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APRIL 2017

Greetings Companions All:

I doubt we are going to be "snow free" this month. The weather in Michigan is always changing. Last week it was 45 to 50 degrees outside. Then another arctic blast came in and frosted our noses and burned our cheeks. There are times I will be waiting for the bus this month and see an Alma College track star running with just a t-shirt around his waist and a long pair of shorts on. I think to myself, "Umm, aren't you pushing the season just a little?"

You don't have any idea how wonderful it was to have almost everyone's articles in by the 20th of March! Thank you so much and keep up the good work. It seems that every time I put the Triple Tau together, I learn a new fact or idea from our Grand Line! What is the "Masonic Heritage Medal" Award? Well, look below and read about a Father and Son who were given this honor by their Lodge members!

Fraternally,

Jane Todd, Editor of Triple Tau



This picture is from R.E.C. Carl J. Peterson, Grand Captain of Host. I'm proud to say that another Lodge has requested and their members receive the "Masonic Heritage Medal".

Grand Island Lodge # 422 in Munising, U.P. on the 8th of March had Brothers, Robert B. Gatiss (Father) and Richard Gatiss (Son) presented with the much deserving award.

With the assistance of, W.B. Robert Mowery from Mackinaw Chapter #134 and P.M.W.G.M. William E. LeVeque, Master of Lodge #422 with the Brothers of the Lodge, we made our way to the Health Care Center located in Munising for the delivery. Great time! Bro. Robert's family was in attendance also.

Companions, lets remind our Lodge Secretary's to check the records and inform our Grand Secretary of members deserving of this award. The forms are found online at the Grand Chapter web site.

Fraternal in Masonry, R.E.C. Carl J. Peterson, G.C.O.H., K.Y.C.H



During my travels visiting different Chapters I have noticed varying degrees of success that some Chapters are having. It seems that those Chapters that are thriving have a great deal of enthusiasm, are active in their communities, have plans in place for future activities and are using the 3x3 program to get those Companions back to Chapter who haven't been attending, just to mention a few examples.

Then it seems, we have some Chapters that have their convocation, if they can muster up a quorum, and rush through the meeting, close and go home until next month and then do it all over again. I recently read in a Masonic publication something worth repeating: "Worry not about the empty seat in your Chapter... Worry about the empty experience that lead to it". We cannot remain stuck in neutral and expect to move forward. We must take pride in what we have, in our Chapters and in our Fraternity.

If we have Chapters that are thriving, getting members back and are making real progress, then my question is why not others? The future of our Chapters rest in the hands of its members.

I think in many cases we take what we have for granted and no longer appreciate the real blessings that have been passed on to us. Chapters that are suffering can be turned around. It will take the determination and effort of its members to make it happen.

Fraternally,

M.E.C. Howard W. Duke, Grand High Priest



M. E. DONALD L. GALWAY, P.G.H.P. Grand Secretary Lady Sherry 1200 Wright Ave., Alma, MI 48801-1133 517.618.7390 dgalway12000@yahoo.com Secretary's Scribbles

April is about to begin, the calendar says that it is spring, but somehow, I don't have a warm and fuzzy feeling that mother nature has had her way with us yet. Some of the worst ice storms I have seen have come in April, hence the un- easy feeling. This is Michigan and I would not have it any other way.

From the looks of our calendar the month of April will be kind of slow for Chapter and Grand Chapter events. Indiana is having their annual Grand Session April 6th thru the 8th with Grand Chapter Saturday the 8th. This is all taking place at the Majestic Star Casino, Gary IN. As of this writing that is all of the events I have for the month of April. May 6th mark your calendars for the first ever Chapter 4 degree and Commandery All Order Day to be held in Traverse City. This should be a good event. Every event is posted on the Web so check often for changes.

Leslie Council will be holding their annual Strawberry Festival April 22nd in Mason, MI. I can say that it is always a great day, the work is great and the dinner is even better. Mark your calendars for this event.

Earlier this month we were in Lexington Kentucky for the General Grand Chapter East Central Conference. For those of us that attended there was a lot of good information we came away with. Marcus Trelaine, the keynote speaker was no stranger to this body and as always in his case did a stellar job with two presentations. The information was fresh and thought provoking and made for good conversation throughout the conference. Our own Mike Roberts added to the day with his presentation. All of this was topped off with a fine banquet and good conversation, as we had the opportunity to reacquaint ourselves with old friends. That my companions is what this conference is about, meeting old friends, seeing what other jurisdictions are doing, hearing that we are not the only ones with problems and coming away with new ideas. I will leave you with this one thought.

"Optimism is going after Moby Dick in a row boat and bring the tartar sauce with you!"

Fraternally,

M. E. Donald Galway, Grand Secretary, P.G.H.P., K.Y.G.C.H., and O.P.C. **P.S. Legislation Must be in by APRIL 10**th to be considered!





2017 Annual York Rite Picnic & Charity Golf Outing!!!

Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery Saturday, July 22, 2017 Sprague Cottage Near Gladwin And

> Sunday, July 23, 2017 Gladwin Heights Golf Course 3551 W. M-61, Gladwin, Michigan 48624 Phone: (989) 426-9941

We have a great weekend planned for you and your family and friends.

Saturday, July 22nd is the Annual James R. Sprague Memorial York Rite Picnic held every year since 1998 at Jody Sprague's Cabin, southeast of Gladwin. The entree for dinner will be your choice of hamburgers or hot dogs with a pot-luck assortment of sides and desserts. Ice tea, water, lemonade, and beer will be provided. If you would like something else to drink it's **b.y.o.b.** Meal will be served at approx. 1:30 p.m.. There is room on site to park a camper or pitch a tent; also there are several motels nearby. So plan to come early and stay late. Please call or email Don Mayville to let us know if you plan to attend and for directions.

Sunday the 23rd is the Annual Golf Outing. The event is a four (4) person scramble. Teams may be all men, all ladies or mixed. You may submit your team or we will be glad to put one together for you.

Registration will begin at Sunday at 8:30A.M. and tee time at the 1st tee will be 10:00 A.M. The course will allow a Shotgun Start (if we have enough teams to warrant).

We are asking and hoping that all York Rite Bodies (Lodges, Chapters, Councils, Commanderies and York Rite Colleges) as well as any businesses or individuals that may wish will sponsor a hole or tee box.

All profits will be divided equally between the Grand Chapter, Council and Commandery Charity of their choice.

Any Questions? Contact:

John Ames at 586 770 2613 / GWhunter51@gmail.com Lou McCray at 989 728.5384 / elcemccray@yahoo.com Don Mayville at 810 874 1637 / indsal@att.net





2017 York Rite Golf Outing Sponsor & Registration Form July 23, 2017

I/We would like to sponsor (*individually, as an organization or a business*) a hole or tee box, for only \$ **25.00**, please let the sign(s) read:

Address:	
	St: Zip:
E-Mail:	Phone:
(Registration Fee Includes 18 holes of golf, c \$70.00 per player (\$65.00 if paid by 7/14	
Playing with:	\$
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	ts of fun, friendship and fellowship on a Beautiful July day! M): (\$ 25.00 each) \$
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# of hole or tee box sponsorshi Enclosed please find my payment (in f Make checks payable to: Livingston C	<pre>ips at \$25.00 each \$ full) of \$ chapter #30 marked: "YR GOLF Outing" on the memo line. Don Mayville 148 Belmont Ln. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189-9025</pre>



R.E.C. Richard Hitch Grand King Lady Connie richhitch62@gmail.com

As all Chapters have or will be holding their annual election and installation of officers, an important piece of business that should also be conducted is the appointing of your committees. This is the decision of the incoming or continuing High Priest. However, it should involve the opinions and ideas of the entire Chapter. If the membership is not involved in the planning, measurement and evaluation processes of a Chapter strategic plan, the programs instituted by the committees will be underutilized and possibly fail.

In December's Triple Tau, I discussed the committees that are required by the Red Book, and some ideas on how to operate them. This month I am going to explain why.

The primary reason for appointing a committee is efficiency. A committee should therefore be designed to accomplish important tasks under direction of the High Priest, but on behalf of the Chapter. Appointing committees and assigning tasks is not for the purpose of engaging Companions in mere busy-work, and indeed, most of the operational and strategic works of the Chapter should occur in committee.

For purposes of convenience, there are two types of committees. A standing Committee serves to accomplish long-term, routine responsibilities that continue from year to year, such as financial oversight, and is usually designated in the Chapter's By-Laws. An *ad hoc* committee is like a task force and is formed to perform a specific, time-limited function such as investigating the petition of a Candidate. There are, however, no stated requirements in the Grand Chapter Code for any particularly named committee, except as necessary for investigating purposes, or as may be specified in the Chapter Bylaws.

The High Priest is responsible for designating all Committee Chair appointments. However, it is recommended the Chair be afforded the flexibility to recommend any additional appointments to the assigned committee. This duty should be accomplished as quickly as possible after the appointment of the Chair person.



R.E.C. Mike Roberts Grand Scribe Lady Becca <u>michey422@yahoo.com</u>

Greetings Companions!

This long winter is finally coming to an end as we move into April. This means we will be electing new High Priests and line officers in our local Chapters. I would like to congratulate you and your officers in advance and thank the outgoing High Priests for their service this pass year. Now is a good time to stress the importance of communication.

At our local Chapters, each High Priest and Secretary should put together some kind of communication list to ensure that as many members of his Chapter are informed of events, dinners, meetings, and degree work. The High Priest should also take time to contact his assigned Grand Chapter DDI and line officer. If you don't know who is your assigned DDI or Grand Officer, then please contact the Grand Secretary or visit the website at <u>www.grandchaptermi.org</u> for that information. Also, you should make it a point to have the Triple Tau read at your stated meetings to share the information from Grand Chapter. These simple steps will go a long way in keeping your Chapter informed.

I welcome all communications from any of the York Rite Bodies. If I receive information on events, I will forward them to my York Rite contacts. I have started a group email list to try to help keep companions informed. If you wish to be added to this email list, please send me your contact information to <u>mickey422@yahoo.com</u> and I will add you.

Fraternally,

R.E.C. Mike Roberts, Grand Scribe

"Communication works for those who work at it."

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(See page 6 for the rest of this article)

By John Powell

ATTENTION! ALL PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES! GRAND CHAPTER

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF MICHIGAN

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

Grand Chapter is fast approaching and the Officers are making final preparations to make it a success. An important part of that success and the future of the Grand Chapter is the Election of the Grand Officers. It is a long line and many do not fully understand what they may be getting into.

One of the jobs of the Protocol Committee is to meet with any Companion who is considering running for the open chair. We explain the cost in time and money that will be required of him. Plus, address any additional questions that he may have.

If you are considering this journey through the Grand Line, we urge you to contact any of the members listed below to help you make this momentous decision.

Fraternally,

Michael Whiting, PGHP1-248-373-7081George W.H. Lyons, PGHP1-586-668-1299Carl John Peterson, GCOH1-989-448-8378





R.E.C. John A Ames Grand Principle Sojourner Lady Judi <u>GWhunter51@gmail.com</u>

Well Companions it is now April, and hopefully all the cold weather and snow is behind us now. April is elections and Installations of Chapters and I have already had one request to be one of the installing officers, I am sure that more are to come. Seems like my schedule starts to get crowded starting in March and just keeps getting fuller.

By the time this article is published I will have attended Chapter in Sarnia, Ontario and saw the Mark Master Degree. Marshall Council is having their Strawberry Festival and three-degree day. Chapter and Commandery Day in Traverse City on May 6th, KYCH in Alma on May 20, Grand Lodge of Michigan Session in Dearborn 22-23 May, Royal Arch Degree Council Degrees and Yooper Council in Marquette on June 17. Also, two Charity Poker Parties for the Grand Chapter Charity Foundation in April and May.

The great thing about all this traveling is getting to meet Companions that I have not met and see those that I already know. Sadly, is that the time spent with them is not as often or as long as one would like. Even in my own District there are four Chapters, and I do not get to visit them as often as I would like. There are other Masonic bodies that I am active in and sometimes there are just not enough days in a month to visit them all. As they say, if you want to travel there is a Masonic meeting every night of the week. Everyone that can, should visit the Chapters in their District at least once a year to keep connections with the other Chapters strong.

I try every year to visit each of the Chapters in my assigned list at least twice a year and see how things are progressing. It is a good way to get a sense of what is happening and see where if possible the Grand Chapter can assist the local Chapter in increasing membership and attendance. Remember that attending your Chapter and Blue lodge is a great way to promote the York Rite. Some ideas for that is when you attend Blue lodge wear either your Red Blazer, Chapter name tag, or just wear the Grand High Priest lapel pin. Oh, and don`t forget to have a petition handy as well.

Well that is all for now, hope to see you somewhere soon.

Fraternally Yours, R.E.C. John A. Ames, Grand Principle Sojourner



R.E.C. Richard Hitch Grand King Lady Connie <u>richhitch62@gmail.com</u>

(Continued from above page 4)

Committee Chairs should convene meetings of their committee at least quarterly. In the first quarter, they should review the operating budget, formulate the schedule of events, identify planned expenses, make project assignments, and determine time lines for reporting and completion.

If Chapter Committees are to be worthwhile, they must function. To function, the members of the committee must know how they are expected to operate and what they are expected to produce. There are five crucial steps to establishing a committee that functions and functions well;

Clear purpose – define the purpose of each committee and translate that purpose into concrete tasks with time lines.

Strong Leadership – each committee can only be as effective as its leader so be sure of who you appoint as the Chair.

Meeting Times – conduct meetings as often as necessary to accomplish your task but with adequate intervals or time frames.

Resource Availability - Assess your available resources to accomplish the appointed task(s).

Report Presentation – presents committee conclusions and recommendations in a manner that helps Companions recognize the importance of trusting the committee's findings via using the gavel to control discussions, providing Chapter Officers sufficient advance time and information to review prior to the Convocation, and provide printed reports, graphs and other written analysis to the Companions that help to support the findings.

Good luck and best wishes as you implement and establish your committees and remember that the committee is only as good as the attitudes appointed to it.

Fraternally,

R.E.C. Richard Hitch, Grand King



R.E.C. Don Mayville Grand Master of the 2nd Veil Lady Joanne <u>cjpeterson50@gmail.com</u>

GREETINGS COMPANIONS!

The last couple of months have been terrific for bringing in new Companions into our Chapters, let's not forget we do not have to wait for the four degree days to exalt new Companions, Chapters can work together to perform the degrees on a local level.

Speaking of the four-degree day, we have one coming up on May the 6th, at Traverse City Chapter. Once again local Chapters are taking the lead in making this happen. Great to see Chapters working together.

Chapters this month will be installing officers to lead and guide their Chapters. Let your York Rite pride show especially in your Blue Lodge and entice your Blue Lodge Brothers to seek more light in Masonry by joining the York Rite.

On a personal note, the great wind that came on Wednesday, March 8th caused a large pine tree to be up rooted and leaning towards the front of our house. I called a friend, explained my plight and to my surprise the next day while I was working he cut down the tree and hauled away all the branches and stump. I bring this up, because how many of us would go out of our way to help a friend or a Companion in time of need. Think about this and see how each of us can incorporate this kind of action in our everyday dealings of life.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship,

R.E.C. Don Mayville, Master of the 2nd Veil

*From Wisegeek.com: Research suggests that people who daydream have a high capacity of working memory, which is linked to intelligence. In 2012, researchers from the University of Wisconsin and the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Science conducted a study about daydreamers. They concluded that people with "wandering minds" -- those who are able to think about other things while engaged in routine tasks -- have a more responsive working memory system.



Do Rules and the Law Matter Anymore?

"What are they going to do?" It is a phrase we hear so much it probably does not even register as important, but it is important... especially to Freemasons. In a fraternity that boasts that it makes good men better and prides itself on honesty, integrity, truth, the four cardinal virtues, faith, friendship, and fidelity, how is it that we hear excuses for cheating and dishonesty? Within the last two years I had a Grand Presiding Officer look me straight in the eye and say, "David, if you don't compromise your principles you will never get ahead." Another stated flatly that unless a large amount of money was stolen, there was no hope of any offence being "prosecuted" in this State.

Lying to Grand Officers or the members of a local body has somehow evolved into something we just have to work with in order to keep up appearances. Recorders and Secretaries who falsely report are given awards while those who attempt to hold a higher standard are told not to rock the boat. So, how does that make you feel if you are a hard-working Secretary or Recorder, to know that the Council that is winning a membership award may have just made it up? It may be Pollyannaish to say, but just doing the job and knowing you didn't cheat or lie to your Companions should be its own reward and in a truly Masonic view of things this is what we should all be striving for as individuals. It is not the appearance of good and square work but the individual effort to do good and square work that matters. That is what we mean when we admonish our new members that it is not the external qualities but the internal qualities that distinguish a man.

Our outward qualities are the manifestation of our internal qualities. As Cryptic Masons our degrees add light to the conspiracy that took place among the Fellowcrafts before the completion of King Solomon's Temple and reinforce the willingness to give up one's life rather than compromise one's principles. They exemplify, in the Select Master Degree, how important being true to our duties and not excusing the shirking of them or compromising their import with 'personal spin' as the Sentinel does. Yet again, in the Super Excellent Master Degree we are presented with the situation of compatriots urging falseness and cheating, bringing down an entire kingdom, or at least a line of kings. Destruction is the reward of the excusers and compromisers of the truth, because nothing can last that is built on falsehood... it will crumble away as it always has and always will.

We must personally live uprightly and work to achieve the fulfilment of our Masonic Obligation whether anyone is going to do anything about it or not. We need to hold ourselves and each other accountable so we grow to achieve the noble character we claim to aspire to as Freemasons, especially Cryptic Masons. Freemasonry did not achieve its stature on falseness and what is base, and those who have strayed into believing that tolerance of falseness will somehow get us to anything other than our own ending are in for a rude awakening.

Fraternally,

David L. Seyferth, M.I.G.M.



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Donald Trumbull R.E. Grand Commander Lady MerryJo POB 997, Pinckney, MI 48169 (734) 775-4045 DonaldTrumbull@yahoo.com



Loren A. Winn, PGC

Grand Recorder Lady Gail POB 822 Pinckney, MI 48169-0822 (734) 878-1714 tkmaster4@netscape.net

April is here and as the old saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers", so if we get wet then we should see lots of pretty flowers this month.

March was a very busy month and April and May will be just as busy if not more, April means Commandery Installations will be taking place, make plans to attend the ones in your area.

Easter Sunrise services will be taking place, several here in our states as well as across the country. The ones here are as follows, most start by 7am arrive early,

Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly hosted by the Central Michigan Battalion.

Battle Creek Commandery will host theirs at Fort Custer National Cemetery

DeMolay Commandery will host their Annual Easter Sunrise Service at the Veterans Home in Grand Rapids.

Port Huron Commandery will host theirs at the Cemetery in Port Huron

Contact the Local Commander or Recorder for exact times and locations.

The Grand Commandery will be attending the Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria in the morning and will place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington National Cemetery later that morning.

The month of May we will be traveling to Traverse City where we will have a festival to perform the 4 Royal Arch degrees in the morning and that afternoon we will confer the 3 Orders of the Commandery, the first two in Short Form and the Order of the Temple will be conferred in ancient regalia. The date of the festival will be Saturday May 6th. We have a block of rooms reserved at the Econolodge Motel on M37 in Traverse City under the name of York Rite Masons.

Lastly, but most importantly is that this is the month Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was betrayed by one of his disciples, was tried, found guilty, crucified on the cross and died for our sins, after 3 days he arose and now sits at the right hand of our Heavenly Father as a mediator and intercessor for all who put their faith in in Him.

Until next month peace be with you my Fraters and Ladies.

Donald L. Trumbull

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Well Spring is finally here and in DeMolay land that means that the Installation season is over. Congratulations to all of the officers in the Chapters as they start the new term. DeMolay thanks all of the parents, friends, Masons, Royal Arch Masons, Scottish Rite Masons, Order of the Eastern Star, Shriners, Job's Daughters and Rainbow members for supporting the individual Chapters at their Installations. As the new term starts for the Chapters we are encouraged for continued growth and support.

March saw DeMolay conducting a State Degree Day at the Northville Masonic Temple. New members joined our ranks and were privileged to witness their DeMolay Degree performed by Senior DeMolay cast members. The entire day was fantastic and we look forward to more participation by our Senior members as they help support Michigan DeMolay.

Michigan DeMolay participated in the Heartland Ritual Tournament held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Competition was fierce and all participants were winners. We did have a couple of our members take home some medals and hope to increase our winning in next year's event. Now the focus is on DeMolay International Session which takes place in Buffalo, New York in the middle of June. This is the main event for DeMolay as this is where the legislation for the Order is made. Our State team will help to elect the next International Master Councilor and the Congress Secretary and make changes to the Order.

Please come out and support the young men in the Chapters nearest to you.

Fraternally, Vince D'Aguanno, Exec. Officer of MI DeMolay



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF RAINBOW FOR GIRLS IN MICHIGAN

On Saturday, March 18th, Michigan Rainbow Girls and the Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star gathered at the Swartz Creek Masonic Temple for a very special day. We celebrated Christmas. Our Christmas party had been previously cancelled twice because of blizzards so we succeeded on the third try.

Rainbow and Eastern Star members are paired up and celebrate the year together as counterparts. They exchanged Christmas presents, played a game together, enjoyed a delicious meatloaf lunch and then had a joint meeting in the Assembly Room.

The meeting began with the Officers from Team 2 ritualistically. Michigan Rainbow is divided into two teams, basically through the center of the lower peninsula. All the Assemblies are currently located in the lower peninsula. Once the meeting was opened and introductions done, the Grand Officers assumed the stations and presented the initiatory degree. Several our Officers were word perfect or missed 2 or 3 in their Ritual presentation. Michigan Rainbow initiated one new young lady who joined Wayne Assembly.

The meeting concluded with the Team 2 officers closing for the day. Then we began the fourth part of our day which was Grand Assembly Announcement Day. This is the day when the plans for our Grand Assembly session in June are announced. Also announced are the two Rainbow Girls who are chosen to serve as Grand Escorts at Grand Assembly. It is always highly anticipated and an exciting moment when our Escorts are announced. After the meeting, everyone received their packets which includes special assignments for the Grand Assembly session.

(Continued page 10)



MICHIGAN JOB'S DAUGHTERS INTERNATIONAL

Job's Daughters International is a Masonic youth organization for young ladies between the ages of 10 and 20. We promote sisterhood and Masonic values, while also teaching leadership skills and business etiquette.

Our Grand Bethel line officers are elected by the daughters throughout the state at our annual Grand Session. The current Grand Bethel Honored Queen Dakota is from Bethel 10 in Grand Rapids, the Senior Princess Liliy is from Bethel 18 in Menominee, and Junior Princess Crystal is from Bethel 30 Grand Blanc. Each of these amazing young ladies has a real passion for the organization, and represent us with grace and dignity!

Michigan Job's Daughters is very excited to be growing! In recent years, we have consistently increased in number of members, and we have 3 Bethels currently in the process of opening or re-opening.



Photo caption: front center Grand Bethel Honored Queen Dakota Brower, front left Senior Princess Lilian Alaine Giese, front right Crystal McDonald Junior Princess. Joining them are Grand Guardian Jessica Abraham and Associate Grand Guardian William Peters

For more information, visit michiganiojd.org

Fraternally, Jessica Abraham, Grand Guardian 2016-2017



(Continued from page 9)

March 18^{th} was an exciting day for all of us. Our next state level initiation is April 22 at the Detroit Masonic Temple in the Commandery Asylum (chapel). You are very welcome to join us. The meeting will begin at 1:45 pm. I hope that some of you will join us. You are also welcome to join us at our Grand Assembly session at the Masonic Pathways Doig Chapel on June 22 - 24. Further information is available on our website: michiganrainbowgirls.org.

If you follow Facebook, you can find us at Michigan Rainbow. There you will find pictures of our activities and invitations to various events. Looking forward to seeing you on the road.

Fraternally,

Maureen K. Riley, Supreme Inspector and Member of the House of Gold

