

GM's Inaugural Address 2017

M.III. Past Grand Master, Distinguished visitors, Grand Council Officers, Companions,
Good Afternoon.

I stand here today both honoured and humbled by your decision to elect me as your Grand Master. I promise you that I will do my best to uphold and maintain the dignity of this High Office and follow the bright example set by my predecessors.

I would like to thank M. III. Comp David Grange PMIGM and the team for the professional manner in which I was installed in this high office.

To our Past Grand Masters thank you for your support and attendance at our Grand Assembly. You are the foundation that keeps this organization going.

To our Grand Deputy Master Rt. III Comp Gerry Tetzloff and The Grand Principal Conductor of the Works Rt. III. Comp Les Robinson, congratulations. I look forward to working with you this year and know that your vast experience and knowledge will be an asset to this Grand Council.

To all the elected and appointed Grand officers I thank you for taking the responsibilities of this Grand Body.

To the Grand Recorder R. III. Comp Jerry W. Kopp. Thank you for your commitment and hard work. Your experience has been a great asset in making changes to the administration to this Grand body and continuing to do so as we move forward.

To all the members of Cryptic Councils without you this Grand Council would not exist. Your presence here today shows your dedication to Cryptic Rite Masonry.

To our visiting Companions Your presence here today means so much to us. It is my hope that your visit was both pleasurable and profitable. Please take away our warm fraternal greetings.

My Companions

During my Masonic journey one of the rewarding experiences I have encountered is the opportunity of visiting with the Brethren from across Canada and the World.

This has allowed me to meet and kindle friendships with many great men who have similar values to mine. I have come to realize that I would not have ever met most, if not all of you, if it hadn't been for Masonry and am proud to call you Brother, Companion and a friend. We sometimes forget this important aspect of Masonry.

What drew me to Cryptic Rite? I learnt in the Craft that the Word was Lost, the Royal Arch taught me that it was Recovered but something was missing.

Then was told that the Cryptic Rite would complete that story and I would find that it was not Lost but Secured. We need to be letting the Royal Arch Companions know, that their journey is not complete without the Cryptic Rite.

10 years ago, I talked about the 4 P's.

Profit, Pleasure, Philanthropy and Personnel

Profit

- Quality in ritual. While it would be nice to see, the degrees done by memory if it is read it should not be read poorly! This gives the wrong impression to the Candidate.
- If you don't have a candidate then exemplify the degree or the drama portion of it, which has been abandoned by some Councils
- education, not just having someone give a paper but have a discussion about the contents, this could be a discussion could also be pertaining to the lectures of the degree

Pleasure

- our festive boards, Ladies nights, barbecues, companionship nights, visitations to other councils. These create great fellowship. As I read the GIG reports I learnt that this is a large part of some councils.

Philanthropy

- Please remember to support the Cryptic Rite Charitable Foundation. Each of these P's have a place within our Councils and we must consider ***each*** of them equally in the marketing mix just like the sides of an equilateral triangle.

By balancing these 3 P's we will achieve the forth Personnel

- 1) retaining companions
- 2) renewing interest of companions
- 3) attracting new companions

We are seeing a resurgence in the Craft, we cannot stand back and think the work is done. We must all keep working on Marketing Masonry and the York Rite particularly, Cryptic Rite as it will only be through our efforts and attitude that we will see positives results in the growth in Personal.

I look forward to visiting with you during my travels this year.

Before we close Companions, thank you again for taking the time to attend this Assembly, have a safe trip home and I hope to see you in Saskatoon May 24 and 25, 2018

M. III. Comp Robert Turner
Most Illustrious Grand Master