

# Michigan Triple Tau

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**OCTOBER 2014**

Grand Chapter Web Site: [www.grandchaptermi.org](http://www.grandchaptermi.org)

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**Official Publication**  
**of the**

**Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan**

**Capitular Growth in Michigan through Masonic Education**



## **GRAND CHAPTER - GOALS**

1. Increase attendance at the Chapter level through the 3 X 3 Program.
2. Increase membership, partly with the help of the "Enhance the Secret Program".
3. Encourage Chapter to do as much of their own work as possible either individually or by the use of area degree teams, instead of relying on All Degree Days.
4. Encourage Chapter to complete their Annual Returns in a timely fashion, rather than the week before the Grand Session, if at all.
5. Try to determine what can be done to save struggling Chapters, if there is anything that can be done, and then help them do it.
6. Solving our issues with IRS concerning our joint filing status and the Royal Arch Foundation.
7. Increase the involvement of our Grand Chapter Officers in the Triple Tau monthly newsletter.
8. Promote the MSA and Bronze Medal Award programs to encourage more Chapters to participate.
9. Work with the Grand Council and Grand Commandery through a New York Rite Membership Committee.

This year the Schools of Instruction and Inspections will cover.

1. Opening in the Royal Arch Degree.
2. Closing in the Royal Arch Degree
3. The Reception of Grand Officers and DDIs.
4. Changing Degrees both down and up for the purpose of the Conferral of Degrees
5. Chapter Records
6. The Most Excellent Master Degree (beginning with page 75 line 16 through Page 78, line 40 and commencing again on page 79 line 18 through page 84 line 27.

### **3 X 3 Program**

To get more companions to attend their chapters on a regular basis we hope to have each chapter attempt to have 3 (or more) members who have not visited their chapter in a year or more to attend 3 (or more) convocations over the next year. All successful Chapters will be recognized at Grand Chapter, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Bay City.

## **Grandfather**

September 7<sup>th</sup> was Grandparents Day and I hope that you had and took the opportunity to speak and spend time with your Grandparents, or to your Grandchildren. It's amazing what we remember about them, or what they are going to remember about us.

This month, in idle conversation, with GHP McCray we were talking about titles people want to be remembered by and how they do not make the man (woman). Lou indicated, "My grandfather, a PHP of Saginaw Valley Chapter #31, told me once {or more likely, several times} *trying to impress people with credentials is a fools errand. Those who you want to impress, won't be and those you do impress aren't worth the effort.*"

I then stated, "I agree with your Grandfather. Wise man was he not?"

Lou's response, "That he was, and a man of many talents. I knew him to be not only a Freemason, but also an operative mason, carpenter, electrician, plumber, roofer, surveyor, architect (he designed and built the house we are living in, among others), an electronics technician "he built radios from assorted parts, not Radio Shack kits) a HAM radio operator, and a philosopher. He was a hobo, riding the rails in his late teens and early twenties, then somewhere along the way he latched on to a job with Consumers Power Co. and during the depression he wound up supervising a crew rebuilding the generators in the dam along the Au Sable River. I didn't find out until recently that he supported my grandmother's sister and her family until her husband found work at Buick in Flint. Unfortunately, he died ... the year I graduated from high school. Had he lived a few more years, I have no doubt I would have joined the craft much sooner than I did."

That got me to thinking about my grandfathers. Both passed away before I was in high school. My maternal grandfather, visiting while up from Florida, gave me a pocket knife and told me that it was mine, as long as I used it properly. I still have the scar where I cut myself, down to the bone, just a short time later, but he *never knew* that I did it? My paternal grandfather lived only a short distance from us but we never visited, except for Thanksgiving. I now wish that I had known both of them better than I did. This is a saying which I have frequently said that I live by – Wish I could really attribute it to one of them.

*"My grandpa would waken quite early and thrive,  
On working with scarcely a breather.  
Grandpa thought nothing of waking at five,  
And I think not much of it either."*



*Louis C. McCray*

*GRAND HIGH PRIEST*

**LADY KRISTI**

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**"GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND EAST"**

The first month of my term as your Grand High Priest is at an end. After 7 years of preparation.

It is hard to believe this year is already 1/12 over.

In September, I visited companions at Bedford Chapter #188, Lady Kristi and I attended the Grand Chapter Convocation of Kentucky together with Grand King, REC Don Galway and Lady Sherry. Next, along with Grand Scribe REC William Siebert, MEC Larry Inscho PGHP, MEC Gerald Thorp PGHP, and several companions of Caro Chapter #96, I attended Saginaw Valley Chapter #31 for a very productive convocation.

These were followed by the reception honoring MEC Robert Cooper PGHP, Grand Secretary, as the newly installed Grand Marshal for the Grand Lodge of Michigan F&AM. To close out the month Lady Kristi and I are looking forward to attending the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International in Buffalo, NY. Also in the mix for September were Commandery inspections for Sunrise Commandery #34 my home Commandery, Traverse City Commandery #41, and portions of the Bark River Tour including Cheboygan Commandery #50 and Escanaba Commandery #47.

When I say the Saginaw Valley Chapter was productive, I am referring to a chapter that was struggling to survive. They had only been able to hold a few legal convocations in the last year and had not had an election of officers in at least two years. There were a few members who were determined not to give up on the chapter and after they sent out messages announcing the dire circumstances the chapter was in, 11 members besides the 4 Grand Officers and Past Grand High Priests and visitors from Caro were able to attend. A full slate of officers was elected, appointed, and installed, most of them new to their office. Where just a short time ago, it looked like Saginaw Valley Chapter would be forced to close, consolidate, or relocate, there is now hope that the chapter will begin to grow again and prosper.

For October, in addition to various chapter visits, we plan to attend the reception for Joshua Lampar, State Master Councilor for Michigan DeMolay in Roseville on Oct. 4, the Ohio Grand Chapter from Oct. 7-9, and the Joint York Rite Grand Officer's Reception in Bay City on Oct. 12.

We hope each chapter will remember to work toward completion of the 3X3 program. That is, to have 3 members of your chapter who have not attended a Chapter Convocation in a year or more to attend 3 Convocations before the Annual Convocation next August. All chapters who are successful in the program will be recognized at the Grand Session and receive a plaque to commemorate its achievement.

Last month I forgot to congratulate our new members of the Grand Chapter, they are Eldin (AI) Miller of Mt. Vernon Chapter #37. REC Miller was the Grand Sentinel but has now stepped into the moving line as Grand Master of the 1st Veil. Our new Grand Sentinel is Jeff Heaven of Mt. Pleasant Chapter #111.

I, also, should mention the new Executive Director of DDIs, EC Terry Baker of Huron Chapter #27. EC Terry's contact information is: 1936 Michigan Ave, Marysville 48080; 810.364.7352; [mrmrswhip@aol.com](mailto:mrmrswhip@aol.com)

I congratulate each of these companions and I wish them continued success in their new positions.



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Greetings Companions,

September is almost over, fall is almost here and I am left wondering, "Where did this year go?" Seems like yesterday, I was shoveling snow. Wait! If I lived in the UP it could have been. This month, thus far has been fun, The Grand High Priest and his Lady, along with myself and my lady traveled to Kentucky for their grand session and as always, while in Kentucky a good time was had by all. Next up the General Grand Chapter Tri-Annual in Buffalo NY. I will write more about that next month.

**Communication;** the single most expressed complaint in Masonry, or the lack of it. Royal Arch Masonry is no exception. Why? Is the question, but the answer is not easy to come by. With good, clear and concise communication you can accomplish anything, so what seems to be the problem. In today's day and age there really is no good excuse, with the many ways that we have available to us at little or no cost to the chapters, we really don't have a good excuse. The benefits that we can reap from it are greater than I can put in just one article. Two major benefits are membership retention and new members. Retaining your membership requires communication, today there are way too many things vying for your memberships time. Your members have to have a reason to come to a meeting and that requires communicating with them. Once your members return, you now have the opportunity to engage them for the wealth of information they have, that has not been tapped for some time. The one thing to remember is that it is equally important to listen, as it is to speak, if they feel that they are not being listened to or heard, you will more than likely not see them again.

All of the above fits right in with the Grand High Priest's program of "3 x 3" for the year. Wherein you have three of your members who have not attended in some time get them to return and attend three meetings in the year.

The program has no down side. Your chapter has three more members attending your meetings, which in turn gives the chapter more input for programs and ideas. The program does require a little work from the chapter in welcoming old members back, along with keeping the meeting flowing and relevant. Meeting agendas help keep a meeting on track and require just a little thought from the secretary and high priest, along with any member adding input to the secretary before he prints it, so all attendees have one to follow along. A short 5 to 7 minute program from the education chairman would add to the interest. I would also submit that a chapter adds a communication chairman to the list of committee officers. He would be the go to person for mass communication to members; most methods of mass communication today are much less costly than sending a post card to your members and with a little research he could find the one best suited to your chapter. With good communication: retention and expansion becomes much easier for the chapter.

Today I want to do something selfish; I want to talk to you about your wills. It is very likely you have been putting off making a will because you haven't contemplated the day when the Supreme Architect calls you to the Celestial Lodge above. Maybe you think that the estate plan the state has produced for you is adequate and represents your wishes. You should know that everything does not go to your spouse if you die without a will; if you have adult children they could get as much as half of your estate.

We all have many Masonic mementos: books, regalia, pins. Often, the person who is assigned to wind up our estate doesn't understand the significance of these items or their value to other members of the Craft. This causes many valuable items to end up in junk shops, lost forever to Masonic historians. A proper will, selecting a personal representative who knows the value of all your belongings and how best to dispose of them, is extremely important. You can even instruct him/her to give them to a son or nephew who is a Mason and will appreciate the memorial to you.

If you would like to discuss your personal situation, please contact me, or your own attorney. Every estate is different and requires special knowledge and understanding. A simple will is very inexpensive, although it may not fit your desires completely. We can also prepare living trusts and patient advocate forms for more complex estates. I hope that I will be hearing from you in the near future.

P.S. I would like to know what I should write about in the coming months. Drop me a line either by e-mail or by snail mail, or write on my Facebook wall. I will try to read everything, but don't expect an individual response.

P.P.S. Congratulations to Saginaw Valley Chapter 31 who revived its membership in September. Best wishes to High Priest Dunk and the new officers.

**THE MOTTO OF ROYAL ARCH MASONRY**

On many of the official documents, or certificates, issued by Royal Arch bodies, will be found the words: "Holiness to the Lord." This is the motto of Royal Arch Masonry and ever reminds us of the reverence due the Great and Beneficent Author of our existence, who is the Being without beginning of days or end of years.

Taken from  
Advancing in Freemasonry  
By Ray V. Denslow



**Robert E. Cooper, PGHP**

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**Secretary's Scribbles**

Secretaries and Companions,

**Master's Pins.**

Just a reminder, Blue Lodge Installations will coming up soon, and you should be arranging to get the Master's Pins delivered to your assigned Lodges. Please remember to report your presentations. If you have Lodges no longer in business let me know. If you would like to change your Lodge assignments just let me know. During your presentation please wear your Red Coats and take Royal Arch Brochures or other materials with you.

**Monthly Activity Reports.**

Don't forget to send in those Monthly Activity Reports, with any gains, losses, or other member changes.

**Masonic Heritage Awards.**

This award is presented to any Masonic Father and Son. If you know of a qualifying father and son, please download an application from our Web Site (Downloads Page, near the bottom) fill it out and return to me. I will review the application and alert the Grand Chapter Officer that will be in charge of arranging the presentation.

**General Grand Chapter – Per Capita**

The Per-Capita to General Grand Chapter is now due, but I have 5 Chapters that are still un-reported. If your chapter is one of them, please file your 2014 Annual Return as soon as possible. An accurate member count is needed to avoid over payment to General Grand.

**Grand Sessions – Grand Banquet**

At the Grand Banquet the following awards were presented: **Meritorious Service:**

Region 1 – EC Bryan Pratt, PHP, North Branch # 138

Region 2 – EC John Fossler, PHP, Kent-Newaygo # 38

General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal - Forrest Taylor, PHP, Oakland # 5

Most Excellent Companions Harry Walbridge, PGHP and Gordon Ruthruff, PGHP received the newly established General Grand Chapter - Ephraim Kirby award for recognition of continued service to the craft after their terms of office.

Please be sure to congratulate all of these Companions.

Also, the following ladies received the **General Grand Chapter Sweetheart Award:** Renee Kiefer, Susan Dossette, Shirley Hawn and Julia Ann Chamberlin

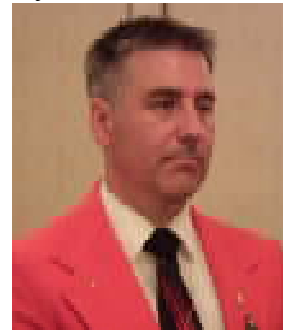
Thank You and Fraternaly,

It is so hard to write when there are so many fine things to be grateful for.

Thanks to Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons for all the courtesies and friendship, still given me since my Companion went to the Grand Architect. I have always been treated with the greatest respect. It feels great to be considered a part of this great fraternity for which I have only the utmost respect and admiration. Thanks to all, from deeply in my heart, for extending some of those courtesies to my granddaughter while she travels with me.

Pearl, Mrs. John Sr., Gale

Have you met your New **Grand Sentinel?**



**JEFFERY ALLEN HEAVEN**

Wife - Sandy

**Mt. Pleasant Chapter #111**

8800 Millbrook Rd

Blanchard MI 49310-9736

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### *JOHN A. AMES*

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Greetings Companions,



**YOM KIPPUR**  
Begins  
October 3rd

Now that fall is upon us, I hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer.

As for me, I was busy from June till now and will be getting busier as the fall progresses.

In June I travelled to Escanaba for the Grand Reception honoring our Grand Master William E. Le Veque. Most of the Grand Chapter Officers, as well as Grand Council and Grand Commandery Officers were in attendance. One of the activities that night was induction of a number of Brothers and their wives into YOU-PER Council #125, my wife and I included.

In July there was the fourth celebration with family, and at the end of July, I traveled to Denver, Colorado for the annual assembly of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. A number of brothers from Michigan received the Order of the Purple Cross, and Past Grand High Priest David W. Dossette was installed as the new Grand Governor of the York Rite Sovereign College of Michigan.

Just two weeks later I attended the Grand York Rite Session in Grand Rapids, where Louis McCray was installed as the new Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, David G. Boring was installed as the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Michigan, and Paul Roggow was installed Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Michigan.

September brought Labor Day with the family and the end of the summer break for the masonic bodies of which I am a member.

I traveled to St Clair Chapter #12 and assisted in the conferring of the Past Master and Most Excellent Master Degrees. Then one week later, I traveled to Cedar Lodge #60 in Clarkston to present some Lewis Heritage awards, to two sets of Father-in-Laws and Son-in-laws.

The next week my travels took me to St Ignace for the Straights Area Council #92 to assist the Grand Council in an all degree day, also present that day from the Grand Chapter were REC William Seibert Grand Scribe and REC Carl John Peterson Grand Master of the Third Veil.

One week later I traveled to Manistique for the Bark River Inspections for Lake Superior Commandery #30 and Escanaba Commandery #47, also MEC Louis McCray Grand High Priest and REC Carl John Peterson Grand Master of the Third Veil were in attendance and took part in the Order of the Temple at the Escanaba Inspection.

October is here and that means the Grand Chapter Officers will be making their visitations to their assigned Chapters. This year I will be visiting Saginaw Valley #31, Sunrise #74, Losco #83, Mt Pleasant #111, Alma #123, and Midland #169. I hope to get all these visits accomplished by December.

Also in October is the Grand York Rite Reception on Sunday, October 12. I hope that you would try to attend this Reception to honor Most Excellent Companion Louis McCray, Most Illustrious Companion David Boring, and Right Eminent Sir Knight Paul Roggow.

I would encourage your Chapters to submit nominees for the Lewis Heritage Award, Meritorious Service Award, and the Ritual Awards. There are many fine masons that deserve recognition for their work in the York Rite.

Also remember to visit your lodges and other masonic bodies and promote our craft and strengthen the bonds of friendship and brotherly love.

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

**Sunday, October 12, 2014**

Honoring



**LOUIS C. MCCRAY**

Most Excellent Grand High Priest  
Grand Chapter RAM



**DAVID G. BORING**

Most Illustrious Grand Master  
Grand Council R&SM



**PAUL W. ROGGOW**

Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Grand Commandery KT

To be held at the

**BAY CITY SCOTTISH RITE CENTER**

614 Center Avenue, Bay City, MI

Social Hour starting at 3pm - 4pm, Cash Bar

**Dinner starting at 4pm**

Dress for Grand Officers: Tuxedo w/Jewel  
Men: Jacket with tie Ladies: Sunday Best

**Cost of Dinner \$28**

RSVP must be received by Wednesday, October 1, 2014  
Limited Seating, Please Reserve Early

✂

## RSVP

Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Entree Choice: Roast Beef/Mashed Potato number \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Breast/Rice number \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ x \$28 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **LIVINGSTON CHAPTER #30**

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## **The Importance of Working Relationships on Freemasonry**

Hopefully, you will take the time to read my article "*Masonic Philosophy, Ritual and Understanding Universal Spiritual Principles*". That article provides insight into how our philosophy and ritual can have a significant impact on the life of any freemason willing to learn and apply its principles. It's my belief that with study, practice and adoption of our precepts every freemason can develop a better understanding of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, improve self- understanding, and strengthen his comprehension of the relationship between God and man. This current article was written with the purpose of extending that foundation and is best identified as "*The Importance of Working Relationships in Freemasonry*". As it's the ritual that develops the inner qualities of the freemason, so in like manner it's our masonic interactions that determine (good or bad) the growth and development of our institution. In my opinion, leadership and membership are the key elements that determine the success of any masonic body past, present and future.

*Companions, whether subtle or overt, the behaviors we demonstrate are instrumental in conveying values, guiding strategy, and inspiring passion and interest. When positive leadership is practiced, the effect is far more powerful than merely attempting to get a Masonic brother to comply with attendance (by calling him on the phone), feeding him some fabulous meal or pressuring him to take an interest in masonic philosophy. For the good Masonic leader positive actions consistently tell the story not only of who he is, but of the behaviors our fraternity values. When you convey and believe in a shared and meaningful purpose, in time our Masonic brethren will follow the good example, it's a storyline which has been written throughout the history of our fraternity. So let's move forward leaving behind all the rationalizing and turn towards more practical considerations and absorb what is known/what can be applied from social psychology then revitalize the organization we have sworn allegiance to:*

- **The most important characteristic, of a good masonic leader is he decides and declares his intent to become the head of one of our masonic bodies. It's that point in time, when he decided he could provide others with a vision of the possibilities, direct the course of future events and inspire others towards personal growth. Successful leaders choose to lead and recognize the undertaking they aspire for treating it with upmost respect. They exhibit a unique blend of charisma, vision and character traits that attract people to follow.**

- **Good Leaders have vision. They share a dream and direction that other people want to share and follow. The vision of leadership is manifested in the actions, beliefs, values and goals of the masonic group. The vision must:**

1. *Clearly set fraternal direction and purpose;*
2. *Inspire loyalty and caring through the involvement of all the Companions/Brothers*
3. *Display and reflect the unique strengths, culture, values, beliefs and direction of our fraternity;*
4. *Inspire enthusiasm, commitment and excitement for the philosophy, ritual or Masonic activities*
5. *Help the membership realize that they are part of something bigger than themselves*
6. *Challenge people to outdo themselves, to stretch and reach.*

- **The ability to inspire Companions/Brothers to reach new heights of personal performance and fraternal success is a skill that our masonic leaders need. Passion, purpose, and meaning help make a masonic leader inspirational. In addition, the ability to communicate that passion, purpose and meaning helps establish the inspirational culture of our fraternity.**

1. *The inspirational masonic leader feels passionately about the vision and mission of the organization. He is able to share that passion in a way that enables others to catch it. The nature of the vision is critical for enabling others to feel as if their fraternal work has purpose and meaning.*

2. *The inspirational leader listens to the people in his Masonic organization. Talking to members about your passion is not enough. To share meaning you must allow the ideas and thoughts of the membership to shape the vision, mission, and goals. No one is ever one hundred percent supportive of a direction they had no part in formulating.*

3. *To experience inspiration, people also need to feel included. Inclusion goes beyond listening; for real inclusion, members need to feel intimately connected to the actions and process that are leading to the accomplishment of the goals.*

- **If you expect anyone to follow they must feel confidence in the direction in which the leader is headed. The companions/brothers need to be enabled and empowered to do their part in accomplishing the agreed upon objectives. If progress towards accomplishing goals ceases, the leader takes responsibility to analyze the problem he doesn't search for people or external factors to blame. In contrast, the good Masonic leader excels at creating opportunities to provide rewards and recognition.**

1. *Pay attention to all the companions using common courtesy.*
2. *Listen to what all the members of the fraternal group have to say.*
3. *Use powerful, positive language in your interaction with others.*
4. *Give Companions/Brothers verbal credit for contributions.*
5. *Put praise in writing through recognizing and applying for the various Masonic honors*

Thus far we have considered the effects of leadership on our institution, however very little has been said about the qualities of good masonic brothers, those willing to commit their hearts and souls to achieve the goals of the fraternity. Almost every Masonic leader in one way or the other owes his success to these loyal brothers. Without their help no leader

can achieve success. Thus, behind the success of every great Masonic leader is the support, hard work and dedication of the members associated with that organization. Without the support and commitment of these masonic members the birth of even great personalities like George Washington, Marquis de La Fayette, Napoleon Bonaparte, Simón Bolívar, Benito Pablo Juárez, Dr. José Rizal and so many others would have been unimaginable.

I also believe that many other leaders who could have become as great as the ones mentioned above, miserably failed and did not rise because of the membership they had. It's no doubt that we will always need excellent leaders to take us into the future, but we also need dedicated brothers to help these leaders reach our goals. These Masonic members need to possess certain qualities:

- *Masonic brothers should understand and accurately comprehend their leader's vision. They must also commit themselves to support that vision. One difficulty which at times crops up in this regard is conflict between the members and a leader's vision. To reduce this tension members should as much as possible align their vision with that of their leader's. They must own the leader's vision and take it on themselves to make it happen.*
- *Masonic members can either be like fuel providing energy or roadblocks creating hurdles for the efforts of a leader. Good brothers however help the leader to succeed, have a winner's mentality and derive pleasure from the leader's success.*
- *Most masonic leaders base their decisions on the information provided to them by their brothers. If this information is accurate and honest it will lead to good decisions. Conversely, in-accurate and dishonest information will lead to terrible decisions. It is also necessary to mention that all information provided to a leader by a mason may not be good news or pleasant. At times certain information will be upsetting but a loyal brother must forewarn the masonic leader and need act as their sounding post.*
- *Sometimes when faced with difficulties even great masonic leaders lose hope- during which times the brethren should help them by reminding and reassuring that success is possible. It is a fact that all human beings are capable of doing anything but only those succeed who possess the can do attitude. It is equally true that a person's altitude is determined by his attitude. As such companions/brothers must possess a positive and a can do attitude. Learning, the ability to understand one's limitations, the courage to unlearn negative ideas/beliefs and the desire to acquire new knowledge, skills, and information is yet another quality necessary for masonic brethren.*

Masonic leaders set visions of a better organizational future and the brethren are tasked to help create conditions for realizing them. The critical role brethren play in the rise or fall of any masonic leader necessitates that all members must have the qualities of a good mason. Are you a leader or a loyal member? If you are a masonic leader raise loyal brethren with good masonic qualities. If you are a member and possess good masonic qualities always remember that **"GOOD MASONIC MEMBERS MAKE GREAT MASONIC LEADERS"**. Now we have reached the end of yet another article, it's up to each reader to decide if I am correct in my hypothesis that what plagues us is not a variety of external factors (which have always existed) which we can never control but rather our internal factors that each one of us has the power to change and once channeled can revitalize the craft that we have all sworn allegiance too. What kind of Freemason do you aspire to be?

*"There's nothing more demoralizing than a leader who can't clearly articulate why we're doing what we're doing." -- James Kouzes and Barry Posnez*

*"Leadership is based on a spiritual quality; the power to inspire, the power to inspire others to follow." --Vince Lombardi*

*It is a duty which we owe to our Companions of this order, that the application of every candidate for admission should be examined with the scrutinizing eye, so that we may always possess the satisfaction of finding none among us, but such as will promote, to the utmost of their power, the great end of our institution. By paying due attention to this determination, you will never recommend any candidate for our mysteries whose abilities and knowledge you cannot freely vouch for and who you do not firmly believe will fully conform to the principles of our order and fulfill the obligations of a Royal Arch Mason.*

*Never aspire to a station of trust and honor, unless you feel a truthful confidence you are equal to its demands.*



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Education is a never ending creative experience from childhood ---  
as long as one seeks knowledge the doors of opportunity are open.

Could not the word Education be synonymous with Masonry?

*The man who never alters his opinion is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind.*

*I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know who his grandson will be.*

*He is a governor that governs his passions, and he is a servant that serves them.*

*The man who insists upon seeing with perfect clearness before he decides, never decides.*

*Accept life and you must accept regret.*





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## **The Equilateral Triangle, the Broken Triangle and the Isosceles Triangle**

We are first introduced to two of these mathematical terms in high school geometry. However it is not until we become Royal Arch Masons , a Royal Master and Select Master that these three geometric shapes truly become meaningful symbols.

We were first introduced to the meaning of the equilateral triangle in the Royal Arch Degree. The lesson is reinforced in the Select Master Degree. If you do not remember, go to page 77 of your ritual book.

We are taught the meaning of the broken triangle only in the Royal Master Degree (page 27). Page 27 of what you ask? Page 27 of that small purple book that fits neatly into your jacket pocket and on the cover has the word Michigan embossed in gold color and a broken triangle with a trowel.

Every time we attend our blue lodge and witness a MM degree every Royal and Select Mason should immediately think of the Royal Degree, specifically page 27, as well as Scene 3 of the Select degree (page 59). Does your heart beat a little faster and stronger during a MM degree because you have chosen to become a Royal and Select Mason?

I ask you to think about this question, is the broken triangle in the Royal Master degree (page 27) the same shape as the equilateral triangle described in page 77 in the Select Degree?

Companions, if high school geometry seems like a distant memory, an isosceles triangle is a triangle that has two sides of equal length....read page 27 for that "ah-ha" moment.

Now look at this symbol available in Microsoft Word: **Δ**. Yes, an isosceles triangle yet with another meaning. **Δ** is the first letter for the Greek word meaning different. In mathematics and science we have adopted the symbol **Δ** as the symbolic representation for change in value.

Can the allegorical story in the Royal Master Degree be asking us to think beyond the exemplification? Does the allegory of the Royal Master ask us to apply those precepts we first learned in the fellowcraft degree? Is there a meaning beyond the meaning of the meaning that we should embrace change...the broken triangle, the delta **Δ**?



# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

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2014-2015

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Sir Knights by the time this article reaches you the inspection of eight commanderies will be complete. I sincerely thank all those who traveled in support of their neighboring commandery. I hope that the newest Knights are receiving the mentorship of not only the tactics and ritual but allowing them to participate as they feel comfortable in doing so. Each commandery is obligated to have twelve separate committees and as such they are what defines how successful a commandery will be. When those committees do not function and give updates of any and all progress regularly to the commander and commandery then the committee duties usually fall to an officer. The officers of the commandery then have less time for their respective duties. Sir Knights there is an awful amount of truth to the statement "many hands make the work light". Knights do not be fearful or afraid to ask "how can I help", become involved. Our success is not measured by who does the task but that it simply gets done. Are you apart of our success?

**A hint to the attendees of any event, forward an RSVP even if not asked for. They let you know of the event so courtesy would suggest that you reply to their planning.**

Date	Comm.	No.	Opening	Start	Dinner	Ladies	Inspecting
Oct 4	Bad Axe	52	10 Man	2:00 PM	4:30 PM	Yes	GJW
	Caledonia	60	10 Man	1:00 PM	4:30 PM	Yes	Roggow
	Port Huron	7	FFO	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Bashore
Oct 18	Durand	21	10 Man	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Whiting
	Monroe	19	10 Man	10:00 AM	1:15 PM	Yes	Johnson
	Romeo	6	10 Man	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Trumbull
Oct 25	Columbia	18	10 Man	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Yes	Johnson
	Muskegon	22	FFO	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	Yes	GJW
	St. Bernard	16	10 Man	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	Yes	Bashore
Oct 27	Howell	28	FFO	3:00 PM	7:00 PM	Yes	Whiting
Oct 29	Marshall	17	FFO	2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Yes	Trumbull
Nov 1	Battle Creek	33	FFO	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Roggow
	Bay City	26	10 Man	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Yes	Bashore
	DeMolai	5	10 Man	1:00 PM	4:30 PM	Yes	Johnson
	Ypsilanti	54	10 Man	1:30 PM	5:00 PM	Yes	Whiting
Nov 3	Jackson	9	FFO	3:00 PM	6:30 PM	Yes	Roggow
Nov 6	Lansing	25	FFO	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Roggow
Nov 8	Adrian	4	FFO	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Johnson
Nov 10	Genesee Valley	15	10 Man	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Roggow
	Ann Arbor	13	10 Man	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Trumbull
	Mt. Clemens	51	10 Man	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Roggow
Nov 22	Penninsular	8	10 Man	3:00 PM	2:00 PM	Yes	Whiting
	Lexington	27	10 Man	3:00 PM	5:30 PM	Yes	Trumbull
	Northville	39	FFO	8:30 AM	12:00 PM	Yes	Roggow
Nov 29	Pontiac	2	FFO	3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Trumbull
Dec 12	Detroit	1	FFO	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Yes	Roggow