

Michigan Triple Tau

Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Michigan

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July

Grand Chapter Web Site:



2015

www.grandchaptermi.org

Official Publication

of the

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan

Capitular Growth in Michigan through Masonic Education



The future of Royal Arch Masonry relies on its membership, retention and education of that membership. I believe that communication, visibility, and education are the best tools we have to obtain these goals.

Being visible can be accomplished in several ways. We should strive to attend our local Chapters on a regular basis. By doing this we will be better informed of activities, events, and ritual. We should make it a point to be active within our Lodges. This is where we get our prospective new members. Talk to the Master about doing a red coat degree, Enhance the Secret program, or offer a lodge appreciation night as one of your Chapter functions. When attending a tiled or public masonic function, be sure to wear your chapter coat. It will spark interest and give you an opportunity to talk about Chapter and what it offers.

Education is a never-ending process. By regular attendance in our Chapter meetings, taking part in our schools and inspections, a companion is sure to pick up knowledge he did not previously have. I have attended several schools this year and attendance has been dismal at best. We also need to encourage attendance at the Grand Chapter Session; the Grand Chapter has new and revised programs to help in the areas of recruitment, communication and education.

Communication is key to both being visible and education. The options are many - phone, mail, email, texting, websites, social media, and automated voice calls. How else can you communicate with your members? Communication works for those who work at it!

Thank you for your time. I have started an email list to help communicate activities in the York Rite Bodies and Blue Lodges (that's where our future members are). Please email me any events coming up and I will forward the information on. If you wish to be added please send me your email address. My email is mickey422@yahoo.com.

Mike Roberts GRAC

Membership Retention and Restoration

1. Chapter Fellowship

- a. Have a dinner or dessert before or after your meetings
- b. Monthly breakfast or dinner (also a great fundraiser)
- c. Visit other Chapters or Blue lodges (*it's where the new members are*)
- d. Participate in community events, such as, fundraisers, volunteer activities, etc.

2. Capitulary Education

- a. Every Chapter should have an Education Officer. The Education Officer should share any new and/or useful information at each stated meeting as part of the proceedings.
- b. Hold Degree practice at least once a month
- c. Make sure each officer has an Officer's manual to reference what is expected for the position he holds.
- d. Take time to study the degrees individually to understand and learn the meanings behind that degree. The better one understands the degree, the better mentor one will be for new members.

3. Membership

- a. Establish a Membership committee. The committee should consist of 4-5 members.
- b. Establish a relationship with a Blue lodge. Become "that person" Blue lodge members go to for information.
- c. Create social networking accounts, such as, Facebook, Twitter, Website, etc. Make sure to use the sites and keep content current.
- d. Get Active. Chapters will NOT keep or gain members if all we do is a business meeting. New members want some kind of purpose of membership.
- e. Host a dinner that includes nonmembers, their ladies, family and friends (*see also fellowship*)

4. Communication

- a. Know your audience
- b. Use email, newsletters, regular mailings, and phone calls for Chapter events.
- c. Use Facebook, Twitter, etc. Use a Website. Keep it simple and current.
- d. Texting is popular among younger members.
- e. Include other Chapters and lodges in your area of your events. It's a way to build relationships and network.

5. Future Planning

- a. Chapters should have a Planning committee. Include officers of the moving line, excluding the HP.
- b. If you have no plan, then you are planning to fail.
- c. The plan should consist of one year to five year goals.
- d. Track your goals and modify your plan as needed.

Education Committee

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan



Louis C. McCray *GRAND HIGH PRIEST*

LADY KRISTI

P.O. Box 483, Hale 48739

989.728.5384 elcemccray@yahoo.com

“GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND EAST”

Last month, I closed with the lament, “So little time, so much to do.” Well here we are, a month later, with even less time and it seems even more to do. Among the first things for many of us to do is sign up for the Annual York Rite Golf Outing, or at least purchase a banner in your name, your organization’s name, or your business’ name and make your reservations for the Jim Sprague Memorial Picnic. Golf outing registrations are down considerably from normal with less than a month to go before the event; banner sales are also down but have begun to pick up a little in the last week or two. Remember early golf registrations can save you \$20.00/team so get signed up before July 9th if at all possible. Forms and information are available on another page in this issue of the Triple Tau.

Picnic reservations are practically non-existent with only eight signed up so far. The picnic is a pot-luck but we still need to know how many steaks, chickens, baked potatoes and ears of corn we need to prepare. Contact me directly for picnic reservations and directions to the Sprague property if needed. This year, Lady Kristi & I will be preparing breakfast on Sunday morning for any overnights or early golfers. We are planning on pancakes with real maple syrup and bacon or link sausage, but again, we need to know approximately how many will be having breakfast with us.

I have included information in this issue about the Annual Tri-State 4 Degree Day for Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. This year it will be held in Duluth, MN and the Michigan delegation will be conferring the Past Master & Most Excellent Master Degrees. I would encourage as many companions, especially those from the U.P., attend as possible. It is a great experience to see some of the differences in the way the degrees are conferred in different jurisdictions. If any chapters have candidates, this is your opportunity to have them receive the degrees and have a good time with companions from the other two states.

It has been a busy time since my last article with the Installation of Officers at Wayne Chapter #182 on May 25th, Dennis Brawn York Rite College #65 on May 25th, the conferral of the Royal Arch Degree on candidates from both Iosco #83 and Sunrise #74 in Birch Run on May 30th, then in June, a visit to Manistique Chapter #127 on the 9th, a special meeting of my lodge on the 10th (we’re looking at selling our building and renting space somewhere else), the Scottish Rite Council of Deliberations on the 13th, a Future Planning Committee meeting on the 14th, my home Chapter, Sunrise #74, Stated on the 15th, travel to Wisconsin from the 16th to the 18th for their Grand Chapter Convocation, on the 20th there was a Shrine Ceremonial in West Branch in the morning, then down to Warren for Grand Master Richard Wisely’s reception dinner in the evening, my other Chapter, Iosco # 83, Stated on the 22nd, the Annual FellowCraft Boat Degree in Bay City on the 23rd, a luncheon with the Royal Arch Masons at Pathways followed by the banquet for the 87th Grand Assembly of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls in Michigan in Mt. Pleasant on the 25th. For you English majors out there, I know that’s a long sentence with a lot of commas, but it is a list, after all.

I was happy to see the Most Excellent General Grand High Priest, Louis Bartrand, while in Wisconsin and in his remarks to the Grand Chapter he brought up the “Gift for a Gift” program of the RARA and while I had heard of it through the General Grand Chapter online magazine, I guess I hadn’t made myself as familiar with it as I should have. In order to promote the program in Michigan, I have reprinted the text of the announcement below as it appeared in the GGCRAM magazine and I ask that you consider it for all your Masonic Bodies.

“The Board of Directors of ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE has introduced the Gift for a Gift program. Through the generous contribution of Companion Steven Monrotus, Past Grand High Priest of Missouri, a renowned organist in his own right, three excellent musical discs are now available for a special contribution of only \$150. Each of these discs has been provided with, and includes, appropriate music for many Masonic ceremonial occasions. There are patriotic tunes as well as music for the opening, and closing of a Masonic body. There are incidental tunes and processions to include hymns and other appropriate tunes.

The Masonic Fraternity has been blessed with many great composers and many great musical pieces which have added so much over the years to all of our ritualistic work. Few Lodges or other Masonic groups, however, retain individuals or working instruments able to reproduce these desired sounds to accompany our beloved degree work. Although there are numerous musical discs, or discs sets available with the appropriate music recorded on them, they are not arranged in a convenient manner nor are they timed to fit the lengths available to match our ritual. All recordings on these discs are of short duration (maximum 2:00 minutes) so as to be able to comfortably apply them to the ceremony being presented. An enclosed set of notes serves as a guide for use of these individual tracks.

We offer this to you and we ask you to consider making these CD’s available as a gift to your Lodge, your Chapter, your Council or your Commandery or other Masonic group by a contribution to Royal Arch Research Assistance for this great Masonic working tool. We all know how much music adds to our ceremonies and this is your opportunity to step forward and make a difference in the ritualistic ceremony with one or more of these special Masonic music gifts. Here is a way you can leave your legacy to so many with your generosity by participating in the new Gift for a Gift program for Royal Arch Research Assistance.

GIFT FOR GIFT OrderForm.pdf AND/OR send your check to:

Royal Arch Research Assistance, PO Box 128, Greenfield, IN 46140-0128.”

In closing, I now offer a few quotations from Terry Martin-Spalding found on his “Thoughts to Make You Say, ‘Hmmm’” from the Canada Masons email group.

“Blowing out someone else’s candle doesn’t make yours shine any brighter.”- Anonymous

“It is the highest form of self-respect to admit our errors and mistakes and make amends for them. To make a mistake is only an error in judgment, but to adhere to it when it is discovered shows infirmity of character.”- Dale E. Turner (1917-2006)

“Lodges are the foundation stones of Masonry. The craft’s future rests in them.” - Bro. Elroy J. MacKinnon



Donald L. Galway Kings Korner

22365 N. Latson Howell 48845
517.618.7390 dgalway12000@yahoo.com

Greetings Companions,

Here we are half way through June, only a few days from summer, and you can count the number of days in the high seventies or low eighties on one hand. We have some rain here in Michigan, not much, but I have seen some of the animals pairing up, not sure what that means. I am beginning to think I should find out just how long a cubit is.

I only mention the above because last Saturday June 13th I had the pleasure of attending the outdoor degree in Grand Junction. What a great day, up at 4: 45 AM I am more inclined going to bed at that time, then getting up, off at 5:15 AM driving in what one would call a London Dew for three hours and arriving at someplace that not even my GPS could find. (Thank goodness for truck stops and coffee). I pull into a two track and follow it almost till I think I am lost only to find a gentleman happily pushing a string trimmer down the two track to trim the grass and weeds. So, having said that, the first three degree's of Royal Arch were performed in other then great conditions. Remember that rain and drizzle, well it didn't let up, it just stopped long enough to give false hope that it was quitting.

The weather cleared up for lunch, which was provided by Richard Stange, and crew and I must say was excellent, if you were still hungry it was your own fault. So this is where Mother Nature gets cruel, with in the next half hour the temperature goes from mid sixties and damp, to mid eighties and sunny, so in the deep confines of the wood's anything that had wings and could bite, took flight and did. What a great way to view or perform the Royal Arch Degree. All of this, I say, just to congratulate the twelve newest members of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. I hope it was a great and memorable day for them; it was a great day for Royal Arch Masonry. I hope that everyone that came to partake in the degrees or just to witness had a good a day as I had. And again congratulation to our twelve newest members.

I would also like to congratulate MWGM Richard Wisley upon his ascension to the highest office a mason can hold in the state of Michigan. I am looking forward to his year and the program that he is setting for this year and years to come. I had the pleasure of attending one of the "Town Hall" meetings, where the long range plan was put forth. I for one think that it is a very good plan and I would urge all of the Royal Arch Mason in Michigan to support it. Remember companions our membership comes from the Blue Lodge.

Things that are coming in the next months. The York Rite Grand session is coming August 18 – 22 in Bay City, Michigan. The session will be held in the Double Tree hotel. The York Rite Reception dinner will be held October 11th 2015 a flyer and registration form, is printed else where in this publication.

Remember, if you have an upcoming event send it to me, and I will put it on the events page of our website. I hope to see each and every one of you at the grand session, as this is your Grand Chapter



President
2014
TYLER KIMER
105 W. Mankato St.
Duluth, MN 55803

Secretary
2014
JOHN C. WHITE
401 Green Ave.
Stevens Point, WI
54481

2015 TRI-STATE CONVOCATION

WHEN: AUGUST 29, 2015

WHERE: LAKE SUPERIOR LODGE

4731 GLADSTONE ST.
DULUTH, MN 55804

Registration will be available beginning at 9:00 am.
(Coffee/Rolls provided—(donation accepted))

The festivities will be opened promptly at 9:45 am by
MEGHP _____ (or his representative).

The conferral of degrees will be as follows:

10:00 am MARK MASTER – Wisconsin

11:00 am PAST MASTER—Michigan

12:15 Break for lunch – Soup and Sandwiches \$10

1:15 pm MOST EXCELLENT MASTER—Michigan

2:30 pm Break and Annual Meeting with Election
of Officers for 2015-16

3:30 pm ROYAL ARCH—Minnesota

*** Closing immediately following the RAM Degree

Rooms have been blocked off for Friday night August 28th
and Saturday night at the Holiday Inn downtown at 200 W 1st
St. at \$229/night. (This time of year can be tricky for hotel
rooms on the weekends. The only other place I was able to find
that was more reasonable was the EcoLodge at 4197 Haines Rd.
for \$155/night. Rooms were not available to block off.)

MONROE COUNCIL NO. 1 R&SM

ALL DEGREE DAY

SEPTEMBER 12, 2015



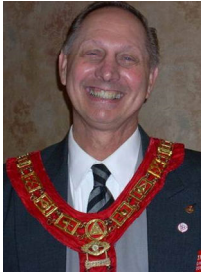
Noon	Coffee and Donuts
1:00 PM	Opening
1:20	Royal Master Degree
2:00 PM	Select Master Degree
3:00	Reception of Grand Officers
3:30	Super Excellent Master Degree
6:00 PM	Dinner (\$15.00 each)

(tours will be available)

Reserve _____ Dinners at \$15.00 each
Total Paid: _____

Checks payable to: Monroe Council No. 1 R&SM
Reservations must be in by September 1, 2015

Monroe Council, 500 Temple, Detroit, MI 48201



Robert E. Cooper, PGC

Grand Secretary

233 E. Fulton St., Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Cell: 616-401-6058 Home: 616-696-4847

NEW E-MAIL r.cooper@trekwind.com

Cell phone e-mail: r.cooper13@gmail.com

Grand Chapter Web Site:

<http://www.grandchaptermi.org>

Secretary's Scribbles

Secretaries and Companions,

Calendar:

July 18 – James Sprague Memorial Picnic –Sprague Cabin

July 19 – Annual York Rite Golf Outing –Gladwin

August 17-22 – Grand York Rite Sessions of Michigan –Bay City – Double Tree

*Note – Watch the WEB Site for a Reporting

Calendar of Grand Chapter Reports.

Announced for Grand Honors: (Endorsements on File)-
Repeated from Last Month

Jeffery A. Heaven – PHP, Mt. Pleasant Chapter #111

8800 Millbrook Rd, Blanchard, Mi. 49310

H 989-561-5548 C 989-944-2923 or 231-854-4331

weoxstan@gmail.com Grand Sentinel

Donald C. Mayville – PHP, Livingston # 30

148 Belmont Lane, Whitmore Lake, Mi. 48189

810-874-1637 DDI District #10

Robert B. Powers – PHP, Mt. Vernon # 37

9304 Lewis Ave., Temperance, Mi. 48182-9307

powers438@bex.net Former DDI

Annual Returns for 2015

Many Annual Returns have come in, if you haven't yet filed please do so as soon as possible. Remember to add the \$10 Late Fee. If you are having trouble and have not already contacted me please do so.

Awards:

Several awards are available every year, for both members and chapters.

Our Grand Session is coming up in August, so please apply for them if you have eligible members:

50 Year Pins

Life Membership (30 years service and 65 years old)

Individual Ritual Awards:

Awarded thru a point system, The application details out the points earned for each ritual part.

Membership Awards

Lewis Cass Medal – Top line signer on 10 of more petitions

Zerubbabel Apron – Top line signer on 15 or more petitions

Meritorious Service Award – chosen from those applicants, 1 from each Region and 1 state wide.

Certificates for Chapter membership gains

Certificates for contributions to RARA and the Royal Arch Foundation.

The Doctor Hudson Award, which is given based upon Chapter timing reporting and membership gains. It is compiled by the Grand Secretary.

The Masonic Heritage Award, (formerly called the Lewis Award) presented to Father-Son(In-Law and step) which are both masons. It can be presented at the Raising on one of them, or at any time thereafter. All that is needed is for you to make application. The applications may be downloaded form the WEB Site or requested form this office.

Don't let you hard working companion go without recognition.

Other Deadlines:

Grand Chapter & General Grand Chapter Award Submissions – June 1, 2015.

Grand Chapter Committee Reports – June 15, 2015

Grand High Priest & Grand King Addresses – July 15, 2015

Grand Chapter Convocation – August 19, 2015.

Golf:

Not too late to sponsor and hole or t-box. If you would like to play, please sign up, If you do not have a team, we will put you on one. The Outing will be at the Gladwin Country Club, in Galdwin on Sunday July 19, 2015 with registration at 8:30 AM and tee-off at 10:00 AM.

Picnic:

The Annual Royal Arch Picnic will be held on Saturday July 18, 2015. Consult the Grand Chapter WEB Site Calendar for more information:

www.grandchaptermi.org

Thank You and Fraternally,



2015 York Rite Golf Outing

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

Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery

Companions and Sir Knights

Sunday, July 19th, 2015 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 up to &70.00 this year, due to increased cost of meals. Reservations received prior to July 9th receive a \$5.00 discount. Price includes – 18 holes of golf, cart, dinner, and prizes. Make up your own foursome for the discount of \$20.00 per team.

If you do not have one, 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 1st 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 Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies to sponsor a hole or tee box for \$25.00. The profits will be equally divided between the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand 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:

Lou McCray: 989 728.5384 elcemccray@yahoo.com

Steve Striggow: 248 634.3479 stiggs1@comcast.net

Loren Wynn: 734 878.1714 tkmaster@netspe.net

Bob Cooper: 616 696.4847 rccooper@triton.net

Jim Sprague Memorial 18th Annual Royal Arch Picnic

(all friends are welcome to attend)

Sprague Cabin near Gladwin, MI

Need directions contact Lou McCray

Saturday, July 18, 2015 dinner around 3 pm

RSVP -- Choice of Steak or Grilled Chicken

Pot-Luck side dishes! Donations to help pay for meat

Return the information below to:

Lou McCray at P.O. Box 483, Hale, MI 48739

or call: home (989) 728-5384

cell (989)305-1937

e-mail at: elcemccray@yahoo.com

Name: _____

Others attending: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Total attending- _____ # Steaks _____ #Gr. Chicken _____

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

2015 York Rite Golf Outing

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

Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery

Sunday July 19, 2015

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

_____ (\$ 25.00)

I/We will be participating: Name: _____ (\$70.00) [65.00 if paid by 7/9/15]

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Playing with: _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

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

Enclosed please find my payment of \$ _____

Make checks payable to **ROBERT E. COOPER** – marked “**YR GOLF Outing**”

Mail to: **ROBERT E. COOPER 101 20 MILE RD., CEDAR SPRINGS, MI 49319**

Dinner Choices – (Please include yourself)

of Steaks _____ # of Chickens _____

Please copy as needed!!!

Michigan Grand York Rite Sessions – Aug. 19th – 22nd, 2015
 Grand Chapter, Wed., Aug. 19; Grand Council, Thur., Aug. 20; Grand Commandery, Fri & Sat., Aug 21 & 22

**Michigan Grand York Rite
 2015 Sessions Committee
 Brian K. Himes, Chairman
 Larry A. Inscho
 Harry A. Walbridge**

**Hotel Reservations:
 Doubletree Hotel Bay City Riverfront**

Attn: Reservations Department
 One Wenonah Park Place, Bay City, MI 48708
 Phone: 989 891-6000 Fax: 989 891-9680

Group Room Rate: \$105.00 plus 11% tax per room, per night
 Cut Off Date: July 17, 2015

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 in order 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 one of the above methods.

GUESTROOM PREFERENCE (Subject to Availability)

- If more than one room is requested, please 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 your 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: _____
 Exp. Date: _____
 Name of Card Holder: _____
 or Check or Money Order (Enclosed) in the Amount of: _____
Signature: _____

MEAL RESERVATION FORM – GYR 2015

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. 19, 2015

7 AM Chap. Memb. Breakfast No. ____ @ \$13.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon Ladies Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon Companions Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

7 PM "Support Your Team" Banquet No. ____ @ \$30.00 = \$ _____

Grand Council R&SM – Thur., Aug. 20, 2015

7 AM Comp./Ladies Breakfast No. ____ @ \$13.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon Ladies Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon Companions Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

GRAND YORK RITE GRAND BANQUET – Thur. Aug 20, 2015

7 pm New York Strip Steak No. ____ @ \$36.00 = \$ _____

Roasted Airline Chicken Breast No. ____ @ \$36.00 = \$ _____

Grand Commandery KT – Fri. Aug. 21, 2015

7 AM KT Gen Memb Breakfast No. ____ @ \$13.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon Ladies Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

12 Noon KT Luncheon No. ____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____

7:30 PM ROUND TABLE DINNER

Sirloin Steak No. ____ @ \$36.00 = \$ _____

Pork Chop No. ____ @ \$36.00 = \$ _____

Grand Commandery KT – Fri. Aug. 21, 2015

8 AM KT Gen Memb Breakfast No. ____ @ \$13.00 = \$ _____

Sub Total \$ _____

Registration Fee: \$ **10.00**

TOTAL \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: Michigan Grand York Rite Committee

Notice: Meal reservations must be postmarked by Aug. 7, 2015. All Meal reservations postmarked after Aug. 7, 2015, are subject to a Late Fee of \$25.00.

Meal reservation cancellations will be honored prior to August 14, 2015.

REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATIONS!

Please forward all reservations with remittance To:

MICHIGAN GRAND YORK RITE COMMITTEE

c/o Larry A. Inscho, PGHP, P.O. Box 143, Fostoria, MI 48435-0143



DAVID G. BORING
M. J. Grand Master
dboring@comcast.net



www.rsm-mi.org

ANTHONY M. CHAMBERLIN
P.M.J.G.M.
Grand Recorder
1.810.329.0816
migr2009@sbcglobal.net

Have We Become Prisoners of “Preservation”

An acronym is an abbreviation formed from the initial components in a phrase or a word. Usually these components are individual letters, for example NATO—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. We use acronyms



as tools to reinforce what we perceive as essential characteristics. For example, in the workplace –the 5 Ps (Prior Planning Promotes Perfect Performance) are essential characteristics of an organization. You may have seen the 4 P’s espoused in Cryptic marketing publications—Passion, Performance, Perfection, and “Preservation”. In fact the word preservation appears more times on the General Grand web site than in our own ritual! Go ahead check it out. Only page 58, paragraph 8, and page 61, continuation of paragraph 3 does the word preserve/preservation appear. Note well, the context in which it is used.

The definition of preservation is to keep (something) in its original state or in good condition. . The National Trust for Historic Preservation is focused on saving America’s historic places. Is our definition of “preservation” to “preserve” archaic usage? For example, the archaic word “suffer” appears on pages 47, 48, 51, and 52 of the Manual for Cryptic Masons (**third edition 2010**)?

Have we become prisoners of preservation by “bundling” the words “passion”, “performance”, “perfection” and “preservation” to mean that all manuals, the Council Manual of the Compiled Laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons are to be kept “in its original state”? Should not manuals be organic documents? The penalty for being a “Prisoner of Preservation” can be illustrated by the Encyclopedia Britannica. After 244 years selling print editions of the Encyclopedia Britannica, the company stopped selling them in 2012.

Have the words “performance”, “perfection” and “preservation” become “bundled” to connote meanings never intended? The Manual for Cryptic Masons (third edition 2010), page 49 admonishes us to “*hold in due veneration the ancient landmarks*”. Regrettably, some companions have lost their way and forgot the admonition and lesson on page 18, line number 40 of our ritual. Many of the so called “landmarks” that occur in the longer lists are actually regulations, customs, or principles which are either of recent origin or unessential to being a Royal and Select Mason. The landmarks are (1) a belief in God; (2) the Bible is an indispensable part of our lives and opens at every assembly. (3) a Royal and Select Mason believes in the immortality of the soul.

Let us move beyond “preservation”. Our Masonic membership in Michigan has declined from 45,780 in 2005 to 31,801 in 2015, a decline of 30.5% in a decade. While we all have passion, we need to find “verbs” to replace nouns “performance”, “perfection”, and “preservation”. We must be meaningful, relevant, and rewarding. We must exhibit the qualities of respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, and compassion and stop being prisoners to preservation.

EVERLASTING IMPRESSIONS

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Fred & Bonnie Schneider

7100 Jackson Rd. Ste. 400
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734-222-1770

fred@eiengravers.com
bonnie@eiengravers.com
www.eiengravers.com

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JEWELRY – APRONS
CHAPEAU CASES, SLINGS, GLOVES

2600 Springmill Road Findlay, Ohio 45840

Ph. (419) 422-7490 Fax. (419) 420-9645
bel33@att.net

You are cordially invited to a
JOINT YORK RITE GRAND OFFICERS RECEPTION
HONORING



Donald L. Galway
Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Grand Chapter RAM



Edward P. James
Most Illustrious Grand Master
Grand Council R&SM



Albert F. Johnson
Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Commandery KT

Sunday, October 11, 2015

Social 3:30 PM Dinner 4:00PM

to be held at the: *Crowne Plaza Hotel*

925 Creyts Road, Lansing, Michigan

Social Hour starting at 3:00PM with cash bar

Dinner at 4:00PM

Cost \$45.00 per person

Dress: *Grand Officers Tuxedo w/jewel*

Men: *Jacket and Tie*

Ladies: *Sunday best*

Name _____ Title _____

Request Reservations for _____ persons @ \$45.00 Per Person

Reservations with remittance no later than October 7th 2015

Please make checks payable to : Livingston Chapter #30

R.S.V.P. and Remittance, a must, to :

Don Mayville

148 Belmont Ln.

Whitmore Lake, MI. 48189

Choice of Entrée:

Roast Pork Loin _____ Broiled Whitefish _____

Vegetarian Plate: *Stuffed Portobello Mushroom* _____

Amount Remitted: _____

Check # _____