

FRIENDS



2021-2022
David G. Weimer DGM
Grand Council
Royal and Select Masons of Ohio

David G. Weimer
1247 Commonwealth Ave.
Mayfield Heights, OH 44124



Companions,

My journey through the Masonic Fraternity has been an exciting and rewarding experience. I have been very fortunate to have visited some of the Councils in our State. I was welcomed and well received by their Companions ; Companions whom I now consider to be my friends.

My theme for the year is FRIENDS

Fraternity, Family, and Fun

Ritual and Respect

Integrity and Involvement

Enthusiasm and Education

Nostalgia

Dedication and Determination

Satisfaction and Success

Companions, as you can see, Friends are to remind us what should be important to each and every one of us in this great Fraternity. All of us need to be a friend to and welcome all the new Companions, giving them a chance to grow and make new friends, also. Be a good friend to our older members by calling them to see if they would like a ride to your meetings and programs.

Companions, I would like to see each Council plan some type of program at each of your meetings. It does not have to be long and you should include your ladies. Dinners before your meetings and refreshments after may help with attendance. There can be more to your meeting then reading minutes and paying bills. Get to know your members. What are their hobbies, interests and family? Make sure to use all the tools available to you to communicate what is happening in your Council and Arch. Send E-mails, make phone calls, and write letters with details of the events. This way you create enthusiasm and educate all involved.

Companions, we all know that inspection is the highlight of your year. I really feel that Council degrees have some valuable lessons in Masonry. I would like to see every Council to have a first time Candidate at your inspection. We know everyone one is good at something other than ritual work. Use their talents to help to help your Council showcase the best degree possible. Please do not rush your new member into an office. Let him make friends and grow in your Council before he takes an office.

I look forward to being with you either by zoom meeting or in person, travel being permitted. Let's all of us strive to be a friend to our Councils and Arches which makes our Fraternity stronger as a whole.

Deputy Grand Master,

David G. Weimer

General Guidelines for Illustrious Masters

2021-2022

1. The Inspection and SEM dates, are to be submitted to your Inspector by May 31, 2021. This provides time to create and submit the calendar to the Grand Council.
2. The Code provides for the Inspector to set the Inspection dates. Please avoid conflicts with Commandery Inspections, All Inspections and SEMS reviews need to be completed by May 31, 2022.
3. Only the Arch Inspector has the authority to cancel an Inspection with the *approval of the Most Illustrious Grand Master.*
4. The Arch Inspector makes all appointments for the Arch on behalf of the Grand Council.
5. The Arch Inspector makes all recommendations to the Grand Master for Grand Council appointments.
6. Illustrious Masters should confer degrees. This is your year, make special.
7. Major speaking parts must be done by the Council being inspected. (Royal and Select Degrees)
8. Super Excellent Master degree must have the majority of the speaking parts done by the council being inspected.
9. It is important to have a first time candidate for inspection. The time effort and work required to the degree should be rewarded, by having a first time candidate.
10. *The school of instruction should be attended by your officers.*
11. Each degree should be conferred at least one time during the Cryptic year.
(A code Requirement)
12. The Arch activities and meetings are intended to assist your Illustrious Master. If you cannot attend, send a representative.
13. Make sure you are planning activities for your year. Programs for the companions and ladies will make your year much more enjoyable. Have fun and do a great job.

How to Be a Successful Master

Enthusiasm is the Key!! – Whatever you do, Whatever you try, do it enthusiastically!!

Here are just a few of many ideas used successfully by previous presiding officers. Read them with an open mind, apply them with an enthusiastic spirit, pursue them with all your heart, and reap the reward of a job well done.

Plan your program—then program your plan.

Know your opening and start your meetings on time. Then, be sure to close at a reasonable hour. Expect officers to be in their stations five minutes early.

Organize your meetings to promote the interest of not only your regular membership but to capture the enthusiasm of new members.

With all the enthusiasm you can gather, secure new members. Set as your goal a 10% gain. Every mason in your community should be invited and encouraged to become a York Rite Mason.

Enlist your resident members to personally contact those in their circles of friendships among Master Masons, to invite them to York Rite membership. Freemasonry is a progressive science.

Talk York Rite Masonry. There are many day-to-day opportunities to discuss the beauties of the degrees and orders and explain their merits. Do not hesitate to do so. Be prepared to answer questions or to secure the answers.

See to it that your candidates are not disappointed in the degrees. Nothing will do this more than reading from the ritual or having it poorly interpreted. Your Arch Inspector and your Grand Officers are ready to assist you. Contact them and work out a mutual date for instructions.

York Rite Festivals have proven effective for successful growth. This does not mean that you should not have degree work in your own Council. York Rite Festivals can, and will, be a great asset to you provided you work at it.

Recover those suspended or demitted members. Better still, don't lose them. Appoint a committee well in advance of the deadline to visit them personally. Tell them you have something to offer – and make good this promise. They will respond.

Keep working. Don't become discouraged! Be enthusiastic! Don't ask anyone to do anything that you yourself are not willing to do. You are the leader.

Work—There is no shortcut or substitute for it if you are to be successful.

imsuccess.wpd

General Instructions for all Officers

- * Be knowledgeable and prepared for each meeting.
- * Know your responsibilities
- * Be fully prepared to perform the duties of your station and the station just ahead.
- * Always show dignity, respect and reverence during the meeting to all companions.
- * Speak loud and clearly so that those across the room with hearing problems can easily hear and understand what is being said. Speak slowly and enunciate.
- * Execute all signs distinctly.
- * Sit straight in the chair, feet flat on the floor, do not chew gum.
- * Observe and become familiar with specific duties of others.
- * Always perform to the best of your ability as if at inspection.
- * Be prompt to meetings.
- * *Dress neatly.*
- * Walk in a direct line and make sharp corners.
- * Be courteous to the speaker and request recognition before speaking.
- * Mingle with companions before and after meeting.
- * Avoid excuses.
- * Support the Master's projects and programs.
- * Seek counsel of veteran members.
- * Always do more than required.
- * Be pleasant and smile.

GeneralInstructions.wpd

INSPECTION TIPS FOR THE MASTER

The Inspection is one of the major events in the year and every effort should be put forth to make this a big night in the Council's schedule. It is the opportunity to display the Council's accomplishments. The date should be discussed with the Arch Inspector well in advance. He will take *your suggestion into account when he sets the date for his official visit. Proper preparations can then be made, and notices distributed in order to encourage a large attendance. Once the date is established, avoid suggesting a change.*

At the start of the term the sample inspection form should be studied so that the officers will be aware of the points on which the Council will be graded. The inspection report from the previous term should also be reviewed and attention given to the suggestions of the inspecting officer. Read the letter from the Deputy Grand Master who reviewed the report and consider his comments and ideas. Improvements might be made in Council procedure and planning which would earn a higher inspection rating.

While ritual work in conformity to the Grand Council regulations is essential, the general operation of the Council is equally important, and even the spirit and enthusiasm of the Companions will pay dividends. Although the Master necessarily has the most important role in the inspection, it must be emphasized that the rating is based on the operation of the entire Council and every officer, committee, activity, and member can contribute to earn a better report for the Council.

The inspecting officer's duty is one of helpfulness and constructive service. He usually arrives an hour before the meeting to review the records of the Council and become acquainted with the Council leaders. If the Council has a dinner, and if the ladies are invited, be sure the inspecting officer is informed. *Some Council Masters and Recorders meet with the inspector for a private dinner, while others include the officers — this is the option of the Master. Such informal sessions give the inspecting officer an opportunity to discuss problems and offer solutions which are helpful to the Council.*

The Master and Recorder should prepare the preliminary inspection report in advance so it can be given to the inspecting officer immediately on his arrival.

Review the suggestions for making special guests and the inspecting officer feel welcome. It is the Master's responsibility to see that all of the arrangements are made for the reception of the inspecting officer, and that the necessary information and records are available. While the Recorder, Treasurer, and others are charged with specific duties, the Illustrious Master is the presiding officer and as such is in charge of every phase of the Council. As the leader, he must assume complete responsibility of proper performance of every officer and committee.

The inspecting officer will ask to see every ritual charged to the Council, for Royal and Select Master degrees, and Super Excellent Master degree. The following records should also be present:

Latest Annual Report	Record of Inventory
Minutes for meetings in year	Current members' record book
Minutes from previous year	Record of former members
Receipt Book	Bank deposit books
Receipt & Disbursement ledger	Check book
Ritual receipt book	Treasurer's financial reports
By-laws	Current bank statements
Codes	

All business and remarks should be completed before the degree is presented. Following the ritual work, only the inspecting officer or Grand Council officer is given the floor. Besides commending the strong points and possibly suggesting a method of improvement, he may have a brief inspirational message, after which the Council should immediately be closed.

The inspecting officer will prepare the inspection report for the Grand Master, sending copies to the Deputy Grand Master, Illustrious Master, and Recorder. The Deputy Grand Master will review the report and correspond with the Illustrious Master regarding its acceptance.

Ten Commandments for Inspection Night

1. *Thou shalt be prepared.* At least one full rehearsal of the degree is absolutely necessary. No matter how well each participant may know his part, rehearsals are necessary for proper timing and inter-action of officers and characters. Check that costumes fit, and have all equipment and props in place. Rehearse the officer who will introduce guests. Be prepared for anything and everything. Inspection nights are always hectic so prior preparation is essential.
2. *Thou shalt have records and all rituals available.* Assist the Recorder to have financial and membership records available for the inspecting officer's review. Arrange for Recorder, Treasurer, and dias officers to meet with the inspecting officer previous to the meeting.
3. *Thou shalt open on time.* It's irritating to the companions who cooperate by arriving on time to have to wait for the opening. Have officers and cast in place five minutes before opening time.
4. *Thou shalt keep thy business to a minimum.* Even though this may be a stated assembly, transact only that business which is absolutely necessary. All business not requiring immediate attention should be postponed to a subsequent assembly. Special activities should be scheduled for meetings other than inspection night.
5. *Thou shalt introduce thy Past Masters and distinguished Masons* in the order, manner and by the proper title, according to the officer manual. Occasionally, by request of the Grand Master or for some unusual reason, introductions may be slightly altered, but only on direction of the inspecting officer.
6. *Thou shalt make no further introductions* after introducing the inspecting officer. If the inspecting officer feels that a late-comer should be introduced, he will make the suggestion. Do not ask permission to make such an introduction - it is embarrassing to the inspecting officer and the late-comer.
7. *Thou shalt not comment* on the ritualistic work nor the participation of any individual or protem. Personal "thank you's" are best expressed in a note or phone call the next day. Comments on the work are the sole province of the inspecting officer.
8. *Thou shalt not forget thy candidates.* Receive them cordially and make them the center of attention. Be certain that each candidate's name is properly pronounced when introduced. Do not to ask candidates for remarks.
9. *Thou shalt not call on anyone to speak* after the degree except the inspecting officer. All business and announcements should be completed before the degree. Immediately after the inspecting officer speaks, close the assembly.
10. *Thou shalt close no later than 10 p.m.* Keep the companions' comfort and value their time. Fellowship following the meeting is equally as important as the ritualistic lessons.

SUGGESTED DUTIES OF COUNCIL OFFICERS

ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER

- a. Presides at all stated and special meetings.
- b. Is thoroughly familiar with the Grand Council Code, and the by-laws of the Council, and sees that they are fully observed.
- c. Appoints committees and activity directors, instructs them, and checks that they function.
- d. Plans the Council's calendar of activities for the term.
- e. Attends all Council activities -- social, visitation, service, etc.
- f. Appoints investigating committees for membership petitions and makes certain they report promptly.
- g. Has his portion of the ritual committed to memory for impressive presentation, and insures that all officers do, also.
- h. Maintains a cooperative relationship and interest in all members.
- i. Attends Arch meetings and affairs, state meetings, seminars, etc.

DEPUTY MASTER

- a. Is prepared to open Council and preside in the absence of the Illustrious Master.
- b. Attends Arch meetings and affairs as preparation to preside.
- c. Develops a tentative calendar of activities for the coming term.
- d. Directs one of the degrees.
- e. Supervises the activity of the attendance committee.
- f. Supervises civic and profit projects.

PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK

- a. Works closely with the other two platform officers to prepare himself to fill their stations in their absence.
- b. Instructs candidates in Council procedure.
- c. Supervises the activity of the membership committee.
- d. Directs one of the degrees.

TREASURER

- a. Distributes Council funds upon approval of the members.
- b. Renders financial report at each stated meeting.
- c. Prepares report as requested by Inspecting Officer.
- d. Receives receipts from Recorder, makes record of them, and promptly deposits them in bank.

RECORDER

- a. Keeps neatly written minutes of all stated and special Council meetings.
- b. Collects all fees and other receipts, turning them over to the Treasurer promptly.
- c. Maintains an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements.
- d. Makes a financial report at each stated meeting.
- e. Notifies candidates in writing to report for degrees.
- f. Issues receipts, membership cards, etc.
- g. Maintains a proper record of inventory of Council property.
- h. Reports new members promptly to the Grand Recorder.
- i. Makes an Annual Report, and all other required reports on time.
- j. Prepares report as requested by Inspecting Officer.
- k. Maintains an adequate amount of Council supplies for normal operation.
- l. Answers all correspondence promptly.
- m. Maintains an up-to-date record of the status of each candidate and member.
- n. Maintains an up-to-date record of the address of each member.

CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD

- a. Supervises the activity of the entertainment committee.
- b. Arranges visitations.

CONDUCTOR OF COUNCIL

- a. Supervises the activity of the equipment committee and is responsible for the proper preparation of the Assembly room each meeting, and the safe return of equipment to storage area.
- b. *Introduces all visitors and distinguished guests at meetings.*

STEWARD

- a. Guards the inner door.
- b. Informs Illustrious Master of official guests.
- c. Supervises the activity of the refreshment committee.

MARSHAL

- a. Organizes and directs all processions, including the movement of the Giblites, and the Emblem Companions.

SENTINEL

- a. Guards the Assembly room from the outer door.
- b. Provides for examination of visitors.
- c. Maintains the attendance register book.

STANDARD BEARER

- a. Maintains custody of the American flag and presents it properly in meetings.

CHAPLAIN

- a. Offers the prayers during opening and closing of Council.
- b. Gives the invocation and/or benediction at other affairs.
- c. Supervises the activities of the welfare committee.

HISTORIAN

- a. Maintains a scrapbook of Council activities.

Officers who supervise the activity of particular committees are not necessarily the chairmen, serve as communication between the committee chairman and the Illustrious Master, assisting committee to function properly and within the Council framework.

Introductions at Annual Inspection

PRESENTATIONS

(Introductions- 2021-2022 Cryptic Year)

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE MAKING YOUR INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

"We ask that all companions with the Exception of the Past Ill. Masters of the Host council and the 7th Arch Cryptic Association Officers, be presented once. Please pick the category in which you wish to be presented." (2 times is Max. Possible)

AT THE ALTER

1. Candidate
2. Your own Past Illustrious Masters
3. Visiting Present Illustrious Masters or their Representative

IN THEIR PLACE

4. 50 Year or more Members of the FRATERNITY

AT THE ALTER

5. 7th Arch Cryptic Association Officers
6. Past Arch Adjutants

AT THE ALTER/GRAND HONORS

7. Knight York Cross of Honour
(Members of any priory, Knight York Cross of Honour)
8. 33rd Degree Masons
(Sovereign Grand inspectors general of the 33rd & last Degree)
Past and Present Grand Officers of other Grand Bodies
9. Past and Present Grand Officers of the Grand Council
R.&S. Masons of Ohio
(Including the present Arch Adjutant)
10. Inspecting Officer
(Grand Honors ESCORTED TO THE EAST)
11. The Most Illustrious Grand Master
(Grand Honors at the Alter, Escorted to the East)
12. Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Ohio Introduced at
ALTER. Grand Honors in the EAST

Grand Honors= Join with me in giving Grand Honors.

(Always given at the Altar. Grand Honors are never given in the east)

(Except the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio)

Grand Master's Award 2021-2022

Council _____ Number _____ Arch _____

The Awards will be presented at the Grand Session in October of 2022 to the councils that achieve the following points. These entry sheets must be submitted to your Arch Inspector by May 31, 2022.

Achievement- 500 points **Distinction –** 1,000 points **Excellence-** 1,500 points

	Points	Earned
Ritual: SEM		
Council doing their own SEM	100	_____
Members doing major parts (Master Lecture, Ezekial, Gedaliah, Jeremiah, Nebuzaradan, Nebuchadnezzar, and Circle) by memory	____x25	_____
Inspection:		
Inspection in the SEM	100	_____
RM or SM	50	_____
Giblite team used	50	_____
Dinner or Lunch	50	_____
Attendance:		
Members at meeting in excess of 6	____x5	_____
Attendance at Deputy Masters Meeting	____x15	_____
Attendance at School of Instruction	____x25	_____
Attendance at Grand Council session	____x25	_____
Attendance at Arch Reunion	____x25	_____
Programs and Meetings:		
Participation in Community Service Project	____x25	_____
Programs at Council Meetings	____x50	_____
Council meeting Dinner	____x50	_____
Council meeting Refreshments	____x25	_____
Membership:		
New Members	____x100	_____
5% increase in membership (this Cryptic Year)	500	_____
Reinstatements	____x50	_____
New Endowed Membership for Grand Council	____x100	_____
Communication:		
Article in the local paper	____x20	_____
Meeting notification to every member	100	_____
Charity:		
Donation to the Diabetic Kids Fund by May 31 st \$\$	____x1	_____
Other donations per \$ 100	____x1	_____

DEPUTY MASTER PLAN

Council _____ No. _____ City _____

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address (including zip code) _____

Email Address _____

Wife's First Name _____

Requested Inspection Date: 1. Choice _____ Dinner? Yes/No _____

Inspection Degree _____ 2. Choice _____ Dinner Time _____

Degree Time _____ 3. Choice _____ Ladies Invited? _____

Requested S.E.M. Date: 1. Choice _____ Dinner? Yes/No _____

Degree Time _____ 2. Choice _____ Dinner Time _____

3. Choice _____ Ladies Invited? _____

Identify the Blue Lodges you normally work with _____

How many new members do you expect to advance next year? _____

What Chapters in your area do you work with? _____

How many Council Inspections do you plan to attend? _____

How many S.E.M. degrees do you plan to attend? _____

What special Council activities do you plan? _____

Are you planning a special project for the Benevolent Fund? _____

If yes, describe _____

Have you read last year's Inspection Report? _____

Have you prepared your budget for the year? _____

Have you seen the Inventory and Insurance Policy? _____

Have you selected your Welfare & Finance Committees as required? _____

Do you have a Council publication? _____ Frequency of Publication _____

How many Council officers are under age 40? _____

Additional Comments on how you will improve Cryptic Masonry _____

Council Agenda

Date: _____

1. Open, Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introductions: _____
3. Reading, Approval & Signing of Minutes
4. Petitions read and acted upon: _____
5. Committee Reports: _____
6. Bills: _____
7. Communications: _____
8. Treasurers Report: _____
9. Sick or Distressed: _____
10. Old Business: _____

11. New Business: _____

12. Degree Work: _____
13. Special Program or Presentation: _____
14. Comments from Dignitaries: _____
15. Close

ROYAL MASTER DEGREE

FIRST SECTION

- Lights Full (High 12)
- Candidate- No coat, sleeves rolled-up, white apron, carries holy vessel
- Table with shewbread
- Table with holy vessels:
 - a. Candlesticks (10, no candles)
 - b. Flowers
 - c. Lamps
 - d. Tongs
 - e. Bowl
 - f. Snuffers
 - g. Basins
 - h. Spoons
 - i. Censers
 - j. Hinges (small & large)
- Trestleboard, with chalk, rule, square & compasses
- Pedestal in east for holy vessel
- Chairs for Giblets
- Altar of incense
- Altar with Bible, square & compasses
- Gong (rings 12 at beginning and then once at end)

SECOND SECTION

- Remove trestleboard
- Candidate, coat on, R.A. apron
- Dim lights
- Black cloth at Altar
- Small article for mode of recognition (not from pocket or from clothing)

SELECT MASTER DEGREE

- Candidate - Coat on; R.A. apron
- Arches in place
- Gong strikes 9
- 3 triangular tables with purple covers
- 3 candles lit on each with gavel
- Altar of incense
- Altar with Bible, square & compasses
- 7 branched candlestick
- Pedestal with gavel near Altar
- Table near east with:
 - a. Book of the law
 - b. Aaron's rod
 - c. Bowl with manna
 - d. Pot for manna
 - e. Measuring cup for manna
 - f. R.A. key
 - g. Triangular plate of gold
 - h. Thin blue cloth
- Ark of Covenant **WITH STAVES** sitting on its own table
- Pedestal for top of Ark when removed
- 3 jewels (squares) worn by 3 GMs
- Scepter for K.S.
- Swords for Azariah, Adoniram & Ahishar
- Swords & trowels in arches
- Chain to bind Zabud
- No lights except candles & light aimed on altar
- Arches removed before historical lecture or when advancing through arches
- Lights on full, candles out after deposit
- Device to explain word
- Select Master aprons for candidates
- By-Laws to be signed

Grand Council

**ROYAL AND SELECT MASONS
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM**

Fee: One year plan at \$800.00 to Grand Council plus one year's dues paid to your local council
-or- Three year plan at \$267.00 paid to Grand Council plus three years' dues paid to your local council



Date: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Council Name: _____ Number: _____ Location: _____

Check enclosed: \$800.00 \$267.00 Submit dues payment to your local council.

— Make check payable to Endowed Membership Fund and mail to:

Grand Council R&SM of Ohio, P.O. Box 751538, Dayton, OH 45475

Grand Council Information

Check Number: _____ Date payment or check received: _____ Amount: _____

Enrollment Number: _____ Date paid in Full: _____

1. Applicant must pay a total of \$800.00 plus one year's dues

(Three year plan applicants must pay dues until paid in full)

2. Endowed Membership remains with the member, not the Council

3. Council will receive payment even after the member is deceased

4. Member is exempt from paying dues for life.

5. Application funds are non-refundable.

6. Payment to the Council is based on investment income.

MAIL CHECKS TO:

Grand Council R&SM of Ohio

P.O. Box 751538

Dayton, OH 45475

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio

Distinguished Achievement Award Nomination Form

Companion

Council No. Years as Cryptic Mason

Service to Cryptic Masonry (explain in detail):

Service to community (explain in detail):

Recommended by: Illustrious Master

Duty Master

P.C.W.

Arch Inspector

Please forward nomination forms to the Arch Inspector *no later than June 15th*, and he will submit the form to the Distinguished Achievement Award Committee.

If more space is needed to explain service, please use the back of this form.

Council Man-of-the-Year Award

This is a certificate that may be presented to one Companion from your Council during the year (the award is optional to each Council). We have many Companions who have served our Councils for many years without desire for fee or honors. This is an opportunity to express our appreciation to these "unsung heroes". Perhaps the Companion has secured many petitions, served faithfully as a Gible, visited the sick, taken care of our robes and property, assisted with refreshments, represented the Council on visitations, or supported the Council with loyal attendance. The selection should be made for reasons such as these. This is also an opportunity for an interesting program. The following guidelines are to be followed:

1. It may be presented to only one Companion from each Council during the year.
2. The nominee must have been a Cryptic Mason for the past ten years.
3. He cannot be serving in a progressive line office in the Council.
4. If a Past Illustrious Master, he must have earned the title at least five years ago.
5. As noted above, it is suggested that every consideration be given Companions who have not served as officers.
6. The selection is to be made jointly by the Illustrious Master, Deputy Master and P.C.W. No vote of Council is required.
7. The nomination is to be submitted to the Arch Inspector on this form. If approved by the Arch Inspector, the certificate will be supplied by the Arch Inspector to the Master.
8. Plan to make the presentation a "special occasion". A public presentation is encouraged. Develop the proper publicity.

Council.....No.

Nominee's full name.....

Street Address.....

City.....Zip.....

List the particular service which is the basis for the nomination:

Signed:

I.M. D.M.

P.C.W. Date



The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio Council Lady of the Year Award

Rules and Requirements:

- Goal is to recognize a Council Lady who is dedicated and works above and beyond for Cryptic Masonry
- Nominated by the Council through Nomination Form
- No more than four awards will be presented each year
- Ladies of Elected and Appointed Grand Officers are not eligible for this award
- Awards will be decided by a committee composed of the Grand Master, Two Elected Officers and One Lady
- The awards will be presented at the Session Grand Banquet.



The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio
Council Lady of the Year Award

Lady Name _____

Council Recommending _____ No. _____

List Reasons for Nomination (Explain in Detail)

Recommended by: Name: _____

Council _____

Please forward nomination form to Arch Inspector no later than May 30th, and he will forward the form to the selection committee.

If more space is needed to explain service, please use the back of this form.

Edict

Whereas The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio is desirous of encouraging our Constituent Councils and Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction to be able to fully observe the Christmas and or Hanukkah Holiday Seasons.

Whereas the Period known as the Christmas Holiday Season, which in 2021 will fall between December 23,2021, through January 3, 2022, is a period when many of the Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction will be observing the Christmas Holiday Season.

Whereas the Period known as Hanukkah Holiday Season, which in 2021, will fall between November 28, 2021, through December 6, 2021, is a period when many of the Companions and Brethren of the Jewish Faith within our jurisdiction will be observing the Hanukkah Holiday Season.

Whereas the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio wishes to ensure that no Council conduct activity during the Christmas or Hanukkah Holiday seasons which will interfere with the ability of the Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction to travel, worship and to enjoy time with their families during the Christmas Holiday Season.

I, therefore, decree that no Council will confer a degree or hold an inspection during either the Christmas Holiday Season, December 23, 2021 thru January 3, 2022, or the Hanukkah Holiday Season, November 28, 2021, thru December 6, 2021. The holiday period a Council wishes to observe will depend upon predominant beliefs of the Companions of that Council. Constituent Councils are permitted to have holiday observances and to conduct stated business meetings, which may include an educational program, during the days of, December 23, 2021, through January 3, 2022, or the days of November 28, 2021 thru December 6, 2021.

I further decree that no Arch Association will hold a business meeting during the Christmas Holiday Season, of December 23, 2021 thru January3, 2022, or the Hanukkah Holiday season of November 28, 2021 thru December 6, 2021.

This Edict is not retroactive and is in effect only for the term of my office, October 5, 2021, to October 4, 2022

Given under my hand and Seal of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio

David G. Weimer

Most Illustrious Grand Master Elect

Edict

Whereas the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio is desirous of encouraging our Councils and all of the Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction to be able to fully observe Holy Days.

Whereas the Period known as Holy Week, and Passover week in 2022 will fall between April 10, 2022, and April 17, 2022 is a period when many of the Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction will be observing days holy to Christian and Jewish worshipers.

Whereas the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio to ensure that no Arch Association conduct any activity during Holy Week and the week of Passover which may interfere with the ability of the Companions and Brethren within our jurisdiction to be able to fully observe their holy days.

I, therefore, decree that no Council will confer a degree or hold an inspection during Holy Week, and the week of Passover, April 10, 2022 to, April 17, 2022, which is a time holy to many of our Companions. Councils are permitted to have religious observances and to conduct stated meetings, which may include an educational program, during the week, of, April 10, 2022, to April 17, 2022.

I further decree that no Arch Association will hold a meeting during the week of, April 10, 2022 to April 17, 2022.

This Edict is not retroactive and is in effect only for the term of my office, October 5, 2021 to October 4, 2022.

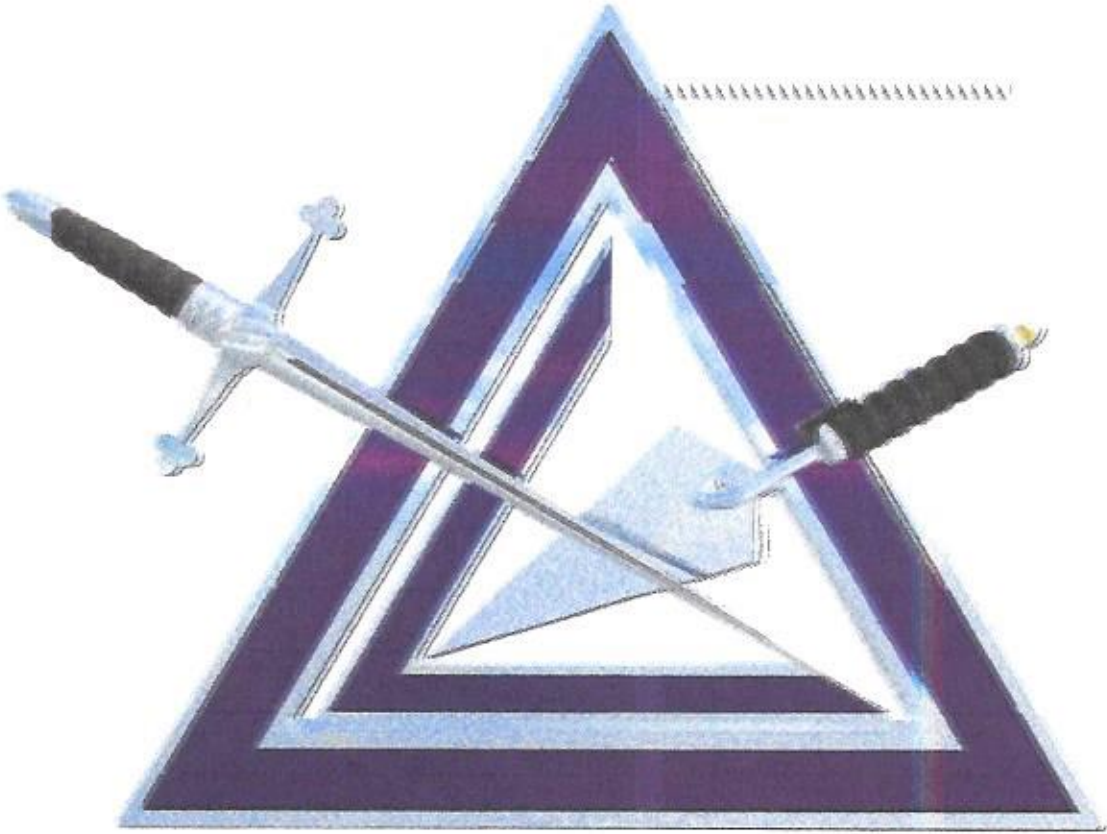
Give under my hand and Seal of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio October 5, 2021

David G. Weimer

Most Illustrious Grand Master Elect

Royal and Select Masons of Ohio

1979



Mentor's Manual



Mentor's Manual

FORWARD

This manual is provided for the use of Mentors appointed by the Illustrious Master to work with candidates – both before and after they receive the Cryptic degrees. Its purpose is to give guidance and assistance to Council Mentors in the performance of their important duties of helping our new members acquire knowledge of Cryptic Masonry in general and our council in particular to help them fully enjoy and appreciate their membership.

You have been appointed by the Illustrious Master to serve as a Mentor due to your demonstrated proficiency in our Rite, your zeal for our institution, and your enthusiastic and faithful service to the council. Your task is a very important one since the new member represents the future of your council and of Cryptic Masonry in your Arch.

We must actively promote an interest in Masonic knowledge at all levels of membership in our Order. Toward that purpose, we need to create a sincere desire in all our companions – but most especially in our newer members – to learn the timeless lessons taught by our degrees. Our goal is to develop enthusiastic Cryptic Masons who will become active, participating Council members.

Experience has clearly shown that we must wisely use the first several months of our association with candidates and new members. If we fail to capture their interests early in their tenure as Cryptic Masons, our newly advanced Select Masters may lose interest and become statistics, showing up on a list of members suspended for non-payment of dues. We must not let this happen! Our future depends on getting these members involved.

Each candidate is entitled to Masonic education and each new member deserves the best orientation we can provide, including the individualized and personalized mentoring your committee must give him. Your job, in the regard, is among the most important of any in the Council and this manual is intended to assist you in the performance of your duties.

THE MENTORING PROGRAM

The mentoring program begins when a petition for membership is accepted. The Recorder of the Illustrious Master will provide you with the name and contact information of a candidate with whom you will be assigned to work. You should call the candidate and inform him that you will be working with him. Let him know that you will be present in Council when he receives the Royal Master Degree and that you would like to meet with him at the Temple prior to the degree, either at dinner or just over a cup of coffee. Ask the candidate to arrive at the Temple at an hour that will allow you to sit down with him prior to the start of the degree.

PRIOR TO THE ROYAL MASTER DEGREE

On the evening the candidate is to receive the Royal Master Degree, you should be ready to give him a brief preview of the degree. Use the Council Ritual to explain to him that this degree consists of two sections. Ask him to pay special attention to the soliloquy of GMHA in the first section and, as he does, to think back to the Master Mason Degree in Blue Lodge. Direct his attention to the themes covered in the Lecture of the MM Degree – most especially the monitorial sections dealing with the Hourglass and the Scythe, and the parts describing the sprig of Acacia. Consult a Blue Lodge Ritual if necessary. Point out to him that this is the core of the Royal Master Degree.

Explain to the candidate that the Holy Vessels displayed in the Council Chamber (on three arranged from NE to SE) are there to remind us of the solemnity of the topic of this degree

Point out to the candidate that the second section of the degree refers to a time after the death of GMHA so that he will be prepared to view this part of the degree in proper perspective.

Explain that the cherubim in this degree remind us again of the solemn nature of the degree and of his obligation.

Ask the candidate to also watch for the broken triangle, both as used in the formation of the Giblets, and then with the officers illustrating it for the candidate, since it has great importance for Cryptic Masons.

AFTER THE ROYAL MASTER DEGREE

At the end of the conferral of the RM degree, ask the candidate to meet with you within a week or so in order that you can answer any questions he may have as to the degree. When you get together with him use the Council Ritual to point out to him certain features of the degree, which he may not have been able to process during the conferral. These include.

First Section

- . The beautiful piece of work he presented to GMHA was a symbol of a complete life offered to the GAOTU, GMHA's answer was an indication that we are to await our spiritual reward in the next life.
- . The items on the table of Holy Vessels in the NE corner symbolize our debt to God and our hope that He will accept our sacrifices.
- . GMHA's talk on death expands significantly on the themes of the Master Mason Degree especially regarding portions of the MM Lecture dealing with death and the afterlife.
- . GMHA's tapping on the floor alluded to where the Master's Word was to be preserved for the future generations to discover it.

Second Section

- . The cherubim which surrounded the candidate during the obligation symbolized the fact that he was under the protection of the GAOTU as he bound himself to Cryptic Masonry at this point in the degree.
- . Alpha and Omega, which play a significant role in the RM degree, are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. They symbolize Deity He with no beginning and no ending.
- . The broken triangle as used in this degree represents, among other things that which was lost. It also serves as a constant reminder of the legend of GMHA and the Legend of the Lost Word.

It is also important to highlight for the new member how the Royal Master Degree teaches us to constantly strive to use our time on Earth wisely as none of us knows when he will be called by the GAOTU to the Celestial Council above. We must also keep our part of the covenant taught in the Great Book of the Law. The Temple being built here below represents this Mortal life, which will be destroyed by death. Thus, we must constantly build our individual "second" Temple which we will inhabit the spiritual house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, as was beautifully illustrated by GMHA in this degree.

PRIOR TO THE SELECT MASTER DEGREE

On the evening he is to receive the Select Master Degree, you should again arrange to meet with the candidate at the Temple with sufficient time for you to sit down with him and preview the degree. Explain that this degree historically occurs prior to the Third Degree of the Symbolic Lodge and deals with incidents that occurred at the building of the first temple. In this degree he will witness events closely connected with the Royal Arch Degree, which the Select Master Degree will help him to better understand.

You should set the stage for the candidate to receive the SM degree by relating to him the story of the Masonic legend of the vault beneath King Solomon's Temple, and tell him that the events he will witness refer to the arches of that vault. During this degree the candidate will see the items King Solomon ordered to be deposited in the Ninth Arch, the Work might be preserved for future times (and discovered in the RA degree).

Suggest to the candidate that he pay special attention to the items which are deposited in the substitute ark. He should recall these from the Royal Arch Degree in Chapter. Here he will learn more about those deposits.

AFTER THE SELECT MASTER DEGREE

When you meet with the newly advanced Select Master after the SM Degree, there are several aspects of the degree, which should be discussed with him to help him better, understand what he has witnessed.

First explain the legend of the Patriarch Enoch and how the legend of the vault is based on biblical history. This lays the groundwork for the Masonic legend by which workers excavating beneath Solomon's Temple discovered the vault and the items contained in the Ninth Arch. Show him

how this degree explains the manner in which the treasures deposited under the Temple were subsequently found in the Substitute Ark by some of the workmen of Zerubbabel, at the building of the second temple.

It is important that the new member understand that what was found by the workmen in the Royal Arch Degree, was the "substitute" ark (also called the "Masonic Ark"). This is also the ark into which the deposits were made in the Ninth Arch in the Select Master Degree. This ark is a substitute for the Ark of the Covenant, which was lost after the destruction of the Temple of Solomon. In the Masonic legend, what the workmen found inside this ark symbolizes the culmination of man's search for "that which was lost". The conclusion of this legend, i.e. the discovery of the lost work in the Royal Arch Degree, would not have been possible were it not for the description of the manner of deposit in the select Master Degree in Council.

FOLLOWING UP ON THE DEGREES

After working with the new member following the RM and SM degree conferrals, it is important to continue following up on the degrees with him since they are the "root and marrow" of Cryptic Masonry. The more times the new member can witness the degrees, the better. We must provide sufficient opportunities for him to do so. During or shortly after the Grand Assembly each October, the Arches publish a list of the inspections of each of their Councils. One way to follow up on the degrees with the new member is to invite him to join you in traveling to the inspections of neighboring Councils so he can view each degree at least one more time each year. Attendance at degree conferrals will help our new members better understand them. This, in turn, will make our new companions more knowledgeable and thus more comfortable in encouraging their fellow Royal Arch masons to become Council Masons.

We should also encourage each new member to receive the Super Excellent master Degree which Councils confer each year. Although not a "degree of the crypt" since it does not refer to the Legend of the Crypt, and while the SEM is not a mandatory, each new Select Master should want to receive this dramatic and impressive degree, as it depicts circumstances and incidents during the siege of Jerusalem, and the final destruction of the first temple. In this way, it adds to our understanding and appreciation of the

Royal Arch Degree. The SEM is one of the most impressive degrees in all of Freemasonry and each Council Mason should be made aware of the importance of receiving it.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

After becoming a Select Master, the new member should begin attending assemblies. You should facilitate his involvement by inviting him to join you for Council each month. As the new member begins attending, he will notice that the layout and organization of the Council differ from what he has seen in Lodge and Chapter. By referring to the familiar (i.e. the Blue Lodge and the Royal Arch Chapter), we can highlight the similarities and differences for the new member, better facilitate his understanding of how we are organized and how we work. The orientation of the new member should include the following:

- 1) **The layout of the Council chamber and the principal officers:** The new member will notice that the overall layout of Council is similar to that of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with some important differences. He knows that the three principal (“platform”) officers in Chapter sit in the East. Point out to him that, in Council, these officers comprise the Illustrious Council (similar to the Grand Council of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons). In the middle of the Illustrious Council in the East is the presiding officer – The Illustrious Master who, in the degree work, represents King Solomon. To his right is the Deputy Master (representing Hiram King of Tyre) and to the left of the Master is the Principal Conductor of the Work (representing GMHA). These three officers correspond to the High Priest, King, and Scribe of a Royal Arch Chapter and to the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden in a Blue Lodge.
- 2) **Other officers:** While the Symbolic Lodge and Chapter have a Secretary, a Council of Royal and Select Masons has a Recorder who sits at a desk in the Southeast Corner of the Council chamber. In council, we also have a Treasurer whose desk is in the Northeast corner. As with the Blue Lodge, we also have a Chaplain, but his station is on the level to the right of the Illustrious Council (NE corner). Opposite him (in the SE corner), also on the level, sits the Marshal whose duties include leading all processions of the Council and serving as Master of Ceremonies at social events.

THE ARCH AND THE GRAND COUNCIL

Once the new member becomes comfortable with the organization, layout and functions of the Council, we should help him understand the organization of the Arch and the Grand Council; again this is best done by referring to those schemes with which the new member is already familiar. Explain to him that, as Ohio Lodges and Chapters are organized into "districts," Ohio Councils are organized into "Arches." As there are nine arches in the Select Master Degree, so the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio is organized into nine Arches. You should obtain from the Recorder a list of all Councils in this arch and provide a copy to each new member.

The new member may also want to know that as Lodges and Chapters are inspected by "deputies" (DDGMs and DDGHPs), so Councils are inspected by Arch Inspectors who are assisted in their various duties by Arch Adjutants. These officials visit their assigned councils and also organize various functions such as the annual York Rite Festival at which the Royal and Select Master Degrees are conferred on a class of candidates from the various Councils in the Arch.

Point out to the new member that the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio holds its annual Grand Assembly during the first week of October each year at a place determined by the Most Illustrious Grand Master. The Grand Council conducts business similar in nature to that of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Ohio at their annual sessions.

Be sure the new member understands the dues structure and also that the Council's Cryptic Year is June 1st through May 31st. As with his Lodge, each Council in Ohio must conduct at least 10 stated "assemblies" (meetings) each year. Additional ("special") assemblies may be called by the Illustrious Master for the purposes of degree conferrals and other activities. Each Ohio Council is required by Grand Council Code to confer (or exemplify) each Cryptic Degree at least once a year.

In the West sits the Captain of the Guard who recites the traditions of Cryptic Masonry during the opening and closing ceremonies of the Council. To his left in the West sits the Conductor of Council who attends at the altar during the opening and closing and also performs formal introductions at the altar. At the right of the Captain of the Guard is the Steward who carries instructions from the Captain of the Guard to the Sentinel and also attends to refreshments and other accommodations of the Companions.

Outside the door sits the Sentinel, whose duties correspond to those of the Tyler of a Blue Lodge and the Guard of a Royal Arch Chapter.

3) **Committees**: As with Blue Lodge and Chapter, each Council is staffed with various committees. These companions assist the officers in the operation of the Council in a number of ways. The Recorder can provide you with a list of the council's committees and you should discuss their work with the new member, encouraging him to contact the Illustrious Master and offer his services. The more committeemen a Council has working on the various tasks of the council, the better. The officers can't do all the work alone, and this is a good way for a new member to become active in Council. Regular attendance and participation in the council by its new members is the mark of a successful Council.

4) **Opening and Closing**: After explaining the officer positions of a Council of Royal and Select Masons, highlight for the new member the opening and closing Council ritual. By listening carefully to the officers recite their parts in the opening ritual of each Council assembly, the new member can become familiar not only with the various officers and their duties, but also with many traditions, especially in the dialog between the Illustrious master and the Captain of the Guard during the opening.

5) **Rituals**: You should endeavor to secure for the new member a Ritual of the RM and SM Degrees, and after he receives the degree, an SEM Monitor. An excellent way for a new Select Master to acquire knowledge about Council is for him to follow along in the ritual monitor as the officers open and close Council and during degree conferrals. As his mentor, you should sit with him in council, point out the various aspects of our ritual to him as it unfolds, and answer his questions. Be sure to help him with the signs during the opening as this is very confusing for most new members.

APPENDIX A: BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE COUNCIL DEGREES

“A Visit With Hiram: A Look at the Royal Degree of Cryptic Masonry,” by Jan Beaderstadt (2005).

CRYPTIC MASONRY, By Hugh M’Curdy: The Voice of Masonry (1880).

Excerpts from an address by Roger M. Firestone, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the District of Columbia, (March 20, 1999).

“Monitor for Cryptic Masons,” The Grand Council of Indiana (1981), by Marion K. Crum and Owen L. Shanteau.

“The Arks of Masonry,” by C.C. Hunt, in “Lessons of Capitular Masonry, Part Two,” published by the General Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of the USA (1930).

THE HISTORY OF THE CRYPTIC RITE, Chapter XXXI, by Albert Mackey.

THE TEXT BOOK OF CRYPTIC MASONRY, by Jackson H. Chase, Masonic Publishing Company (New York: 1870).

THE YORK RITE OF FREEMASONRY: A History and Handbook, by Fredrick G. Speidel, 1989 (Published by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America).

“York Rite of Freemasonry: the Cryptic Rite – Royal and Select Masters,” undated paper by Charles J. Meek.

THE GRAND COUNCIL BENEVOLENT FUND

New members should be made aware of the Grand Council Diabetic Kids Fund (DKF) which, since 1978, has been helping diabetic children cope with their disease by providing camperships to enable them attend camps, staffed by pediatric diabetes educators and a complete medical staff of doctors, nurses, and dietitians. The Illustrious Master and Recorder have complete details of this wonderful program and all new members should be encouraged to become informed about it and to support this worthwhile effort. Ohio is very proud that 98% of every dollar raised for the DKF goes directly into providing help for the kids of our program, as attested to in official audits of our fund.

SUMMARY

Hopefully the information provided in this manual will assist you in the performance of your highly important duties. If our Councils are to grow and prosper in the future, it will be due to proper education and mentorship of our new members, assisting them to become active, participating Select Masters. Congratulations on being named to this important committee! Thank you for accepting the responsibility of helping our new members become and continue to be knowledgeable Cryptic Masons. Your labors will help our Council remain a "resort of the just and the merciful" where we strive to "exercise charity, cherish hope, and walk in faith," to the end that our Council will ever be a "home of the Select."

NOTES

The Secret Vault

Character List

Zabud

Noah

King Solomon

Ahishar

Scene set

(Zabud, King Solomon's particular friend has rested from his labors and is on his way to King Solomon's most retired room to chat as their custom.)

ZABUD - I hope the king is available this evening! There are many designs on the trestle board that I need to discuss.

(Upon reaching KS most retired room Zabud notices the curtains drawn back and a door leading down a dark passageway that he has never seen before. Curiosity peaked he approaches the door that is being halfway guarded by the napping Ahisher who is awakened by his approach)

AHISHAR - Who comes here?!?!

ZABUD - It is I. Zabud the Kings particular friend.

AHISHAR- Have you the pass?

ZABUD – I have not.

AHISHAR – Then leave this place for without King Solomon's pass you shall not enter!

(Zabud is very distraught and turns away slowly taking a long look at the passageway)

ZABUD – Work in the temple? That I do not know about?

The king and I are particular friends. (Pauses in his walking)

How is it that I have lost his royal favor? (Continues on walking home)

What have I done? (Arrives at home that he shares with Noah).

NOAH – My friend Zabud are you ok? You look upset?

ZABUD- (after a pause) Noah do you know of a passageway in King Solomon's most retired room, where work is progressing on something secret?

NOAH- (looking shocked) No Zabud! You being the Kings particular friend would have more intimate knowledge than I. You know the work of the Temple as well as anyone.

ZABUD – It appears that I have lost the kings favor. (pause)
I happened upon the guarded passageway earlier. I know
nothing of this work. I cannot imagine what I have done to
anger the King.

NOAH – Zabud. You and the king have long been friends;
maybe you should go ask him. I am sure he will tell you.

ZABUD – Perhaps you are right Noah; I will return to the
Temple and see if this weight can be lifted.

(Zabud returns to the Temple to find KS exiting his most
retired room)

KS – Zabud! My friend! Are you ok? You look anxious?

ZABUD – King Solomon my friend. I came to your most retired
room earlier to chat as is our custom and I discovered work
being performed that I had not been acquainted. I have been
fretting over this and wondering what I have done to lose your
Royal favor?

KS – (smiling, pats him on the back) Be content my friend
Zabud, the time will come when the door of the secret vault
will be left open for you reception.

(ushering Zabud)

Come now, lets chat as friends.

(they retire from the room)

(next scene Zabud is returning to KS most retired room with a
trestle board in hand moving in an urgent fashion)

ZABUD – King Solomon! King Solomon? (looking around he notices the open door but not the sleeping Ahsihar)

ZABUD – The King said it will be left open for me. I see no guards and I must speak with him!

(he enters the vault)

INTRUDER INTRUDER!!!!!!!!!!!!