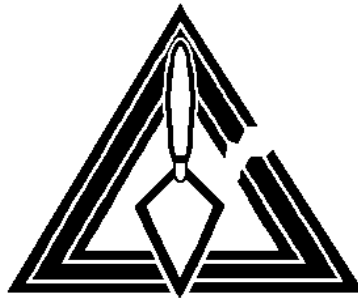


PROCEEDINGS

*The Most Puissant
Grand Council
of
Royal and Select Masters
of
Connecticut*



2024
205th ANNIVERSARY REPORT

The Most Puissant Grand Council
Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut

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DARRIN DAVID SILHAVY
Most Puissant Grand Master
2023

DARRIN DAVID SILHAVY

Darrin David Silhavy was born January 31, 1968, in Bridgeport CT, the second and youngest son of the late Joseph Leopold Silhavy and Barbara Ann (Anderson) Silhavy. He has an older brother, Joseph J., who lives with his family in Maryland.

Darrin spent his formative years in Easton CT, where his father erected a house on the land his grandfather, a Bridgeport firefighter, had established as a farm in the 1930s. During his youth, he was dynamic in sports and music circles. While he played football and baseball, his enthusiasm for music took precedence. He began playing trumpet in fifth grade and eventually joined the trumpet section in the Greater Bridgeport Youth Symphony. He was honored to have played under the baton of guest conductors Gustav Meier and Václav Nelhýbel. After completing his studies at Joel Barlow High School, he enrolled at Gettysburg College. While on summer break, Darrin worked aboard boats at Captain's Cove Marina in Bridgeport. His determination led him to achieve his U.S. Merchant Marine Officer 100-ton Masters License, which he still proudly holds today.

Darrin relocated to Maryland after obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a minor in Business from Gettysburg College in 1990. He commenced his career at Dictaphone Corporation, a Pitney Bowes subsidiary. He worked in sales, catering to legal and medical accounts in Annapolis, MD, and the Eastern Shore. Despite winning multiple sales leadership awards and being on an upward trajectory in this career, he experienced a change of heart. He relocated back to Connecticut to pursue a career in education. He graduated from Sacred Heart University in 1996, earning a Master of Arts in Teaching. He also completed a 6th Year Degree in Educational Leadership at Southern Connecticut State University in 1999. Presently, he is a dedicated elementary school educator in the Trumbull Public School system, teaching fifth grade at Middlebrook Elementary School.

Darrin and his wife Donna and their two children, TJ, and Jenna, live in Easton CT in the home he grew up in.

In 2003, Darrin was raised in Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, and he subsequently rose through the ranks to serve as Worshipful Master in 2008. Among the notable events during his tenure was the pin presentation night, during which he presented his father Joe (a Past Master of Aspetuck No. 142), with his 50-year pin. The moment was even more special as his father was in attendance to witness Darrin receiving the Lewis Jewel. Darrin was duly recognized for his contributions as the Mason of the Year in Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge in 2011.

In 2009, Darrin became a member of the Pyramid Shrine, where he promptly enlisted in the Pipes and Drums Unit. He learned the fundamentals of the bagpipes using a practice chanter and eventually graduated to a full set of pipes within a year. Since then, he has actively participated in parades and various events and showcased his musical talents at Masonic, school, and church functions. Additionally, in 2012, he joined the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Bridgeport, serving as a member of the 32^o Honor Guard and Knight Lodge of Perfection.

Darrin's involvement in the York Rite began with his exaltation in Rittenhouse Chapter No. 11 in February 2010. He subsequently served as the High Priest in 2018 and 2019 and as chair of the Darien York Rite Education Committee. Darrin's contributions to the committee include the development of an education program that emphasizes Masonic and Templar teachings. One example of his coordination skills is the book study he led during the summer of 2018 which utilized educational materials from the General Grand Chapter. The Companions of Rittenhouse Chapter No. 11 praised the program as well received. He then organized the involvement of other members to lead instructional programs in each of the York Rite bodies. His contributions to the craft were formally recognized in 2015 when the Grand Chapter presented him with the Ephraim Kirby Award.

Darrin was greeted in Washington Council No. 6 in March 2010. He rose steadily through the ranks, eventually serving as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2016, and was received into the Order of the Silver Trowel. His dedication and hard work caught the eye of Most

Puissant Grand Master Clyde W. Kayser, who appointed him Grand Sentinel of the Grand Council in 2017. Darrin subsequently progressed through the ranks. Companion Darrin reached a high point of his Cryptic Mason journey when he was recently elected and installed as the Most Puissant Grand Master of Connecticut. This achievement reflects his unwavering commitment to the craft.

In his York Rite journey, he was knighted in Trinity Commandery No. 3 on Good Friday of 2010 and served as Commander in 2017. His service to the craft was recognized again in 2022 when the Grand Encampment created him a Knight Commander of the Temple.

Other Masonic organizations to which Darrin belongs include Connecticut York Rite College No. 17 – Governor; Mohawk Council No. 28, Knight Masons; Knights of the York Cross of Honour – currently an officer; Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon; Monker Grotto, MOVPER; and Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association.

Outside of Masonic life, Darrin enjoys spending quality time with the loves of his life, Donna, and his two children, TJ and Jenna. Other interests include reading, hiking, gardening, home brewing, winemaking, and listening to and playing the bagpipes. As an avid hiker and camper, his three fondest memories include climbing Mt. Rainier, pitching a tent and camping out next to the Great Wall of China, and completing a Philmont Scout Ranch High Adventure Trek with his TJ in 2019. He serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 66 in Easton CT, and he also served on the Town of Easton's Planning and Zoning Commission for 13 years.

ANNUAL SESSION

The Annual Sessions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut and The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters were once again held in the traditional manner in the Courtyard by Marriott, 4 Sebethe Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut on 31 May and 1 June 2024.

GRAND BANQUET

The combined Annual Banquet in honor of Most Excellent Grand High Priest Michael E. Seamon and Most Puissant Grand Master Darrin D. Silhavy began on 31 May 2024 with a social hour at 5:30 pm followed by the Banquet at 6:30 pm. In attendance were approximately 90 Companions, guests and ladies.

RE Grand Secretary/Recorder William L. Miller called the audience to rise and welcome the Head Table as they entered and were introduced. Companions Seamon and Silhavy each then welcomed all present, and then called upon Companion William E. Weisert, II, RE Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter, for an invocation. All present then joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag, followed by singing the “Star Spangled Banner” and “O Canada”.

As the meal was being served, the presiding officers introduced the Head Table and various invited guests. Called upon to speak were Matthew Sprouse, State Master Councilor of CT DeMolay accompanied by Brian Beals, Executive Officer; Brielle Laferriere, Grand Worthy Advisor of Connecticut of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls accompanied by Anne Needham, Supreme Inspector; Wendy Batterton, Worthy Grand Matron and William Zaleha, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Connecticut Order of the Eastern Star; Kayla Rettburg, Grand Royal Matron, Grand Court of Connecticut Order of Amaranth accompanied by SK William F. Lott, Grand Royal Patron; and SK Harold Elwell, RE Grand Commander Knights Templar of CT; all of whom offered

their congratulations and best wishes for a profitable session on the morrow.

Dignitaries from the General Grands were called upon for their remarks. Companion William L. Miller II, Deputy General Grand High Priest of the Northeastern Jurisdiction was recognized first, followed by Companion Chadwick Burks, RE General Grand King, who did NOT present MEGHP Michael Seamon with his Plaque, Pin and Certificate attesting to his year of service, but held onto it to assure that ME Mike will actually complete his term the very next morning.

MPGM Silhavy recognized Companion Charles A. McCollum, General Grand Treasurer of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International, who brought greetings from the General Grand Council.

The evening segued into recognitions of Companions for outstanding service to the York Rite, each involving a secretive ceremony to locate and present the awardee in the Banquet East. MEGHP Seamon began with the Grand Chapter's Ephraim Kirby Citation for Meritorious Service, presented to Companion Scott A. Daniels. Then, with the assistance of General Grand King Burks, Companion Kristian M. Maiorino was presented with the General Grand Chapter Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze

MEGHP Seamon took advantage of the opportunity to thank his lady, Linda Dougherty by presenting her with a lovely necklace.

Then it was the Grand Council's turn. MPGM Silhavy presented the Knight of Ish Sodi Award to Companions Steven J. Chiappalone and Gary D. Shepard. Then followed the prestigious Philip J. Jones Award, which was presented to Companion William C. Lang

Most Worshipful Grand Master Edward C. Page commented on his God, Unity and Service (G. U. S.) theme and brought greetings from the Grand Lodge.

To conclude the banquet ceremonies, Companion Edward A. Varjabedian, Ill. Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council offered a Benediction at 8:45 pm.

Many of the Companions and guests remained to see who had won the 50-50 raffle and the many gift baskets.

ANNUAL MEETING

ATTENDANCE

GRAND OFFICERS

Darrin D. Silhavy (06)	Most Puissant Grand Master
William E. Weisert (04)	R.I. Dep. Puissant Grand Master
Michael D. Sabia, Jr. (06)	R.I. Prin. Conductor of Work
Charles A. McCollum (06)	R.I. Grand Treasurer
William L. Miller, II (01)	R.I. Grand Recorder
Charles M. Jewart (01)	Ill. Grand Captain of the Guard
Scott R. Atkins (08)	Ill. Grand Conductor
Scott A. Daniels, Jr (04)	Ill. Grand Steward
Eric H. Hoy (01)	Ill. Grand Sentinel
Daniel M. Luft (09)	Ill. Grand Marshal
Martin Ede (08)	Ill. Grand Historian
Edward A. Varjabedian (01)	Ill. Grand Chaplain
Scott T. Sherriek (16)	Ill. Assistant Grand Treasurer
James S. McNeely, IV (01)	Ill. Assistant Grand Recorder
Charles B. Fowler, Jr (01)	Ill. Assistant Grand Recorder
Arnold S. Grot (01)	Ill. Assistant Grand Chaplain
Scott T. Sherriek (16)	Grand Trustee
Charles D O'Neill (06)	Grand Trustee
Paul L. Chello (19,36)	Grand Trustee

PAST MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTERS

Richard G. Barrows (02)	Clyde W. Kayser II (08)
Bruce R. Bellmore (08)	Charles A. McCollum (06)
Martin Ede (08)	Charles D. O'Neill (06)
Richard A. Eppler (19)	Michael E. Seamon (01)
Charles B. Fowler (01) Hon	

COUNCILS REPRESENTED – 11 of 11**Constituent Council Representatives**

NO.	T.I.M.	D.I.M.	IPCW
1	Eric H. Hoy	John R. Ranney	Joseph P. Grieco Jr
2	Ryan Snide	Richard Barrows	# Edward C. Page
4	# Scott A. Danielsr	Michael R. Northup	Richard L. Allen
6	Silas Mante	# Andrew Triandafilou	# Ashante McPherson
8	Michael R. Messner		Gerardo Nero
9	Jason R. Rieger	Francis Barnes	Mark A. Orsini
16	Michael J. Miller	Andrew Flasko	# Fritzner Erauda
19	Peter T. Cianelli	Gerald A. Calabritto	John H. Kelley
20	# Clyde W. Kayser II	# John P. Glenn, II	# Mychael Scribner
23	Mark E. Blackaby	Cory R. Rice	Terrence D. Mish
25	Richard D. Corey	Douglas D. Barnard	Harrison T. Redford
# Denotes Proxy			

PAST TIMs (Not Otherwise Listed)

John W. Braddock (09)
 Vincent A. Cowie (09)
 Dale T. Cunningham (23)
 Harold A. Elwell (09)
 Matthew F. Griffin (09)

William F. Lott (12)
 Kristian M. Maiorino (09)
 Craig R. Nelson, Sr. (16)
 Gary D. Shepard (16)

DELIBERATIONS OF GRAND COUNCIL

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Connecticut was opened in ample form by Most Puissant Grand Master Darrin D. Silhavy at 12:00 pm on Saturday, 1 June 2024. Illustrious Grand Chaplain Varjabedian offered prayer, and MPGM Silhavy led the Companions in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. He then Called Off the Assembly to Refreshment, to be resume at 1:00 pm after lunch.

MPGM Silhavy invited MEPGHP Michael E. Seamon to join him and together they greeted the following:

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Connecticut Knight Crusaders of the Cross

Companion **Gary D. Shepard**, Knight Crusader in the East

Connecticut Council of Anointed Kings

Companion **Craig R. Nelson, Sr.**, Thrice Illustrious King

Connecticut Convention of Anointed High Priests in Royal Arch
Masonry

Companion **Daniel M. Luft**, Most Excellent President

Mohawk Council No. 28, Knight Masons of the U.S.A.

Companion **William E. Weisert, II**, Excellent Chief

York Rite Sovereign College of North America

Companion **Michael E. Seamon**, Deputy Grand Governor

Companion **Charles A. McCollum**, Past Grand Governor

Companion **Richard A. Eppler**, Past Grand Governor

Companion **Charles D. O'Neill**, Past Grand Governor

Companion **Michael D. Sabia, Jr.**, Pre-Eminent Governor,

Connecticut York Rite College No. 17

Knights York Cross of Honour

Companion **Charles A. McCollum**, Right Eminent Grand Marshal, Convent General

Companion **Michael D. Sabia, Jr.**, Eminent Prior, Connecticut Priory No. 28

Allied Masonic Degrees

Companion **Michael D. Sabia, Jr.**, Sovereign Master Lockwood Council No. 583

Connecticut College, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (Masonic Rosicrucians)

Companion **William L. Miller II**, Chief Adept

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of **Quebec** - 1876

Companion **Dale Langille**, Most Excellent Grand First Principal

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of **Delaware** – 1869

Companion **William F. Lott**, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest

Companion **Randy Mullen**, Right Excellent Grand Secretary

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Canada in **Ontario** – 1857

Companion **George Fairbairn**, Most Excellent Grand First Principal

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of **New Hampshire** 1818

Companion **Earl W. Cole, Sr.**, Right Excellent Grand King

Companion **Kenneth A. Colpaert, Sr.**, Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of **Connecticut** – 1798

Companion **Michael D. Sabia, Jr.**, Most Excellent Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of **Rhode Island** and Providence Plantations – 1798

Companion **Mark D. Thompson**, Right Excellent Grand King
Companion **Russell Lorensen**, Most Excellent Past Grand
High Priest

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of **Delaware** - 1926
Companion **William F. Lott**, Most Illustrious Past Grand
Master

Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of **Maryland** – 1874
Companion **Robert Lumbert**, Most Illustrious Past Grand
Master

Grand Council of Royal & Select Master Masons of the State of
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations - 1860
Companion **Joseph Kern**, Most Illustrious Grand Master
Companion **Mark D. Thompson**, Most Illustrious Past
Grand Master
Companion **Russell Lorensen**, Most Illustrious Past Grand
Master

Grand Council of **Maine** Royal & Select Masters - 1855
Companion **A. Edward Caron**, Most Illustrious Grand Master
Companion **Edward Caron, Sr.**, Illustrious Grand Sentinel

Grand Council of Royal & Select Master Masons of **Pennsylvania**
- 1847
Companion **Mark Gall**, Most Puissant Grand Master

The Grand Council of Royal & Select Master Masons of
Massachusetts - 1826
Companion **Manuel Ferreira, III**, Most Illustrious Grand
Master
Companion **Jack C. Bowden, Jr.**, Illustrious Grand Master
of Ceremonies

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of **New Hampshire** - 1823
Companion **Earl W. Cole**, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand
Master
Companion **Kenneth A. Colpaert, Sr.**, Illustrious Grand
Captain of the Guard

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of **New York** - 1823
Companion **Richard Kerimoglo**, Right Illustrious Grand
Principal Conductor, representing MIGM Donald Kunego.

Grand Commandery of **Knights Templar** of Connecticut
Companion **Harold A. Elwell**, Right Eminent Grand
Commander

General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons International
Companion **Charles A. McCollum**, Right Puissant General
Grand Treasurer

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International
Companion **Chadwick Burks**, Right Excellent General
Grand King
Companion **William L. Miller, II**, Right Excellent Deputy
General Grand High Priest
Companion **Harold Kahn**, Associate General Grand Chaplain

Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State
of Connecticut
Brother **Edward C. Page**, Most Worshipful Grand Master

The MPGM welcomed all present and announced that registration with the Committee on Credentials would close at approximately 2:00 pm, and that the left half of the Ballot will serve as a Voting Card.

The Grand Council Annual Assembly was Called On to Labor.

The gavel was tendered to MWGM Page who used it to seat the assembly and returned it to MPGM Silhavy. MPGM Silhavy then led the Companions in saluting MWGM Page with the Grand Honors of Masonry.

MPGM Silhavy requested the visiting Most Puissant/Illustrious Grand Masters to assemble west of the Altar where he led the assembly in saluting them with the Private Grand Honors and presented them with Certificates of Honorary Membership in the Grand Council of Connecticut. Companion Joseph Kern of Rhode Island spoke on behalf of the visitors and thanked Connecticut for the hospitality extended to them.

The Past Most Puissant Grand Masters of Connecticut were asked to gather west of the Altar. There they were saluted with the Private Grand Honors and thanked for their advice and counsel by MPGM Silhavy.

Companion William C. Lang was recognized as the most recent recipient of the Philip J. Jones Award for Distinguished Masonic Service. The former recipients rose, and they were warmly greeted with applause.

All holders of the Knight of Ish Sodi award were asked to rise, including the awardees from the previous evening, Companions Steven J. Chiappalone and Gary D. Shepard, and they too were rewarded with thanks and applause.

On motion of Grand Recorder Miller, VOTED to approve the minutes of the 204th Anniversary Assembly of the Grand Council as printed in the Proceedings.

MPGM Silhavy surrendered the gavel to RIDPGM William E. Weisert, II and delivered his Report and Address. During his remarks, MPGM Silhavy called for the Grand Recorder to present a new Charter to Companions of Buel Council No. 20 to replace a lost document. In addition, he announced that the Lincoln Bible was awarded to Buel Council. Noting that the Tri-State Cryptic Festival had not occurred as planned, a conferral of the Super Excellent Master degree in Connecticut is scheduled for October 5, 2024.

Companion Weisert ordered the report to be referred to the Committee on Address of the M. P. Grand Master, then returned the gavel.

Reporting for the Committee on Address was Chairman PMPGM Kayser. On motion, the report was ACCEPTED.

PMPGM McCollum reported for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, noting that the failure of MPGM Silhavy to arrest a

Council charter for not meeting the required number of times was inconsistent with Grand Council Law.

Grand Chaplain Varjabedian presented the report of the Committee on Necrology, closing with a prayer for the departed.

The reports of the Committee on Audit, the Grand Treasurer, Grand Trustees, and the Grand Recorder were ACCEPTED as presented in the Advance Proceedings.

Sir Knight **Harold A. Elwell**, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Connecticut brought his greetings to the assembly.

Companion Hoy reported for the Committee on Credentials that there were 55 Companions present who were eligible to vote.

Companion Weisert presented the report of the Committee on Delinquencies. While there were no fines to be recommended, he expressed concern about the sustainability of two small Councils.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024 was presented by Chairman Weisert of the Committee on Budget. On motion, the budget and implementing Resolutions were ADOPTED.

MPGM Silhavy ordered that all remaining committee reports would be received and printed in the Proceedings.

Companion Charles A. McCollum, Right Puissant General Grand Treasurer brought greetings from the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, Intl. He thanked the Companions for designating CMMRF the official charity of the Grand Council of Connecticut, and for the \$870 raised at the banquet the previous evening. He then presented to Hamilton Council No. 9 a plaque noting their significant contribution to CMMRF.

ELECTIONS

PMPGM O'Neill, reporting for the Committee on Nominations, recommended the below listed slate of officers. After asking three times for further nominations, there being none, and ascertaining that they will accept the office, MPGM Silhavy declared the following nominees **ELECTED**:

Most Puissant Grand Master	William E. Weisert II
R.I. Deputy Puissant Grand Master	Michael D. Sabia, Jr.
R.I. Prin. Conductor of the Work	Charles M. Jewart
R.I. Grand Treasurer	Charles A. McCollum
R.I. Grand Recorder	William L. Miller II
Grand Trustee to June 2027	Scott T. Sherrick

MPGM-elect Weisert announced the following appointments:

Ill. Grand Captain of the Guard	Scott R. Atkins
Ill. Grand Conductor	Scott A. Daniels, Jr
Ill. Grand Steward	Eric H. Hoy
Ill. Grand Sentinel	Daniel M. Luft
Ill. Grand Chaplain	Edward A. Varjabedian
Ill. Grand Historian	Martin Ede
Ill. Grand Marshal	Ryan Snide
Ill. Asst Grand Treasurer	Scott T. Sherrick
Ill. Asst Grand Recorder	Charles B. Fowler Jr.
Ill. Asst Grand Chaplain	Arnold S. Grot
Ill. Asst Grand Chaplain	Bruce R. Bellmore

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Michael D. Sabia, Jr. brought greetings from the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut.

In his final remarks, MPGM Silhavy thanked all for the honor bestowed upon him, and discharged his committees with thanks.

INSTALLATION

The Grand Council was then Called Off to Refreshment so that the ladies and other guests might be invited into the room for the Installation of Officers.

The new officers for 2024-2025 of The Most Puissant Grand Council of CT were installed by PMPGM Charles D. O'Neill with MPGM Darrin D. Silhavy assisting as Marshal and PMPGM McCollum as Chaplain.

The ladies and guests were excused and the Grand Council was Called On to Labor.

Installing Officer O'Neill led the Companions in saluting MPGM William E. Weisert, II with the Private Grand Honors.

Newly installed Most Puissant Weisert then presented a brief overview of plans for the year ahead.

LEGACY FOR OUR PAST MOST PUISSANT'S JEWEL

Grand Recorder Miller presented a "Legacy" PMPGM Jewel to Companion Silhavy.

"The Grand Council is not without its own Legacy experience this year. The baseline jewel I am about to present to our Past Most Pu Darrin, has its roots going back to Lawrence P. Urban (Adam Sattig 35) PMP in 1977. The jewel was then furnished with a bar honoring Robert D. Sherrick (also Adam Sattig 35) who was MP in 1995. In the years that followed, son Scott (Adam Sattig 35 again) was presented with his own jewel for his service in 2005.

"Now it gets interesting. Upon Bob's death, Scott moved Bob's bar from the Urban Jewel to his own, and donated the leftovers of the Urban jewel to the Grand Council for presentation to our next Past Pu, making Past Pu Darrin the new legacy recipient with his own bar attesting to his service.

"Congratulations Darrin. Wear this proudly as a testimony not just of your service, but also that of your 3 PMPGM's."

Brother Edward C. Page, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, remarked upon the success of the Blue Wave program in obtaining petitioners and encouraged the York Rite to support the Lodges in their efforts.

CLOSING

There being no further business, MPGM Weisert called upon Grand Chaplain Varjabedian for a Benediction, and declared The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut Closed in Ample Form.



Attest

William L. Miller, II
Grand Recorder

NEXT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The 206th Anniversary Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of CT will be held in conjunction with the 226th Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Arch Masons of CT on Saturday, 7 June 2025, starting at 9:00 am, at the Courtyard by Marriott, 4 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell CT.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut will meet in Annual Convocation at 1:00 pm that same day and place.

The Banquet in honor of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and the Most Puissant Grand Master will be on Friday evening, 6 June 2025, also at the same place.

REPORTS**REPORT AND ADDRESS OF THE MOST PUISSANT
GRAND MASTER**

Companions All,

I want to begin by welcoming Most Worshipful Brother and Companion Edward C. Page, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut; Most Excellent Companion Michael D. Sabia, Governor of the York Rite College and Most Excellent Grand High Priest; Companion Hal Elwell, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery; and Right Puissant Companion Chuck McCollum, General Grand Treasurer for the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International.

To our visiting Most Illustrious Grand Masters, thank you for honoring me with your attendance.

Most importantly, I extend my heartfelt welcome to all the Companions of this Grand Council who have given up this beautiful Saturday to attend this assembly.

Welcome to the 205th annual assembly of the Grand Council of Connecticut.

NECROLOGY

Throughout the past Cryptic year, we have bid farewell to many cherished Companions, both from our own community and from sister jurisdictions, as they have been called home by the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe. Let us take a moment in our proceedings to honor their memory. Our Chaplain will now share words of remembrance and solace. (See Necrology Report which follows.)

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no approvals of out-of-state appointments or recommendations for Connecticut Companions to serve as Grand Representatives.

DECISIONS

1.) I decided to lift the suspension of Buel Council #20, which MPMG James S. McNeely issued. This decision comes after reviewing the annual returns filed by Buel Council to the Grand

Recorder, which indicate that they legally held four meetings during the 2022-2023 Cryptic year. To ensure that Buel Council can continue to flourish, I have consulted with the Thrice Illustrious Master, Mychael Scribner, and the Recorder, Clyde Kayser. I am confident that they have a solid plan in place for the growth of Buel Council. Buel Council has six companions awaiting a vote on Thursday, June 8 to take their Royal Master Degree. Acknowledging that Buel Council faces challenges during its transition from Torrington to Danbury is essential. The Companions of Buel must work diligently on their plan for growth, and the Grand Council officers will closely monitor their progress. We expect Buel Council, as well as each Council in our Jurisdiction, to adhere to the Constitution and Laws of the Royal and Select Masters in Connecticut at all times.

2.) I decided not to arrest the Charter of Suffield Council No. 23 for violating Section 200 of our Grand Council Law. My assessment follows:

I begin my assessment with a quote from Thomas Edison: "A good intention with a bad approach often leads to a poor result." Unfortunately, this statement accurately describes the predicament of Suffield Council over the past decade, as detailed in the annual proceedings of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Connecticut. Despite well-intentioned efforts, the Council leaders have struggled to attract the necessary number of Companions to their stated assemblies.

Over the past two years, I've closely observed these issues, traveling to five of the stated assemblies this year alone. Regrettably, except for the March and May assemblies—which benefitted from the presence of Grand Council and Grand Chapter Officers—Suffield Council failed to meet the required attendance to convene officially.

This issue is not new; historical records indicate a consistent pattern of challenges similar to those faced by many past Grand Masters. This year, the Council is directly violating Section 200 of the Grand Council Law, presenting me with a difficult decision regarding the potential revocation of the Suffield Council's charter. Complicating matters further, Suffield is home to both a Chapter and

a Council, necessitating collaboration with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Michael Seamon, to address their challenges comprehensively.

Additionally, the global pandemic has notably hindered Suffield's progress, especially after the loss of Bard Teigen, a pivotal member instrumental in uniting these groups.

Despite living an hour and a half away, I have utilized every assembly I attended to discuss membership strategies and identify obstacles to progress, such as scheduling conflicts with other Masonic bodies. However, little progress has been made in establishing a path forward or implementing changes to foster growth. Consequently, we took decisive action in consultation with Michael Seamon and our Grand Recorder, Bill Miller.

In March 2024, a crucial meeting led by Bill Miller provided a clear roadmap for the Council. This included a folder of pertinent information including historical membership statistics and an outline of several procedural options for their future. I decided to allow the Council officers to follow this guidance without imposing formal probation, with the understanding that they would determine their path forward by the end of April. The Most Excellent Grand High Priest and I concurred that the Chapter members should be allowed to revitalize their group, and I agreed to allow the Council the same latitude.

In April, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest received a letter indicating that the Companions in Suffield had opted to retain their charters and work towards revitalizing their Chapter and Council. This decision reflects their commitment but also reminds us of Edison's cautionary words. It underscores the necessity of continued vigilance and support, which is why I recommend that the incoming Most Puissant Grand Master place the Suffield Council on probation with specific stipulations.

I propose the appointment of a Past Grand Master as an advisor to the new officers over the next year. With his wealth of experience and knowledge, this advisor will play a pivotal role in enhancing communication within the Council, establishing clear and achievable membership goals, and ensuring that at least one degree is conferred annually. Additionally, I suggest that, at the very least,

the top three officers attend the Northeast Leadership Conference in September to further hone their leadership skills. The MPGM's liaison should also be prepared to guide the Companions should they decide to merge.

In conclusion, while the option to revoke the charter remains, with the right guidance and strategic support, the Suffield Council can potentially regain its former prominence. A balanced approach of oversight and empowerment aims to guide the Council towards a sustainable future.

DISPENSATIONS

2023-01 Buel Council No. 20 7 June 2023 I grant Dispensation to Buel Council #20, allowing said Council to engage in all necessary business activities and perform all work on candidates in Danbury while efforts are undertaken to restore or replace their charter. Also, I authorize all the necessary actions to finish the relocation of all records and paraphernalia, pertaining to Buel #20, from Torrington to Danbury. This dispensation shall remain in effect until the earlier of 1 November 2023 or the fulfillment of the following conditions:

The original charter is located and subsequently revised to reflect the new location of Buel #20.

OR Alternatively, a new edition of the Buel #20 Charter is issued.

2023-03 Buel Council No. 20 1 November 2023 Be it known that Dispensation 2023-01, initially set to expire on 1 November 2023, is hereby extended to remain in full force and effect until 1 June 2024. Buel Council #20 is granted continued authorization to conduct necessary business activities and perform all work on candidates in Danbury during this period. This extension also includes continuing all actions required to relocate records and paraphernalia from Torrington to Danbury for Buel #20. This dispensation will cease on the new expiry date of 1 June 2024 unless the original charter is located and revised or a new charter for Buel #20 is issued before this date.

2023-04 Crawford Council #19, 16 February 2024 In light of the request submitted on behalf of Companion Peter T. Cianelli, Thrice Illustrious Master of Crawford Council No. 19, R&SM, I

have reviewed and considered the request for a dispensation regarding the upcoming annual meeting scheduled for March 14, 2024.

Understanding the significance of this meeting, which encompasses the election of Officers among other critical business and recognizing the concurrent annual meeting of Joseph Andrews - Pulaski Chapter No. 26 that includes numerous significant events, it is clear that the adjustment in the meeting time is not only practical but necessary to facilitate the smooth conduct of both assemblies in the limited available time.

Therefore, by the authority vested in me, I hereby grant the requested dispensation allowing Crawford Council No. 19 to commence its meeting on the aforementioned date at 6:30 pm instead of the usual 7:30 pm. This change is approved with the understanding that all members of Crawford Council will be properly notified in a timely and efficient manner to ensure full participation and compliance with this adjustment.

2023-05 Washington Council #6, 24 April 2024 In light of the request submitted on behalf of Companion James Wood, Thrice Illustrious Master of Washington Council No. 6 R&SM, I have reviewed and considered the request for a dispensation to relocate the charter to Danbury on 9 May 2024.

At the April 11 meeting of Washington Council #6, it was voted to request a dispensation to relocate the Charter and change the location of the May assembly to meet jointly with Buel Council #20 in Danbury. The reason for the request is that Cyrus-Meridian is portraying the Most Excellent Master Degree, and Rittenhouse Chapter has two candidates in need of the Degree. Companions from the Chapter and Council located in Norwalk will assist in the degree portrayal in Danbury.

The dais officers of Washington Council #6 must be present to open with the host Council.

Therefore, by the authority vested in me, I grant the requested dispensation.

LEGISLATION

There are no proposed changes.

AWARDS

50 Year Pins

Presenting fifty-year pins to Companions Leonard Bucher and Willis Copeland this year was a great honor. Both are fellow pipers, and I've had the privilege of playing alongside Companion Bucher at Shrine functions and with Companion Copeland in the Pyramid Shriners Pipes and Drums unit. I thank these outstanding Companions for their dedicated years of service to Cryptic Masonry.

Knight of Ish Sodi

At last evening's banquet, I had the honor of presenting the Ish-Sodi Award to two deserving Companions. Steve Chiappalone, a member of Hamilton Council #9 in Meriden, was part of a team instrumental in organizing and executing the highly successful Robert DiPasquale Surf and Turf Dinner fundraiser for Cryptic Masonry in Connecticut. Steve is always ready to answer the call when needed and willingly portrays some of the longer parts in our Cryptic Masonry Degrees. I also presented this award to my traveling Companion, Gary Shepard. Gary made our journeys to Councils throughout the state immensely enjoyable with his excellent conversation. I appreciated his companionship and the fact that he was often the crucial ninth Companion needed for Council openings.

Philip J. Jones

I was also honored to present the prestigious Philip J. Jones Distinguished Service Award to Companion William C. Lang of Crawford Council #19 in West Haven. Bill is renowned for his many years of dedication to the York Rite and his unwavering commitment to any task he undertakes. Additionally, we all appreciate his years of participation in the Super Excellent Master Degree whenever asked.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

If you delve into the past proceedings of our Grand Cryptic Council, mentions of appointments to Grand jurisdictions abound. This program remains under scrutiny, and it's incumbent upon us to determine whether we will persist in extending this opportunity to our Companions. Although I did not nominate any Grand Representatives to Jurisdictions, I urge each current representative

to inform us about your interactions with your respective Grand Councils. Recognizing that very few here today may currently have updates to share, I'll refrain from seeking verbal reports at this moment. However, if you've volunteered to represent Connecticut in another state or Country, please consider reaching out to them, even if you can't visit in person, just to make your presence known. For those who have, I thank you for fulfilling your assignment.

STATE OF THE RITE

At the kickoff meeting in Stratford on August 26, I called for a gathering of all Thrice Illustrious Masters. This initial meeting aimed to rejuvenate the Councils in Connecticut following the challenges brought about by the pandemic. One of our primary focuses was the improvement of opening and closing rituals, as highlighted in my predecessor's report. To address this, I introduced a Challenge Coin initiative: each Council that successfully opened and closed without using books was rewarded with a coin. Additionally, the Most Puissant Grand Master was responsible for opening or closing in ample form for any Council that achieved ritual proficiency whenever he attended their stated assembly.

I am pleased to announce that all Councils embraced this challenge, with four out of eleven Councils successfully meeting the goal. Companions representing Cushing #4, Hamilton #9, Paugussett #16, and Buel #20 deserve special recognition. Could the officers and Companions of these Councils please stand and be acknowledged for your achievement? These Councils have demonstrated their commitment to excellence and are paving the way for future Companions.

My home Council, Washington #19, has been granted permission by our incoming Most Puissant Grand Master to have an opportunity to receive their coins at their first stated communication in June. This permission was granted because I had ordered a dispensation for them to move their charter on their stated communication night to Danbury for a joint Council meeting with Buel. Unfortunately, not all of their officers could attend the assembly in Danbury and therefore could not demonstrate their proficiency that evening.

I also instructed each Thrice Illustrious Master to deliver Masonic Education moments at each stated assembly. I provided each TIM with nine short talks as resources for their presentations. Additionally, Recorders were instructed to send written communications to all Companions before each stated assembly, specifying the Masonic education and discussion topics to be presented. As expected, some Councils followed this directive, while others did not.

Overall, we have several strong Councils and several that are struggling. Successful Councils are communicating with one another, offering educational opportunities, holding pre- and post-meeting gatherings, performing flag presentations, and informing their Blue Lodges about the further light in Masonry we offer. Those facing difficulties often have assemblies scheduled during other appendant body meetings, do not communicate upcoming assemblies, are not actively reaching out to their Blue Lodge members, and lack incentives to draw Companions out, especially in the dead of winter.

If your Council is struggling, reach out to your Grand Council. We are here to help. If you have a candidate and need assistance with degrees, contact your Grand Council. If there are still gaps after reaching out, contact the York Rite College. We want you to succeed.

Speaking of success stories, Buel Council #20 was placed on probation last year. As I mentioned earlier, your Grand Council is here to help. A little background: several years ago, this Council was told they were losing their home in Torrington. The officers began searching for a new home and moved their charter to Danbury. As you can imagine, some Companions stayed, and some affiliated with other Councils, leading to a rough start in their new location. To make matters worse, they discovered they could not locate their charter. With the help of the Grand Council, we set Buel on a path to success and provided a roadmap to restore their charter. Once this path was established, the Companions went to work and managed to greet five new Companions this year. I am delighted to share this success story.

I now have an item of unfinished business. Could the dais officers of Buel Council please come forward so that I can officially present to you your new Charter?

LINCOLN BIBLE

Now, one of the prerogatives of the Most Puissant Grand Master is to award the Council that has greeted the greatest number of companions with the Lincoln Bible. This year, there was a tie between Harmony-Menunketuck #8 and Buel #20. I hold all my companions at Harmony-Menunketuck and Buel in high regard, and breaking this tie was a very difficult decision. However, after consulting with several Grand officers, I have decided that the Lincoln Bible should be entrusted to the warm fraternal care of Buel Council #20 this year. Congratulations!

TRI-STATE FESTIVAL

This year, our Thrice Illustrious Master resigned from his post as the Thrice Illustrious Master of the Connecticut Council of Super Excellent Masters. Chuck McCollum offered to lead the Council and began his cast list communications in December.

Regrettably, New York was unable to make this date work for them. Chuck reached out to the organizer of the festival, but did not receive a response. Despite the date being placed on the calendar last year, unforeseen challenges prevented our tri-state companions from successfully coordinating the event.

As you know, the responsibility of hosting the Tri-State Festival typically rotates among the states, and this year was Massachusetts' turn. This would have marked the second year we were set to confer the Super Excellent Master degree in Massachusetts. Given the circumstances, I propose to the Tri-State Committee Chair that we consider hosting this degree in Connecticut next year instead.

For now, plans are in place to exemplify the Super Excellent Master Degree in the fall.

MEMBERSHIP

This year, we began with a total of 677 Companions and ended with 651. We welcomed nineteen new Companions, gained six affiliations, and five were reinstatements, resulting in a total gain of 30 Companions. Unfortunately, we lost some members who have been called by the Grand Architect. However, as our Recorder

pointed out last year, we can improve our efforts in the blue, red, and purple bodies to prevent NPDs (Non-Payment of Dues). We will lose them if we don't figure out what our Companions seek. Communication is key.

While our numbers reflect a renewed interest in the York Rite, we must continue our recruitment efforts and remember that the Royal Arch is the gateway to the York Rite. The foundation has been strengthened, providing a solid base for future leaders to build upon and continue our progress so far.

The Blue Wave initiative implemented by the Grand Lodge has led to a remarkable increase of almost 500 new Masons in the state. As these new Brothers advance in their leadership roles within the Blue Lodges, some long-serving officers will now have the opportunity to seek further light in Masonry. By joining the York Rite, they will gain additional knowledge and be better equipped to serve their fellow brethren in the Blue Lodge.

Moreover, these newly made Masons may seek further enlightenment and express interest in joining the York Rite. Therefore, it is imperative for the York Rite bodies to continually refine their practices, as the Blue Lodges have set high standards in exemplifying the Blue Lodge ritual.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.) To improve attendance at each of our constituent Council assemblies, I recommend implementing a multi-pronged approach. Firstly, I propose that all Recorders send a timely reminder email to all Companions at least five days before the upcoming assembly. This email should include the topic of Cryptic education for the evening to generate interest and encourage attendance. Secondly, it is important to assign each council officer the responsibility of contacting at least one Companion before the assembly to remind them and encourage their attendance. This personal touch can go a long way in making individuals feel valued and appreciated within our community. Lastly, we should promote carpooling as a way to foster true companionship and build a sense of community. Carpooling is rewarding for the environment and provides an opportunity for meaningful conversations and bonding among companions. I can personally attest to the benefits of carpooling and

companionship in the context of the York Rite functions. During my travels with Gary Shepard, the current Grand Principal Sojourner of the Royal Arch Masons in Connecticut, I experienced firsthand how having an extra Companion on visits to Chapters and Councils can provide that "extra companion" needed to ensure successful openings. Moreover, our conversations during our travels were deeply meaningful and added much value to our travels.

2.) As our Councils are back to assembling regularly, it is crucial to continue to pay close attention to the finer details and ensure that our proceedings are conducted with the utmost professionalism. As is often said in Blue Lodge, it is important to "polish the chrome." This begins with a mastery of our opening and closing rituals. All officers should aim to commit their lines to memory. This can be achieved through diligent preparation leading up to each stated assembly. We are fortunate to have many talented individuals at our Councils' helms. By emphasizing the significance of the opening and closing rituals, we reinforce our mission and purpose and impart valuable lessons to all those in attendance. These rituals serve as poignant reminders of the Royal and Select Master Degrees and remind us to reflect upon their teachings. As such, we must dedicate ourselves to the meticulous execution of these ceremonies, ensuring that they are performed with the utmost reverence and precision.

3.) As Freemasons, it is imperative that we promote the membership of York Rite within our Blue Lodges. The York Rite is the "graduate school" of Freemasonry, offering a wealth of knowledge and insight for those seeking to deepen their understanding and appreciation of our craft. Consider the following points when discussing prospective membership:

The Royal Arch degree, which is a pivotal component of the York Rite, explores the loss and recovery of the Master Mason's word - a central theme in the third degree of the Blue Lodge. Through a deeper exploration of this concept, a member can develop a more profound understanding of the significance of the Master Mason degree.

In addition, the Council of the York Rite offers the Cryptic Masonry degrees, which further expand upon the themes of the Royal Arch degree and explore the concept of hidden knowledge

and wisdom. This promotes the importance of searching for knowledge and understanding, a key tenet of the Masonic journey.

Moreover, joining the York Rite can broaden a member's network of Masonic Brothers, providing opportunities to engage in meaningful conversations and discussions about the principles and values of Freemasonry. This can foster lifelong friendships and strengthen the sense of community within the broader Masonic family.

4.) Councils should consider offering Table Councils or special dinners to unite their Companions and promote strengthening their organization. As mentioned previously, the annual Robert J. DiPasquale dinner is always a huge success. A Table Council is another terrific opportunity to promote companionship; it was well received when Illustrious Companion Charles Jewart arranged one several years ago. It is important to remember that charity is a key principle of Cryptic Masonry, and hosting events that include families and friends is vital. By doing so, Councils can bring their Companions closer and further promote the unity of the organization.

5.) My final recommendation is to appoint a Past Most Puissant Grand Master to assist the Companions in Suffield Council No. 23 in their endeavors to revitalize their Council.

VISITATIONS

One of the greatest aspects of leading a Grand body is the opportunity to represent the Grand Council within and beyond our state. I cannot express how rewarding this experience has been for me. I have met some of the most outstanding Masons and developed friendships that will last a lifetime.

Attached is a copy of my visits throughout the year. I have visited each Council in the state multiple times over the past two years. I attended the Connecticut Council of Deliberation, five Grand Commandery Christmas Observances, the 2023 Connecticut DeMolay Conclave, the Grand Worthy Advisor reception for the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and the annual sessions for the Grand Lodge, Order of the Amaranth, Grand Chapter, and the Grand Commandery.

I would like to thank Right Illustrious Companion Weisert for representing the Grand Council at the annual session of the Connecticut Chapter of the Eastern Star. I also thank Illustrious Companion Scott Daniels for representing the Grand Council at the Annual Assembly for the International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Additionally, I attended the annual sessions for sister jurisdictions in Vermont, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Clyde Kayser for appointing me to the Grand Line seven years ago. Thank you for your trust and this incredible opportunity. I made a commitment not to skip any chairs and to serve one Grand line at a time. Even when the chance to advance came up, I stayed the course. I hope I've helped make our Councils stronger and more effective and that I've honored this appointment well. It's been an amazing journey.

To my officers, I couldn't have done this job without a solid team by my side. Your support throughout the year has been invaluable, and I deeply appreciate it. I'd like to invite all my Grand Council officers to come forward now, as I have a token of appreciation for each of you. Thank you, and I am confident that our Grand Council is in excellent hands moving forward.

To my traveling companion, Gary Shepard, thank you for accompanying me these past few years. Your company has meant a lot to me on those long drives to various councils.

Bill, oh, Bill. I've told you this many times but thank you for always being that "birdie" on my shoulder, continually whispering good counsel in my ear. A great Recorder like you makes this job run smoothly.

Chuck McCollum, I also want to thank you for your guidance over the past few years. You are an outstanding leader and a great role model for us to follow.

Bill Weisert, thank you for always being there when I needed assistance. You are going to do an excellent job leading this Grand Council. Remember, you can reach out to me anytime you need support.

TJ and Jenna, I'm sorry for all the times I couldn't be there for your tennis matches, Scouting events, or volleyball games. You both never complained and always cheered me on. Donna, thank you for shuttling TJ and Jenna to their activities in my absence. I know it wasn't easy, especially when I had to leave right after dinner with all the household chores still to do. You handled everything with grace and strength. Your love and support mean the world to me.

Thank you all, and may God bless each one of you!

Darrin D. Silhavy

TRAVELS OF THE MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTER

Date	Destination
8 June 2023	Buel Council Danbury
10 June 2023	Vermont Grand Session
17 June 2023	York Rite College
19 June 2023	Montgomery #2 - Windham
21 June 2023	Suffield #23 - Suffield
13 July 2023	Buel Council Danbury
14 July 2023	DeMolay - New Haven
26 August 2023	America St. Johns Temple - Officer Meeting
11 September 2023	Cushing - Preston
12 September 2023	Hamilton - Meriden
20 September 2023	Suffield #23 - Suffield
23 September 2023	Council of Deliberation
26 September 2023	Montgomery #2 - Windham
30 September 2023	To State Veteran's Cemetery
30 September 2023	To Bayview Masonic Temple

3 October 2023	Harmony-Menunketuck
10 October 2023	Hamilton - Meriden
12 October 2023	Crawford 19 - 50 Year Pin
14 October 2023	York Rite College
27 October 2023	MA Grand Session
28 October 2023	Grand Session of Rainbow at Ashlar Village
3 November 2023	Lee Council - Collinsville
13 November 2023	Cushing - Preston
1 December 2023	Christmas Observance New Haven
9 December 2023	Christmas Observance Darien
10 December 2023	Christmas Observance Meriden
12 December 2023	Paugussett Council - Milford
14 December 2023	Washington 6 - Norwalk
17 December 2023	Hamilton Christmas Observance
18 December 2023	Carol Sing Milford
19 December 2023	Christmas Observance - E Hartford
11 January 2024	Washington 6 - Norwalk
17 January 2024	Suffield #23 - Suffield
3 January 2024	Lee Council - Collinsville
6 February 2024	Harmony-Menunketuck - New Haven
8 February 2024	Washington 6 - Norwalk
21 February 2024	Suffield #23 - Suffield
27 February 2024	Montgomery #2 - Windham
1 March 2024	Lee Council - Collinsville

5 March 2024	Harmony-Menunketuck - New Haven
9 March 2024	Hamilton - Meriden
11 March 2024	Cushing 4 - Preston
12 March 2024	Wolcott Council #1 - East Hartford
20 March 2024	Suffield #23 - Suffield
26 March 2024	Montgomery #2 - Windham
30 March 2024	York Rite College - Meriden
5 April 2024	Marriott - Windsor Airport
12 April 2024	Meriden - Grand Commandery CT
25 April 2024	Maine Grand Council -
9 May 2024	Buel Council Danbury
10 May 2024	New Hampshire Grand Session
13 May 2024	Cushing 4 - Preston
14 May 2024	Paugussett Council - Milford
15 May 2024	Suffield #23 - Suffield

DEPUTY PUISSANT GRAND MASTER

It has been a pleasure to serve as your DPGM this past year. I did not travel around as some in the past & I could plead the wallet, due to inflation. However, Companion Darrin Silhavy, the MPGM, saw fit to ask me to cover for him on several occasions. And actually, it was an honor to be able to respond to his requests.

I do always enjoy going to Fr. Joe's church for the Feast of St. John the Baptist, or maybe it is the perogies et al that I enjoy. But the day is always fun and a privilege to share the day with my brother Knights, Companions and Brothers all.

Darrin did ask me to cover for him at the Grand Chapter for the Order of the Eastern Star. While not a member currently of OES, I was glad to do so. My reflections on some of their various charities, which were very close to my own past & present, appeared warmly received. So thank you, Darrin, for asking me to be there.

Should I be lucky enough to be elected your MPGM for 2024-5, I promise that there will be more travel around the state. I will visit all of the Councils at least once, probably more often, as this is something I expect of my officers. I can hardly ask them to do more than I am willing to do.

Thank you for electing me your Deputy Puissant Grand Master and for the support that I have received. And thank you, Darrin, for trusting me to cover for you when other obligations took you in other directions.

God Bless You all. I am here to serve you,

William E. Weisert, II

GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK

Within the capacity of which I was elected to serve you, I was tasked with several things to accomplish this year. First, to oversee the growth and prosperity of Buel Council No. 20 in Danbury, which is slowly but surely strengthening. They were even able to open without books at one conclave this year, which will confer upon the

Officers of Danbury their challenge coins from our M.P. Grand Master. I also accompanied our M.P.G.M. last November to the Annual Assembly in New Jersey, where we were both heartily greeted by our Companions and both conferred Honorary Memberships in their Grand Council by M.I. Companion Sean McNorton. I was also tasked with Committee functions over the course of this year, of which you will find the results in those respective reports. I wish to thank all my Companions who trusted in me to be elected to serve you this year.

Michael D. Sabia Jr.

**GRAND TREASURER
5/1/2023 THRU 4/30/2024**

Balance in account 5/1/2023		\$2,670.32
INCOME		
CMMRF In	150.00	
Per Capita	9,265.00	
Other Income	0	
Sales	288.67	
Transfer from Trustees	5000.00	
Total Income		14,703.67
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$17,373.99
EXPENSE		
Annual Assembly	1,728.68	
Gifts	831.24	
Aprons & Jewels	321.08	
CMMRF Donation	150.00	
DeMolay/Rainbow	1,000.00	
Gratuity Organist	0.00	
Insurance	2,040.00	
Miscellaneous	0.00	
MPGM Travel	1,696.18	
Office Equipment Rental	400.00	
Postage	107.64	

Printing	707.81	
Salary Recorder	2800.00	
Salary Treasurer	800.00	
Storage	29.00	
Supplies	152.74	
Taxes	449.39	
Website	350.00	
YRCC	0.00	
Total Expenses		13,653.76
Balance in account 04/30/2024		\$3,810.23

Charles A. McCollum

GRAND RECORDER

Companions all.

I am once again pleased to present this my report of the various administrative details we shared this last year together. I begin with my gratitude to our Assistant Secretary, ME Charles Fowler, my mentor and personal friend, who continues to monitor the membership comings and goings in our Chapters and Councils. But we're not keeping him busy enough, as he undertook this year a collation of ALL the bios of our Past Grand High Priests, including their pictures where possible, making this certainly a "Grand" archive of CT's Masonic history. We haven't talked yet about a Grand Council corollary, but I doubt not he'll leave that chore untouched for long.

New Secretary-Recorders.

As they say..."the best laid plans of mice and men..." could be used to characterize a variety of new challenges during this year. To begin with, we had three changes of the guard in our Secretary/Recorder chairs. The first two that began our new year were the new recruits Scott Atkins in New Haven (as PGHP Clyde Kayser retired to concentrate efforts in Danbury) and Art Carbonaro in Windham (replacing Ray Knieriem retired to Texas), both having settled into their routines with less and less instruction. But then

coming as a total surprise, was the death of Comp. John Birdsall, steady in his habits, he kept up with the jobs at hand, but still trying to learn computers, and always with that devilish but gentle smile. John is proof again that sudden losses in the chair are tough to come back from, but Preston was blessed with a fast learner in Scott Daniels who has taken the bull by the horns and is doing an excellent job. We also have a new recruit in West Haven for this new year in Companion Christopher Belous, replacing Bill Lang, their 20-year veteran Sec/Rec and loyal attendant of their records, now finally retiring. I welcome Comp. Christopher to the job and wish him success, and I know Bill will be still be helping in the wings.

Looking at the Quarries.

We had hoped to see a bigger up-tic from the Grand Lodge “Blue Wave than we saw, though did see a small improvement. A few Chapters/Councils have had good success reprising their post-COVID ritual momentum, while others not so much. Consequently where there was greater success, there were more Greeted Candidates stepping into chairs and adding ritual depth, proving how much we need new talent. On the other side of the coin, our Grand Architect continued to call our elders to assist in His work, at what seems to be a corresponding up-tic as well, producing a zero-sum result this year. We’re also finding it harder to locate our elders, continuing to age into hiding as they move out of state, from one place to another place, then into rest homes, and this we learn only after using every available method to track them down. But even for this, a hidden valuable resource has emerged with Comp. Mark Orsini assisting in the Grand Lodge Office, to share Blue Lodge member changes and new addresses...thank you, Mark.

To the credit of our new Secretary-Recorder crew were deeper dives into their rosters and determination to locate even the eldest of Companions. Unfortunately, for every elder Companion found over 100 years old, there was a bizarre offset, such as a Companion on our roles also logged in the Find-A-Grave Index as far back as 1977. Also we found multiplicity in record keeping and sharing members affiliated as “dual”, also corrected or clarified upon detection. These unanticipated complexities made reconciliation of records more difficult for per-capita billing purposes, as each Companion is

emerging as a “one at a time” effort, not unlike the Cicada. The 10 year rolling trends of our membership appears in the table below, with the details for each Chapter/Council relegated to the Abstract of Returns that concludes that section in our proceedings.

Status of My Campaigns.

In closing this year, I do not have any new programs to foist upon you, as I am still monitoring my prior ones to get a foothold. Starting with **Legacy Jewels**, we’ll have one to present this year to each of our outgoing “past” Grands, a couple in reserve in Chapter, but the cupboard is bare in Council. As for **Succession Planning**, this is getting more attention, some out of necessity when things happen (e.g. John Birdsall) and searches for back-up treasurers; as for other admin jobs, not so much. And finally efforts to proactively seek out our in-state recent dimit holders, which I called “**Recruit from Within**”, are still hit and miss.

Financials on the Year.

I find that working alongside Grand Treasurer Charles McCollum continues to be seamless, even fun at times. For Council operations he received this year \$5,000 from the Trustees, and from me, \$9,703.67 in receipts deposited for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2024. On the expense side, I issued vouchers totaling \$13,563.76 for payment of regular budget obligations. Receipts from Councils this last year were derived from the \$15 per capita, and unchanged going to the Budget Committee. As with the Grand Chapter, the Cromwell Marriott continues to be our home with continued hospitality shown us and the Grand Commandery. In closing, it has been an honor to be of continuing service to the Grand Council, and with your continued support, guidance and inspiration, we are always moving forward in service to all our Companions.

William L. Miller, II

Council Membership Summary for Last Ten Years

Year Ending	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Greeted	18	24	37	31	23	17	1	46	16	19
Affil & Rein	12	6	6	89	3	33	4	12	3	11
Total Adds	30	30	43	120	26	50	5	58	19	30
Dimits	11	8	9	97	6	37	4	11	8	8
Involuntary	49	45	54	43	28	34	19	35	18	22
Deceased	41	26	23	31	22	26	42	33	23	26
Total Losses	101	79	86	171	56	97	65	79	49	56
Beginning	1078	1008	959	916	865	835	788	728	707	677
Net Change	-71	-49	-43	-51	-30	-47	-60	-21	-30	-26
Ending	1007	959	916	865	835	788	728	707	677	651

GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD

This year as Grand Captain of the Guard I made fraternal visits to Cushing Council #4 as well as inspecting their books as they transition from the passing of their late Recorder.

I inspected Paugussett #16 and have submitted the required inspection forms from their portrayal of the Select Master degree.

I also was present at the Future State of York Rite in Suffield Meeting where the realities of their situation and what their paths forward are and what is expected of them in order to retain their charters.

I retyped the script of the SEM degree as to allow for future updates and easier distribution from the old hand-typed version. I did the same for putting the framework together for the officer's manual as well as updated the inspection form to be digitally filled in. This allows the Grand Council to have living documents that are easier to change and update as things move along.

I will be attending and participating in the upcoming Order of the Silver Trowel.

I look forward to continuing the work with the Grand Council line the next several years as well as expanding my travels.

Charles M. Jewart

GRAND CONDUCTOR

I was very grateful to be asked to continue in the Grand Council Line as the Ill. Grand Conductor. This has been a year of ups and downs, and thankfully, it has ended on a positive note. This was also another learning year for me, and I hope that I can benefit from the many mistakes that I have made. My father taught me that you have to learn how to lose before you can learn how to win. Traveling for me has proven to be difficult for me because of the many commitments I have, but I did manage to visit two out of my three Councils this year.

My first visit was to Lee council #25. I have always enjoyed visiting with the Companions from Lee. Unfortunately, I did not get to see a degree. However, when I did their Inspection, it went very smoothly. The Recorder and the Treasurer are very well organized, and had all of their proper documents at the ready for me, which always makes it easier. They are always a fun bunch and seem to be a strong Council. There is a good mix of veterans and fairly new members. I did discuss that having Asst. Recorders, and Treasurers is a wise decision. Or at least having replacements that can take over if the need arises. I believe they will be in good shape for the future.

My second visit was to Wolcott #1. This was my first time visiting them. They are very welcoming, and it was an absolute pleasure to be there. Unfortunately, I did not get to see a degree, however, they did a fantastic education piece. It made me remember why I enjoy Cryptic Masonry. Although there were plenty to open, there were plenty of empty seats as well. The Recorder and Treasurer were very organized and the inspection went very smoothly. If there is anything I would like to see in the future, it would be to see them get some younger eager members to fill the ranks. I believe they would benefit from the veterans that are already there. I look forward to seeing them again in the future.

I unfortunately did not make it to Suffield 23 this year. There was a communication issue, and I was not able to make the trek up there. I spoke with MPMG Silhavy about this, and he has kept me informed of their situation. He has also informed me of his decision not to seize their Charter, but instead put them on probation. I at

first did not agree with this assessment because this has been an ongoing problem, however, after learning that they have voted in a handful of new petitions, I have recanted my thoughts. I believe they are going to try and turn it around. I also believe it will be the responsibility of the Grand Council to offer any help that can be given to make sure they are successful in their efforts.

In closing, I am grateful for the opportunities that the Grand Council has afforded me, and I look forward to serving in the new year.

Scott R. Atkins

GRAND STEWARD

I have been able to attend both Montgomery No. 2 and Union Council No. 4. Both Councils have had their minimum required meeting this year, taxes have been filed and have work to bring in new companions. However, Montgomery No. 2 was unable to produce their Charter. They only were able to produce Olive Branch No. 10 which was merged into Montgomery No. 2.

I also had the pleasure of filling in for our MPGM Darrin at the CT Grand IORG. This year has been great and a pleasure to serve.

Scott A. Daniels Jr.

GRAND SENTINEL

It was an honor to serve the Grand Council this past year as Ill. Grand Sentinel.

During the year, I had the opportunity to officially visit 3 Councils for their Annual Inspections: Harmony Menunketuck Council No. 8, Hamilton Council No. 9, and Crawford Council No. 19.

Each of these was in the company of MPGM Silhavy. While I found each of these to be “in good health”, Hamilton Council in

particular looks to be thriving, as they presented a very well done Royal Master degree and performed open and closing ritual without reference to the written ritual, for which they earned the MPGM's coin.

I further served on the Nominating Committee as well as the Credentials committee for the Grand Session.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this Grand Council and look forward to continuing to travel to the Councils and help in any way I can to assist.

Eric H. Hoy

GRAND HISTORIAN

Over the past couple of years, we have got back to portraying our degrees in full. One of the components of this that we are having to get back into the habit of is memorizing the ritual. It is this I would like to cover in this report, giving a little history of the Art of Memory, some tips, and resources.

First, we must get away from the idea or practice of rote memorization. I am sure we have heard ritual that is memorized well, but it doesn't make sense or sound well to the ear. Paying attention to punctuation as you memorize is obviously key (though punctuation debates can happen, given our original codes or mouth to ear way of learning) but understanding the ritual is as important if not more important. This may seem obvious, but start to ask some ritualists or just regular brothers what they have said, what they mean, and why they are saying it. There can be some confusion in and about the lodge on these questions.

One thing I have noticed, especially with younger members, is that they struggle to recite ritual because they are not fully familiar/conversant with the ritual and, consequently, are not sure how to deal with the punctuation and grammar. The causes of this are various, but come down to a couple of important reasons (not the fault per se of the regular brother). One of these is the way modern education has progressed (and as a retired science teacher, I do have some experience) that appears to have lost focus on the idea

of comprehension. Many can read but, also, many do not necessarily understand what they are reading. This becomes more important for us as Masons as our ritual dates from around the 1720s through the 1860s. My own lodges' ritual dates from 1819 and comes from late 18th Century English ritual - you can take our charges and lectures, for example, and they are verbatim out of William Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry* from the 1780s. So we are dealing not only with Victorian but Georgian English. If we don't understand the nuances of these eras compared to modern American English, we will have problems understanding our ritual. If we don't understand, we will not be able to memorize and recite correctly, and with interest for the brothers.

Another reason comes from a modern education that can be lacking in history, philosophy, and how to communicate complex ideas. During the 19th Century into the beginning of the 20th, a "Classical" education was still done with more readings in history, philosophy, and a good understanding of Latin and a smattering of Ancient Greek. Our ritual comes from this era and requires an understanding of the seven liberal arts and sciences (promoted in our Fellowcraft ritual), and if we don't have a background in these, we need to make an effort to get one.

So, the first part of learning the ritual is that we need to understand what we are saying and how to say it (punctuation and pronunciation). We need to ask an informed brother and begin reading Masonic books past and present to gain understanding. Once we understand what we are trying to say in a ritual, the next issue is how to remember it and recite it. The Art of Memory has a very long history and in our legendary founding documents is specifically mentioned as a requirement for a Mason. I will mention references toward the end. So, how do we go about memorizing? As I said first, understand what you are about to remember - a good dictionary, thesaurus, and religious/philosophical/mythological or classical resources are needed (for example in Albert Pike's *Morals & Dogma*, Polyphemus is mentioned in the very first paragraph - if you don't know who he is or the legend in which he appears, you will not understand that paragraph of Pike).

Next, we need a method to memorize. This will be different for all of us. If you are exceptionally lucky to have a visual or aural photographic memory, then you are good - but you will still need to understand what you can see. Some will need to read over the whole section of ritual over and over again until it is remembered. I build it up sentence by sentence - memorize the first sentence, then the second sentence. As you build the paragraph, you keep going back to the beginning and recite what you know, then build another sentence and go back and recite the new whole until it is memorized. With this, you can learn a complete lecture or degree ritual. One thing to note is that this obviously will take time. Learning a lecture or a principle in a degree could initially take an afternoon or more. You will need to be in a quiet place where you can walk around to mimic the path you will take for the work. Since you can't do the ritual in front of your family, your pets will make good, if sleepy, stand-ins for your brothers (my cats will pay attention for a while, for example, then get bored and go to sleep). Try to be as you will in the degree, stand and walk if needed - you may be able to sit and learn, but make sure you're not slouching. You will find out by practice what works for you and what doesn't (degree rehearsals and dress rehearsals are also very important, but you should know the ritual by heart first). Once you have learned the ritual or the section you are working on, take a break and do something completely different for 10-20 minutes, then come back and recite it a few times making corrections as necessary. Next go and do something else for a few hours or more then recite again. Repeat this a few times with longer gaps into days and you will find out you will remember the ritual better. It is known that the brain needs rest or distraction when learning new things, after all, for all of us who crammed for exams, how much did you remember the next day? Once a piece of ritual has been learned in this way, you will remember it, and re-learning it again for the next time will be far easier than cramming before a degree - but it will take time. This is one method that works well for me, and it should work well for you, but listen to your own mind and experience as to what will work best for you. Reciting ritual in the car works well for some, recording it and playing back to you

through headphones are other methods that work well. Try them all and see what works well for you.

As mentioned before, the Art of Memory was well respected from ancient times through to almost the present. Today it is not studied much except as entertainment acts through magicians and mentalists, and some more esoteric groups. We have been spoiled through all the aids that we have from cell phones, computers, online services, and now Artificial Intelligence, and also to the old dependable book. If we look at the legends from Ancient Greece and Egypt, we find the Gods, such as Thoth, questioning man as to why we wanted to learn to write and read as we would end up forgetting what we know - let us not forget that, for example, the Odyssey by Homer was a poem that was recited in full from memory with no mistakes before it was written down. Although the value of being able to read and write (yes, in cursive too) is of inestimable value more so today, we can perhaps understand the reticence of the Gods in giving us this knowledge.

The Ancients through to the Renaissance philosophers had a defined method, tried and trusted, for memorizing accurately. It was called the Memory Palace. I will briefly touch on the method and more can be found in the references I will give. This method means developing in your mind's eye a Palace with a formal entryway, halls, stairs, rooms, and features of objects on shelves, fireplaces, closets, and pictures. As you move through this Palace (or castle, theater, or your house), you deposit memories (think also ritual) in rooms, on objects or in pictures. As you mentally walk through this building you pick up (and recite) the memories deposited there. By the way, this should sound familiar to you, a Freemason, on a couple of levels. In our ritual, you move around a palace or King Solomon's Temple. Especially in the Middle Chamber you effectively move through the Temple reciting specific ritual as you climb up the 3, 5, and 7 steps. With our various tracing boards and hieroglyphic monitors, and circumambulations, we are somewhat unknowingly, being taught how to form and use a memory palace that takes its plan from a legendary floorplan of King Solomon's Temple. In purpose-built Masonic temples and lodge rooms, you should, upon reflection, be able to see that this idea was pushed into

their design - even with store rooms, lounges, banquet halls, and ante rooms. If we look at older rituals and the furniture, including working tools, of the lodge, chapter, council or commandery, we can still see that they were designed to “contain” ritual. The example of working tools illustrates one of the main methods of a Memory Palace. This is associating a thing with a more esoteric usage or memory within the Palace. Our working tools have an operative meaning that then prompts a speculative, or more esoteric, meaning and lesson. Think also of the picture used in the Middle Chamber of a sheaf of wheat or ear of corn suspended by a water-ford that lends itself to a specific lesson and deeper meaning of the ritual. Also, the point within a circle, a simple figure, reminds us of a specific meaning in the EA lecture but it is also symbolic of the alchemical symbol of gold, and the astrological symbol of the Sun - one symbol, three related, yet independent meanings.

Hopefully, you can see the value of this method. To further expand on this the following works are recommended: one great book that gives a detailed history of this is Dame Frances A. Yates *The Art of Memory*, a great place to start. - she notes that Freemasonry has to be connected to this idea; one recent book is Charles B. Jameux *Memory Palaces and Masonic Lodges - Esoteric Secrets of the Art of Memory* that shows the connection of Memory Palaces to Freemasonry; a little more instruction is given by Bob W. Lingerfelt in *Solomon's Memory Palace - A Freemason's Guide to the Ancient Art of Memoria Verborum* as well as from non-Masonic perspective in Sjur Midttun's *How to Build a Memory Palace*. These books and others as well as Google searches should give you plenty of material to work and think over.

One last thought on practice: if you are going to practice this for a lodge setting or other Masonic setting, how can you practice this when your house is not set up like your lodge? What can you do to visualize a Palace of your lodge room to see how you would proceed through a ritual part or lecture with memories deposited at an appropriate place? As I thought about this, and looking at the various Lego projects I have on the go from Star Wars to the Tranquil Garden to the Star Wars Starship collection, I Googled Lego Masonic temples. Up popped various brothers and their

design in Lego for their lodge rooms - one of my brothers using the Lego City sets, built a Masonic Temple through that. The results are quite fascinating and detailed, and once I looked at my Tranquil Garden set, where I had placed an extra Obi-Wan Kenobi figure in the tea house set, together with a cat, not to mention the Medieval Blacksmith set I built, I saw a possibility that I am looking at building a basic lodge room format tailored to the one I know in the New Haven Masonic Temple. As you learn the ritual, you can move a Lego figure around the lodge, so that you can better visualize your Memory Palace and what you need to be utilizing for furniture.

I hope that this little paper makes you look at your ritual anew and makes you less worried about learning, understanding, and memorizing your ritual - or for that matter, a poem you always wanted to learn.

Martin Ede

GRAND TRUSTEES

The trustees for the year 2023-2024 are happy to report some good news.

First and foremost we have finally been able to gain total control over the assets of the Grand Council and they are in very capable hands.

Our balance as of May 1, 2023 was \$182,139.96. During the year we received dividends of \$4,485.38, interest of \$207.23 and capital gains of \$1,533.01. We paid management fees of \$2,328.12 and transferred to the Grand Treasurer \$5,000.00. Our fund balance had a change in value of \$13,539.49, leaving a balance on April 30, 2024 of \$194,576.95.

Our investments are a combination of Cash and cash alternatives, equity, mixed assets and real assets.

I would like to thank the other trustees, Charles O'Neill and Paul Chello for their assistance.

I would also like to thank the MPGM for his assistance whenever called upon for help.

Scott T. Sherrick , Ch
Charles D. O'Neill
Paul L. Chello

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON ADDRESS OF THE MPGM**

Your Committee on Address respectfully reports and recommends the following:

That so much of the Address relating to Official Acts and Dispensations be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

That so much of the Address relating to the State of the Rite , and particularly to the conditions of the several Councils be referred to the incoming Most Puissant Grand Master.

That so much of the Address relating to Recommendations be referred to the incoming Most Puissant Grand Master.

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved, that this Grand Council extend its thanks and appreciation to Most Puissant Companion Darrin Silhavy for his contributions in promoting Cryptic Masonry in Connecticut.

J. Andrew Birdsall, Ch
Richard A. Eppler
Clyde W. Kayser II

COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

The Audit Committee has received the books of both the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2024. Upon going over the records of both, we have found them to be in balance and accurate to the best of our ability with the records that we have received. It appears that the proper tax forms have been filed with the State and Federal regulations. These records have been audited by this committee in accordance with general practices of accounting and the regular rules, regulations and practice.

Suggestions for the future:

1. It would be a good idea to change our tax year for filing our taxes so that there would be more time to audit the books

before our Annual Grand Council meeting in order to have the audit and the reports handed in on time. This would require a change in the bylaws and approval by the Grand Council. And for the first year, necessary to file a short year tax return with the governments in the year that it would be approved for.

2. Pick an additional person that one could be in touch with as a member of this committee.

William D. Passera, Ch

Randy S. Stevens

Richard L. Sawyers

COMMITTEE ON AWARDS

This year we were blessed to have received several nominations for the Knight of Ish Sodi Award. It is the recommendation of your committee to honor the following Companions with the Knight of Ish Sodi Award for meritorious service:

Steven J. Chiappalone

Hamilton Council 09

Gary D. Shepard

Paugussett Council 16

At the request of the M.P. Grand Master, we as a committee wholeheartedly and unanimously support the selection of Companion William C. Lang of Crawford Council No. 19 to be honored with the Philip J. Jones Distinguished Service Medal.

Darrin D. Silhavy, Ch

John W. Braddock

Richard L. Allen

William L Miller

Martin Ede

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET
For FYE 04.30.25

Taxable Membership	615		592	
INCOME	2023-24 Budget	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Budget	Notes
Grand Council Festival	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Per Capita Members x \$15	9,225.00	9,265.00	8,880.00	fx '24 returns
Other Income (Fines,)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
CMMRF (Over pmts + raffle)	105.00	150.00	60.00	
Sales (Rituals, Bicent Jewels)	200.00	288.67	200.00	
Xfer from Trustees	5,000.00	5000.00	5,500.00	
Total Income	14,530.00	14,703.67	14,640.00	
Cash on Hand 5.1.23	2,670.32	2,670.32	3,810.23	
TOTAL AVAILABLE	16,700.32	17,373.99	18,450.23	
EXPENSES				
Annual Assembly	2,000.00	1,728.68	3,000.00	Session Share
Hospitality, Gifts Food, etc	1,000.00	831.24	1,000.00	RS only
Aprons & Jewels MPGM Apron	0.00	0.00	0.00	1 left in stock
PMPGM Jewel legacies can help	250.00	233.97	250.00	Akin to a PGHP
Ish Sodi Jewel -new supplier (Engraving)	0.00	0.00	0.00	25 yr supply
(Badges)	60.00	87.11	60.00	
CMMRF (from donations)	105.00	150.00	60.00	New Officers Over pmts '24

Gratuity Organist	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Insurance -Council Share Reimb RA	1,500.00	1,558.00	1,600.00	12 mo basis est
Officer Liability	482.00	482.00	482.00	3yr plan
Miscellaneous (Donations)	250.00	0.00	250.00	
MPGM Travel Allowance	3,000.00	1,696.19	3,200.00	
Office Equip Rental	400.00	400.00	400.00	
Postage	150.00	107.81	150.00	
Printing (mostly proceedings)	500.00	707.81	1,000.00	Rit Restock As Is
Salary Recorder	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	
Salary Treasurer	800.00	800.00	800.00	
Storage (New Haven & NE Archives)	149.00	29.00	149.00	Incl NewHaven
Supplies	100.00	152.74	150.00	
Tax (Employer- SS,Med,UI)	700.00	370.20	375.00	
Training & Festivals (contingency)	500.00	79.19	500.00	
Youth (DeMolay,Rainbow)	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Dues YRCC	0.00	0.00	0.00	No activity
Web Page	350.00	350.00	350.00	Incl 1/2 domain
TOTAL EXPENSE	16,156.00	13,563.76	17,636.00	
ENDING BALANCE	544.32	3,810.23	814.23	w/Trustees

BUDGET RESOLUTIONS FOR 2024-2025

Be it resolved:

That the proposed budget of \$17,636.00 be adopted.

That each Council pay to the Grand Recorder the Per Capita of \$15.00 for each member on the rolls on 31 March 2025 in accord with requirements and exemptions set forth in the Law. **This is no increase.**

That the Grand Treasurer is authorized after 30 April 2025 to expend funds at the same rate as in this budget until the budget for the next fiscal year shall have been approved.

That the Grand Treasurer is authorized to transfer unexpended funds from one budget expense category to another with permission of the Most Puissant Grand Master.

The amount designated in the budget as MPGM Travel Allowance is intended for reimbursement to the Most Puissant Grand Master to offset the cost of visiting Annual Assemblies of the Grand Councils in the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada, as well as the Northeastern York Rite Conference. Receipts or other supporting data must be presented to the Grand Recorder to obtain reimbursement. Mileage reimbursement shall be at the rate of \$0.57 per mile for both in and out of state automobile travel, plus tolls and parking.

William E. Weisert, II, Ch
Charles A. McCollum
William L. Miller, II
Michael D. Sabia, Jr.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Grand Officers	14
Councils Represented (out of 11)	11
Past Most Puissant Grand Masters	9
Past Thrice Illustrious Masters	33
Thrice Illustrious Masters	9
Thrice Illustrious Master Proxies	2
Deputy Illustrious Masters	8
Deputy Illustrious Master Proxies	2
Ill Principal Conductors of the Work	7
Ill Principal Conductor Proxies	4
Total voting delegates	55

Eric H. Hoy, Ch
Scott A. Daniels, Jr.

COMMITTEE ON DELINQUENCIES

This year, the Companions of the Committees on Delinquencies joined forces with GHP and MPGM in following closely the performance of the Chapter-Councils in the Windham and Suffield regions which have been and continue to struggle. Each has a scarcity of active members to bring in new candidates and to do the work without assistance from the Grand lines as well as meet their other statutory obligations (officers, reports, meetings, etc.). Windham is barely above water, but conditions in Suffield are dire.

1. Windham: Companions in Trinity Chapter & Montgomery Council – This year they met the meeting requirements (4 minimum) and shuffled officers so that no HP/TIM would be repeating a third term. Companion Art Carbonaro, their new Secretary/Recorder to replace Comp. Knieriem has been able to keep up with the report

filings. Performance wise, largely with help from Companions from Preston, they were able to field a MMM degree, and it is expected that they will be represented at Grand Session. Windham needs continued watching and helping so that they can continue a recovery to a more stable plateau.

2. **Suffield:** - unlike Windham, does not have a large pool of Companions to draw from, and their active roles are at the barest of minimums even to open a Chapter/Council, so that this last year, Chapter only met once and Council not at all. Through the diligence of their SecRec Dale Cunningham, they were able to keep up with reports and all necessary filings. Their condition resulted in two interventions by Grand Officers and notices of probations (as reported by them) to avoid pulling their charters (although that remains a future option). New officers were installed under a plan they developed to begin their rebuilding fueled by 3 new petitions. It is expected they will be in attendance at Grand Sessions. Considering the attention given them, and their desire to remain in business, fines were not considered appropriate for now. However, having a “resident” advisor to guide them meeting by meeting was being considered.

William E. Weisert, Ch
Michael D. Sabia
Scott Daniels

COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE

Your Committee on Insurance wishes to report that like the Allstate Commercials of yore “Good Hands”, our insurance forecast looks to be bright and sunny. This year, we expect to have a calm renewal of our coverages without any major surprises as our agent

and underwriters are preparing our policies for renewal later in June. There are two parts to our coverage: an Umbrella policy for all our York Rite based on our distribution of members around the state, and a Liability policy for our Grand Officers. Last year we trimmed out some odd coverages in the Umbrella we don't need (like rental cars) and expect our premiums to be reasonably similar and group shares about the same. We are also coming into our 3rd year of our Director & Officers policy 3-year fixed premium per group.

But we'll keep an eye on it and our fingers crossed as we know various things unbeknownst to us, can upset the insurance cart, as we have learned down through the years from Bob Fitzgerald whose presence and "Good Hands" we still feel.

William L. Miller II, RAM
Randy S. Stevens, RSM
Vincent A. Cowie, KT

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

The Committee has reviewed the Official Acts of Most Puissant Grand Master Darrin D. Silhavy, and recommends their publication in the Proceedings of the 205th Grand Assembly of The Most Puissant Grand Council of Connecticut.

Decisions

1.) The Most Puissant Grand Master issued a decision to lift the suspension of Buel Council No. 20, issued by Most Puissant Grand Master McNeeley. This decision was issued after annual returns were filed with the Grand Recorder indicated that the Council held four meetings during the Cryptic Year 2022-2023. The decision to lift the suspension also included consultation with the Thrice Illustrious Master and Recorder to develop a plan to move the Council forward. This decision is within the prerogatives of the Most Puissant Grand Master and is approved.

2.) The Most Puissant Grand Master decided not to arrest the Charter of Suffield Council No. 23, for violating Section 200 of the Grand Council Law by not holding the minimum required assemblies during the year. This decision was also made with the implementation of a plan to move forward and attempt to revitalize the Council. Section 200 of the Grand Council Law states specifically that the Charter “shall be revoked”. Further, under Section 5a of the Law, the Grand Master is required to uphold the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Council. Accordingly, the Charter should have been revoked. However, there has been a long-standing practice in the Grand York Rite bodies of Connecticut to work with the subordinate bodies to try to reinvigorate a failing Chapter or Council and give them an opportunity to prevent revocation of the Charter. While this decision is not approved, it is a commendable effort on the part of the Most Puissant Grand Master.

Dispensations

Dispensations 2023-1 through 2023-5 are within the prerogatives of the Most Puissant Grand Master and are approved.

Pending Legislation

There is no pending legislation on the table and no new legislation has been received.

Committee Report Summary

The Committee commends our Most Puissant Grand Master, Companion Darrin D. Silhavy, for his dedication and devotion to this Grand Council, and for his efforts to assist the Councils that are struggling. We are certain that his efforts will have a lasting and positive impact on Cryptic Masonry in Connecticut for years to come.

Bruce R. Bellmore, Ch
Bradley K. Cooney
Charles A. McCollum

COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY

Today we remember those loyal companions that have toiled in the quarries and in the temple for a lifetime. Therefore, it is with sadness that we report on the passing of 26 of our Companions to that great Celestial Lodge above. Please come to the sign of fidelity as we remember our Companions.

EDWARD ROBERT HAM
Born 6 June 1942
Greeted 22 March 1980
Jerusalem Council No. 16
Thrice Illustrious Master
1988 & 2007
Most Puissant Grand Master 2012
Died 1 April 2023

Deceased Past Thrice Illustrious Masters

Delbert Amos Little	Hamilton 09	04.09.23
John Arthur Birdsall	Cushing 04	09.07.23
Walton Baldwin Schlechtweg	Hamilton 09	10.14.23
James Charles Robinson	Paugussett 16	12.20.23
William Schuck	Crawford 19	02.17.24

O God creator of all and King of eternity, you do everything in mercy beyond request and comprehension. Receive those who have departed this earthly life, and accept the souls of these your servants. Rest them among those who have gratified you from the beginning. Remember them as your righteous ones and make them dwell in the

Celestial Lodges above in your heavenly Kingdom. Rest the souls of these your faithful servants who have departed us on the abode of the just. Enable us to have learned from their good works so that we may fulfil our mission as Masons, establishing us in good deeds through the grace of your love. Amen.

Edward A. Varjabedian
Daniel M. Luft
Eric H. Hoy

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

The Committee on Nominations is pleased to report that the following companions have been contacted and have agreed to progress forward in the Grand Council line, should the Grand Council see fit to elect them:

Most Puissant Grand Master	William E. Weisert, II
RI Deputy Puissant Grand Master	Michael D. Sabia, Jr.
RI Gr. Principal Conductor of the Work	Charles M. Jewart
RI Grand Treasurer	Charles A. McCollum
RI Grand Recorder	William L. Miller, II
Grand Trustee to 2027	Scott T. Sherrick

J. Andrew Birdsall, Ch
Charles D. O'Neill
Eric H. Hoy

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND PUBLICITY

As this committee was newly formed and based upon that of its namesake in the Grand Chapter, the focus of this group was to first

highlight the travels and events in Cryptic Masonry within the State of Connecticut this past year. Several recommended improvements to this task will be for the committee to allow more Companions to be able to post photos of our doings within the state going forward, highlighting the great Work and Comradery of our Companions.

We also suggest, if this Committee is made a more permanent fixture, to find a solution to a more secure and user-friendly website for this Grand Council. Upgrading our site would significantly enhance security, allowing us to safeguard personal information and provide exclusive access to our members only. This proactive measure would protect our officers and members from hacking, phishing, and other security threats.

Lastly, we would like to suggest that a better mode of recruiting for the York Rite in Connecticut be sought, which makes it more portable (i.e. a video format), requires little effort on the local bodies, but can be brought to the Lodges to promote the York Rite.

This committee thanks our Companion Darrin Silhavy, M.P. Grand Master of Connecticut, for appointing us to serve.

Michael. D. Sabia Jr., Ch
Scott Atkins
Charles Jewart
Scott Daniels Jr.
Jonathan DeBaun

COMMITTEE ON RITUAL

This committee makes only one recommendation currently, to add an appendix pronunciation guide to our ritual. The guide can be an insert for the current edition and added in permanently when the next edition is printed.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve this Grand Council of Connecticut.

Michael D. Sabia Jr., Ch
Clyde W. Kayser II
William E. Weisert II

CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

Returns of Active Councils and Record of Expired Councils

Grand Council EIN 23-7188651, Group Exemption No. 2311

Note: All Councils are recessed in July and August. All Councils meet in the Masonic Hall at the address shown unless otherwise noted. Membership figures are for year ending 31 March 2024. Officers listed are those for the 2024-2025 year.

WOLCOTT 1

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross to work in Hartford on 7 Feb 1818. Relocated to East Hartford in 1980. Consolidated with Adoniram 14 on 9 February 2010.

York Masons Hall, 784 Main Street, East Hartford
7:30 pm on 2nd Tue
Membership 86

No Phone
EIN 06-6046618

OFFICERS

TIM	Eric H. Hoy	CG	
DIM	John R. Ranney	COND	Walter Grube
IPCW	Joseph P. Grieco Jr	STEW	Arnold S. Grot
TRES	Michael E. Seamon	SENT	Rodney A. Spooner
REC	Jeffery A. Flynn	CHAP	Michael E. Seamon
INT		ORG	

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS - WOLCOTT 01

David C. Abrames	2005,09,10	Eric H. Hoy	2020
Brian J. Berk	2021	Charles M. Jewart	2017
Jeffery A. Flynn	2022,23	William A. G. Mackey	2006,08
Charles B. Fowler Jr	90	James S. McNeely, IV	2014
Arnold S. Grot	2019	William L. Miller II	93,97

Stephen D. Piner	78	T. Donovan Scroggs	2011
Richard L. Sawyers	2012,13,16	Francis G. Way	2015
Michael E. Seamon	07,18		

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS - ADONIRAM 14

Rodney I. Gray Sr	79	James E. Hammitt	97,08,09
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FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Kenneth A. Barrett	Donald G. Poehnert
Lawrence Becker	M Robert Reynolds
Edward O. Clark	William Senk Jr
Rodney I Gray Sr	George F. Wales
Stephen D. Piner	

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:
Affiliated:
Reinstated:
Dimitted:
No Lodge:
No Chapter:
NPD:
Deceased: Robert James Nearine, Anthony Scott Dean, Robert Warren Ferguson, Roger Stanley Ather

MONTGOMERY 2

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross to work in Ashford on 14 Feb 1818. In 1837, granted permission to hold future assemblies as a majority of the members shall determine. In 1839, entered as Woodstock; in 1843 as Pomfret; in 1847 again in Ashford; in 1849, authorized to hold future assemblies at the same place where Warren Chapter shall meet. In 1851 it was at Killingly; in 1862 at Woodstock; in 1863 at Killingly; and in 1881 at Danielson (now Brooklyn).

375 Boston Post Road (Route 6), North Windham No Phone
7:30 pm on 4th Tue in Sep, Oct, Nov, Mar, Apr, May EIN 23-7123374

Membership 34

OFFICERS

TIM	Ryan J. Snide	CG	John P. Glenn II
DIM	Richard G. Barrows	COND	Kenneth D. Stilwell
IPCW	Arthur Mullens-Stone	STEW	Gregory J. Messier
TRES	J. Arthur Carbonaro	SENT	Gail N. Smith
REC	J. Arthur Carbonaro	CHAP	

ACTIVE PAST T. I. MASTERS – MONTGOMERY 02

Richard G. Barrows	2006,07,08	Gregory J. Messier	2022,23
Donald F. Gladding	99,00	Gail N. Smith	2019-21
Kenneth W. Marvin	64-68,80,81,83-89,14,15,18	J. Mike Wolf	2016,17

ACTIVE PAST T. I. MASTERS – OLIVE BRANCH 10

Richard G. Barrows	95	William F. Lott	2003,04
James W. Currier	90	Frank E. Rich	84,85
William L. Greene	96,97	Gail N. Smith	79,80,83,00
Lynn A. Kelsey	98		

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Robert D. Hayes	Richard T. Purchase
William F. Lott	Gail N. Smith
Kenneth W. Marvin	Frank R. Tomlinson

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:

Affiliated:

Reinstated:

No Lodge:

No Chap:

Dimitted: Garry Burton Carabeau, Robert Scharlack Jr

NPD:

MYSTIC 3

Originally established as Franklin Council by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross to work in Norwich on 28 Feb 1818. Charter was revoked on 9 May 1839 and restored on 14 May 1846. Consolidated on 1 June 1991 with Mystic 29, to be known as Mystic 3 and working in Mystic. The charter of Mystic 3 was surrendered on 7 June 2003 after consolidation with Cushing 4 on 12 May 2003.

CUSHING 4

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross to work in New London on 7 Mar 1818. Charter was revoked on 14 May 1840 and restored 13 May 1841. Relocated to Stonington in 2005.

17 Shetucket Tpke, Preston 860-908-8515
 2nd Mon after RA Chapter 07 EIN 23-7123376
 Membership 26

OFFICERS

TIM	Christopher A. Britland	CG	J. Andrew Pedro, II
DIM	Michael Northrup	COND	Charles R. Hugh
IPCW	Richard L. Allen	STEW	Robert Krawic
TRES	Scott A. Daniels Jr	SENT	Michael J. Tranchida
REC	Scott A. Daniels Jr	CHAP	William E. Weisert

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS – MYSTIC 3

C. A. Duke 93 Alan K. Spear 76

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS – CUSHING 4

Richard L. Allen 2017,18,20 Scott A. Daniels Jr 2014,15,21
 J. Andrew Birdsall 2004,11,13 James M. Haskins
 Christopher A. Britland 2023 06,08-10,12,16,19
 Karl R. Crandall 53 William E. Weisert II 2003,22

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Charles T. Hall Alan K. Spear

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:

Affiliated: Michael Raymond Northup
 Reinstated: Joshua David McDonnold
 Dimitted:
 No Lodge: James E Bradley, Erik L Reyer
 No Chap:
 NPD:
 Deceased: John Arthur Birdsall, William Vincent Clarence
 Griswold, Carleton Herbert Landers Jr

WATROUS 5

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross to work in Colchester on 17 March 1818. Charter was revoked 9 May 1839.

WASHINGTON 6

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 10 Apr 1818 to work in Stamford. Charter was revoked on 9 May 1843 and restored on 9 May 1865.

5 Gregory Boulevard, Norwalk
 8:30 pm on 2nd Thu
 Membership 49

203-655-2140
 EIN 06-6049931

OFFICERS

TIM	Silas Mante	CG	Mark S. Agnew
DIM	Barry F. Belardinelli Jr	COND	James F. B. Wood
IPCW	Brett M. Altman	STEW	Michael Jachimczyk
TRES	Charles A. McCollum	SENT	Harding Dies
REC	Charles A. McCollum	CHAP	Michael D. Sabia Jr

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILL. MASTERS - WASHINGTON 06

John A. Amarilios	2021	Michael D. Sabia Jr	2017
James J. Fahy	2010,11	Darrin D. Silhavy	2016
Roland H. Gardner Jr	1989	Peter R. Smyth	2018,19
Richard E. Odell	2015	Lloyd R. Sturges, Jr.	2014
Charles D. O'Neill	2007,12	James F. B. Wood	2022,23

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS - WOOSTER 28

Charles A. McCollum	2001-03,09	Charles D. O'Neill	98,99,00,04
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MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:

Affiliated:

Reinstated: Christian Paul Mele

Dimitted: William Russell Deickler

No Lodge: Eric Montgomery

No Chapter:

NPD: Christian Paul Mele, David S Mott, Hampton Dais,
Anthony B Farmer, Evan Joseph Lombardi

Deceased: Irving Lieff, James Charles Robinson

CROSS 7

*Established in Kent by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 27 April 1818.
Charter was revoked on 9 May 1839.*

HARMONY MENUNKETUCK 8

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 16 Oct 1818 to work in New Haven. Name changed to **Harmony-Menunketuck** upon consolidation with **Menunketuck 36** on 5 April 2022.

285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven
1st Tue after RA Chapter 02
Membership 64

No Phone
EIN 23-7123377

OFFICERS

TIM	Michael R. Messner	CG	
DIM	Albert R. R. Johnson	COND	
IPCW	Gerardo Nero	STEW	
TRES	Bruce R. Bellmore	SENT	
REC	Scott R. Atkins	CHAP	

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Scott R. Atkins	2022	George A W Nousiainen	2001,02
Bruce R. Bellmore	82,83,88	Raul A. Pereles	2023
Bradley K. Cooney	2009,10	John A. Radziunas	2014,16
Martin Ede	2003,04,18,19	Wilfred C. Rompe, III	2013
Cedric J. Jacobson	2017	Peter M. Sloan	2011,12
Clyde W. Kayser, II	93,96	Raymond Tomlinson	

1997,98,2020,21

ACTIVE PAST T. I. MASTERS MENUNKETUCK 36

Paul L. Chello	Matthew R. Dymarczyk	2015,16
92,93,01,02,05,06,08,10,19-21	Jonathan R. Trotta	2017,18

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Paul L. Chello	Carleton V. Erickson
Frank W. Colton	

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted: Timothy Russell Buteau, Andy Garcia, Sultan Stack,
Willard J Fleming, Asanish Kalyanasundaram

Affiliated: Gerardo Nero

Reinstated

Dimitted: James Charles Kleinkauf

No Lodge: Larry Lee Bowman Jr, Kurt Edward Burkle, Paul Beecher
Whitman

No Chap:

NPD:

Deceased: Richard Charles Memmott, Donald Charles Sause,
William Schuck

HAMILTON 9

Chartered on 12 May 1857 as Hamilton 22 to work in Meriden. Upon consolidation with Columbia 9 on 6 June 2020, name changed to Hamilton Council No. 9.

35 Pleasant Street, Meriden
7:00 pm on 2nd Tue
Membership 114

203-980-9929
EIN 23-7123382

OFFICERS

TIM	Jason R. Rieger		CG	Mitchell Kostick
DIM	Francis Barnes		COND	Anthony D. Polzella
IPCW	Mark A. Orsini		STEW	John H. Kovach
TRES	John W. Braddock		SENT	Anthony Maisano
REC	Kristian M. Maiorino		CHAP	Richard A. Eppler

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Steven J. Chiappalone 2020,21 Christian F. Schunmann 2022
Harold A. Elwell 2023

ACTIVE PAST T. I. MASTERS HAMILTON 22

John W. Braddock 2015,16 Daniel M. Luft 2015,16
Keith A. Cymbala 1982,83 Kristian M. Maiorino 2017,18
Richard A. Eppler 2007 Richard I. McKee 1977
Robert J. Knowles 2002,03 Bruce Padula 2012,13
Joseph R. Krusienski 1981

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS – COLUMBIA 09

Vincent A. Cowie 1997 Herbert J. Olson 2009,15,16
Lloyd Drager 2018,19 William D. Passera 1996

ACTIVE PAST T. I. MASTERS – IONIC-DORIC 33

Matthew F. Griffin 1988,89 Roger B. Thorin 1990,91
Bruce V. Thorin 1995

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Robert W. Brummett
Frank W. Colton
Richard A. Eppler

Thomas E. Grace
Richard H. Groth
Richard I. McKee

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted: Raymond J Savoy, Michael Jeremiah Waite, Stephen J Milano Jr

Affiliated:

Reinstated John Patrick Lawlor Jr

Dimitted:

No Lodge:

No Chap:

NPD: Robert Dwight Dupont, Joseph M Pisani

Deceased: Delbert Amos Little, James L Vander Eyk, Walton Baldwin Schechtweg

COLUMBIA 9

*Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 23 Jul 1818 to work in Middletown. Charter was revoked 14 May 1840, restored 14 May 1843, again revoked on 8 May 1876 and restored 13 May 1903. Relocated to Haddam in 1998 and returned to Middletown in 2016. Charter arrested on 18 January 2020. Former members were absorbed into **Hamilton 22** on 31 March 2020.*

OLIVE BRANCH 10

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 2 Sep 1818 to work in Canterbury. Charter was revoked on 14 May 1840 and restored in Willimantic on 12 May 1868. Consolidated with Montgomery 2 on 31 March 2006.

HIRAM 11

Established by warrant from Jeremy Ladd Cross on 22 Feb 1819 to work in Newtown. Charter was revoked on 10 May 1849.

ADAMS 12

Chartered by the Grand Council on 13 May 1825 to work in Litchfield. Revoked 14 May 1840.

TYRIAN 13

Chartered on 13 May 1825 to work in Washington. Revoked 9 May 1839.

ADONIRAM 14

*Chartered on 11 May 1826 to work in Tolland. Revoked 14 May 1840 and restored in Rockville (now Ellington) on 12 May 1868. Consolidated into **Wolcott 01** in East Hartford on 9 February 2010.*

CLINTON 15

Chartered 11 May 1826 to work in Granby. Revoked 9 May 1839, restored 10 May 1859 and revoked 12 May 1884.

PAUGUSSETT 16

Chartered as **Jerusalem 16** on 15 May 1827 to work in Bridgeport. Revoked 9 May 1839 and restored 12 May 1847. Relocated to Stratford. Renamed **Paugussett 16** upon consolidation with **Adam Sattig 35** on 12 December 2017 and relocated to Milford.

59 Broad Street, Milford
 7:30 pm on 2nd Tue in Feb, Apr, Jun, Oct, Dec EIN 82-3394752
 Membership 130

OFFICERS

TIM	Michael J. Miller	CG	Joseph Soto
DIM	Andrew Flasko	COND	Travis K Bain
IPCW	Kurt Wischow	STEW	Jonathan G DeBaun
TRES	Charles A. McCollum	SENT	Richard P. Smeland
REC	Charles A. McCollum	CHAP	Michael D. Sabia Jr

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Richard A. Kassay	2017,18	James Whitaker	2021,22
Craig R. Nelson Sr	2019,20		
Gary D. Shepard	2023		

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS – Jerusalem 16

LeRoy Beavers	80	John Mellor	90,91,94,95
Robert J. Cascone	2007,08	Wayne N. Saunders	2002,03
Daniel Galloza	2015	Gary D. Shepard	2016
Maurice J. Heim	2009,10	George E. Sears	89

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS – Adam Sattig 35

Anthony E. Cirella	98	Dennis S. McNamara	94
Frederick N. Chidester	99	Thomas R. Richards	70
Ernest A. Dubois	2006	Scott T. Sherrick	95
Kenneth E. Fears	87	Frederick A. Traut	96
Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr	76	Richard V. Travis	85
Stephen T. Hill	2009-13	James Whitaker Jr	2016,21
Dennis B. Mattison	81		

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

James P. Edgett	Dennis B. Mattison
Kenneth B. Hawkins Sr	Thomas R. Richards
Richard H. Hilt	John Trantales
John B. Lindsay	

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:	John Ronald Tyler, Daniel J Renzoni Jr
Affiliated:	Michael Daniel Sabia Jr
Reinstated:	Barry Eugene Buzzell
Dimitted:	William Russell Deickler
No Lodge:	
No Chap:	Kenneth L Twombly, Paul L Cummings, Lawrence S Plotnick
NPD:	
Deceased:	Edward Robert Ham, Irving Loeff, Robert William Harriman, Daniel Segundo Sanchez, Richard E Beattie, Donald Walter Willis, Thomas William Hawkins

WASHINGTON 17

Chartered on 10 May 1849 to work in Norwalk. Revoked 7 May 1883.

JERUSALEM 18

Chartered on 10 May 1849 to work in Ridgefield. Revoked 9 May 1866.

CRAWFORD 19

Chartered on 13 May 1852 to work in Fair Haven. Relocated to Northford in the Town of North Branford in 1996, to Branford in 2003, and to West Haven in 2022.

263 Center Street, West Haven
7:30 pm on 2nd Thu
Membership 40

No Phone
EIN 06-6055661

OFFICERS

TIM	Peter T. Cianelli	CG	Douglas J. Turcotte
DIM	Gerald A. Calabritto	COND	John J. McManus IV
IPCW	John H. Kelley	STEW	Dennis J. Frosolone
TRES	Alan M. Friedman Jr	SENT	
REC	Christopher R. Belous	CHAP	William C. Lang

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

William K. Barr	2004,05	Richard A. Eppler	2022
Leonard H. Bucher	85	89,95,01,09,10,13,14,17,18	
Paul L. Chello	80	Earl F. Korngiebel Jr	
Peter T. Cianelli	2023	02,11,12,15,16,19-21	
Willis E. Copeland Jr	93	Randy S. Stevens	97

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Leonard H. Bucher	Willis E. Copeland Jr
Paul L. Chello	Richard A. Eppler

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted: Mario Calabro, Eliot Buenano, John Joseph McManus IV,
Louis G. Fappiano

Reinstated: Anthony Dion King

Affiliated:

Dimitted: Chester M Blue

No Lodg: Abdullah M Habib

No Chap:

NPD: Frank J Andriulli III, Scott A Kenney, Donald C Scott

Deceased: Donald H Pitcher, Mario Calabro

BUEL 20

Chartered 12 May 1853 to work in Litchfield. Relocated to Torrington in 2011 and to Danbury in 2022. Charter was suspended on 11 May 2023 by the MPGM.

337 Main Street, Danbury
2nd Thu after Cyrus-Meridian 15
Membership 39

No Phone
EIN 23-7123381

OFFICERS

TIM	Carlos A. Gavilano	CG	Robert S. Bruce
DIM	Robert J. Bruce	COND	John P. Glenn II
IPCW	Zachary M. Dall	STEW	Mychael J. Scribner
TRES	Clyde W. Kayser II	SENT	Matthew K. Kuhr
REC	Clyde W. Kayser II	CHAP	Clyde W. Kayser II

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Joseph M. Albanese	2021	Mychael J Scribner	
John J. Badeen	2009,10		2016,17,19,22,23
Danny A. Camp	96,97,02	James R. Shaw	2001
Edward J. Candee	71	Philip H. Sterns	74,75
Richard D. Cosgrove, Jr	98,99	Andrew G. Weimann II	94,95
George S. Greytak	2020	Charles W. Yohe	86-88

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Dale E. Sweet

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted: Matthew Kenneth Kuhr, Jason Mendez, Robert John Bruce, Robert Scott Bruce, Zachary Michael Dall

Affiliated:

Reinstate:

Dimitted: Richard Dale Corey, Ian Jones, John Patrick Lawlor Jr

No Lodg:

No Chap:

NPD:

Deceased: Roger Norman Payne

WATERBURY 21

Chartered 12 May 1853 to work in Waterbury. Consolidated with Buel 20 on 6 Jun 1992.

WASHINGTON 22, PENNELL 23 AND ORIENTAL 24

Three Councils were chartered 11 May 1854 to work in New York City, and later in 1854 formed a Grand Council of New York, thus withdrawing from the rolls of the Grand Council of Connecticut. Their numbers were subsequently re-used by Connecticut.

HAMILTON 22

*Chartered on 12 May 1857 to work in Meriden. Name changed to **Hamilton 09** upon consolidation with **Columbia 09**.*

MONROE 23, ST. CLAIR 24 and PONTIAC 25

Three Councils were chartered 12 May 1857 to work in Detroit, St. Clair and Pontiac, Michigan respectively. Later in 1857, these three Councils formed the Grand Council of Michigan, thus removing themselves from the rolls of the Grand Council of Connecticut, which re-used their numbers.

SUFFIELD 23

Chartered on 9 May 1870 to work in Suffield.

150 Bridge Street, Suffield
 7:30 pm 3rd Wed
 Membership 16

860-668-2053
 EIN 23-7216223

OFFICERS

TIM	Mark E. Blackaby	CG	John H. LeDoux
DIM	Cory R. Rice	COND	Dean M. Gousse
IPCW	Terrence D. Mish	STEW	Thomas A. Duclos
TRES	Mark D. Winne	SENT	Russell L. Scull
REC	Dale T. Cunningham	CHAP	Mark D. Winne

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Brian C. Baeder	2012	Nelson C. Hallas	1975
Dale Cunningham	15,16,19-21	Charles A. Lizotte	2005,06
C. Thomas Curtis	1973,74	Terrence D. Mish	1996-99
Thomas A. Duclos	2017,18	Russell L. Scull	2009-11
Dean M. Gousse	2023		

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Robert M. Haff Nelson C. Hallas

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:

Affiliated:

Reinstated:

Dimitted:

No Lodge:

No Chap:

NPD: Rohit Persaud Sukhram, Bruce Eldredge Allbee

Deceased:

ADONIRAM 24

Dispensation was granted in 1856 for a Council to work in Manchester, New Hampshire. Grand Council voted to issue a charter on 12 May 1857 should the dispensation be returned, but it was never received.

DORIC 24

*Originally Chartered as **Doric 28** on 9 May 1860 to work in New Britain. Consolidated in 1992 with **Ionic 33** to be known as **Ionic-Doric 33**.*

LEE 25

Chartered 9 May 1870 to work in Collinsville. Revoked 7 May 1877 and restored 9 May 1887

123 River Road, Collinsville
 7:30 pm on 1st Fri in Nov, Dec, Feb, Mar, Apr, May EIN 06-6066086
 Membership 53

OFFICERS

TIM	Richard D. Corey	CG	George H. Redford
DIM	Douglas D. Barnard	COND	G. Randall Hornaday
IPCW	Harrison T. Redford	STEW	Ronald C. Baker
TRES	Chester I. Russell	SENT	Charles D. Weiss
REC	Patrick M. Kilby	CHAP	Michael K. Butteri

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Douglas D. Barnard	93,09,13,14,17	Richard R. Jones Jr	2010,11
Brian E. Beals	2015,18	Eugene F. Miller	78
Michael K. Butteri	2019-21	Harrison T. Redford	86,88,03,04
William F. Carroll	91	George H. Redford	99
Leland D. Cobb Jr	75	Chester I. Russell	98,07,08
Edmund C. Holcombe Jr	58	Frederick J. Taft	2023
		Thomas A. Transue	97

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Leland D. Cobb Jr Edmund C. Holcombe, Jr

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Greeted:
 Affiliated: Richard Dale Corey, Ian Jones, Matthew Francis Griffin
 Reinstated:
 Dimitted:
 No Lodge:
 No Chap:
 NPD:
 Deceased: William Siebert Hart

UNION 27

Chartered 9 May 1860 to work in Derby. In 1899 began alternating each two years with Ansonia. Returned to Derby in 1909 and changed to Ansonia in 1921. Consolidated 22 Oct 1993 with **Jerusalem 16**.

WOOSTER 28

*Chartered 9 May 1865 to work in Danbury. Consolidated into **Washington 06** in Darien on 7 January 2010.*

WEBB 29

Chartered 8 May 1860 to work in Warren, Rhode Island. Joined in the formation of the Grand Council of Rhode Island on 30 October 1860. Grand Council of Connecticut released jurisdiction on 8 May 1861.

MYSTIC 29

*Chartered 9 May 1865 to work at Mystic Bridge. A new charter in 1884 made it Mystic River until 1890 when it again appears as Mystic Bridge. In 1891 entered as Mystic. Consolidated on 1 June 1991 with **Franklin 3** to work in Mystic as **Mystic 3**.*

HOWARD 30

Chartered 8 May 1866 to work in Pawcatuck (Stonington). Revoked 7 May 1877.

TYRIAN 31

Chartered 12 May 1868 to work in Winsted. Revoked 30 May 1976.

TEMPLE 32

*Chartered 11 May 1896 to work in Southington. Consolidated 12 April 1966 with **Hamilton 22**.*

IONIC-DORIC 33

*Chartered as **Ionic 33** on 11 May 1904 to work in Bristol. Changed name to **Ionic-Doric 33** upon consolidation with **Doric 24** in 1992. Relocated to New Britain in 1998. Consolidated with **Hamilton 22** on 18 October 2006.*

ORANGE 34

Chartered on 4 June 1919 to work in West Haven. Revoked 30 March 1983.

ADAM SATTIG 35

*Chartered 22 Oct 1949 to work in Milford. Consolidated on December 12, 2017 with **Jerusalem 16** to become **Paugussett 16**.*

MENUNKETUCK 36

*Chartered 1 Jun 1985 to work in Guilford. Relocated to Madison in 2003. Consolidated with **Harmony 08** on 5 April 2022.*

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut was organized at Hartford on May 18, 1819 as a Grand Council of Select Masters by representatives of eleven Councils: Wolcott 1, Montgomery 2, Franklin 3, Cushing 4, Watrous 5, Washington 6, Cross 7, Harmony 8, Columbia 9, Olive Branch 10, and Hiram 11.

MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTERS

The following distinguished Companions have presided over the world's oldest Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

Lyman Law (4)	1819	William W. Lee (22)	1867
Thomas H. Cushing (4)	1820-21	Stephen T. Bartlett (16)	1868
Laban Smith (8)	1822-23	Edmund Tweedy (28)	1869
Elizur Goodrich, Jr. (5)	1824	Charles W. Stearns (9)	1870-71
John L. Lewis (9)	1825	Henry W. Coye (14)	1872
Noah A. Phelps (1)	1826	I. W. Carpenter (3)	1873
I. W. Crawford (2)	1827-30	John H. Barlow (27)	1874
Andrew Harris (10)	1831	Fred H. Waldron (8)	1875
William H. Ellis (8)	1832-33	William Freeston (24)	1876
Joshua A. Jewett (1)	1834	Dwight Phelps (31)	1877
Horace Goodwin (1)	1835-38	Arthur R Blakeslee (27)	1878
Nahum Flagg (9)	1839-40	Abram Heaton (16)	1879
Lucius Tyler (3)	1841-44	John O. Rowland (19)	1880
Benoni A. Shepard (1)	1845-46	Chester Tilden (10)	1881
David Clark (1)	1847-48	Dwight Waugh (6)	1882
Chauncy Burgess (3)	1849-50	Burton G. Bryan (21)	1883
Cyrus Goodell (1)	1851-52	Alexander Shumway	1884
Francois Turner (8)	1853-54	Job F. Seamans (2)	1885
Alexander Hamilton	1855-56	Frank G. Bassett (27)	1886
William L. Brewer (3)	1857	James H. Welsh (28)	1887
George F. Daskam (15)	1858	John P. Weir (22)	1888
George Stancliff (9)	1859	Samuel Bassett (27)	1889
Howard B. Ensign (8)	1860	George A. Kies (3)	1890
Willis J. Goodsell (1)	1861	Atherton L. Barnes (9)	1891
William R. Higby (16)	1862-63	Thomas J. Gill (1)	1892
James L. Gould (16)	1864-65	William H. Parmelee	1893
Eli S. Quintard (8)	1866	Frank W Trowbridge	1894

I. F. Stidman (24)	1895	Arthur H. Parker (24)	1928
Edward E. West (22)	1896	Arthur L. Clark (9)	1929
Reuben H. Tucker (27)	1897	Robert R. Houston (6)	1930
Edgar W. Latham (23)	1898	George G. Platt (19)	1931
Stephen J. Lyon (25)	1899	Charles A. Hallock (28)	1932
Henry O. Canfield (16)	1900	Frederick R. Coles (1)	1933
Albert S. Comstock (3)	1901	Clarence G. Brooks (4)	1934
Joseph S. Stokes (22)	1902	Harry E. Scheuy (24)	1935
Charles A. Jones (1)	1903	Willis P. Fraser (33)	1936
Edward E. Fuller (14)	1904	William E. Parker (16)	1937
Charles B. Chapman (3)	1905	Harry F. Brown (9)	1938
John H. Pearce (8)	1906	Russell W. Potter (10)	1939
George E. Melius (16)	1907	Frederick Marggraff	1940
Stephen P. Goodsell	1908	Philip J. Jones (1)	1941
Edward J. Pooley (22)	1909	Lawrence G. Drescher	1942
Thomas W. Morgan (1)	1910	Samuel C. Cannon (9)	1943
Oliver D. L. Burrows (4)	1911	William E. Jackson (22)	1944
Philip N. Sunderland	1912	Herbert E. Warner (6)	1945
Burton H. Strickland	1913	Charles N. Baxter (19)	1946
William C. Twombly (6)	1914	Joseph M. Hall (28)	1947
William O. Shelley (1)	1915	William E. Hamner (1)	1948
E. Allen Bidwell (3)	1916	Frederick W Edgerton	1949
Thomas M. Barnes (16)	1917	Robert J. Boyce (14)	1950
Henry H. Bradley (19)	1918	Edward R. Hunt (16)	1951
F. Ward DeKlyn (28)	1919	Edward M. White (23)	1952
Norman C. Stevens (1)	1920	Louis Wenzel (21)	1953
Edward B. Alling (24)	1921	Harold D. Smith (34)	1954
T. Lurette Guild (6)	1922	Wolcott S. Bissell (1)	1955
George G. Beers (16)	1923	William M. Wyman (3)	1956
Daniel H. Gladding (8)	1924	Newie S. Rowe (33)	1957
Frederick H. Gerlach	1925	Mathias VanAltena (31)	1958
T. Frank Cassidy (1)	1926	Ernest F. Lofgren (6)	1959
Frederick A. Beebe (4)	1927	George R. Schenk (8)	1960

E. Kenneth Wilson (1)	1961	James P. Keaveny (03)	1993
Pierson E. Dolbeare (4)	1962	Richard E. Larcom (19)	1994
J. Homer Hawkins (10)	1963	Robert D. Sherrick (35)	1995
William L. Corves (22)	1964	Richard L. Smail (14,22)	1996
Calvin S. Smith (9)	1965	Thurman P. Sharples (2)	1997
Edward L. DeAlmo (19)	1966	Richard A. Eppler (19)	1998
Irving B. Millen (1)	1967	Ernest J. Smith (14)	1999
Robert H. Trask (3)	1968	Paul L. Chello (19,36)	2000
Lawrence W. Wright (2)	1969	Robert L. Hodgson (3)	2001
Fred C. Eppler (1)	1970	Sivert R. Jacobson (25)	2002
Henry F. Gerke (6)	1971	Randy S. Stevens (19)	2003
Leo H. Lohrman (16,28)	1972	Richard G. Barrows	2004
Melvin E. Gibbs (22)	1973	Scott T. Sherrick (35)	2005
David Wainwright (1)	1974	Peter J. Stapleton (36)	2006
Stanley H. Steiner (14)	1975	Raymond Tomlinson	2007
Ralph C. Channel (6)	1976	Andrew G. Weimann	2008
Lawrence P. Urban (35)	1977	Randy S. Stevens (19)	2009
Robert J. Campbell (28)	1978	James C. Kleinkauf	2010
Gentry J. Cooke, Sr.	1979	Bruce R. Bellmore (08)	2011
Charles L. Lincoln Sr	1980	Edward R. Ham (16)	2012
Charles K. Lynn (14)	1981	Charles A McCollum	2013
Earl J. Fitzpatrick (19)	1982	Charles A McCollum	2014
Arthur B. Maybeck (27)	1983	Michael E. Seamon	2015
Irving W. Wilber (20)	1984	J. Andrew Birdsall (04)	2016
Charles L. Lincoln Jr (1)	1985	Clyde W. Kayser	2017
Arthur R. Bossé (14)	1986	Charles D. O'Neill (06)	2018
Herbert R. Olson (25)	1987	C B Fowler (01), Hon	2018
Arthur L. Shumway (8)	1988	Charles D. O'Neill (06)	2019
William F. Orrell (35)	1989	Martin Ede (08)	2020
Edward Choate (19) IL	1989	James S. McNeely (01)	2021
Richard A. Egner (10)	1990	James S. McNeely (01)	2022
Thomas Maxwell (06)	1991	Darrin D. Silhavy (06)	2023
Wayne Wormstedt (14)	1992		

**PHILIP J. JONES
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The Philip J. Jones Distinguished Service Award was established by the Grand Council to be awarded annually for distinguished service to Cryptic Freemasonry. The award consists of a medal accompanied by a citation. The following have received the most prestigious award of the Grand Council of Connecticut:

1972	Philip J. Jones	Wolcott 1
1973	George R. Schenck	Harmony 8
1974	Irving E. Partridge	Wolcott 1
1975	Wolcott S. Bissell	Wolcott 1
1976	Russell D. Ramette	Wolcott 1
1977	James R. Case	Wooster 28
1978	Arthur F. Simpson	Adam Sattig 35
1979	Leo H. Lohrman II	Wooster 28
1980	Fred C. Eppler	Doric 24
1981	David Wainwright	Wolcott 1
1982	William M. Wyman	Franklin 3
1983	William L. Corves	Hamilton 22
1984	Charles K. Lynn	Adoniram 14
1985	Gentry J. Cooke, Sr	Mystic 29
1987	Robert J. Campbell	Wooster 28
1988	Charles W. Yohe	Buel 20
1989	Carl Schultz, Sr	Columbia 9
1990	Herbert R. Olson	Lee 25
1991	Richard L. Smail	Adoniram 14
1992	Elmer E. Stone	Adoniram 14
1993	William F. Orrell	Adam Sattig 35
1994	Richard E. Larcom	Crawford 19
1995	Warren J. Dennison	Washington 6
1996	Kenneth W. Marvin	Montgomery 2
1997	Arthur R. Bosse	Adoniram 14
1998	John A. Birdsall	Cushing 4
1999	Kenneth A. Wright	Crawford 19
2000	Bard C. Teigen	Suffield 23
2001	Richard A. Eppler	Crawford 19
2002	Charles B. Fowler, Jr	Wolcott 1
2003	F. Laurence Lindblad	Ionic-Doric 33

2004	Robert A. Colbourn	Crawford 19
2005	Michael Robinson	Adoniram 14
2006	Wesley H. Alexander	Crawford 19
2007	Donald W. Reddick	Menunketuck 36
2008	Chester I. Russell	Lee 25
2009	Robert D. Sherrick	Adam Sattig 35
2010	Bruce R. Bellmore	Franklin 2
2011	Paul L. Chello	Halleck 44
2012	Edward R. Ham	Jerusalem 16
2013	Charles D. O'Neill	Washington 6
2014	Clyde W. Kayser, II	Buel 20
2015	Jack H. Stevens	Crawford 19
2016	James C. Kleinkauf	Menunketuck 36
2017	Darrin D. Silhavy, IV	Wolcott 1
2018	Gary A. Littlefield	Montgomery 2
2021	Richard L. Allen	Cushing 4
2022	Charles A. McCollum	Paugussett 16
2023	William L. Miller, II	Wolcott 01

Bold indicates Active Members

2024

WILLIAM CARL LANG
Crawford Council No. 19

WILLIAM CARL LANG

Philip J. Jones Award

William Carl Lang was born in New Haven CT to Otto and Pauline Lang on February 11, 1941. He attended Hamden Hall Country Day School, and graduated from Williston Academy in 1959. He attended Beloit College for three semesters after which he enlisted in the Army. He served as a cryptographic communication specialist for the Army Security Agency in Frankfurt, Germany from 1962 to 1964. Upon completion of his enlistment, he was employed by the Southern New England Telephone Company in New Haven. Bill earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in English Literature from New Haven College. In the fall of 1970, he began teaching in the Guilford Public School system. He earned a master's degree in education and a sixth-year certificate in education Supervision and Administration from Southern Connecticut State College University. In 2004, he retired from full-time teaching, and in 2023, after nineteen years he retired from Southern Connecticut State University as a part time Mathematics tutor.

Brother Lang was raised a Master Mason in 1983, in Annawon Lodge No. 115. He and served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1990. He is a member of Joseph Andrews - Pulaski Chapter No. 26, Royal Arch Masons; Crawford Council No.19, Royal & Select Masons; and Golden Rod Chapter No. 34, Order of Eastern Star. He received the Ephraim Kirby Award in 2013. He retired as Secretary and Recorder of Joseph Andrews – Pulaski Chapter and of Crawford Council in 2024.

Bill is a sixty-five plus year member of the First Congregational Church of West Haven where he has served on many Boards and Committees. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees and Finance Committee. He is a Board Member of: the West Haven Village Improvement Association which oversees the West Haven Public Library;the Ward Heitman House Museum Foundation; and the West Haven Community House Association.

**KNIGHT OF ISH SODI
MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

The Knight of Ish-Sodi Award was established by the Grand Council to recognize meritorious service to Cryptic Freemasonry. The award consists of a distinctive pin. Currently, no more than one may be awarded annually per thousand members or fraction thereof, plus one at the discretion of the Most Puissant Grand Master.

Following are the recipients of this honor:

1973

Charles Simonson, Wolcott 1
Robert Fletcher, Olive Branch 10
Charles K. Lynn, Adoniram 14
Edward A. Breed, Mystic 29
Harold F. Brooks, Orange 34

1974

David Wainwright, Wolcott 1
Grady L. Pearson, Adoniram 14
Cecil H. Grant, Waterbury 21
Burton F. Harrington, Lee 25
Harry C. Walter, Wooster 28

1975

Webster Culver, Wolcott 1
Harold Staiger, Adoniram 14
John E. Foster, Jerusalem 16
Robert E. Cushman, Mystic 29
J Normington, Montgomery 2

1976

Lewis E. Miner, Adoniram 14
Theodore F. Risley, Buel 20
Robert L. Murray, Mystic 29
Arthur K. Kandetzki, Orange 34
Thomas Lauridsen, A. Sattig 35

1977

Burton W. Robinson, Franklin 3
Edmund H. Smith, Jerusalem 16

George H. Sackett, Crawford 19
John S. Patten, Hamilton 22
Harry Schanck, Washington 6
M. Manning, Olive Branch 10

1978

Arthur J. McKinney, Wolcott 1
John W. Ogden, Washington 6
Matthew J. Banach, Suffield 23
Charles P. Winchell, Doric 24
Carroll F. Lewis, Adam Sattig 35

1979

Ken Marvin, Montgomery 2
Roscoe C. German, Buel 20
Henry A. Phillips, Lee 25
Russell L. Benjamin, Mystic 29
Herbert G. Shaw, Orange 34

1980

Carl Schultz, Sr., Columbia 9
Bern. Church, Olive Branch 10
Thomas W. Blowen, Suffield 23
William A. Bonney, Doric 24
Sterling Mills, Adam Sattig 35

1981

Charles Lincoln, Sr., Wolcott 1
John E. Knauer, Cushing 4
Rodney Gray, Adoniram 14
John D. Mutch, Jerusalem 16

Gunnar Lundquist, Hamilton 22

1982

Charles Schroeder, Harmony 8

Robert Colbourn, Crawford 19

John L. Faulkins, Jerusalem 16

William S. Hart, Lee 25

F. Laurence Lindblad, Ionic 33

Thomas F. Peterson, Union 27

1983

George LaPut, Sr., Cushing 4

Melvin F. Boomer, Adoniram 14

Warren Crane, Buel 20

Richard E. Larcom, Crawford 19

Bernard Wright, Wooster 28

1984

Bertil Rahr, Buel 20

George Hubbard, A. Sattig 35

Albert H. Getchell, Crawford 19

Sheldon C. Marshall, Wolcott 1

David McFalls, Hamilton 22

1985

Bernard J. Burke, Cushing 4

Charles Phelps, Olive Branch 10

George Tarket, Jr., Waterbury 21

Robert E. Giaouque, Suffield 23

Lester A. Culver, Sr., Mystic 29

1986

Richard J. Schlayer, Harmony 8

Herbert Bachelder, Franklin 3

Dennis Elkins, Columbia 9

Elmer E. Stone, Adoniram 14

Kenneth B. Watts, Waterbury 21

1987

Larry Wright, Montgomery 2

Franklin E. Robinson, Franklin 3

John G. McKechnie, Mystic 29

James F. Quarz, Crawford 19

Will. Schuck, Menunketuck 36

1988

Martin Berkman, Jerusalem 16

Leland D. Cobb, Lee 25

Gilbert L. Gooden, Franklin 3

George Griffing, Adoniram 14

Theodore King, Adam Sattig 35

1989

Kenneth W. Gray, Jr., Cushing 4

Wilder J. Greeley, Harmony 8

Arthur B. Maybeck, Union 27

Edward Studwell, Mystic 29

1990

Harold E. Basson, Franklin 3

Adrien F. Adam, Jr., Lee 25

John Goodrich, Sr., Crawford 19

Mark A D Flores, Mystic 29

1991

Gary Littlefield, Olive Branch 10

Leo H. Lohrman II, Jerusalem 16

Edward Nordstrom, Wolcott 1

Joseph J. Perno, Adam Sattig 35

Bard C. Teigen, Suffield 23

1992

Reginald Abbott, Wolcott 1

William Orrell, Adam Sattig 35

Donald Robinson, Crawford 19

Robert Sherrick, A. Sattig 35

1993

Bruce R. Bellmore, Harmony 8

Arthur Bossé, Adoniram 14

Richard Egner, Olive Branch 10

Charles B. Fowler, Wolcott 1

John G. Radeach, Crawford 19

1994

Howard Baker, Montgomery 2
 George Kelaita, Ionic-Doric 33
 Leroy Oldack Jr, Adam Sattig 35
 Emil G. Olsson Jr, Harmony 8
 Arthur M. Pugh, Hamilton 22

1995

Paul L. Chello, Crawford 19
 Carl DelVecchio, Washington 6
 George C. Venter, Harmony 8
 Walter Whitman, Adoniram 14
 Kenneth A. Wright, Crawford 19

1996

William W. Albert, Lee 25
Willis Copeland, Crawford 19
 Douglas A. Gray, Harmony 8
 Edward R. Ham, Jerusalem 16
 Donald C. Murray, Harmony 8

1997

Frank McNally, Montgomery 2
 Robert L. Hodgson, Mystic 3
 W. Schlechtweg, Adoniram 14
 Edwin F. Dingus, Crawford 19
Andrew Weimann II, Buel 20

1998

Leslie C. Noyes, Adoniram 14
 John Goodrich, Jr., Crawford 19
Clyde W. Kayser, II, Buel 20

1999

T. Sharples, Montgomery 2
 Wesley Alexander, Crawford 19
Randy Stevens, Crawford 19
 Herbert R. Olson, Lee 25
Frederick Traut, A. Sattig 35

2000

Charles Gyure, Olive Branch 10

Kenneth N. Hall, Adoniram 14

John Mellor, Jerusalem 16
Harrison T. Redford, Lee 25
Scott Sherrick, Adam Sattig 35

2001

Emil G. Lido, Adoniram 14
 Jack H. Stevens, Crawford 19
 Joseph P. Fagan, Adam Sattig 35
 Don Sause, Menunketuck 36

2002

James P. Keaveny, Mystic 3
 Charles C. Maxson, Mystic 3
 Edward S. Eby, Cushing 4
Geo. Nousiainen, Harmony 8
R. Barrows, Olive Branch 10

2003

Charles A. Domin, Cushing 4
 Ernest J. Smith, Adoniram 14
 Mario C. Saccomani, Buel 20
 Myron P. Reed, Hamilton 22
 M. Neal Rogers, Lee 25

2004

James Hammitt, Adoniram 14
Danny A. Camp, Buel 20
 Robert Kilgore, Hamilton 22
 Sivert R. Jacobson, Lee 25

2005

Harold Tomlinson, Harmony 8
 Sebastian Gordon, Adoniram 14

2006

George Cronk, Washington 6
Ray Tomlinson, Harmony 8
 Ernest Dimmock, Adoniram 14
Chas. McCollum, Wooster 28
 Bruce Rumford, A. Sattig 35
 Peter Stapleton, Menunketuck 36

2007

David C. Abrames, Wolcott 01
Robert DiPasquale, Hamilton 22
J. Kleinkauf, Menunketuck 36
Ed Schoenrock, Adoniram 14

2008

Charles D. O'Neill, Wooster 28
Richard Eppler, Crawford 19
Martin Ede, Harmony 08

2009

Robert Fitzgerald, Wolcott 01
William L. Miller, Wolcott 01
Robert Nordstrom, Wolcott 01
Carl E. Aspland, Buel 20
Jorje Baujin, Buel 20

2010

William K. Barr, Crawford 19

2011

Michael Seamon, Wolcott 01
Bradley Cooney, Harmony 08
Peter M. Sloan, Harmony 08
Delbert A. Little, Hamilton 22

2013

Anthony Pipitone, Jerusalem 16
Leonard Bucher, Crawford 19

2014

Richard Odell, Washington 06
Richard Sawyers, Wolcott 01

2015

Lloyd Sturges, Washington 06

2016

J Andrew Birdsall, Cushing 04
David Söderberg, Wolcott 01
James McNeely IV, Wolcott 01

2017

Michael Sabia, Washington 06
Richard L. Allen, Cushing 04

2018

Brian E. Beals, Lee 25

2019

John Braddock, Hamilton 22
Stuart K. Drost, Paugussett 16

2021

Dale Cunningham, Suffield 23
Michael K. Butteri, Lee 25

2022

Scott R. Atkins, Harmony 08
Gail N. Smith, Montgomery 02

2023

Mark A. Orsini Harmony 08
Scott A Daniels Jr Cushing 04

2024

Steven Jahn Chiappalone
Hamilton 09

Gary Dean Shepard
Housatonic 13

STEVEN JAHN CHIAPPALONE
Knight of Ish Sodi

Steven Jahn Chiappalone was born in Plattsburgh, N.Y. July 11, 1963 to Alfred and Janice Chiappalone in Keeseville NY near Lake Champlain. His childhood consisted of all types of sports in the neighborhood and frequent adventures in the great expanses of forests and rivers surrounding their home. He attended local Catholic grade schools and then Mount Assumption Institute High School in Plattsburgh NY before enlistment in the United States Navy. He returned to Plattsburgh and attended Clinton Community College before moving to Connecticut in 1985 and starting a family. He currently resides in Watertown with his wife Mary, and combined they have four children and six grandchildren, the most recent born May 3, 2024. He likes to golf and has a wonderful dog, Henry.

Brother Chiappalone was raised a Master Mason in Liberty Continental Lodge No. 76 on May 18, 2009. He quickly ascended the Lodge chairs, becoming Worshipful Master in 2015 and 2016, during which time, he affiliated with Shepard Salem Lodge No.78. He was appointed Associate Grand Marshal and then District Deputy for District 3A followed by District 3B spanning 2016 through 2022.

He was Exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Keystone Chapter No. 6 on February 4, 2014 where he is currently serving as High Priest. Received and Greeted in Hamilton Council No. 22, Royal and Select Masters on March 21, 2014, he served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2020-21 and served as Ill. Grand Marshal of the Grand Council in 2017. Knighted in St. Elmo Commandery No. 9 on September 16, 2014, he served as Eminent Commander in 2018 and 2019, followed by appointment to the Grand Line of the Grand Commandery, rising to his current position of Deputy Grand Commander. He received the Knight Templar Cross of Honor distinguished service award in 2022.

Steven joined Connecticut York Rite College No. 17 and served as Governor in 2022-2023. He assisted the York Rite Sovereign College of North America with the Grand Session held in Rhode Island in 2024.

Steven is also a member of Nutmeg Chapter No. 29, Order of St. Thomas of Acon in 2017, and in 2018, he completed the Certified Leaders Training of the York Rite of North America.

Steven has answered many calls to serve, with imagination, initiative and zeal. He organized a Templar Christmas Observance during COVID, broadcast from his house complete with all the trimmings of the season in the background. Another venture involved raising funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and CT Life Members, enabling him to cut the lengthy hair of SK James S. McNeely. He also cooked for the annual Robert DiPasquale Memorial Dinner at Hamilton Council to raise funds for CMMRF.

As can be seen, Steven has in a relative short period of time, amassed a record of service to Masonry and the York Rite. He was named a Knight of Ish Sodi in 2024 by MPGM Darrin Silhavy.

GARY DEAN SHEPARD
Knight of Ish Sodi

Gary Dean Shepard was born on October 20, 1952, in St. Albans VT to Harley G. and Adelaide (Parent) Shepard. The family moved to New Jersey where Gary graduated from Bridgewater-Raritan High School in 1970. He went back to his native Vermont roots to attend the University of Vermont where he studied zoology and graduated in 1974.

Gary was active in the Boy Scout program beginning as a Cub Scout, progressing until he and his four brothers became Eagle Scouts. Gary became a member of the Order of the Arrow, and he was also invited to the BSA National Camp School, which then qualified him to be a waterfront director for the 1977 national jamboree in Idaho.

Gary learned to swim at a young age: he earned three varsity letters at the high school level and four at University of Vermont. He became a lifeguard, and was also involved in teaching swimming lessons to younger children.

Gary started his professional career in Boston in 1977 as a pharmaceutical sales representative for Geigy Pharmaceuticals.

Gary was raised a Master Mason in Ashlar Aspetuck Lodge No. 142 on November 8, 1995. In 2000, Gary became Worshipful Master. In 2016 he affiliated with Daytime Lodge No. 144 and served as Worshipful Master in 2017.

Gary became a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Bridgeport in 1997. He was Thrice Potent Master of Dewitt Clinton Lodge of Perfection, Sovereign Prince of Washington Council Princes of Jerusalem, and Most Wise Master of Pequonnock Chapter of Rose Croix. He received the Illustrious Arthur M. Brown, 33^o Meritorious Service Award in 2007. From 2006 to 2022, Gary served on the Valley of Bridgeport Executive Committee. He was Chairman of the Family Life Committee from 2013 to 2022, and is currently a member of the Colonial Fellow Craft Degree team.

In December 2010, Brother Gary was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Baldwin Chapter No. 13 in Stratford CT. In 2016 he was elected Excellent High Priest and received the Order of High Priesthood. When Baldwin Chapter merged with Milford Chapter to become Housatonic Chapter No. 13, Gary was on the committee which implemented the plan. In 2019 Gary was appointed Grand Sentinel of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut, and currently serves as Grand Captain of the Host and on a number of Grand Chapter committees. In 2023, Gary was presented with the General Grand Chapter Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze.

Gary was greeted as a Select Master in Jerusalem Council No. 16 on 11 March 2011 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2016 and 2023. He also received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 2016.

Gary was knighted on Good Friday of 2011 in Hamilton Commandery No. 5. He was installed as Eminent Commander and served from 2017 to 2019. Gary became a Knight Crusader of the Cross shortly after he was installed as Eminent Commander and currently serves as Knight Crusader of the East. In 2020, Gary received the Knight Commander of the Temple award of the Grand Encampment. In 2024, he was appointed to the Grand Commandery officer line and is serving as Chairman of the Membership/Long Range Planning committee.

On June 14, 1997, Gary became a Shriner in Pyramid Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. He was a member of Omar Shrine Club and is currently a member of the Legion of Honor. Gary is also a member of Mohawk Council No. 28, Knight Masons; Connecticut York Rite College No. 17; Connecticut Priory No. 28, Knights of the York Cross of Honour; and Monker Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R. In 2023, he was elected and ordained a member of Apostles Tabernacle No. XXVII, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. In 2024, Gary was elected to membership in St. Andrews Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine.

JAMES ROYAL CASE AWARD

In 1986, the York Rite Coordinating Committee, which is composed of the dais officers of Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, established the James Royal Case Award for outstanding service to Masonry and to the York Rite in particular. The award is presented each year at the Testimonial Dinner given in honor of the presiding officers of the three Grand York Rite Bodies.

The Committee has unfortunately been inactive for the last several years.

Previous recipients of this prestigious award are as follows:

James Royal Case	1986	Anthony Pipitone	2002
Howard R. Baker	1987	Louis A. Kaufmann	2003
Russell L. Benjamin	1988	Walter L. Whitman	2004
Warren J. Dennison	1989	James S. Demko	2005
Andrew J. Muccianti	1990	Leslie C. Noyes	2006
Kenneth W. Marvin	1991	Robert J. Cascone	2007
William A. Bonney, Sr.	1992	Edward Schoenrock	2008
John Radeach	1993	Donald E. Robinson	2009
Matthew J. Banach	1994	Irving Lieff	2010
Arthur H. Carlstrom	1995	James J. Fahy	2011
Wilder J. Greeley	1996	Donald C. Sause	2012
Willis E. Copeland, Jr.	1997	Richard E. Odell	2013
Robert S. Johnson	1998	William L. Miller, II	2014
Stanley T. House	1999	James A. Backus	2015
Edward Nordstrom	2000	Charles T. Hall	2016
Douglas A. Gray	2001	Arnold S. Grot	2019



WILLIAM E. WEISERT, II
Most Puissant Grand Master
2024

WILLIAM EDWARD WEISERT, II

William Edward Weisert, II was born on 3 January 1951 in Boston MA, the first-born of William E. Weisert & Marion Irene (nee Vickery) Weisert. His father was a naval officer, and the family moved frequently. His mother taught piano, with him as one of her pupils. He enjoys using his keyboard skills for church services and some free form music. William attended several schools and graduated from Waterford High School in 1969. He enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and served as a foreign language specialist, then the Connecticut National Guard as a tail-rotor inspector for Black Hawk helicopters, and as Armorer.

In 1966, upon joining DeMolay, he discovered that his father was a Mason and subsequently learned that his paternal grandfather was also a Mason. He served as Master Councilor of New London Chapter in 1969, and later as an Assistant Dad and Ritual Advisor.

He graduated from St. Joseph's College in North Windham ME in 1974 with a double major in History and French, and a double minor in Math and Business Administration. He later was ordained a priest with monastic vows in the Order of the Holy Nativity.

His work experience was primarily in the retail sector. He was employed for several years by Caldor stores, rising to Department Manager. After Caldor, He was employed by RadioShack for almost 20 years, becoming a Senior Store Manager. Then he joined RiteAid as a Shift Supervisor and photo developer.

Brother Weisert served as Worshipful Master of Brainard Lodge No. 102 six times, including two terms as Master of Bayview Lodge No. 120, now part of Brainard, and is also a member of Oxoboxo Lodge No. 16 and Philosophic Lodge of Research. He has been Chaplain of most of these lodges;

He is a member of the Valley of Norwich, AASR, where he has participated in several degrees, and is a member of Sphinx Shriners, serving as President of Bedouin Shrine Club, and Commander and Chaplain of the Legion of Honor.

He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Union Chapter No. 7 on 23 February 2002 and served as High Priest in 2004 and 2021. He served the Grand Chapter as a Grand Custodian, and later as Grand Chaplain.

Greeted in Cushing Council No. 4, Royal and Select Masters on 16 March 2002, he served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2003 and 2022. He was appointed to the Grand Council officer line in 2018 and has advanced regularly to the present.

He is also a member of Palestine Commandery No. 6, Knights Templar where he served one year as Eminent Commander, and is currently Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut.

GRAND COUNCIL OFFICERS 2024 – 2025



L to R: Charles McCollum, Eric Hoy, Scott Daniels, Scott Atkins, Michael Sabia, William Weisert, Charles Jewart, Edward Varjabedian, Martin Ede, Daniel Luft, William Miller, Ryan Snide

Most Puissant Grand Master	William E. Weisert, II (04)
Deputy Puissant Grand Master	Michael D. Sabia, Jr. (06)
Grand Principal Conductor of Work	Charles M. Jewart (01)
Grand Treasurer	Charles A. McCollum (06)

Grand Recorder	William L. Miller, II	(01)
Grand Captain of the Guard	Scott R. Atkins	(08)
Grand Conductor	Scott A. Daniels, Jr.	(04)
Grand Steward	Eric H. Hoy	(01)
Grand Sentinel	Daniel M. Luft	(09)
Grand Marshal	Ryan J. Snide	(02)
Grand Chaplain	Edward A Varjabedian	(01)
Assistant Grand Chaplain	Arnold S. Grot	(01)
Assistant Grand Chaplain	Bruce R. Bellmore	(08)
Grand Historian	Martin Ede	(08)
Grand Recorder Emer. & Assistant	Charles B. Fowler, Jr.	(01)
Assistant Grand Treasurer	Scott T. Sherrick	(16)
Past Deputy Puissant Grand Master	Bradley K. Cooney	(08)
Past Deputy Puissant Grand Master	Danny A. Camp	(20)
Past Grand Prin. Conductor of Work	Joseph R. Krusienski	(22)
Grand Trustee to 2025	Charles D. O'Neill	(06)
Grand Trustee to 2026	Paul L. Chello	(19)
Grand Trustee to 2027	Scott T. Sherrick	(16)

COMMITTEES

Address of the M P Grand Master

J. Andrew Birdsall, Ch	860-839-2043
Richard A. Eppler	Clyde W. Kayser II

Audit

William D. Passera, Ch	860-304-3681
Randy S. Stevens	Michael E. Seamon

Awards

William E. Weisert, II, Ch	203-268-3323
William L. Miller, II	Martin Ede
James S. McNeely IV	Richard L. Allen

Budget

William E. Weisert, II, Ch	860-442-9088
Charles A. McCollum	William L. Miller, II
Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	

Bylaws

Scott R. Atkins, Ch	203-584-0016
Charles M. Jewart	Daniel M. Luft

Credentials

Eric H. Hoy, Ch	860-202-1154
Scott A. Daniels, Jr.	Daniel M. Luft
Arnold S. Grot	

Delinquencies

William E. Weisert, II, Ch	860-439-1950
Scott A. Daniels, Jr.	Michael D. Sabia, Jr.

Insurance

Randy S. Stevens (RS)	860-434-8772
Vincent A. Cowie (KT)	William L. Miller, II (RAM)

Long Range Planning

William E. Weisert, Ch	203-268-3323
Charles A. McCollum, Facilitator	Darrin D. Silhavy
Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	Charles M. Jewart

Masonic Jurisprudence

Bruce R. Bellmore, Ch	203-933-6736
Bradley K. Cooney	Charles A. McCollum

Necrology & Religious Affairs

Edward A. Varjabedian, Ch	860-563-2285
Bruce R. Bellmore	Eric H. Hoy
Arnold S. Grot	

Nominating

J. Andrew Birdsall, Ch	860-839-2043
Charles D. O'Neill	Clyde W. Kayser, II

Program & Publicity

Michael D. Sabia, Jr., Ch	203-898-2808
Scott R. Atkins	Scott A. Daniels, Jr
Charles M. Jewart	

Ritual

Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	203-898-2808
Clyde W. Kayser, II	William E. Weisert, II

Sessions 2025

William E. Weisert, II, Ch	860-442-9088
Michael D. Sabia	Charles M. Jewart
William L. Miller, II	Michael E. Seamon

Tri-State Festival

Charles A. McCollum, Ch	203-375-3990
James S. McNeely, IV	Charles D. O'Neill
Michael E. Seamon	

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

<u>JURISDICTION</u>	<u>NEAR THERE</u>	<u>NEAR CT</u>
ALABAMA	Zachary A. Holmes	Joseph M. Albanese
ALASKA	Rodney L. Johnson	
ARIZONA	Daniel W. Criswell	
ARKANSAS	Walter C. Barnhardt	
CALIFORNIA	Daniel J. Kussman	Bradley K. Cooney
CANADA EAST	Charles E. Rutt	
CANADA ONTARIO	William Boose	William E. Weisert
CANADA WEST	Peter Devlin	
COLORADO	Mark W. Ralston	Danny A. Camp
DELAWARE	Wayne T. Slack	William F. Lott
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	James W. Golladay	
ENGLAND & WALES	Peter D. Miles	Charles D. O'Neill
FLORIDA	John F. Wermann	
GENL GRAND COUNCIL		Charles McCollum
GEORGIA	Jack L. Hepner	Anthony E. Cirella
GERMANY	E.-Guenter Geppert	
GREECE		
HAWAII	Does not exchange Representatives	
IDAHO	James L. Curtis	
ILLINOIS	Edward L. Choate	
INDIANA	Austin C. Gray, Jr.	Clyde W Kayser, II
IOWA	George J. Harrison	
ISRAEL		
ITALY		
KANSAS	John E. Mowen	William L. Greene
KENTUCKY	Daniel L. Coleman	

LOUISIANA	William K. Powell	Randy S. Stevens
MAINE	Randy L. Adams	Andrew Weimann II
MARYLAND	Does not exchange Representatives	
MASSACHUSETTS	S. Wesley Lindsey	Charles McCollum
MICHIGAN	David A. Bartell	
MINNESOTA	Leonard Strobel	
MISSISSIPPI	John W. Pepper	
MISSOURI	Richard J. Holmes	
MONACO		
MONTANA	Darrel Q. Smith	
NEBRASKA	Jeffrey Coleman	
NEVADA	Bruce Nelson	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	John B. Clark	Bruce R. Bellmore
NEW JERSEY	John D. Barnes	Richard A. Eppler
NEW MEXICO	William B. Pieper	Leonard H. Bucher
NEW SOUTH WALES	Douglas Grigg	
NEW YORK	Earl L. Tuttle	Richard G Barrows
NORTH CAROLINA	Dallas Davis	
NORTH DAKOTA	Jeffrey N. Nelson	Richard V. Travis
OHIO	Bobby G. George	Paul L. Chello
OKLAHOMA	Richard Dunaway	Michael E. Seamon
ONTARIO	William H. Boose	William E. Weisert
OREGON	Charles K. Olney	
PANAMA		
PENNSYLVANIA	Charles C. Hoover	
PHILLIPINES	Rudy Ong	
PORTUGAL	Manuel Sacavem	
RHODE ISLAND	Robert J. Allen	
ROMANIA		
SOUTH CAROLINA	Jon Majerus	Charles McCollum
SOUTH DAKOTA	Roland Kleinschmidt	

TENNESSEE	S. Wayne Elder	
TEXAS	Dan W. Turner	Thomas Maxwell
TOGO		
UTAH	Daniel L. Ladig	
VERMONT	Bruce R. Howard	
VIRGINIA (GRAM)	Nelson C. Trinkle	Vincent A. Cowie
WASHINGTON	Jerry E. Whitney	Charles B Fowler Jr
WISCONSIN		Ray Tomlinson
WYOMING		

**CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH
FOUNDATION**

Official Charity of The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal
and Select Masters of Connecticut:

CMMRF
PO Box 210
Brownsburg IN 46112-0210
Gary Wyne, Executive Secretary
CMMRF@aol.com

Contact Information:
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812-988-8861
Fax: 844-901-1489

Connecticut Council of Anointed Kings (The Order of the Silver Trowel)

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – 2024

The Annual Assembly of the Connecticut Council of Anointed Kings was held in the apartments of Hamilton Council No. 9 at the Masonic Hall in Meriden, Connecticut on Thursday, May 30, 2024.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mtchael D. Sabia, Jr.	Thrice Ill. King
Michael E. Seamon, Pro Tem	Thrice Ill. Prince of the West
William E. Weisert, II, Pro Tem	Thrice Ill. Prince of the South
Richard A. Eppler, PTIK	Thrice Ill. Scribe-Treasurer
Charles A. McCollum, PTIK	Thrice Ill. Asst Scribe-Treasurer
Eric Hoy, Pro Tem	Thrice Ill. Chaplain
Charles A. McCollum, Pro Tem	Thrice Ill. Prince of the Court
Kristian M. Maiorino. Pro Tem	Thrice Ill. Steward
	Thrice Ill. Sentinel

Following a supper catered by Tops Market, the Assembly was opened in form by Thrice Illustrious King Michael J. Sabia, Jr. at 7:30 p.m. Prayer was offered by Thrice Illustrious Chaplain Eric Hoy and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. There were approximately 25 Companions present, all of whom were welcomed by the Thrice Illustrious King.

The Scribe/Treasurer presented eight (8) proposals for new membership. Upon unanimous vote, the following Companions were elected to receive the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master (Order of the Silver Trowel).

Peter T. Cianelli	Crawford 19
Carlos A. Gavilano	Buel 20

Michael Messner	Harmony-Menunketuck 08
Jason R. Rieger	Hamilton 09
Harold A. Elwell	Hamilton 09
Silas Mante	Washington 06
Michael J. Miller	Paugussett 16
Ryan J. Snide	Montgomery 02

The Companions above were present to receive the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master, which was then conferred in full dramatic form on them by the following Ritual cast.

Prologue	Richard A. Eppler
Adonijah	Daniel M. Luft
Joab	Martin Ede
Abiathtar	John W. Braddock
Zadok	Kristian Maiorino
Beniah	Michael E. Seamon
Nathan	Clyde W. Kayser, II
Adoniram	Clyde W. Kayser II
Ahiah	Eric H. Hoy
Messenger	William E. Weisert, II
Solomon (Exemplars)	All Candidaes
King David	Bruce R. Bellmore
Richard A. Eppler	Director

Director Richard A. Eppler introduced the Cast and thanked them for a job well done. They were greeted with a hearty round of applause. Thrice Illustrious King Michael J. Sabia, Jr. presented each candidate with his membership card.

The TIK welcomed and recognized the Past Thrice Illustrious Kings, Illustrious Companions Bruce R. Bellmore, Richard A. Eppler, Charles A. McCollum, Clyde W. Kayser II, Michael E. Seamon, and Daniel M. Luft.

Companion Darrin D. Silhavy, Most Puissant Grand Master of The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut was received West of the altar. Other dignitaries of the

Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters accompanying him were:

William E. Weisert, II	R. Ill. Deputy Puissant Grand Master
Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	R. Ill. Gr. Prin. Conductor of the Work
Richard A. Eppler	Past Most Puissant Grand Master
Bruce R. Bellmore	Past Most Puissant Grand Master
Charles A. McCollum	PMPGM, and Grand Treasurer
Michael E. Seamon	Past Most Puissant Grand Master
Clyde W. Kayser III	Past Most Puissant Grand Master
Martin Ede	Past Most Puissant Grand Master
Scott R. Atkins	Ill. Grand Conductor
Eric H. Hoy	Ill. Grand Sentinel
Daniel M. Luft	Ill. Grand Marshal

Most Puissant Companion Darrin D. Silhavy IV was accorded the private Grand Honors.

Dignitaries of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons present were:

Michael E. Seamon	M. Ex. Grand High Priest
Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	R. Ex. Grand King
Jason R. Rieger	R. Ex. Grand Scribe
Bruce R. Bellmore	M. Ex. Past Grand High priest
Charles A. McCollum	M. Ex. Past Grand High Priest
Richard A. Eppler	M. Ex. Past Grand High Priest
Martin Ede	M. Ex. Past Grand High Priest
Daniel M. Luft	M. Ex. Past Grand High Priest
Clyde W. Kayser, II	M. Ex. Past Grand High Priest
Mychael Scribner	R. Ex. Grand Captain of Host
Kristian M. Maiorino	R. Ex. Grand Master 3 rd Veil
Scott R. Atkins	R. Ex. Grand Master 2 nd Veil
William E. Weisert, II	R. Ex. Grand Chaplain

Dignitaries of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Connecticut present were:

Harold A. Elwell	R. Em. Grand Commander
Bruce R. Bellmore	R. Em. Past Grand Commander
Michael E. Seamon	R. Em. Past Grand Commander

Clyde W. Kayser, KTCH	R. Em. Past Grand Commander
Charles A. McCollum	R. Em. Past Grand Commander
William E. Weisert, II	Em. Grand Prelate
Michael Messner	Em. Grand Sword Bearet
Daniel M. Luft	Em. Grand Warder
Richard A. Eppler	Em. Past Grand Inspector

Dignitaries of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America present were:

Richard A. Eppler	Rt Pre-eminently Distinguished Past Grand Governor, and Past Grand Herald
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Charles A. McCollum	Rt Pre-eminently Distinguished Past Grand Governor
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Michael E. Seamon	Deputy Grand Governor
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Darrin D. Silhavy	Past Governor #17
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Clyde W. Kayser II	Past Governor #17
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Bruce R. Bellmore	Past Governor #17
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Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	Governor #17
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Daniel M. Luft	Deputy Governor #17
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Dignitaries of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge present were:

Bruce R. Bellmore	Most Worshipful Past Grand Master
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The Scribe-Treasurer reported that the minutes of the last Assembly were printed in the Grand Council Proceedings. On motion of Companion Richard A. Eppler, seconded by Companion Bruce R. Bellmore, VOTED to approve the minutes of the last Assembly without reading.

On motion of Companion Richard A. Eppler, seconded by Companion Clyde W. Kayser II, VOTED to donate one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, and one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. On motion of Companion Bruce R. Bellmore, seconded by Companion Clyde W. Kayser II, VOTED to grant one hundred dollars (\$100) to the T. I. Scribe-Treasurer as an honorarium.

On motion of Companion Richard A. Eppler, seconded by Companion Michael Sabia, Jr., VOTED to authorize the T. I. Scribe-

Treasurer to pay the usual bills of the Council, such as for printing, postage and suppers.

The Scribe-Treasurer presented the report of the Scribe-Treasurer. On motion of Companion Richard A. Eppler, seconded by Companion Clyde W. Kayser II, VOTED to approve the report.

The Scribe read the Necrology and the Chaplain led the Companions in prayer for our departed Companions.

Edward Robert Ham	Jerusalem 16	April 1, 2023
Delbert Amos Little	Hamilton 09	April 9, 2023
John Arthur Birdsall	Cushing 04	September 7, 2023
Walton B. Schlechtweg	Hamilton 09	October 14, 2023
James Charles Robinson	Washington 06	December 20, 2023
William Schuck	Crawford 19	February 17, 2024

The Thrice III. King then asked for the report of the Committee on Nominations for the Officers for 2024-2025, which was presented by Companion Charles A. McCollum, as follows:

Thrice Illustrious King	Craig R. Nelson, Sr.
T. I. Prince of the West	Charles M. Jewart
T. I. Prince of the South	Gary D. Shepard
T. I. Scribe-Treasurer	Charles A. McCollum

After three calls for further nominations, the T.I. King declared the nominations closed. Companion William Weisert moved, seconded by Companion Richard A. Eppler, and carried that the Nominating Committee Report be accepted, and the Scribe cast one unanimous ballot for the slate.

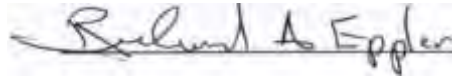
Companion Charles A. McCollum reported that T. I. King elect Craig R. Nelson, Sr. announced the following appointments:

T. I. Chaplain	Kristian M. Maiorino
T. I. Asst. Scribe/Treasurer	Richard A. Eppler
T. I. Asst. Scribe/Treasurer	Michael D. Sabia, Jr.
T. I. Prince of the Court	Eric H. Hoy
T. I. Steward	Harold A. Elwell
T. I. Sentinel	Michael J. Miller

The officers present were duly installed by T. I. Companion Charles A. McCollum.

Past T. I. King Michael D. Sabia, Jr. announced that the next meeting will be in Meriden on May 29, 2025. He then congratulated everyone on the work of the day, the new Officers, and the recipients of the Order of the Silver Trowel. He then called on Most Puissant Grand Master Darrin D. Silhavy for his remarks. Then, Companion Michael D. Sabia, Jr. closed the Council at 9:10 PM.

Attest:



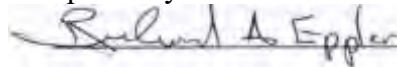
Richard A. Eppler, PTIK, PMPGM
Scribe-Treasurer

SCRIBE-TREASURER'S REPORT

Inasmuch as the Constituent Councils report only annually as of 31 March to the Grand Council, the records of the Council of Anointed Kings must of necessity reflect the same date of currency. The Necrology Report for the year ending 31 March 2024 shows six Thrice Illustrious Companions having passed on to the other shore. In addition, two Thrice Illustrious Companions are no longer members of The Most Puissant Grand Council.

At our last Annual Meeting on May 31, 2023 three new members received the Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master and joined our ranks.

Respectfully Submitted



Richard A. Eppler, PMPGM
Scribe-Treasurer

Treasurer's Report
April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

BALANCE April 1, 2023			\$ 8833.45
RECEIPTS:			
	Dinners	\$ 510.00	
	Donations	\$ 494.30	
	Initiation Fees	\$ 75.00	
	Interest	\$ 1.08	
	Silver Trowel Sales, Misc.	\$ 35.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$ 1115.38
DISBURSEMENTS:			
	Charity	\$ 200.00	
	Honoraria	\$ 100.00	
	Postage	\$ 100.00	
	Printing	\$ 124.06	
	Dinners	\$ 214.89	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$ 738.95
BALANCE March 31, 2024			\$ 9209.88

ACTIVE PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS KINGS

Rodney I. Gray	1982	Charles A. McCollum	2014
Stephen D. Piner	1983	Robert J. Cascone	2015
Gail N. Smith	1987	Joseph R. Krusienski	2016
Bruce R. Bellmore	1991	Charles D. O'Neill	2018
Kenneth W. Marvin	2000	Clyde W Kayser II	2019-20
Richard A. Eppler	2004	Daniel M. Luft	2021
Paul L. Chello	2008	Michael E. Seamon	2022
Randy S. Stevens	2009	Michael D. Sabia, Jr.	2023
Robert J. Knowles	2010		

DONATIONS
4-1-2023 to 3-31-2024

ArnoldGrot	1	Robert Knowles	9
Charles Jewart	1	Herbert Olson	9
William L. Miller	1	William Passera	9
Stephen Piner	1	Bruce Thorin	9
Richard Sawyers	1	Roger Thorin	9
William Lott	2	Ernest DuBois	16
Charles A. McCollum	6	Frederick Chidester	16
Clyde W. Kayser II	8, 20	Craig Nelson	16
Martin Ede	8	Gary Shepherd	16
Richard A. Eppler	9, 19	Robert Sherrick	16
Matthew Griffin	9	Scott Sherrick	16
John Braddock	9	Dale Cunningham	23
Kristian Maiorino	9	Leland Cobb	25

**Connecticut Council
of
Super Excellent Masters**

A Stated Assembly of the Connecticut Council of Super Excellent Masters was held on May 30, 2024 in the apartments of Hamilton Council No. 8 in Meriden. Present were 18 Companions including:

Comp. Darrin D. Silhavy, MPGM as TIM
Comp. John W. Braddock as DIM
Comp Charles A. McCollum as Recorder

MPGM Darrin Silhavy opened Connecticut Council of SEM in Ample form at 9:15 pm and convened the Annual Assembly. He reported that TIM McNeely had resigned from office.

A slate of officers for the upcoming year was presented by PMPGM McCollum as follows: TIM – Michael D. Sabia, Jr., DIM – Harold A. Elwell, IPC – James C. Kleinkauf and Recorder – Charles A. McCollum. MPGM Silhavy asked three times for additional nominations and on receiving none, he declared nominations closed and directed the Recorder to cast one ballot for the slate, which was done.


MPGM Silhavy declared the Annual Assembly closed and recognized the following dignitaries present: from the Grand Chapter, ME Grand High Priest Michael E. Seamon, and from the Grand Commandery, RE Grand Commander Harold A. Elwell.

There were no visiting out of state Grand Council officers to recognize. MPGM Silhavy asked all PMPGMs to arise and recognized them: Richard A. Eppler, Richard G. Barrows, Clyde W. Kayser, Bruce R. Bellmore, Charles A. McCollum, and Michael E. Seamon.

It was announced that the Council would portray the Super Excellent Master Degree on Saturday, October 5th in Meriden. Details would be forthcoming.

There being no further business to come before the Council, MPGM Silhavy closed the Council in Ample Form at 9:25 pm.

Attest,


Charles A. McCollum
Recorder