There are several awards that can be present to companions, their ladies, or others. The purpose of this document is to familiarize Council Officers and Companions with the various awards and what needs to be done to apply for them.

**Thirty-Five and Fifty Year Awards**

Any Select Master, a member in a Council in Minnesota who has thirty-five (35) years or more of Council membership, shall be entitled to receive from the Grand Council a thirty-five (35) year card evidencing said membership. The Grand Treasurer-Recorder will have available thirty-five (35) year buttons that may be purchased by the Council for presentation at the time the card is presented.

Any Select Master, a member in a Council in Minnesota who has fifty (50) years or more of Council membership, shall be entitled to receive from the Grand Council a fifty year certificate evidencing said membership. The Grand Treasurer-Recorder will have available fifty (50) year buttons that may be purchased by the Council for presentation at the time the certificate is presented.

The Recorder of a constituent Council shall request the awards from the Grand Recorder.

**Thrice Illustrious Master Degree**

This is a chair Degree, anyone elected and installed and served as Illustrious Master of his Council is eligible to receive this Degree at the next Grand Session.

The degree of Thrice Illustrious Masters will be conferred during the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Minnesota. The degree is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council and administered by the Minnesota Thrice Illustrious Masters Council.

All Illustrious Masters and Past Illustrious Masters of Constituent Councils are eligible for this degree by petition which has been acted upon favorably by the Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters.

**ISH-SODI**

This is an honor the three principal officers of each council may nominate a Companion to receive the ISH-SODI. ISH-SODI means chosen one. It is like the Hiram Award in Blue Lodge.

The three principal officers of each council may recommend, prior to January first each year, one Companion from their Council who, in their opinion deserves special commendation for outstanding interest and zeal in promoting Cryptic Rite Masonry, and which member is not at the time one of the three principal or salaried officers of the Council, (remission of dues shall not be considered salary) and it is further provided that he is not one of the three principal Grand Council Officers.

From these recommendations, prior to the Grand Assembly, the three principal Officers of the Grand Council shall select the most worthy to be invested at the Grand Council Assembly, with the title of ISH-SODI with suitable certificate of such award.

The Grand Recorder-Treasurer shall keep a permanent record of all recommendations and appointments for the use of succeeding Grand Officers.

**Lady of the Council**

All Cryptic Masons know and appreciate the help and support of their ladies. The General Grand council has developed an Award to recognize and honor these Ladies for outstanding dedication and support to Cryptic Masons.

The Award is a beautiful gold and purple pin with the Cryptic Mason's emblem surrounded by a gold wreath. Each pin will be accompanied with a numbered certificate, which will be recorded by the General Grand Council Recorder. These names and numbers will also be published in the Triennial Proceedings. We will try to present these awards at the Grand Sessions.

To make arrangements for the presentation complete the Lady of the Council form and make a check payable to the General Grand Council for $125.00. Sent the completed form and check to our Grand Recorder. He will forward it to the General Grand Council.

**General Grand Council Medal of Honor**

One medal awarded each Triennium to an outstanding Cryptic Mason for service to Masonry and who is well known in the Arts, Science, Business, Religion or Government. Nominations shall be made to the General Grand Masters and selection approved by the elective officers.

If any Companion feels they know of a candidate for this award a biographical outline of the individual’s background and accomplishments along with a reason for the nomination would need to be submitted to our Most Illustrious Grand Master for him to prepare the submission to the General Grand Council.

**Mordhurst Medal**

A medal awarded to the Grand Recorder of a Grand Council who has served 10 years or more, and not to be awarded prior to the date of qualification.

**Columbian Medal**

A medal awarded to an outstanding Cryptic Mason for service to Masonry. One medal for each of the ten Regions, and not more than three medals at-large per Triennium. Nominations are made to the Regional Deputies on the form and selection by the elective officers. These nominations must be sent to the Grand Recorder by Nov 30th and Grand Recorder will send it to the General Grand Recorder by Dec 31st.

**Cryptic Mason of the Year Medal and Lapel Pin**

The three (3) principal officers of each Council will recommend, prior to January 1st each year, one Companion from their Council for the General Grand award.

This award will be made only for exceptional and meritorious service to Cryptic Masonry above and beyond the call of duty. No Past or Present Grand Master, or advancing line officer of the Grand Council shall be eligible for this award.

This Companion may also be a nominee for the ISH - SODI Award.

One medal each year presented to a Cryptic Mason by the General Grand Council to a man selected by each Grand Council for outstanding service to Cryptic Masonry. Each Grand Council and each subordinate Council will select its own Cryptic Mason of the Year according to the following rules and regulations:

* Only one medal may be awarded annually to a Cryptic Mason in each affiliated Grand Council.
* Only one medal may be awarded triennially to a Cryptic Mason in each Subordinate council of the General Grand Council.
* Each Grand Council and each subordinate Council shall determine its own method of selecting the Cryptic Mason of the Year in its jurisdiction.
* No posthumous awards shall be made.
* The award shall be made only for exceptional and meritorious service to Cryptic Masonry above and beyond the call of duty. No Past or Present Grand Master, or any advancing line officer of a Grand Council shall be eligible for this award; however, this restriction shall apply only to the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award, and not to the Adult Leadership Award.
* The General Grand Recorder shall be given the name of the selected Cryptic Mason to be engraved upon the medal at least thirty days prior to the date it is to be awarded. Subordinate Councils shall give the name of the selected Cryptic Mason to be engraved upon the medal at least six months prior to the next Triennial Assembly.
* The General Grand Recorder shall cause the name of the honoree to be engraved upon the medal and forwarded to the Grand Recorder or Recorder, if to a subordinate Council, at the earliest time following receipt of the name.

**Adult Leadership Award and Lapel Pin**

The three (3) principal officers, with the concurrence of the Council, will nominate one Companion, other person or couple, who may be a non-Mason or female, for this award.

One medal presented annually in each Jurisdiction affiliated with General Grand Council to a nominee who shall be a leader in one of the youth organizations recognized by the General Grand Council, namely: Order of DeMolay, Order of Rainbow for Girls or Order of Job's Daughters.

* Only one medal may be awarded annually in each Grand Council.
* Only one medal may be awarded triennially in each Subordinate council of the General Grand Council.
* Each Grand Council and each subordinate Council shall determine its own method of selecting the Nominee in its jurisdiction.
* No posthumous awards shall be made.
* The award shall be made only for exceptional and meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty.
* The General Grand Recorder shall be given the name of the selected Nominee to be engraved upon the medal at least thirty days prior to the date it is to be awarded. Subordinate Councils shall give the name of the selected Nominee to be engraved upon the medal at least six months prior to the next Triennial Assembly.
* The General Grand Recorder shall cause the name of the honoree to be engraved upon the medal and forwarded to the Grand Recorder or Recorder, if to a subordinate Council, at the earliest time following receipt of the name.

**10% Gain Certificate**

A Certificate will be presented to a Council gaining 10% or more in membership in one year. A request should be sent to the General Grand Recorder, and will be mailed to each state before their Annual Assembly. A General Grand Officer may be asked to make the presentation.