

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland
May 10, 2008 **Rockville,**
Maryland

Executive Summary of the First Semi-Annual Grand Assembly

The Most Illustrious Grand Master, Comp. Royce A. Watson opened this Grand Assembly in Ample Form.

Ten of Fifteen Councils were in attendance, 25 voting members were present including seven Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters.

The Proceedings, containing the record of the May 8, 2007 Grand Convocation, are in the hands of the editor being compiled into a master Compact Disk for reproduction.

The Report of the Grand Recorder:

Additions – 51 Greetings, 25 re-instatements, 19 corrections

Deletions – 22 Deaths, 7 Demits, 29 Suspension, 27 correction

Membership 3/31/2007 = 1162

Membership 3/31/2008 = 1158

The Report of the Grand Treasurer

Comp. Randolph B. Sayre, MIPGM

In the absence of Comp. Sayre, due to illness, the Grand Recorder read the report of the Grand Treasurer. The report demonstrated was wise investments which avoided the significant losses incurred by most investors over the same period

The Report of the Finance Committee

Comp. Robert H. McWilliams, MIPGM

The Committee found the books of the Grand Council to be a complete and accurate accounting of the financial conditions of the organization. The Committee stated again that the operating losses incurred by the Grand Council were largely the result of a failure to adjust initiation fees and per capita assessments in the past. The 2008 - 2009 Budget was presented and passed unanimously.

Equipment

The Finance Committee also noted that the Officer's jewels and aprons of the Grand Council Line were in great disrepair and needed to be replaced. The cost of replating jewels and repairs had been explored but nearly equaled those of simple replacement. A Motion was passed to provide up to \$5,000.00 from the Trustee's Funds for this purpose. MIPGM McWilliams agreed to supervise this task, and make the necessary arrangements with Macoy Publishing.

Amendments to the Constitution

One Amendment to the Constitution was presented prior to the Grand Assembly to increase the Greeting Fee to \$10.00 per petitioner, to raise the annual assessment to \$6.00 per member on the rolls as of the March 31st end date of the Cryptic Year; that no Council shall charge less than \$20.00 Initiation Fee. Passed Unanimously.

One Amendment was made on the floor and passed unanimously that the Installation of the Officers of subordinate Councils shall follow the Election of the Grand Council Officers at the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly.

Doings of Grand Officers

MIPGM Ponzillo asked that all Line Officers travelling on behalf of the Grand Council this Cryptic Year submit a report to him one month prior the October 23, 2008.

MIPGM Friel reported that there was no unfinished business from the 2007 Grand Assembly.

Committee on Youth

Comp. Richard P. Naegele, RIDGM

The Grand Council voted to support the Grand Commandery's Youth Day at Hershey Park on Sunday August 17, 2008, and voted to contribute \$500 for this purpose. MIGM Watson thanked Comp. Naegele for making the Youth visitations during the past twelve month.

August Scene

Comp. Frederick A. Spicer

This event will be held at Odenton Lodge on Saturday, August 9, 2008. Brochures were available in the lunch area, and on the Grand Lodge List Serve.

TIME and PLACE Committee

Comp. Richard P. Naegele, RIDGM

The Grand Council voted to select the Clarion Hotel in Aberdeen, MD as the site of the 2009 Grand Assembly, on the weekend of October 23 - 25, 2009. All three York Rite Bodies have approved the same motion and are working together in unity.

2008 York Rite Grand Sessions

Comp. Royce A. Watson. MIGM

The YR Grand Sessions will be held beginning Friday, October 24 and continuing through Sunday October 26, 2008 at the Best Western Hotel in LaVale, MD (just west of Cumberland, MD) with program meeting, luncheons and banquets at the Ali Ghan Shrine Temple in Cumberland, MD. Details will be mailed out in early July in a Call to the Sessions and brochure of events and activities.

A motion was adopted to provide meals for all invited guests from Sister Jurisdictions, and meals and lodging, apportioned among the three Grand Bodies when appropriate.

General Grand Council

Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

The Triennium of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council will be held in

Grand Council of Maryland Semi-Annual Grand Assembly May 10, 2008

Indianapolis, IN from August 24 -27, 2007.

Cryptic Masons Medical Research

Comp. Robert H. McWilliams, MIPGM

Contributions in excess of \$2000 have been made by Maryland Cryptic Masons. Companions and Councils are asked to make checks out the CMMR and mailed them to the Grand Recorder for posting. He will forward all checks to CMMR, with a report to the Chairman.

Election of Officers for the 2008 - 2009 Cryptic Year

The following were elected to serve this Grand Council in their respective offices:

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|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Most Illustrious Grand Master | Comp. Richard P. Naegele (Hiram No.5) |
| Right Ill. Deputy Grand Master | Comp. Ronald L. Augenbaugh (Acacia No.24) |
| Right Ill. Principal Conductor of the Work | Comp. James B Coker (Concordia No.1) |
| Right Ill Captain of the Guard | Comp. Kris Brown (King Solomon No.13) |

The Annual Grand Assembly will be held in Cumberland on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in Cumberland MD at the Ali Ghan Shrine Temple.