

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons
of Michigan

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Michigan Triple Tau

**Official Publication of the
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons**
Web Site: www.grandchaptermi.org

SEPTEMBER 2016

Greetings from Jane Todd, Editor. The new, incoming Grand Officers are trying to put their best foot forward after being elected into office. We have a new page for the Grand Lady, Carole Duke and I think this is great to involve the Ladies too.

Congratulations to the newly installed officers. Wish I had some new pictures for them but I'm sure they will come eventually. I have a few pictures from the Grand Session and Companion Duane Todd did a good job.

Fraternally Yours,
Jane Todd, Editor





Howard W. Duke
Grand High Priest

Lady Carole Duke
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The 168th Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter is now over and a new year for the Grand Officers has begun. I take this time to once again thank those Companions who elected me to serve as your Grand High Priest for the year ahead. Thank you. I am truly humbled to have this opportunity to serve this Grand Chapter and to put forth my best efforts during my term in office.

I would like to welcome Right Excellent Companion Brent Helm to the moving line and his Lady Nancy. Brent is Grand Treasurer Emeritus and has been elected to serve this year as Grand Master of the 1st Veil. Brent previously served our Grand Chapter for twelve years as Grand Treasurer. New to the Grand Line this year is Right Excellent Companion Randy Galbraith of Livingston Chapter No. 30 and his Lady Ilene. Randy was elected as the Grand Sentinel. Congratulations to you and your lady and welcome to the Grand Chapter family.

To those Companions who did not attend Grand Chapter or the Grand Sessions this year you missed an outstanding event. Remember Companions, you are the Grand Chapter. The Grand Officers are elected to serve you. It is by your voice that determines the course we are to follow. Please don't take what you have for granted. Make it a priority to attend next fall and get reacquainted with old friends and make new ones, let your voice be heard and don't forget to bring your lady.

This year it was announced that eleven of our Chapters failed to submit their annual reports to the Grand Secretary. That equates to one fifth of our Chapters being disenfranchised. This is not acceptable. The High Priest and Secretary are required by virtue of their office, and their obligations, to comply with Capitular Law and to fulfil those obligations. It is one of my priorities this year to confront this problem and to eliminate it.

Beginning this month those Chapters that have been dark over the summer will begin their labors again. This will be a busy time for all of us and I look forward to visiting as many Chapters as possible and getting acquainted with more of our Companions. I wish each one of you and your Chapter a most successful year.

My congratulations also go out to Most Excellent Companion Donald L. Galway, our Junior Past Grand High Priest and newly elected Grand Secretary. It was truly a pleasure to have served as your Grand King this past year and I look forward to working together during my term in office.

Fraternally,
R.E.C. Howard W. Duke

NOTE FROM THE MASON'S LADY
September Triple Tau 2016

The much anticipated Grand Convocation of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan at Bay City has arrived and ended for this year. What a pleasure to visit with old friends and meet new ones. I've always considered this to be a family reunion of sorts as we socialize with our Masonic Family.

Now we begin a new year with the addition of Brent and Nancy Helm as the Grand Master of the First Veil. They are not strangers to many as Brent once held the position of Grand Treasurer for several years.

Randy Galbraith, Grand Sentinel, and his wife Ilene are new to the Grand Line and we offer our congratulations to all.

To Nancy and Ilene we offer a warm welcome to our group of Grand Royal Arch Ladies. We look forward to working with both Nancy and Ilene.

This year's plans hold a few nice surprises and fun as well as more involvement of each Grand Lady. These events and progress will be announced throughout the coming year.

A big thank you to Sandra King-Heaven for her efforts in helping us get organized to ensure we are all working on the same page and no one is left out of the loop on information pertaining to future events and important notices that we all need to be made aware of.

Two other Past Grand Ladies, Marge Walbridge and Ellie Yeager, were of great help with our first meeting and we very much appreciate their knowledge and experience. The Past Grand Ladies offer a wealth of information we can all take advantage of in helping us along the path they have already taken. Their comments and guidance are always welcome and appreciated.

Respectfully,
Carole E. Duke
First Lady





DONALD L. GALWAY, PGHP

Grand Secretary

Lady Sherry

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Secretary's Scribbles

(From The Grand High Priest's article.)

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That jewel just won't go into that collar and it is harder than you think!



Finally after the exchange of collar jewels...

****Note from your Editor:***

You know who you are and that is why you're stressing out the newly installed Grand Secretary.

Remember Companions if you need help with your annual reports, ask! A few more pictures from the Grand Session held in Bay City, Michigan.



DONALD L. GALWAY, PGHP

Grand Secretary

Lady Sherry

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Secretary's Scribbles

The Grand York Rite Session is over and the dust is starting to settle. There have been a few changes in the Grand line. We have a new Grand High Priest in Howard W. Duke for 2016-17. I am sure that he is looking forward to the year to come. Our new Grand Bottom is Brent Helm. Brent served this Grand Chapter as Grand Treasurer for a good number of years and earned emeritus status. He chose to serve in the moving line and was elected to the First Veil. Brent is from Washington Chapter No. 15. We also have a new Grand Sentinel in Randy Galbraith. Randy is from Livingston Chapter No. 30. We welcome Brent and Nancy along with Randy and Ilene into the fold. I can only hope that they have as much fun going through the line as I did.

I forgot to mention that we also have a new Grand Secretary. I was elected to the position of Grand Secretary and I am looking forward to serving this Grand Chapter. I have some large shoes to try and fill and can only hope that I am up to the task. There are some things that I wish to do in the next six months, first I am going to hold four class's around the state for our secretaries. They will be based around the annual report and the monthly reports. I cannot stress how important these items are to this Grand Chapter, our whole data base is based upon them. Your membership records are also based upon the information that this office receives from the secretaries. There is not a day that goes by that we do not receive a request for information on a current or past member, if we don't have it we can't give it.

The month of October will be busy for us. The 1st of October is the State Master Consular's Reception. This event will be held in the Birmingham Masonic Center, 37357 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills 48304. Social at 5:00 Dinner at 6:00.

The Kentucky Grand Session will be September 18th thru the 21st to be held in Lexington KY. At the Embassy Suites Lexington 1801 Newtown Pike. At this time this is the only thing that I have for September. As they come up I will put them on the calendar and the events page of our web site.

The Ohio Grand Session is being held on October 4th thru the 6th at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, 7000 Kalahari Drive Sandusky, OH 44870

The next weekend we have KYCH on Saturday the 8th in Grand Rapids at the Temple on Fulton St., Sunday the 9th will find us in Lansing for the York Rite Grand Officers reception, to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Creyts Road. The social hour will begin at 3:00PM and dinner will be at 4:00 PM.

October 16th is the date of the Grand Lodge Grand Junior Deacon Timothy Beers reception, to be held at the Flint Temple in downtown Flint.

As always check the calendar and events page of our web site for upcoming events, and should you have any questions feel free to contact the Grand Secretary at 989-968-4210 or by e-mail @ dgalway12000@yahoo.com.

Fraternally,

R.E.C. Donald L. Galway, PGHP

Grand Secretary



Richard Hitch
 Grand King
 Lady Connie
richhitch62@gmail.com



Mike Roberts
 Grand Scribe
 Lady Becca
 (E-mail: goes here)

Another Grand York Rite session has passed and what a fantastic session it was. Once again, another opportunity to meet with old friends, and make new friends as well. The session was well attended by those who are a part of the Michigan York Rite and those York Rite Masons of other states.

I want to thank Companion Don Galway, MEPGH for his service to the Craft and allowing me to serve as a Grand Officer during his leadership and I look forward to continuing my service to the Craft. I also want to thank each of you for your continued support and confidence in electing me as your new Right Excellent Grand King.

I am looking forward to meeting many of the Companions during the course of my travels this year, as well as the Chapters that I have been assigned to serve; Monroe #1, Oakland #5, Union #55, Palestine #159, Royal Oak #167, Wayne #182, and Sunlight #189 (the only day time Chapter in the state).

I also would like to congratulate the newly elected Grand Chapter Officers; EC Randy Galbraith as the new Grand Sentinel, REC Brent Helm as the new Grand Master of the First Veil, and our new Grand High Priest, MEC Howard Duke.

This year I will have the pleasure of again chairing the Meritorious Service Award. This very special award can be looked upon and used at the Chapter as your Chapter's Royal Arch Mason of the year. Every Chapter has a Companion or two who is deserving of this great honor, so please; let every Chapter submit their worthy Companion's nomination form. I will be sending each Chapter a copy of the form, instructions and the deadline soon. Please make sure that the Grand Chapter Secretary has your Chapter's correct contact information listed in the Directory.

Until next month, thank you and I look forward to seeing and hearing from you.

Fraternally,
 REC Rich Hitch, GK

****Note:** Companion Mike forgot to put something in this month but I'm sure he won't forget next month!



Please meet your Grand Chapter Royal Arch Ladies of Michigan 2016-2017

[From left to right]

- 1st row: Judi Ames, Shar Miller, Connie Hitch
 2nd row: Rebecca Roberts, Joanne Mayville, Sandra King-Heaven, Carole Duke Midge Russell.
 (Nancy Helm and Ilene Galbraith were absent when this picture was taken)



R.E.C. Carl J. Peterson
 Grand Captain Of the Host
 Lady Midge
<mailto:cjpeter50@gmail.com>



R.E.C. Jeff Heaven
 Grand Master of the 3rd Veil
 Lady Sandy
weoxstan@gmail.com

Companions all:

This year has been a great year of travels and meeting new Companions as well as renewing acquaintance with old ones.

I've visited many Chapters to add to my already lengthy list such as: Sunrise #74, Traverse City #102, Saginaw Valley #31, Mt. Pleasant #111, Alma #123, Caro #96 and Midland #169.

This year I will add the U.P. Chapters once again to my list as I've been asked to oversee the good order of the work there and their wellbeing. It is always somewhat of a pleasure to get away from the rush of the lower districts providing the weather holds out for travel. They being known for deep snow and almost arctic cold.

I'd like to thank the Grand Chapter Officers and Members for the continued support and confidence in my work as for being passed to the next chair of "Grand Captain of the Host". It is an honor to be able to serve the craft as one of the leaders.

I'm also proud to mention that my home Chapter, Mackinaw #134, had one of our deserving members receive the "Meritorious Service Award". Excellent Companion James Mercer, Secretary Emeritus, has received this award for his work as Secretary and involvement in the degree work. Congratulations Jim!

And in closing here for this month, remember, it is not too early to submit your outstanding Companion for this award and/or the "Bronze Award". Dinners of recognition for these recipients will be announced as they are set up.

Be safe in all you do and I hope to meet with your Chapter in the near future.

Fraternally,
 R.E.C. Carl J. Peterson
 Grand Captain Of the Host



Companions all:

Take a minute and look up pride on the internet. Go ahead, I'll wait. Done?

What did you find? I bet nothing good. Did you know "Pride" is mentioned **46 times** in the King James Bible? "Proud" is mentioned **47 times**. "Haughty" is mentioned **10 times**. A meticulous study of each time these words appear will lead to only one conclusion: They are never spoken of positively, only as sin and evil. When did pride become such a bad word? We are not talking about pride of the self or pride of the ego. We are talking about pride in something greater than ourselves.

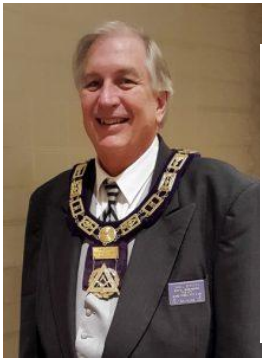
Pride! A powerful word. Of the tens of thousands of words that were spoken over the week at our Grand York Rite sessions, one word stood out to me. Pride. That one word should always be part of our York Rite bodies. Pride in our York Rite family, pride in our degree work, pride in our ritual, pride in our Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies. One little word can have so, much impact on us as Capitular Masons. We should all be proud of our Chapters, are you? If so, great! If not, why not? What can you do to bring pride back to your Chapter? Is the degree work lacking? If so learn a part. Is the dress of your members a little too relaxed? If so, set an example and dress the part. Is your Chapter not involved in the community? If so, start bringing ideas to your Chapter. It all starts with you. Masonry is a journey of self-improvement; we all have areas that we can improve upon. Remember, one little five letter word can change you and your Chapter forever, make it a good version.

Now that another York Rite session is behind us, we look to new leadership and guidance in the Grand Chapter and the coming 2016-2017 year and we take pride in being part of it.

Take a look at your Chapter and your involvement, take pride in it.

Fraternally,
 R.E.C. Jeff Heaven,
 Grand Master of the 3rd Veil





David Seyferth
M. I. Grand Master

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ANTHONY M. CHAMBERLIN

MIGM

Grand Recorder

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Greetings Companions!

I thank you for the privilege of serving you and this Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Michigan as its Most Illustrious Grand Master. I have always seen the various Masonic offices as “mini-degrees” that have their own entrances, tokens, and passes and whose Wardens and Gatekeepers must be worthily met in order to move on to the next station. I will have passed successfully through this “degree” if I worthily meet the challenges met in my circumambulations this year! I pledge to you I will do all that is within my power to increase the health and stature of Cryptic Masonry.

My theme is “Live the Secret” because only by living the secret can we be sure that future generations will discover the right. What is buried may never be found, what is not buried may be lost, but what we live, we keep fresh and healthy and pass worthily to future generations.

My symbols, this year, are the sandbox, a reversed broken triangle with the missing piece filled in, and a circle of connected ovals. The sandbox represents the passing nature of all we touch, and reminds us that the grains in a sandbox may stay the same but may form many landscapes, and finally, to remember that our character and our relationships are all we take with us when we depart either the sandbox or this life. The reversed triangle is colored in where the triangle is usually missing a piece. This symbolizes that we must complete the triangle by worthily living the example set by the one whom the broken piece represents. The circle of connected ovals, of course represents the circle of friendship that defines us as Cryptic Masons. These symbols work together to communicate this idea: By improving ourselves from the Imperfect Ashlar to the Perfect Ashlar we complete our Masonic Destiny. Having achieved this, we form a Circle of Perfection with our Companions to build our Masonic Community. The people and programs will change like the sand in the sandbox, but our character and friendships remain.

Companions, each Grand Officer, and the Arch Deputies are here to serve you, to use our skill set(s) to make your Council experience one that is an amazing Masonic Experience. Each Council is a little different; each has a different focus. Real and sustained Masonic revival must come from each individual Mason being excited about his membership experience. That will attract other Masons to Council, and their friends will feel the excitement want to be included. Nobody joins our fraternity to become “new member number 385,” they join because something about it excites them.

I know that you know that excitement; I know that excitement. I felt it when I went through the degrees, I wondered about it as I drove home afterward, and I know you felt it too. Go around the room at your next Council Assembly and let each Companion share what excited them about our degrees; ask them what they most wanted when they attended their first Stated Assembly. Depending on your Council’s attendance, this may take several meetings! Let us take the year to rediscover and re-ignite the passion that draws us to Cryptic Masonry and build on that.

Check out the website, especially the SEM Degree Sign under the Calendar tab. Everyone is invited to participate; you don’t have to be an Arch Deputy or Grand Officer!

Safe Travels, Companions!

Fraternally,
David L. Seyferth, MIGM



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

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GRAND COMMANDERS CORNER --- September Message

Grand Commanders Introduction Message

This year's newly installed officers are as listed:

Right Eminent Grand Commander – SK Donald Trumbull and Lady MerryJo
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander – SK Michael Whiting and Lady Jeanne
Grand Generalissimo – SK Shawn M. Bashore and Lady Diane
Grand Captain General – SK Darel Winslow and Lady Christy
Grand Senior Warden – SK John E. Porritt
Grand Junior Warden – SK David Bartell, Sr.
Grand Prelate – SK Edward James
Grand Treasurer – SK Claude Miller, P.G.C.
Grand Recorder – SK Loren A. Winn, P.G.C.

Junior Past Grand Commander Albert Johnson had made the difficult decision to choose one Sir Knight for the Knight Templar Cross of Honor (K.T.C.H.). That honor went to SK Ronald Snyder. Pictured below and congratulations!



Templary Yours,
SK Donald Trumbull
R. E. Grand Commander