

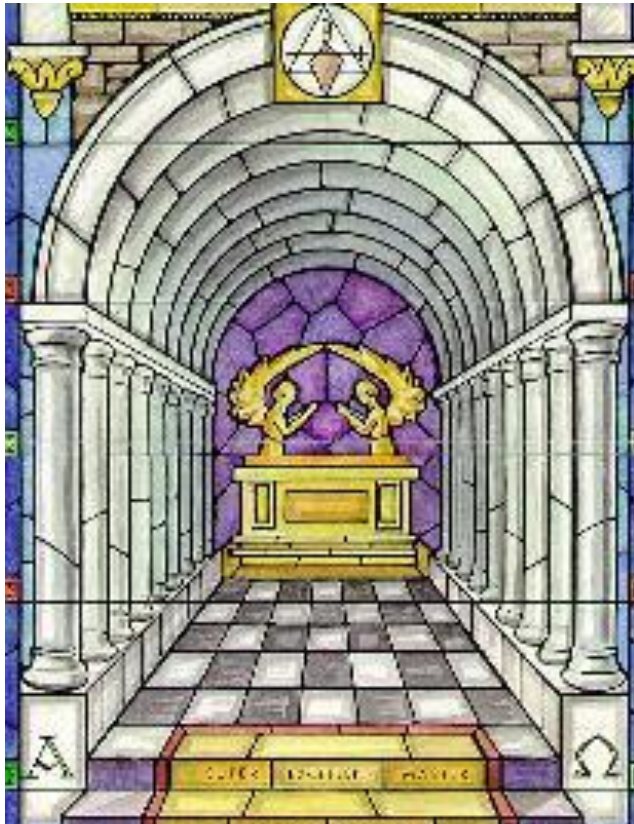
TALES FROM THE CRYPT

NEWSLETTER OF THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND COUNCIL OF
CRYPTIC MASONS OF COLORADO – INSTITUTED DECEMBER 6,
1894

MAY 2024

Greetings, Companions -

We are honored to present to you our publication, “*Tales From the Crypt*”. We hope that you will read it, enjoy it and take time to contribute.



*Help us
make the
Tales
interesting*

We want this newsletter to be of value to our Companions. We plan to share information useful to Cryptic Masons throughout the state. We also will include photos and writeups on past events as well as information and plans for upcoming events. We will include educational content, hopefully in a readable and useful format. Most importantly, we will feature information, announcements and photos that you provide. We want this to be your publication. Something that each of us looks forward to receiving and that hopefully will spark interest in Master Masons throughout the state to become part of the York Rite.

Most Illustrious Grand Master's Corner



Greetings from the Crypt!

Greetings, Companions - As the Grand Pathways festival has been canceled for 2024, I encourage attendance at the Great Plains Rendezvous in Sterling, CO on July 22nd. It is hosted by the Grand Council of Colorado. For those who have never attended, the festival is composed of the Kansas, Wyoming and Colorado Grand Councils.

Organization of the festival rotates through the three states. Kansas will be putting on the Royal Master degree, Wyoming the Select Master degree and Colorado the Super Excellent Master degree. If your Council has a candidate, fill out the application form below and send it in ASAP. I would like to see as many Companions attending as possible.

A pancake breakfast will be served on Saturday morning – donations welcome. Registration fee is \$25 and includes Saturday lunch. Hope to see you there.

A flyer describing the Great Plains Rendezvous in detail along with a registration form appears below.

We are getting into May which is the end of the Cryptic year for many of the Colorado Councils and the time for the new Thrice Illustrious Masters to be elected and installed. I **STRONGLY** urge all these new TIM's to have their year planned out and scheduled ahead of their installation and hand out a copy of that schedule at installation. This will be a great help in having a successful Cryptic year for each Council

Every Council should exemplify all the degrees each year whether they have a candidate or not. Use stand-ins if necessary. This way, the degree team has plenty of time to learn their parts and become proficient every year. Don't use the excuse, "We don't have enough members." You have at least nine, get everyone involved. If necessary, get hold of the York Rite College for help in building a cast, the College is there to help put on degrees. The date of the degrees should be part of the plan so each Council knows when the degrees are to be exemplified before the new year begins. This also helps the other York Rite bodies and candidates plan their time in progressing through all the York Rite bodies. Name the directors for the Degrees as part of the plan and have them put together the degree teams during the summer to allow all the members plenty of time to learn their parts. It is nice for the cast members to have several months to learn a part rather than a few last minute weeks.

Exemplifying the degrees will also earn a Council points towards the Dave Salberg Award. The date of the CMMRF fund raising and any other special events should be part of the plan along with the responsible Companion for each activity.

Every properly run Council must have Masonic education at every Assembly (remember your oath for the Past Master Degree). Trying to prepare meaningful Masonic education for every Assembly can be a burden to the TIM, so spread the duty around.

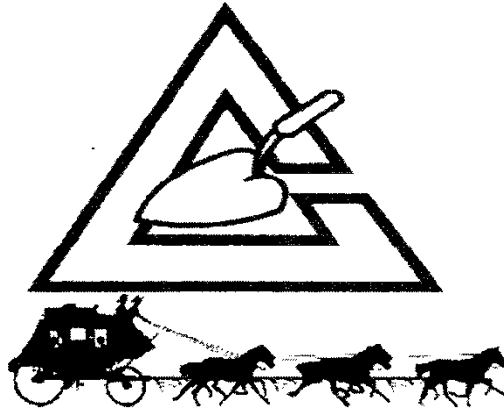
Assign that duty to Companions in the Council as part of the plan; have a different Companion do the education at each Assembly. As I've described in previous articles, consider using the Cryptic Masonry Education Course as part of your Masonic education.

Remember the 7 P's, "**Prior Proper Planning Prevents Piss Poor Performance.**"

Have a great 2024 – 2025 Cryptic Year and congratulations to all the new Thrice Illustrious Masters. Your Grand Council is here and ready to help each Council as required, your Grand Council Officer is just a phone call away if needed.

**With gratitude and brotherly love,
Bruce E. Lawrence MIGM**

***Great Plains Rendezvous* Sterling, Colorado Saturday June 22, 2024**



With the following States performing:

Kansas - Royal Master Degree

Wyoming - Select Master Degree

Colorado - Super Excellent Master Degree / Pageant

Hosted by Sterling Council No. 19, 198 Springdale Road Sterling, Colorado

Located on the south side of West Main Street (CO HWY 14) Across
from Pioneer Park just past Home Depot

***NOTE: 6/21 Friday night arrival dinner, 6:00PM at Sam & Louie's, 310 Main Street
Lodge Doors Open 7:30 AM 6/22 - Work 9:00 AM***

For registration information contact:

Harry Peterson, Secretary
Sterling Council No. 19
PO Box 329
Sterling Colorado 80751
970-522-5219

Accommodations
and
Registration Form Enclosed

Bruce E. Lawrence, MIGM-CO
8969 William Cody Dr.
Evergreen, CO 80493
303-906-9265
bruce.e.lawrence@gmail.com

Registration fee for Companions and candidates, \$25 includes lunch
Make remittance to Harry Peterson, PO Box 329, Sterling CO 80751
Make checks payable to Sterling Council 19 Cryptic Masons
(Registration form enclosed)

Accommodations

Holiday Inn Express

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

1555 East Chestnut Street

Sterling, CO 80751

1-970-425-7414

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/sterling/stkes/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps--EX--US--STKES

Quality Inn & Suites

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2020 Leisure Lane

Sterling, CO 80751

970-522-3700

<https://www.choicehotels.com/colorado/sterling/quality-inn-hotels/co201?source=gyxt>

Best Western Sundowner

Indoor and outdoor pools

125 Overland Trail

Sterling, CO 80751

970-522-6265

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-sterling/best-western-sundowner/propertyCode.06108.html

Sterling Comfort Inn Suites

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2020 Leisure Lane

Sterling, CO 80751

970-522-3700 6850

<https://www.colorado.com/hotel/comfort-inn-sterling>

Ramada Inn

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2500 E. Chestnut

Sterling, CO 80751

970-522-2625

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/sterling-colorado/ramada-sterling/overview>

Super 8 Motel

Indoor Pool

12883 Hwy 61

Sterling, CO 80751

970-425-6934

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/sterling-colorado/super-8-sterling-co/overview?CID=LC;SE::GGL;RIO:National:02860&iata=00065402>



RV Camping



North Sterling State Park (970)522-3657

<https://www.cpwshop.com/camping/north-sterling-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.page?parkID=50065&media=3>

Registration Form

Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone No. (___) _____

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Number of Companions _____ X \$25 each= \$ _____ (Includes registration and lunch)

Number of Candidates _____ X \$25 each= \$ _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

Pancake breakfast (donations accepted) before work begins; doors open at 7:30 AM, work starts at 9: AM

Will attend the 6:00 pm arrival dinner Friday night at **Sam & Louie's, 310 Main Street.**

Please make checks payable to **Sterling Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons**
and mail to: **Harry Peterson: PO Box 329: Sterling, CO 80751**

(Your check will validate your reservation: *Reservations due no later than 6/14/24*)

The pleasure of participating in this event is greatly appreciated!

Right Illustrious Grand Deputy Master' Message

Secrecy and silence are common threads throughout Masonry. One of the very first lessons a newly made Entered Apprentice learns is that of secrecy; a grip and a word are only to be given in the manner in which they are received. It is repeatedly impressed upon the new Mason in each degree not to share the secrets with anyone who has not received that degree.

The Scottish Rite degrees of the Lodge of Perfection are termed the ineffable degrees. The word ineffable comes from the Latin *ineffabilis*, which means something that should not be spoken. In this, we mean the ineffable name of God – that which is not to be spoken. This lesson is repeated throughout the degrees of the Royal Arch.

The ancient mysteries and religions also practiced secrecy and silence. The school of Pythagoras required the novitiate to remain silent for five years to help in his contemplation of religion and philosophy. As part of their final admission into full fellowship, they were required to taken oath of secrecy. The ancient Egyptian god Harpocrates was the Ptolemaic, and later the Greek and Roman God, of silence and secrecy. In Greek legend, Aphrodite gave her son Eros a rose. Eros then gave that rose to Harpocrates to ensure his mother's indiscretions were kept a secret. In imitation of that, leaders would suspend a rose from the ceiling of their meeting rooms to swear everyone to secrecy. This practice was called *sub rosa*, or under the rose, and that term is still in use today in the legal world to mean secrecy.

In the Charge to the Select Master, we learn

“Be voluntarily dumb and blind, when the exercise of those faculties would endanger the peace of your mind or the probity of your conduct; and let silence and secrecy, those cardinal virtues of a Cryptic Mason, on all necessary occasions, be scrupulously observed.”

Select Masters work in silence and secrecy while they prepare the sacred deposit. These are called the cardinal virtues of a Select Master, for their importance is impressed on the new Select Master and should accompany him throughout his Masonic life to safeguard the secrets of Masonry in every degree.

All knowledge is a form of property that can be given, received and even sold. Knowledge is the secret of a tradesman such as that of the operative stonemason, the intellectual secrets of a company, and the secret plans of the military for both offense

and defense. In each of those examples, secrecy elevates the control of that knowledge and makes it more desirable.

A Mason who practices secrecy and silence in all degrees of the Craft should use those practices in his every day life. Whether he is the seasoned leader of a military force or a journeyman in one of the trades, he must understand that secrecy and silence may lead to the loss of wages, or to the loss of his life and that of his countrymen.

- Lee Miller, Right Illustrious Grand Deputy Master

Most Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work's Message

Companions,

I would like to start by thanking the Councils that MIGM Bruce and his officers have visited thus far. I'm sorry for any cancellations or changes. Many of our Masonic families are trying to finish a lot before the summer. Please remember that Official Visits need not be stressful. As a past presiding officer, I know it gets that way, many of our Grand Officers have tried to chill a lot while we watch over the bodies. We mainly want to know how we can help you.

MIGM Bruce has been promoting a Cryptic Mason Book that is full of excellent overviews of all the Degrees, as well as helpful questions in the back that can spark a lot of education and enlightening conversations for Councils, we are all hungry for more light. If we as Grand Officers can help in any way, please write it down, bring it up at your next O.V. or take a minute to call a Grand officer.

Thanks.

Rusty Keithline, MIGPCW



Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Colorado 2022-23 Officers

L-R – Don Shearer, Bruce Lawrence, Grover Sardeson, Lyle Wiles, Robert Tresize, Lee Miller, Clinton (Rusty) Keithline, Rick Benish, Ralph Newby, John Francis, Craig Fabec, Danny Tomlinson, Mike Brewer

Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Colorado

2023-24 Officers – Contact Info

Officer	Grand Companion	Phone	Email	District Lecturer
MIGM	Bruce Lawrence	303-906-9265	Bruce.e.lawrence@gmail.com	Council 1
RIDGM	Lee Miller	303-961-6455	jlmwrite@gmail.com	Councils 8, 24, 27

RIGPCW	Clinton Keithline	303-257-8380	K_autotop@msn.com	N/A
RIGT	Thomas Thompson	720-422-0608	tom@denverconsistory.org	N/A
RIGR	Grover Sardeson	720-884-7259	groversard@aol.com	N/A
ILGL	Rick Benish	970-554-0250	rcbenish@gmail.com	N/A
ILGC	Joe Kier	303-919-6768	joekier@earthlink.net	N/A
ILGCOG	Craig Fabec	719-568-2690	Cj.fabec@hotmail.com	Councils 2,5,6
ILGCOC	Mike Brewer	303-961-2718	Mike.brewer@allurdata.com	N/A
ILGM	Danny Tomlinson	303-638-6509	dtomlinson@msn.com	Councils 11, 13, 20
ILGSTEW	John Francis	720-350-0635	jwfbama@msn.com	Councils 7, 19, 21
ILGH	Donald Nichols	303-877-9651	Don5cents@yahoo.com	N/A
ILGSENT	Gregory Harris	720-204-0850	Gregharris1413@gmail.com	N/A
ILGMUS	Robert Tresize	970-827-9134	N/A	Councils 3, 10, 16

Note: Please send updates and corrections to the Council information for 2023-24 below to dtomlinson@msn.com

COUNCILS 2022-2023

<p>Denver Council No. 1 Meets: 1614 Welton St. Denver 4th Monday each Month 7:30 PM Except June, July, August, December Dan Rivers Thrice ILL. Master</p>	<p>Rocky Mountain Council No. 2 Meets: 132 E Main St. Trinidad 2nd Tuesday each Month 7:30 PM Except January, February Larry Childs Thrice Illustrious Master</p>
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<p>Todd Warburton III Deputy Master Keith Anderson III. P.C. of Work Grover L. Sardeson Recorder</p>	<p>Russ Sharpe ILL Deputy Master Reuben Vigil III P.C. of Work Allen C. Nicol Recorder</p>
<p>Durango Council No. 3 Meets: 304 E. 1st St. Cortez 81321 1ST Wednesday each Month 7:30 PM R. Bruce Koons Thrice III Master Peter Dumont III. Deputy Master Ellis Miller III. P.C. of Work David Wilson Recorder</p>	<p>Pueblo Council No. 6 Meets: 126 Broadway Pueblo 3rd Tuesday Nov., Feb., May, June 7:30 PM Tom Scheulen Thrice Illustrious Master Keith Benbow Illustrious Deputy Master Bill Goodman III. P.C. of the Work Ralph Newby Recorder</p>
<p>Hiram Council No. 7 Meets: 701 Baseline Rd. Lafayette Alternate 3rd Wednesday each Mont 7:30 PM Darren Klinefelter Thrice III. Master Ty Colemere III. Deputy Master Ken Matens III. P.C. of Work Patrick Dey Recorder</p>	<p>Zabud Council No. 8 Meets: 1150 Panorama Dr. Colorado Springs 2nd Thursday each Month 7:30 PM Except July and August Joe Surek Thrice III. Master Ray Dunn III. Deputy Master Diego Rodriguez III. P.C. of the Work David Reitan Recorder</p>
<p>Telluride Council No. 10 Meets: 178 Hotchkiss Ave., Hotchkiss 1st Wednesday each Month 7:30 PM Except July, August, September Michael Briscoe Thrice III. Master M. Scott Wilson III. Deputy Master Jeff Bush III. P.C. of Work Jeff Cyriacks Recorder</p>	<p>Tyrian Council No. 11 Meets: Georgetown & Central City & Idaho Springs. Published at mastermason.com/Tyrian- Council-11/index.html Danny Tomlinson Thrice III. Master Tom Dailey II. Deputy Master</p>

	Ashley Buss III P.C. of the Work Stephen P. Davis Recorder
Alpha Council No. 13 Meets: 619 Harrison Ave. Leadville 2nd Monday Each Month 7:30 PM Except July and August Lee G. Anderson Thrice III. Master Joe Edwards III. Deputy Master Edward C. Shober III. P.C. of Work Robert C. Trezise Recorder	Grand Junction Council No, 16 Meets: 2400 Consistory Ct. Grand Junction 2nd Monday each Month 7:30 PM Michael S. Briscoe Thrice III. Master Greg Foster III. Deputy Master Chad Rilling III. P.C. of Work Jeffery G. Bush Recorder
Sterling Council No. 19 Meets: 198 Springdale Rd. Sterling 4th Tuesday. Each Month 7:30PM Charles R. Hicks Thrice III. Master Merlin Wright III. Deputy Master Cleat Young III. P.C. of the Work Harry A Peterson Recorder	Salida Council No. 20 Meet: 140 W 3rd St. Salida 3rd Tuesday each Month 7:30 PM Dwight Wilson Thrice III. Master Dave McCann III. Deputy Master Bailey Velasquez III. P.C. of Work Ronald Garrett Recorder
Larimer County Council No. 21 Meets: 225 W. Oak St. Fort Collins 3rd Tuesday each Month 7:30 PM Except June, July and August Timothy Sanks Thrice III. Master Ian Greenwood III. Deputy Master Greg Todd III. P.C. of Work David Vaughan Recorder	Jefferson Council No. 24 Meets: 400 10th St Golden 2nd Thursday, Dec. Jan. Feb. 7:30 PM Miquel Galvez-Estevez Thrice III. Master Tim Lambert III. Deputy Master Peter Finnie III. P. C. of Work Lee Miller Recorder
Eastlake Council No. 27 Meets: 1625 Florence St. Aurora 1st Wednesday each Month 8:00 PM Ed Sisk Thrice III. Master Don Nichols III. Deputy Master	

WHAT IS THE CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF THE YORK RITE DEGREES?

- I. **Entered Apprentice** – A few years before the death of Hiram Abiff
- II. **Fellowcraft** – A couple of years before the death of Hiram
- III. **Royal Master (First Section)** – Just prior to the death of Hiram
- IV. **Select Master** – Just prior to the death of Hiram
- V. **Master Mason** – At the death of Hiram
- VI. **Royal Master (Second Section)** – Just after the death of Hiram
- VII. **Mark Master** – Just before the completion of the Temple
- VIII. **Most Excellent Master** – Shortly after the death of Hiram
- IX. **Past Master** – Sometime after the death of Hiram
- X. **Super Excellent Master** – Beginning at the destruction of King Solomon's Temple
- XI. **Red Cross** – During the time of Prince Zerubbabel and the building of the second Temple
- XII. **Royal Arch** – At the building of the second Temple
- XIII. **Order of Malta** – Approximately 1,000 years after the birth of Christ
- XIV. **Order of the Temple** – Approximately 1118 A.D.

Please send any articles, photographs or announcements of upcoming events to me at dtmlinson@msn.com

We are truly blessed, Brothers and Companions – Be well and thank you!

Bruce Lawrence

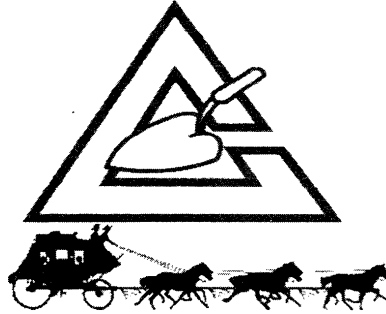
Most Illustrious Grand Master

And

Danny Tomlinson

Illustrious Grand Marshall and Editor

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Sterling Council No. 19
PO Box 329
Sterling Colorado 80751
970-522-5219

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bruce.e.lawrence@gmail.com

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1-970-425-7414

https://www.hig.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/sterling/stkes/shotdetail?cms_mmc=GoogleMaps-EX-US-STKES

Quality Inn Suites

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2020 Leisure Lane
Sterling, CO 80751
970-522-3700

<https://www.choicehotels.com/colorado/sterling/quality-inn-hotels/co2012source/qrst>

Best Western Sundowner

Indoor and outdoor pools

125 Overland Trail
Sterling, CO 80751
970-522-6265

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-sterling/best-western-sundowner/propertyCode:06108.html

Sterling Comfort Inn Suites

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2020 Leisure Lane
Sterling, CO 80751
970-522-3700 10850

<https://www.colorado.com/hotel/sterling-comfort-inn-sterling>

Ramada Inn

Indoor Pool & fitness Center

2500 E. Chestnut
Sterling, CO 80751
970-522-2625

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/sterling-colorado/ramada-sterling/overview>

Super 8 Motel

Indoor Pool

12883 Hwy 61
Sterling, CO 80751
970-425-6934

<http://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/sterling-colorado/super-8-sterling-co/overview?CID=LCSE:GGL:RIO:Naigmal:02860&itq=00065402>

RV Camping



North Sterling State Park (970)522-3657



<https://www.cpwhop.com/camping/north-sterling-state-park//CampgroundDetails.page?parkID=50065&media=3>

Registration Form

Name: _____ Title: _____

Lady's Name: _____ Phone No. (____) _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

Number of Companions ____ X \$25 each= \$_____ (Includes registration and lunch)

Number of Candidates ____ X \$25 each= \$_____ Total enclosed \$_____

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