grand Council officers, it means, it also means Grand Council to subordinate Councils, etcetera, you know, all up and down we need to encourage that. And finally, this, we've, this year we have taken advantage of zoom in a positive way and we've been having a meeting of our grand officers of all the York Rite bodies, Grand Recorder representative where possible, our Grand Northeast Deputy, but to try to first of all plan the meeting but also make sure we're all in sync about what's going on. And we need to continue that. Probably pushed out a little more, a little more than we had in the past, and I'm not saying we haven't done it cause we have, but take advantage of making that a regular thing, the power of that is, is great. And ZOOM make it, so you know, you don't have to travel several hours just to have a quick meeting. So, with that my Companions it's been a pleasure to serve this second term as your Most Illustrious Grand Master representing all the Companions of Vermont. My congratulations to the award recipients, who you will find out about later and I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of our Grand Recorder, I acknowledge the efforts of our Grand Recorder, without whose efforts it would be nearly impossible for us to be here today. So, Bruce Howard, thank you. And thank you Companions for allowing me this opportunity this past year to serve you.”

After giving his address the Most Illustrious Deputy Grand Master referred it to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers and returned the gavel to the Most Illustrious Grand Master who continued the Annual Assembly.

CALL FOR ANY MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS OR PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE REGULATIONS

A call for any motions, resolutions or proposals to amend the regulations was made. The Grand Recorder reported no motions, resolutions or proposals were received by his office as prescribed by the Grand Statutes and Regulations. No motions, resolutions or proposals were put forth from the assembled Companions.

TREASURERS REPORT (see pages 21-22)

Companion Russell J. Slora, Grand Treasurer reported the report was printed in the Book of Reports on page 7. There being no questions, he referred the report to the Committee on Finance and Budget.

RECORDERS REPORT (see pages 23-25)

Companion Bruce R. Howard, Grand Recorder reported the report was printed in the Book of Reports on page 9. There being no questions he referred the reports to the Committee on Finance and Budget.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOINGS GRAND OFFICERS (see pg. 20)

The report from the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers as printed in the Book of Reports (which is included on the above referenced page) was motioned for approval and printing in the proceedings, seconded and voted in the affirmative.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS (also see pages 41-42)

Companion Schuler requested the Northeast Department Representative Companion William “Sandy” Karstens, IV to join him in front of the dais for the presentation of the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award to Companion Johan “Jim” Nortz from Springfield. Companion Karstens read the plaque prepared by General Grand Council and presented it to Companion Nortz. The accompanying pin was placed on his lapel by our MIGM Schuler. Companion Nortz gave the following remarks “I’m really touched with this, it was never in the cards, everything just went out of my head”. Companion Karstens called up all recipients of the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award who were given a round of applause.

Two awards were given at the banquet, the Adult Youth Leadership award was given to Brother Austin Isham, Sr. and the Youth Advocate Award was presented to Brother David McAllister.

ACCEPTANCE AND ORDERING OF PRINTING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Companion Schuler announced the following reports which were contained in the Book of Reports accepted and ordered them printed in the proceedings:

- ❖ REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY (see pages 29-30)
- ❖ REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES (see page 26)
- ❖ REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF DISPENSATIONS & CHARTERS (see page 28)
- ❖ REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF FRATERNAL RELATIONS (see page 27)
- ❖ REPORT ON THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (see page XX)
- ❖ COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP (see page 27)
- ❖ Y.R.C. LIASION COMMITTEE (see page 28)

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE FOR TIME AND PLACE

Oral report given by Companion Roland E. Woodard. Companion Woodard explained we were planning on continuing the two (2) day meeting schedule in its present form for one more year, feeling it unfair to judge this format with only part of the sessions being complete and a full year to evaluate is needed. The date will be June 11th, 2023 in the Killington, Vermont at the Killington Mountain Lodge or another hotel in the Killington area after suggestions and comments are received. Feedback is very welcome. Council will be on Sunday afternoon on the 11th with a banquet that evening. Companion Woodard made a motion the Grand Council Annual Assembly be held on June 11th commencing at 2:00 P.M. The motion was seconded and voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE (see page 26)

Companion Bruce R. Howard M.E.P.G.H.P. presented for the Committee. Two (2) reports were presented to the assembled Companions for acceptance and adoption.

Report No. 1.

Motion made and seconded to accept this report and voted in the affirmative.

Report No. 2.

Motion made and seconded to accept this report and voted in the affirmative.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (see page number 31-33)

Report #1

Motion to accept the report, and approve records of Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder
Seconded and voted in the affirmative.

Report #2

Motion to accept the report and adopt the proposed budget. Seconded and voted in the
Affirmative.

Report #3

Motion to accept the report and adopt the recommendations therein contained was seconded
and voted in the affirmative.

Report #4

Motion to accept the report and adopt the recommendation therein contained was seconded
and voted in the affirmative.

Report #5

Motion to accept the report and adopt the recommendation therein contained was seconded
and voted in the affirmative.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

Our Most Illustrious Grand Master Schuler called the visiting Most Illustrious and Most Puissant Grand masters to the East and requested a motion that all visiting Most Illustrious and Most Puissant Grand Masters be made Honorary Members of the Grand Council of Vermont, Royal and Select Masters. The motion was seconded and voted in the affirmative. Companion Schuler distributed certificates to all visiting Most Illustrious and Most Puissant Grand Masters.

REMARKS FROM THE VISITING GRAND MASTERS

Companion Schuler called the visiting Most Puissant Grand Master James McNeely from Connecticut to speak on behalf of the visitors. Companion McNeely gave the following remarks “Most Illustrious and Companions, distinguished East it truly is a pleasure to be able to represent my traveling Most Illustriousness’ of the Northeast and Canada. It truly is a pleasure to be here today. We love being able to be here the hospitality is always beyond what we could ever expect and hope for. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and Companions we do share in your grief and in your loss. The hospitality, WOW, still second to none, even if it is a little less this year. We share in that grief in the loss of Pierre-Denis and he touched all of our hearts, he brought a smile to all of us and this year’s celebration is just a little less because he’s not with us. Thank you Most Illustrious and we thank you for all the hospitality and friendship that you have given us.”

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Companion Schuler stated that it was time for election of officers to serve the Grand Council for the coming year. Companion Russell J. Slora made the motion that Companion Joshua A. Retchless be elected Most Illustrious Grand Master for the ensuing year. Companion Palmer Martin seconded the nomination, The nominations were seconded and voted in the affirmative.

The following is the list of officers was nominated by Companion Slora for the ensuing year:

R.I. Deputy G. Master	Roland E. Woodard
R.I. Prin. Cond of Work	Jon W. Hosford, III
R.I. Grand Treasurer	Russell J. Slora
R.I. Grand Recorder	Bruce R. Howard
I.G. Capt. of Guard	William Ormerod
I.G. Cond. Of Council	Vincent M. Robinson

The nominations were seconded, closed, and the slate voted in the affirmative by acclamation.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

M.I.G.M. elect Retchless announced his appointed officers. See list in front of proceedings for all appointed and elected officers.

**GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS, INTERNATIONAL
COMPANION WILLIAM “SANDY” KARSTENS, IV
REGIONAL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER FOR THE NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT
AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MONTY GLOVER, MOST PUISSANT
GRAND MASTER**

Our Most Illustrious Grand Master Schuler introduced Companion Karstens as the personal representative of Monty J. Glover, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International who gave the following address:

“I’ll just bring you the warm fraternal greetings of the Most Puissant General Grand Master Monty J. Glover and simply say that I will reserve any further comments for the banquet tonight, but we do have one piece of business that we do need to attend to at this time, and that is your Most

Illustrious Companion here is about to depart and become Most Illustrious *PAST* Grand Master, and the PGM stands for “Power’s Gone Mister”. But before we close the door, we do have a nice plaque and I guess a little membership card to go with that and a little lapel pin because we have to have those. So, too I guess make this a bit official let me get here, and we’ll get you to come on up (reads plaque, letter from General Grand Recorder Balke, and pinned his lapel pin on his person.) Congratulations David on your successful year.”.

Companion Howard presented our outgoing Grand Master with his Past Grand Master Jewel and informed him his Past Grand Master apron would be forthcoming.

INSTALLATION OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Companion Palmer E. Martin, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master was selected as the Installing Grand Master, Companion Russell J. Slora, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master ad Installing Grand Marshal and Companion Donald C. Murray, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master as Installing Grand Chaplin. The officers were installed in due form by the installing team.

After being installed, Companion Retchless thanked the assembled Companions for the honor and the faith and trust placed in him as he leads the Grand Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Companion Retchless called for any new business to come before the Council. There being none he proceeded to close.

CLOSING

M.I.G.M Retchless asked the Grand Chaplin to offer a prayer and upon the completion of the prayer, the annual assembly was declared closed.

Respectfully submitted:

Bruce R. Howard, Illustrious Grand Recorder

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in Session:

Your committee on Credentials finds the following

Number of Councils	6
Number of Councils Represented	6
Councils not represented	0

Due to members holding several positions, represented were

Council Representatives Present	19
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters Present	13
Constitutional Grand Council Officers Present	5
Other Grand Council Officers Present	3
Grand Representatives Present	9
M.I Past Grand Masters Present	10
Nov-Voting Members Present	11
Total Companions Present	44

Respectfully Submitted by,

Bruce R. Howard, Grand Recorder

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS

June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Vermont now in session:

Once again, this committee is again honored to serve the Grand Council.

We have found our Most Illustrious Grand Master thoroughly dedicated in serving our Cryptic Order here in Vermont, as well as in many sister jurisdictions.

He has traveled extensively to attend and represent Vermont and Cryptic Masonry.

Grand Master Schuler has, during his visitations, presented many varied and educational challenges to our Companions.

We have all observed his love of Freemasonry, and how easily he communicates this to our Companions. His exuberance for the Craft is encouraging for us.

In closing Companion Schuler has been a remarkable ambassador to our sister jurisdictions. We commend him and his officers for a job very well done.

Fraternally submitted,

Russell J. Slora, MIPGM

Kirk C. White, MIPGM

Belford A. Belles, MIPGM, Chair

Grand Council of Vermont, R & SM

Report of the Grand Treasurer

May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

Balance on Hand, April 30, 2021:

Checking Account (Berkshire Bank)	\$29,692.13
Triennial Fund	\$ 900.00
Certificate of Deposit at Berkshire Bank	\$11,632.13
	\$42,224.26

Receipts:

Additional Per Capita for 2020 from Burlington	\$92.00
Per Capita for 2020 from Springfield	\$713.00
	\$805.00
2021 Per Capita From:	
Orleans	\$ 667.00
Middlebury	\$ 407.00
Barre	\$1,804.00
Davenport	\$1,641.00
Burlington	\$1,100.00
	\$5,619.00
Checking Account Interest	\$ 7.33
Berkshire Bank CD matured/cash out 7/26/21 by BRH	\$11,645.57
Funds from CD were added to checking account	
	\$11,652.90

TOTAL OF RECEIPTS AND CASH:

\$48,669.03

NOTE: The first noted CD amount was not included in the initial balance, only the closed-out cash amount was added in the final total figure. (\$20.77 difference is interest between the two dates)

DISBURSEMENTS:

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
1	Grand Recorder's Expense	\$900.00	\$900.00	- 0 -
2	Grand Treasurer's Expense	\$150.00	\$150.00	- 0 -
3	Print Proceedings	\$100.00	\$116.88	(\$16.88)
4	Grand Recorder's Office Expense	\$700.00	\$880.23	(\$180.23)
5	Rent	\$300.00	\$300.00	- 0 -
6	Jewel & Apron	\$140.00	- 0 -	- 0 -
7	Annual Assembly	\$1,250.00	\$100.00	\$1,150.00
8	Awards	\$200.00	- 0 -	\$200.00
9	General Grand Council Dues	\$750.00	\$717.00	\$32.50
10	MIGM Travel	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	- 0 -
11	Insurance	\$300.00	\$236.22	\$63.78
12	Misc.	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
13	Youth	\$150.00	- 0 -	\$150.00
	<u>TOTALS</u>	\$6,140.00	\$4,600.83	\$1,539.17

Cash on Hand April 30, 2022 after Disbursements:

\$44,068.20

Triennial Fund:

REPORTS OF THE GRAND RECORDER
GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
OF VERMONT

June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in Session:

It has been indeed an honor and privilege to once again serve the Companions of the Grand Council of Vermont as your Grand Recorder these past 12 months.

This office did not issue any dispensations on behalf of our Most Illustrious Grand Master, David Schuler this year, and the Jurisprudence Committee has been apprised of this fact.

Please refer to the Grand Chapter of Vermont Royal Arch Masons Secretaries report for an update on the conversion of the membership data base from an Access data base kept by this office into the Masonic Membership Systems (MMS) data base. All York Rite memberships are now recorded in an easily accessible, accurate data base maintained in a central location. I wish to personally thank all Recorders for your assistance in updating this data base which is now complete and accurate.

Attached you will find a grid of membership gains and losses for the 2021-2022 Cryptic year. Our aging membership, mergers and moves continue to pressure our order. Returns have not been filed in compliance with the Statutes and Regulations, therefore, the attached reports are an estimate of the final membership based on communication with the Recorder from the constituent body who has not files as of the first of June. Filing of reports as specified by our Constitution should be adhered to.

Returns are able to be filed electronically, provided the constituent recorder is fluent in Microsoft Office Excel and many have filed this way. I am also available to assist, but not fulfill the duties of your Council Recorder.

Grand Council of Vermont, R. &S.M.
Office of the Grand Recorder
June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Vermont now in session:

Your Grand Recorder submits the following report on the condition of the Grand Council of Vermont as of March 31, 2022:

Membership:

Number of Councils.....	6	
Number of Councils reporting.....	5	
Number of Councils showing work.....	3	
Membership as of March 31, 2020.....		<u>286</u>
Gains:		
Greeted.....	8	
Affiliated.....	1	
Errors Corrected.....	0	
Reinstated.....	3	
Total Gains.....	12	
Losses:		
Demits.....	3	
Suspensions.....	2	
Deaths	14	
Errors Corrected.....	4	
Total Losses	23	
Membership March 31, 2020		<u>275</u>
Net loss- <u>without</u> corrections.....		7*

Springfield Council has not filed their returns as of the 9th of May 2022. *The above referenced membership statistics are estimates only due to missing return

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Howard

Bruce R. Howard, Illustrious Grand Recorder
Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

Statistical Table of Subordinate Councils for the Year Ended March 31, 2022

<u>Subordinate Council</u>	Dues Remitted	Members Start	Greeted	Affiliated	Restored	errors corrected	Suspended	Demitted	Died	Expelled	Members end
BURLINGTON #5 Williston	0	46	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	48
DAVENPORT #12 Rutland	4	74	0	0	2	4	2	1	2	0	75
MIDDLEBURY #14 Middlebury	4	23	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	21
SPRINGFIELD #18 Springfield	0	31	0	0	0	(8)	0	1	1	0	21
ORLEANS #19 Newport	1	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	30
BARRE #22 Barre	2	81	3	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	80
761	11	286	8	1	3	(4)	2	3	14	0	275

Reports of the Committee on Jurisprudence

June 12, 2022

Report Number 1.

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

There were no dispensations or edicts issued by the Most Illustrious Grand Master during the past cryptic year. With the amendment to the by-laws voted at our last Annual Assembly several Councils did meet electronically at the beginning of the cryptic year due to the COVID-19 pandemic via the Zoom platform, where they were able to conduct required business. We were fortunate to see Councils meet in person during the later portion of the Cryptic year and look forward to a return to normal business this coming year

Respectfully submitted,

Russell J. Slora Palmer E. Martin Bruce R. Howard, Chairman

Report Number 2.

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

There has been referred to your committee the proposal of Middlebury Council Number 14 to relocate from Salisbury to Brandon. The proper procedure has been followed and a revised set of bylaws has been submitted. The only requirement left to satisfy is the approval of Davenport Council No. 12.

Your committee finds that all is in order, and the proper changes have been made in the bylaws. Pending the approval of Davenport Council, your committee recommends approval of the relocation of Middlebury Council Number 14 from Salisbury to Brandon.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell J. Slora Palmer E. Martin Bruce R. Howard, Chairman

COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in session:

This year no business was referred to this committee, therefore no action was taken.

Fraternally submitted,

Kirk C. White, for the committee

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS

June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in session:

Your Committee on Fraternal Relations reports that one application for recognition from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was received this Cryptic year.

All invitations to sister jurisdiction annual Assemblies received by this office were forwarded to the current officers and all past presiding officers. Many of our sister jurisdictions held virtual Annual Assemblies early in our Cryptic year so our membership was able to “travel” to their assemblies easily. This has been the one benefit of quarantining during the COVID-19 pandemic.

All current appointments received from sister jurisdictions as well as copies of the patents forwarded for presentation are on file in the Grand Office. All correspondence received and sent is also filed in the Grand Office and is available for inspection upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Howard on behalf of the Committee

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

To: The Grand Council of Vermont now in session.

From: Membership Committee

Charge: Active recruitment, candidate mentoring, development of membership material.

Goals: To provide the tools and the assistance to improve membership in each subordinate body and to help maintain vibrant Chapters, Councils and Commanderies.

As always, the Membership Committee stands ready to provide assistance in all matters of membership. In particular, we would like to remind our members that we have material available to use in promoting York Rite, including several “plays” that can be used in Blue Lodge. On this note, we vigorously encourage more Blue Lodge talks & presentations to inform Master Masons about York Rite as they are our future members. We would like to encourage our companions to sign up for the Weekly Decryption newsletter, found on the General Grand Council website: <https://www.crypticmasons.org/>. We are pleased by the increased use of the Cryptic Masonry Education Course (Robert G. Davis), recently developed as a complement to Piers Vaughn’s Capitular Development Course for the Chapter degrees. Companions needing assistance in ordering these materials may contact any member of the committee.

Fraternally Submitted,

Joshua Retchless, Chair
William Karstens IV
Willis J. Morse

REPORT OF THE YORK RITE COLLEGE LIAISONS COMMITTEE

To: The Grand Council of Vermont now in session.

From: York Rite College Liaison Committee

As with last year, activity has still been minimized due to the pandemic, so there's not much different to report. For the time being, the Orders of the Anointed High Priest and Silver Trowel are dormant until such time as it makes sense to resurrect them. As always, an ongoing area of work for the College, is the overall coordination of statewide York Rite meetings and degrees. Effective communication among the various bodies is a necessary component of this coordination but this is not always consistent. Most importantly, however, is the general state of York Rite in Vermont which is in serious condition due to the rapid decline in membership due to deaths and demits, loss of depth to recruit new leaders, and fewer active Blue Lodge members to draw from. This is an ongoing concern and continues to be at the forefront of our efforts.

Fraternally Submitted,

William Karstens, Chair

Bruce R. Howard

Roland Woodard

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in session:

Nothing was forwarded to this committee relative to dispensations and charters. Therefore, the committee had no business to conduct.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Murray

David W. Schuler

Willis J. Morse, Chair

NECROLOGY REPORT

GRAND COUNCIL R. & S.M. OF VERMONT

June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in Session:

Your Committee on Necrology reports that fourteen (14) Companions have laid down their trowels and passed through the portals of the grave and are now at eternal rest. Included in this list are the names of Morris Gwynn Tucker and Alexis Jean Parent, both Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters. This is the most unpleasant task your Recorder must complete on an annual basis, but the list of names invokes happy memories of the work performed alongside our missing Companions.

Do not go gentle into that good night

[Dylan Thomas](#)

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height,
Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.
Do not go gentle into that good night.
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

With deep sadness,

Donald C. Murray, Chair
Bruce R. Howard

Grand Council R. & S.M. of Vermont

List of deceased Companions 2021-2022

BARRE #22

Companion Glen C. Dow *
Companion Richard Bowen
Companion Bruce Judd
Companion Ronald Parnigoni
Companion Ronald Green

BURLINGTON #5

Companion Alexis Jean Parent, Jr. **

DAVENPORT #12

Companion Jesse Billings, III
Companion Morris Gwynn Tucker **

MIDDLEBURY #14

Companion Wendell S. Johnson
Companion Gale F. Stanley
Companion Robert G. Oliver
Companion John A. Bicknell

ORLEANS #19

Companion Pierre-Denis Leger *

SPRINGFIELD #18

Companion Laurence H. Roberts, Jr.

* Past Thrice Illustrious Master

** Most Illustrious Past Grand Master

THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS OF VERMONT
Reports of the Finance Committee
June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont, Now in Session:

Your Finance Committee met at Granite Lodge #35 in Barre, VT, on May 9, 2022, with the Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer and the Right Illustrious Grand Recorder.

The members of this Finance Committee wish to thank the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder for their cooperation. We also wish to thank the Most Illustrious Grand Master for the opportunity to serve this Grand Council.

Our Grand Treasurer and Right Illustrious Grand Recorder are commended for the manner in which the financial affairs of this Grand Council are managed and administered. The Companions of this Grand Council have a right to be very proud of the accomplishments of these two hard-working and dedicated Grand Officers.

Report Number 1, Approval of Accounts

Your Finance Committee has examined the records, books, and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder and is pleased to report that we have found them to be in proper order and well kept, with the expenditures supported by vouchers and all monies received properly recorded.

Most Illustrious Grand Master, if there are no questions or comments, this Committee moves the acceptance of this Committee Report and the approval of the Reports of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Murray

John L. Montross

Willis J. Morse, Chairman

Report Number 2, Expenditures Budget

	2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023
DISBURSEMENTS	Budget	Actual	Budget
B1 Grand Recorder's Expense	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
B2 Grand Treasurer Expense	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
B3 Print Proceedings	\$ 100.00	\$ 116.88	\$ 100.00
B4 Office Expense	\$ 700.00	\$ 880.23	\$ 700.00
B5 Rent	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
B6 PGM Jewel and Apron	\$ 140.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 140.00
B7 Annual Assembly	\$1,250.00	\$ 100.00	\$1,250.00
B8 Awards	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 200.00
B9 General Grand Council Dues	\$ 750.00	\$ 717.50	\$ 700.00
B10 G.M. Travel	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
B11 Insurance	\$ 300.00	\$ 236.22	\$ 300.00
B12 Miscellaneous	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
B13 DeMolay/Youth	\$ 150.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 150.00
B14 Triennial Fund	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
TOTALS:	\$6,140.00	\$4,600.83	\$6,090.00

Most Illustrious Grand Master, if there are no comments or questions, this Committee moves the acceptance of this report and approval of the proposed 2022-2023 budget.

Fraternally Submitted,

Donald C. Murray

John L. Montross

Willis J. Morse, Chairman

Report Number 3, Per Capita Tax

As in the past several years, a sincere effort was made to decrease expenses and, as a result, the proposed budget was slightly decreased. Consequently, the Finance Committee recommends that the per capita tax remain at \$23.00 this year, and that this per capita tax be paid into the General Fund of the Grand Council, and that budget items be paid from this account.

This Committee moves acceptance of this report and adoption of the recommendation herein contained.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Murray

John L. Montross

Willis J. Morse, Chairman

Report Number 4, Committee Recommendations

This Committee recommends the following:

- ✓ That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to transfer unexpended balances in any of the budget items for which enough money was not appropriated.
- ✓ That any contemplated item of expense not covered by the budget be approved by the Finance Committee before the money is expended.
- ✓ That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to use monies from our interest accounts to make up any difference between the per capita income and the operating expense estimated in the budget presented to and approved by this Grand Council.

This Committee moves the acceptance of this report and adoption of the recommendation herein contained.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Murray

John L. Montross

Willis J. Morse, Chairman

Report Number 5, Recommendations regarding travel expense payment

The Finance Committee recommends that any Travel Expense Payment made to the Most Illustrious Grand Master be contingent on submittal of his travel itinerary and documentation, which shall be reviewed by the Finance Committee prior to the issuing of such payment.

If there are no questions or comments, this Committee moves the acceptance of this report and the recommendation adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Murray

John L. Montross

Willis J. Morse, Chairman

Most Illustrious Grand Masters
From date of Organization with Year of Election

<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Year</u>
* Nathan B. Haswell	5	1854	* Rodney R. Ellis	10	1932
* Gamaliel Washburn	4	1855-58	* John O. Baxendale	5	1933
* Stephen H. Pierce	6	1859	* P. Conant Voter	14	1934
* Henry Ruggles	10	1860-61	* Berton L. Lewis	8	1935
* Edward S. Dana	14	1862-65	* Harry C. Fisher	22	1936
* Squire Marcy	8	1866-67	* Zeno S. Waterman	13	1937
* Edward S. Dana	14	1868-1875	* Edward W. Curtis	12	1938
* Albert C. Hubbell	3	1876-80	* Harley M. Watkins	5	1939
* Frederick S. Fisher	3	1881-82	* Ernest W. Savage	19	1940
* Frank S. Bascom	5	1883	* Arthur Anderson	22	1941
* W. H. S. Whitcomb	5	1884-86	* Walter F. Chapman	12	1942
* Henry H. Ross	2	1887-89	* Edward W. Rawson	8	1943
* Orrin W. Orcutt	3	1890-91	* Clarence M. Baker	9	1944
* Edwin O. Hibbard	6	1892-94	* Raymond H. White	14	1945
* Myron J. Horton	10	1895	* Alexander Rae	22	1946
* Don A. Stone	5	1896-97	* J. Harold Stacey	8	1947
* Charles A. Calderwood	13	1898	* Alfred E. Bishop	18	1948
* Daniel Payson	8	1899	* Charles A. Von Bruns	5	1949
* Edwin B. True	19	1900	* J. Wesley Murdock	14	1950
* Daniel S. Danforth	1	1901	* Walter H. Whitman	3	1951
* William H. Brewster	14	1902	* Clarence Akerstrom	10	1952
* Charles S. Robinson	12	1903	* George C. Bishop	18	1953-54
* George F. Flanders	8	1904	* Allen M. Cline	14	1955
* Orville C. Baker	9	1905	* Frederick W. Fletcher	12	1956
* George F. Root	19	1906	* George E. Cummings	8	1957
* David A. Elliot	8	1907	* Cyrus A. Metcalf	14	1958
* Silas H. Danforth	1	1908	* Welland S. Horn	9	1959
* Isaac D. Bailey	16	1909	* Wilbur Y. Handy	18	1960
* Daniel C. Noble	14	1910	* Arthur E. Dietrich	5	1961
* George I. Whitney	17	1911	* Walker F. Miles	3	1962
* Olin W. Daley	8	1912	* Arthur D. Bishop	14	1963
* Charles F. S. Pierce	2	1913	* Roland J. Bishop	18	1964
* Ferris R. Vaughan	16	1914	* Chester W. Watters	9	1965
* Dana S. Brownell	18	1915	* Frank H. Preble	14	1966
* Frederick H. Babbitt	17	1916	* Harold W. Davis	22	1967
* Deane S. Bliss	5	1917	* Ralph E. Berry	1	1968
* Harley T. Seaver	19	1918	* Franklyn H. Churchill	3	1969
* Henry L. Ballou	18	1919	Morris G. Tucker	12	1970
* Aaron H. Grout	19	1920	* Reginald A. Barnard	9	1971
* Fred H. Spaulding	18	1921	* Arnold H. Anderson	16	1972
* Archie S. Harriman	14	1922	* Charles A. Burgess	22	1973
* Henry D. Fillmore	3	1923	* Theodore H. Boisvert	1	1974
* Edwin B. Clift	10	1924	* Waldron C. Biggs	22	1975
* Wallace E. Gilbert	22	1925	* Raymond F. Sutton	12	1976
* Christie B. Crowell	16	1926	* Warren W. Pond	16	1977
* Fred H. Doloff	14	1927	James E. Selleck	14	1978
* Truman J. Allen	9	1928	* Angus A. Murray	22	1979
* Herbert T. Kelley	17	1929	* Clyde H. Putnam	3	1980
* Frank W. Corliss	18	1930	* Roger F. Spaulding	5	1981
* Alfred C. Wilson	10	1931	* Trafton M. Hoisington	8	1982

**Most Illustrious Grand Masters
From date of Organization with Year of Election**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Year</u>
*	David E. Cumming	22	1983
*	Joseph T. Maclay	8	1984
*	Donald S. Seeley	12	1985
*	Rodney A. Akers	8	1986
+	Aurele Gagne	1	1987
*	Cedric L. Smith	22	1988
*	Brent N. Martin	22	1989
	James R. Winner, III	14	1990
	Palmer E. Martin	22	1991
	Arnold G. Preston	22	1992
	William W. Smith	19	1993
*	Donald C. Brown	22	1994
	Willis J. Morse	22	1995
*	Roy F. Nicholson	22	1996
+ *	Clyde T. Reynolds	8	1997
*	Herbert H. Harford	8	1998
**	David L. Phelps	13	1999
*	Russell A. Goslant	22	2000
	Belford A. Belles	22	2001
	Guy W. Oldenburgh	1	2002
	Daniel Ebbighausen	8	2003
*	Alexis J. Parent, Jr.	5	2004
*	Eugene C. Corliss	22	2005
	David H. Bartlett	22	2006
	Donald C. Murray	22	2007
	Russell J. Slora	22	2008
	Douglas K. Boardman	22	2009
*	Edward A. Gee	14	2010
	Bruce R. Howard	12	2011
*	Jonathan P. Park	22	2012
%	Robert R. Senn	12	2013
	Robert Bryant	12	2014
	Kirk C. White	22	2015
	William Karstens, IV	5	2016
	Michael J. Ladd, Sr.	19	2017
	Eric C. Steele	5	2018-2019
	David W. Schuler	5	2020-2021
	Joshua Retchless	22	2022

* Deceased

+ Dimitted

** Died in Office

% Suspended

LIVING PAST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
James E. Selleck 11 Moosalamoo Club Road Salisbury, VT 05769-9803	1978	Donald C. Murray P.O. Box 24 Graniteville, VT 05654-0024	2007
^ Aurele Gagne 645 Holly Street Bullhead City, AZ 86442	1987	Russell J. Slora 316 Farwell Street Barre, VT 05641-9701	2008
James R. Winner, III P.O. Box 161 Middlebury, VT 05753-0161	1990	Douglas K. Boardman 27 Upper Village Road Chelsea, VT 05038	2009
Palmer E. Martin 84 Washington Street Barre, VT 05641-4239	1991	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701-2544	2011
Arnold G. Preston P.O. Box 86 Chelsea, VT 05038-0086	1992	Robert Bryant 21 Broadview Terrace Granville, NY 12832-1101	2014
William W. Smith 606 Pleasant Street Newport, VT 05855	1993	Kirk C. White 307 Christian Hill Road Bethel, VT 05032	2015
Willis J. Morse 3267 Crosset Hill Road Waterbury, VT 05676	1995	William Karstens IV 52 Bingham Lane Williston, VT 05495	2016
Belford A. Belles 464 Grove Hill Road Thetford Ctr., VT 05075	2001	Michael J. Ladd PO Box 146 Glover, VT 05839-0146	2017
Guy W. Oldenburgh 395 Eldorado Lane Dobson, NC 27017	2002	Eric Steele 6 Gazo Avenue Burlington, VT 05408	2018-2019
Daniel Ebbighausen P.O. Box 558 Windsor, VT 05089-0558	2003	David W. Schuler 3 Valley's Edge Jericho, VT 05465-2001	2020-2021
David H. Bartlett 2907 Kathleen Drive Forest Hill, MD 21050	2006		
^ Demitted			

M.I Grand Masters Address

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont – June 12, 2022

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont now Assembled:

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you again this past year as your Most Illustrious Grand Master. This an honor that I never expected to receive when I first joined York Rite, and I thank all of the Companions who have provided guidance and assistance throughout my journey. They always set a high bar and have expectations that, while not always achievable, are in the best interests of our Craft.

I was first installed into the office of Most Illustrious Grand Master two years ago via the first “Grand Zoom Council” meeting in the history of Vermont, and elected this past year to serve a second term at the first “Grand Hybrid Council”. These are both firsts that I hope we will not have to repeat again. It is with great joy that we are holding our 169th Annual Assembly in-person and that we can meet together in unity.

During this past year, Covid continued to impact the ability to meet and gather freely. As Masons, we each had our comfort level and were also cognizant of the concerns of our fellow fraters. Some meetings were canceled, some held remotely, and some held in-person with a lesser number of members in attendance. As the year progressed we slowly saw most local Council meetings being held in person, but with attendance challenges. This is Challenge #1, the re-engagement of our members.

As our Masonic bodies opened up this year, we saw a number of candidates who have been waiting for up to two years for degrees and orders in nearly every Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery. We have candidates, waiting either for their Royal or Select Master degrees, and we need to fulfill our promise to them; to provide an excellent experience and see that they do not linger longer than necessary. After more than a year, our ritual needs a little dusting off, we need to ensure we allow ample time to rehearse, and we need to move on these degrees. This is Challenge #2, ensuring that our candidates have timely opportunities to complete their Council degrees.

Prior to the pandemic, a number of Councils required assistance with key parts of the degrees, and there were companions who could step-up and assist. Today, due to the increased age of some of our members and also the attendance challenges previously stated, it is harder to find companions who can fill some of these key positions in a degree. This is Challenge #3, encouraging, motivating, and mentoring newer (and younger) members to learn a key part of a degree.

We have to work to re-engage our membership, ensure our candidates have opportunities to complete their Council journey, and encourage, motivate and mentor our members to step-up and learn key degree parts. After these past two years, many members are not in the habit of meeting “Every 3rd Thursday” for their local Council meeting. We need to [continue to] reach out, pick up the telephone, and provide a reason for our members to come out each month. This is the time to look at our meetings and ensure that we are providing a better Masonic experience than we have in the past. This goes for all bodies in Freemasonry, not just Councils.

During the year, I was fortunate to be able to attend annual Grand Council assemblies in our New England states, including: New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, Maine,

New Hampshire, and Connecticut. I also attended the Zoom assembly of the Eastern Jurisdiction of Canada, Royal & Select Masters. I was welcomed at each of these Grand Assemblies, and was pleased to represent each of our Vermont companions at these sessions. Also, as the self-elected “Grand Syrup Bearer”, I was warmly greeted at every meeting I attended and found many familiar faces no matter where I went. This is fraternalism!

Within Vermont, I have had the opportunity to visit most Councils across the state and see first hand the dedication of the members and officers, those who are keeping the York Rite alive for future generations. It was during these visits (both in-person and virtually), and discussions with our companions, where my three challenges to the health of our Rite were formulated.

We will continue to see the effects of Covid-19 linger for years. We hope that the long-term health of our members does not continue to be impacted by the disease. We recognize that some members may not be able to attend every meeting in-person, but will encourage our members to attend their local councils whenever possible.

Necrology

It is my sad duty to report that during this past year we lost 14 of our Council Companions, including two Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters: Companion Morris “Mo” Gwynn Tucker, and Companion Alexis “Bill” Jean Parent, Jr. May the Lord receive these Companions into the Grand Lodge above and welcome them into His loving arms. We will miss their Earthly presence deeply.

The official report of the Committee on Necrology appears elsewhere in these proceedings.

Northeast York Rite Conference

The Northeast York Rite Conference was held on Sept 9-11, 2021 in Albany NY. I was pleased to represent the Grand Council of Vermont at these sessions along with attendance by other members of your Grand Council, to participate in the presentations and discussions, and to meet virtually with my peers from throughout the Northeast. Vermont companion William “Sandy” Karstens, M.I. Past Grand Master and Northeast Regional Deputy General Grand Master is to be commended for his part in ensuring that this annual conference was a success in 2021.

Dispensations & Edicts

This year I issued no dispensations or edicts.

Middlebury Council #14 has finished its by-laws review and the new version has been submitted. Middlebury Council #14 is also moving their location from Salisbury to Brandon and changing the meeting night from the third Tuesday to the fourth Tuesday. This still requires the final approval from Davenport Council #12. The finalization of this merger will become one of the first activities for the incoming MIGM to complete.

There is a situation concerning Davenport Council #12 in Rutland. At this time, it is not clear how this will work out, and will need to be closely monitored by the incoming M.I. Grand Master.

Although Covid continue to be an issue this year, no specific edicts were issued from the Grand Council of VT. The overarching edicts of M.W. James B Stevens, Grand Master of Vermont

applied equally to our Councils as they did to the Blue Lodges and were sufficient, in my opinion, that additional edicts were not required.

C.M.M.R.F.

The Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation charity drive this year was limited. However, with R.P.C. G Thomas Taylor as General Grand PCW, there was renewed focus on the activities of this foundation. I thank all of the Companions who contributed to CMMRF this year and helped make its fundraising one of the beacons of light during this trying year. At the conclusion of our annual sessions, proceeds from the basket raffle and 50/50 drawing will be divided among the three York Rite charities, including CMMRF. Thank you for supporting our charity.

Visitations and Travel

[A full copy of my Masonic travels from this term has been provided for the annual proceedings in a separate document.]

Awards

This year I am pleased to be presenting two awards: Cryptic Mason of the Year, and Adult Leadership Award. I will also be presenting the Youth Advocate Award (from 2021) to a worthy recipient who could not be present at last year's session.

The recipient of this year's Cryptic Mason of the Year Award is Johann "Jim" Nortz, a member of Springfield Council #16. Jim has been the cement that holds together the York Rite bodies of Springfield for many years. That's what a Council recorder does!!! His persistence in ensuring their meeting location is open and ready for meetings, in contacting companions using whatever method he can (sometimes I think it may be pony express or telegraph!), and also in ensuring that candidates receive their degrees. He has driven many miles to bring candidates to degrees, and is always present for their degrees. Without Jim, there probably would not be any York Rite presence in the Windsor County / Springfield area.

When Covid hit, Jim was one of the first in VT to attempt to hold a non-tyled meeting online using Zoom. It took some time and effort, but Jim made that effort to engage his local members and also a few online visitors. For this and many more reasons I am pleased to present Bro and Companion Jim with this year's Cryptic Mason of the Year award.

The recipient of this year's Adult Youth Leadership Award is Austin Isham Sr, a past advisor for the Charles B Adams Chapter of DeMolay, Waterbury. Austin Isham Sr became involved with DeMolay as an advisor for the Wilbert E. Thompson Chapter in 1999 and later on became an advisor for the Charles B. Adams Chapter in Waterbury. Over the years he has been involved with jurisdictional fundraisers, parking cars for the Highland games in Quechee. He has helped cover chapter meetings, so young men could hold their chapter meetings. He has helped transport young men to visit other jurisdictions for Conclaves and Brotherhood. After being involved with DeMolay for several years, Austin Isham Sr joined Winooski Lodge No. 49 in Waterbury, VT being raised as Master Mason on 9/22/2001. For all of his hard work behind the scenes to support DeMolay in Vermont, I am pleased to present Bro Austin with this year's Adult Youth Leadership Award.

The final award that I am presenting this year is actually from 2021. Due to the COVID pandemic, the recipient of this award was unavailable, and an opportunity to present it did not occur. This year, I am pleased to present the 2021 Cryptic Masons Adult Youth Advocate Award to David McAllister, District Deputy for District #13 and a member of Mt Vernon Lodge #8, Morrisville.

David is the Executive Director for Laraway Youth & Family Services, located in Johnson Vermont. Laraway serves children, youth and families from across Vermont, providing programs and services for a wide range of students. From students with learning disabilities and mental health issues, to those who have been abused or neglected, and those with behavioral and emotional disorders, Laraway provides services to the students, their families, and foster families so that they can appropriately care and advocate for their children.

David is furthermore being recognized for his long-term commitment to youth in the community and throughout Vermont. He is past President of the Green Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America, and has served as the Director for a number of National Youth Leadership Training programs, preparing youth with the leadership skills and experience they can use in situations requiring the leadership of self and others. He is a long-time basketball coach for Morrisville Girls Youth Basketball programs where he has led “his” girls teams to a number of victories. He is also a frequent stand-in umpire for Little League when necessary. David is a member of Mount Vernon Lodge #8, Morrisville VT. He is serving as the District Deputy Grand Master for District #13, Grand Lodge of Vermont F&AM, and is a past member of Vermont York Rite. For this and many more reasons I am pleased to present Bro David with the first Adult Youth Advocate Award for Vermont.

Condition of the Order

Little has changed since last year’s report. The condition of the York Rite overall, and that of the Councils in Vermont in particular is concerning. It is not a surprise that the number of Master Masons has been on the decline, and consequently York Rite membership has also been declining. This has impacted our Councils and their ability to legally open and conduct work. However, we must not let this be an excuse to sit back and “throw in the towel”. The York Rite has an important message that all Master Masons need to hear. A Blue Lodge Mason’s journey should not be considered complete until he has received the Holy Royal Arch and continued to find further light through the experience of the Cryptic degrees.

All Councils must ensure that their members receive proper education on the degrees. In the past, it was assumed that a degree (or more) a month would be conferred on new members. This allowed little time for educating our new members, and it also prevented our current members from expanding their knowledge. Councils are now taking a little more time to provide education to their members. New members are having an opportunity to reflect and understand the degree they recently completed, and current members can reflect and ask questions about aspects of the degrees that they never fully understood. Together, this is bringing members together and improving the quality of our knowledge and providing for a positive experience.

All Councils must improve their communication with their own members, with other Councils, and with Grand Officers. We must communicate the dates of meetings and degrees, ask for help when needed, and actively invite others to attend meetings. Councils must have a purpose and plan for each meeting. This may be a degree, a specific education topic, a Council of Instruction, or a fellowship opportunity. Meetings without a purpose will not help us succeed in the long term.

Finally, the Grand Council of Vermont is also experiencing some of the same issues that are facing our local Councils. The decline of membership in York Rite and the fact that many Councils have officer terms that last two years, has resulted in difficulty to fill Grand lines throughout all of Vermont. While the problem has been growing for several years, it has continued to be a problem this year. We must redouble our efforts to identify good Masonic men and help them to start their York Rite journey.

Recommendations

The following are my recommendations for the next Cryptic year:

- Continue to encourage Councils to deliver Masonic education at meetings, and to utilize existing materials such as those available from the General Grand Council and from other state jurisdictions.
- Direct each Grand Council officer to prepare an educational segment on a topic of his choice that can be presented when he visits a Council, and encourage Grand Council Officers to actively visit Councils throughout the state.
- Encourage Councils to improve communication with: their members, other Councils, and Grand Council officers. Publicize and share information on meetings, degrees, events and fellowship opportunities.
- Improve communication within our own Grand Council, to have more regular communications with and between Grand Officers throughout the year.
- Continue holding regular Zoom calls between the heads of the York Rite organizations to improve communication. This should also include the State Ambassador(s) representing General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council.

My Companions It has been a pleasure to serve this second term as your MI Grand Master, representing all of the Companions of Vermont. My congratulations again to all award recipients. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of our Grand Recorder, without whose efforts it would nearly impossible for us all to be here today. Bruce Howard, Thank You!

Thank You Companions for allowing me this opportunity for this past year to serve YOU.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont
W. Schuler
M.I Grand Master

GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT AWARDS

Cryptic Mason of the Year Award

1977 Fletcher Hall, Jr.
1978 Clinton W. Demeritt
1979 James G. Foster
1980 Branch A. Warner
1981 Robert J. O'Hara
1982 Brent N. Martin
1983 Robert S. Boyce
1984 Phillip D. Goss
1986 Oscar D. Garcia
1988 Steven G. Coull
1989 William W. Smith
1990 Donald W. Gerrish
1991 Clyde T. Reynolds
1993 Willard B. Farnham
1995 Alden F. Atwood
1996 Leroy K. Warren
1997 L. James Daniels
1998 James O. Fendley
1999 John A. Birkett
2000 Eugene A. Corliss
2001 Bruce I. Morse
2002 Douglas K. Boardman
2003 Donald C. Murray
2004 Elmer M. Barlow
2008 Randy Ricker
2009 Jonathan P. Park
2010 Richard K. Button
2012 Michael Ladd
2013 William Karstens, IV
2015 Roland Woodard
2016 Joshua Retchless
2017 Matthew Ladd
2022 Johann "Jim" Nortz

Cryptic Masons Youth Award

1984 Raymond F. Sutton
1986 Stanley F. Rhodes
1988 Robert C. Mayo
1989 Richard O. Berry
1990 Aurele Gagne
1991 David E. Cumming
1992 Francis E. Welch
1994 Palmer E. Martin
1996 Walter L. Bell
1997 David A. Brown
1998 C. Chris Bridges
2002 Stephen E. Holcomb
2003 Katrina Smith
2008 Dale Pushee
2009 Shawn Brewster
2010 Kevin Anderson
2012 Debby Estey
2013 Thomas Johnston, IV
2015 Austin Isham, Jr.
2016 Penny Reen
2021 John Tester
2022 Austin Isham, Sr.

College of Preservation
Order of the Silver Trowel
Presented by Grand Council of Vermont

2013 Palmer E. Martin
2013 Jonathan P. Park
2013 Bruce R. Howard

2014 Donald C. Murray
2014 Russell J. Slora

2015 Willis "Bill" Morse
2015 Belford A. Belles

2021 James E. Selleck

Grand Council of Vermont Grand Representatives

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Near Vermont</u>	<u>Near other Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Grand Secretary</u>
Alaska	E. L. Douglass, Jr. 48 Deborah Drive Rutland, VT 05701		David A. Hunt 18606 Little Cape Cr Anchorage, AK 99577
Colorado	Stuart E. Peck 141 Clyde St Newport, VT 05855	Royal R. Maxwell 795 Macon St. Aurora 80014	Robert Applegate 1614 Welton Street #503 Denver, CO 80202
Connecticut	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701	Charles C. Maxson 41 Island View Ave Mystic 06355	Charles B. Fowler, Jr. 525 Stillwater Windsor, CT 06095-3842
Delaware	Guy Oldenburgh 395 Eldorado Lane Dobson, NC 27017	James H. Hutchins 623 N. Bradford St Dover 19901	Wayne T. Slack 812 Penn Pines Blvd Clifton Heights, PA 19018-4311
Illinois	Phillip D. Goss P.O. Box 222 St. Johnsbury, VT 05819	William D. Rose 925 Primm RD #412 Lincoln 62656	Dick J. Carroll 2207 Sunset Drive Pekin, IL 61554-5364
Kentucky	Palmer E. Martin 84 Washington St. Barre, VT 05641	Donald M. Estes 145 Locust Ave. Frankfort 40601	William G. Hinton P.O. Box 695 Shelbyville, KY 40666-0695
Maine	Daniel Ebbighausen P.O. Box 558 Windsor, VT 05089	David D. Dalzell 73 Bancroft Point Road Grand Manan, NB	Thomas Emery 9 Loring Avenue Auburn, ME 04210-1616
Maryland	William Karstens, IV 52 Bingham Lane Williston, VT 05495	Edward A. Foreman, Jr. 0 Maryland	Vernon H. Huebschman 1 Playfield Street Baltimore, MD 21222
Michigan	Edward E. Nawotka, Jr. 16 Country Club Drive Jericho, VT 05465	Robert J. Siekman 7720 S. 47th Road Cadillac, MI 49601-9540	Anthony M. Chamberlin, PMIGM 76 Michigan Avenue Marysville, MI 48040-1110
Minnesota	Keith W. Blake P.O. Box 6 South Pomfret, VT 05067	Charles Marston 2916 W. 220th St. Jordan 55352	Dexter C. Pehle PO Box 11 Virginia, MN 55792-0011
Missouri	James R. Winner, III P.O. Box 161 Middlebury, VT 05753	Glenn E. Means 2019 N.E. Avanti Ct Grain Valley 64022	Kevin B. Sample 325 E. Starla Road Columbia, MO 65202-6628
New Hamps.	Donald C. Murray P.O. Box 24 Graniteville, VT 05654	Dennis A. Sheridan PO Box 621 Littleton, NH 03561	Dennis A. Sheridan 55 Garys Drive, P.O. Box 621 Littleton, NH 03561
New York	Russell J. Slora 316 Farwell Street Barre, VT 05641	Harvey A. Eysman 15 Stonehenge Rd Great Neck 11021	Paul B. Matthews 192 Third Street Buchanan, NY 10511-1114
N. Dakota	Willis J. Morse 3267 Crossett Hill Rd Waterbury, VT 05676	George Kwitka PO Box 2203 Bismark, ND 58504	Merle L. Huhner P.O. Box 9544 Fargo, ND 58106-9544

Grand Council of Vermont Grand Representatives

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Near Vermont</u>	<u>Near other Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Grand Secretary</u>
Ohio	Douglas K. Boardman. 27 Upper Village Road Chelsea, VT 05038	Robert Drayne 1271 Worton Blvd Mayfield Heights, OH 44124	Merlyn E. Meredith 1231 East 286th Street Euclid, OH 44132
Pennsylvania	Belford A. Belles 464 Gove Hill Road Thetford Center, VT 05075	C Robert Lutchter 326 Main Street So Wmsport 17701	Freeman Z. Frey, III PO Box 4211 Harrisburg, PA 17111-4421
S. Carolina	James E. Selleck 11 Moosalamoo Club Road Salisbury, VT 05679-9031	Todd Schofield 1146 Nazareth Road Lexington, SC 29073	Johnnie T. Morris PO Box 7463, 1518 Hampton Columbia, SC 29202-7463
Tennessee	Leo A. Laflamme 17 Coolidge Road Springfield, VT 05156	Royce Peterson 665 Lori Circle Chuckey 37641	Marshall L. Horn PO Box 332748 Nashville, TN 37203-5729
Utah	David H. Bartlett 2907 Kathleen Drive Forest Hill, MD 21050	Harry B. Cohn 416 East 940 North #19 Ogden, UT 84404	Owen C. Orton 4220 South 4900 West West Valley, UT 84120
Washington	William W. Smith 606 Pleasant Street Newport, VT 05855	William R. Norton 6124 Cultus Bay Rd Clinton 98236	Forest A. Ryan 15006 180TH Ave. SE Monroe, WA 98272-1121
Wisconsin	Roger L. Patriquin 886 Bullock Rd Milton, VT 05468	Thomas Walton 1713 Hancock Lane Janesville 53545	Gary J. Parker 36275 Sunset Drive Dousman, WI 53118
CANADA - ONTARIO	Palmer E. Martin 84 Washington St. Barre, VT 05641	Brian R.S. Manson 1277 Trent River Road, RR3 Havelock, OH K0L 1Z0	Charles Meldum 25 Tanner Drive Stirling, ON K0K 3E0, Canada
FRANCE	Edward E. Nawotka, Jr. 16 Country Club Drive Jericho, VT 05465	***** 0 France	Philippe Martin 54 Rue Du Roc Blanc 63400 Chamalieres
GREECE	Theodore G. Corsones 1 Nickwackett St. Rutland, VT 05701	Pandelis Aetos Mastromanolis Greece	Constantinos N. Korontzis 19 Athens Street Athens, 10438, Greece
PORTUGAL	James Dolan 131 Stefansson Road Bethel, VT 05032	***** 0 Portugal	Manuel Moto Rus Joao Saraiva 34 - 1 1700-250Lisbon; Portugal
SCOTLAND	Roderick Maclay P.O. Box 28 So. Strafford, VT 05070	Ronald K. Lansley 16 Braid Hill Road Edinburgh EH10 6E2	Grahame J. Smith 23 St John Street Edinburgh, EH8 8DG, Scotland

Annual Travel Report			January 2022		
	David W. Schuler – M. J. Grand Master		01/09/22	General Grand Council Presents: Martin Faulks	Zoom
	2021-2022		01/11/22	NE General Grand Council Ambassador's Meeting	Zoom
			01/16/22	Green Mountain # 527 National Sojourners – Winter Meeting	Zoom
			01/16/22	Red Cross of Constantine – Star of Bethlehem	Zoom
			01/20/22	Barre York Rite – Regular Communication (Chapter/Council/Cmdry)	Zoom
June 2021			01/23/22	Red Cross of Constantine – St Helena Conclave Annual Mtg	Zoom
06/17/21	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington	Williston VT	01/23/22	Cryptic Fireside Chat – General Grand Council	Zoom
06/19/21	Allied Masonic Degrees – John Harris Council	Tilton NH	01/26/22	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
06/19/21	Allied Masonic Degrees – Red Branch of Eri	Tilton NH	01/27/22	Burlington York Rite – Regular Communication	Zoom
06/22/21	Grand Council AM D – Special Communication	Zoom	01/29/22	General Grand Chapter – Deputy's Meeting	Zoom
06/23/21	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Williston VT			
06/24/21	Burlington Chapter # 3 RAM – PM Degree	Williston VT			
06/26/21	HRAKTP – Palestine Tabernacle Ingathering	Tilton NH	February 2022		
06/26/21	KYCH – New Hampshire Priory # 58	Tilton NH	02/10/22	Masonic Week	Crystal City VA
06/27/21	KYCH – Vermont Priory # 45	Rutland VT	02/11/22	Masonic Week	Crystal City VA
			02/12/22	Masonic Week	Crystal City VA
July 2021			02/15/22	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington – Special Ex Board Mtg	Zoom
07/02/21	Funeral Service / Commandery Guard – Alexis J Parent	Richmond VT	02/17/22	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington	Williston VT
07/17/21	Funeral Service / Commandery Guard – Mo Tucker	Rutland VT	02/18/22	Vermont York Rite Heads of Bodies Meeting	Zoom
07/17/21	Vermont Rainbow Annual Assembly	Williston VT	02/23/22	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
07/20/21	AMD Lecture Series – "The Roberto Calvi Affair"	Zoom	02/24/22	Granite Chapter # 26 RAM – PM / MEM Degrees	Barre VT
07/28/21	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom	02/27/22	Memorial Service for Frank T Palmer (ME)	Zoom
07/29/21	Burlington Chapter # 3 RAM – MEM Degree	Williston VT	02/27/22	Cryptic Fireside Chat – General Grand Council	Zoom
07/31/21	Allied Masonic Degrees – Paul Revere Council	Newton MA			
07/31/21	NH York Rite Awards Banquet	Concord NH	March 2022		
			03/02/22	National Assn of Masonic Scouts – "Squaretable"	Zoom
August 2021			03/03/22	Thursday Night at the Rite – 30 th Degree – Grand Inspector	Zoom
08/07/21	Red Cross of Constantine – Granite State Conclave	Tilton NH	03/04/22	Grand Council of NJ – Annual	Toms River NJ
08/12/21	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Entered Apprentice Degree (SW)	Jericho VT	03/04/22	Grand Chapter/Council of NJ – Banquet	Toms River NJ
08/16/21	Mt Lebanon Chapter # 13 RAM – Regular Meeting	Bradford VT	03/05/22	Grand Chapter of NJ – Annual	Toms River NJ
08/18/21	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Business Meeting	Jericho VT	03/05/22	Grand Commandery of NJ – Annual	Toms River NJ
08/19/21	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington Recruitment Night	Williston VT	03/05/22	Grand Commandery of NJ – Banquet	Toms River NJ
08/20/21	Grand Council of NY – Annual	Albany NY	03/10/22	St John's Commandery # 1 – Commanders Dinner	Rehoboth Beach DE
08/21/21	Grand Council of NY – Annual	Albany NY	03/11/22	Jeese Green Priory # 70 KYCH	Rehoboth Beach DE
08/25/22	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom	03/11/22	Grand Commandery of DE – Annual	Rehoboth Beach DE
08/07/21	Burlington Chapter # 3 / Burlington Council # 5	Williston VT	03/11/22	Delaware Chapter – Knights Preceptor	Rehoboth Beach DE
			03/11/22	Grand York Rite of DE – Banquet	Rehoboth Beach DE
			03/12/22	Grand Council of DE – Annual	Rehoboth Beach DE
September 2021			03/12/22	Grand Chapter of DE – Annual	Rehoboth Beach DE
09/01/21	Washington Lodge # 3 Regular Communication /	Williston VT	03/17/22	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington	Williston VT
	Memorial Service for Pierre-Denis Leger		03/17/22	Thursday Night at the Rite – 27th Deg – Knight of Jerusalem	Williston VT
09/05/21	Green Mountain # 527 National Sojourners	Zoom	03/17/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Officer Installation	Jericho VT
09/09/21	NE York Rite Conference – Setup / Hospitality	Albany NY	03/19/22	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
09/10/21	NE York Rite Conference – Chapter / Council Meetings	Albany NY	03/23/22	Burlington York Rite – Regular Communication	Williston VT
09/11/21	NE York Rite Conference – NE Department Meeting	Albany NY	03/24/22	Scenic Council # 37 – Knight Masons	Pembroke NH
09/16/21	Scottish Rite - 4 th and 8 th Degrees / Dinner	Williston VT	03/26/22	John Harris Council # 458 - Allied Masonic Degrees	Pembroke NH
09/18/21	Grn Mtn # 527 Natl Sojourners / Oxbow Chapter DAR Mtg	Newbury VT	03/26/22	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington	Williston VT
09/19/21	Red Cross of Constantine – Star of Bethlehem	Williston VT	03/31/22	Thursday Night at the Rite - 11 th Deg – Sublime Master Elect	Williston VT
09/22/21	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Williston VT			
09/23/21	Burlington York Rite – Regular Communication	Williston VT	April 2022		
09/26/21	Cryptic Fireside Chat – General Grand Council	Zoom	04/01/22	Grand York Rite of RI – Banquet	Kingstown RI
09/28/21	District # 7 Annual Meeting – Seventy-Six Lodge	Swanton VT	04/02/22	Grand Chapter of RI – Annual	Kingstown RI
09/30/21	Granite Chapter # 26 RAM – Royal Arch Degree	Barre VT	04/02/22	Grand Council of RI – Annual	Kingstown RI
			04/09/22	Vermont College SRICF – Grade I - Zelator	South Royalton VT
October 2021			04/10/22	Green Mountain York Rite College	Barre VT
10/06/21	District # 5 Annual Meeting – Washington Lodge	Williston VT	04/10/22	Green Mountain # 527 National Sojourners – Spring Meeting	Zoom
10/09/21	Tri-State Cryptic Festival (NY, CT, MA)	Saugerties NY	04/12/22	NE General Grand Council Ambassador's Meeting	Zoom
10/10/21	Green Mountain York Rite College	Barre VT	04/14/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Regular Communication	Jericho VT
10/14/21	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Regular Communication	Jeffersonville VT	04/16/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Funeral Service for David Kelley	Underhill VT
10/18/21	Mt Lebanon Chapter # 13 RAM – Mark Master Degree	Bradford VT	04/22/22	Maine Allied Masonic Degrees	Portland ME
10/21/21	Mass York Rite Annuals	Westborough MA	04/22/22	Maine Past Officers Association	Portland ME
10/22/21	Mass York Rite Annuals	Westborough MA	04/22/22	Grand Council of ME – Annual	Portland ME
10/23/21	Mass York Rite Annuals	Westborough MA	04/22/22	Grand Chapter/Council of ME – Banquet	Portland ME
10/24/21	Green Mountain # 527 National Sojourners – Officers Mtg	Zoom	04/23/22	Grand Chapter of ME – Annual	Portland ME
10/25/21	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Master Mason Degree	Jericho VT	04/23/22	Grand Commandery of ME – Annual	Portland ME
10/26/21	Barre Council # 22 – Royal Master / Select Master Degrees	Barre VT	04/23/22	Grand Commandery of ME – Banquet	Portland ME
10/27/21	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom	04/23/22	Red Cross of Constantine – Star of Bethlehem – Annual	Williston VT
10/28/21	Burlington York Rite – Regular Communication	Williston VT	04/27/22	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
10/30/21	Funeral Service / Commandery Guard – Glenn Dow	Topsham VT	04/28/22	Burlington York Rite – Annual	Williston VT
10/30/21	Scenic Council # 37 – Knight Masons	Pembroke NH	04/29/22	Rutland Lodge # 79 – Annual Table Lodge	Rutland VT
November 2021			May 2022		
11/05/21	Red Cross of Constantine – Eastern Regional Assembly	Grantville PA	05/07/22	Grand Chapter RAM of Nova Scotia – Annual	Zoom
11/06/21	Red Cross of Constantine – Eastern Regional Assembly	Grantville PA	05/07/22	Eastern Jurisdiction of Canada Royal & Select Masters – Annual	Zoom
11/11/21	Clarence F Smith Daylight Lodge # 866 (CA)	Zoom	05/07/22	Eastern Jurisdiction of Canada Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners	Zoom
11/28/21	Cryptic Fireside Chat – General Grand Council	Zoom	05/12/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Regular Communication	Jericho VT
			05/13/22	Grand York Rite of NH – Banquet	Concord NH
December 2021			05/14/22	Grand Chapter of NH – Annual	Concord NH
12/05/21	St Aldemar Commandery – Order of the Temple Rehearsal	Barre VT	05/14/22	Grand Council of NH – Annual	Concord NH
12/06/21	Scottish Rite – Executive Board Meeting	Zoom	05/14/22	Grand Commandery of NH – Annual	Concord NH
12/08/21	National Assn of Masonic Scouts – "Squaretable"	Zoom	05/17/22	Granite Chapter # 26 RAM – Royal Arch Degree	Barre VT
12/09/21	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Regular Communication	Jericho VT	05/18/22	Master Mason Thistle Degree – Rutland Lodge # 79	Rutland VT
12/09/21	Clarence F Smith Daylight Lodge # 866 (CA)	Zoom	05/19/22	Barre York Rite – Regular Communication (Chapter/Council/Cmdry)	Williston VT
12/10/21	Scottish Rite – December's Rose	Williston VT	05/22/22	Red Cross of Constantine – St Helena Conclave	Barre VT
12/11/21	John Harris Council # 458 - Allied Masonic Degrees	Tilton NH	05/23/22	District # 5 Past Masters Assn – Annual Meeting, Installed as WPM	Williston VT
12/12/21	Mt Vernon Lodge # 8 – Holiday Party	Morrisville VT	05/25/22	Scottish Rite – Valley of Burlington Annual Meeting	Williston VT
12/13/21	Charity Lodge # 43 – Regular Communication	Bradford VT	05/26/22	Burlington York Rite – Burlington Chapter # 3	Williston VT
12/16/21	St Aldemar Commandery – Order of the Temple Conferral	Barre VT			
12/19/21	St Aldemar Commandery – Christmas Observance	Barre VT			
June 2022					
06/03/22	Grand Chapter/Council of CT – Banquet	Cromwell CT			
06/04/22	Grand Chapter of CT – Annual	Cromwell CT			
06/04/22	Grand Council of CT – Annual	Cromwell CT			
06/05/22	Vermont DeMolay – Legion of Honor Investiture	Bethel VT			
06/06/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Master Mason Degree	Jericho VT			
06/09/22	Mt Mansfield Lodge # 26 – Regular Communication	Jericho VT			
06/12/22	Grand Council of VT – Annual	Killington VT			

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