

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Delaware
Summary of the 75th Annual Assembly

The 75th Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Delaware was opened by Right Illustrious Companion Archie W. Bethard, Deputy Grand Master, at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 10, 2001 in the Masonic Temple, 818 Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware. All constituted Councils were properly represented. Most Illustrious Grand Master William J. Littel was then received into Grand Council and proceeded to preside over the Grand Assembly.

Right Puissant Maurice C. Himes, General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International and Personal Representative of Most Puissant Charles F. Van Etten, General Grand Master, Right Puissant Gordon L. Kimball, Sr., Northeastern Regional Deputy Grand Master and Right Puissant Mark E. Irwin General Grand Captain of the Guard of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International were duly received into Grand Council. Grand Council was honored to receive Most Worshipful Charles H. Lengel, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, into the Assembly. The Most Worshipful graciously addressed the Companions assembled, welcoming the distinguished visitors from Sister jurisdictions to Delaware and wished for them a most enjoyable stay in Delaware.

Grand Council experienced a net loss in membership for the year of 15. The record for the year shows only 5 greetings, 5 affiliations, 0 reinstated, 10 deaths, 2 demits, and 7 suspensions. The membership ends the year at 409. Only Gunning Bedford Council had any greetings this year. The General Funds of Grand Council remained about the same as the previous year due in part to a one-time purchase of Grand Council officer aprons of \$850. The Permanent Fund grew about \$165 ENTIRELY from the sale of aluminum cans and interest on savings!

Following the recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee, Grand Council approved a proposal made by Most Illustrious Donald D. Thomas, MIPGM to provide for unused funds designated for use by the Grand Master to attend the General Grand Council Triennial, to be returned to the Permanent Fund. Grand Council approved continuance of the Liability Insurance Coverage provided in conjunction with Grand Commandery and Grand Chapter. The Finance Committee recommended and it was approved by standing acclamation to make M.I. C. Granville McVey, MIPGM, Grand Treasurer Emeritus. A resolution was presented by M.I. Chester C. Coffin, MIPGM and approved by Grand Council that would require the Grand Recorder to give to the Recorder of each constituent council and the Jurisprudence Committee, written notice of any changes to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations or Rituals of the Grand Council by November 30 of each year.

Grand Council was honored to have representatives from ten of our sister jurisdiction present. M. I. Urban T. Peters, PMIGM and M.I. William Hershiser, Most Illustrious Grand Master, both from the District of Columbia, responded for these distinguished Companions. Right Puissant Maurice “Bud” Himes, General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of General Grand Council, extended the greetings of General Grand Council and noted that General Grand Master earnestly requested all Grand Councils to support programs involving as many of our family as possible. To continue aggressive support of the Cryptic Mason Medical Research Foundation Program. To strongly support the Northeast Regional Conference scheduled for September 8th in Auburn, Maine.

At the banquet on Friday evening, M.P. Companion Himes, on behalf of the Grand Council of Delaware and the General Grand Council, presented the Adult Leadership Award to Brother Edwin M. Neuth for his many, many years of dedicated service to the young ladies of Job’s Daughters. The Cryptic Mason of the Year will be awarded to Illustrious Companion James A. Johnson of Gunning Bedford Council No. 1 who was unable to attend due to poor health. Both Companions have been hardworking and are very worthy of the honor.

The following Grand officers were elected/appointed and installed to serve for the ensuing Cryptic year:

Archie W. Bethard	M. I. Grand Master
Wayne T. Slack	R. I. Deputy Grand Master
Albert H. Westerside	R. I. Grand Principal Conductor of the Work
John B. Dorsey, MIPGM	M. I. Grand Treasurer
Mark E. Irwin, MIPGM	M. I. Grand Recorder
Charles J. Conley	I. Grand Captain of the Guard
C. William Tulloch	I. Grand Chaplain
Maurice C. Barnes	I. Grand Conductor of the Council
James R. Herrington	I. Grand Marshall
Jon B. Cottrell	I. Grand Steward
James B. Walsh	I. Grand Sentinel

M. I. Grand Master Bethard provided the Companions assembled with his theme for the year of “ONE”. He noted that if each Companion in our jurisdiction made it their responsibility to find just ONE person to fill their shoes, our Fraternity would be flourishing today. He challenged each Companion to tackle the theme of ONE head-on.

Fraternally submitted,



Mark E. Irwin, MIPGM
Grand Recorder

In compliance with the Requirements of Grand Council, this Summary has been prepared for the benefit of the Companions of this Jurisdiction. It is to be read aloud at the first meeting of the Council following its receipt. Grand Representatives are invited to use as much of the above as they wish in their correspondence with our Sister Jurisdictions.