Most Illustrious Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters, of the State of Georgia

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Ronald L. Thomas General Grand Council Ritual Award

Greetings Companions,

A key component to my program for the 2021-2022 year is the Ritual, seeing our proficiency and pride in our presentation of our ritual increase. This award is intended to inspire you to commit Cryptic ritual to memory and to engage and participate in ritualistic work within the Cryptic Rite. The key aspects of earning the award are that you can almost perfectly recite and deliver the ritual appropriately. I believe the high standards we are setting will preserve those Sacred Treasures which are ours through Masonic heritage.

Recitation

The official ritual for presentation of all parts is the Georgia Ritual adopted by Grand Council in 2013. As is clearly seen in looking over the requirements to earn the award, points need to be earned for both performance and recitation. The recitation standards are higher than the performance. Recitation points cannot be counted as performance points and must be earned by delivering an almost verbatim presentation of the different roles as outlined in this document to a qualified examiner. The examiners for Georgia will be the Custodians, Assistant Custodians, or elected Grand Officers of the Grand Council. The number of errors permitted in the presentation of the various roles is equal to number of points to be earned. The exception to this rule is the Opening and Closing a Council of Select Masters eight (8) errors will be permitted in the Recitation of these parts.

Performance

Performance points cannot be counted toward recitation points and must be earned by performing the role as part of a degree team. This requires that the essential elements are effectively communicated. It will be acceptable to overlook errors provided the meaning of the part is clear and that the floorwork, non-verbal, and inflection of performing as part of a degree team. Approval of these points is also done by the same examiners as outlined above, however if the performance being judged is done in a subordinate Council with no designated examiners present a Director of Work for that Council can verify the performance with appropriate notation in the passport book.

Passport Books (Sale Item -Not Required-\$15.00 each each)

The passports are designed to assist you in completing the requirements for each of the degree bars for the Ritual Award. Their purpose is to centralize the documentation for each of the qualifying tasks of that degree and serve as a beautiful memento of your journey. When all requirements are met, please submit the completed passport to our Grand Recorder's Office and he will then order your Ritual Award and the corresponding degree bar. The Ritual award and degree bars will be awarded without any cost to any Cryptic Mason in good standing. Please note that only the Royal and Select Master's Passports are currently available from the Grand Recorder's Office, the Super Excellent Master's Passport will be ordered as needed. Please contact the Grand Recorder to order your Passports either by phone at (478)-742-2557 or via email at markbradley@yorkriteofga.org.

Companions I look forward to you earning this award. I find the revisions made to the requirements for this award to be very exciting. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me at jwbard@msn.com or call me at (770)-354-8759.

Yours in Cryptic Masonry Service,

Attest:

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James W. Bard Most Illustrious Grand Master

Mark A. Bradley Mark A. Bradley Grand Recorder