

**CONSTITUTION  
GENERAL REGULATIONS AND  
STANDING RESOLUTIONS  
OF THE  
GRAND COUNCIL OF  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
IN NORTH CAROLINA**



**ADOPTED MAY 8, 1935**

**WITH AMENDMENTS THROUGH MARCH 2016**

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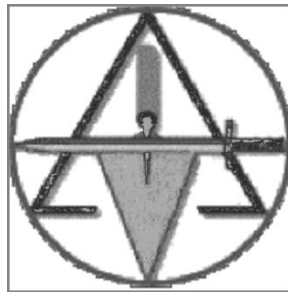
# CONSTITUTION

## CHAPTER I

### NAME

SEC. 1-01. This body shall be known and designated as the **GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA.**

This emblem was adopted March 26, 1990 as the emblem of the GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA.



## CHAPTER II

### POWER AND AUTHORITY

SEC. 2-01. This Grand Council exercises exclusive Jurisdiction over the Masonic Grades of Royal Master, Select Master, Super Excellent Master and Thrice Illustrious Master in the State of North Carolina. It has the sole Government and Supervision of the several Councils in the State of North Carolina with power to assign their limits, prescribe the fees for admission and settle controversies that may arise between them. It has sole power to grant charters to Councils within its Jurisdiction. It also possesses authority over any unaffiliated Cryptic Companions residing within its territory.

## CHAPTER III

### COMPOSITION

SEC. 3-01. Grand Council shall be composed of the following:

1. Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Steward, Grand Sentinel, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer and District Masters. (2009)
2. Masters, Deputy Masters and Principal Conductors of the Work of subordinate Councils under its jurisdiction.
3. Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters and Past Grand Principal Conductors of the Work, so long as they shall remain members of subordinate Councils in this jurisdiction.

4. Past Masters of subordinate Councils, so long as they shall remain members of subordinate Councils.

5. Past Masters of Councils whose jurisdiction is recognized by this Grand Council, who have affiliated with a subordinate Council and have been elected to membership in this Grand Council, so long as they remain a member of a subordinate Council in this jurisdiction.

6. Honorary Members who have been elected by Grand Council, but such honorary membership is without the privilege of voting or holding office. (1980)

### **PROXIES**

SEC. 3-02. The Master, Deputy Master and Principal Conductor of the Work of any Council under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council may be represented therein by proxy, such proxy being at the time of service a member of the same Council as his principal, and producing a properly authenticated certificate of his appointment.

### **APPELLATIONS**

SEC. 3-03. The appellation of Grand Master and Past Grand Masters shall be Most Illustrious; of all other Grand and Past Grand Officers, Right Illustrious of District Masters, District Officers, Past District Officers, Very Illustrious; and of Masters and Past Masters, Illustrious.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **ASSEMBLIES**

SEC. 4-01. Grand Council, at each Annual Assembly, shall fix the time and place of the next Annual Assembly.

SEC. 4-02. Special Assemblies may be called whenever the M.I. Grand Master may deem necessary; and also at such times and places as shall be requested by five Councils under the Jurisdiction, provided such request be made in writing.

SEC. 4-03. Notice to all Councils of a Special Assembly of Grand Council must be given at least fifteen days prior to such Special Assembly.

SEC. 4-04. A quorum of Grand Council shall consist of one of the first three officers thereof and representatives of at least three Councils.

### **VOTING PRIVILEGES**

SEC. 4-05. Each member of Grand Council shall be entitled to one vote and in the event of a tie vote, the Most Illustrious Grand Master to an additional vote.

SEC. 4-06. Each Council shall be entitled to three votes and in the event that one or more of the officers of a Council are not present, a duly appointed proxy may cast their vote, or votes.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **OFFICERS ELECTION**

SEC. 5-01. The Officers of Grand Council, with the exception of Grand Chaplain, Grand Sentinel and District Masters, shall be elected at each Annual Assembly by a majority ballot, except the Most Illustrious Grand Master, who shall be elected by a two thirds majority ballot. (2009)

SEC. 5-02. Grand Chaplain, Grand Sentinel and the District Masters shall be appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, to hold office during his tenure ~~of Office~~. The Most Illustrious Grand Master upon recommendation of the Board of Cryptic Lectureship shall appoint the Grand Cryptic Lecturer. (2009)

SEC. 5-03. No Companion shall be eligible for office in this Grand Council who is not at the time of his election or appointment a resident of the State of North Carolina and a member in good standing of a Council in this Jurisdiction; PROVIDED, no Companion shall be eligible to election as Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Work who is not a resident of the State of North Carolina, or has not been elected, installed, and attained the rank of Past Illustrious Master of a Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina.

## **CHAPTER VI**

### **GRAND OFFICERS--POWERS AND DUTIES**

SEC. 6-01. It shall be the duty of Grand Officers except such as are here-in-after specified, to discharge such functions as by ancient usage pertain to their respective offices.

### **THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER**

SEC. 6-02. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall have power:

1. To convene any Council within this jurisdiction, preside therein inspect its proceedings, and require conformity to Cryptic rules.
2. To require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand Officer respecting his office.
3. To suspend any Officer of a Council from the functions of his office for just cause.
4. To appoint a Companion to fill an unexpired term of such officer.
5. To suspend the Charter of any Council for just cause until the next Annual Assembly of Grand Council.
6. To grant dispensations for the formation of Councils and for other purposes.
7. To appoint Representatives of Grand Council near other Grand Councils and bodies working the Cryptic Grades and to receive and accredit Representatives of such other bodies near the Grand Council.
8. To do and perform such other things as are inherent in, and pertain to his office.

9. To preside in Grand Council, to exercise all the executive functions thereof when it is not in session, and to make a written report to Grand Council at its Annual Assembly, containing a statement of his official acts during the recess, together with such recommendation as he may deem expedient and for the benefit of the Cryptic Rite.

10. The M. I. Grand Master of this Grand Council shall not have the power to make a Cryptic Companion at sight.

11. To select the appointive Officers of Grand Council and designate the personnel of all standing and special Committees whose appointments is not otherwise Specified, such appointees to serve at his will and pleasure subject to replacement during his tenure of office. Should a vacancy occur by death or otherwise among the elective or appointive officers, or committee chairmen, he shall appoint a member of this Grand Council to act in such capacity until the next Annual Assembly. (1973)

### **DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

SEC. 6-03. In the event of the inability or death of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the duties of the office shall devolve upon and be discharged by the Deputy Grand Master. At other times he shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

### **GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK**

In the event of the inability or death of the Most Illustrious Grand Master during his term of office, the Deputy Grand Master shall assume the duties of Grand Master. If death occurs with six months of the term remaining, the Deputy Grand Master shall be installed Grand Master. At the end of the Cryptic year, he shall be entitled to the title of Past Most Illustrious Grand Master, when his successor has been elected and installed. If death occurs with less than six months of the term remaining, the Deputy Grand Master shall assume the title of Acting Grand Master and perform the duties of the office until the Annual Assembly of Grand Council. Grand Council will then elect a Grand Master.

SEC. 6-04. In the event of the inability or death of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work shall discharge the duties of the Most Illustrious Grand Master. At other times the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

### **GRAND TREASURER**

SEC. 6-05. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to Grand Council from the Grand Recorder, and pay them out under such regulations as may be provided by Grand Council. He shall keep a just account thereof in proper books and at each Annual Assembly present a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements, together with vouchers for the disbursements, and a full statement of the existing financial conditions of the Grand Council.

### **GRAND RECORDER**

SEC. 6-06. Grand Recorder shall keep an accurate record of all transactions of Grand Council proper to be written. He shall collect the revenue and pay it over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt thereof. He shall present a detailed report of his receipts and of all business pertaining to his office, at each Annual Assembly.

1. The Grand Recorder shall inform the subordinate Councils in writing not less than thirty days before



the Annual Assembly of any proposed addition, deletion or revision of the Constitution, General Regulations and Standing Resolutions of Grand Council, stating the current provision and the proposed amendment. Should such amendment be approved as provided in Sections 16-01 and 16-02, he shall distribute the revised sections to all holders of records of the Constitution, General Regulations and Standing Resolutions, and insert such revisions into copies held in his office. (1973)

### **OTHER GRAND OFFICERS**

SEC. 6-07. It shall be the duties of Grand Officers, whose duties have not been here-in-before specifically set forth, to discharge such functions as by ancient usage pertain to their offices, or as shall from time to time be directed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

### **DISTRICT ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS**

SEC. 6-07.1. The Most Illustrious Grand Master, with the consent of the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Principal Conductor to the Work, shall divide the State into such districts as in their judgment will best serve the interest of the Craft, and over each district there shall be appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master a District Illustrious Master, who shall serve during the will and pleasure of the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

a. Every District Illustrious Master shall be skilled in the standard work of Cryptic Masonry, and in the customs and usages of the Craft, he shall be an Illustrious Master or Past Illustrious Master, and a member in good standing of some council in the District for which he is appointed, and shall receive a warrant of his appointment, signed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master and attested by the Grand Recorder.

b. Each District Illustrious Master shall have power and it shall be his duty:

(1) To visit officially every Council in his district at least once during his term, if practicable.

(2) To preside in each Council upon the occasion of his official visit; to examine its books and records, and see if they are properly kept; to inform himself of the number of members, and the punctuality of their attendance; to ascertain the state and condition of the Council in all respects; to point out any errors he may ascertain in their conduct and mode of working; and to instruct them in any particular wherein he shall find they may require or may desire information, and particularly to recommend attention to the moral and benevolent principles of Masonry, and caution in the admission of candidates, and to confer with them concerning nonaffiliated and demitted Companions and if he discovers in his district any Masonic error or evil, to endeavor to immediately correct the same by Masonic means, and if he judge it expedient, to especially report the same to the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

(3) To take possession of the funds and property of any dormant or extinct Council in his district and transfer the same to the Grand Recorder.

(4) To prepare a report as of January 1st, on the general conditions of Cryptic Masonry in his district and of his acts therein, with such particulars as he may deem necessary, including the name and numbers of the Councils in his district, not visited by him, together with the reasons thereof, and transmit such report to the Most Illustrious Grand Master on or before the first day of March. (1931).

## **GRAND CRYPTIC LECTURER**

SEC. 6-08. (a) Grand Cryptic Lecturer shall be a Certified Cryptic Lecturer well versed in the Law, Ritual and customs of Grand Council.

## **DUTIES OF GRAND CRYPTIC LECTURER**

SEC. 6-08.1

(a) The Grand Cryptic Lecturer will meet and work in close harmony with the Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Charters and Dispensation Committee.

(b) The Grand Cryptic Lecturer will meet with the Officers of Councils designated by the Charters and Dispensation Committee to arrange a review of the work and record of said Councils.

(c) The Grand Cryptic Lecturer will set up subsequent meetings for work and instruction as may be necessary to bring about desired results.

(d) The Grand Cryptic Lecturer will meet with the Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Charters and Dispensations Committee at regular intervals to submit progress reports and for recommendations.

(e) He shall be subject to such directions as the Board of Cryptic Lectureship may promulgate from time to time. (1972)

## **DISTRICT CRYPTIC LECTURERS**

SEC. 6-08.1-2

(a) A District Cryptic Lecturer shall be a Certified Cryptic Lecturer well versed in the Laws, Ritual and Customs of Grand Council.

(b) He shall be nominated by the Grand Cryptic Lecturer and appointed by the Board of Cryptic Lectureship, but shall not become a member of the Board or an officer of Grand Council by virtue of his appointment hereunder; and, Provided, no appointment shall extend beyond the next Annual Assembly of Grand Council. A District Cryptic Lecturer who has served three consecutive years is not eligible to succeed himself.

(c) No more than two Grand Cryptic Districts shall be assigned to any District Cryptic Lecturer. He need not reside in any District assigned to him.

(d) Duties of the District Cryptic Lecturer:

1. To promote qualifications as Certified Cryptic Lecturers by the Companions of the Councils in his District(s).

2. To visit Subordinate Councils in his District(s) when required, inspect their ritualistic work, advise and instruct them therein, to see that they properly practice the authorized work of Grand Council, correct their errors, and generally supervise, direct, advance and promote qualifications as a Certified Cryptic Lecturer among the Companions of his District(s).

3. To cooperate fully with the District Master of any District assigned him.

4. To file a written report with the Grand Cryptic Lecturer and the District Master of the District on the ritualistic work of each Council in his District, with such recommendations as he may consider proper, on or before January 15th each year.

5. Upon recommendation of the Board of Cryptic Lectureship and approval of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council by a majority vote, may grant the honorary title, "Past District Cryptic Lecturer," to a Companion who has served three appointments as District Cryptic Lecturer. (1972)

### **PAST GRAND MASTER**

SEC. 6-09. When a Companion is elected and installed Grand Master and dies in office, he shall be designated a Past Grand Master.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **REVENUE**

SEC. 7-01. The Revenue of Grand Council shall be derived from the following sources:

1. For each Dispensation to form a Council, the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall be accounted in full for the Charter, if afterward granted.

2. For each Companion greeted the sum of Seven Dollars (\$7.00). (1976)

3. For each member borne on the rolls of each subordinate Council at low twelve on December 31st each year the sum fifteen dollars and no cents (15.00), plus the amount of any increase in per capita that may hereafter be levied by the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International for membership therein. (2014)

a. A Subordinate Council of Royal and Select Masters shall not be required to pay per capita tax on members whose dues have been remitted by the Subordinate Council upon certification of the full record of the action by the Subordinate Council and the reasons thereof to the Grand Recorder. The names of the Companions upon whom dues are remitted by the Subordinate Council and the reason thereof must be set out in the Annual Returns of the Grand Council if waiver of per capita tax is requested.

b. The following will be considered good and sufficient reasons for the waiver of per capita tax by the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

1. By reason of age or permanent disability, the member is not employed and does not have sufficient means to pay his Council dues.

2. By reason of protracted illness or other disability during the year, or the severe illness of any of his dependents, causing unusual expense or loss of income, the member does not have sufficient means to pay his Council dues.

3. By reason of inability to find employment, though he be well, able and willing, and has made every effort to do so, the member of a Subordinate Council does not have sufficient means to

support himself and family properly and to pay his Council dues.

4. For each Illustrious Master receiving the grade of Thrice Illustrious Master, the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00).

5. For each Diploma issued the sum of one dollar (\$1.00).

SEC. 7-02. The fiscal year of Grand Council shall be the calendar year.

SEC. 7-03. (1) The Grand Recorder shall receive such salary as shall be determined by the Grand Council.

SEC. 7-03. (2) The Grand Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee shall receive such remunerations as shall be determined by the Grand Council.

SEC. 7-03. (3) The expenses of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Grand Recorder, the Grand Treasurer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee attending any Assembly of the Grand Council shall be paid.

## **CHAPTER VIII**

### **COMMITTEES**

SEC. 8-01. The following committees, to consist of three members each, except as otherwise provided for, shall be appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master to each Annual Assembly:

1. Credentials
2. Board of General Purposes
3. Unfinished Business
4. Finance
5. Jurisprudence
6. The Broken Triangle
7. Appeals and Grievances
8. Charters and Dispensations
9. History and Publications
10. Time and Place
11. Carson York Rite Library
12. Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master
13. Commission on York Rite Unity
14. Doings of Grand Officers
15. Board of Trustees Permanent Fund (3 Year term)
16. Courtesies
17. Public Relations
18. Committee on Youth
19. Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation
20. Charity and Masonic Relief
21. Membership
22. York Rite Scholarship Fund

All of which shall perform the duties of their appointments according to the established usages of the Cryptic Rite.

### **COMMITTEE ON HISTORY AND PUBLICATIONS**

SEC. 8-02. The Committee on History and Publications shall consist of seven members.

SEC. 8-02. (1) The Committee on History and Publications shall consist of the Grand Recorder, and two members of Grand Council, appointed by the Grand Master, two members of Grand Chapter, appointed by the Grand High Priest, and two members of the Grand Commandery, appointed by Grand Commander. The Grand Recorder shall be Secretary of the Committee. The initial appointments shall be for terms of one and two years, and thereafter, one Companion shall be appointed to this Committee for a term of two years by the incoming Grand Master. The Most Illustrious Grand Master appoints the Chairman of the committee.

SEC. 8-02. (2) Duties of the Committee shall be:

- (a) To compile a history of this Grand Council from the institution of the Grand Council in North Carolina to date and cause such history to be published when and as directed by Grand Council.
- (b) To compile a current history of Grand Council at such intervals as may be deemed expedient.
- (c) To publish, after careful proofreading, such transactions as may properly be published.
- (d) The Grand Master appoints the chairman of the committee.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

SEC. 8-03. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint such other committees, as he may deem expedient.

SEC. 8-04. The reports of all committees shall be submitted in writing.

### **BOARD OF CRYPTIC LECTURESHIP**

SEC. 8-05. The Board of Cryptic Lectureship shall consist of five members each of whom shall be a member of this Grand Council.

The first members of the Board of Cryptic Lectureship shall be appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master for terms of one, two, three, four and five years respectively. Annually thereafter the Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint one Companion to serve on the Board for a term of five years. In case of a vacancy by death or otherwise, the Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint a Companion to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

The powers and duties of the Board of Cryptic Lectureship shall be as follows:

- A. To preserve the ritual adopted by the Grand Council as its official ritual, to recommend to the Grand Council such changes in the ritual, as it may deem proper and to make official interpretation of the ritual for the instruction to the Craft.

- B. To formulate a plan or program of instruction in the ritual whereby there shall be continuous instruction of officers of Councils, and whereby all Councils will exemplify the same forms and ceremonies in conferring the several Masonic Grades under the Jurisdiction of Grand Council to organize, supervise and conduct Schools of Instruction.
- C. To prepare and disseminate by lectures or the printed word, material of an informative nature concerning the history and symbolism of the Cryptic grades.
- D. To examine any number of Companions as to their proficiency in the Cryptic Ritual, which comprises the Official Work of the Grand Council, and to certify as Cryptic Lecturers such Companions as may fulfill the requirements of the Board.
- E. The certifications shall be for a term of five years, but may be terminated for just cause at any time by the Board of Cryptic Lectureship. (1972)
- F. The Chairman of the Board of Cryptic Lectureship shall be selected by the members of the Board in such manner as the Board may determine.

Sec. 8-06. The **Committee on Time and Place** shall consist of three members and shall be the same in Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery and shall elect its own chairman. The Committee shall consider invitations to host the Annual Meetings and shall present their recommendation to the Grand Bodies in joint session. An invitation to host the Annual Meetings shall include the following information:

1. Estimated cost per day of a room in the headquarters hotel.
2. Seating capacity of the meeting room and where the meetings would be held.
3. Cost of the meeting room.
4. Number of rooms available in the headquarters hotel.
5. Estimated cost per person for the Annual Banquet and where the Banquet would be held.
6. Where the Divine Service would be held.
7. Where the Grand Officers Reception would be held and estimated cost of the reception. (1994)

Sec. 8-06. 2. **The Committee on Leadership Training** shall provide proper training for District Officers and Grand Council Line Officers on duties and responsibilities, and expectations of what to do if problems arise from situations that may occur during their tenure. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint the Chairman.

- A. The Committee on Leadership Training shall hold at least 2 (two) training sessions a year, time and place to be at the discretion of the committee members. These meetings are to be for all District and Grand Line Officers, Materials used should include the District Officers Training Manual and Leadership Training Seminar Manual that was developed by the Long Range/Strategic Planning Committee.

Sec. 8-06. 3. The **Committee on Strategic Planning** shall establish, under the direction of The Most Illustrious Grand Master, a unified strategic plan to build in perpetual plan maintenance to keep the plan continuous and effective. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint the Grand Council

Chairman of this committee. All Grand Council Line Officers and Past Grand Illustrious Masters are members of this committee.

**Sec. 8-07.** The **Board of General Purposes** shall consist of five members, each of whom shall be a Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina.

A. The first members of the Board shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest to serve for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years respectively. Annually thereafter the Most Illustrious Grand Master shall appoint one member to serve for a term of five years. In case of vacancy on the Board by death or otherwise, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

B. The powers and duties of the Board of General Purposes shall be as follows:

(1) Advisory to the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

(2) To review the address or report of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, which shall be referred to the Board without motion; make distribution of matter contained therein to proper committees for the attention of Grand Council and to make such comment or recommendation in connection with such address or report, as it may deem expedient or advisable.

(3) When, in the judgment of the Board of General Purposes, such action becomes necessary or advisable for the good of Cryptic Masonry, the Board of General Purposes shall have the power to summons the Most Illustrious Grand Master or other officer of Grand Council to appear before the Board and show cause why he should not be removed from office, and to remove such officer from office if such action is deemed necessary or advisable for the good of Cryptic Masonry. Such summons shall be in writing and shall clearly state the facts which cause such action and shall be mailed or delivered in person to such officer at least twenty days prior to date of appearance.

In no case shall such suspension affect the standing in the order of such officer or his membership in Grand Council. The Board of General Purposes shall report its action in full to the next session of Grand Council for its final action. (2009)

(4) The Board of General Purposes shall have the authority, on its own motion, to present to Grand Council any comment or recommendations concerning the doings of Grand Council or its Officers; suggested programs of activities of Grand Council and on any and all matters when deemed expedient or advisable by the Board.

(5) The Board of General Purposes shall meet during the Annual Assembly of Grand Council or immediately prior thereto and at such other times as may be advisable, upon the call of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Chairman of the Board or upon call of any two members of the Board.

(6) The Chairman of the Board of General Purposes shall be selected by the members of the Board in such manner as the Board may determine.

#### **SEC. 8-08. COMMITTEE ON CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS**

(a) To review the minutes, financial records, ritualistic work and progress of Councils under Dispensation, and when satisfactory performance is indicated, recommend appropriate action. They shall also consider and report on the issue and reissue of Charters, as well as the arrest, suspension, or revocation of Charters.

(b) To meet with the Most Illustrious Grand Master and Grand Cryptic Lecturer as soon as possible after annual returns are filed each year to determine the Councils, which need assistance from the Grand Lecturer.

(c) To inspect the work in such Councils, from time to time, as may be necessary to ascertain if progress is being made and that the instructions of the Grand Cryptic Lecturer are being carried out.

(d) To make written recommendations to the Most Illustrious Grand Master requesting suspension of Charter for failure to cooperate in this program, or suggest the removal of any officer or officers for the same cause. (Note) It is advisable, but not compulsory, that each member of this Committee should be a Certified Cryptic Lecturer.

## **CHAPTER IX**

### **COUNCILS**

SEC. 9-01. Upon the petition of nine (9) or more Cryptic Companions, in good standing, The Most Illustrious Grand Master may issue a letter of Dispensation, authorizing them to form and open a Cryptic Council, with power to confer the grades of the Cryptic Rite therein, and to receive members by affiliation.

SEC. 9-02. The Dispensation thus issued shall terminate on the first day of the Annual Assembly of Grand Council and prior to that time it shall be returned to the Grand Recorder, together with the Books, Bylaws and Returns of said Council, and petition for Charter.

SEC. 9-03. A Council shall consist of a Master, Deputy Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Treasurer, Recorder, Captain of the Guard, Conductor of the Council, Steward, Sentinel and as many Companions as may become members thereof.

SEC. 9-04. The offices of Master, Deputy Master and Principal Conductor of the Work of a Council under Dispensation shall be filled by appointment of The Most Illustrious Grand Master and all other officers may be appointed by the Master. The officers of such a Council shall hold office during the continuance of the Dispensation, but the Most Illustrious Grand Master has power to relieve them and appoint others.

SEC. 9-05. Every Council chartered by this Grand Council shall adopt Bylaws for its government, and the same shall conform to the laws of Grand Council. Such Council shall in its Bylaws fix the time for Stated Assemblies, the fees for the degrees, and the annual dues of its members. Before the Bylaws of a Subordinate Council shall become effective, they must be approved by the Jurisprudence Committee of this Grand Council and a true copy thereof filed in the office of the Grand Recorder. All Subordinate Councils of Royal and Select Masters that do not have an approved copy of their Bylaws on file in the Grand Recorder's office shall do so within ninety days after the passing of this amendment.

SEC. 9-06. A Council has the right to revise, alter or amend its Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee of Grand Council.



SEC. 9-07. A Council cannot suspend its Bylaws or any of them.

## **CHAPTER X**

### **OF THEIR DUTIES**

Sec. 10-01. The Stated assembly of a Council shall be held at the time specified in its By-Laws, which shall require an Assembly at least once in each month, at which all regular business of the Council should be transacted; Provided, that a Council may provide in its By-Laws for the omission of any Assembly in the months of July and August. Five members shall constitute a quorum at the Assembly of any Council. (1993)

SEC. 10-02. Special Assemblies may be ordered by the Master, at his discretion, provided five days notice thereof be given the membership. Failure to assembly for twelve months shall be deemed sufficient cause for the arrest of the Charter of the Council.

SEC. 10-03. All officers of a subordinate Council shall be elected and appointed at the Stated Assembly as fixed in its Bylaws for the election of officers, which assembly shall not fall later than the first Stated Assembly in December each year, and shall hold and discharge the duties of their respective offices until their successors are elected or appointed and installed. The installation may take place at the same or at a subsequent assembly as soon thereafter as practicable. The first five officers shall be elected by majority vote and all other officers appointed by the Master unless the Bylaws of a Council provide for the election of more than the first five officers. (1977)

SEC. 10-04. The returns of each Council shall be made up to and including the last day of December in each year, and shall be forwarded with the annual dues, to the Grand Recorder on or before the first day of February, and any Council which shall fail to do so shall pay a penalty of ten per cent of the correct amount of per capita tax, which penalty shall not be remitted by the Grand Recorder.

SEC. 10-05. The returns of each Council shall contain the names of all the members alphabetically arranged, and such other particulars as may be prescribed by Grand Recorder.

SEC. 10-06. The territorial jurisdiction of each Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State is limited to the territory within the State. (2003)

SEC. 10-07. The Recorder and the Treasurer of each Council shall give surety bond for the faithful performance of their duties in such sum and upon such conditions as the Council may require. The premium for said bond is to be paid by the Council. (1980)

SEC. 10-08. The Secretary of each Constituent Council shall forward to the Grand Recorder on the 25th day of each month, on a form prescribed by the Grand Secretary, a report listing the change of address of any member together with the name, address and the date of any additions to or deletions from the membership roster.

The Grand Recorder shall on the 10th day of the following month report to the Most Illustrious Grand Master the name of any Constituent Council that has not filed the monthly membership report. (1990)

## **CHAPTER XI**

## **OF FEES, DUES AND DEMITS**

SEC. 11-01. No Council shall confer the Cryptic Grades for a sum less than twenty dollars (\$20.00), which fee must invariably accompany the petition; this fee entitles the candidate to the grade of Super Excellent Master. No Council or District Council shall make a charge for the Super Excellent Masters Degree except when cards are issued and a banquet given in which event the maximum fee shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00). (2008).

SEC. 11-02. No Council shall charge less than two dollars (\$2.00) annual dues and the non-payment of such dues for a period of twelve months shall make such member liable to suspension after not less than twenty-seven days notice thereof.

SEC. 11-03. Suspension is a Judicial act after summons and due notice.

SEC. 11-04. A member of a Council is entitled to a demit, upon request in writing, signed by the applicant, and presented in open Council; provided all indebtedness to the Council shall have been satisfied and no charges are pending against him. Such demit severs membership in Council.

## **CHAPTER XII**

### **PROHIBITIONS**

SEC. 12-01. No Council shall confer the Cryptic grades upon anyone who is not in good standing in both Lodge and Chapter and affiliated therein.

SEC. 12-02. The style and title of a Council in this Jurisdiction shall be: \_\_\_\_\_ Council, No. \_\_, Royal and Select Masters.

SEC. 12-03. A Companion who becomes excluded, demitted, suspended, or expelled in his Lodge, Chapter or Council, automatically becomes a non-affiliate. A non-affiliate shall not be permitted to visit any Council in this jurisdiction, even though he may hold a proper demit.

If a Companion within two years from the date of his exclusion for nonpayment of dues, pays the amount owed at the time of his exclusion, plus the amount of the dues for the current year, and is under no charges and shall be in good standing in his Lodge and Chapter, he is automatically restored to membership on the date of payment of dues owed by him is made.

A written application shall be made to the Council for restoration after suspension of two years for non-payment of dues, and restoration after expulsion and suspension. Any amount that may be owed the Council shall accompany such application. A unanimously favorable secret ballot shall be necessary to restore or to gain membership in a Council in this jurisdiction. (1984)

## **CHAPTER XIII**

### **PETITIONS**

SEC. 13-01. Every petition for the grades shall declare the Lodge and Chapter of which the petitioner is a member, and shall state whether he has or has not been previously rejected by any Council, must be signed by the applicant, giving full name, age, residence and occupation. A recommendation by two

members of the Council to which the petition is presented is required.

SEC. 13-02. A petitioner for the grades must have resided not less than six months within the State. (2003)

SEC. 13-03. Petitions may be received and voted upon at the same assembly.

SEC. 13-04. Election for degrees or grades and for membership shall be by ballot.

#### **MEMBERSHIP BY SELECTION OR INVITATION**

SEC. 13-05. A Council may, by suitable by-laws, provide that candidates for the Cryptic Degrees may be received by invitation from the Council. Unless a Council shall in its by-laws so provide, then the provisions of this Chapter respecting petitions for the Degrees shall prevail.

SEC. 13-06. Any Royal Arch Mason qualified to receive the Degrees in a Council under the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Council may be proposed for the degrees by a proposition in writing which shall state the full name, date and place of birth, the residence and occupation of the person proposed, the name, number and location of the Symbolic Lodge of Masonry and of the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons with which he is affiliated and whether or not he has ever been rejected by any Council of Royal and Select Masters.

Two members of the Council in which the proposal is made shall sign such proposal, and shall be subject to the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Council pertaining to petitions for Degrees as far as such laws, rules, and regulations can be made to apply to the proposal for Degrees.

SEC. 13-07. A candidate elected for the grades who fails to appear for the reception thereof within one year after notification of his election and the time for his reception shall forfeit his rights thereto and must petition anew, unless satisfactory excuse be given to the Council.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

SEC. 13-08. A petition for membership by affiliation shall be accompanied by a demit and recommended by two members of the Council to which the petition is presented, and upon its reception shall be referred to a committee for investigation which shall report thereon prior to the ballot.

SEC. 13-09. Where petitioner has received the Cryptic grades in a Royal Arch Chapter recognized by Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, a certificate of good standing in such Chapter shall be attached to petition in lieu of a demit.

SEC. 13-10. If a Companion wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with a Council and with it a receipt under seal from the Recorder of his own Council, showing that his dues are paid for three months in advance, also a written application to his Council for a demit. If elected to membership in the Council petitioned, the Recorder thereof shall immediately forward said application for demit to the Companion's Council, and when the demit is received shall file it with the petition and enter the Companion's name as a member of the Council petitioned as of even date with the certificate of demit. If the petitioner be rejected the aforesaid receipt for dues and

the application for demit shall be returned to him and his standing in his mother Council shall not be affected.

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

SEC. 13-11. A Council may by its Bylaws provide for the election of any of its members to life membership, not to exceed ten (10) percent of its total membership, based only upon outstanding and meritorious service to Cryptic Masonry. Election to life membership shall exempt such a Companion from payment of Council dues, but the Council shall not be exempt from payment of dues and assessments to Grand Council. Election to life membership shall be at a Stated Assembly by a unanimous secret ballot after a written proposal, recommended by at least three (3) members of the same Council, shall have been presented at a previous Stated Assembly. (1977)

- a. A Council, after due reference to Committee and by unanimous ballot at a subsequent Stated Assembly, may elect as an Honorary Life Member a member of another Council, but such election does not confer the right to vote, nor does it create any liability for dues or per capita tax.
- b. A Council may provide in its By-Laws for the purchase of a Life Membership by any of its members. Any such law must include: (1) a requirement for continuous affiliation in any prerequisite body; (2) a requirement for payment of a minimum non-refundable fee based on age as follows: ages 21 to 40 inclusive, the sum of \$135.00; ages 41 to 60 inclusive, the sum of \$130.00; ages 61 and over, the sum of \$120.00. Proceeds from the purchase of Life Memberships shall be placed in an interest-producing Trust Fund separate from the operating funds of the council only the annual income from which may be added to the operating funds thereof. Should death or other cause terminate a Life Membership, any amount used to establish the Life Membership shall be retained in the Trust Fund.
- c. When a Council adopts a By-Law allowing the purchase of Life Memberships it may, if it so desires, accept installment payments thereof, PROVIDED, however, that for any year in which an installment payment is made the member shall pay the regular annual dues in addition thereto. (1984)

### **DUAL MEMBERSHIP**

SEC. 13-12. A Royal and Select Master in good and regular standing may become a member in another Council within this jurisdiction, or in a Council within another jurisdiction, which authorizes dual membership. Provided, that any member in good and regular standing may also become a member of Roanoke Council No. 1, on whom Roanoke Council shall pay no per capita tax so long as he remains a member of another Council in this jurisdiction.

### **CERTIFICATES**

SEC. 13-13. The Grand Council shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina Twenty Five Year Continuous Membership Certificate to be presented to Royal and Select Masters, members of Councils under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council, who have been Royal and Select Masters in good standing continuously for twenty-five years or more, immediately preceding the date of the award. (1976)

SEC. 13-14. The Grand Council shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina Fifty Year Membership Certificate to be presented to

Royal and Select Masters, members of Council under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council, who have been Royal and Select Masters in good standing for a total of at least fifty years or more preceding the date of the award. To entitle a companion to the Fifty Year Certificate, he must have been a Royal and Select Master in good standing for a total of at least fifty years.

SEC. 13-15. The Grand Council shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina Sixty Year Membership Certificate to be presented to Royal and Select Masters, members of a Council under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council, who have been Royal and Select Masters in good standing for a total of at least sixty years or more preceding the date of the award. To entitle a companion to the Sixty Year Certificate, he must have been a Royal and Select Master in Good standing for a total of at least sixty years. The membership need not be continuous to entitle a companion to receive the award. Adopted March 26, 1984.

## **CHAPTER XIV**

### **TRIALS AND APPEALS**

SEC. 14-01. The mode of procedure in all trials shall, as nearly as may be possible, follow that of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina; and appeals from the results of trials in Councils may be made to Grand Council from whence there is no appeal.

## **CHAPTER XV**

### **CONSOLIDATION**

SEC. 15-01. Two or more Councils may consolidate provided such consolidation is approved by two thirds (2/3) of the membership of each Council present and voting at an Assembly for which written notice has been given at least sixty (60) days prior to the Assembly at which a vote is taken.

SEC. 15-02. All property, funds, records, etc., shall become the property of the resultant "Consolidated" Council. All Consolidations shall be effective by the approval by the Grand Council.

## **CHAPTER XVI**

### **AMENDMENTS**

SEC. 16-01. This Constitution may be amended at any Annual Assembly of Grand Council by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting: (a) That any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing, stating the current provision and the proposed amendment to the Grand Recorder not less than ninety days before the Annual Assembly. (b) That the Grand Recorder shall inform the constituent Councils, in writing, not less than 30 days before the Annual Assembly, stating the current provisions and the proposed amendment, and (c) That such amendment shall have been read in open Annual Assembly, and referred to and reported on by the Committee on Jurisprudence. (1971)

SEC. 16-02. General Regulations and Standing Resolutions may be adopted, amended, or deleted by a majority vote of the members.

### **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

## I

The Grand Treasurer shall select a bank which, when approved by the Finance Committee, shall be designated as the depository of Grand Council, and all funds or moneys shall be deposited therein, in the name of the GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA,

## II

It shall be the duty of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, as soon as practicable after his installation, to divide the state into such Districts as in his judgment will best serve the interest of the Craft, and appoint over each District a District Master, who shall be the immediate representative of the Most Illustrious Grand Master and who shall serve during the pleasure of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, which District Master must be a Master or a Past Master in good standing in a Council in his District.

A District Master, upon being duly appointed, has the power to perform the following duties: To visit officially every Council in his District and preside over same on the occasion of his visit, to inquire into the condition of the Council and such other duties as the Most Illustrious Grand Master may direct, and make a report of the same to the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

## III

Any Grand Representative to Grand Council who shall fail to attend, or make a report in writing, at two consecutive Annual Assemblies of Grand Council, shall be considered as resigning his position as such and Most Illustrious Grand Master is authorized to recommend the commissioning of another representative in his stead.

## IV

Grand Council shall pay each year towards the support of General Grand Council such sums as may be required by the General Grand Council and authorized by Grand Council.

## V

Every Council shall be accountable to Grand Council for the per capita tax of each of its members embraced in its returns.

## VI

Every installed Master in this Jurisdiction shall be eligible to receive, at the Annual Assembly of Grand Council, the grade of Thrice Illustrious Master, on payment of the fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00). This ceremony shall be conferred within a special Council, the finances of which shall belong to Grand Council.

## VII

Any Companion in good standing in a Royal Arch Chapter, holding Charter from a Grand Royal Arch Chapter recognized by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, who has received the Cryptic grades in said Royal Arch Chapter, may visit, or become a member of, a Council in this jurisdiction without surrendering his Chapter memberships elsewhere. He may also visit Grand Council as a guest.

## VIII

No Council shall confer the Degrees of Royal Master, Select Master or Super Excellent Master except

upon a Royal Arch Mason who has applied for the degree in a separately organized Council of Royal and Select Masters, and after said Council has been duly opened in due form on (in) the Select Masters Degree.

On the basis of a dispensation, in writing, granted by Most Illustrious Grand Master, Council, may confer the degree of Super Excellent Master in Sister Jurisdictions and/or in Jurisdictions where the Degree of Royal and Select Masters are a part of the Royal Arch Chapter provided, however, that an invitation to confer the same is received from the Grand Council and/or Grand Chapter of the Sister Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Council.

The Official Ritual of this Grand Council shall be the Ritual of The General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, U.S.A., 24th Edition, without changes or innovations, except such changes as may be authorized by this Grand Council.

## IX

For the period from January 1st through March 31st (or date of Annual Assembly of the Grand Council) of each year, one fourth (1/4) (or like fraction if Grand Council meets in any month other than March) of the amounts named in the budget for the preceding year shall be deemed to apply for such expenses as salaries, rent, insurance, office expenses, office supplies, travel expenses, and other like fixed charges for operating expenses which may fall due during said period the payment thereof shall be deemed authorized by Grand Council, unless otherwise provided.

## STANDING RESOLUTIONS

### **Resolution No. 1. SIMMONS J. BAKER MEDAL**

Resolved: That the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina do hereby authorize the striking of a medal, to be known as the Simmons J. Baker Medal, in commemoration of the first Grand Puissant of the Cryptic Rite in North Carolina, in 1822, and that the said medal be conferred by the presiding Most Illustrious Grand Master of Grand Council upon outstanding Companions of our Rite who have made distinctive contributions to the Rite in their respective jurisdictions and that the Most Illustrious Grand Master is hereby authorized and requested to arrange for the financing of this medal and to appoint a committee to select an appropriate design thereof.

### **Resolution No. 2. INSIGNIA AND SEAL**

Resolved: That Grand Council adopt as its official insignia, that insignia which is printed on the cover of the Proceedings of Grand Council of 1935.

Resolved: That the seal of Grand Council be the insignia surrounded by a double circle containing the words "Grand Council R. & S. M. in N. C., 1822-1860."

### **Resolution No. 3. DEGREE OF THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER**

(1) This Grand Council emphasizes the fact that by deed of gift it is the proprietor of Thrice Illustrious Master degree in this country and does not relinquish nor has it relinquished its title to or ownership thereof. But it has been glad to authorize the conferral of the degree on authentic request from other Grand Councils, and this policy will doubtless continue.

(2) That proper-printed certificates of authority be given to all Grand Councils using the Thrice Illustrious Master degree emphasizing the proprietary status of this Grand Council over the degree as continuing.

(3) That in future a fee of twenty-five dollars be charged for such authority to any Grand Council, as token of interest in the work rather than mere curiosity.

(4) That we do not participate in, nor sanction any so-called national organization of the Thrice Illustrious Master.

That no attempt be made to collect a per capita fee from Grand Councils conferring the degree upon our authority.

**Resolution No. 4. ROANOKE COUNCIL NO. 1**

Whereas, certain Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina desiring to perpetuate our premier Council and make it a research council, have petitioned Roanoke Council No. 1, R. & S. M., for dual membership. Now therefore, be it,

Resolved: That the Grand Council does hereby declare said petitioners for dual membership in Roanoke Council to be duly constituted dual members thereof with all rights and privileges of membership, and that the said Council is hereby designated as a Research Council, under the style and title of "Roanoke Council No.1, Royal, Select, Super Excellent and Thrice Illustrious Masters."

Be it Resolved, further, that Roanoke Council No.1 shall be located in the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, although it may hold its Assemblies anywhere within the State.

**Resolution No. 5. COMMISSION ON YORK RITE UNITY**

Be it resolved, That the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina join in the establishment of a Commission on York Rite Unity by authorizing the appointment of a committee of three members, by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, to unite with three members each from the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in North Carolina and the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina.

Provided Further, That the Commission on York Rite Unity shall elect its own Chairman, prepare plans for the closer union of the three York Rite Bodies, and recommend any necessary action that will enlarge and improve the development of York Rite Masonry in North Carolina.

**Resolution No. 6. RETIREMENT PLAN (Obsolete, 1972)**

**Resolution No. 7. SEAL OF BOARD OF CRYPTIC LECTURESHIP**

Be it Resolved, that an Official Seal be adopted for the Board of Cryptic Lectureship of Grand Council. The seal is described and shown as follows: The Seal shall be the color of Gold. Within the center of a double circle is a broken triangle enclosed within a solid triangle, with a trowel standing in the center. In the outer circle is inscribed the words "Grand Council, R. & S. M., of North Carolina." In an inner circle is inscribed the words "Cryptic Board of Lectureship." A facsimile of this Official Seal is shown herewith. (1972)



Facsimile of official Seal of  
Board of Cryptic Lectureship



**Resolution No. 8. YORK RITE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Be it Resolved, That a York Rite Scholarship Fund be established by the three Grand York Rite Bodies of North Carolina; the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, hereafter referred to as Grand Chapter; the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina, hereafter referred to as Grand Council; and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina, hereafter referred to as the Grand Commandery.

That the Fund be known as the North Carolina Grand York Rite Scholarship Fund, hereafter referred to as the Scholarship Fund.

That this Scholarship Fund be created for the purpose of assisting selected graduates of Oxford Orphanage, Oxford, North Carolina to continue their education beyond the High School level.

That the sense and purpose of this Resolution is to help worthy High School graduates of Oxford Orphanage to acquire a College Education, but that nothing herein contained or stated shall preclude the Scholarship Fund Committee from awarding pursuits other than strictly College Training; and that it would be preferable to allocate funds to one student in an amount to be sufficient and meaningful rather than to spread the funds over several students and not achieve an effective aid and purpose for any one student.

That a Scholarship Fund Committee, hereafter referred to as the Committee, consisting of five members be selected to administer the Scholarship Fund; one each to be elected from the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council, and the Grand Commandery; and that the first member elected shall serve for a term of three years; the second member elected shall serve for a term of two years; and the third member elected shall serve for a term of one year; and that each year thereafter, one member shall be elected by the respective Grand Body for a period of three years.

That the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Grand Treasurer of the Grand York Rite Bodies shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. That these two persons, together with the three elected members shall constitute the entire Committee.

That within ninety days after adoption of this Resolution the Committee shall assemble, elect their own Chairman, and other officers, which it deems necessary, promulgate rules, policies and guidelines for

the effective conduct of its business, consistent with this Resolution.

That the Committee shall have the power to receive contributions, invest same, and otherwise manage and administer this Scholarship Fund.

Contributions may be accepted from any donor, but contributions may be solicited only from the membership and organizations of the York Rite of Freemasonry.

That contributions made to this Scholarship Fund, together with accrued earnings thereto, shall constitute the entire Scholarship Fund.

That only the earnings from contributions made shall be used to assist graduates of Oxford Orphanage to continue their education.

That when in the opinion of the Committee, earnings accruing to the Scholarship Fund are of sufficient amount, the Committee shall request the Administrative Officers of Oxford Orphanage to furnish a list of not less than three worthy graduates, from which list the Committee shall interview and select one or more worthy students to whom it may award scholarships in such amounts, and for such periods of time, as the Committee shall determine.

That the Committee shall, annually, render a report of its activities, and the status of the Scholarship Fund, to the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery.

The Grand Secretary-Recorder's Office shall render such clerical help and other assistance as may be necessary to the proper conduct of the Committee's business. (1971)

**Resolution No. 9. YORK RITE STUDY COMMITTEE**  
NEVER USED OBSOLETE (2009)

**Resolution No. 10. DUES CARDS**

Be it Resolved, That the Grand Commandery, the Grand Council, and the Grand Chapter, unite in the adoption of a joint or single dues card, which will certify to the holder's membership in all three York Rite Bodies, to be used only at those locations, which have all three Bodies and have the same person as Secretary-Recorder. (1968)

**Resolution No. 11. GREAT SMOKIES ASSEMBLY OF YORK RITE MASONS**

WHEREAS, The Grand Council has promoted a program of Summer Assemblies for more than 37 years, such programs in the beginning being strictly Council Programs, but more recently have become subjects of interest to Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, and

WHEREAS, Grand Council has had the responsibility of promoting and financing these Summer Assemblies through the years, and

WHEREAS, Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery have for the last several years joined in the promotion of the principle of York Rite Unity in this Grand Jurisdiction to the extent, which has grown to be admired throughout the Nation, now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery enter into a rotating sponsorship of the Great Smokies Assembly of York Rite Masons, beginning with Grand Commandery sponsorship in 1974, by Grand Chapter sponsorship in 1975, and by Grand Council sponsorship in 1976, and continuing thereafter in that succession. HOWEVER, sponsorship does not mean that the "Summer Assembly" is to be conducted as Convocation of Grand Chapter, an Assembly of Grand Council, or a Conclave of Grand Commandery. At the appointed hour the presiding officer of the sponsoring Body shall call the Meeting to order and proceed with the regular order of business or program. (1981)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the finances for the year be shared equally by the three Grand Bodies, including the cost of any repairs or additions to the Masonic Marker and at Black Camp Gap. (1995)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rotation of responsibility for these Summer Assemblies shall in no way change the general format of these Summer Assemblies. It shall continue to be held in the Waynesville area of the Great Smoky Mountains; the program shall begin on the second Sunday in July and continue through the following Monday and Tuesday; it shall include a pilgrimage to the Masonic Marker at Black Camp Gap; its programs shall promote York Rite Masonic Unity in this Jurisdiction, but more especially be designed to encourage and invite participation by other states to the end that the Summer Assembly may enjoy a vast concourse of Masonic scholars where ideas may be shared and genuine fellowship experienced by everyone. The above format of the Summer Assembly may be changed only by resolution proposed at an Annual Meeting of these Grand Bodies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the direct responsibility of the Summer Assembly Programs be invested in a Summer Assembly Committee consisting of four members; the Grand Secretary/Recorder, plus one appointee by the Grand High Priest, one appointed by the Illustrious Grand Master, and one by the Grand Commander. Chairman of the Committee shall be invested in the appointee of the sponsoring body for the year involved. Also the Grand Presiding Officer of the sponsoring body shall be ex-officio chairman. (1973)

**Resolution No. 12. BOARD OF LECTURESHIP--"THE WORD"**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina not approve the use of the ritual known as "THE WORD" for conferring of the Cryptic Degrees in Masonry in this Grand Council at the present time.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we use the approved ritual as provided in General Regulation X of this Grand Council, as may be amended by the Board of Cryptic Lectureship and approved by Grand Council. (1973)

**Resolution No. 13. TRIENNIAL FUND--ALLOCATION**

The total monies deposited in the Triennial Fund for the expenses of delegates to a Triennial of General Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, International, shall equal the minimum round trip fare tourist class, from North Carolina to the host city, plus a per diem allowance of \$50.00 each day the Triennial is in session, for national Committee Chairmen and Past Illustrious Grand Masters. The Dais Officers and the Grand Recorder shall receive per diem equal to their actual subsistence cost. The Tourist Class Air fare shall be computed by averaging the fares between the host city and the North Carolina cities of Charlotte and Greensboro. Delegates are declared to be the dais officers, the Grand

Recorder, national officers or committeemen and such Past Illustrious Grand Masters as may desire to attend. (1989).

The Finance Committee shall authorize transfer to the Triennial Fund, a sum equal to one third (1/3) of the total amount required for the delegates during each calendar year of the Triennium. The said total amount shall be determined when the location of the next Triennial is announced, and shall not be affected by changes in travel or accommodation costs in the interval.

No disbursement from the Triennial Fund for delegate expense shall be made until a signed voucher is filed with the Grand Recorder listing the number of hours of each Triennial business session the delegate attended. Three quarters (3/4) of the total number of hours of Triennial business sessions listed in the Official Program must be attended to qualify for reimbursement for travel and/or per diem allowance.

Delegates who receive travel allowance or per diem from General Grand Council shall not be entitled to further allowance from this Grand Council unless the allowance received is less than that authorized in this section. Special cases may be evaluated and adjusted. (1973)

Travel allowance for a registered delegate to attend a Triennial of General Grand Council shall be the lesser of the following:

- a) Tourist class fare as computed in the preceding paragraph, or:
- b) If travel is by automobile the sum of \$100.00 plus 30 Cents per mile one way from the home of the delegate to the host city.
- c) The Committee on Finance shall meet with the incoming Most Illustrious Grand Master for suggestions before compiling a budget for the ensuing year,

#### **Resolution No. 14. AUTHORITY TO SELL AND/OR ASSIGN SECURITIES**

At the Annual Assembly of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina duly called and held in Asheville, North Carolina, on the 5th day of March, 1974, Quorum being present, it was on motion:

RESOLVED: That the following officers, namely, the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund, acting jointly, be and hereby authorized and empowered to sell, assign and transfer any and all stocks, bonds, evidences of interest and/or indebtedness, rights, and options to acquire or to sell same, and all other securities, Corporate or otherwise, standing in the name of, or belonging to the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina in any capacity. Adopted

#### **Resolution No. 15. "CANDIDATES FOR GRAND LINE OFFICES"**

"Constituent Councils desiring to offer the name of a member for election to a Grand Line office shall submit an outline of the qualifications of their candidate to the office of the Grand Secretary/Recorder no later than December 15 prior to the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies of the year involved, provided; the candidate shall have been endorsed by his constituent Council at a stated meeting in advance of the proposal. The outline shall be prepared upon forms furnished by the Grand Secretary-Recorder, who shall distribute copies to all constituent Councils no later than one lunar month before the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies. The Secretary-Recorder of the constituent Body shall bring the proposal before its membership no later than the stated meeting immediately preceding the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies.

"This Resolution shall not be considered as electioneering for office which is prohibited. It is to assist selection of qualified officers. Further, in case of a vacancy by death or otherwise in any Grand Line in the interval between December 15 and the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies, the Resolution shall not apply to filling such a vacancy." Adopted

**Resolution No. 16. ORDER OF ISH-SODI**

WHEREAS, The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina is aware of a need to develop further conscious effort to increase its membership and

WHEREAS, A membership card and a certificate suitable for framing have been designed, and a quantity of each sufficient to last approximately ten years has been printed at no cost to Grand Council, and

WHEREAS, A suitable jewel has been found that can be purchased at a reasonable price for the high honor to be given, now

BE IT RESOLVED, That The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina do hereby approve the establishment of a meritorious and noteworthy service award to be known as The Honorable order of ISH-SODI, having a permanent membership card and certificate. To be presented by the presiding Most Illustrious Grand Master to any companion in good standing in a subordinate Council in this Jurisdiction, who has been the first signer on a cumulative total of ten Petitions for the Degrees in a Council of Royal and Select Masters, subsequent to the adoption of this resolution and the certification of the Recorder of the subordinate Council which received the Petitions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the jewel of the Order, which shall be a broken triangle suspended from a purple ribbon to be worn around the neck, be awarded to any Companion who has been the First Signer on a total of twenty-five Petitions for the Degrees in a Council of Royal and Select Masters since the inception of the award, the cost of the jewel to be borne by Grand Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appointment of seven Companions as a nucleus of The Honorable Order of ISH-SODI by the Most Illustrious Grand Master be approved.

**Resolution No. 17. TITLES OF COUNCIL AND GRAND COUNCIL OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, there has been confusion from time to time in the titles of the officers of our subordinate councils with those of a craft lodge and the titles of our Grand Officers with those of the Grand Lodge and

WHEREAS, we have become inconsistent in the use of our titles and their abbreviations in the official PROCEEDINGS of our Grand Council

BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina do hereby adopt as the official title of the presiding officer of our subordinate councils, ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER and that the title of one who has served a full term as ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER shall be known as a PAST ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the official letters, to follow the name of an ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER shall be I.M. and that of a PAST ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER shall be P.I.M.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the official title of the presiding officer of this Grand Council shall be MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER and that the official title of one who has completed his term as MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER shall be PAST MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the official letters to follow the name of a MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER shall be M.I.G.M. and that of a PAST MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER shall be P. M. I. G. M.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this Standing Resolution that these titles and abbreviations shall be put to immediate use in all official correspondence and in the PROCEEDINGS of our Grand Council and in the next printing of our CONSTITUTION of Grand Council. (1983)

**Resolution No. 18 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Obsolete**

**Resolution No. 19 NORTH CAROLINA YORK RITE AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**  
DUPLICIATE OBSELETE. (2009)

**Resolution No. 20. PER CAPITA TAX INCREASE (2014)**

SEC. 7-01.3 For each member borne on the rolls of each subordinate Council at low twelve on December 31st each year the sum of fifteen dollars and no cents (15.00), for each member on its rolls as of December 31st each year, plus the amount of any increase in per capita that may hereafter be levied by the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International for membership therein. (2014) (The payment of this amount of per capita is effective for the year 2015, payable in January, 2016.) (2014)