

GRAND COUNCIL  
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS  
of the  
STATE OF VERMONT  
CONSTITUTED AUGUST 10, 1834  
Proceedings of the  
ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SIXTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
Held in Killington, Vermont

Tuesday, June 9, 2009, A.D. 3009\*

RUSSELL J. SLORA, M.I. Grand Master

DONALD C. BROWN, R.I. Grand Recorder  
BRUCE R. HOWARD, Assistant 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, (2008 + 1000 = 3008)

Grand Council of Vermont  
Companion Douglas K. Boardman  
Most Illustrious Grand Master  
2009 – 2010



# Grand Council of Vermont

## Companion Douglas K. Boardman

Most Illustrious Grand Master 2009- 2010

Companion Doug was born in Barre, VT on June 1, 1949, the first of seven children to Alfred K. and Phyllis A. (Mattoon) Boardman. He grew up in Chelsea Vermont where he attended elementary and high school. Companion Boardman served in the United States Navy. He is a life-long Chelsea resident. For nearly forty (40) years, he has worked as a carpenter and mason. He is employed by a Central Vermont commercial contractor where he has worked for thirty two (32) years.

Companion Boardman married Joan E. Nichols on July 11, 1975 in Chelsea, Vermont. They have two (2) sons, Tad and Jessie. Their two (2) granddaughters are Liorah and Bailey.

Companion Boardman's interests are horseshoes, fly fishing and snowmobiling when time permits. He is an avid Boston Red Sox fan.

Companion Boardman was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in George Washington Lodge #51 F. & A.M. in Chelsea, Vermont on April 28, 1995. He has served as Worshipful Master in 2004-2006 and is a member of the Past Masters Association.

Companion Boardman joined the York Rite Bodies of Vermont in 1996 in Barre, Vt. He served as Excellent High Priest of Granite Chapter #26 R.A.M. in 2001. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest for District #3 in 2003 and has received the Order of High Priesthood.

Companion Boardman served as Thrice Illustrious Master of Barre Council #22, Royal and Select Masters, as District Deputy Grand Master of District #3 in 2003-2004 and received the Order of the Silver Trowel. Companion Boardman is also the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Ohio near Vermont. At the Assembly of Vermont Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters, he served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2009. Companion Boardman was also honored with the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award in 2002.

Companion Boardman served as Eminent Commander of St. Aldemar Commandery #11 in 2007-2008. He has served the Grand Commandery of Vermont as Grand Jr. Warden and is the current Grand Captain General.

On April 27, 2003 Companion Boardman joined the Red Cross of Constantine, St. Helena Conclave #3, and served as Puissant Sovereign in 2008.

Companion Boardman also belongs to Green Mountain York Rite College #39, joining on October 20, 2008.

On June 28, 2009 Companion Boardman became a Knight of the York Cross of Honor, Priory #45.



**AND COUNCIL OF VERMONT  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
OFFICE OF THE GRAND RECORDER**

**NOTICE OF THE 156<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

To be read at the first stated assembly after receipt

**TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN:**

Pursuant to the General Regulations of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont, and by direction of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, all Grand Council Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, Past Most Illustrious Grand Masters, the first three Officers, the Recorder and the Past Thrice Illustrious Masters of Councils subordinate to and under the jurisdiction of said Grand Council, are hereby notified to meet in Annual Grand Assembly at the Killington Grand Hotel, Killington, Vermont on June 9th, 2009, at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the transaction of any and all business which may then and there be presented for consideration and disposition.

Each Recorder is charged with the duty of bringing this notice to the personal attention of the first three officers and the Past Thrice Illustrious Masters of his Council

Dated at Berlin, Vermont this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009 AD, Anno Dep. 3009.

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Russell J. Slora  
Most Illustrious Grand Master

Attest:

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Bruce R. Howard  
Assistant Grand Recorder

49 East Road- Berlin  
Barre, Vermont 05641-5390

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL  
OF  
CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL, 2008 - 2011

Joseph J. Vale 3609 Southwood Dr., Gastonia, NC 28056 • 704-824-3444 • Fax 704-824-7181	General Grand Master e-mail: <a href="mailto:JvaleMasonic@aol.com">JvaleMasonic@aol.com</a>
George C. Sellars	Deputy General Grand Master <a href="mailto:GSellarsGGCI@aol.com">GSellarsGGCI@aol.com</a>
Lawrence O. Weaver	General Grand Prin. Cond. Of Work <a href="mailto:lweaver@bctonline.com">lweaver@bctonline.com</a>
Kenneth D. Chandler	General Grand Treasurer e-mail: <a href="mailto:KDChan433@aol.com">KDChan433@aol.com</a>
David A. Grindle	General Grand Recorder <a href="mailto:idgyr@cableone.net">idgyr@cableone.net</a>
Rev. Glenn B. Everett	General Grand Chaplain <a href="mailto:revev@charter.net">revev@charter.net</a>
Ronald B. Blaisdell	Assistant Chaplain <a href="mailto:ron@blaisdell.com">ron@blaisdell.com</a>
Rev. Ronald E. Wood, Jr.	Assistant Chaplain <a href="mailto:rewjrl@ponyexpress.net">rewjrl@ponyexpress.net</a>
Jack (Jay) M. Callaham, Jr.	General Grand Captain of the Guard <a href="mailto:callaham@bellsouth.net">callaham@bellsouth.net</a>
Saul M. Tischler	General Grand Conductor of the Council <a href="mailto:Migmnj2k@comcast.net">Migmnj2k@comcast.net</a>
J. Gordon Cartrette	General Grand Marshal <a href="mailto:jgcartrette@charter.net">jgcartrette@charter.net</a>
Howard K. Boxmeyer	General Grand Steward <a href="mailto:brboxmeyer@yahoo.com">brboxmeyer@yahoo.com</a>
Howard F. Entwistle	General Grand Sentinel <a href="mailto:Hentwistle44@comcast.net">Hentwistle44@comcast.net</a>
Robert Malwitz	Chief Ambassador <a href="mailto:bobandjanmalwitz@yahoo.com">bobandjanmalwitz@yahoo.com</a>
Robert H. Cook	General Grand Organist <a href="mailto:RHCook!@juno.com">RHCook!@juno.com</a>

## REGIONAL DEPUTY GENERAL GRAND MASTERS

Frederick I. Waldron	N.E. Region	
124 Liberty Street, Lodi, NJ 07644-3213		<a href="mailto:fwaldron@yahoo.com">fwaldron@yahoo.com</a>
Douglas L. Soltow	S.E. Region	
PO Box 6, NC 28563Harley E. Keaton		<a href="mailto:dsoltow@gmail.com">dsoltow@gmail.com</a>
Stanton T. Brown	S.C. Region	
PO Box 230, Buckner, MO 64016-0230		<a href="mailto:stan1200@earthlink.net">stan1200@earthlink.net</a>
J. Michael Atchley	S.W. Region	
2552 N. Santa Rosa Ave, Tuscon, AZ 85712		<a href="mailto:jmatch@theriver.com">jmatch@theriver.com</a>
Henry L. Seitz	E.C. Region	
E 710 Gerus Street, Stephenson, MI 49887-8923		<a href="mailto:editor@gl-mi.org">editor@gl-mi.org</a>
Robert D. Elsloo	N.W. Region	
517 Broadway Street, Sterling, CO 80751-2628		<a href="mailto:rdelsloo@msn.com">rdelsloo@msn.com</a>
Ronald W. Guthrie	N.C. Region	
PO Box 1841. Mason City, IA 50402-1841		<a href="mailto:braveheart90@mchsi.com">braveheart90@mchsi.com</a>
Norman R. Draine	Europe Region	
1 Manor Drive, Bonby Brigg, N. Lincolnshire, UK DN20 0QU		
011-0044-1652-618231		<a href="mailto:normanbonby@aol.com">normanbonby@aol.com</a>
Rui Ferreira da Silva, MD	Central America Region	
Asve Sernambetiba 6500 apto 103, Rio de Janeiro 26230-130, Brazil		
011-5521-87876364		<a href="mailto:ruisilva@mac.com">ruisilva@mac.com</a>
T.B.D.	Far East	

**OFFICERS  
GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT**

**for the Year 2009-2010**

M.I. GRAND MASTER	Douglas K. Boardman 27 Upper Village Road Chelsea, VT 05038	(802) 685-4565
R.I. DEP. GRAND MASTER	Edward A. Gee 228 Valley View, Apt B-4 Middlebury, VT 05753	(802) 377-7408
R.I. PRIN COND OF WORK	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701-2544	(802) 747-3959/cell 223-0411 <a href="mailto:howard47@myfairpoint.net">howard47@myfairpoint.net</a> <a href="mailto:bhoward@rrmc.org">bhoward@rrmc.org</a>
R.I. GRAND TREASURER	Roger M. Pike P.O. Box 864 Rutland, VT 05702-0864	(802) 775-2756 <a href="mailto:rmpike@msn.com">rmpike@msn.com</a>
I. ASST GR. TREASURER	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701-2544	(802) 223-0411 office <a href="mailto:howard47@myfairpoint.net">howard47@myfairpoint.net</a> <a href="mailto:bhoward@rrmc.org">bhoward@rrmc.org</a>
R.I. GRAND RECORDER	Donald C. Brown 1232 Hebert Road Williamstown, VT 05679	(802) 433-5419 <a href="mailto:Jenniendon2934@yahoo.com">Jenniendon2934@yahoo.com</a>
I. ASST. GR. RECORDER	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701-2544	(802) 223-0411 office <a href="mailto:howard47@myfairpoint.net">howard47@myfairpoint.net</a> <a href="mailto:bhoward@rrmc.org">bhoward@rrmc.org</a>
I. GR. CAPT OF THE GUARD	Jonathan P. Park 768 Pattrel Road Norwich, VT 05055	(802) 649-8871 <a href="mailto:jpp@hitchcock.org">jpp@hitchcock.org</a>
I. GRAND CONDUCTOR OF THE COUNCIL	Robert Senn 4096 Route 144 Fair Haven, VT 05743-9645	(802) 537-2983 <a href="mailto:rsenn@arsu.org">rsenn@arsu.org</a>
I. GRAND CHAPLAIN	Merlin T. Doyle 95 Corinth Road Chelsea, VT 05038	(802) 685-4662

I. ASST. GR. CHAPLAIN	Donald C. Brown 1232 Hebert Road Williamstown, VT 05679	(802) 433-5419 <a href="mailto:Jenniendon2934@yahoo.com">Jenniendon2934@yahoo.com</a>
I. GRAND LECTURER	Pierre-Denis Leger 20 Selby Road Frelighsburg, QE J0J 1C0	450-298-5416 <a href="mailto:ask1.tobe.1@gmail.com">ask1.tobe.1@gmail.com</a>
I. GRAND MARSHALL	Randy A. Ricker 72 Twin Peaks Road Waterbury Center, VT 05677	(802) 244-7163 <a href="mailto:raricker@myfairpoint.net">raricker@myfairpoint.net</a>
I. GRAND STEWARD	Richard K. Button 132 Bobbin Shop Road Chelsea, VT 05038	(802) 685-6683
I. GRAND SENTINEL	Kirk C. White 307 Christian Hill Road Bethel, VT 05032	(802) 234-9670 <a href="mailto:laurelin@sover.net">laurelin@sover.net</a>
I. GRAND ORGANIST	vacant	
I. GRAND HISTORIAN	Eric Ginette 193 McKinstry Road Cabot, VT 05647	(802) 563-2558 <a href="mailto:aieon@fairpoint.net">aieon@fairpoint.net</a>

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

D.D.G.M. DISTRICT NO. 1 Councils #1, 5, 14	Edward E. Nawotka, Jr. 16 Country Club Drive Jericho, VT 05465	(802) 434-5000 <a href="mailto:EnawotkaJr@aol.com">EnawotkaJr@aol.com</a>
D.D.G.M. DISTRICT NO. 2 Councils #3, 9, 12	Robert H. "Red" Landon 3887 VT Route 103 Shrewsbury, VT 05738	(802) 773-6671 <a href="mailto:redandjudy@gmail.com">redandjudy@gmail.com</a>
D.D.G.M. DISTRICT NO. 3 Councils #19, 22	Jon E. Babcock 3916 N. Randolph Road Randolph Center, VT 05061	(802) 728-5693 <a href="mailto:dpbvt@sover.net">dpbvt@sover.net</a>
D.D.G.M. DISTRICT NO. 4 Councils #8, 18	E. Lawrence Douglass, Jr. 48 Deborah Drive Rutland, VT 05701	(802) 773-3966 <a href="mailto:douglassl@earthlink.net">douglassl@earthlink.net</a>

**Committee Assignments  
of the  
GRAND COUNCIL OF VERMONT  
for the Year 2009-2010**

CREDENTIALS	James E. Selleck, Winston W. Harper, Russell A. Goslant
FINANCE	Willis J. Morse, Douglas Boardman, Donald C. Murray
JURISPRUDENCE	Palmer E. Martin, David E. Cumming, Donald C. Brown
GRIEVANCES	David H. Bartlett, Brent N Martin, Daniel Ebbighausen
DISPENSATIONS & CHARTERS	Belford A. Belles, David E. Cumming, David K. Campbell
PLACE AND TIME	Douglas K. Boardman, Edward A. Gee, Bruce Howard
DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS	Palmer E. Martin, Belford A. Belles, Thomas E. Grace
NECROLOGY	Donald Brown, Cedric L. Smith, Bruce R. Howard
PUBLICATIONS	Bruce R. Howard, Donald C. Brown, Clyde T. Reynolds

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

MEMBERSHIP	Colin Brock, Douglas Boardman, Belford A. Belles
CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION	Palmer Martin, Donald C. Murray, David H. Bartlett Eugene C. Corliss
MULTI-STATE FESTIVAL	Belford A. Belles, Douglas K. Boardman, David E. Cumming
COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL REALIGNMENT STUDY	Bruce R. Howard, Donald C. Murray, Belford A. Belles, Willis J. Morse, Palmer E. Martin, Cedric L. Smith Douglas K. Boardman

**T. I. MASTERS AND RECORDERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS**

	<u><b>COUNCIL</b></u>	<u><b>T.I. MASTER</b></u>	<u><b>RECORDER</b></u>
<b>1</b>	<b>COLUMBUS</b> 142 S. Main St. Albans	Robert Farnam 687 Burnet Road Sutton, Quebec, Canada J0E 2K0 <a href="mailto:robertfarnam2@hotmail.com">robertfarnam2@hotmail.com</a>	Aurele Gagne 7573 VT Route #7B Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802) 285-6312
<b>3</b>	<b>BENNINGTON</b> 504 Main Street Bennington	Karl Strohmaier Maple Grove Road Bennington, VT 05201 (802) 823-4068	E. Irving Stevens 21983 NY 22 Hoosick Falls, NY 12090 (518) 686-9076
<b>5</b>	<b>BURLINGTON</b> 87 Bishop Ave Williston	Frederick E. Jackson 17 Pennington Drive Burlington, VT 05408-1808 (802) 862-3441	Alexis J. Parent, Jr. 1506 Jericho Road Richmond, VT 05477-9188 (802) 434-2328 <a href="mailto:ajparent@gmavt.net">ajparent@gmavt.net</a>
<b>8</b>	<b>WINDSOR</b> 100 Main Street Windsor	Bruce Pomeroy 1 Clough Avenue Windsor, VT 05089-0558 (802) 886-8333	Daniel Ebbighausen P.O. Box 558 Windsor, VT 05089-0558 (802) 674-2777 <a href="mailto:danebbig@aol.com">danebbig@aol.com</a>
<b>9</b>	<b>FARMERS</b> 1046 Park St Brandon	none given	Ernest Miner 3253 Lake Dunmore Road Leicester, VT 05733 (802) 247-6516
<b>12</b>	<b>DAVENPORT</b> 51 Washington Rutland	Robert Senn 4096 Route 144 Benson, VT 05743-9645 (802) 537-2983 <a href="mailto:bsenn@fhuhs.org">bsenn@fhuhs.org</a>	Bruce R. Howard 17 Tuttle Meadow Drive Rutland, VT 05701 (802) 747-3959 office <a href="mailto:howard47@myfairpoint.net">howard47@myfairpoint.net</a>
<b>14</b>	<b>MIDDLEBURY</b> Schoolhouse Rd Salisbury	Edward Gee 228 Valley View, Apt B-4 Middlebury, VT 05753 (802) 377-7408	Stuart E. Lee P.O. Box 656 E. Middlebury, VT 05740-0656 (802) 388-7438 <a href="mailto:sandslee@sover.net">sandslee@sover.net</a>
<b>18</b>	<b>SPRINGFIELD</b> 71 Main Street Springfield	Roger Adams 258 Valley Street Springfield, VT 05156 (802) 885-5593	Leo LaFlamme 17 Cooldige Road Springfield, VT 05156 (802) 885-5252 <a href="mailto:lalaflamme@vermontel.net">lalaflamme@vermontel.net</a>
<b>19</b>	<b>ORLEANS</b> 52A Church St Barton	Winston W. Harper P.O. Box 30 Barton, VT 05822 (802) 525-3027 <a href="mailto:harperpp@embarqmail.com">harperpp@embarqmail.com</a>	Colin Brock 42 Sloan Street Newport, VT 05855 (802) 334-6398
<b>22</b>	<b>BARRE</b> 2 Academy St Barre	Jonathan P. Park 768 Pattrel Road Norwich, VT 05055 (802) 649-8871 <a href="mailto:jpp@hitchcock.org">jpp@hitchcock.org</a>	Palmer E. Martin 84 Washington Street Barre, VT 05641 (802) 249-8752 <a href="mailto:palmer.martin@myfairpoint.net">palmer.martin@myfairpoint.net</a>

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

Right Illustrious Grand Master, Russell J. Slora., convened the One Hundred Fifty Sixth Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont at the Killington Grand Hotel in Killington, Vermont on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. The Council was duly opened by the officers in attendance and the Grand Chaplain, Merlin T. Doyle, gave the opening prayer.

**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. No motions, resolutions or proposals were offered for consideration at this years Annual Assembly.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The Assistant Grand Recorder called the roll of Grand Officers. The following officers were properly accounted for:

Russell J. Slora	M.I .Grand Master
Douglas K. Boardman	R.I. Deputy Grand Master
Roger M. Pike	R.I. Grand Treasurer
Donald C. Brown	R.I. Grand Recorder
Bruce R. Howard	I. Assistant Grand Recorder
Bruce R. Howard	I. Gr. Captain of the Guard
David K. Campbell	I. Grand Conductor of the Council
Merlin T. Doyle	I. Grand Chaplain
Donald C. Brown	I. Assistant Grand Chaplin
Jonathan P. Park	I. Grand Lecturer
Kirk C. White	I. Grand Marshall
Richard K. Button	I. Grand Sentinel
Eric Ginette	I. Grand Historian

The following Grand Officers were not present at Roll Call:

Edward A. Gee, R.I. Principal Conductor of Work (excused due to health reasons); William W. Wyman, I. Grand Steward (who passed away while holding office)

MIGM Slora appointed Companion Palmer E. Martin to fill the office of R.I .Principal Conductor of the Work and Companion Robert Senn to fill the office of I. Grand Steward.

The following District Deputies were present:

Robert Landon	District #2
Jon E. Babcock	District #3
Pierre-Denis Leger	District #4

The following District Deputies were not present at Roll Call:

Edward E. Nawotka, Jr.      District #1

**APPROVAL OF THE 2008 PROCEEDINGS**

There being no objection, M.I.G.M. Slora declared that the minutes of the 2008 Annual Assembly are approved as printed and distributed.

**PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

by James E. Selleck.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

June 9, 2009

To the Grand Council of Vermont now in Session:

Your Committee on Credentials finds the following:

	<u>Final</u>
Number of Councils	10
Number of Councils Represented	7
Number of Voting Members Present	34

Due to members holding several positions, represented were:

Council Representatives Present	21
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters Present	28
Constitutional Grand Council Officers Present	10
Other Grand Council Officers Present	2
R.I. District Deputies Present	3
M.I. Past Grand Masters Present	12
Grand Representatives Present	19
Non-Voting Companions Present	5
 Total Companions Present	 39

Councils Not Represented

Columbus	1
Bennington	3
Farmers	9

Respectfully Submitted by,

James E. Selleck, Chairman  
Winston W. Harper  
Stuart E. Lee, Pro Temp

Comp. Selleck, M.I.P.G.M. moved that this be made the Permanent Report of the Credentials Committee. Motion seconded and so voted.

## RECEPTION OF PAST GRAND MASTERS

The following Most Ill. Past Grand Masters of Vermont were presented West of the Altar by R. Ill. Deputy Grand Master Douglas K. Boardman:

Morris G. Tucker	1970	Belford A. Belles	2001
James Selleck	1978	Guy W. Oldenburgh	2002
David E. Cumming	1983	Daniel Ebbinhausen	2003
Brent N. Martin	1989	Alexis J. Parent, Jr.	2004
Palmer E. Martin	1991	David H. Bartlett	2006
Donald C. Brown	1994	Donald C. Murray	2007
Willis J. Morse	1995		

## RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The following Distinguished Guests were received west of the Altar and greeted by M.I.G.M. Russell J. Slora:

CONNECTICUT by

Comp. Andrew G. Weimann, II - M.P.P.G.M.  
Comp. Charles Maxson- R.I. Grand Treasurer & Representative to Vermont

NEW HAMPSHIRE by Donald C. Murray

Comp. John S. Geas, M.I.G.M.  
Comp. Dennis A. Sheridan M.I.P.G.M., & G. Recorder  
Comp. Robert Steel, M.I.P.G.M.  
Comp. Robert Cook, P.T.I.M. & Grand Organist

NEW YORK By David Cumming

Comp. Joseph Pozefsky, M.I.G.M.  
Comp. Philip Stevens, P.D.D., Grand Menstra District #4

MAINE by Daniel Ebbighausen

Comp. Robert Melanson, M.I.G.M.  
Comp. Rene Doiron, M.I.P.G.M.

RHODE ISLAND by Belford Belles

Comp. John Lawson, III, I. Grand Chaplain

MARYLAND by

Comp. William J. Baldwin, Sr., MIGM

DELAWARE by Guy Oldenburgh

Comp. James B. Walsh, M.I.G.M.  
Comp. James R. Herrington, P.M.I.G.M.

OHIO by Douglas K. Boardman

Comp. Robert J. Draye, MIGM, and Grand Representative to Vermont

SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL OF CANADA, EASTERN JURISDICTION  
by Donald C. Brown

Comp. Stafford Bellman, Past Honorary Deputy Grand Master

VERMONT by Douglas K. Boardman

Sir Knight & Companion David H. Bartlett, R.E.G.C.  
Comp. Russell J. Slora, M.E.G.H.P.  
Comp. Belford A. Belles, Intendent General Red Cross of Constantine  
Comp Daniel Ebbighausen, Grand Governor, State of VT Sovereign Y.R.C. of N.A.  
Comp. James E. Selleck Personal Representative for Grand Master General for District #2 for  
Convent General KYCH  
Comp. Eric Ginette, Gov. Green Mountain York Rite College #139  
Comp. Shawn Brewster, Executive Officer, Demolay of Vermont

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL, INT. by Willis J. Morse

Comp. Robert Cook, R.P. General Grand Organist  
Comp. George Sellars, Deputy General Grand Master General Grand Council

Grand Honors were given to all distinguished Guests.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF VERMONT by Palmer E. Martin

Brother Calvin K. “Cal” Keyler, Most Worshipful Grand Master Grand Lodge of VT

Private Grand Honors were given to our Most Worshipful Grand Master

**ADDRESS BY THE MWGM- CALVIN K. KEYLER**

Due to time constraints the MWGM asked to address the Assembly early to allow him to be present at the start of the Grand Lodge of Vermont’s annual communication. Our Most Worshipful Brother Cal gave the following remarks which were very well received.

“I want to thank you for letting me speak early, as you are aware, I’m having a meeting a few doors down, and need to attend to some business there. I have had an enjoyable time at the

Grand York Rite Sessions, and will never forget you, so thank you. While I am here, I don't want Russ to think I've forgotten him, but I bring to you Russ a donation from the Grand Lodge of Vermont for you and where ever you might want to put it. So I'm sure you'll put it to good use! That would be for his next trip to Bermuda, probably, right? I'm running out of time to give out these, but I want to make sure that Russ has one, and this is my Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award. It's just a piece of paper really, but you know it comes from the heart and what's with it, and I hope you'll keep it and look at it, and remember the time where you and I were together here on this platform, how nice it was, so be it known by this presentation, that in grateful recognition of outstanding service and devotion to the family of freemasonry, and because of the fidelity and zeal in the discharge of the trust and confidence reposed in you by your peers, the Grand Master of Masons in Vermont hereby honors Russell J. Slora, Most Illustrious Grand Master Grand Council of Vermont Royal and Select Masters with his Meritorious Service Award. And I present to you Russ, and I am looking forward to your other duties which you will be taking on soon. Congratulations. Thank you so much Companions and Brothers. Thank you for what you do for Freemasonry, Brother Sellers it has been a pleasure to meet you, and I am sure you will enlighten these gentlemen later in the day with something really stimulating; I know they are all looking forward to that, and it has been great to meet you. So I will now give you back your gavel and say, Go to it Russ. Have a good time and I know you will do a great job in the year ahead. Thank you."

### **FLAG CEREMONY**

M.I.G.M. Slora called up the Grand Assembly. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the National Anthem and O'Canada were sung. Special thanks to our "guest" organist, Companion Robert Cook from Rochester, New Hampshire were given.

### **RECOGNITION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES**

M.I.G.M. Slora called up the Grand Representatives and thanked them for their service to the Grand Council of Vermont.

M.I.G.M. Slora turned the gavel over to the R.I.D.G.M. Boardman and gave the following address:

### **ADDRESS OF THE M.I. GRAND MASTER**

Companion Slora turned the gavel over to the R.I. Deputy Grand Master Boardman and gave the following address:

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters now assembled:

Companions:

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the 156<sup>th</sup> Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont. To the Distinguished Guests from other Grand Jurisdictions, thank you for coming to Vermont and being a part of our Assembly. To the Distinguished Guests from the Masonic Bodies of Vermont, and especially to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is an honor and pleasure to have you present with us today.

To all the Past Grand Masters, Grand Line Officers, District Deputies, Committee Members, and the Companions from all of Vermont, thank you for all the help and support you have given me this past year. I hope I have been worthy of your choice.

In particular, I want to thank the following for their timeless mentoring, enriching guidance, and unwavering support to me and my staff; Companions Palmer Martin, David Cumming, Belford Belles, Bill Morse, Bruce Howard and, most especially, Don Murray. To just say thank you for what you have done for me is not enough.

### Necrology

During this past year, 22 of our Companions have had to lay down their working tools and are now with the Great Architect of the Universe. May they be forever remembered in our memory and our hearts. Please rise as our Grand Chaplain leads us in prayer.

### Planning Meeting

The Annual York Rite Planning Meeting was held at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre on July 12, 2008. The meeting was very well attended by both present and past Grand Officers as well as by Companions from constituent Councils. Schedules were worked out with relative ease with the emphasis on avoiding conflicting events. I will restate what many have said before me; many of us are involved in all the bodies and appendant organizations making available time scarce. Having this meeting, and with good attendance, is of great importance in being able to formulate a workable schedule and productive year.

### Northeast York Rite Conference

The Northeast York Rite Conference was held in Albany, New York on September 6, 2008. The Vermont York Rite Bodies were very well represented and all benefitted from attending. Programs were well presented and fellowship with our counterparts from other jurisdictions was rekindled and enjoyed.

### District Meeting

I made the decision at the July planning meeting that the Grand Council would hold one combined District Meeting in the state for all four Districts. The reason for this was in part due to the economy and also due to the diminishing numbers in attendance in the preceding years. It was my hope that having just one meeting, which would be held at mid-morning on a Saturday in the central part of the state with a luncheon following, would encourage more Companions to attend, who would not normally choose to drive at night or the lengths of the state several times. This District Meeting was held at Barre Council # 22 on October 18. All four of our District Deputy Grand Masters were present and took active roles in the meeting. Each of the following gave excellent presentations at the meeting; the Grand Recorder, Grand Lecturer, Grand Historian, and each District Deputy Grand Master. Attendance from the constituent Councils was disappointing. It is my opinion that a study needs to be undertaken regarding our District format, number and alignment to encourage more activity in our Councils thereby increasing participation.

## Council Festival

There was no call for a Council Festival this year and none was held.

## Super Excellent Master Degree

There was no call for a Super Excellent Master Degree this year as one was held last year.

## Dispensations

I issued 2 dispensations during the year. These were to:

Barre Council # 22 to change the date of their April Annual Assembly

Burlington Council # 5 to change the date of their December Regular Assembly

## Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation

This year, the Companions have donated a total of \$1,473.00 to this very valuable program. This program has made impressive headway in medical discoveries and treatment capabilities. Please support it as much as possible. In lieu of gifts this year for my Grand Line Officers, I have made a donation to this worthy Foundation.

## Visitations

This year I have attended Grand Council Assemblies in several states. I have also attended Grand Chapter Convocations and Grand Commandery Conclaves in several states. Conflicts in scheduling and employment prevented my attending several other York Rite Grand Sessions. To those states to which I was not able to attend, I extend my apologies and hope to be able to be in attendance in the ensuing year.

In Vermont, I attended the Annual Grand Chapter Convocation, Annual Grand Commandery Conclave, Grand Lodge Communication, the Council of Deliberation A.A.S.R., and Mt. Sinai Shrine # 3, A.A.O.N.M.S. My itinerary for this Cryptic year is printed in the proceeding for your perusal. Thank you all for the courtesies and hospitality extended to me and my Lady. I would like to offer a special thank you to Companion and Sir Knight, Donald Murray and his Lady Lynn for accompanying, and many times guiding, my wife and I on our visitations both in state and on journeys afar. Thank you for making our trips so memorable and enjoyable.

## Awards

It was my honor and privilege this year to make two awards to very deserving Companions. The Cryptic Mason of the Year Award was presented to Companion Jonathan P. Park of Barre Council # 22, a very hard working Companion for not only the Council, but the Craft as a whole. The Cryptic Youth Leadership Award was presented to Companion Shawn G. Brewster of Davenport Council #12, a dedicated and sincere worker in rejuvenating DeMolay in Vermont, along with being a member of all the York Rite Bodies. These young men are our future. Congratulations to you both.

I also seized the opportunity to recognize and honor an individual who has stood by me this year on my journey and endeavor. To show my grateful appreciation for the never ending

support and help given to me, I have presented my Lady Sue with the General Grand Council's Lady of the Council Award. She truly earned it.

### Condition of the Order

At the beginning of my term, I came in with very high expectation of being able to revitalize some weak and not active Councils in Vermont. I leave this office with a personal feeling of dismay and failure as my accomplishments were not met to my satisfaction. We have created some new Companions but not as many as I had hoped for. We started this year with 679 Companions on our roles. We have created and greeted 10 new Companions. To keep them, we need to provide something they can have pride and purpose in. We need to greet them with enthusiasm and give them something to do. We need to be positive and progressive leaders. We have demitted 17 Companions. We have lost 20 Companions due to suspensions. Our total at this time is 637.

To those inactive Councils that are still there, and in no better condition now than before my term, it is my intent not to give up trying to correct the problem. It is my intent to get these Councils, which cannot open to do business or perform ritual work to create new Companions for themselves, to either merge or affiliate with an active nearby Council until they can get their numbers up and their feet under them again. We can make this happen, we just have to be positive and be diligent. There is an active and willing corps of Cryptic Masons in Vermont who are willing to help you to help your Council. They may not be able to travel to the far reaches of the state regularly, with all the necessary regalia to create one or two candidates, you may have to travel to them. It will work if you want it to work.

It is my suggestion that the new MIGM create a Special Committee to study and investigate the feasibility of realigning our current Council Districts with a focus toward reducing the number of Districts we currently have, and have Councils work together through merging or affiliation without Charter's being lost. For too many years we have spoken about needing a change. It is time to do something to make us better. I am ready and willing to serve upon this committee if asked.

### Conclusion

I again would like to thank all the Grand Council Officers, both past and present, for your guidance, help and support during this past year. It was an experience which I would not have fared well in without you and will not forget. I also wish to thank all the Companions of constituent Councils, and in particular the Companions from my Council, for allowing me the privilege of serving you. I have tried my best for you. I hope in some small way each of you have benefitted from my tenure.

The acquisition and retention of Companions does not come easily. We all have to work at it. New Companions are out there. We need to get away from the old philosophy of waiting for them to come to us. We need to go and get them, promote who we are and what we stand for. Keep your eyes well to your Blue Lodges and be vigilant for prospective candidates. Don't be afraid to approach and speak with them. And, once you have them, keep them interested and involved. Give them something of interest. Most of all, give them your honest friendship and you will be rewarded with their attendance.

To my wife Sue, thank you for standing by me this year and being my sounding board, strength and support. Your patience, never ending help and thoughtful understanding have made my year much more pleasurable than you will ever know. Thank you for being my ever eternal light. I love you.

Companions, my time has nearly come to the end. The business of the 156<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont is now in your hands. God bless us all.

Fraternally,

Russell J Slora, M.I.G.M

2008 / 2009 MIGM Itinerary

June

8-10 VT Grand York Rite Sessions in Colchester, VT  
10 Grand Master's Banquet in So. Burlington, VT  
11 Vermont Grand Lodge Session, Banquet and Installation in So. Burlington, VT  
14 Vermont Council of Deliberation AASR in Montpelier, VT  
16 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT  
19 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT  
22 KYCH Annual Conclave and Order in White River Junction, VT  
30 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge in Barre, VT

July

12 York Rite Planning Session at Granite Lodge in Barre, VT  
13 Green Mountain York Rite College meeting in Plainfield, VT  
21 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT

August

18 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT  
26-28 Inducted into the Royal Order of Scotland in Providence, RI

September

5-7 Northeast York Rite Conference in Albany, NY  
8 Grand Lodge District # 6 Communication in Montpelier, VT  
15 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT  
18 Chapter, Council & Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT  
19-21 Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery of the State of NY

October

1 Grand Lodge District # 13 Communication in Morrisville, VT  
3 Chapter Districts # 3 & 4 Convocation in Barre, VT  
6 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT  
7 Masonic Service in Barre, VT  
12 Green Mountain York Rite College meeting and Order in Barre, VT  
16 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT  
18 Council District meeting for all Districts in Barre, VT  
20 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT  
21 Chapter Districts # 5 & 6 Convocation in Bradford, VT  
24-25 MA & RI Annual Commandery Conclave

## November

- 3 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
- 5 Mark Master Mason Degree in Barre, VT
- 11 Past Master and Most Excellent Master Degrees in Barre, VT
- 14 Royal Arch Degree in Williston, VT
- 17 Granite Lodge# 35 Communication in Barre, VT
- 19 Royal and Select Master Degree in Barre, VT
- 20 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT
- 23 Awarding of Holy Land Pilgrimage at First Presbyterian Church of Graniteville to Rev. Rebecca Strader
- 24 Mt Zion Commandery # 9 Inspection in Montpelier

## December

- 1 Order of Red Cross & Order of Malta, with 1<sup>st</sup> section of the Order of the Temple in Barre, VT
- 1 Masonic Service for Bro. Robert Duncan in Barre, VT
- 2 Bro. Robert Duncan funeral in Barre, VT
- 8 St Aldemar # 11 Inspection dress rehearsal in Barre, VT
- 12 St. Aldemar Commandery # 11 Inspection in Barre, VT
- 15 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT
- 18 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT
- 21 Combined St. Aldemar Commandery # 11 and Mt. Zion Commandery # 9 Christmas Observance in Barre, VT

## January

- 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
- 10 Inducted into the Knight Masons in Pembroke, NH
- 15 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT
- 17 Mt Sinai # 3 Shrine Annual Meeting in Montpelier, VT
- 17 Bingo concession at Granite Lodge in Barre, VT
- 19 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT

## February

- 13 Valentine party at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
- 16 Granite Lodge # 35 Communication in Barre, VT

## March

- 6-8 Grand Chapter, Council & Commandery Sessions, Sommerset, NJ
- 16 1<sup>st</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge # 35 with Communication in Barre, VT
- 17 Killington Commandery # 6 Inspection in Rutland, VT
- 18 Council Degrees in Barre, VT
- 19 Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT
- 23 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
- 27 Burlington Commandery # 2 Inspection in Williston, VT

## April

- 3-5 Grand Chapter and Council Sessions in Middletown, RI
- 6 Barre Council # 22 Annual Assembly in Barre, VT
- 11 Mt Sinai Spring Ceremonial meeting in Montpelier, VT
- 13 Visitation to Davenport # 12 Council in Rutland, VT
- 19 Order of Red Cross of Constantine meeting in Williston, VT
- 20 Granite Lodge # 35 Annual Communication in Barre, VT
- 21 Granite Chapter # 26 Annual Convocation in Barre, VT
- 23-25 Grand Chapter and Council Sessions in Bar Harbor, ME

	26-27	Grand Commandery Conclave in Bangor, ME
<u>May</u>		
	1	Vermont Commandery # 4 and Holy Cross Commandery # 12 combined Inspection in Springfield, VT
	5	Holy Land Pilgrimage presentation by recipient at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
	8-10	Grand Chapter, Council & Commandery Sessions in Manchester, NH
	17	Finance Committee meetings at Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
	17	Installation of Officers of Granite Lodge # 35 in Barre, VT
	17	Annual Convention of Anointed High Priest and Annual Meeting of the Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters in Barre, VT
	18-20	Grand Commandery Conclave in PA
	22	Chapter/Council/Commandery monthly meetings in Barre, VT
<u>June</u>		
	5-9	Vermont Grand York Rite Sessions, Killington
		Companion, Russell J Slora, MIGM

**REPORT OF THE GRAND LECTURER (see page number 30 )**

Report received and referred to the Jurisprudence Committee

**TREASURERS REPORT (see page number 24-25)**

Report received and referred to the Finance Committee.

**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS (see page 27)**

Report received, voted in the affirmative and ordered printed in the Proceedings

**RECORDERS REPORT ( see page number 26)**

Report received and referred to the Finance Committee.

**AWARDS**

Companion Jonathan P. Park recognized as the recipient of the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award given last evening at the banquet by our MIGM Slora. Companion Park thanked the Companions for this high honor.

Companion Shawn Brewster was presented west of the Altar to receive the Adult Youth Leadership Award by our MIGM Slora. Companion Brewster gave the following remarks:

“All I can say is thank you. Just a quick note if I might, August 29<sup>th</sup> on the DeMolay is sponsoring a Grand Master’s Appreciation Dinner in Woodstock that same evening we are instituting an honorary chapter known as the King Solomon Chapter. The young men of DeMolay will be taking and conferring the degree on Master Masons that are interested and have never taken those degrees as young men. The cost will be \$50.00 for the dinner as well as the taking of the degrees. I’m hoping that some of you can meet with me at some point, either today or tomorrow or contact me by e-mail or phone and we will get you a petition, and get you signed up for this. This is truly an opportunity for DeMolay gaining sponsorship from Masonry and for you gentlemen to see what these young men take and do. Thank you.”

**NECROLOGY REPORT (see page number 26)**

Report received and ordered printed in the Proceedings.

**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF GRIEVANCES (see page 35)**

Report submitted at the Assembly by Brent N. Martin, PMIGM Chair. No grievances were received by this committee, therefore no action was required. Report received and ordered printed in the Proceedings.

**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF DISPENSATIONS & CHARTERS (see page 31)**

Report received and ordered printed in the Proceedings.

**REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE**

**Report #1**

June 9, 2009

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

This Committee recommends that the 157<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont be held at the Killington Grand Resort Hotel and Conference Center in Killington, Vermont on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, commencing at 1:30 PM.

We respectfully submit this report for adoption.

Douglas K Boardman, Edward A Gee, Russell J Slora, Chairman

Motion made, seconded, and voted in the affirmative.

**Report # 2:**

June 9, 2009

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

Your Committee is aware that a mid week meeting schedule tends to impose some hardship on our younger members, thus reducing attendance and participation. In light of this, we recommend that this Grand Council consider meeting on a Saturday in 2011, perhaps with the banquet being held on a Saturday night.

We further recommend that the Committee on Place and Time next year bring forth a recommendation for a Saturday schedule and research the ramifications of changing the date, i.e. conflicts with other events, effects caused by not meeting in conjunction with Grand Lodge, etc. prior to making its recommendations for 2011.

Douglas K Boardman

Edward A Gee

Russell J Slora, Chairman

Motion made, seconded, and voted in the affirmative

**REPORT ON THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF CRYPTIC MASON MEDICAL  
RESEARCH FOUNDATION (see page 31 )**

Report received and ordered printed in the proceedings

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE NORTHEAST MULTI STATE  
CRYPTIC FESTIVAL (see page 35)**

Report received and ordered printed in the proceedings.

**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS**

No report received or given.

**REPORT OF THE GRAND HISTORIAN (see page 35)**

Report given at the District Meeting held in Barre was cited and the text of that report ordered printed in the proceedings.

**REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE (see page number 32)**  
**Report Number 1**

Received, motioned, seconded and voted in the affirmative

## **Report Number 2**

Received, motioned, seconded and voted in the affirmative

## **Report Number 3**

Received, motioned, seconded and voted in the affirmative

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (see page number 33-34)**

### **Report #1**

Motion to accept the report. 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.

## **VISITORS**

A motion was made, seconded and voted in the affirmative to make our visiting sister jurisdiction Heads of the Body honorary members of the Grand Council of Vermont. M.I.G.M. Slora welcomed each visiting MIGM and presented them with a certificate of membership. Companion Andrew G. Weimann, II, M.P.G.M. addressed the Assembly with the following remarks:

“Most Illustrious Grand Master, I am going to have to be guilty of pulling you out of your schedule, you have given me an absolutely wonderful honor in representing the sister jurisdictions, the only problem being is that I told my wife I should be able to get in and out rather quickly, and certainly would never leave you without properly acknowledging the fact that on behalf of all the visiting dignitaries here, you Most Illustrious Grand Master, we thank you to the distinguished East, Companions all, Coming to Vermont is fabulous. Thank you for filling in the space. There are a majority of people here that I know on a first name basis and I know that is true for my visiting Companions. It is indeed a pleasure to speak on their behalf not as eloquently as the majority of them can do. From then heart! Without any further ado, if I may, with your indulgence simply come before you and wish you and all of you the very, very best as I depart and look forward to being with you again many more times. Thank you, very, very much.”

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The M.I.G.M. stated that it was time for election of officers to serve the Grand Council for the ensuing year. It was moved that Companion Douglas K. Boardman be elected to the office of Most Ill. Grand Master. The nomination was seconded and voted in the affirmative.

The following slate of officers was nominated, seconded and the Recorder was instructed to cast one ballot:

R.I. Deputy G. Master	Edward A. Gee
R.I. Prin. Cond of Work	Bruce R. Howard
R.I. Grand Treasurer	Roger M. Pike
R.I. Grand Recorder	Donald C. Brown
I.G. Capt. Of Guard	David K. Campbell
I.G. Cond. Of Council	Robert Senn

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENTS**

MIGM Elect Douglas K. Boardman announced his appointed officers. See list in front of proceedings.

## **GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE REMARKS** **COMP. GEORGE SELLARS, Dep. General Grand Master**

Due to a technical problem, the recording of Companion Sellars remarks is not available for transcription into the 2009 proceedings. Companion Sellars brought the greetings of our "Smokey Ferguson" General Grand Council's Grand Master and addressed the Companions assembled with appropriate remarks. Companions Sellars stressed the importance of participation in the constituent bodies, and urged everyone to exude the passion exhibited by the Grand Officers, and to go out and build enthusiasm in your Councils.

## **INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

The elected and appointed officers were installed in their respective stations in proper form agreeable to the ceremony. The installing team was:

Palmer E. Martin, Installing Grand Master  
Belford A. Belles, Installing Grand Marshall  
Donald C. Brown Installing Grand Chaplain

**NEWELY ELECTED MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS SPEECH**

Most Illustrious Grand Master Boardman gave a few remarks of thanks then proceeded to close the annual assembly.

**CLOSING**

M.I.G.M. Boardman called for new business. None forthcoming, the Grand Chaplain offered prayer and the meeting was declared closed.

Respectfully submitted:

Bruce R. Howard, Assistant Grand Recorder

**REPORTS**  
**REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER**  
**Grand Council of Vermont, R & SM**  
Report of the Grand Treasurer  
 May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009

Balance on Hand, April 30, 2008

Checking Account	\$3,582.24	
Triennial Fund	900.00	
Certificates of Deposit:		
Factory Point National Bank	14,392.25	
Bank of Bennington	<u>3,281.41</u>	
		\$22,155.90

Receipts:

Per Capita	\$8,604.00	
Checking Account Interest - Less Service Charges	(16.01)	
CD Interest	<u>380.14</u>	
		<u>8,968.13</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS AND CASH 31,124.03

DISBURSEMENTS:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
1. Grand Recorders Expense	900.00	900.00	
2. Grand Treasurers Expense	150.00	150.00	
3. Grand Lecturer's Expense	100.00	100.00	
4. Grand Master's Travel	1,800.00	1,800.00	
5. Gr. Rec. Office Expense	1,000.00	822.86	177.14
6. Proceedings	1,000.00	840.38	159.62
7. PGM Jewel Recovery	100.00	-0-	100.00
8. Past Grand Master's Jewel	1,200.00	1,172.88	27.12
9. Past Grand Master's Apron	100.00	117.79	(17.79)
10. General Grand Council Dues	300.00	235.90	64.10
11. Festivals	-0-	-0-	
12. Guests	2,500.00	1,700.99	799.01
13. Office Rent	1,600.00	1,600.00	
14. Audit	0.00	0.00	
15. Insurance		800.00	652.00
148.00			
16. Triennial		-0-	-0-
17. Miscellaneous	100.00	171.07	(71.07)
18. DeMolay		50.00	50.00
19. Rainbow	50.00	-0-	50.00
20. York Rite Planning Conf.	400.00	100.00	300.00
21. Office Automation	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>12,150.00</b>	<b>10,413.87</b>	<b>1,736.13</b>

Net Change in Triennial Fund	(-0-)
Cash on Hand, April 30, 2009	\$20,710.16

TRIENNIAL FUND

Balance on Hand, April 30, 2008	900.00
Received from General Fund	-0-
Disbursed to Attendees	(-0-)
Balance on Hand, April 30, 2009	900.00

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, APRIL 30, 2009

Cash on Hand:

General Fund	\$4,742.46	
Triennial Fund	<u>900.00</u>	
		\$5,642.46

Investments:

Factory Point Certificate	\$11,695.90	
Bank of Bennington Certificate		<u>3,371.80</u>
		15,067.70

TOTAL ASSETS APRIL 30, 2009	\$20,710.16
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TOTAL ASSETS APRIL 30, 2008	22,155.90
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GAIN (LOSS) OF ASSETS	\$(1,445.74)
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ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE (as of April 30, 2009)

2008-09 Per Capita

TOTAL RECEIVABLES	<b>NONE</b>
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Respectfully submitted

Roger M. Pike, Grand Treasurer

Grand Council of Vermont, R.&S.M.  
Office of the Grand Recorder  
June 9, 2009

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

Your Assistant Grand Recorder submits the following report on the condition of the Grand Council of Vermont as of March 31, 2009:

Membership:

Number of Councils.....	10	
Number of Councils reporting.....	10	
Number of Councils showing work.....	4	
Membership as of March 31, 2008.....		679
Gains:		
Greeted.....	10	
Affiliated.....	0	
Errors Corrected.....	6	
Reinstated .....	1	
Total Gains.....	17	
Losses:		
Dimits.....	17	
Suspensions.....	20	
Deaths .....	22	
Errors Corrected.....	0	
Total Losses .....	59	
Membership March 31, 2009 .....		<b><u>637</u></b>
Net loss		42

All Councils have submitted returns.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce R. Howard, Assistant Grand Recorder

REPORT OF THE NECROLOGY COMMITTEE

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

Swiftly the years speed along and we pause at this moment in time to chronicle the passing of Companions faithful and true, whose work must be carried on by others. To all alike the grim summons comes. Here no elevation or distinction of rank or title can bar the door. Here, as in the closing of the Lodge we truly stand “on the level.” May it be our good fortune to “so live, that when the mighty caravan which halts each evening in the vale of death, shall strike it’s

white tents for the morning march: we “shall mount upward to the eternal hills, or “foot unwearied” and our “strength renewed like the strong eagle’s for the upward flight.”

While death has not invaded our official ranks, we mourn the loss of 22 members of our subordinate Councils.

It is sad, Companions, to contemplate the passing of those whose span of life is ended, And yet, Companions, we are consoled by the thought that:

Some day, some time, our eyes shall see  
Their faces kept in memory  
Some day their hands shall clasp our hands,  
Just over the morning lands.

(with thanks to Christie Crowell)

Respectfully submitted:

Donald C. Brown, for the Committee

### **Report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers**

**June 9, 2009**

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

Your committee is pleased to have received the report of our Grand Master, and that of at least one of our District Deputy Grand Masters, our Grand Lecturer, and Grand Historian in ample time to report. This, we believe, is some sort of a modern day record, and we thank those who were diligent with their submissions.

As was said last year: “It is the function of this committee to report on how our Grand Master, and his other officers, did this past year. We usually agree and commiserate with him in his praises and lamentations, and we plan to do a little bit of that, but we also have the opportunity to editorialize, and we plan to do that also.” That holds true for this year.

We concur wholeheartedly with our Grand Master in greeting our guests, especially our Most Worshipful Grand Master. Last year Companion Cal had his first Grand Lodge

Communication ahead of him, now it is his swan song, and we suspect he might be just a wee bit more relaxed, but not much. We are always pleased to be in the company of our Grand Master. We hope all our visitors will enjoy their time with us in this beautiful setting.

We note in the reports of the Grand Lecturer and Grand Historian, that they have not been called upon in their official capacities, except at the District Meeting. That is unfortunate, as these two companions have much to offer. We are particularly intrigued with Companion Eric’s choice of subject, Jeremy Ladd Cross. Comp. Cross had a profound influence on Cryptic Masonry in Vermont, and we are interested to see his written report.

We congratulate our Grand Master for being so bold as to hold just one “District” Meeting. Our District Meetings of recent years have been disappointing. Attendance this year of 37 is not a large number, but an improvement over the sum of the previous years, when excluding those who attended them all. Perhaps the “one shot deal” is the way to go. To have a presentation from both our Grand Lecturer and Grand Historian should have been a treat for all. They are both studious men, and we are certain they had some interesting information to present. Your chairman is sorry he had to be out of state at the time. This is perhaps a good time to remind our Grand Officers that District Meetings and in state visitations are a principal means of seeking out those Companions who should be selected to serve this Grand Council.

The subject of festivals continues to arise. This year there was none, but we have heard that there are candidates out there, just waiting for the degrees. We haven’t seen them when an individual Council conferred them. Would they come out for a festival?

We note the Super Excellent Degree was not conferred this year. Efforts in the past hae (have) probably picked up most of those from days of yore. We agree that, due to the number of Companions required to confer the degree, probably every other year is sufficient.

We will simply second our Grand Master’s comments regarding the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation, and to don another hat for the moment, we thank our Grand Master for his donation in lieu of favors and gifts. Your Chairman, for one, has more than his share of cups and glasses. We believe the donation will be better used by the CMMRF.

Our Grand Master made many visitations, both in and out of state. We feel certain he found those visits to be enjoyable, and a unique learning experience. We are pleased that he was able to team up with our Right Eminent Grand Commander for the majority of them. It can be most convenient when the three York Rite bodies meet together.

We are very pleased to see the two cryptic awards presented again this year, and we applaud his choices. These awards were often not presented in recent years, and that is a shame.

Our Grand Master says he came into this office with high hopes of revitalizing the less active Councils, and expresses dismay at his failure. We should remind him that, based on the report from Comp. Landon, RIDDGM of District 2, Davenport Council has seen a resurgence, and is working again.

The recommendation regarding the possible redistricting, we once again refer to the incoming Grand Master, with the suggestion that, as a change in the regulations would certainly be required, any committee appointed should have their recommendations ready and distributed at least 100 days prior to our next Grand Assembly, or we will have to wait another year.

Your committee wishes to say to our Grand Master “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Respectfully submitted,

Belford A. Belles

Thomas E. Grace

Palmer E. Martin, Chairman

June 9, 2009

## DISTRICT DEPUTIES REPORTS

May 2009

To the Grand Council of Vermont now Assembled:

This year I attended the York Rite planning meeting and the combined District Meeting in Barre. I also had the honor of being received in my home Council, Davenport #12 on April 13, 2009. At this meeting we also received our MIGM, Russell Slora, the RIDGM, Douglas K. Boardman and DDGM Pierre-Denis Leger of District #4. I was also able to recognize several year members with a certificate at this meeting. Davenport Council #12 was the only Council to open and hold a meeting in district #2. After years of inactivity, Davenport Council is planning on returning to conferring Degrees this fall. Things are looking up!

Fraternally,  
Robert H. Landon, DDGM District #2

### ANNUAL REPORT TO GRAND REPORTER

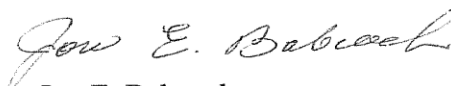
Following my appointment as District Deputy Grand Master my first official duty was to take part in the District Meeting of all Councils of Vermont held on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Masonic Temple in Barre. After the opening of the meeting all District Deputies were presented and seated in the East, and I then presided for the presentation of Grand Officers, including Most Illustrious Grand Master Russell Slora. The meeting was well attended.

In November I traveled to Newport with the hope of attending a meeting of Orleans Council #19, but since their TI Master was in Florida they were unable to have a meeting, so I was actually there for a meeting of Keystone Chapter #16, which I enjoyed. ( So far as I know the Orleans Council has not been meeting to date.)

I have attended the monthly meetings of my own Council, Barre Council #22, and was happy to be present for the conferring of the Royal and Select Master degree on a new member of my home Chapter in Bethel.

I have been honored to serve as our Most Illustrious Grand Master's Deputy, and it has been an interesting year.

Respectfully submitted,



Jon E. Babcock  
District Deputy Grand Master

## GRAND LECTURERS REPORT

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

I begin by expressing my appreciation to our Most Illustrious Grand Master, Russell J. Slora for his appointment of me to this, my first position in Grand Council, and for his continuing confidence in me and for his mentorship of me in York Rite masonry.

The York Rite year began with a planning session July 12, 2008 at Granite Lodge No. 35 in Barre. This daytime session was well attended by past and present Grand Officers and by many companions of constituent Councils. The MIGM laid out his expectations for the upcoming year which included work towards strengthening Councils with dwindling attendance. Companion Slora also outlined his conception of a single 2008 Council District Meeting to be held in Barre. A joint, mid-morning, Saturday meeting in Central Vermont, and with a luncheon and time for fellowship following, was planned to maximize attendance of those companions who might otherwise refrain from night driving to various parts of the State. The desire was to bring together Select Masters from across the state to partake in a single, truly comprehensive assembly.

The combined 2008 Council District Meeting was held on Saturday, October 18 in Barre, VT. The meeting was opened at 9:00 by Jonathan P. Park, TIM of Barre Council No. 22. All four R. I. District Deputy Grand Masters (Edward E. Nawotka, District 1; Robert H. Landon, District 2; Jon E. Babcock, District 3; and Pierre Denis Leger, District 4) were found in waiting and were received with private Grand Honors and welcomed to the East. RIDDGM Babcock of District 3 was then invited to preside over the reception of additional Grand Officers and over the ensuing District Meeting. R. I. Assistant Grand Recorder Bruce R. Howard introduced the assembled distinguished guests and also presented comments pertaining to the York Rite Grand offices. Total attendance at the District meeting was 37 with 8 constituent Councils and all 4 Districts represented. Following the I. Grand Lecturer's count, Companion Park presented a summary of the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation scientific activities, and I. Grand Historian Eric Ginette presented an historical reading. Each of the four RIDDGMs then gave a brief presentation of their goals for their Districts for the upcoming year as well as a summary of some of the challenges faced in many of their Councils. Finally, Most Illustrious Grand Master Russell J. Slora was called upon for concluding remarks. Among other topics, Companion Slora welcomed the assembled companions, discussed his choice of a single District Meeting for 2008, extolled the necessity for positive attitudes and optimism, and stressed that Councils need to work together to open, confer degrees, and share resources. The MIGM closed by recommending continued participation and support in the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. The District meeting was then closed, followed by the closing in due form of Barre Council No. 22; a luncheon followed.

In the past year, I have not been called upon to participate in my capacity as Grand Lecturer in any of the constituent Councils beyond my work as TIM of Barre Council No. 22.

In closing, I share the MEGM's frustrations, and support his suggestions, regarding the poor attendance at constituent Councils which results in an inability to open and perform ritual work in many parts of the state. Combining ebbing resources seems the only way to achieve critical mass sufficient to reactivate Cryptic Masonry in the state, and make Council meetings again a meaningful and hopefully anticipated foundation of the York Rite in Vermont.

Fraternally,  
Jonathan P. Park, Grand Lecturer

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS**

June 9, 2009

To the Grand Council now in session:

A total of four requests for special dispensations, two from Burlington Council # 5 and one from Barre Council #22 were requested to avoid scheduling conflicts. The fourth request was from Middlebury #14 requesting to co-meet with Farmers Council #9 for the convenience of their members. This committee finds these actions entirely appropriate. The records of these actions is found in the Grand Recorder's Report.

Respectfully submitted:

Belford A. Belles, David E. Cumming, Morris G. Tucker

Report was orally changed to state that no dispensations or charter changes were referred to this committee . Oral report accepted and ordered printed in the proceedings.

**REPORT ON CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

At this time last year, I was a bit dejected because of Vermont's support, or apparent lack thereof, of the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation for the previous year. I am pleased to say that we bounced back this year, and while I my figures are incomplete, we are once again in the thousand dollar range.

Nadine and I attended the Triennial Assembly of General Grand Council last August, and we availed ourselves of the opportunity to visit the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine at Indiana University. Needless to say we were most impressed with what we saw and heard. The staff is very enthusiastic about their work, and we believe the possibilities are endless. Research continues in the use of stem cells, and we can expect there will be some enhancements to the successes already realized in the treatment of peripheral artery disease.

One theme we heard constantly was gratitude for the support of the Cryptic Masons who have, over the years, contributed significantly to their efforts, something over \$2,000,000.00.

We can only ask you to continue your support of this most worthwhile effort. We have received a new informational CD which, while still quite technical (medical), is quite an improvement on the previous CDs, which were simply a recording of the seminars. We have urged the CMMRF to assemble a CD that would be short, 15 – 20 minutes, and report their work and results in layman's terms. As yet we haven't seen it, but we have hope.

Respectfully submitted,  
Palmer E. Martin, CMMRF Representative in Vermont

June 9, 2009

## **REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE**

### **Report Number 1.**

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence has examined the several dispensations issued by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, as the same is on file in the office of the Grand Recorder. Its purpose was to permit a postponement of an Assembly.

We are pleased to note that the two Councils that decided to meet together for the convenience of the members (and we suspect to achieve the proper number) properly requested permission to do so. This process keeps the Grand Council informed of what is happening within its jurisdiction.

The Committee feels that these dispensations are within the rights and prerogatives of the Grand Master and are in the best interests of the Rite. The Committee therefore recommends approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Brown  
June 9, 2009

David E. Cumming

Palmer E. Martin, Chairman

### **Report Number 2.**

To the Grand Council of Vermont, now in session:

Section 4, Votes and Proxies, of the General Regulations of this Grand Council currently reads in part: "The Master, Deputy Masters, Principal Conductors of Work and Recorders of subordinate Councils, and no others, may each appoint his own proxy, if unable to be present in person, with full powers of representation. Such proxy shall be a Master or Past Master of a Vermont Council, and shall not be seated unless he presents proper credentials of appointment."

This committee proposes that the above excerpt be changed to read: "The Master, Deputy Masters, and Principal Conductors of Work of subordinate Councils, and no others, may each appoint his own proxy, if unable to be present in person, with full powers of representation. Such proxy shall be a member of a Vermont Council, and shall not be seated unless he presents proper credentials of appointment."

Neither Grand Lodge nor Grand Chapter grant the Secretary of a constituent Lodge or Chapter the right or privilege of assigning a proxy. In addition, neither specifies that a proxy must be a present or past presiding officer. We have generally encouraged our members to attend the Grand Council Assembly, and, we believe, try to provide such member with a voice by proxy when not permitted by virtue of office held, i.e. a High Priest of a Chapter who may not be dais officer in his Council. This action will bring Grand Council in line with Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. It will also aid the Committee on Credentials with its work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald C. Brown  
June 9, 2009

David E. Cumming

Palmer E. Martin, Chairman

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

### Report No. 1

The Finance Committee has examined the records and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder and found them in proper order with the expenditures supported by vouchers and all monies received properly recorded. The members of this committee want to thank and commend the Grand Treasurer and the Assistant Grand Recorder/Grand Recorder for the excellent job they have done in managing the financial affairs of this Grand Council for the past year.

This committee moves the acceptance of this report and the approval of the records of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Boardman  
Morse

Donald C. Murray

Willis J.

### Report No. 2

		<b>Budget 2008-2009</b>	<b>Spent 2008-2009</b>	<b>Budget 2009-2010</b>
1.	Grand Recorder's Expense	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
2.	Grand Treasurer's Expense	150.00	150.00	150.00
3.	Grand Lecturer's Expense	100.00	100.00	100.00
4.	Grand Master's Travel	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
5.	Grand Recorder's Office Expense	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
6.	Proceedings	1,000.00	840.38	900.00
7.	Past Grand Master's Jewel Recovery	100.00	0.00	100.00
8.	Past Grand Master's Jewel	1,200.00	1,172.88	100.00
9.	Past Grand Master's Apron	100.00	117.79	400.00
10.	General Grand Council Dues	300.00	235.90	600.00
11.	Festivals	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Guests	2,500.00	1,700.99	2,500.00
13.	Office Rent	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
14.	Audit	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Insurance	800.00	652.00	800.00
16.	Triennial	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Miscellaneous	100.00	171.07	100.00
18.	DeMolay	50.00	50.00	75.00
19.	Rainbow	50.00	0.00	75.00
20.	York Rite Planning Conference	400.00	100.00	400.00
21.	Office Automation	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$12,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,591.01</b>	<b>\$11,600.00</b>

Comments regarding this budget:

Item 16 – The Triennial Fund has a balance of \$900.00 so there was no need to add any this year.

This committee moves acceptance of this report and approval of the proposed 2009-2010 budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Boardman

Donald C. Murray

Willis J. Morse

**Report No. 3**

Our investments have not generated the income they once did. In addition our per capita income continues to decrease due to the decreasing membership. This past year a significant transfer from our investment fund was required to pay our expenses. This committee feels it is not wise or fiscally responsible to continue this trend. Consequently the Finance Committee recommends that the per capita tax be increased to \$20.00, 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 recommendations therein contained.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Boardman

Donald C. Murray

Willis J. Morse

**Report No. 4**

Because of the increasing cost of operation it is recommended that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to use monies from our interest accounts to make up any difference between our per capita income and the operating expenses estimated in the budget presented to and approved by this Grand Council.

This committee moves acceptance of this report and adoption of the recommendation therein contained.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Boardman

Donald C. Murray

Willis J. Morse

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MULTI-STATE FESTIVAL**

June 9, 2009

To the Grand Council now in session:

There has been no reported activity on the Multi-State Festival for this past Cryptic year. Therefore, no action was required.

Respectfully submitted:

Belford A. Belles, Douglas K. Boardman, David E. Cumming

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES**

Again, this year no business was referred to this committee, therefore no action by this committee.

Fraternally submitted,  
Brent N. Martin for the Committee

## **GRAND HISTORIANS REPORT**

Report of the Historian for the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont:

To the Grand Council, now in session:

I want to thank our Most Illustrious Grand Master Russell J. Slora for allowing me the opportunity to serve as Historian for this Grand Body in the year just past. Because the district meetings were reduced to a single one in Barre on October 18, 2008, I spoke as Grand Historian only on this occasion.

My topic was Jeremy Cross and the Cryptic Rite of Masonry. I actually spent quite a lot of time researching this little paper because I became fascinated with the topic. Jeremy Cross was a most unusual early Mason, and the fact that he worked and received several of his degrees and orders here in Vermont added to my interest. The story of how our Council degrees began as side degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, how they were taken up and adopted by brother Cross, and how he labored throughout his lifetime to propagate them and finally to establish the organization that became our own Council unfolded like a first rate novel. Since I did this work for the Council I have continued my digging into the doings of this most energetic man and have discovered a lot of new data. Perhaps I will use some of this material for future talks about the early history of our special Rite.

All of the branches of Masonry have captivating histories, but our rituals in particular go back very, very far- especially the Select Master of 27. How often do I wish to discover who devised it or even where its place of birth was! But at any rate, if I have managed to convey even a bit of interest in our history to my companions, then my time has been well spent.

Once again, dear Grand Master, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Fraternally: Eric Ginette

May 2009

## Jeremy L. Cross & the Cryptic Rite of Masonry

I will focus primary on the Select Master degree for this talk. No one knows where or how this degree developed, and all that can be said is that it belongs to the oldest strata of work that came later to be a part of our Masonic system of work. Its first debut in writing is as part of a Masonic system called the French Rite, which became extinct about 1700. The elements that became our Third degree also derived in part from this peculiar old European Rite. Our degree was there known by the name of Select Master of 27, and was the 5° of that system.

It is known that the Select Master of 27 was brought to the West Indies in 1766 by Stephan Morin, and it is very likely that he also brought over the Royal Master degree, although only the Select is contained in the copy of his manuscripts made by Henry Andrew Francken. The Select was used as a regular degree in the first Council of Princes of Jerusalem in Charlestown prior to 1800. When, in 1801, the AASR was formed, its founders chose from a large number of Masonic degrees of four different Masonic systems to form the 33 chosen to be the Scottish Rite. The chief unselected degrees then were retained, if popular, as “side” degrees, meaning they were not a part of the main system but were considered desirable to witness. In 1801 there were 17 of these according to “The Cryptic Rite” by Robertson and Drummond, published in 1888.

In 1820 the Grand Chapter of Maryland, meaning of what we would now call York type degrees, proposed to set up a Council at Baltimore. The promoter was brother Philip P. Eckel, a prominent Mason of German extract who was later to issue a warrant for the dissemination of the Select degree to Jeremy Cross. Eckel was a member of the Scottish Rite, and felt the side degrees should have their own place in Masonry. Agreeing with this, the Supreme Council formally ceded claim to the Select and Royal Master degrees to the Grand Council of Baltimore in 1870.

I became interested in Jeremy Cross because of his involvement with Masonry here in Vermont. He was born in 1783 in Haverhill, New Hampshire. In 1807 he joined St. John’s lodge in Portsmouth, NH. He was a hatter by trade, not one who made hats, but a sort of traveling salesman of hats, probably living out of his wagon filled with hats and camping out or staying at inns as his fortune allowed. As such, he crisscrossed Vermont and NH plying his trade and expanding his Masonic connections as he went. This was to be a life long pattern for the man. Demitting from St. John’s lodge, he joined North Star lodge at Lancaster, NH. He “paid his shekel” in Aurora Mark Lodge at Bradford, VT; was “arched” in Champlain Chapter at St. Albans, VT; and he received the Select Master degree at Hopkinton CT.

This last degree would not have been conferred by a Council, since at that time the Select and Royal Master degrees were being worked either by Blue Lodges or by York type Chapters. This was the period of quite a ferment of organization of work, and when Thomas Smith Webb was actively promoting what was to become the first Grand Chapters of the York Rite. Jeremy Cross was by this time using his reportedly prodigious memory to earn extra income by practicing as a Masonic lecturer. He was one of many such men- our own John Barney is another example- who used this period of hunger for Masonic work to become the first “professional Masons”. He would stop at a town and visit the local lodges, presenting various certificates of his Masonic standing and offer, for a price, to teach degree work and lecture work to the local members. Although not apparently having any formal schooling, he had taught himself to read and write and evidently possessed a very keen mind. I read that he

delivered the work with precision, and invariably used the same floor work and gestures each time he did it.

Cross actually did study under the famous Thomas Webb, journeying to Providence, RI, in 1816 to “perfect himself in the work of the Chapter”. It is very evident that he was very excited by the York degrees, and carefully added to his stock of Masonic certificates at every opportunity. In the same year he lectured before the Grand Lodge of MA in Boston, receiving their “sanction”. Following this, he traveled to New York, where the Central Grand Chapter was to meet. This was one of the first attempts to set up a General Grand Chapter. It was here he met Philip Eckel of Baltimore, and of course many other important Masonic figures. Here he also had printed a certificate entitling him to confer various Chapter degrees, over the signatures of the Grand Chapter officers. Although some have claimed this was a forgery, he proudly printed it in the introductory pages of his “True Chart” published three years later.

He continued on to Pennsylvania, where he met the same fate as Webb and many others. Being declared an “innovator on the Body of Masonry” he was thrown out of the State by the Grand Lodge. Undaunted, he continued on to Baltimore, where the famous certificate to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Masters on any group of the essential nine Royal Arch Masons wherever he traveled was granted to him. This was like money in the bank. You might have noticed that he was not selling hats any longer, for the Masonic trade was far more lucrative. One imagines he had by this time transformed himself from country bumpkin to quite the traveling gentleman. This information is from James Case, historian of the Grand Council of CT, R&SM.

Here are some interesting quotes concerning the further adventures of Brother Cross:

“He gave a warrant, May 27th, 1818, for a Council at Springfield, Mass., and during the autumn he organized three others in Connecticut. In the meantime, John H. Cotton, by authority of Cross, had established seven other Councils in Vermont.” \*

“I have seen copies of many of these Charters and they purported in terms to be Councils of Select Masters, and to authorize the conferring of the Select Degree only. In some of the Councils thus created, the Royal Degree was not conferred for several years afterwards. But some time in the year 1818, probably in January, Cross obtained the Royal Degree and soon conceived the idea of uniting the two in one. On March 21st, 1818, Cross says in his diary that he and Comp. Hosmer called on Comp. Stow at Middletown, Conn., and “conferred on him two degrees, Royal and Select Master.” On May 15, 1818, a committee of Boston Council reported “that it is expedient to cultivate in this Council the degrees of R. Master, S. E. Master, S. Master of 27 and K. of Round Table;” but the Select Degrees were not conferred till May 19, 1819, and then they were not conferred as part of a system, but as independent degrees.” \*

Cross traveled very widely, became Grand Lecturer for Grand Chapter of CT in 1818. He published “True Masonic Chart or Hieroglyphic Monitor” in December 1819. This was pretty much a straight copy of Thomas Webb’s “Monitor” but with better illustrations. One of these illustrations was destined to become very famous. “The 'Monument' with such components as the 'Weeping Virgin', 'Broken Column' and 'Father Time', often attributed to the inventive genius of Cross and Doolittle, definitely was not. The text of the lecture is in the cipher notes of John Barney in the ritual as he obtained it from Gleason at Boston in 1817. You will recall that when Barney traveled down to study under Webb he was too busy and turned Barney over to

his star student, Gleason. An earlier and much better engraving appears on a wall chart published by 'Comp. H. Parmalee' in Philadelphia under the title of 'Masonic Mirror and Symbolic Chart' and for which a copyright was secured in August 1818.” (James Case opp. cit.)

Cross sold endless rituals of Cryptic Masonry to lodges, and ran an apron supply business, contracting for the manufacture of Masonic aprons, especially Chapter ones, together with other Chapter ritual items. He finally retired to the family farm in NH and died on January 26, 1860.

Finally I will close with two quotes from Mackey:

“Robert Morris, of Kentucky, was the first to use the title " Cryptic " in designating the Council degrees. The word is derived from the Latin crypticus, meaning subterranean, or concealed, and that from the Greek krupte, which signifies a vault, or subterranean passage. “

“The apron of a Royal Master is black, lined and edged with red, triangular in form in allusion to the sacred delta “ For years I thought the Council in Barre was using old Commandery aprons for their Council meetings. Just another humbling example of how wrong my assumptions can be.

\*From The Cryptic Rite by Robertson & Hayden

Thank you and God Bless:

Eric Ginette October 2008

**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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Year</u>
David E. Cumming	22	1983	Herbert H. Harford	8	1998
* Joseph T. Maclay	8	1984	** David L. Phelps	13	1999
* Donald S. Seeley	12	1985	Russell A. Goslant	22	2000
* Rodney A. Akers	8	1986	Belford A. Belles	22	2001
Aurele Gagne	1	1987	Guy W. Oldenburgh	1	2002
Cedric L. Smith	22	1988	Daniel Ebbighausen	8	2003
Brent N. Martin	22	1989	Alexis J. Parent, Jr.	5	2004
James R. Winner, III	14	1990	Eugene C. Corliss	22	2005
Palmer E. Martin	22	1991	David H. Bartlett	22	2006
Arnold G. Preston	22	1992	Donald C. Murray	22	2007
William W. Smith	19	1993	Russell J. Slora	22	2008
Donald C. Brown	22	1994	Douglas K. Boardman	22	2009
Willis J. Morse	22	1995			
* Roy F. Nicholson	22	1996			
+ Clyde T. Reynolds	8	1997			

\* Deceased

\*\* Died in Office

+ Dimitted

### Cryptic Mason of the Year Award

1977 Fletcher Hall, Jr.	1994
1978 Clinton W. Demeritt	1995 Alden F. Atwood
1979 James G. Foster	1996 Leroy K. Warren
1980 Branch A. Warner	1997 L. James Daniels
1981 Robert J. O'Hara	1998 James O. Fendley
1982 Brent N. Martin	1999 John A. Birkett
1983 Robert S. Boyce	2000 Eugene A. Corliss
1984 Phillip D. Goss	2001 Bruce I. Morse
1986 Oscar D. Garcia	2002 Douglas K. Boardman
1988 Steven G. Coull	2003 Donald C. Murray
1989 William W. Smith	2004 Elmer M. Barlow
1990 Donald W. Gerrish	2008 Randy Ricker
1991 Clyde T. Reynolds	
1993 Willard B. Farnham	2009 Jonathan P. Park

### Cryptic Masons Youth Award

1984 Raymond F. Sutton	1997 David A. Brown
1986 Stanley F. Rhodes	1998 C. Chris Bridges
1988 Robert C. Mayo	2002 Stephen E. Holcomb
1989 Richard O. Berry	2003 Katrina Smith
1990 Aurele Gagne	2004
1991 David E. Cumming	2005
1992 Francis E. Welch	2006
1994 Palmer E. Martin	2008 Dale Pushee
1996 Walter L. Bell	2009 Shawn Brewster

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERMONT COUNCIL OF  
THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS**

The Annual Assembly of the Vermont Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters was convened on Sunday May 17, 2009 at 3:00 PM at the Masonic Temple in Barre, Vermont with the following officers

T.I.M. Douglas K. Boardman  
J.W. Aurele Gagne  
Sentinel Russell J. Slora  
Recorder/Treasurer Edward Gee

S.W. Alexis J. Parent  
Steward  
Chaplin Donald C. Brown

The Order of the Silver Trowel was given to one candidates, Gerald Shalinski:

by the following members:

King David: Palmer Martin, Sr. Warden: Belford Belles Jr. Warden: Dan Ebbighausen  
Solomon: Gerald Shalinsky

The business meeting immediately followed. It was voted to donate \$50.00 to CMMR. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

TIM: Alexis J. Parent, Jr.  
SW: Aurele Gagne  
JW: William Graham  
Steward: Russell J. Slora  
Sentinel : Randy A. Ricker  
Recorder/Treasurer Edward Gee

The officers present were installed.

Our MIGM Slora addressed the Companions. It was brought of our attention the some Councils around the State were struggling to stay active. Russ said we need to work together and help the struggling Councils to get them back on their feet. It was pointed out that age and numerous other factors have caused this. It was mentioned that a three day seminar could be held on a weekend, Friday Saturday and Sunday, this is being looked into.

The next Assembly will be in Barre at Granite Lodge on May 16, 2010 in the 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM time frame. If there is a change, membership will be notified. Meeting closed at 4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted  
Edward Gee Recorder/Treasurer

LIVING MEMBERS of the ORDER of the SILVER TROWEL

**Columbus No. 1**

Farnham, Robert F.  
Gagne, Aurele  
Gagne, Phillip L.  
Oldenburgh, Guy W.  
Patriquin, Roger L

**Bennington No. 3**

Kennedy, John B.  
Rancourt, Michael C.  
Stevens, E. Irving, Jr.  
Strohmaier, Karl

**Burlington No. 5**

Chaffee, Wendell H  
Hill, Clifford L., Jr.  
Nawotka, Edward E., Jr.  
Parent, Alexis J.

**Windsor No. 8**

Ebbighausen, Daniel  
Harford, Herbert H

**Farmers No. 9**

Atwood, Alden E.  
Booth, Ian  
Fales, Robert E.  
Hunt, Harry E.  
Martin, David P.  
Sanders, Stuart C.  
Watters, Chester W.

**Davenport No. 12**

Berry, Richard O.  
Douglass, E.L., Jr.  
Jehle, Edward J.  
Howard, Bruce R.  
Pike, Roger M.  
Tucker, Morris G.

**Caledonia No. 13**

Goss, Phillip D.  
Smith, Omlah R., Sr.

**Middlebury No. 14**

Book, Robert M.  
Gee, Edward A.  
Grant, William H., Jr.  
Lee, Stuart E.  
Selleck, James E.  
Winner, James R., III

**Springfield No. 18**

**Orleans No. 19**

Graham, William W., Jr.  
Smith, William W.

**Barre No. 22**

Babcock, Jon E.  
Bartlett, David H.  
Belles, Belford A.  
Boardman, Douglas K.  
Bowen, Richard M.  
Brown, Donald C.  
Button, Richard K.  
Case, Norman S., Jr.  
Corliss, Eugene C.  
Cumming, David E.  
Doyle, Merlin T.  
Martin, Brent N.  
Martin, Palmer E.  
Morse, Willis J.  
Murray, Donald C.  
Park, Jonathan P.  
Preston, Arnold G.  
Ricker, Randy A.  
Rogers, Alan C.  
Ryan, Joseph E.  
Slora, Russell J.  
Smith, Cedric L.

Grand Council of Vermont Grand Representatives

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Near Vermont</u>	<u>Near other Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Grand Secretary</u>
Alabama	David P. Martin 524 Birch Hill Rd Brandon, VT 05733	Roger A. Simmons P.O. Box 268 Newton 36352	Hiram O. Williams, Jr. P.O. Box 100333 Birmingham AL 35210-0333
Alaska	E. L. Douglass, Jr. 48 Deborah Drive Rutland, VT 05701		David A. Hunt 18606 Little Cape Cr Anchorage, AK 99577
Arizona	Alden F. Atwood P.O. Box 43 Orwell, VT 05760	Robert R. McKinney 841 Stirrup Dr. Safford 85546	David G. Stankow 345 W. Monroe Street Phoenix, AZ 85003
Arkansas	James O. Fendley 33 Messenger St. St. Albans, VT 05478	Boyd R. Russel 88 Rogers St. Marianna 72360	Royce H. Taylor P.O. Box 1207 Pine Bluff, AR 71613
California	0 0 0	James G. Baum P.O. Box 599 Helendale 92342-0599	Kenneth G. Hope 801 Elm Avenue Long Beach, CA 90813
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 14 Learned Rd. Westford, VT 05494	James H. Hutchins 623 N. Bradford St Dover 19901	Wayne T. Slack 812 Penn Pines Blvd Clifton Heights, PA 19018-4311
District of Columbia	David H. Berry Morgan St. Ext. Bennington, VT 05201	Paul Erickson 10700 Cobberstone Dr Spotsylvania, VA 22553	Howard F. Coleman 1364 Cedar Hill Lane King George, VA 22485
Florida	Phillip Gagne PO Box 1241 Bakersfield, VT 05441	Frederick G. Ferris 333 Wayne Ave Indiatlantic 32903	Steven Q. Steele P.O. Box 2740 Lake Placid, FL 33862-2740
Georgia	Forrest V. Butterfield 33 Southridge Springfield, VT 05156	Wayne H. Garrett 5008 Gillespie Rd Gainesville 30506	Andre "Andy" E. Lovas 811 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31298-5099
Hawaii	Alexis J. Parent, Jr. 1506 Jericho Road Richmond, VT 05477	0 0 0	Cletus M.T. Ching 45-628 Apuakea Place Kaneohe, HI 96744-1701

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Idaho	Ian Booth 2298 Forestdale Rd Brandon, VT 05733	George F. Strange, Jr. 7180 Whitley Drive Fruitland, ID 83619	David A. Grindle 2642 N. Sweetwood Avenue Meridian, Idaho 83646-8840
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
Indiana	John Kennedy, Jr. 324 School Street Bennington, VT 05201	Philip D. Herthel. 0 0	Michael W. Klepper 2773 E Cottonwood Trail Morristown, IN 46161-9621
Iowa	Brent N. Martin 6061 Vt RT 14 Brookfield, VT 05036	Kenneth L. Smith P.O. Box 206 Gilbert 50105	John Harris Watts Box 107 Grand Jct, IA 50107-0107
Kansas	Morris G. Tucker 61 Avenue B Center Rutland, VT 05736	Robert W. Swearingen 2542 Jackson Rd Ottawa 66067	Wayne H. Rollf 320 SW 8th, PO Box 1217 Shelbyville, KY 40065
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
Louisiana	Eugene C. Corliss P.O. Box 124 6012 Waterbury Ctr, VT 05677	Thomas J. Pitman, Jr. MilMar Blvd. Alexandria 71301	Timothy J. Riley 171 Beckham's Camp Road Ringgold, LA 71068
Maine	Daniel Ebbighausen P.O. Box 558 Windsor, VT 05089	David D. Dalzell 73 Bancroft Point Road Grand Manan, NB	Robert D. Chaput 29 Hillside Drive Hampden, ME 04444-1742
Maryland	William Karstens, IV 52 Bingham Lane Williston, VT 05495	Edward A. Foreman, Jr. 0 0	Vernon H. Huebschman 1 Playfield Street Baltimore, MD 21222
Massachusetts	Arnold G. Preston P.O. Box 86 Chelsea, VT 05038	Richard E. Monroe 37 Deering St. Reading 01867	John B. McCullouch, Jr. 186 Tremont Street, Room 405 Boston, MA 02111-1003
Michigan	Edward E. Nawotka, Jr. 16 Country Club Drive Jericho, VT 05465	James R. Sprague 6578 Green Haven Drive Clarkston 48348	Terry G. Baker, PMIGM 1936 Michigan Avenue Marysville, MI 48040-2026
Minnesota	Keith W. Blake P.O. Box 6 South Pomfret, VT 05067	Charles Marston 2916 W. 220th St. Jordan 55352	Stanley Morrill PO Box 401 Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0401

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Mississippi	Merlin T. Doyle 95 Corinth St. Chelsea, VT 05038	Jimmie L. Windham P.O. Box 4416 Greenville 38705	Mickey P. McMahan PO Box 1030, 2400 23rd Ave Meridian, MS 39302-1030
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
Montana	Carl Shoemaker PO Box 732 Ascutney, VT 08058	William R. Beasley 0 0	Bradford Huffman P.O. Box 824 Conrad, MT 59425
Nebraska	Cedric L. Smith P.O. Box 586 So. Barre, VT 05670	Adolph Schlaman 1503 W. Stly Pk. Grand Island 68801	Bruce T. Anderson P.O. Box 22988 Lincoln, NE 68542-2988
Nevada	Aurele Gagne 7573 VT Rte 78 Highgate Ctr., VT 05459	James E. Ragan 4375 E. Sunset Dr. Henderson 89014	Russell M. Wilde 2321 Meadowborrk Lane Carson City, NV 89701-5724
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 Jersey	Herbert H. Harford 1009 Rte 131 Springfield, VT 05156	George Schluter 100 Howard Street Dumont 07628	Stephen Lutz 1228 Kline Place Rahway, NJ 07065-1947
New Mexico	Norman S. Case, Jr. P.O. Box 65 Bethel, VT 05032-0065	Anthony Bibel P.O. Box 1055 Los Alamos 87544	Paul A. Brehm 2724 Monument Drive NW Albuquerque, NM 87120-6553
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. Carolina	Russell A. Goslant 423 Center Rd Middlesex, VT 05602	David Hargett, Jr. 406 Harris Ln. Monroe 28110	Robert Schafer P.O. Box 17212 Raleigh, NC 27619
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
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
Oklahoma	Edward J. Jehle 232 Band Camp Road Saugerties, NY 12477	Monte G. Hendrix PO Box 3335 McAlester, OK 74502	Gary A. Davis PO Box 1223 Drumright, OK 74030

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Oregon	Terry M. Clifford 1618 McReynolds Road Danville, VT 05828	Jesse J. Fox P.O. Box 763 Winchester 97495	Dalvin L. Hollaway PO Box 767 Canyonville, OR 97417-0767
Pennsylvania	Belford A. Belles 464 Gove Hill Road Thetford Center, VT 05075	C Robert Lutcher 326 Main Street So Wmsport 17701	Freeman Z. Frey, III PO Box 4211 Harrisburg, PA 17111-4421
Rhode Island & Providence Plantation	Richard O. Berry 8 Freeman Ave. Rutland, VT 05701	Joseph R. Brearley 80 Potter Hill Rd. Westerly, 02891	Kenneth M. Long 18 Thompson Avenue Putnam, CT 06260-1345
S. Carolina	James E. Selleck 11 Moosalamoo Club Road Salisbury, VT 05679-9031	Harold L. Taylor 1047 Stillwater Rd Waterloo 29384	Johnnie T. Morris PO Box 7463, 1518 Hampton Columbia, SC 29202-7463
S. Dakota	Eric Ginette  193 McKinstrey Road Cabot, VT 05647	0  0 0	Harlan Peterson Masonic Center- 520 South 1st Avenue Souix Falls, SD 57104
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
Texas	Charles K. Waters 209 Orange Ave Fairhope, AL 36532	Charles F. Wolfe P.O Box 411 Boyd 76023	Orville L. O'Neil PO Box 296 Waco, TX 76703-0296
Utah	David H. Bartlett 84 Osterberg Terr. Williamstown, VT 05679	Dwight L. McHugh 2460 West 7820 N. Honeyville 84314	Owen C. Orton 4220 South 4900 West West Valley, UT 84120
Washington	William W. Smith P.O. Box 473 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
Wyoming	Roderick J. Maclay II P.O. Box 182 So. Strafford, VT 05070	Virgil Poulsen 1855 Montana Way Green River 82935	Louis M. Ellenberger, Jr. 1315 Mitchell Laramie, WY 82072
CANADA - EAST	Donald C. Brown 1232 Hebert Road  Williamstown, VT 05679	H.C.L. Woodhams 401-93 Kearney Lake Rd  Halifax, NS B3N 4E7	H. C. L. "Lofty" Woodhams 401-93 Kearney Lake Road Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 4E7, Canada

Grand Council of Vermont Grand Representatives

CANADA - ONTARIO	Palmer E. Martin 84 Washington St.  Barre, VT 05641	Donald A. King P.O. Box 2250  Picton, ONT K0K 2T0	Charles Meldum 54 Amberdale Drive Scarborough, ON M1P 4C2, Canada
CANADA - WESTERN	John R. Campbell, Jr. 53 Valley View Drive Milton, VT 05468	Richard Laronde PO Box 896 Dauphin, MB R7N 3J5	Edward Wilson 35188 Spencer Street Abbotsford, BC V3G 2E3 Canada
ENGLAND & WALES	Wendell H. Chaffee 53 Sunset Dr. Burlington, VT 05401	David J. Sparks 143 Broad Ln Hampton TW12 3BX	John Brackley 86 St James Street London, England SW1A 1PL
FRANCE	Edward E. Nawotka, Jr. 16 Country Club Drive Jericho, VT 05465	0 0 0	Philippe Martin 54 Rue Du Roc Blanc 63400 Chamalieres
GERMANY	Clyde T. Reynolds 205 Sand Hill Rd Bethel, VT	0 0 0	Christian P. Thomas Goerdelerstrasse 2A D-65197 Woesbadem
GREECE	Theodore G. Corsones 1 Nickwackett St. Rutland, VT 05701	Pandelis Aetos Mastromanolis 0	Constantinos N. Korontzis 19 Athens Street Athens, 10438, Greece
ITALY	Jon A. Babcock 3916 Randolph Road Randolph Center, VT 05061	0 0 0	Enrico Consonni Via ,PRZAMP, 27 13883 ROPOLLO (Biella) ITALY
PHILIPPINES	Omlah R. Smith, Jr. P.O. Box 184 St. Johnsbury, VT 05819	0 0 0	Isaac F. Arribas, Jr 1440 San Marcelino Street Ermita, Manila, Phillippines
PORTUGAL	James Dolan 131 Stefansson Road Bethel, VT 05032	0 0 0	Manuel Moto Rus Joao Saraiva 34 - 1 1700-250Lisbon; Portugal

Grand Council of Vermont Grand Representatives

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
Romania	0 0 0	0 0 0	Luta Teddor c/o Stefan Masu Str. Principala No. 135 ILFOV, Romania
Panama	0 0 0	0 0 0	Antonio H. Linck Apartado 11610 Pamama 6, Republic of Panama
Israel	0 0 0	0 0 0	Jacob Bardo PO Box 33698 Tel Aviv 61336, Israel
New Zealand	0 0 0	0 0 0	A.N. French, JP P.O. Box 38-224 Howick, Auckland 1730, New Zealand

## INDEX

Address of M.I. Grand Master	12
Address by M.P. General Grand Master Rep.	23
Address of the M.W. Grand Master of VT	11
Proceedings	8
Biography of M.I. Grand Master	C
Committee Reports:	
Committee on Doings of Grand Officers	27
Credentials	9
Dispensations and Charters	31
CMMRF	31
Finance	33
Grievances	35
Jurisprudence	32
Necrology	26
Publications	none
Place & Time	19
Election of Officers	22
Installation of Officers	22
Inter-jurisdictional (Grand Reps and Recorders)	43
Past Grand Masters of Vermont	39
Vermont Council T.I.M's	41
Grand Historian	35
Living Members Order Silver Trowel	42
Reports of:	
District Deputy Grand Masters	29
Grand Lecturer	30
Grand Recorder	26
Grand Treasurer	24
Roster of:	
Committees	6
General Grand Council	2
Grand Officers, District Deputies	4
Subordinate Council:	
Recorders & T.I.M.s	7
Visitors	10