

# MICHIGAN TRIPLE TAU

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons  
of Michigan

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2016

Web Site

[www.grandchaptermi.org](http://www.grandchaptermi.org)

Official Publication of the  
**Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons**  
**of Michigan**



## Triple Tau Change

The Triple Tau came into existence in October of 1995 when Robert R. Smith became Grand High Priest he believed that this was a method of informing the Companions of the State with what was happening, in a faster and uniform presentation.

It began as a quarterly publication and after a couple of years was published on a monthly basis for 10 months, not in July or August.

In 2002 Bob stepped down as the editor, replace by Jan L. Baderstadt until he was removed in February of 2007 and I was directed to take over.

This is a responsibility which I assumed and have performed since that time. I remain the only member that has been involved in the publication since its inception, having submitted numerous articles per month, on many occasions prior to become editor. I have changed the format occasionally. Gone from 10 months to 12 months, with Grand Chapter in August instead of October, believing that it was important to get out as much information as possible prior to the Grand Session.

Several years ago I expanded it by inviting the Grand Council and Grand Commandery to contribute. I believe that it is important that we share and support each other.

What is the change that I mentioned? I will be stepping down from the editorship.

My replacement editor has not yet been named, although I believe I know who it will be. Please continue to give them the support necessary for them to continue with this publication.

Not sure which month they will take over, however, I will do everything I can to make it a smooth transition. The format may change, but I remain confident that the content and intent as originally established will be continued.

Paul Howell

## Royal Arch

## Outdoor Degrees

### Paw Paw-Kalamazoo Chapter #34

is hosting a

all (4) Degree Day

{Mark Master Mason, Past Master  
Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch}

June 11th

Mark degree will begin at 9:00 am

Lunch at noon (\$10.00)

Royal Arch Degree after lunch

On your way back home by 3:30 pm

374 56<sup>th</sup> St.

Grand Junction 49056

Bring presentation materials for your candidates.

Wear appropriate casual clothing.

Favorite Mosquito Spray.

*Questions?*

Contact: Richard Stange, DDI

[rstangeddi@yahoo.com](mailto:rstangeddi@yahoo.com)

home: 269 628.4432

cell: 269 655.4157

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## VISITATIONS

When is the last time that you visited with the residents of you Masonic Home in Alma, Pathways?

Even better, when is the last time you visited with your Brothers, Companions who have not been attending your meetings and/or their widows?

They live too far to give them a visit! Each of you has a phone. Give them a call! You will probably make their day, just being remembered and I can assure you that it will make your day.



*Donald L. Galway*

**GRAND HIGH PRIEST**

**LADY SHERRY**

22365 N. Latson      Howell 48845  
517.618.7390    [dgalway12000@yahoo.com](mailto:dgalway12000@yahoo.com)

**"COMMUNICATION IS KEY"**

## Comments and Observations From The Grand East

I am beginning to observe that time travels much faster on the slippery side of the slope, it seems like just yesterday I was writing the May article for the Triple Tau, and yet thirty days have passed and it seems like a blur to me. After looking at my calendar I now know where the month went. Lady Sherry and I were in Wisconsin for their Grand Session, from there, we went to Kingsford to visit the DDI and get things set for the Tri-State Festival to be held August 27, 2016 in Kingsford.

Tri-State is a Four-Degree Day held with Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan. Michigan is the host this year and we will be doing the Royal Arch Degree. The event is always a pleasure as we get to see how our neighboring states perform their degrees.

Next we were off to Marquette to visit the Chapter there (we were in the neighborhood anyway). This proved to be an exciting visit as they were preparing the cast for a Three-Degree Day to be held on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This being the precursor to the Royal Arch Degree that Grand Chapter is doing on June 18<sup>th</sup> in Saint Ignace. They are looking at having somewhere around twelve, or more, candidates for this event. We are doing the Royal Arch Degree in conjunction with the Yupper Festival which is the Grand Council's premier event of the season. The degree work is serious but after dinner the Yupper Degree is fun. MIGM Edward James and I started putting this together last year and I am glad to say that it has come together, and I for one am looking forward to it.

I am writing this article as I am also thinking about the Grand Lodge Annual Communication, which is taking place starting this weekend. Lady Sherry and I leave tomorrow morning with a stop in Alma for the Knight York Cross of Honor Session, and then are off to Traverse City (Acme) For the Grand Lodge Session. This Session is a must attend for all masons who are active or wish to become active in masonry.

The tone of the year is set at this session and the lodges will receive their marching orders, which also allows us to plan our year. When the Grand Master set forth his plan for membership, charity, public relations and other programs, then we as York Rite Masons have our building blocks from which to work. Our membership comes from the Blue Lodges; we cannot go on the streets for membership. I, therefore, behooves us to attend to stay abreast of what is coming.

We were also invited to attend the Highland Games in Alma and man a masonic booth/tent for masonic bodies. This is the first year that we have been asked to do this. There is a parade and festival that goes along with the games it takes place on the campus of Alma Collage and should be fun. I will bring you an update in next months article.

For those of you that live in the warm climate, you will be happy to know that on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 I awoke to about a half inch of snow in my yard, it did not make it till noon, but it was there. There is a reason you live in the warm climates, and Mother Nature lets us know every once in awhile why. I hope you have/had a great Memorial Day and remembered what the day was all about, hug a Vet and thank him for his service. "If you can read this article thank a Teacher, if you are reading it in English then thank a Veteran."



## HOWARD DUKE

R.E. GRAND KING

734.847.7032

[howardduke929@gmail.com](mailto:howardduke929@gmail.com)

King's Korner

I read a story a while back in a Royal Arch Mason Magazine about a television program regarding a city park. How it came into being and it's history over many decades. The program referred to the city leaders who first envisioned the park, who developed and planned all the details to make the park a place for all people to enjoy. It took a couple of decades to develop the beautiful gardens, trails, lakes, architecture and fountains, but the city leaders stuck to their plan and at the end the citizens had a beautiful park to enjoy.

Over a period of time the park began to decline, was not being maintained and fell into disrepair. The main structures were closed due to safety concerns and were considered for demolition for cost reasons and the extent of the damage to them. Plus the park became a place where unsavory people were hanging out and the citizens, because of safety concerns, no longer visited the park. The city fathers showed little or no concern or real interest in the revitalization of the once beautiful park.

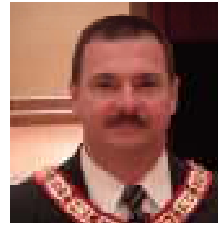
The citizens, both business and private, took it upon themselves to provide funding. Did the work of planting, pruning and rebuilding the structures and brought the park back to it's original beauty. Now the park is maintained by a volunteer program that has developed a personal stake and a sense of pride and ownership in this project.

So how does this park relate to Masonry? Well the article continues: Our founders and those that followed were men of vision and determination. They were Masons, some were leaders in all branches of government, some were business men and some were ordinary citizens. They were Masons who were determined to make a difference. Through their influence and determination they made great accomplishments. This, of course, didn't happen overnight, it took time.

As a result of their efforts Masonry came into full bloom. They had accomplished their goal. They had great attendances at their meetings, beautiful Masonic Temples were erected, an abundance of candidates, wonderful meals and the list goes on. They were riding high and enjoying the Masonic good life. Time to sit back, rest and refresh their selves.

That era had reached it's peak and then a gradual decline began. Not many paid attention. the feeling was that things will improve. Things didn't improve. Instead the decline continued and is still continuing today. What went wrong?

Look for the continuation of this article in the July issue of the Triple Tau. Something to think about until next month.



## RICHARD HITCH

R. E. GRAND SCRIBE

517 S Sybald St., Westland MI, 48186

734 612.4809 [richhitch62@gmail.com](mailto:richhitch62@gmail.com)

Scribe's Scratches

As most Chapter are preparing to go Dark in the next month or two, I hope you are thinking about attending the York Rite Grand Session. Wednesday August 17th is Grand Chapter, Grand Council the 18<sup>th</sup> and Grand Commandery the 19th. This year's Grand Session will be held in Bay City.

Another thing that some of you may want to think about is representing the Grand Chapter as a Deputy District Instructor, (D.D.I.). This is a great way to help reach out into the world of Royal Arch and assist those Chapters that may be having some difficulties. If you do have an interest in becoming a D.D.I. or are just curious, here are a few things you should know.

According to the "Red Book", to be eligible to serve as a D.D.I., "a Companion must have served as a High Priest and obtained the title of "Excellent". D.D.I.'s are appointed Excellent Companions who have volunteered their time to serve and represent the Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter is always looking for interested Companions who would like to be D.D.I.s as there are often some Districts that do not have a D.D.I. or whose D.D.I. becomes unable to perform his duties due to a health issue. Remember though, there may be a lot of travel involved. D.D.I.s assist the Grand Chapter in areas such as; communication with the subordinate Chapters, not only carrying information from the Grand Chapter to your Chapter, but also making a formal visit with each Chapter prior to the date for election of officers. Along with his normal visits to the Chapters, D.D.I.s will also conduct a "School of Instruction" prior to January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The purpose of the "School of Instruction" is to practice all, part or a section of the Ritual and floor work of a particular Degree, assigned by the Grand High Priest. At another date, the D.D.I will also hold a required "Inspection" of the Chapters that he has completed a school with. An "Inspection" covers that portion of the work and ceremonies of the Chapter practiced during the "School of Instruction". It must be completed prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Other duties of the D.D.I, are: secure such statistical information about the Chapters, that may be needed from the Grand Secretary or Grand High Priest; provide information to the Chapter about the programs being offered by the Grand Chapter; assist the Chapters in applying these programs or any other program that may help strengthen the Chapter.

D.D.I.s are paid for necessary expenses of their duties such as: mileage, to travel to his assigned Chapter and postage for any correspondence his Chapters may require. These expenses are paid upon proper receipt to the Executive Director. These expenses however, must be within the Budget allowances established by the Grand Chapter.

D.D.I.s are the eyes and ears of the Grand Chapter. Are you interested in serving as a D.D.I.? Please contact myself or the E.C. Lou Scott Executive Director of the D.D.I.'s,. You may also find more detail and information regarding the D.D.I.s in the "Red Book".





**Louis C. McCray, PGHP**

**Grand Secretary**

P.O. Box 483

Hale, MI. 48739-0483

989.728.5384

[elcemccray@yahoo.com](mailto:elcemccray@yahoo.com)

*Secretary's Scribbles*

**Grand Chapter Web Site:**

<http://www.grandchaptermi.org>

While I am writing this, it is mid-May and the Annual Returns have finally been sent out to the chapter secretaries. I apologize for the delay, it took longer than it should have to get the forms prepared and out to the chapters, but we can always blame it on the new guy in the Grand Secretary's chair. About all we can do now is ask that the chapter secretaries complete the returns and submit them as soon as possible, hopefully by June 1, which will be the same 15 day period that was allowed in the past.

Due to family issues Kris and I will be spending much of our time in Saginaw for an undetermined period so please send all correspondence directly to the office in Alma at Grand Chapter RAM, 1200 Wright Ave. Alma, MI 48801 rather than my PO Box in Hale. For phone calls, please call my cell phone (989)305-1937 or the Grand Chapter office at (989)968-4210. Email will remain unchanged but my internet access will be limited, especially evenings.

Upcoming events include the pending Outdoor 4 Degree Day in Grand Junction on June 11, if you've never been there, check it out it is a fantastic location for outdoor degrees. The dress code for the day is casual clothes and mosquito spray. Candidates should wear old sneakers and shorts or old pants as they **will** go down the River Jordan. Contact Rick Stange at [rstangeddi@yahoo.com](mailto:rstangeddi@yahoo.com) (h) 269-628-4432 (c) 269-655-4157 for confirmation, times, and lunch reservations.

Another event in June is the Yooper Council on June 18 at the St. Ignace Masonic Temple where the Grand chapter will confer the Royal Arch degree beginning at 9:00 AM followed by lunch and the Cryptic Degrees in the afternoon and Yooper Council after the degrees.

It won't be long before the Annual Jim Sprague Memorial Picnic and The Howard Little York Rite Golf Outing arrive on July 23 & 24. Look for the flier in this issue, sign up early for the golf outing and save \$5.00/player, and remember, anyone can buy a hole or tee box banner, Chapters, Councils, Commanderies, Lodges, other bodies, businesses, and even individuals can have their name on a banner.

### In Memoriam

Beverly Henley, widow of James Henley, PGHP, 1982 passed away recently. She lived the last years of her life in Westminster, Colorado.

Most Illustrious Companion Charles T. "Charley" Myer passed away May 24, 2016 at the age of 89 in Trenton, MI. Beloved husband of the late Geraldine. Loving father of David (Sharon), Diane Smith, Kevin, Darcy Harmon and the late Connie Blair. Dearest grandfather of 13, great-grandfather of 25 and great-great-grandfather of 4.

He served as the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal & Select Masons of Michigan in 1986.

### New Addresses

**Paul and Mary Johnson, PGHP**

42600 Cherry Hill Road

Apartment 112

Canton, MI 48187

New Home Phone # [734-629-8839](tel:734-629-8839)

They both will keep their cell phones and have the same #s. This is Walden Woods Retirement Village, don't think that has to be in the address. Thanks, David Dossette

Effective 16 June

**Paul and Beth Howell, PGHP**

3014 N. Regal Ct.

Casa Grande, AZ 85122-5037

E-mails and phone #'s remain the same

### DIRECTORS REPORT

As of this date, 16 May, the total travel reported by all District Deputy Instructors is 19,255 miles.

The following statistics are based upon the reports received and there being 56 Chapters currently in this jurisdiction.

23 Masters Pins presentation reports have been received. 41% completion rate.

26 Schools of Instruction - 46% completion rate.

19 Inspection Reports - 34% completion rate.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis D. Scott Jr., P.H.P.

Executive Director of District Deputy Instructors

### CONGRATULATIONS

Most Excellent Companion Larry A Incho, GHP, 2009, was elected to serve the Grand Lodge as its Grand Marshal at the Annual Communication.

Only the best of luck in your journeys and travels in the Grand Lodge for all Masons of Michigan.

# EVERLASTING IMPRESSIONS

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### YOOPER COUNCIL

Saturday, June 18, 2016  
St. Ignace Masonic Temple  
12 N. State Street, St. Ignace, MI 40781

- 1:00 pm (EDT) Open Council ..... Straits Area Council
- 1:15 **ROYAL MASTER DEGREE** ..... Straits Area Council
- 2:00 **SELECT MASTER DEGREE** ..... Straits Area Council & Gr. Council
- 3:15 Break for Refreshments
- 3:45 Reception of Grand Council Officers
- 4:00 **SUPER EXCELLENT MASTER DEGREE** ..... Grand Council Officers
- 6:00 Dinner in Lodge Dining Room – Buffet Style / Choice of 2 meats
- 7:00 Yooper Council Degree in Lodge Room (Family is invited)

+++++

Anyone desiring overnight accommodations Friday and Saturday should make them directly with the Hotel: Quality Inn & Suites (*rooms have been blocked*) .... (906) 643-9700  
Mention “Grand Council Masons” and get the \$75.00 rate.

.....

#### PRE-PAID MEAL RESERVATIONS (R.S.V.P.) REQUIRED

Please reserve \_\_\_\_ (#) tickets for the Yooper Council Degree to be held in St. Ignace Masonic Temple Dining Room at 6:00pm on June 18<sup>th</sup> 2016.  
(*Seating is limited to 80 people*)

Cost: \$20.00 per person TOTAL ENCLOSED : \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Council # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: “**Straits Area Council**”.

Reservations must be in no later than June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mail to: Bill Ford, Recorder

P.O. Box 14

Carp Lake, Michigan 48718-9718

(231) 420-1143

### Mackinac Chapter No. 134 RAM

Will in the morning of Saturday 18 June 2016 at 9:00 am

Open in the Royal Arch Degree and perform the Royal Arch Degree for all candidates in attendance.

++++ *Lunch will be on your own.*

Afternoon will be Straits Council with assistance from the Grand



# York Rite

## 2016 York Rite Golf Outing

### Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery

Brothers, Companions and Sir Knights

Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 is a day you can join in for fun & fellowship and also raise funds for the charities of the York Rite.

This is a four person scramble for members, family and friends (Men & Women). The cost has gone down to \$65.00 this year, Reservations received prior to July 17th receive a \$5.00 discount. Make up your own foursome for the discount of \$20.00 per team.

Price includes – 18 holes of golf, cart, dinner, and prizes.

If you do not have a team, we will place you on a team.

Registration at the course will begin at 8:30 AM and starting tee time is scheduled for 10:00 AM on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee. \*\*\* If we have enough layers registered in advance, the course will allow us to have a shotgun start.

Don't play Golf! Join us for fellowship and a great meal. Dinner at 3:30 PM. Cost for dinner is only \$23.00.

We are asking all York Rite Bodies (Lodges, Chapters, Councils, Commanderies and Colleges) to sponsor a hole or tee box for \$25.00. The profits will be equally divided between the Grand Chapter, Council, and Commandery for the charity that each Grand Body chooses. We can, also, accept, and do encourage individual &/or business sponsors.

For more information contact any of the following committee members:

John Ames:	586 770.2613	<a href="mailto:GWhuter51@gmail.com">GWhuter51@gmail.com</a>
Lou McCray:	989 728.5384	<a href="mailto:elcemccray@yahoo.com">elcemccray@yahoo.com</a>
Loren Wynn:	734 878.1714	<a href="mailto:tkmaster@netspe.net">tkmaster@netspe.net</a>
Don Mayville:	810 874.1637	<a href="mailto:indsal@att.net">indsal@att.net</a>

## Jim Sprague Memorial 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Royal Arch – York Rite Picnic (all friends are welcome to attend)

Sprague Cabin southeast of Gladwin

Need directions contact Don Mayville

Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> dinner around 3 pm

Pot-Luck side dishes! Donations to help pay for meat  
Return the information below to:

**Don Mayville, 148 Belmont Ln.  
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189-9025**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Others attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Also ----- RSVP – J. Jerry Vann, PGHP  
734 347.1897 or [mason.vann9@gmail.com](mailto:mason.vann9@gmail.com)

Total attending-(\_\_\_\_)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Steaks # \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. Chicken

May stay overnight in an RV, Trailer, or Tent,  
onsite, or in one of the several local Motels.

## 2016 York Rite Golf Outing

Gladwin Heights Golf Course, 3551 W. M-61, Gladwin 989-426-9941

Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery

Sunday July 24, 2016

I/We would like to sponsor a hole or tee box, please have the sign read:

\_\_\_\_\_ (\$ 25.00)

I/We will be participating: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$65.00) [\$60.00 if paid by 7/17/16]

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Playing with: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Hole or Tee Box Sponsorships \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional persons – Dinner Only: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$ 23.00 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to LIVINGSTON CHAPTER NO. 30 – Memo: “YR GOLF Outing”

Mail to: **Don Mayville, 148 Belmont Ln., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189-9025**

Dinner Choices – (Please include yourself) \_\_\_\_\_ # of Steaks \_\_\_\_\_ # of Chickens

*Please copy and distribute as needed*

Michigan Grand York Rite Sessions -  
Aug. 16th - 20th, 2016

Grand Chapter, Wed., Aug. 17; Grand Council, Thur.,  
Aug. 18; Grand Commandery, Fri & Sat., Aug 19 & 20

2016 GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS COMMITTEE

Brian K. Himes, Chairman

Brent A. Helm, Larry A. Inscho & Harry A. Walbridge

Hotel Reservations:

Doubletree Hotel Bay City Riverfront

Attn: Reservations Department

One Wenonah Park

Bay City, MI 48708

Phone: 989 891-6000 Fax: 989 891-9680

Group Room Rate: \$106.00 plus: 11% tax per room, per night

Cut Off Date: July 26, 2016

Check-In Time: 3:00 PM Check-Out Time: Noon

Please Note: Reservations request must be received in their office by  
midnight on the above cut off date to guarantee the group rate. Requests  
received after the above date will be subject to availability and the group  
rate is not guaranteed. \*\*All reservation requests must be accompanied by  
a first night room deposit, or guaranteed by a major credit card.

\*\*\*Rooms will not be reserved unless secured by above methods.

GUESTROOM PREFERENCE (Subject to Availability)

- If more than one room is requested, enclose a list of names and  
addresses, indicating which guests share rooms.
- If you would like a confirmation sent to you via email, please  
provide you email address below.

# of Rooms

# Standard Room - 2 Beds # Standard Room - \*King Bed  
(\*Limited number of King Bedded Rooms in the Hotel)

Number of People in Your Guestroom

Special Requests (Please Check)

Handicap Accessible Hearing Impaired

GUEST INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Day/Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Day/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card : \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

or Check or Money Order (Enclosed) in the Amount of: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

G.Y.R. MEAL RESERVATION FORM 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lady \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary requests \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* Make your reservations from the following selections:

GRAND CHAPTER RAM - WED., AUG. 17, 2016

7 AM Chap. Memb. Breakfast No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon Ladies Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon Companions Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7 PM "Mexican Madness" Banquet No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND COUNCIL R&SM - THUR., AUG. 18, 2016

7 AM Comp./Ladies Breakfast No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon Ladies Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon Companions Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND YORK RITE GRAND BANQUET - Thur. Aug 19, 2016

7 pm # Sirloin Steak # Grilled Portabella-Vegetable Stack

# Seared Salmon Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ #38.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Dress: Grand Officers - Tus?White Dinner Jacket w/ Collars.

Ladies: Evening Attire. General Membership - Business Suit. Ladies - Sunday Best.

GRAND COMMANDERY KT - Fri. Aug. 20, 2016

7 AM KT Gen Memb Breakfast No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon River Cruise Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noon KT Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7:30 pm GRAND COMMANDERY ROUND TABLE

# Roasted Pork Loin # Grilled Chicken Breast

# Grilled Vegetables Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ #38.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Dress: Gr. Commandery Officer & Sir Knights - Full Dress. No Sword or

Chapeau. Grand Officers - Tus/White Dinner Jacket w/ Collars.

Grand Officers. Ladies - Evening Attire Sir Knights Ladies - Sunday Best.

GRAND COMMANDERY KT - Fri. Aug. 21, 2016

8 AM KT Gen Memb Breakfast No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$16.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sub Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: \$ 10.00

Make Checks Payable to: TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

"Michigan Grand York Rite Committee"

Notice: Meal reservations must be postmarked by Aug. 6,  
2016. All Meal reservations postmarked after Aug. 6, 2016,  
are subject to a Late Fee of \$25.00.

Meal reservation cancellations will be honored prior to August 13, 2016.

REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATIONS!

Mail all reservations with remittance To:

MICHIGAN GRAND YORK RITE COMMITTEE

c/o Brent A. Helm, KYCH

198 Saratoga Trail, Lapeer, MI 48446



## ROYAL ARCH BANNERS

Much difficulty has been experienced by ritualists in reference to the true colors and proper arrangements of the banners used in an American Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

It is admitted that they are four in number and that their colors are blue, purple, scarlet

and white; and it is known, too, that the devices on these banners are a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle. But the doubt is constantly arising as to the relation between these devices and these colors, and as to which of the former is to be appropriated to Each of the latter.

The question it is true, is one of mere ritualism, but is important that the ritual should be always uniform, and hence the object of the present article is to attempt the solution of this question. The banners used in a Royal Arch Chapter are derived from those which are supposed to have been borne by the twelve Tribes of Israel during their encampment in the wilderness, to which reference is made in the second chapter of the Book of Numbers and the second verse; "Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard." But as to what were the devices on the banners, or what were their respective colors, the Bible is absolutely silent.

To the inventive genius of the Talmudists are we indebted for all that we know or profess to know on this subject. These mystical philosophers have given to us with wonderful precision the various devices which they have borrowed from the death-bed prophecy of Jacob, and have sought, probably their own fertile imaginations for the appropriate colors.

The English Royal Arch Masons, whose system differs much from that of their American Companions, display in their Chapters the twelve banners of the tribes in accordance with the Talmudic devices and colors. These have been very elaborately described by Doctor Oliver in his Historical Landmarks (11,583-97), and beautifully exemplified by Companion Harris in his Royal Arch Tracing Boards.

But our American Royal Arch Masons, as we have seen, use only four banners, being those attributed by the Talmudists to the four principal Tribes Judah, Ephraim, Reuben and Dan. The devices on these banners are respectively a lion, an ox, a man and an eagle. As to this there is no question, all authorities, such as they are, agreeing on this point.

But as has been before said there is some diversity of opinion as to the colors of each, and necessarily as to the officers by whom they should be borne.

Some of the Targumists, or Jewish biblical commentators, say that the color of the banner of each Tribe was analogous to that of the stone which represented that Tribe in the breastplate of the High Priest. If this were correct, then the colors of the banners of the four leading Tribes would be red and green, namely red for Judah, Ephraim and Reuben, and green for Dan; these being the

colors of the precious stones sardonyx figure, carbuncle, and chrysolite, by which these Tribes were represented in the High Priests Breastplate. Such an arrangement would not, of course, at all suit the symbolism of the American Royal Arch banners.

Equally unsatisfactory is the disposition of the colors derived from the arms of Speculative Freemasonry, as first displayed by Dermott in his Ahiman Rezon, which is familiar to all American Freemasons from the copy published by Cross in his Hieroglyphic Chart. In this piece of Blazonry, the two field occupied by Judah and Dan are azure, or blue and those of Ephraim and Reuben are or, or golden yellow; an appropriation of colors altogether uncongenial with Royal Arch symbolism.

We must, then, depend on the Talmudic writes solely for the disposition and arrangement of the colors and devices of these banners. From their works we learn that the color of the banner of Judah was white, that of Ephraim, scarlet; that of Reuben, purple; and that of Dan, blue, and the devices of the same Tribes were respectively the lion, the ox, the man and the eagle. Hence, under the arrangement- and it is the only one upon which we can depend – the four banner is a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, working in the American Rite, should be distributed as follows among the banner – bearing officers:

1. An eagle, on a blue banner. This represents the Tribe of Dan, and is borne by the Grand Master of the First Veil.
2. A man, on a purple banner. This represents the Tribe of Reuben, and is borne by the Grand Master of the Second Veil.
3. An ox on the scarlet banner. This represents the Tribe of Ephraim, and is borne by the Grand Master of the Third Veil.
4. A lion, on a white banner. This represents the Tribe of Judah, and is borne by the Royal Arch Captain.

Based on "Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences" by Albert G. Mackey, M.D.

*Prepared by:*

*Grand Chapter Education Committee*

### CERTIFICATE OF PROXY IN GRAND CHAPTER

To the Grand Chapter of Michigan:

This is to certify that:

Companion \_\_\_\_\_

has been selected to hold the proxy to represent Companion \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, to be holden at \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Witness my hand and seal at \_\_\_\_\_ this day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

**Use your Proxies, don't lose your votes!!!**





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Companions,

This month's offering for Cryptic Education is written by Sir Knight Richard W. Van Doren. This is part one of a series, and comes from the Grand Council of Massachusetts.

The History of Cryptic Masonry - Part One – Theoretical -The Legends

No one knows for certain where or by whom Cryptic Masonry originated. Like all of Freemasonry practiced today, there are prehistoric antecedents which we draw upon for the wisdom and teachings of the degrees. The term "Cryptic" is derived from the Latin Crypticus and the Greek Krupt meaning "an underground, hidden, vault beneath a temple, cathedral, or the chapel of a cemetery." The origin of the term "Cryptic Freemasonry" apparently lies with Rob Morris, Past Grand Master of Kentucky and influential Freemason of the 19th Century.

Prior to Jeremy Cross and John Barker, the degrees were separate and not connected in a body as they are now. The degrees' content is, for the most part, found in both the Scottish as well as the York Rites. To understand the history, we will relate information about three areas: legends and their origins; where, when, and by whom the legends turned into degrees; and early records leading up to the practice of the degrees in Adonairam Council today.

The legends all surround the loss of a great blessing which, in a future age, will be restored or recovered. This tradition is found in many parts of the ancient world including China, India, Egypt, Babylon, Persia, and Israel. Within the Judeo-Christian traditions, there is more than one telling of that legend, including more than one story of buried "treasure or wisdom."

Talmudic scholars relate that workmen preparing the foundations of King Solomon's Temple found a subterranean vault supported by arches and pillars which had been built to keep safe and hidden a "treasure" or "secret." Josephus relates in "Antiquities of the Jews" that the descendants of Seth buried two pillars of "wisdom" in Syria from the time of Enoch. These multiple versions of the origins of the lost wisdom would be echoed in the Christian Era.

The Symbolism

"In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God. And the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:1. For the Christian era, the Lost Word is the Christ and all that He represents, love and the healing of the relationship with God. The search for the Lost Word becomes the search for the Holy Graal or the quest of the Knights for the Ark of the Covenant. For the Stuarts of Scotland and England, the Word represented the divine truth of the right of the Stuart dynasty. (More of that later). For the Masonic thinker of today, the Word is much more than that. As Hinman, Denslow, and Hunt note, "We have been told that the Word could only be communicated in the presence of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty, and in the absence of one of these, the Word was lost. Here we have a symbol of one of the greatest truths of human life, namely that a partial development of a man is a one sided development and produces a deformed, imperfect character. The pillars of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty represent the three phases of a man's character: his intellect, his will, and his feeling or sensibilities."

The Word which symbolizes the perfection of the man and of his soul cannot be achieved if there is not balance among the three. If a man has developed his will and accompanies it with finely developed sensibilities yet lacks proper judgment of his intellect, it will lead him down a pathway of potential destruction. Should he have the proverbial wisdom of Solomon, yet not be able to heed the call of mercy of the human heart, he may be capable of the most hideous of human cruelties, and should he have wisdom and human kindness, but be unable to stand up to the forces of life's tumult, where does that leave him in the end but a weak reed blowing in the wind? We are not, therefore, to lose sight of the end of our quest. We are told to persevere toward development of all three attributes, and we shall arrive, eventually, at that state of perfection which the Christian Mason would call a state of grace. Non-Christian Masons could call that state of "grace" efficiency of being, of maximum personal potential, etc. Because the loss of the Word is only temporary, it can and it will be recovered, and with the recovery comes all the attributes which were thought to be lost, the productivity and efficacy of work, the beauty and the constancy of fraternal affection, and the mutual support of the community of the Brethren.....



# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS

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## GRAND COMMANDERS CORNER --- June Message

### **The Importance of Vision**

Native American tribes would send young men off on vision quests, so that for the rest of their lives they would know exactly what direction they were supposed to take.

There was great wisdom in this. Having a vision for one's life is essential. Without one, you end up drifting along in life instead of being driven by purpose towards the fulfillment of your goals. Men without vision feel as if unfortunate events absolutely blindsided them—Why did I get fired? Why is my wife leaving? Why am I 30 and still living at home? How did I get in so much debt? *How did this happen to me!?! Men without vision live only in the present, much like the grasshopper in the old Aesop's fable. When winter comes, they are caught unawares and left dazed and shivering in the cold.*

On the other hand, a man with vision looks ahead. He plans. He knows where he wants to be in 5, 10, 50 years. And he gathers and systemizes the "data" of his life to gain an understanding of what he must do and how he must act to get where he wants to go. He can analyze what's working in his life and what's not, and jettison the latter. He scans the horizon to see what is coming down the pike, and he knows just how he will react if X, Y, or Z happens. He cultivates a healthy self-awareness. He knows what flaws, temptations, and pitfalls are his personal Achilles' heels, the "predators" that can derail his life and poison his relationships. When these threats approach, the alarms in his mind go off, and he walks away.

To grow, we need leaders that are visionary's, those that have the ability to visualize where we want to be as an organization, Leaders that can lead us toward that vision, Leaders that can manage our progress and leaders that can organize our efforts to keep us moving forward. Look within your own commanderies and find those leaders.

We need Leaders with a vision for where we want to go, Leaders who can inspire us to follow that vision, Leaders who can manage the details of achieving that vision, and Leaders who can organize the resources needed to build that vision. Where do you want your Order to be in 10 years? Sir Knights, what we do today will impact the future survival of our organization.

We are all Masons in the same boat together. When there is a leak at the stern, it affects everybody even though your feet may be dry now. All must bail or all will go down. We must help each other to survive.

### **LEADERSHIP IN OUR ORGANIZATION**

There is much talk of developing leadership in our Masonic organizations, and, while people keep arguing about what leadership really means, they all agree that it's a positive thing. They're wrong. John C. Maxwell, the leadership guru, holds that leadership is nothing more and nothing less than influence. That idea turns the commonly understood vision of leadership as a good on its head. Influence is value neutral, and so leaders can be positive or negative, depending on their values. Winston Churchill and Adolf Hitler were both leaders, but only Churchill's leadership was based in positive values, and thus only Churchill could bring about positive outcomes. If we have a negative person in our lodge, that person is a negative influencer. Likewise, if we have a Brother who is consistently positive in outlook, regularly helpful, and genuinely concerned about others, he is a positive influencer. Our job as leaders is to find and encourage the positive influencers in our lodges, while preventing damage from the negative influencers. By doing so, we increase Freemasonry's health, and magnify our own positive influence.

"We cannot live better than in seeking to become better."

— [Socrates](#)