

PROCEEDINGS

GRAND YORK RITE OF FREEMASONRY
IN UTAH 2016



87th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY GRAND COUNCIL
CRYPTIC MASONS



106th ANNUAL CONCLAVE GRAND
COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



105th ANNUAL CONVOCATION GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS

◆◆◆◆◆

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
2016 SESSION
OF THE
GRAND YORK RITE
OF FREEMASONRY
IN UTAH

◆◆◆◆◆

Compiled and Edited by:
Ms. Jenafer Dunn, Editor
Mr. David Read, Asst. Grand Secretary/Recorder
Mr. Charles E. Warren, Sr., Grand Secretary/Recorder

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Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

JOINT SESSION

MINUTES

Annual Joint Session

Embassy Suites Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

May 6, 2016

Joint Sessions Called to Order by Jason Mitchell.

Grand Chapter declared open by ME Grand High Priest Dean D. Rein

Grand Council declared open by ME Grand Master Jason Mitchell

Grand Commandery declared open by RE Grd Commander TJ Robertson

Distinguished guests were introduced.

Committee/Other Reports presented:

Grand York Rite Trust Report

Necrology Report

Regional Conference

York Rite Sovereign College

Royal Arch Research Assistance

Awards

Nominations were made to fill the Finance Committee position vacated by Kevin Hill. Charles Persinger was unanimously elected.

Motion was made and approved to accept the pre-printed reports as written.

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

GRAND YORK RITE JOINT COMMITTEES

2015-2016

*Denotes Chairman

Appeals and Grievance

Frank C. Baker*
Michael D. Shipler
William A. Butterfield

Credentials

No appointments designated.

Fraternal Correspondence

Grand Presiding Heads
Grand Secretary/Recorder

Internet Communications

Michael J. St.Laurent – Chapter
Jason A. Mitchel – Council
T.J. Robertson – Commandery

Necrology

Grand Prelate*
Grand Chaplain (Chapter)
Grand Chaplain (Council)

Reports of Grand Officers

Jurisprudence

Triennial Conclave

Dean D. Rein – Chapter
Jason A. Mitchell – Council
T.J. Robertson - Commandery

Auditing

See Finance Committee

Finance

Jason C. Varner (2 year)
Gerald J. Everett (3 year)
Dennis J. Hauze (4 year)
3 Heads of Bodies
Grand Treasurer
Grand Secretary/Treasurer

Grand Sessions

Grand Secretary/Recorder*
Presiding Grand Heads
Grand King
Deputy Grand Master
Deputy Grand Commander

Jurisprudence

Norman A. Smith*
James A. Robertson –Chapter
Glen A. Cook Sr. –Council
Brian J. Hastings-Command.

Protocol

No appointments designated.

Returns of Const. Bodies

Grand Secretary/Recorder*
Auditor
Grand Treasurer

Unfinished Business

Grand Secretary/Recorder*
Presiding Grand Heads

Joint Bylaws

Jurisprudence
Grand Secretary/Recorder*
Grand Heads

Fraternal Relations

Grand Presiding Heads
Grand Secretary/Recorder

Grand York Rite Ball

Presiding Grand Heads

Membership

No appointments designated.

Regional Conferences

T.J. Robertson*
Dean D. Rein

Time and Place

Grand Secretary/Recorder*
Dean D. Rein – Chapter
Jason A. Mitchell – Council
T.J. Robertson - Commandery

Youth

Norman A. Smith*
Robert M. Bennett-Chapter
Jason A. Mitchell-Council
Lawrence Rodriguez-Comm.

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

OFFICER REPORTS

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

***in attendance**

2015 – 2016

The roll call of the Grand Representatives was called. There were 17 individuals representing 44 Grand Jurisdictions.

JURISDICTION	REPRESENTATIVE
Alabama	Kevin Hill
Alaska	Brian J. Hastings*
Argentina	Michael L. Busby*
Arizona	
Arkansas	Blaine H. Simons*
Australia NS Wales	
Australia Queensland	
Australia South	Preston Martineau, Jr*
Australia Victoria	Norman A. Smith*
Australia Western	Norman A. Smith* (RAM) Michael L. Busby* (CM)
Belgium	Kenneth Morris
California	William Butterfield*
Canada Alberta	Steve Wilkinson
Canada BC YK	Richard H. Simons
Canada Eastern (CM)	Norman A. Smith*
Canada Manitoba	John L. Elwell Jr.
Canada New Brunswick	
Canada Nova Scotia	
Canada Ontario	Richard Yeakey (CM)
Canada Quebec	
Canada Saskatchewan	
Canada Western	
Colorado	Michael L. Busby (NR)*
Connecticut	Daniel Ladig
Cyprus	Timothy L. Stenner*
Delaware	William J. Westbrook*

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

JURISDICTION	REPRESENTATIVE
England & Wales	
Finland	Norman A. Smith*
Florida	M. T. McWilliams*
France	Brian Hastings*
Georgia	
Germany	Michael L. Busby (NR)*
Greece	Norman A. Smith*
Hawaii	Frank Harper
Idaho	Raymond White
Illinois	
India	Steve Wilkinson
Indiana	
Iowa	Michael L. Busby*
Ireland	Michael L. Busby (NR)*
Israel	Kelly Hansel
Italy	Jay Mitchell
Kansas	Timothy Fellows*
Kentucky	Brian Hastings*
Louisiana	
Maine	Daniel Ladig
Maryland	J.C. McLaughlin
Massachusetts	Lee M. Rogers
Mexico	Michael L. Busby (NR)*
Michigan	TJ Robertson*
Minnesota	Michael L. Busby
Mississippi	Richard Yeakey
Missouri	Charles G. Sipes*
Montana	Ken Neuschwander*
Nebraska	Brian Hastings*
Netherlands	Michael L. Busby*
Nevada	David Nelson
Newfoundland	Ken Neuschwander*
New Hampshire	
New Jersey	John Liley*
New Mexico	M. T. McWilliams

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

JURISDICTION	REPRESENTATIVE
New South Wales	Brian Hastings*
New York	Brian Hastings*
New Zealand	Clayton Frayser
North Carolina	Steve Wilkinson
North Dakota	Michael Cannon
Ohio	Michael L. Busby*
Oklahoma	John L. Elwell Jr.
Oregon	Gerald Everett*
Pennsylvania	Loren H. Rausher*
Philippines	Michael Busby*
Rhode Island	Jerold Cochran
Scotland	Glen Cook*
South Carolina	David H. Nelson
South Dakota	Duane C. Carpenter*
Tennessee	Brian J. Hastings*
Texas	
Vermont	
Virginia	Michael L. Busby*
Washington	Charles Sipes*
Washington DC	Michael L. Busby*
West Virginia	J. Guy Johnson
Wisconsin	Robert B. Coats
Wyoming	Peter Norman Doelfs

REPORT OF RETURNS OF CONSTITUENT BODIES

I am pleased that all of the Constituent Bodies have submitted their Annual returns in a timely manner. This will assist me in submitting my Annual Returns to each of the General Grand Bodies on schedule. The only problem I continue to encounter each year is the failure of a couple of the bodies to plan ahead adequately in order to submit their fees and funds along with the documentation. This presents a bookkeeping challenge for the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder which is avoidable. I know you would like to maintain your funds invested as long as possible, but you are creating problems for others by doing so. Please arrange to submit your financial obligations with your documentation in the future. It will be sincerely appreciated.

Fraternally,

Charles E. Warren, Sr.

Grand Secretary/Recorder

REPORT OF RETURNS OF CONTITUENT BODIES (CONTINUED)		
	Total due all	Submitted
Ogden	\$1,275.00	\$1,275.00
SLC	3,471.00	3,471.00
Midvale	1,463.00	1,403.00
Provo	609.50	609.50
Price	1,341.00	1,341.00
St. Geo.	646.50	646.50
Totals	8,806.00	8,746.00

*See detailed reports in sections for each body.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY/RECORDER

This past year has been a harrowing time for me. As many of you know, the love of my life, Lady Helen Marie Warren, passed on to the Grand Architect one week following our 2015 Annual Grand York Rite Sessions. She has been at my side for the past 43 years, joining me in every endeavor I took upon myself. She was a terrific partner in everything I pursued, especially in my Masonic adventures, supporting and helping me tremendously. I miss her terribly. I thank all of you who have been so

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

supportive and understanding while I have fought my way through this very painful period of my life.

In 2015, I traveled around the Southwest, visiting with Companions and Sir Knights of Sister Jurisdictions. I immensely enjoyed my visits to the Four Corners Festival, the Colorado River Fall Festival, and the Southwest Regional Conference of Knights Templar.

Our membership numbers continued to diminish, although some of the losses were a result of some constituents "cleaning up the books", and processing those who have been carried as NPD for far too long. We gained some fine new members, largely due to the diligence of some of our constituent bodies in conducting the mini-festivals on behalf of those wishing to become York Rite Masons. The following table presents the summary of changes in our Utah York Rite membership this past year. More detailed information is available in the Membership Report.

Membership Change				
2015-2016	MM	Chapter	Council	KT
Keystone	-3			
SPHC				1
Ogden		2	-5	-5
SLC		1	1	-2
Midvale		-20	-20	-16
Provo		-9	-10	-10
Price		-1	-1	-2
St George		-3	-3	-1
Totals	-3	-30	-38	-35

For those Secretary/Recorders who have not yet taken the painful step of cleaning up their accounting, I suggest you do so this next year. It is certainly a painful process, but it is beneficial to you and to the Grand York Rite of Utah to have accurate accounting of our membership and, therefore, our financial status.

It is my intention, if reelected to this position, to continue to clean up those items which have remained somewhat fragmented this past year, and to

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

improve my responses and reporting to the Grand York Rite and the Constituency of this Jurisdiction.

Fraternally,
Charles E. Warren, Sr., Grand Secretary/Recorder

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

To the Knights and Companions of the Utah Grand York Rite Bodies

The Checking and Savings Accounts are held at Mountain America Credit Union

Checking Balance May 1, 2015	\$ 777.80
Savings Balance April 30; 2015	3,503.86

Checking Balance April 30, 2016:	489.47
Savings Balance April 30, 2016:	7,664.98

Both combined and separate cash flow reports as well as transaction reports are provided for the above accounts. The accounts are reconciled for the above time period only.

The Finance Committee has the responsibility to manage the funds of the Grand York Rite. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are ex-officio members of this Committee only, with no vote.

Merrill Lynch Account 424-0419 April 29, 2016	<u>\$62,615.76</u>
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Total funds	\$70,770.21
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Fraternally,
Glen A. Cook, KCT
Grand Treasurer

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

REPORT OF ANNUAL RETURNS

I am pleased that all of the Constituent Bodies have submitted their Annual Returns in a timely manner. This will assist me in submitting my Annual Returns to each of the General Grand Bodies on schedule. The only problem I continue to encounter each year is the failure of a couple of the bodies to plan ahead adequately in order to submit their fees and funds along with the documentation. This presents a bookkeeping challenge for the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder which is avoidable. I know you would like to maintain your funds invested as long as possible, but you are creating problems for others by doing so. Please arrange to submit your financial obligation with your documentation in the future. It will be sincerely appreciated.

Fraternally,
Charles E. Warren, Sr., Grand Secretary/Recorder

GRAND FINANCIAL REPORT/BUDGET

GYR 2016 Checking Cash Flow

5/1/2015 through 4/30/2016

INFLOWS

Transfer from GYR Trust	1,000.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	1,000.00

OUTFLOWS

Charitable Donation	80.00
Equipment	1,663.42
Insurance	1,212.00
Office	698.79
Per Capita Paid	9.00
Per Capita Chapter Paid	320.00
Per Capita Commandery Paid	3,340.00
Per Capita Council Paid	319.00
TOTAL Per Capita Paid	3,988.00
Postage	49.00
Session	6,072.22

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Supplies, bus.	370.90
Wages	
Contract Employee	3,100.00
TOTAL Wages	3,100.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	17,234.33
 OVERALL TOTAL	 -16,234.33

GYR 2015 Savings Cash Flow
5/1/2015 through 4/30/2016

INFLOWS	
Donation Received	935.00
Fees-Degree	189.50
Interest Income	3.85
Masonic Regalia Sold	748.75
Per Capita Received	
Per Capita Chapter Received	3,081.00
Per Capita Commandery Received	6,960.00
Per Capita Council Received	3,410.00
TOTAL Per Capita Received	13,451.00
Session receipts	4,312.52
Transfer from GYR Trust	1,000.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	20,640.62
 OVERALL TOTAL	 20,640.62

GYR 2016 Combined
5/1/2015 through 4/30/2016

INFLOWS	
Donation Received	935.00
Fees-Degrees	189.50
Interest Income	3.85
Masonic Regalia Sold	748.75

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

Per Capita Received	
Per Capita Chapter Received	3,081.00
Per Capita Commandery Received	6,960.00
Per Capita Council Received	3,410.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL Per Capita Received	13,451.00
	4,312.52
Session receipts	
Transfer from GYR Trust	2,000.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL INFLOWS	21,640.62
OUTFLOWS	
Charitable Donation	80.00
Equipment	1663.42
Insurance	1212.00
<hr/>	
Office	698.79
Per Capita Paid	9.00
Per Capita Chapter Paid	320.00
Per Capita Commandery Paid	3340.00
Per Capita Council Paid	319.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL Per Capita Paid	3988.00
Postage	49.00
Session	6,072.22
Supplies, bus.	370.90
<hr/>	
Wages	
Contract Employee	3,100.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL Wages	3,100.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	17,234.33
<hr/>	
OVERALL TOTAL	4,406.29

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

UNFINISHED BUSINESS 2016

The only item of unfinished business I am aware of is the production of the Annual Proceedings for 2015. For the past several years, it has been a struggle to acquire Reports from those responsible to prepare and submit them. This presents a nearly insurmountable challenge to preparing the Annual Proceedings. The Annual Proceedings for 2014 were terribly delinquent, and our documentation had to be published with many of the Committee Reports not having been submitted. The editorial personnel of our Proceedings are held responsible to produce a viable, accurate, and historical set of documents recording the proceedings of each Annual Sessions. This can only be accomplished with the cooperation of all who have been tasked and agreed to serve providing the necessary documents. It is our sincere desire to overcome this challenge from this point forward, and we beg your assistance in ensuring we are able to do so.

Fraternally,
Charles E. Warren, Sr.
Grand Secretary/Recorder

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

VISITING DIGNITARIES

Grand Chapter Officers/Representatives:

Joe Zito, Grand Scribe, Grand Chapter of Arizona

Ted P Bendure, General Grand Master 2nd Veil, representing General
Grand High Priest Louis E Bertrand

Grand Council Officers/Representatives:

Joe Zito, Captain of the Guard, Arizona

Thomas C Harmon, Grand Conductor of the Work, Wyoming

William A Garrard, Jr, Deputy Grand Master Representing Grand Master
of Arizona William R. Greenen

Richard M Hoaglin, Grand Master Nevada, representing General Grand
Master Larry O Weaver

Grand Commandery Officers/Representatives

Joe Zito, Grand Commander Arizona

Thomas N Thomas, Grand Generalissimo, California, representing Fenton
R. Mereness, Grand Commander, and Aide deCamp to RE Grand

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

Captain General Kevin P McCans, Grand Captain General, representing
James D Phelps, Grand Commander Nevada
William A Garrard, Jr, Southwest Department Commander
David J Kussman, RE Captain Grand Captain General , representing
Duane L. Vaught, Grand Master, Grand Encampment
Masonic Bodies in Utah
Glen A. Cook, Senior Grand Deacon, Grand Council Allied Masonic
Degrees; Attendant General Red Cross of Constantine; Eminent Priory,
Utah Priory Knights of the York Cross of Honor
Frank C Baker, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Scottish Rite
Jason C. Varner, Governor, Utah York Rite Sovereign College
John C Liley Jr
Dean D Rein, Grand Governor, York Rite Sovereign College Utah
William Butterfield, Eminent Preceptor, Holy Royal Arch Knight
Templar
R Wesley Ing, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
Utah

AUDITING COMMITTEE

An audit has been scheduled and will be held in the near future.

CREDENTIALS REPORT OF JOINT SESSIONS

ONE MAN ONE VOTE- All Only Counted Once

Date, May 6, 2016

Council: 30

Commandery: 29

Chapter: 29

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Over the course of the last year the finance committee contacted our investment brokers at Meryl Lynch and made changes to our investments consistent with the advice given by them to maintain our long term goals as well as short term needs.

Fraternally Submitted,
Jason C Varner

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

FRATERNAL RELATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Office of the Grand Secretary/Recorder maintained frequent and nearly continuous correspondence with numerous constituents, Sister Jurisdictions and other Masonic Family organizations, both National and Foreign. This correspondence was shared with the Utah York Rite community via e-mail in most cases. If you did not receive these information messages, please notify me so I can maintain accurate contact files for all of you.

Fraternally,
Charles E. Warren, Sr.
Grand Secretary/Recorder
Grand York Rite Bodies of/Utah

. GRAND YORK RITE BALL

There was no ball held this year

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS REPORT

To: The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Utah
The Grand Council Cryptic Masons of Utah

The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Your Committee on Appeals and Grievance beg leave to report the following:

This committee did not receive from any of the constituent Chapters, Councils or Commanderies within this jurisdiction any correspondence regarding the topic of this report, nor did the committee receive from any member of the York Rite in Utah an appeal or grievance.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank C. Baker, PHP, PIM, PEC, Chairman
Michael D. Shipler, PGHP, PGIM, PGC
William A. Butterfield, PGHP, PGIM, PGC

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

NECROLOGY REPORT

Let us now remember and honor our departed members:

Utah #1 –

John C Beaslin 5-10-15,
George J Sambos 7-15-15,
Michael D Brown 12-19-15,
Richard A Gygi 12-20-15;

Ogden

George H Hemm 5-11-15,
Delbert F Hansen, 1-12-16,

Midvale

Michael A Parris 7-30-15,
Richard A Grover 11-7-15
Doland D Jones 3-23-16,

Provo

Owen Orton 3-23-16,

Price

Joseph A Anuskewic, 10-2-15,
Thomas A Aldrich, 10-26-15,

Grand Encampment (from Duane Vaught)

James McRory Wilson Jr, Past Grand Master, Trustee of Permanent Fund
RE Grand Treasurer since 2006. Passed 4-9-16.

Helen Warren, wife of Grand Secretary Charles Warren

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Report not submitted.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Southwest Regional Conference was held October 30-31, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nv. at the Plaza Hotel. Meetings were held at the local lodge. Lunch was provided by Las Vegas Social Order Of The Beauceant. Each year the GE with the General Grand Chapter and Grand Council hold meetings. GE has many different presentations as well as the States comprising the South West Conference. They all are able to give report of what they are doing. It is really beneficial to attend as you can glean a lot of information about what is going on with other Commanderies in the

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

Southwest Conference. They reviewed goals from the Triennial. This is the bicentennial of US. KTEF we gave to several locations in Utah.

Utah was well represented. A lot of valuable information was presented. There were sessions on making meetings more interesting, Protocol, Membership, Planning and Development. Larry Weaver gave information on awards, programs, etc. There was a High Potential Leadership workshop helping to hone and develop skills of members sponsored by Grand Encampment and offered to Chapter and Council as well.

Presented by:

TJ Robertson

Dean D. Rein

TIME AND PLACE

Next years' Sessions to be held in the same location.

VESPERS MESSAGE 2016

Vespers service was held Thursday, May 5, 2016

YOUTH

Report not submitted

OTHER REPORTS

AWARDS

The three heads of bodies thought it would be very worthwhile to develop an award system for York Rite members in Utah. We have the General Grand awards for each jurisdiction but are allowed only one each year, but we wanted to make sure we had the ability to award a deserving member. We wanted to make sure to we brought forth the ability for the constituent Commanderies, Chapters and Councils to be able to award a deserving Companion/Sir Knight, one per year, a very worthwhile award, something along the lines of the Hyrum award.

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

We developed a plan, found the funds in the York Rite Trust (\$1,000 for the startup) and have planned that it will be a budgeted item in the future.

The awards are:

Chapter is the Keystone Award

Council is the Ish Sodi Award

Commandery is the Grand Commander Meritorious Service Award.

We have awarded one of each so far. Chapter to Norman Smith, Commandery to Mike Shipler, Council to Chuck Warren.

Full information about the awards are available on the website.

Submitted,

T.J. Robertson

RE Grand Commander

GRAND YORK RITE TRUST REPORT

As of March 31, 2016: The 2015 totals were \$293,829.00. As of 2016, the totals are \$284,022 plus checking \$12,010.88, for a grand total of \$285,232.88. This total represents both market losses and fund transfers to the Grand York Rite.

This year the board authorized five transfers to the Grand York Rite for expenses and to cover projects in the amount of \$3,854 and \$1,000 respectively.

Our funds are with Wells Fargo Investment Advisors and the Board is currently evaluating a move to a fund that is more user friendly and transparent. In addition, while funding a foundation, etc. within the Masonic Family, it is our intent to work with the new investment advisor to put in place adoptive investment strategy. This strategy will be enacted so that no matter how or who serves as trustee we can have a consistent and proper vehicle in place insuring a safeguard of our Trust funds for future generations of York Rite Masons.

Grand York Rite Joint Sessions

We have contacted Companion Ben Young to have his firm to handle our tax returns in the future. In the past we have had family member of the previous trust members.

We anticipate costs of the 2016-2017 year will be on par with this year's requests and we ask the incoming presiding officers to determine the funding wants and needs of the near future and to meet with the board members as soon as possible to discuss and finalize these requests.

We wish to thank the York Rite Bodies for the opportunity to serve. Chuck Warren, our Secretary, and we will continue to manage our Trust Fund to the best of our abilities.

Submitted,

John C. Liley, Chairman

Drew Sanders, Vice Chairman

Frank Baker

Keith Odendahl,

Charles Warren Sr, Grand Recorder

Dean D Rein, Grand High Priest

Jason Mitchel, Grand Master

TJ Robertson, Grand Commander

YORK RITE COLLEGE REPORT

I am pleased with the performance of the College this past year. Congratulations to the State Governor. Held four meetings during the year. Elected new core of officers, Jason Varner is the new Governor.

Submitted:

Dean D. Rein, Grand Governor



**87th ANNUAL
ASSEMBLY
GRAND COUNCIL
CRYPTIC MASONS
OF UTAH**

Friday, May 6, 2016

**Embassy Suites Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah**

GRAND COUNCIL

GRAND COUNCIL MINUTES

May 6, 2016

Embassy Suites Hotel, Salt Lake City, UT

MINUTES:

Illustrious Grand Master Jason Mitchell called for Roll Call of Grand Officers and a quorum was confirmed. Roll Call of Dias Officers and Past Illustrious Grand Masters of Utah was conducted.

Dignitaries were not introduced as they had been introduced in the Joint Session.

Cryptic Mason of the Year Award was announced at the banquet the prior evening, but the recipient was not in attendance then. The award was formally presented to Ben Johnson, Ogden #2.

A clarification of credentials qualification was made indicating that unless you are a sitting dais officer, or carrying a proxy, you should have only 1 voting card. Confirmed that all present had appropriate number of voting cards.

Legislation proposal concerning the Election and Installation of Officers of Constituted Councils was presented. Jurisprudence confirmed that the proposal was in proper form and was approved for consideration. Discussion concerning the time language indicates that “should be held...” suggests that if not held by the stated date it is still all right. Proposers amended to change “Should” to “Shall”. Amendment was approved. There were no speakers for or against proposal. Question was called and the Legislation was approved.

Reports were presented as follows:

-Secretary’s Report - Noted: There is a drop in membership showing in the pre-printed reports. This was caused by a clean-up of the member rolls of NPDs, etc. which had been outstanding.

-Credentials Report

-Jurisprudence

-Report of Illustrious Grand Master

All reports were approved as presented.

Tellers were designated and elections held. Outcome was as follows:

- Illustrious Grand Master – TJ Robertson
- RI Deputy Grand Master – Jason Varner
- RI Grand Principal Conductor of Work - Doug Backes
- RI Grand Treasurer – Glenn A Cook
- RI Grand Recorder – Charles E Warren, Sr.

Remarks were received from Richard M Hoaglin, Grand Master Nevada, representing General Grand Master Larry O Weaver.

Elected and Appointed Officers were duly installed.

**GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS OF UTAH
OFFICERS**

2015 – 2016

*In Attendance

- *Jason A Mitchell (1).....M. I. Grand Master
- *TJ Robertson (4).....R. I. Deputy Grand Master
- *Jason Varner (1).....R. I. Grand Principal Conductor of Work
- *Glen A Cook (1).....R.I. Grand Treasurer
- *Charles E. Warren Sr, (1).....R. I. Grand Recorder
- *Douglas Backes (1).....I. Grand Captain of Guard
- *Robert M Bennett (5).....I. Grand Conductor of Council
- *P Marty Martineau (5).....I. Grand Senior Steward
- *Jeff Hamilton (2).....I. Grand Junior Steward
- (E)Reed B Fanning (1).....I. Grand Sentinel
- Vacant.....I. Grand Marshal
- *Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez (7).....I. Grand Lecturer
- (E)John Liley (1).....I. Grand Chaplain

GRAND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

2015-2016

* Denotes Chairman

Cryptic Mason of Year

Jason Mitchell*
John C. Liley, Jr
Robert M. Bennett

**Youth Award
Committee**

John C. Liley, Jr*
David Smith
John Limb

**Cryptic Mason
Medical Research**

Jason C. Varner*
Kim Bowman
Lawrence Rodriguez

PAST GRAND ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

Lamar H. Jones	1971	Michael D. Shipler*	2005
Kenneth Neuschwander*	1973	Kelly A. Hansel	2006
Thomas Anderson	1979	Loren H. Rausher	2007
Charles Prisk	1982	B. Carl Lairson	2008
Charles H. Smith	1988	William A. Butterfield*	2009
Blaine H. Simons	1989	Michael Busby*	2010
Richard H. Simons	1992	Brian J. Hastings*	2011
William J Westbrook	1996	Charles G. Sipes*	2012
John Elwell Jr	1997	Harry M. Cohn	2013
J. C. McLaughlin	1999	Dean D. Rein*	2014
Norman A. Smith*	2003	Jason A Mitchell*	2015
Joseph C. Matson	2004		

* Denotes In Attendance

COUNCIL DAIS OFFICERS

Utah #1			
	Illustrious Master	Benjamin Young	A
	Deputy Master	Mont K Anderson	A
	Prin Cond of Work	Hugo Rodier	X
Provo #2			
	Illustrious Master	Kelly Allred	X
	Deputy Master	David Boyer	A*
	Prin Cond of Work	Craig Call	A*
Ogden #3			
	Illustrious Master	Duane Robey	A*
	Deputy Master	Jean-Marie Pijuan	A*
	Prin Cond of Work	Tim Stenner	X
Daley #5			
	Illustrious Master	W. Paul Albertson	A*
	Deputy Master	Dennis Hauze	A*
	Prin Cond of Work	Jason Mair	X
Solomon #4			
	Illustrious Master	Howard Hastings	X
	Deputy Master	TJ Robertson	X
	Prin Cond of Work	David Brewer	A*
Zion #7			
	Illustrious Master	Ed Nelson	X
	Deputy Master	Lawrence Rodriguez	X
	Prin Cond of Work	Dean D Rein	X

(X Denotes Present E Denotes Excused A Denotes Absent * Denotes Proxy)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

REPORT OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER

I would like to thank this Jurisdiction for electing and trusting me with the Council for the last year. I thank all of you for your support. I thank all of you who chastised me, all of you who supported me, all of you who berated me, and especially Companion Varner who was always stuck in a car with me.

Here is the history of official acts and condition of Cryptic Masonry in Utah.

Visitations

Companions, there is a tendency amongst Grand Officers to use the number of Visitations as a barometer of their success and value, as if to say the more meetings you attend, the better a Mason you are. By that measure, in this Jurisdiction, our Deputy Grand Master wins, at 300 meetings a year. The first runner-up is Jason Varner at 280, followed by Glen Cook at 260.

I came nowhere near those numbers. Conclude from that, what you will. I visited all Councils this year, excluding Price, for which I honestly regret. My vehicle failed, and my back up plan decided to fly to Seattle that day. There was not enough time to arrange a Visitation short of forcing Price to hold a Special Meeting, and I wasn't about to put them out to receive Me.

I made official representations to the Scottish Rite, Grand Lodge, the Installation of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Allied Masonic Degrees, Wasatch Lodge #1, Progress Lodge #22, Argenta Lodge #3, and the Societas Rosicruciana, where I was warmly welcomed, and the Rite cordially received.

Uniquely, I did have the chance to represent Utah and Cryptic Masonry as a whole on Episode 80 of The Masonic Roundtable. The chance to be Utah's first sitting Ruler interviewed over a new media platform was a great privilege.

Dispensations

- *Dispensation 03212016* – Dispensation to Elect an Officer out of Turn. I granted a dispensation for the Provo Council to elect a new Recorder to fill the vacancy created by the passing of Companion Owen Orton, MIPGM at any Stated meeting between the date of

Dispensation and Grand Sessions provided the election was otherwise conducted as laid out in their Bylaws, and notice given thereof.

- *Dispensation 410102016* – Dispensation to Move Date of Stated Meeting. I granted dispensation for the Midvale/Park City Council to move the date of their Stated Meeting in April to accommodate the Visitation of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Edicts/Decisions

I issued Edicts during the Recess of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah.

I made decisions for Companion Kim Bowman to represent the Most Illustrious Grand Master during the Grand Sessions of Montana. Companion Cook, to represent the Most Illustrious Grand Master during the Grand Sessions of Wyoming. Companion Rodriguez to represent the Most Illustrious Grand Master during the Grand Sessions New Mexico, and California, and Companion Varner to represent the Most Illustrious Grand Master during the Grand Sessions of Idaho and Washington.

I made the decision not to fill the Vacancy in the Grand Council line when Companion Hill resigned his post given the close proximity to these Annual Sessions.

Condition of Cryptic Masonry in Utah

Companions, there is an ontological struggle occurring in the York Rite of Utah. Without addressing it, I fear, it will divide us. But if addressed, I think it represents our greatest opportunity for success and growth. We must, therefore, acknowledge and discuss it. It manifests as a struggle between the status quo, largely represented by St. George, Price, and parts of Midvale and an evolutionary vision originating in Salt Lake, supported by parts of Ogden and some small elements of Provo and Midvale. Population wise, the largest number of Companions and Sir Knights align with both sides, and see value in each; but a small and increasingly vocal minority of Companions and Sir Knights would political power on each side of this divide threatens the stability of everyone.

This is worth talking about because it has been expressed in increasingly antagonistic, divisive, and at times, outright hostile, terms, and I will give you an example. During the discussions on where to hold these Sessions,

the decision came to holding it at the Hotel or at the Salt Lake Masonic Temple; and if I may digress, I'm an advocate for holding these Sessions exclusively at Masonic Temples, split geographically, as Salt Lake, Price, and St. George, and rotated between them every three years. I'd rather see the money go into our buildings, than into an external company's coffers. During these discussions a Grand Officer made the statement "you Salt Lake guys don't under the sacrifices Price guys make". I didn't respond. I bit my tongue. But I should have responded. I should have responded as I wanted: anytime we, as Grand Officers, start thinking in terms of Price, Provo, Midvale, Salt Lake, etc... it means we've failed, completely failed. In this conversation, the Officer making this statement during a recorded conference call, failed.

Additional examples include Officers being excluded and cut of Meetings in disregard to Constitutional authority, and decisions made without soliciting input or agreement from all three Grand Heads.

Grand Officers aren't elected to advocate for the power and prestige of one vision, or one set of Bodies over another or at the expense of another. Grand Officers are elected to advance all Bodies according to the needs and wishes of those Bodies within due bounds. Too many of us, have made these into battles for personal and regional glory. No one set of Bodies makes sacrifices greater than any other set of Bodies. We all make sacrifices. It takes sacrifice to be a Mason. It is the nature of the game. Some individuals make genuinely extreme sacrifices, and we reward those individuals; but the Bodies are inherently equal, and must be equal lest, those bodies with more money and members than others, control everything. As Bodies, our efforts and sacrifices for organizational responsibilities must stand on an exact equality. No one Body or group of Bodies is better than anyone else. But that is what this has turned into.

The York Rite in General, and Knights Templar in particular, is big enough for those looking to wear uniforms and perform drill, and for those who see it, to quote a PGM of GEKT, as a "school of moral chivalry and Christian illuminism." If any current or past Grand Officer, of any Grand Body, tells you otherwise, myself included, you should critically re-evaluate his leadership.

Companions, if we, the Leaders of the Grand York Rite, do not set the standard, no one else will. It is incumbent upon us members of the Grand Bodies to aspire to greatness of mind and of Masonry.

If our Leaders continue to see the York Rite through the prism of division and not unity, if our Leaders continue to develop petty bickering and one-up-manship between each other, and if our Leaders continue using their influence to crush the desires of their Constituents, then our Leaders have failed.

And, if *we* allow our leaders to punish without first nurturing; to attack and without first defending: then *we* have failed each other.

And that Companions is the precipice I fear we stand upon. And it culminates here in these Sessions.

Companions, in these sessions, you will get to judge, and determine does one group of individuals get to determine what is right and wrong, does one group of individuals get to hold all the cards; or do we have the strength of character and strength of faith in each other to be larger than our individual selves, and embrace each other in the bonds of Fraternity, and take joy in each other's success.

Now is the time, this is the place. We are at a junction which future generations will look back upon. What will they see of our decision? Will see the point in time we made the decision to succeed and embrace each other, or will they see our darkest hour, when we chose to divide and fail?

Aside from this bit of darkness and despair, the Condition of Cryptic Masonry is generally positive. There are some improvements to be made as I note in my recommendations. I'd like to call out Provo and Midvale for their work and efforts this year. Their Councils may be small, but their hearts and their efforts, are greater than the sum of their parts.

Before I close, I would like to specifically thank four Companions. First, Pat Bailley. I met Pat in March of 2002. He was the first York Rite Mason I knew. I knew Brothers who were members of the York Rite, but they weren't York Rite Masons, not like Pat was. My understanding of the York Rite, it's purpose, and what it could be, all stem from my conversations and times spent with him. To him, I owe my York Rite experience. And even though he's no longer with us, I still thank him for that.

Second, Chuck Warren. Chuck, I've known the personal secretaries of Presidents of Fortune 100 companies. Most of them make seven figure incomes, because their worth it. If I could, I'd give you eight figures, because your worth it. All I can give you is my support, my thanks, and my continued friendship. I hope it is enough.

Lastly, Jason Varner and Jeff Hamilton. Over the last 10 years I've watched this division in the York Rite grow. I've watched it come to a

head this year. But the character and conduct of these two Companions, gives me hope that we can grow out of this, that there is a chance for a better future, one with without petty politics, one without in fighting, and one where Masonry prevails. Thank you for giving me hope, when I couldn't see it myself.

Recommendations

According to the Grand Council Bylaws, the recommendations of the outgoing Grand Master are to be put in the form of Resolutions. I'm not a believer in the idea that one's final official act should be saddling the next Grand Master with new legal entanglements, so I'll make my recommendations here instead, and posterity can determine if these Grand Bodies wish to adopt them as Resolutions and bylaws.

I have four overall recommendations. Committees, Bylaws, Finances and Spending, and what Millennials call Awesomeness.

Committees. There are many, regrettably absent today, who hold membership positions on important strategic Committees. Their absence is nothing short of neglect. The time and date of these Annual Sessions is set well in advance, with more than enough to time account for personal-life balance and work-life balance.

I recommend bylaws changes to reflect attendance and participation as mandatory to committee membership, and unapproved absences viewed as nothing short of resignation from the Committee. This isn't a matter of draconian leadership, but about having a standard of excellence. Committees are leadership positions within the internal processes of the Rite. You can't lead, if you can't show up.

Bylaws. Our bylaws are internally inconsistent, and at times at odds with each other, and regrettably not centrally published. The state of our bylaws, is not well, and needs our utmost attention, and centralized control and distribution both physically and electronically. I recommend the Jurisprudence committee first publish an official standing of the bylaws as they stand currently, both physically, and electronically on our website; and secondly undertake an investigation to bring them to an internal consistency; and finally make recommendations and Resolutions to update the bylaws accordingly by the next Sessions of these Grand Bodies.

Financial. This year we (re) instituted a registration fee for our annual sessions. The logic behind this was two-fold. First, to offset some of the costs of Sessions, second, and I quote one of our Grand Officers “everyone else does it”. Our mother's told us how to address the later, "if all your friends jumped of a bridge, would you?". But the former exposes a point of serious concern. Companions, costs increase, but the fees assessed by these Grand Bodies upon Constituent Bodies don't keep pace. I recommend these Bodies raise per capita, and set per capita equally across the board, as no one Grand Body carries more prestige, or statistically significant operational costs than any other Grand Body.

Current

- Fees \$2 per person per body
- Per Capita \$6-Grand Chapter, \$6-Grand Council, \$15-Grand Commandery (\$27, combined)

Recommended

- Fees \$3 per person per body
- Per Capita \$15 per person for each body (\$45, combined)

This is a steep increase but it nullifies the financial need of the Grand Bodies having to charge additional fees and penalties to Companions and Sir Knights for events, Sessions, education, etc... These should be built in operational costs, not additional fees and barriers to entry for Companions and Sir Knights. Expressed differently, the Grand York Rite should not have to reach into our wallets more than once to satisfy its constitution mission. I believe the \$15 target accurately represents the actual costs of these Grand Bodies to conduct their business.

I recommend the local bodies increase their fees to Candidates to at least a minimum of \$100 per body. I recommend this to increase our competitiveness within Utah Masonry. Despite economic downturns, other Bodies in Utah, increased their fees, and continued to see growth. This worked because they also increased the value of the dollar for Candidates. We should do the same, or lose our ability to compete. New candidates should get high quality patents for each body (I personally like Ryan Flynn and John Bridegroom designs), a reversible RAM/CC members apron,

educational materials, enrollment in the Companion Adept of the Temple program, and life memberships in the national charities, at the very least. By providing access to materials and education our attraction to, and long term retention of, the under 40 crowd increases exponentially.

I'd be remiss if I did not speak to how the York Rite spends its money at the State Level and Local Level. Organizationally, our purpose is *to maintain*, and *to make*, and *to prepare* York Rite Masons. Our budgets, and many if not most bodies have a budget, account well for the *maintain* portion of our organizational mission. We are really good about the *status quo*. The absence however of line items on the *make* and *prepare* part is disturbing. Rarely if at all do we have line items for regalia and maintenance; hence the need for a \$10,000.00 bail out to buy new regalia from an anonymous donor for the Grand York Rite. But even more rare, I dare say entirely absent from all budgets, are line items for education and training of new members and officers. We assume that exposure and indoctrination will result in competent members and leaders. We assume a five-minute paper at occasional meetings is sufficient. While this may be a successful way to maintain status quo, it is clearly not a way forward and as history has demonstrated results in stagnation and death.

I recommend these Grand Bodies invest in, build, buy, or develop an official state level forum of (ideally electronic) bi-directional communications, where official directives can be received, but also ideas shared and discussed without the baggage that has so recently characterized Masonic communication, specifically on Facebook and Twitter, and the resultant Masonic Trials some in here have had to address.

I recommend 20% of our Annual Grand York Rite Budget be spent as follows:

- 5% allotted to regalia maintenance and acquisition.
- 5% allotted to developing a Speakers Bureau and educational materials for use at the local level.
- 3% allotted to developing, acquiring, and distributing promotional materials of the Rite targeted to multiple Generations of men.
- 2% allotted to targeting recent NPDs for the purpose of getting them active and dues paying again.
- 5% of allotted to providing the following training to the local bodies until they can provide these for themselves:

- Interpersonal communication

- Written Communications
- General leadership and Inspiration
- Organization Management
- Collaborative Leadership and Execution
- Public Speaking (e.g. Toastmasters)

I recommend these Grand Bodies adopt and implement, MasterOfYork.com, for a battle plan of York Rite success at the Local level. It will feel very familiar to Utah Masons, as it was largely built out of Utah's *Master Builder Program*. This familiarity facilitates adoption and execution for Local Bodies near Lodges achieving Master Builder status consistently.

These are steep costs, but the investment in our future should not be done cheaply if we want anything other than cheap results.

Finally, My last recommendation: Keep Being Awesome. Companions and Sir Knights, Masonry is evolving in Utah. The Ladies organizations are diminishing. The Shrine has lost so many members, in the eyes of many, it should lose its Temple status. The Youth now fill an ever decreasing niche. Into this void, the York Rite has grown and expanded. Not just in membership in the core Bodies, but in the invitational bodies as well. The Mark Lodge, AMD, SRICF, Operatives, Athelstan, etc... all these bodies now exist in Utah, and they exist because the York Rite is awesome, and offers what Masons want and need for their Masonic experience. The AMD gives ritualists a place to retire as they pass on the responsibilities to the next generation. Operatives lets Masons get in touch with our operative roots. Athelstan opens doors to contemplate our legends and origins. The SRICF allows Christian Masons a place to explore their Masonry and their Faith in the esoteric schools, and the arts, and the sciences. Embrace, nurture and develop these bodies as they increase our shared value and relevance to the 21st century Mason.

Thank you for your time.
Jason A Mitchell
MI Grand Master

RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

It has been a great honor to serve the Grand Jurisdiction of Utah this past year as The Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master. Cryptic Masonry in Utah is doing very good, and I am honored to be a part of it. I look forward to what the future holds.

This year the visitations were changed from the joint official visitation of all 3 Grand York Rite Bodies in Utah, to a social type of joint visit. It was then up to the Grand Heads of Bodies to schedule official visits as their schedule allowed. I think this was a very worthwhile approach, and with a little adjustment, should be a great way of doing things. There were socials held in Salt Lake City, and Provo in June of 2015. Round-table discussions were held at these and I believe we accomplished a lot. I was unable to attend any of the scheduled Official Visits of The Most Illustrious Grand Master to the Constituent Councils. I was able to attend stated assemblies of several of the Constituent Councils within Utah.

Overall, the state of Cryptic Masonry in Utah, is one of good health and growing interest. Many of the Councils in Utah, are conferring their oW1 Degrees, and are taking active parts in assisting the other councils within the state. I was honored to play the role of King Solomon in both the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees in Price, and assist with the degrees in Midvale.

It has been my direction as an Officer in The York Rite of Utah to see the York Rite as a whole be elevated to the highest standards possible. Although we are a small jurisdiction, the quality and dedication that each of the bodies have with each other is one of our greatest strengths, we need to keep that going for the future. I am very proud to be a companion among you.

Thank You,

T J Robertson, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, The Grand Council, Cryptic Masons of Utah.

REPORT OF THE GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF WORK

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah for the 2015-2016 term. It has been most rewarding and enjoyable to represent the Cryptic Masons of this jurisdiction. I report that interest in

Cryptic Masonry and York Rite in Utah is generally doing well. Some Councils are struggling, but I believe with strong leadership they can still prosper and survive. I urge all Councils to do their own degree work instead of relying on festivals. This will help bring your council together and spark more interest. In my experience the way to keep any masonic body doing well is to provide excellent ritual, quality education and great social experiences that are inclusive and have superior food.

I want to thank the companions that placed their trust in me to perform the duties of this position, and I hope that I have fulfilled your expectations individually as well as those of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah.

I was able to attend all visitations scheduled by the Most Illustrious Grand Master and was able to visit my home council in Price in a semiofficial capacity. I also was able to attend the South West Department conference in Las Vegas Nevada.

I move this report be accepted and spread upon the proceedings of this Eighty-Sixth Annual Assembly of Grand Cryptic Masons of Utah.

Fraternally submitted,
Jason C Varner
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT

Observations

When this year started I had planned on visiting each Council at least twice. And I must apologize to everyone because I only made one visitation. On June first I visited the Ogden Council. All the chairs were filled and the ritual was opened and used by some of the members. The Steward appeared to be the only person to know the work. This is a struggling Council but I see that they are putting a good step forward. They are learning their work and I feel in time they will be able to open and close without the book.

The other Council I visited was my own. This Council has strived from the beginning of the year to open and close the Council without the use of the ritual. The main problem was to fill the chairs. At times it has required the use of sideliners to open.

I have to work on a way to get our members to come to our York Rite on Saturday. I found the most successful way to get members to attend is to call each member individual. It appears that I can get the chairs filled by calling the member the Monday or Tuesday before.

Again I wish to apologize for not visiting the Councils. This year my Brother passed away and I had to go to California to make arrangements for his burial. Then my wife was diagnosed with cancer. It required a trip to Huntsman and her care when we returned home. I'd like to thank every one of you for your prayers. It's only recently that she has been without pain. I can now leave her without worrying too much about her. The biopsies could find no more cancer in her lymph nodes and other tissues they move for examination.

Recommendations:

At this time the only recommendations I have are:

First, to continue working on opening and closing without the ritual open.
Second, work on getting our members to meeting.

Summary:

If I am again selected as Grand Lecturer I will attempt to visit each at least twice during the year and work on ways to get better attendance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lawrence Rodriguez
Grand Lecturer
Grand Cryptic Masons

2016 ANNUAL RETURNS SUMMARY –CM

	CM	#	Per capita (\$6)	Fees (\$2)	Total
Ogden	Co. #3	45	\$315.00		\$315.00
SLC	Co. #1	120	840.00	20.00	860.00
Midvale	Co. #5	47	329.00	20.00	349.00
Provo	Co. #2	20	140.00		140.00
Price	Co. #4	44	308.00	15.00	323.00
St. Geo.	Co. #7	19	133.00		133.00
Totals		295	2,065.00	55.00	2,120.00

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

Cryptic Masons

	TOTALS	Utah #1	Provo #2	Ogden #3	Solomon #4	Daly #5	St Geo #7
as of 03/31/15	333	119	30	50	45	67	22
Greeted	11	4	0	0	3	4	0
Omitted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Affiliated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restored	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total Gain	12	4	0	0	4	4	0
Error 20144	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Deceased	8	2	1	0	1	4	0
Demitted	14	1	6	3	1	2	1
Suspended	22	0	3	0	3	14	2
Total Loss	46	3	10	5	5	20	3
as of 03/31/16	295	120	20	45	44	47	19
Net Gain (Loss)	-38	1	-10	-5	-1	-20	-3

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CMMRF

Since the last communication of this Grand Chapter Council One Thousand Five Hundred and eight dollars were collected on behalf of and passed on to the CMMRF.

Fraternally Submitted,
Jason C Varner Committee Chair

CREDENTIALS REPORT CRYPTIC MASONS SESSIONS

Date May 6, 2016

Grand Council Officers (current) & Past Illustrious Masters.....22
Constituent Delegates (current Illustrious M, Dep. M, PCW).....18
TOTAL (including proxies).....40

CRYPTIC MASON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Cryptic Mason of the Year awarded to Ben Johnson, Ogden #2

CRYPTIC MASON YOUTH AWARD

Allen Record was the recipient of the Cryptic Mason Youth Award.

JURISPRUDENCE

Your Committee on Jurisprudence begs leave to report our review of the report of actions taken by the Most Illustrious Master of Cryptic Masons of Utah, Companion Jason A. Mitchell, detailing his activities during the 2015-2016 term of office.

MI Companion Mitchell issued two dispensations; one for special election of an officer and one to move a stated meeting. All actions were appropriate and within the stated powers and prerogatives granted the MI Grand Master. Several decisions were made by the MI Grand Master and also were found to be proper.

The observations of the MI Companion Mitchell lend themselves to further discussion. His recommendations are certainly worthy and timely. Some of

the items have been mentioned in previous conversations and actions should be considered.

The actions taken by MI Companion Mitchell were within the powers granted by the Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah.

Respectfully submitted:
Jurisprudence Committee

LEGISLATION

Proposed legislation: Whereas the current constitutions, laws and regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah, Title 3 Regulation relating to Constituted Chapters, Sections 3-7a Election and Installation of Officers states Installation of Officers may be a tiled meeting or public installation that shall take place on or before St. John the Evangelist Day unless by Special Dispensation; and whereas the current constitution, laws and regulations of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah Title III Regulations related to the Constituted Councils, Section 3-7, Election of Officers states “The election of officers of a chartered Council shall be held annually at the stated assembly provided by bylaw . The Officers shall then be installed no later than the next regular assembly of such Chartered Council”; and whereas the current constitutions, laws and regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Utah Title III Regulation relating to the Constituent Commanderies Section 3-7 Election of Officers states “The election of officers of the Chartered Commandery shall be held annually at the Conclave provided in the bylaws and the officers shall then be installed no later than the next scheduled Conclave of such Chartered Commandery”; and whereas it would be prudent to allow flexibility of the Constituted Councils in Utah to hold the Installation of Officers either in conjunction with Chapter and Commandery in the location of the bodies and or the flexibility to hold the installation in conjunction with other Blue Lodge functions or Installations; and whereas it would also be prudent to bring the regulations related to the Constituted Councils in line with that of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah we therefore resolve Grand Council Constitution, Laws and Regulations Title III Regulations relating to the Constituted Councils Section 3-7 Election of Officers be amended to read: “The Installation of

Officers may be in a tiled assembly or public installation program but shall take place on or before St. John the Evangelist Day unless by special dispensation.” Therefore, the Grand Council Constitution, Laws and Regulations Title III Regulations related to Constituted Councils Section 3-7 the Election of Officers will read as follows: “Title III Section 3-7 Election of Officers. The election of officers of a Constituted Council shall be held annually at the stated assembly provided in its bylaws. The Installation of Officers then elected and appointed may be held in a tiled assembly or public installation program that shall take place on or before St. John the Evangelist Day unless by special dispensation.”

VISITING DIGNITARIES – 2016

See listing in Joint Sessions section.



**107th ANNUAL
CONCLAVE
GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF UTAH**

May 7, 2016

**Embassy Suites Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah**

GRAND COMMANDERY

COMMANDERY MINUTES

107th ANNUAL CONCLAVE

GRAND COMMANDERY K. T. UTAH

May 7, 2016

Embassy Suites Hotel, Salt Lake City, UT

The Commandery was called to order by RE Grand Commander TJ Robertson. Roll Call of Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Dias Officers was conducted Dignitaries were introduced.

Reports:

Motion made and approved to set aside the rule requiring that reports must be read prior to approval.

Motion was made and approved to accept pre-printed reports as published.

The following reports were presented:

--**KTEF** – It was noted that correction needed to reflect that \$1,025 donation came from Ogden El Monte Temple Board and not Corrinne OES. Correction approved.

--**Holy Land Pilgrimage**

--**Grand Generalissimo**

--**Legislation** – Presented by Howard Hastings to make change for allowed dates of installations. During discussion, question of wording arose. Proposers changed wording from “Should” to “Shall”. Amendment was approved and the amended legislation was approved.

--**Report of Grand Commander**

--**Jurisprudence**

--**Credentials**

Elections were held with the following results:

RE Grand Commander – Robert M Bennett

VE Deputy Grand Commander – Jeffrey E Hamilton

E Grand Generalissimo – Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez

E Grand Captain General – Douglas Backes

E Grand Treasurer – Glen A Cook

E Grand Recorder – Charles E Warren, Sr

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Comments were received from Bill Gerrard speaking on behalf of Duane L. Vaught, ME Grand Master, Grand Encampment.

Elected and Appointed officers were installed in due form as follows:

Robert M Bennett (3).....Right Eminent Grand Commander
Jeffrey E Hamilton (5).....Very E. Deputy Grand Commander
Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez (7).....E. Grand Generalissimo
Douglas Backes (1).....E. Grand Captain General
Jay N. Mitchell (3).....Grand Senior Warden
Jason C Varner (1).....E. Grand Junior Warden
Jason L. Mair (1).....E. Grand Prelate
Glen A Cook (1).....E. Grand Treasurer
Charles E. Warren Sr (1).....E. Grand Recorder
John C Liley, Jr (1).....E. Grand Standard Bearer
Reed B Fanning (1).....E Grand Sword Bearer
Timothy L. Stenner.....E Grand Warden
Christopher C. Young ().....E. Grand Sentinel
P Marty Martineau (3).....E. Grand Inspector General

GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS FOR 2015- 2016

*TJ Robertson (6).....Right Eminent Grand Commander
*Robert M Bennett (3).....Very E. Deputy Grand Commander
*Jason A Mitchell (1).....E. Grand Generalissimo
*Jeffrey E Hamilton (5).....E. Grand Captain General
*Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez (7).....Grand Senior Warden
*Douglas Backes (1).....E. Grand Junior Warden
*Jay Mitchell (3).....E. Grand Prelate
*Glen A Cook (1).....E. Grand Treasurer
*Charles E. Warren Sr (1).....E. Grand Recorder
*Jason C Varner (1).....E. Grand Standard Bearer
Vacant.....E Grand Sword Bearer
John Liley (1).....E Grand Warden
Vacant.....E. Grand Sentinel

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

K.T. COMMITTEES 2015 – 2016

*denotes chairman

KT CROSS OF HONOR

Jason A. Mitchell*
James Robertson
Robert M Bennett

KT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Brian Hastings*
Grand Heads of York Rite Bodies

KT EYE FOUNDATION

Robert M Bennett*
Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez
Charles Warren Sr.
All Constituent Commanders

KT HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Jay Mitchell*
All Constituent Commanders

KT MAGAZINE SUPPLEMENT

Jeffrey E Hamilton*
Charles E. Warren, Sr
Constituent Commanders

VESPER SERVICES

Jay Mitchell*
Charles Warren Sr
Constituent Prelates

PAST GRAND COMMANDERS

Charles Prisk	1978	Carl Lairson	2005
Delbert F. Hansen	1981	Michael D. Shipler*	2006
Kenneth Neuschwander	1986	Michael L. Busby*	2007
John L. Elwell Jr.	1995	William A. Butterfield*	2008
J. C . McLaughlin	1996	Brian J. Hastings*	2009
William J. Westbrook*	1997	Charles Sipes*	2010
Richard H. Simons	1999	Harry B. Cohn	2011
Blaine H. Simons	2000	Dean D. Rein*	2012
Norman A. Smith*	2001	Preston Martineau Jr*	2013
Terry L. Nay	2003	James A Robertson*	2014
Gerald Everett	2004	TJ Robertson*	2015

*denotes in attendance

**denotes excused

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DIAS OFFICERS

Utah #1			
	Commander	Benjamin L. Young	A*
	Generalissimo	Monte K. Anderson	A*
	Captain General	Hugo E. Rodier	X
El Monte #2			
	Commander	Jean-Marie Pijuan	A*
	Generalissimo	Ben Johnson	X
	Captain General	David Smith	X
Malta #3			
	Commander	Jay N. Mitchell	X
	Generalissimo	Jason L. Mair	X
	Captain General	Gene May	X
Ivanhoe #5			
	Commander	Scott Lamb	A*
	Generalissimo	Art Nifong	A*
	Captain General	Kelly Allred	X
Charles Fred Jennings #6			
	Commander	Elvin D. Anderson	A*
	Generalissimo	John McCurdy	X
	Captain General	Howard Hastings	X
St George (#7)			
	Commander	Charles I. Young	X
	Generalissimo	Lawrence R. Rodriguez	X
	Captain General	Dean D. Rein	X

(X Denotes present A Denotes Absent * Denotes Proxy)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

REPORT OF THE GRAND COMMANDER

Sir Knights, it is with great pleasure I welcome you to the 106th Annual Conclave of The Grand Commandery of Utah. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve as The Grand Commander of Knights Templar for the 2015-2016 term. I want to thank the Officers who served with me, and I would especially like to thank all the Sir Knights of Utah for your support and friendship over the last 12 months. It was a great year for York Rite Masonry in Utah! I know with your support and perseverance our valiant and magnanimous order will continue to thrive!

General Orders - 3 General Orders were issued this year:

General Order No.1 Issued May 15, 2015 - Religious Observances. Every Constituent Commandery is required to observe Christmas Observance, December 25, 2015 and Easter Sunday Observance, March 27, 2016. These are to be observed in traditional manner, or in the alternative, by attending church as a Commandery. If the above dates are not practical for your Commandery, alternate dates may be used.

General Order No.2 Issued May 15, 2015 - Standing Dispensations. Dispensation is hereby granted to all Constituent Commanderies to visit a Lodge in Templar Uniform (without sword and chapeau) and to form an Honor Guard in full Templar Uniform for the public installation of Officers of any Masonic or Masonic affiliated body.

Dispensation is also granted for all Constituent Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction, to wear their uniform in support of patriotic and civic activities. Summer Uniforms will be allowed for all parades and all functions where the Dress Uniforms are not called for beginning from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

These Standing Dispensations expire at the installation of the successive Grand Commander of Knights Templar of The State of Utah.

General Order No.3, Issued May 15, 2015 - 106th Annual Conclave.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Each Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of all Constituent Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction are required to be in attendance unless request are made to The Grand Commander.

Circulars - 2 Grand Commanders Circulars were issued this year:

Grand Commander Circular No.1 Issued May 15, 2015 - Grand Commanders Objectives 2015-2016.

This Circular outlined the objectives that were set forth. A synopsis is included below, and the Original Circular is attached to this report.

Visitations - The visitations for the Grand York Rite of Utah changed this year. The Grand York Rite as a whole made some "Social" visits to some of the constituent bodies in the State. These replaced the joint visitations. These were held in Salt Lake and Provo They were on a "Casual" scale and included some type of social function, such as a barbeque, dinner or other type of social gathering. We also held some round-table discussions as well as some officer training at these. The Official Visit of The Grand Commander was held on stated conclaves.

Communication - The successful operations of our Commanderies depend upon making sure our Sir Knights are well informed of our upcoming activities. It is of the utmost importance that the Sir Knights are well informed in advance so they can plan accordingly. This is very important, especially where many travel long distances in this jurisdiction to attend functions.

The Grand York Rite of Utah Website was discussed, as well as other websites for the Constituent Commanderies. These need to be kept up to date.

Along with normal communication within the Constituent Commanderies, I also tasked each Constituent Commander, and Recorder to report At A Minimum, once each month to the Grand Commander, and Grand Recorder any events, Orders, or social functions, as well as a report of the previous months completed events.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Membership - The Grand Encampment has the motto of; "Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar". It is our duty to insure the continued success of Templar Masonry and each of us needs to take the steps to preserve our organization whose prime mission is the "Support and Defense of the Christian Religion" which we all vowed to in the "Order of the Temple."

Uniform - The uniform instills pride in all of us, but it must be worn properly. The Uniform Code is posted on the Utah Grand York Rite Website under Resources and has also been sent to each of the Commanderies. Become familiar with it, and make sure your new members are instructed in the proper wearing of the Knights Templar Uniform. In this small jurisdiction we don't have inspections, so the Constituent Commanderies need to take this on themselves. The circular included the jewels and medals to be worn as well as the order in which they shall be worn.

Grand Commander Circular No.2 Issued May 15, 2015 - Social Media.

Social Media- I understand you are all tired of hearing about the social media issues in this Jurisdiction, but bad manners on Social Media outlets continue to plague the Masonic Fraternity as well all Masonic related organizations.

The use of the many types of social media like Facebook, Twitter, email, etc. can be a double edged sword. It can be a good communication tool, but it can also be a detriment. You have identified yourself as a mason and Sir Knight to the world through these social media outlets. Now you must promote the highest standards of morality and integrity. Posting a comment related to the Fraternity and then posting a negative comment about social or political views can easily be misunderstood that your views are representative of Masons or Masonry. Politics are not discussed in lodge, neither should your views be posted in a place where it can make another mason or Sir Knight feel uncomfortable, or pass on to the public that these views are the accepted views of the fraternity.

A Mason and Sir Knight should never use Social Media to obtain any personal advantage. Also, you should not use Social Media to contact other

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Grand Jurisdictions unless you are a member or representative of that Jurisdiction. Remember all communication from Jurisdiction to Jurisdiction is, by Masonic protocol, conducted by and between Grand or Jurisdictional offices. With the use of the internet, it is almost as if our asylums are open to the public. Post the Sentinel and instruct him to guard the Asylum with Dignity and Respect.

By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies

During the past year, I asked for each of the Commanderies in Utah to send me a current copy of their By-Laws. Most of them complied readily, and after looking at them, I find some out of date. Each of the Commanders has it in special charge to see the By-Laws and Regulations of the Commandery are duly observed as well as the Constitution, Laws, Rituals, and Rules of The Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery. That accurate records are kept and just accounts rendered and that regular returns are made to the Grand Commandery annually and the dues are paid promptly.

It is The Commanders duty to have an updated copy of The Commandery's By-Laws, as well as the Laws and Regulations of The Grand Commandery of Utah, and The Grand Encampment Constitution. These documents are what control how we do things, and it is imperative each Sir Knight have a copy and studies them often.

I would urge those Commanderies who have out dated By-Laws to bring them up to date as soon as possible.

By-Laws Changes Approved

There were no By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies Approved.

By-Laws Changes Denied

The By-Law change for Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6, allowing them to change the dates the Installation of Officers are held each year was denied. Title 3 of The Grand Commandery of Utah, Laws and Regulations Relating to Constituent Commanderies, Section 3-7, Election of Officers states; The election of officers of a Chartered Commandery shall be held annually at the Stated Conclave provided in its By-Laws and the Officers then shall be installed no later than the next

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regular Conclave of such Chartered Commandery. The proposed change to Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6 By-Laws, stated for their installation of officers to be held no later than St. Johns Day in December of each year. This goes against the Grand Commandery of Utah, Regulations Relating to Constituent Commanderies Title 3, Section 3-7, therefore the change was denied.

Dispensations

The Grand Commander General Order No.2 gave standing dispensations for all Constituent Commanderies to visit a Lodge in Templar Uniform (without sword and chapeau) and to form an Honor Guard in full Templar Uniform for the public installation of Officers of any Masonic or Masonic affiliated body.

Dispensation is also granted for all Constituent Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction, to wear their uniform in support of patriotic and civic activities. Summer Uniforms will be allowed for all parades and all functions where the Dress Uniforms are not called for beginning from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Approved Dispensation of Malta Commandery No. 3 to move the April Stated Conclave from April 27, 2016 to April 20, 2016 to accommodate a scheduling conflict and to hold The Grand Commanders Official Visitation.

Approved Dispensation of Ivanhoe Commandery No.5 to hold an election out of turn for the Office of Recorder, this dispensation was granted because long time Recorder Sir Knight Owen Orton passed to The Supreme Asylum above.

Appointments

No new appointments were made

Grand Representatives

I approved the following Grand Representatives from other Jurisdictions to Utah:

Nebraska, Sir Knight Joseph P. Charbonneau; Colorado Sir Knight Roy Snyder; The Philippines, Sir Knight Samuel P. Hernandez; Minnesota, Sir Knight Nicholas R. Johnson.

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The following are newly approved Sir Knights to represent Utah to outside Jurisdictions;

The Philippines, Sir Knight Michael Busby PGC;
Michigan, Sir Knight TJ Robertson.

Visitations

The visitations for the Grand York Rite of Utah were changed and experimented with over the past year. The Grand York Rite (Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery) made some "Social" visits to some of the constituent bodies in this Jurisdiction. These were to replace the joint visitations we have had in the past. The Social Visits were held in Salt Lake and Provo in June of 2015 they were on a "Casual" scale and included some type of social function, such as a barbeque, dinner or other type of social gathering. We also held some round-table discussions as well as some officer training. These were a great way of getting all York Rite Masons in an area to come out and meet the Officers of The Grand York Rite. They showed the Grand York Rite was united as the three bodies. The discussions that were held proved to be very informative and insightful to all that participated. The hope was to continue the "Socials" in other areas of the State, but ran into some scheduling conflicts.

The Official Visit of The Grand Commander, was held on stated conclaves with some of the Commanderies. I visited EI Monte Commandery No.2 on April 4, 2016, Malta Commandery NO.3 on April 20, 2016, Charles Fred Jennings Commandery NO.6 on April 6, 2016. The scheduled visitation to Ivanhoe Commandery No.5 on February 18, 2016, I was unable to attend because of inclement weather over the mountain pass separating Price, and Provo. This visitation was attended by The Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Knight Robert Bennett, and Eminent Grand Captain General, Sir Knight Jeff Hamilton. Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knights Dean Rein and Brian Hastings have given me insight to how Golgotha Commandery No.7 has been functioning, I had intentions of making an official visitation to the Sir Knights of St. George, but was unable to make that commitment, for that I apologize.

The visitation to Utah Commandery No.1 was going to be a joint visitation between the Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons, and myself. We had

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scheduled to meet April 26, 2016 for the stated Conclave. I unfortunately had to cover a work commitment on that day, and was unable to attend. However, Sir Knight Rein did visit in his capacity of Grand High Priest, and was able to report back to me regarding the current status of Utah Commandery No. 1. This will be addressed in detail in the State of Commanderies section of this report.

Other events that were held around the State of Utah were also well attended by Grand Commandery Officers as well as myself. The Jobs Daughters of Utah annual Grand Rally was held in Salt Lake City, in June. My Lady Jen and I, as well as Sir Knight Jeff Hamilton, Eminent Grand Captain General were able to attend and it was our honor to judge the Drill Competition for the next recipient of the Grand Commander's Trophy. The Grand Commandery of Utah has been involved with this event for going on 20 years. We were very proud to award The Grand Commanders Traveling Trophy to Bethel Number 2 for their superior drill performance. All of the Bethels were outstanding, and this event is something I look forward to each year. The old traveling trophy had to be retired as there was no more room to add the winning Bethels each year. A new trophy was purchased and awarded to Bethel Number 2 earlier this year: The trophy is a gift from My Lady Jen and I, as a small token of appreciation to the many outstanding Bethels who have received this award in the past.

I also had the pleasure of serving as a judge for the Miss Utah Jobs Daughter and Miss Utah Congeniality competition held in Salt Lake City, in September.

I represented the Grand Commandery at The Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star Installation of Officers in October.

I was able to attend the Christmas Observances of Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6 and Malta Commandery No.3, where it was my honor to give my response to The Toast of the Office of Grand Commander. The other Commanderies held their Christmas Observances either at a time I was unable to attend, or they were not advertised in advance so I could make suitable schedule arrangements. I commend all the Commanderies on holding their observances.

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I was able to attend many of Malta Commandery's stated Conclaves, where I was greeted with warm hospitality each time I visited. Malta Commandery also conferred the 3 Templar Orders on 4 new members. It was my honor to perform as Eminent Commander in the Order of the Temple and Knight these 4 newly minted Sir Knights. I also performed as Eminent Commander for my home Commandery, Charles Fred Jennings No.6, when we Knighted 3 new Sir Knights.

The Easter Observances of Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6 and Malta Commandery No.3 were held on Palm Sunday. I was able to attend each of these Observances for the 2 Commanderies. The Easter Observance is a beautiful and meaningful ceremony celebrating the Ascension of Our Savior and I am very pleased to see all Commanderies of Utah doing this observance.

Out-Of-State Visitations

I was able to attend many out of State events this past year, and it was my pleasure to represent the Knights Templar of Utah within the Southwest Department as well as the World.

I traveled with Sir Knight Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez, Eminent Grand Senior Warden, to the Grand Conclave of The Grand Commandery of California, held in Bakersfield in May of 2015. It was a wonderful time and proves that western hospitality is alive and well in the great state of California. We also attended the Grand Conclave of Nevada held in Boulder City in June of 2015. It was great to make new friends as well as see old ones at both of these sessions.

The Grand Commandery of Utah was represented at each of the Grand Conclaves of Grand Commanderies within the Southwest Department Conference, with the exception of Hawaii. Sir Knight Rodriguez, Eminent Grand Senior Warden represented Utah at the Grand Conclaves of Arizona, and New Mexico. Sir Knight Jason Varner, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer represented Utah at the Grand Conclave of Colorado. Sir Knight Glen Cook, Eminent Grand Treasurer represented Utah at the Grand Conclave of Wyoming. I do appreciate those Sir Knights who represented our jurisdiction well at these Conclaves.

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I, along with Sir Knight, Robert Bennett, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Knights Charles Sipes, Dean Rein, and P. Marty Martineau, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders of Utah represented The Grand Commandery of Utah at the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of The United States, Triennial Conclave held in Buffalo, New York in August of 2015. It was a great experience and one that I will always remember. I was very proud to see my friends, Sir Knight David Kussman, elected and installed as The Grand Captain General of The Grand Encampment Knights Templar for this triennium, as well as, Sir Knight William Garrard, appointed and installed as The Southwest Department Commander for The Grand Encampment Knights Templar. I am looking forward to what the future brings with these Sir Knights at the helm.

The Southwest Department Conference was held in Las Vegas, Nevada in late October. I am pleased to say Utah was well represented at this conference. In attendance for the whole conference, were myself, Sir Knights Jeff Hamilton, Eminent Grand Captain General, Michael Shipler, Charles Sipes, Dean Rein, P. Marty Martineau, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, Chuck Warren Sr. Eminent Grand Recorder, and Jay Mitchell, Eminent Grand Prelate. Sir Knights Robert Bennett, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, and Jason Mitchell, Eminent Grand Generalissimo were also there, but left early from the conference.

I also attended The Western States Easter Observance held in Tempe, Arizona on Easter Sunday where it was my honor to read one of the holy week readings. This observance was well attended by Sir Knights from across the country, and was a wonderful service and tribute to Our Savior, Jesus Christ. Other Sir Knights in attendance from Utah were Sir Knights, Dean Rein, and P. Marty Martineau, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders of Utah, and Sir Knight Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez, Eminent Grand Senior Warden. It is hoped the Western States Observance will be held here in Utah in the next few years.

State of the Commanderies

Most of the Constituent Commanderies continue to work hard to make Knights Templar the "crown jewel" of The York Rite of Utah. There have been many successes this past year, as well as many challenges. I am very

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pleased with some of the Commanderies perseverance in developing programs to keep them relevant with the Sir Knights they serve; Developing long range plans and teams that will propel them into the years to come. Other Commanderies have seemed to sit back, and not do anything.

I will address a few things here:

Proper Openings - Each Commandery needs to, at the minimum, use the short form opening each time the Commandery presides. Show some pride in what we do as a Commandery, don't short cut it! Even if things need to be read from the book to start, it is something. New members don't want to come to a Commandery Conclave ready to see some of the same things they have just been through in The Order of the Temple, and have the meetings declared open, pay bills maybe have some sort of an educational that is over their heads, and then get a cup of coffee and go home. This does not bode well with new members to continue to show up and support our great organization. Pretty soon the Commanderies struggle to even get enough men to legally open.

Knowing what the duties of your office are - In January of 2016, a letter was sent to all the newly installed Constituent Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals, and Recorders. This letter detailed some of the duties of the Commander, as well as the other offices. It referred to the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, as well as each of the By-Laws of the Constituent Commanderies. It referred to the General Orders that were issued and the Circulars. They were also attached to the letter so each Commander could read them in their entirety. It detailed the visitations and what was expected. It offered any assistance from the Grand Commandery that may be needed. It recommended each of the officers to familiarize themselves with the various websites and resources that are out there. I received very few requests for assistance, therefore I assumed things would be going well. I was wrong to assume. There are some Commanderies that did not take any advice that was set forth in the letter. Sir Knights, if you do not take your job as Commander seriously, how do you expect the members to take anything serious? How do you expect to grow? How do you expect the future leaders to learn if you do not teach? I would advise each and every one of you to continually

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strive to uphold the standards and keep those commitments of the offices that you have been chosen to by your peers.

Leadership Qualities - We need to continue to develop good leaders. We need to set our goals high, and strive to attain those goals. We need to look at our up and coming Sir Knights and offer them additional support to become good leaders. As I have stated before many of the Commanderies have stepped up and are looking at these future leaders, they are cultivating good leaders by showing them the skills that are needed in these positions. The leaders of today are performing the duties of the office in an outstanding manner, and giving a great example of what to do in these positions. This is what we need. We do not need the Past Commander barking orders and not offering to show the other Sir Knights how to do things, but just telling them they are doing it wrong. Get in - perform the tasks at hand, and those new Sir Knights will follow your lead!

I know there are times that Commanderies struggle. The Grand Commandery of Utah has been there ourselves, but we need to press forward with fortitude undaunted in order to maintain the high level of leadership our Sir Knights deserve.

Uniforms - It is the duty of each Sir Knight to have a proper Knights Templar Uniform. The uniform code has been distributed to each of the Commanderies. Sir Knights, we are a uniformed order, this is what sets us apart from many others. The uniform should look sharp. If we look sharp and squared away we project the sense of pride that comes with being a Knight Templar. There are 3 approved uniforms, the Class AA Coat, Class AB Coat, and the Cap and Mantle, as well as different covers for use with the coats to suit your budgets and style. Golgotha Commandery No.7 has adopted the Class A uniform with the Military Style Naval Dress Cap, in lieu of the chapeau. As long as each Sir Knight attending a conclave or some other event is dressed alike it looks great and fits the budgets of most members. Utah Commandery No.1 has adopted the Templar Cap and Mantle. This is their choice, but needs to meet certain qualifications. These include having the proper crosses representing the office attained by the Sir Knight wearing the uniform. Grand Encampment Knights Templar, strictly controls what style of cross is worn, and mandates the use of such crosses. The cap and mantles worn by Utah Commandery No.1 need to be replaced

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or repaired with the proper crosses and colors to bring them in line with the Grand Encampment Laws and Rules, as well as The Grand Commandery of Utah, Uniform Regulations. I would advise each and every Sir Knight in this Grand Jurisdiction to familiarize themselves with the Grand Commandery of Utah, Uniform Regulations, and before purchasing a uniform make sure you are getting the correct version.

I want to take a moment to point out some outstanding works from around this Grand Jurisdiction -

Malta Commandery No.3 has been an outstanding Commandery for many years, and with the conviction that each of the Sir Knights in this Commandery have, I see many bright years to come for the Sir Knights in Midvale. The Sir Knights take a great deal of pride in everything they do, and it shows. They can complete all of the Templar Orders, and take specific pride in being able to confer The Mediterranean Pass and The Order of Malta. Which is to be expected when your Commandery takes the name of Malta. The fellowship in Midvale is unparalleled, any visitor is made to feel as Malta Commandery No.3 is his home Commandery. They are to be commended on everything they do.

Golgotha Commandery No.7 is also one of those Commanderies that take great pride in all they do. Each conclave they are completing the Short Form Opening in Uniform. This year they have attained 100 percent of the membership being life sponsors of The Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This feat they are to be commended on. We now have 2 regular Commanderies and our Honors Commandery having attained this honor.

EI Monte Commandery No.2 is in a state of rebuilding. They have lost many of the more experienced Sir Knights to the Supreme Asylum above. Many of the new Sir Knights have been thrown into positions they may not be the most experienced with, but they try to make sure things are taken care of the correct way. I have no doubt within the next few years they will be back up and running in the manner they once were.

Ivanhoe Commandery No.5 is also in a state of building or rebuilding. Ivanhoe Commandery recently has made 6 new Sir Knights in the past few years. Each of these new members have taken an active role in making sure

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Ivanhoe Commandery NO.5 is going to be the premier Commandery in Utah in the not too distant future.

Utah Commandery No.1 has many great things going for them. There are many great members who want to see Utah No.1 successful. They currently have a study group for the York Rite Sovereign College of North America's Companion Adept of the Temple program which teaches about the history and symbolism of the 3 York Rite Bodies. Utah Commandery No.1 is also striving to confer the Templar Orders sometime this next year.

Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6, my home Commandery, is doing great things. Although they are still in the recovery stage with some members either passing away or leaving the York Rite, they still maintain and are growing. They Knighted 3 new Sir Knights in February and these men have already jumped into things with both feet. The Sir Knights of CFJ have completed fundraisers for both the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund. Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6 has supported me throughout my Grand Commandery Career, and I am forever indebted to them.

All of the Commanderies are either conferring the Templar Orders on their own, or working on making this happen. Each of the Commanderies in Utah has experienced successes over the past year, as well as many challenges. My hope for Knights Templar in Utah, is each Commandery continue to grow and prosper, and we have leaders who are willing to step up and see this is done.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

With the passing of the long-time chairman of The Holy Land Pilgrimage, Sir Knight Ray White, it had been a while since anything had been done with this worthwhile endeavor. I appointed our Grand Prelate, Sir Knight Jay Mitchell to spearhead the fundraising and get this off the ground again. I am pleased to report he was very successful on getting the word out about The Holy Land Pilgrimage, and raising some funds for this. I will defer to his report regarding the specifics.

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Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation has been for many years the premier philanthropy of any Masonic Organization. I am very proud of what we accomplish in Utah for fundraising as well as disbursement of grant monies to Utah Recipients. Very few years go by when Utah is not receiving grant checks to be presented to researchers within this State. This year the State Chairman of The Knights Templar Eye Foundation was Sir Knight Robert Bennett, who traveled with me to present 3 Grant Presentations worth approximately \$160,000 to researchers at The University of Utah, and Utah State University. We were very fortunate in seeing the pride each of these researchers have in what they do. We also had a very successful voluntary campaign this year, where over \$9,000 was raised, and we now have 2 Commanderies that have attained One Hundred Percent Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Our Honors Commandery also maintains this as well. I want to Congratulate Golgotha Commandery No.7 on this endeavor. With the specifics on the voluntary campaign I will refer you to the report of the chairman.

Knights Templar Cross of Honor

It is with regret The Grand Commandery of Utah is not giving a Knights Templar Cross of Honor Award this year. The Committee met and did forward a proposal to me for consideration. However, after reading the nomination form, the qualifications were not detailed enough in the nomination's Knight Templar service, activities and accomplishments that I felt comfortable forwarding this on to The Grand Master of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for consideration. This award is the highest honor in Templary, and I was not going to submit a nomination that did not outline outstanding service as a Knight Templar. I hope that in future years, the Constituent Commanderies take this award with the seriousness it deserves, and take time to submit nomination forms that highlight the Templar service and accomplishments of the Sir Knight that is being proposed for consideration.

The Grand Commandery Meritorious Service Award

This year a new award was implemented in the Grand Commandery, which I am very excited about! This award was made possible with funds from Our Grand York Rite Trust. It is called The Grand Commandery

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Meritorious Service Award and is made available to each Constituent Commandery to award one deserving Sir Knight per year with this award. Many times deserving individuals are not publicly recognized for their efforts within their own York Rite Bodies. These new awards recognize these individuals. Upon the implementation of the Grand Lodge of Utah's Hiram Award, Most Worshipful Brother Curtis Lancaster stated: "This program will provide a special and meaningful technique for a Lodge to distinguish a deserving Brother who may otherwise go publicly unnoticed." - M.W. Brother Curtis N. Lancaster, Grand Lodge Annual Proceedings 1984. This new award it is hoped will be looked at along the same lines as the Hiram Award given in Blue Lodge throughout the State of Utah. The award guidelines and rules have been distributed to The Commanderies and they are now listed on the Grand York Rite of Utah's website.

This year it was my honor to present this award to Sir Knight Michael Shipler, REPGC from Malta Commandery No.3 the first Grand Commandery Meritorious Service Award. The other Commanderies did not submit any names of deserving Sir Knights as of the writing of this report, but I hope the next Grand Commander of Utah will have the privilege of presenting one of these awards to deserving Sir Knights in each of the Constituent Commanderies.

Knights Templar Magazine Supplement

I appointed Sir Knight Jeffrey E. Hamilton, Eminent Grand Captain General to an additional term as the editor of the Utah Supplement of the Knights Templar Magazine. He has done an impeccable job in researching and writing the quality articles we read in each month's supplement. Very positive feedback from all Sir Knights of Utah has been received and Sir Knight Jeff is to me commended on his accomplishments.

Recommendations

- Eminent Grand Inspector General Appointment - This is a needed appointment within the Grand Commandery of Utah to promote and educate Commanderies on the proper ritual and tactics as well as uniform and other aspects of Templary in Utah. This needs to be a well thought out appointment and a dedicated, and educated Sir Knight is needed.

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- Election of Right Eminent Grand Commander - I recommend in the coming years the Grand Commandery of Utah look at the prospect of amending its Constitution to consider the election of The Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander to be his election to also be Grand Commander-elect for the following year. This would allow him the proper time to prepare his year and make the necessary appointments as well as provide some stability in The Grand Commandery of Utah.
- By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies - I recommend the incoming Grand Commander make it a point early in his term to make sure the By-Laws of all Constituent Commanderies in Utah, be brought up to date, and distributed to all members of each Commandery.
- Grand Commandery Laws and Regulations - I recommend that the Grand Commandery appoint a committee to look at a " Grand Commandery Laws and Regulations and bring them up to date, as we" as make recommendations or draft legislation at the following years Grand Conclave to bring them in line with Grand Encampment Law as we" as not contradict Laws and Regulations of The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Utah, and The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah.
- Southwest Department Conference- I recommend that ALL Grand Commandery Officers attend the Southwest Department Conference. This conference offers great instruction on what all member jurisdictions of The Southwest Department are doing, as well as meeting with the leaders of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States. These meetings are very informative and offer insight from leadership from all of Templary.
- Uniform - I recommend the incoming Grand Commander make uniforms in Constituent Commanderies a priority. The uniform instills pride in who we are. The uniform is what sets us apart from many others. We are a uniformed order, and therefore it is the duty of each Commandery to have the proper uniforms. Pay attention to the Constitution of The Grand Commandery of Utah.

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Section 3-15 Uniforms:

A - The purchase of a uniform by a candidate shall be optional with the candidate.

B - Each and every Officer of any Constituent Commandery, whether elective or appointive, shall be required to own or possess a dress uniform as prescribed in this constitution prior to his installation.

C - Each Constituent Commandery shall maintain a unit or units equipped with full Templar Uniforms, as prescribed by The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of The State of Utah, to be worn at full form openings and the conferring of The Order of The Temple.

- Utah Commandery No.1 Placed on Probation - It is my recommendation that Utah Commandery No.1 be placed on probation until such time they can bring the cap and mantle uniforms in line with the current Uniform Regulations of The Grand Commandery of Utah. And until such time the Commandery can perform a required opening as set forth in the ritual. And until such time the Commandery can have the required constitutional number of Sir Knights in attendance for the opening of the Commandery for at least 6 month time. These recommendations come forth because Utah Commandery No.1 failed to have even 1/2 of the required Constitutional Number of Sir Knights Present at the last stated Conclave in April of 2016. They also have failed to bring the Cap and Mantle uniforms in line with current regulations for over a period of one year.

- Participation in The Grand Encampment Emerging Leaders Program - I recommend The Grand Commandery of Utah make a priority to send at least 5 qualified Sir Knights to the annual Southwest Department Conference and attend the Emerging Leaders Program.

- Attendance at Masonic Functions in Full Knights Templar Uniform - I recommend each Commandery in Utah, to attend at least 1 Masonic event in Full Knights Templar Uniform to promote our Order.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Appreciation

I want to thank each Sir Knight in Utah for making this past year a success! This has truly been a year filled with many successes as well as challenges. I want to thank each of the Grand Commandery Officers and Committees for their hard work and dedication this past year. We are all in this together, and together we have made this past year a great one!

To the Sir Knights of Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6 in Price, Utah, thank you for all the support and encouragement over the years! I am so proud to be a member of this outstanding Commandery!

To my friend, Sir Knight Dean Rein, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, who appointed me to The Grand Commandery, who has always listened to my ideas and rants, as well as given me advise and encouragement, I am forever thankful to you for giving me this wonderful opportunity! Sir Knight Norman A. Smith, a pillar of Masonry in Utah for the past 48 years. He has given much help to all of the Commanderies of Utah, and has consistently been there for each of us for many years. Sir Knight P. Marty Martineau, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, who has listened to my ideas and has traveled many miles for Templary. To All the Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders of Utah, but especially Charles Sipes, Michael Shipler, William Butterfield, and Brian 1. Hastings, you have supported me and given me good council over the years, and I thank each of you for what you have done for Templary in Utah.

To my friend Sir Knight Chuck Warren Sr., Eminent Grand Recorder, You have kept me on track and steaming forward throughout this journey. You are always taking care of all of us, and you make our jobs easier. I am indebted to you always! Thanks for always "having my 6" Amigo!

To Sir Knight and Most Worshipful Brother Drew Sanders for your friendship, council, support encouragement and overall being there, Thank You for everything!

To Most Worshipful Brother Wes Ing, Grand Master of The Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Utah for your friendship, and guidance over the years. I take much of your advice with me on everything I do.

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To My "Second Dad" John H. McCurdy, Eminent Past Grand Generalissimo of Utah. Your advice through the years has been well received. You always have something to say! Your encouragement has made me part of who I am today in everything I do. Your sayings and "isms" are some I always remember. Thank You for all you have given to our great fraternity, and especially to me!

For my Dad, Sir Knight James A. Robertson, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Utah, Thank You for everything! You have been my confidant, my traveling companion, and greatest supporter with everything I have done! It was a very distinct honor to serve with you side by side in The Grand Commandery of Utah. It has also been an honor to have your support and guidance in everything I do! I Love You!

To my Lady Jen. I Love You with all my heart! Thank you for all the support, encouragement, and Love you have given me as well as this Grand Commandery and the Grand York Rite of Utah! You have taken on many jobs within this great fraternity and have done them all well. You are always the first to volunteer for anything, and the last to leave when things are done. I cannot put into words the wonderful things you have done! You have been a wonderful travel partner and listened to me for all those long hours travel to and from the events, and kept me moving forward. I am very fortunate to have you as my wife!

Conclusion

The namesake of my home Commandery, Charles Fred Jennings, was the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Utah in 1915-1916. I am honored to follow 100 years later as The Grand Commander of Utah. I am also honored to follow in the footsteps of many other Past Grand Commanders of Utah, who hailed from CFJ NO.6. In the history of our Commandery, there have been 15 members attain the rank and distinction of Right Eminent Grand Commander: Joseph Wilson Hammond 1930-31, Leroy A. McGee 1935-36, Roy E. Birchard 1941-42, Dr. Roy W. Robinson 1956-57, Jack Richards 1959-60, James L. Martin 1968-69, Lamar H. Jones 1973-74, Thomas B. Anderson 1976-77, Tony Kontgas 1977-78, Kenneth M. Neuschwander 1986-87, Norman A. Smith 2001-02, Patrick F. Bailey 2002-03, Terry L. Nay 2003-04, Brian J. Hastings 2009-10, Charles G. Sipes 2010-11, Dean D. Rein 2012-13, & James A. Robertson 2014-15. I

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

am very honored to join the ranks of these esteemed Sir Knights from Charles Fred Jennings Commandery No.6.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve this Grand Jurisdiction as The Grand Commander for the 2015-2016 term. I am going to borrow a few words, my Grandfather taught my Father many years ago to always return something in better shape than what you borrowed it. My father has in turn taught me this lesson. Sir Knights, my hope was to leave this Grand Commandery in better shape than what I received it. I hope I have, and returned it to you, The Sir Knights of Utah in better condition, than that in which it was handed to me.

I want to leave you with a few last words. Each of you Sir Knights should remember a very important lesson taught to you in The Order of the Temple, Live your life with Faith and Humility. Because with Faith and Humility, you Should Let Your Light So Shine Before Men, That They May See Your Good Works and Glorify Your Father Which is In Heaven Matthew 5:16 (KJV).

Courteously,

TJ Robertson, KTCH, KYGCH

Grand Commander

The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar Of Utah, 2015-2016

REPORT OF THE V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Serving the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar has been very inspiring.

I had the distinct pleasure of attending the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment held in Buffalo New York August 2015. I also travelled to Las Vegas, Nv for the South West Department Conference in October 2015. At these two events I was able to meet with many Sir Knights from other jurisdictions and obtained some interesting insights from my discussions with them.

I was honored to be able to assist our Utah Commanderies in conferring the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, the Mediterranean Pass, and the Orders of Malta and The Temple. I visited all of the Commanderies this

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year except for Ogden. I attended all of the scheduled visitations (except one due to surgery).

My conversations with the Sir Knights in Utah have provided me with confirmation of the bright future our Commandery is facing and I look forward to my continued participation.

Respectfully submitted,
SK Robert M. Bennett, KYCH
Deputy Grand Commander

EMINENT GRAND GENERALISSIMO OF GRAND COMMANDERY OF UTAH REPORT 2016

During the recess of this Grand Commandery I also served as the ME Illustrious Grand Master so my time was limited and I chose to take a very targeted approach dealing with what I felt were two underserved communities. First, Utah Masons that were reaching out specifically in popular online forums who had questions about the York and KT in particular, reaching out to them, correcting their misconceptions in an effort to evangelize to them to turn them to York Rite membership. And we have had some success with that; I know of at least 4 people who have come from the lodges here in Utah to various York Rite bodies with the intention of going all the way to the Commandery through those effort. So, while the numbers are small, it does say something that these are brothers who feel so isolated that they are turning online to strangers to ask their question about KT so there is certainly a communications gap that we are not seeing and there is an opportunity for improvement. The other area is veteran community, specifically the injured veteran community. These men have a very complicated relationship with both their nation and their faith. These are not veterans of World War II. These are not the veterans of Korea. These are not the veterans of Viet Nam. These men served out of a profound sense to serve their country and most of them have come back confused and broken. The idea of putting on a uniform is something that is appropriate to them they are combat veterans; they did not go through drills and inspections, and leveraging that side to them turns them off. They don't want it. What they do want, though, is to be able to sit down and share their faith and share their camaraderie with the people that have seen it and need some of the same answers that they have. We have had

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some success doing that. Rush Club has been very great. Rush Club is a club specifically for adaptive athletes. Adaptive means people who are missing limbs yet they compete. They don't compete against handicapped, they compete against able-bodied people. Rush Club has been great for that, specifically through the efforts of Gerald Whiteoff who is a veteran, but not yet a mason. Additionally, other things like "Tough Mother". We have been working the Scottish Rite Tough Mother club but we have had a great deal of success reaching out to the injured veteran community and keeping them active in masonry, keeping they active in the Rites and helping them understand York Rite is a place for them, there is a place in KT where they don't have to come out and do drill, they don't have to come out and pretend that they are still in the military. They don't want to be. People have complex relationships, love and hate, and we hit them with the soft stuff; Come and hang out, come out and commiserate and then we get them in. So, we are getting them there. We've had great success doing that. It is a long-term goal but I am pleased to say that at least we have had 4 petitions through the online forums; we've had 2 that have come through the Adaptive community.

Respectfully submitted by
Jason Mitchell

REPORT OF THE EMINENT GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

To the Officers and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Utah:

I wish to thank the Sir Knights of Utah for giving me the honor and privilege to serve them as Grand Captain General for the past Templar year.

During the year I was able to accompany the Right Eminent Grand Commander on all of his visitations. In addition I assisted the Grand Commander at the Job's Daughters rally held in June. During the last weekend in October I traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada to attend the Southwest Conference.

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This past year has proved to be very rewarding for me and wish to personally thank the Right Eminent Commander and his officers for all of the support they showed me over the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Hamilton
Eminent Grand Captain General

2016 ANNUAL RETURNS SUMMARY – KT

	KT	#	Per capita (\$15)	Fees (\$2)	KTEF	Total
SPHC	Cm. #00	18	\$270.00		\$432.00	\$702.00
Ogden	Cm. #2	43	645.00			645.00
SLC	Cm. #1	112	1,680.00		88.00	1,768.00
Midvale	Cm. #3	51	765.00	10.00		775.00
Provo	Cm. #5	20	300.00		20.00	320.00
Price	Cm. #6	45	675.00	7.50	20.00	702.50
St. Geo.	Cm. #7	23	345.00	7.50		352.50
Totals		294	\$4,410.00	\$25.00	\$128.00	4,563.00

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STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

	TOTALS	Utah #1	El Monte #2	Malta #3	Ivanhoe #5	C F J #6	Golgotha #7	SPHC #00
As of 3/31/15	347	114	48	67	30	47	24	17
Knighted	10	0	0	4	0	3	3	0
Omitted	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Affiliated	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Restored	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total Gain	15	1	0	4	0	4	4	2
Error	3	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Deceased	8	2	0	4	1	1	0	0
Demitted	16	1	3	2	6	1	1	1
Suspended	24	0	0	14	3	3	4	0
Total Loss	51	3	5	20	10	6	5	1
As of 03/31/16	308	112	43	51	20	45	23	18
Net Gain (Loss)	-39	-2	-5	-20	-10	-2	-1	1

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CREDENTIALS REPORT COMMANDERY SESSIONS

Date May 7, 2016

Grand Commandery Officers (current) and Past Grand Elected

Officers.....14

Constituent Delegates.....18

Past Eminent Commanders..... 9

TOTAL (including proxies).....41

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE REPORT

The previous chairman, Ray White, Past Grand Commander who did a great job for years passed away and we are now working on getting this program up and running again.

Members: Eminent Commanders of each constituent Commandery.
The following presentation has been emailed to each constituent Commandery.

In person presentations have been made during the Grand Commanders visitation to: EI Monte No.2, Charles Fred Jennings No. 6 and Malta Commandery No.3. Additional in person presentations will be made to other Commanderies during the year.

Charles Fred Jennings No.6 has raised enough funds for their contribution for this year. Malta No.3 has raised partial funds and will continue to raise additional funds. EI Monte No.6 indicated that they will work on raising funds. The remaining Commanderies will be encouraged to raise funds.

Holy Land Pilgrimage Presentation

As Knights Templar we have a duty to support and defend the Christian Religion. As part of that duty Knights Templar of Utah have for many years been sending full time, ordained ministers from various denominations to the Holy Land. The purpose is to strengthen Christian ministry by providing an intensive travel and study program. Experience tells us how much the opportunity to "walk where Jesus walked" can positively affect the preaching, teaching, and spirituality of Christian Ministers. It is our plan to immerse the Pilgrim ministers in the land, the sights, the sounds, the history and the cultures of the Holy Land, past and present.

The program for many years was directed by Past Eminent Grand Commander Ray White who passed away. Sir Knight White did an excellent job for many years but now we have to get the program up and running again. Each Commandery in Utah should contribute \$350 per year by fundraisers or donations. In this manner we can send a qualified minister from Utah once every two years. Each Commandery may

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nominate a minister from their area who will be evaluated by the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee. As much as possible, depending on qualifications, we will try to have each Commandery have a turn in sending a minister from their area.

Fundraising suggestions: Dinners, go to churches to explain the program and ask for donations. Checks should be made payable to Grand York Rite and sent to the Grand Recorder Chuck Warren. Mark the check "Holy Land Pilgrimage".

I welcome your questions and your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay N Mitchell, Grand Prelate
Chairman

JURISPRUDENCE

We, your committee on Jurisprudence have reviewed the report of the RE Grand Commander, TJ Robertson detailing his activities and actions during the 2015-2016 year. I beg leave to report the following:

RE Grand Commander issued 3 general orders detailing issues with religious observance, standing dispensations, and the 106th Annual Conclave. These orders were within the authority of the RE Grand Commander and were in proper order. SK TJ Robertson issued 2 circulars setting forth the grand Commandery objectives and uses of Social Media. The circulars were in order and timely. During the past year, the RE Grand Commander urged all Commanderies in Utah to review their by-laws and update them to current standards. The by-law changes requested by Charles Fred Jennings Commandery #6 were not in compliance with Utah regulations to constituent Commanderies and, therefore, denied. The dispensations issued by the RE Grand Commander were within his authority to make. SK Robertson approved Grand representation to 4 sister jurisdictions to the Grand Commandery of Utah. The travel itinerary of the RE Grand Commander was extensive. His representation of Utah at various Masonic functions with-in and with-out the state demonstrate a strong commitment to our Utah Grand Commandery of the RE Grand Commanders. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that a son

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has followed his father as RE Grand Commander in the state of Utah. We find the actions of the RE Grand Commander, SK TJ Robertson, to be within the authority granted by the constitution, laws and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman A. Smith, Chairman

KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR COMMITTEE

The Knight Templar Cross of Honor was not awarded this year.

KNIGHT'S TEMPLAR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

There has been no action by this committee in the past year. There were a couple of inquiries by interest individuals that was received by the Grand Recorder and responded to, that the Grand Commandery of Utah no longer provided this service. The individuals were referred to other potential sources for funding their further education.

Submitted by:
Brian J. Hastings, PGC
Chairman

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

It has been my supreme pleasure and honor to serve on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) Committee this year. I have always admired the efforts of the KTEF, but my direct involvement this year has increased my admiration for the worthy work that is the result of the KTEF funding.

The 48th KTEF Campaign ran from June 1, 2015 through May 15, 2016. As of April 26, 2016, the dedicated efforts of the Utah Commandery members resulted in total donations of \$9,019.34. The following chart lists the donation activity by Commandery:

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

	TOTAL	RANK	ACT. MBRS AS OF 5/1/16	ACT MBR PER CAP AVG	RANK	QTY OF DON.	AVG DON	IND UNIQ MBR DON.	AVG DON PER UNIQ MEMBER
TOTAL UTAH	\$9,019.34		304	\$29.67		85	106.11	75	\$120.26
Grand	\$5,000.00		304	\$13.22		1	\$5,000.00	1	\$5,000.00
CFJ #6	\$234.24	6	45	\$5.21	7	5	\$46.85	4	\$58.56
El Monte #2	\$608.73	3	39	\$15.61	3	14	\$43.48	13	\$46.86
Golgotha #7	\$1,321.79	1	23	\$57.47	1	26	\$50.84	22	\$60.08
Ivanhoe #5	\$112.28	7	20	\$5.61	6	3	\$37.43	3	\$37.43
Malta #3	\$444.87	4	47	\$9.47	4	6	\$74.15	5	\$88.97
SPH #0	\$408.00	5	18	\$22.67	2	17	\$24.00	17	\$24.00
Utah #1	\$889.43	2	112	\$7.94	5	13	\$68.42	10	\$88.94

A donation of \$5,000 from the Sally Langdon Barefoot Foundation was submitted directly to the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Eye Foundation office on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Utah. I would also like to mention that donations totaling \$1,025 were received from the Ogden El Monte Temple Board and Masonic Foundation of Utah. I thank them for their continued support of this worthy endeavor.

I was honored to assist the Grand Commander in delivering grant checks to 3 Utah recipients. We delivered \$60,000 to Dr. Li Jaing of the University of Utah Moran Eye Center to further her research of therapeutic strategies in preventing blindness in infants and children; and another \$60,000 to Dr. Haibo Wang, also of the University of Utah Moran Eye Center, to allow her to continue her research in Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) which is the leading cause of childhood blindness affecting premature infants. The final recipient was Dr. Elizabeth Vargis who received \$60,000 to examine Retinal Vascularization by controlling cell growth. Being able to visit with these gifted and dedicated researchers and hear of the successes they have already made, and their expected successes with their continued research, was very rewarding.

This year's major fundraiser, the Grand Commandery Trap Shoot, was originally scheduled for April 2016, but had to be rescheduled to June is". We currently have several confirmed participants for this, hopefully, annual event. Our goal is to raise \$750.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

Fundraising for The Knights Templar Eye Foundation continues to be a valuable and fulfilling effort that I look forward to being involved with for many years to come.

Courteously submitted,
Robert M. Bennett, KYCH, Deputy Grand Commander, Chairman
Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez
Charles E. Warren, Sr.

(Published as amended and approved)

REPORT OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR MAGAZINE UTAH SUPPLEMENT, EDITOR

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Utah now in Session:

We your committee for the Utah supplement for the Knight Templar Magazine beg to report the following. 2015/2016 was another good year for the Utah Supplement. We were able to have an article submitted and published in each month of the Knight Templar Magazine. The committee has worked hard to try and find topics and write articles that we hope the Sir Knights of Utah have found interesting and entertaining.

The committee would like to encourage all of the Commanderies in Utah to participate actively in supplying ideas for topics and even writing articles that can be used in the Utah supplement.

We would like to thank the Right Eminent Grand Commander, T.J. Robertson for appointing us and allowing us to serve the Sir Knights of Utah in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,
Sir Knight Jeff Hamilton,
Eminent Grand Captain General, Chairman
Sir Knight Charles E. Warren Sr., Eminent Grand Recorder

LEGISLATION

Change to allow some latitude in dates of installations. Presented by John McCurdy. This is a proposal to change Grand Commandery laws and regulations to allow greater flexibility for installations of constituent Commanderies. Whereas the current constitution, laws and regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Utah, Title III, regulations regarding to constituent chapters, sections 3 through 7, election and installation of officers states that the installation of officers may be in a tiled meeting or a public installation program that should take place on or before St. John the Evangelist Day unless by special dispensation. And whereas the constitution, laws and regulations of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Utah, regulations referring to constituent councils, section 3-7 Election of officers, states the elections of officers of a chartered council shall be annually at a stated assembly as provided by its by-laws, the officers there shall be installed no later than the assembly of such chartered council. Whereas the current constitution, laws and regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, Title 3, regulations related to constituent Commanderies, Sections 3 through 7, The Election of Officers, states that the election of officers of a chartered Commandery shall be held annually at the stated conclave provided in its by-laws and the officers shall then be installed no later than the next regular conclave of the chartered Commandery. And, whereas it would be prudent to allow flexibility to the constituent Commanderies in Utah to hold the installation of officers either in conjunction with the Chapter or the Council in the location of the bodies and for the flexibility to hold installations in conjunction with other Blue Lodge functions or installations; and whereas it would also be prudent to bring regulations relating to constituent Commanderies in line with the Grand Chapter of Masons in Utah we therefore propose that the Grand Commandery constitution, laws and regulations Title 3 regulations related to constituent Commanderies, Sections 3 through 7, The Election of Officers, be amended to read “The installation of officers elected and appointed may be at a conclave or public installation program should take place on or before St John the Evangelist’s Day.” Therefor the Grand Commandery constitution, laws and Title III regulations regarding the constituent Commanderies, Sections 3 through 7, The Election of Officers, would read as follows: “The election of officers of a Chartered Commandery shall be held annually at the stated conclave provided by its by-laws. The

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah

installation of officers then elected and appointed may be held at a conclave or public installation program and should take place on or before St John the Evangelist's Day.”

Submitted:

John H McCurdy, PEC

Howard Hastings, PEC

Legislation as amended and approved.

VISITING DIGNITARIES

See Joint Sessions listing.

OTHER REPORTS

SAMUEL PAUL HONORS COMMANDERY

When I was elected to the Position of Commander of Samuel Paul Commandery, I pledged to get every member of my own Commandery to become a life member in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It took some doing, but at the writing of this report every member of my Commandery is a Life Member of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Due to Personal events I haven't worked on any other tasks at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence R. Rodriguez

Commander

Samuel Paul Commandery

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Utah



**105th ANNUAL
CONVOCATION
GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF UTAH**

Saturday, May 7, 2016

**Embassy Suites Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah**

GRAND CHAPTER

CHAPTER MINUTES 2016

May 7, 2016

Embassy Suites Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

Meeting called to order by Grand High Priest Dean D Rein. Roll Call of Officers, Grand High Priests and Dias Officers was conducted.

Dignitaries were introduced.

Motion was made and approved to suspend the rules and accept the pre-printed reports as published.

Reports were presented as follows:

- RARA**
- Mark Lodge #0**
- Grand High Priest**
- Jurisprudence**
- Credentials**

ME Grand High Priest reminded all about the state awards which were implemented this year.

Elections were held with the following results:

- ME Grand High Priest – Jason Varner
- RE Grand King – TJ Robertson
- RE Grand Scribe – Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez
- Grand Secretary – Charles Warren, Sr
- Grand Treasurer – Glen A Cook

It was announced that Norman A Smith and John McCurdy were given the prestigious Ephraim Kirby Award at the banquet the prior evening.

Jason Varner announced his resignation as Chairman of the Finance Committee due to his newly elected position. Motion was made to allow a vote for a new member on the committee. Dean D. Rein was elected as a one-year member on the committee.

Words were received from Deputy General Grand High Priest, SouthWest Region, Ted Bendure, representing Most Excellent Louis E Bartrand, General Grand High Priest.

Installations of elected and appointed officers was duly conducted as follows:

- Grand High Priest – Jason Varner
- Grand King – TJ Robertson
- Grand Scribe – Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez
- Grand Treasurer – Glen A Cook
- Grand Secretary – Charles E Warren, Sr
- Grand Captain of the Host – Christopher C Young
- Grand Principal Sojourner – Douglas J Backes
- Rand Royal Arch Captain – Robert M Bennett
- Grand Master of the 3rd Veil – Jeffrey E Hamilton
- Grand Master of the 2nd Veil – Edward G Nelson
- Grand Master of the 1st Veil – John C Liley, Jr
- Grand Chaplain – Jay N Mitchell
- Grand Lecturer – Jason L Mair
- Grand Sentinel – Reed B Fanning

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS

2015- 2016

*In Attendance

- *Dean D. ReinGrand High Priest
- *Jason A Mitchell.....E. Grand King
- *TJ Robertson.....R. E. Grand Scribe
- *Glen A CookR.E. Grand Treasurer
- *Charles E. Warren, Sr.....R. E. Grand Secretary
- *Jason C Varner.....E. Grand Captain of Host
- *Lawrence “Gunny” Rodriguez.....E. Grand Principal Sojourner
- *Christopher Young.....E. Grand Royal Arch Captain
- *Douglas Backes.....E. Grand Master 3rd Veil
- *Robert M Bennett.....E. Grand Master 2nd Veil
- Kevin Hill.....E. Grand Master 1st Veil
- *Ed Nelson.....E. Grand Sentinel
- *Jay Mitchell.....E. Grand Chaplain
- *Jeff HamiltonnExcellent Grand Lecturer

GRAND CHAPTER COMMITTEES 2015-16

*Denotes Chairman

4 Corners Royal Arch Festival

Jason C. Varner*
Lawrence R. Rodriguez
Douglas J. Backes

General Grand Bronze Metal

Brian J. Hastings*
Jason A. Mitchell
T.J. Robertson

Royal Arch Reaffirmation Day

Jay N. Mitchell*
Constituent Chaplains

Royal Arch Research Assistance

*Jason C. Varner
Constituent High Priests and
Recorders

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

Kenneth Neuschwander*	1970	B. Carl Lairson	2007
Charles Prisk	1985	Michael D. Shipler*	2008
Richard H. Simons	1987	Michael L. Busby*	2009
Blaine H. Simons*	1994	William Butterfield*	2010
William J. Westbrook*	1999	Charles Sipes*	2011
John L. Elwell Jr	2001	Brian J. Hastings*	2012
Norman A. Smith*	2004	Marion T McWilliams*	2013
Kelly A. Hansel	2005	P “Marty” Martineau*	2014
Loren H. Rausher*	2006	Dean D. Rein*	2015

*denotes in attendance

**denotes excused

CHAPTER DAIS OFFICERS

2015-2016

Utah #1		
High Priest	Benjamin L Young	A*
King	Monte K Anderson	A*
Scribe	Hugo Rodier	X
Ogden #2		
High Priest	Tim Fellows	A*
King	Ben Johnson	X
Scribe	Jean-Marie Pijuan	A*
Ontario #3		
High Priest	Jason L. Mair	A*
King	W. Paul Albertson	X
Scribe	Jay N. Mitchell	X
Provo #4		
High Priest	Art Nifong	A*
King	Daniel Drew	X
Scribe	Matt Montano	A*
Price #6		
High Priest	John McCurdy	X
King	T.J. Robertson	X
Scribe	David Brewer	A8
St. George #10		
High Priest	L. R. Rodriguez	X
King	Ed Nelson	X
Scribe	Charles I Young	X

(X denotes Present E denotes Excused A denotes Absent * Denotes Proxy)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

REPORT OF THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Companions, it is with pleasure that I welcome you to the 105th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah. On behalf of the Utah companions herein assembled, I extend warm fraternal greetings to our visiting Companions and dignitaries. It is hoped that your stay with us has been enjoyable and trust that it will be your desire to return to Utah for future Convocations.

Companions, this has been a most-satisfying term for me, serving as your Grand High Priest. I am appreciative to those Grand Chapter officers and constituent Chapter officers who exhibited enthusiasm and leadership talent throughout this term. Your efforts were met with noteworthy successes and accomplishments in Utah Royal Arch Masonry.

This accounts for my delight to have served and I sincerely thank you for your impressive involvement, participation and contributions. Despite many laudable achievements, Capitular Masonry in Utah faces several major challenges, which will be covered under the State of the Craft.

DISPENSATIONS

The following dispensations were granted during the term:

April 12, 2016 - Dispensation granted to Ontario Chapter No.3 to move their April Stated Convocation from April 27, 2016 to April 20, 2016 to accommodate a scheduling conflict and to hold the official visitation of the Grand High Priest.

April 14, 2016 - Dispensation granted to Provo Chapter No.4 to hold an election out of turn to fill the office of Secretary, held by Companion Owen Orton, who passed away on March 23, 2016.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS

I had the honor to appoint Companion Timothy L. Stenner as our Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Cyprus; Right Excellent Companion TJ Robertson as our Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of Michigan; Most Excellent Companion Michael Busby, Past Grand High Priest, as our Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of the

Philippines and Most Excellent Companion Brian Hastings, Past Grand High Priest, as our Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of New South Wales. I also approved the recommendation from the Grand Chapter of the Philippines that Companion Greg Macasaet be appointed as our Grand Representative near their Grand Chapter. Additionally, I approved the recommendation from the Grand Chapter of New South Wales that Right Excellent Companion Robert Parker be appointed as our Grand Representative near their Grand Chapter.

IN-STATE VISITATIONS

Visitations of the Grand York Rite leadership were reconsidered this term. In addition to the official visitations, social visitations to constituent bodies were also made. These were designed to replace the joint visitations from prior years. These social visitations took place in Salt Lake and Provo on June 6th, 2015 and June 20th 2015, respectively. They included luncheons suitable for a social gathering and were casual in nature to encourage positive thought and solutions.

These were a wonderful way of having constituent York Rite Masons meet their, Grand York Rite officers. They demonstrated that the Grand York Rite was united and ready to serve as a unified body for the benefit of Utah York Rite in general. The discussions proved to be very informative and insightful to those present. It is my hope and expectation that these social visitations will continue in the future with a greater geographical reach.

A severe stroke suffered by my mother-in-law Joan Stringham presented challenges and complications to me and my family during my term. It affected my commitment to Grand Chapter, causing me to reevaluate my priorities. I believe that I chose wisely and devoted much of my time to my wife Edie and her mother. Notwithstanding, I accomplished all of my official visitations to our constituent Royal Arch Chapters with the exception of Provo Chapter No.4. I was fortunate to be well represented at the Provo visitation by Excellent Companion Jeff Hamilton, Grand Lecturer, who made certain that I was well informed of the Chapter's challenges and successes.

My official visitations focused on several talking points, in addition to remarking on the Chapter reports provided to me. I encouraged our Chapters to confer degrees "in house," developing stronger ties with newly Exalted Companions and greater involvement and participation. I called attention to the great resources found on our own Grand York Rite website and that of the

General Grand Chapter. I recommended that our emerging leaders attend the High Potential Leadership Project, sponsored by the Grand Encampment at our regional York Rite conference. These are fantastic seminars and workshops which develop leadership skills in promising young Companions. Those who attend this program will help guide their Chapters in promising directions going forward. I promoted our charity, the Royal Arch Research Assistance, and inquired as to what fund raising efforts were held during the term. I reminded qualified Companions to become Anointed High Priests in our honorary body. I admonished our constituent leaders to attend the Grand York Rite sessions. I also promoted our new meritorious service recognition medal, known as the Keystone Award.

I had the honor of representing the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah at the Job's Daughters drill competition; the installation of the Job's Daughters Grand Guardian Council and Grand Bethel officers in Salt Lake City; Midvale Assembly No. 2147, Social Order of the Beauceant installation of officers; the Grand Master's banquet and the Grand Lodge of Utah's installation of officers.

OUT-OF-STATE VISITATIONS

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah was well represented at Grand Chapter Convocations in other jurisdictions throughout the Southwest. Right Excellent Companion TJ Robertson, Grand Scribe, represented me at Nevada's and California's Grand Convocations; Excellent Companion Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez, Grand Principal Sojourner, represented me at Arizona's and New Mexico's Grand Convocations; and, Excellent Companion Jason Varner, Grand Captain of the Host, represented our Grand Chapter at Colorado's Grand Convocation. I am appreciative to these Companions who freely volunteered and gave of their time and personal expense to represent our jurisdiction.

The Southwest Regional York Rite Conference was held in Las Vegas on October 30th and 31st, 2015. The Royal Arch Masons of Utah were well represented at this conference. I had the pleasure to be accompanied by Excellent Companion Jeff Hamilton, Grand Lecturer; Most Excellent Companion Michael Shipler, Past Grand High Priest; Most Excellent Companion Charles Sipes, Past Grand High Priest; Most Excellent Companion Preston "Marty" Martineau, Past Grand High Priest; Right Excellent Companion Charles Warren, Sr. Grand Secretary.

I had the pleasure of attending two meetings at Keystone Chapter No.6, Royal Arch Masons of Nevada and was well received as Grand High Priest. I also attended the Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant, in League City, TX, with my wife Edie, who was installed as Supreme Worthy Second Vice President.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

I would prefer to report that I observed and evaluated our Royal Arch Chapters and found each and every one of them to be exceptional. That they enjoyed noteworthy accomplishments and successes; laudable goals and objectives were established and achieved through perseverance and superior leadership; opening and closing rituals were performed flawlessly and from memory; degrees were conferred every month on multiple candidates; appropriate attire and uniforms were being worn; attendance was plentiful; Convocations were thoughtful and engaging; membership was flourishing; fund raising activities were held frequently and were very successful; family and community involvement was imperative; officers were well trained and performed their duties with alacrity; committees were established, active and effective ... and so forth. That would have been my preference. Clearly, I did not observe but a portion of what I just mentioned. No one would expect to find the perfect Chapter, no matter where they searched.

I think it would be inappropriate for me to identify any given Chapter for their successes or weaknesses in this report. I would rather discuss these matters with my successor at an appropriate time. I am pleased to report, however, that I observed a few Chapters that are performing at a reasonable or above-satisfactory level. They recognize the need for improvement and are striving to improve. I am heartened by their accomplishments and look forward to their continued successes. There are a few Chapters, however, that are struggling for a variety of reasons. While membership in our jurisdiction has declined by roughly 10 percent this term due to NPDs, deaths and demits, it does not offer a rationale for substandard work or the lack of work entirely. There exists a deteriorating level of pride, dignity and respect for Capitular Masonry in at least one our Chapters. A few other Chapters remain challenged by the lack of direction, uninspired leadership, lackluster enthusiasm and diminished self-worth. It is my earnest hope and desire that the example set by our stronger, more successful Chapters will be instilled in the hearts and minds of our less-than-stellar Chapters going forward.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

During my official visitation to Price Chapter No.6, I had the honor of presenting the Keystone Award for Meritorious Service to Most Excellent Companion Norm Smith. He is the first recipient of this award and I cannot think of a more qualified and deserving Companion. It was my distinct pleasure to present the Ephraim Kirby Award to Most Excellent Companions Norm Smith and William Butterfield at our Thursday night banquet. These are truly amazing Companions and well deserving of this prestigious award. I also presented Excellent Companion Lawrence Rodriguez with the Bronze Medal. Gunny has given so much to Royal Arch Masonry over the years and on behalf of his fellow Companions, I congratulate him once again and offer our heartfelt thanks.

ROYAL ARCH REAFFIRMATION SUNDAY

Royal Arch Chapters in our jurisdiction were notified that on Sunday, October 25,2015, Royal Arch Companions were to reaffirm their solemn vow to Almighty God by attending religious services wearing their Royal Arch apron and, optionally, their uniform. They were also encouraged to invite family and friends to accompany them. Reports and photographs provided to the Grand Chaplain and I confirmed that there was very good participation and that the day was very successful.

ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

For the period May 2015 through April 2016, a total of \$2,488 in donations were received and subsequently dispersed to our charity, which focuses on Central Auditory Processing Disorders and Autism Speaks. A large portion of the donated funds came from the Masonic Foundation of Utah (\$1,000) and Keystone Mark Master Lodge (\$1,100). While we are very grateful for their generous donations, consider that if not for the foundation's donation, the per capita figures would have been approximately \$1.50 per Royal Arch Mason in our jurisdiction. We must be more generous in our giving to this worthy charity. To encourage this, the General Grand Chapter has developed a new fund raising program called, "A Gift for a Gift" which ought to be considered by all York Rite bodies in Utah. For only \$150, three excellent musical CDs may be purchased by a Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery. They contain music for many Masonic ceremonial occasions. There are patriotic tunes as well as music for the opening and closing of a Masonic body. There are incidental tunes and processionalists to include hymns and other appropriate tunes as well. I would expect to see an improvement in donations during the 2016-17 term due, in part, to this fund raising effort.

FOUR CORNERS FESTIVAL

October 3, 2015 marked the 51st Annual Four Corners Festival, which was held in Holbrook, AZ. Five Royal Arch Companions from Utah conferred the Most Excellent Master degree that day. I commend Excellent Companions Ed Nelson, Grand Sentinel; Lawrence Rodriguez, Grand Principal Sojourner; Jason Varner, Grand Captain of the Host; and Right Excellent Companion Charles Warren, Grand Secretary, who accompanied me to the festival and participated in the degree. While we had a small contingent of Companions, we proficiently fulfilled our roles with confidence and zeal. On behalf of these Companions, I thank the Royal Arch Masons of Arizona for a wonderful event and an enjoyable time. Utah will be hosting the 52nd Annual Four Corners Festival, which will be held in Price, UT on October 1, 2016. I have no doubt that this event will be most successful and I encourage our Companions and candidates to join us.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

I recommend that the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah continue to participate in the Four Corners Festival. While I discourage degrees conferred utilizing festivals in general, it remains a meaningful event, benefiting many candidates who are desirous of becoming Royal Arch Masons.

I recommend that emerging leaders in our Chapters attend the High Potential Leadership Project seminars and workshops at our regional York Rite conferences. Locally, I recommend that Utah York Rite leadership conferences be conducted annually to share valuable information obtained from the regional York Rite conferences. Additionally, officer training, membership development and a host of proven instructional tools should be presented to help ensure improved success in our Chapters.

I recommend that my successors in office invoke their prerogative to place on probation any subordinate Chapter whom they determine to be operating in a clandestine or otherwise unacceptable manner. Admonishments should be issued, followed by good counsel and advice. Absolute compliance to such orders should be observed and noted for a six-month period. Absent satisfactory improvements in a Chapter's operations, the option of suspending or revoking their charter remains.

I encourage Chapters to learn from the successes of their constituents. Utilize their winning strategies and strive for excellence. Some objectives worth consideration include:

- Conferring the Capitular degrees "in house," employing the ritualistic talent from within the Chapter. Companions Exalted in their own Chapter are more inclined to offer worthwhile ideas, be desirous of ascending to leadership positions and be more passionate about their accomplishments and successes.
- Provide enlightening educational programs, encouraging improved attendance and participation.
- Hold well-planned fundraising efforts for our Royal Arch Research Assistance charity. These offer a means to involve our members, families and the community and, most especially, benefit our worthy charity.
- Conduct regular officer training and planning meetings and degree rehearsals. This will result in improved direction and cohesiveness.

These are just a few of the successful ideas that I have observed and applaud. It is my desire that all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in Utah will embrace them or prepare and implement equally commendable plans. As a result, they ought to see improved attendance, greater participation and benefit from renewed unity and zeal. Chapters should work together and provide assistance and guidance to each other to make certain that goals reach fruition. I am certain that Capitular Masonry in Utah will continue to build on its successes, providing a strong foundation for our beloved York Rite in Utah.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is impossible to thank everyone who lent a helping hand and offered me guidance during my term. It has been a blessing to be surrounded by so many intelligent, caring, and conscientious Companions, friends and family, without whose contributions and advice, I would not have been able to adequately perform the duties of my office.

To the Grand Chapter officers and ladies, you have given so much of your time and resources this year, all for the betterment of our Craft. You have displayed talents and capabilities that have furthered our successes. It's difficult to identify exactly what it is within us that keeps us so devoted, but all of you certainly have what it takes. I am truly grateful for the lasting

friendships that have developed between us over the years while serving and socializing with you. Thank you most sincerely. I am certain that we will continue to work together again and enjoy each other's company long after the conclusion of this Convocation.

To the Past Grand High Priests of Utah, thank you for your wise counsel over the years and the confidence you have reposed in me during my term. I regard all of you as esteemed men and Masons, whom I can only hope to emulate. You are my mentors, and I appreciate how much time and devotion you have given of yourselves in the past and will continue to give. You are truly remarkable, and I am humbled to soon be in your midst.

To my fellow Companions, it has been a most pleasing duty to serve you. Your devotedness and enthusiasm is unwavering because of your love of our Craft. Your contributions of time and effort have strengthened our very foundation and perpetuate the goodness of Capitular Masonry. You have and will continue to serve your fellow man. Society is better off because of all you do. I know that we will be seeing each other from time to time and it will be my pleasure to look in on you and enjoy the beauties of Capitular Masonry and our great charity. Thank you.

To my wife Edie, you have given of yourself so completely in the name of Freemasonry. As I approach the end of my term, there is barely an ounce of effort left within you. I know this. Yet, you persevere because of your devotion to me and the Craft. You have poured your heart and soul into this journey in an attempt to make me shine, which isn't easy for anyone. You have tried to keep me on task and to ensure that I made my commitments and obligations. You have offered ideas and concepts that I never would have thought of, and Capitular Masonry is better because of you. All of these things you did because of your unwavering love for me and your compassion for the Craft. My heart is filled to overflowing with my love for you. Companions, I love this Fraternity beyond description. Now imagine the love I have for Edie. It is infinitely greater. I love you, Little "e" with all that I am. You are my reason for being. You are all my reasons.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean D. Rein
Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah

REPORT OF THE GRAND KING

There is nothing to report.

Submitted:
Jason Mitchell
Grand King

REPORT OF THE R. E. GRAND SCRIBE

It has been a great honor to serve the Grand Jurisdiction of Utah this past year as The Right Excellent Grand Scribe of Royal Arch Masons of Utah. Capitular Masonry in Utah is doing very good, and I am honored to be a part of it.

This year the visitations were changed from the joint official visitation of all 3 Grand York Rite Bodies in Utah, to a social type of joint visit. It was then up to the Grand Heads of Bodies to schedule official visits as their schedule allowed. I think this was a very worthwhile approach, and with a little adjustment, should be a great way of doing things. There were socials held in Salt Lake City, and Provo in June of 2015. Round-table discussions were held at these and I believe we accomplished a lot. I was able to accompany Most Excellent Companion Dean D. Rein, to his Official Visits to Ogden, and Price. Unfortunately I had a work commitment, and was unable to attend with him to Utah Chapter No.1.

The state of Royal Arch Masons in Utah overall I believe to be thriving. Most of the Chapters in Utah have been able to receive new petitions and start new Companions on their York Rite Journey. Keystone Mark Master Lodge completed an exemplification of The Mark Master Degree in October, and it was well attended. Price and Midvale have been on a roll for the past few years, and have been Exalting new Companions on a regular basis. This is a great thing for Royal Arch Masons, as we continue to grow our chapters, as well as The York Rite in Utah. With the Four-Corners Royal Arch Festival returning to Utah this year, I think it will be an excellent opportunity to get many more members interested in The York Rite.

It has been my direction as an Officer in The York Rite of Utah to see the York Rite as a whole be elevated to the highest standards possible.

Although we are a small jurisdiction, the quality and dedication that each of the bodies have with each other is one of our greatest strengths, we need to keep that going for the future. I am very proud to be a companion among you.

Thank You,

T J Robertson, Right Excellent Grand Scribe of The Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Utah.

GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah now in session:

I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation to our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Dean D. Rein for his appointment of me to this honored position. It has been a wonderful learning experience for me and one I will always cherish. I would also like to thank Companion Larry Rodriguez for his hard work in putting together the Grand Lecturer's Hand Book and also for his mentoring and friendship. Both of which have been essential in my success this year.

A few years ago the Grand York Rite of Utah made the decision to get away from using Festivals to confer the degrees and orders. I believe that decision was a wise one. It has forced the local bodies to get back to the business they were formed to do. While I can't say that the ritual around the state is great, I can say that it is improving. The Chapters are doing a good job of working together to confer the degrees. The Companions who are now receiving their degrees in the more intimate setting of their home Chapters appear to me to be more appreciative and they are more eager to participate in the Chapter, especially in the ritual.

In closing I would like to encourage the Chapters here in Utah to continue on and improving their ritual. As we all know in the Blue Lodge if the EA Degree is done well it has lasting effects. The same holds true for the Chapter degrees. If they are done well the effect lasts through the Order of the Temple.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Hamilton,
Excellent Grand Lecturer

2016 REPORT OF RETURNS – RAM

	Mark Master				
SLC	Keystone #0	50	\$1,100 RARA		\$1,100.00
	RAM	#	Per capita (\$6)	Fees (\$2)	Total
Ogden	Ch. #2	45	\$315.00		\$315.00
SLC	Ch. #1	119	833.00	10.00	843.00
Midvale	Ch. #3	47	329.00	10.00	339.00
Provo	Ch. #4	21	147.00	2.50	149.50
Price	Ch. #6	44	308.00	7.50	315.50
St. Geo.	Ch. #10	23	161.00		161.00
Totals		299	\$2,093.00	\$30.00	\$2,123.00

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

	MM #0	Totals	Utah #1	Ogden #2	Ontario #3	Provo #4	Price #6	Golgotha #10
as of 03/31/15	53	329	118	43	67	30	45	26
Exalted	-	8	4	0	0	1	3	0
Omitted	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Affiliated	-	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Restored	-	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total gain	-	11	4	2	0	1	4	0
Error	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deceased	-	8	2	0	4	1	1	0
Demitted	-	11	1	0	2	6	1	1
Suspended	-	22	0	0	14	3	3	2
Total Loss	-	41	3	0	20	10	5	3
as of 03/31/16	50	299	119	45	47	21	44	23
Net Gain (Loss)	-3	-30	1	2	-20	-9	-1	-3

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BRONZE MEDAL AWARD REPORT

Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

Your Committee for the Bronze Medal selection reports that it received two nominations for the Bronze Medal award for the 2015-2016 year. Upon discussing the nominees with the committee and yourself, a unanimous decision was made to recommend Companion Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez to be awarded the Bronze Medal for his service to Royal Arch Masonry in Utah. Companion "Gunny" has shown his dedication to his fellow man and country in the past, by serving in the US Marine Corps as well as serving as a Law Enforcement officer in Southern California. Gunny continues to display this dedication through his service to Royal Arch Masonry in Utah. We are greatly pleased to recommend Lawrence "Gunny" Rodriguez to receive the Bronze Medal.

Fraternally submitted:
Brian J. Hastings, PGHP Chairman
Jason Mitchell
T J Robertson

CREDENTIALS REPORT ROYAL ARCH SESSIONS

Date May 7, 2016

Past Grand Elected Officers.....	12
Constituent Delegates (current Excellent HP, KING, SCRIBE) including proxies.....	18
Past High Priests.....	17
 TOTAL (including proxies).....	 47

4 CORNERS ROYAL ARCH FESTIVAL

See inclusion in Grand High Priest's report.

JURISPRUDENCE

We, your committee on Jurisprudence, reviewed the report of the ME Grand High Priest setting forth his actions and activity during 2015-16 and report the following:

Dispensations issued by ME Grand High Priest were appropriate and were within his authorities. ME Companion Rein made a large number of appointments as Grand Representatives to several jurisdictions. This is a very positive action in maintaining good fraternal relations with Grand Chapters recognized by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest spend a good deal of time travelling to visitations, sister jurisdictions and other Masonic functions. In doing so he represented the Grand Chapter of Utah in an appropriate manner.

The observations and recommendations of the Grand High Priest are well thought through and worthy of consideration. The actions taken by ME Companion Dean D Rein were within the powers granted by the Constitution Bylaws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah. He is to be commended on a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,
Jurisprudence Committee
Norman A Smith, Chairman

LEGISLATION

No legislation submitted

ROYAL ARCH REAFFIRMATION

Chairman: Jay N. Mitchell, Grand Chaplain
Members: Constituent Chaplains

This day is not just a religious observance. It is meant to reaffirm our vows to both God and Capitular Masonry and to memorialize the formation of the Grand Chapter of Ohio on October 24, 1816. This event should not be viewed as a mandated obligatory observance, but a joyous occasion of fellowship and celebration of our beloved Capitular Rite.

Why Affirmation Day? "Because," as Rev. Myrice put it, "we seek to thank God for bringing together all the Grand Chapters of the world into an International General Grand Chapter on October 24, 1816. Therefore we join our hearts together throughout the world as Royal Arch Masons on the nearest Sunday in October to that date in the spirit of reaffirmation of our solemn vows to Almighty God for his revelation of Divine Truth given us through Masonry."

Constituent Chapters were requested to attend the religious service of their choice on Reaffirmation Sunday which was October 25th 2015. Members of Ontario Chapter No.3 attended St. James Episcopal Church and were recognized and welcomed by the Pastor. Price Chapter No.6 RAM held their Reaffirmation Day on October 25th and attended Church Services at the Price Community Methodist Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay N. Mitchell, Grand Chaplain

ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Since the last communication of this Grand Chapter One thousand three hundred and eighty-eight dollars (\$1,381.00) were collected on behalf of and passed on to RARA. An additional one thousand one hundred dollars were donated directly to RARA by Keystone Mark Master Lodge.

Fraternally Submitted
Jason C Varner
Committee Chair

Appended to report: a Gold Certificate was received from Grand Chapter for the Keystone Mark Lodge for their donation of \$1,100 last year.

VISITING DIGNITARIES - 2016

The dignitaries introduced that were no introduced during the Joint Sessions are:

- Kim Bowman, Grand Master of the 1st Veil, Montana, representing Dennis Dudley, Grand High Priest, Montana
- Peter H. Johnson, Grand High Priest, Arizona

OTHER REPORTS

KEYSTONE MARK LODGE #0

As Right Worshipful Master of Keystone Mark Master Lodge #0, I bring you fraternal greetings from the fifty-plus members of the only Mark Master Lodge west of the Mississippi. This is something that the whole Masonic family in Utah should be proud of; not just the York Rite family. Since its constitution in 2010, over \$8,000 have been contributed to the RARA. Whether you agree with the original concept of Keystone or not, that is a pretty substantial contribution and this contribution is on-going as it is enshrined in our bylaws that 50% of our dues goes towards that.

This year we have refocused our efforts in opening the Chapter in full-form and being available to anyone to perform the Mark Degree when requested. To this end we held a successful state-wide Mark Degree, which was open to all Master Masons, in the Salt Lake Masonic Temple and we were requested to exemplify the Mark Degree during Damascus Lodge business meeting. We have also been requested by the Provo and Ogden York Rite Chapters to put several candidates through the degree within the next few weeks.

Isn't it good to talk about something that is actively supporting York Rite and to those York Rite bodies presently unable to initiate candidates, this can only be a plus for the fraternity. Keystone is willing to assist the York Rite bodies in any way we can.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the Past Masters of Keystone whose contributions came before me.

I think it wise that all bodies of Masonry in Utah, not just of York Rite, Masonry needs no advertising to the profane, but advertising to its own members. Masons need to be taught to extend Masonry's influence over men's hearts and minds. We do not need more material to work with but the best way to work with the material we already have.

Submitted:

Gavin KK Wardrope

Keystone Mark Master Lodge #0, Master

