

Michigan Triple Tau

Official Publication of the

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons

December 2018

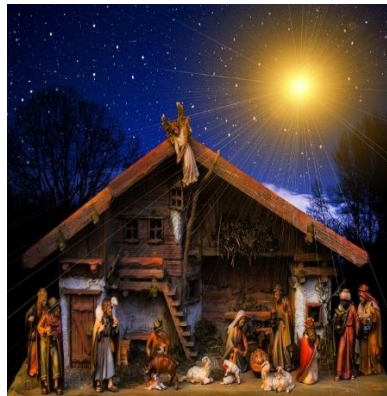
Dear Companions and All:

This issue was very hard to edit. Most of the time my 'article writers' are short and to the point. Not this time. R.E. Companions Carl and John had too much to print. Our Grand King has a new address and phone number. If you need it, please call the Grand Secretary. The Job's Daughter article was 7 pages long! I have kept the original article, so I may include these wonderful pictures throughout the next year. It is so nice to have such a great number of pictures with text. The Triple Tau will not have a problem with excess *white space* for a while.

The first Sunday of December the Job's Daughters will put on an Advent Wreath program here at Masonic Pathways. That is December 2nd, at 10:00 am in the Doig Chapel, Masonic Pathways. This announcement did not make it in their article. It is here for everyone to see!!!

On November 29th, the Masonic Pathways will be all dressed up for the holidays. When you drive by the place, look at all the lights and decorations. Inside Masonic Pathways, you will find everything is decorated for Christmas! May you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fraternally,
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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MICHAEL ROBERTS

Grand High Priest

Lady Rebecca

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Companions:

The Holidays can get so crazy that the simplest things can seem to slip our minds. We are worried about getting each person on our list that perfect gift and deciding for family and friend get-togethers that we often forget the things that matter the most.

Luckily, we have a few reminders for you below.

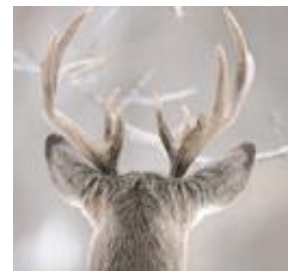
1. **Thank the host of the holiday party.** Whether it's a friend, family, or work party, before leaving don't forget to thank the host. Someone went through a lot of trouble, and probably expense, to put on a good holiday party and it's important to show your gratitude.
2. **Give to those in need.** As a Fraternity that sells Faith, Hope, and Charity and strongly believes in community involvement and giving back to the communities in which we live and work, take the time to remember those in need. While so many of us have so much to be thankful for, the Holidays are the perfect time to give what we can to those who may not be as fortunate.
3. **Spend quality time.** With all the rush of the holiday season, being busy finishing up all the year-end tasks and attending holiday gatherings, just remember to slow down every now and then. Take time away from the hustle and bustle to simply enjoy being with family and friends. Enjoy the little things like baking the cookies, decorating the tree, and spending it making memories with your family and friends.
4. **Remember the reason for the season.** All too frequently the true meaning of Christmas gets lost in all the hustle and bustle of the holiday planning. Take some time and reflect on Christmas day "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" the greatest gift of all.

Perhaps if we remember the words of Charles Dickens, we can make our spirit of remembering and giving stronger this year. "Would that the spirit of Christmas could live within our hearts every day of the year." God's greatest gift to all of us is truly the gift of love.

From my family to yours we wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

R.E.C. Mike Roberts, Grand High Priest





R. E. C. DONALD L. GALWAY, P.G.H.P.
GRAND SECRETARY

Lady Sherry

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Secretary's Scribbles

Writing this article, I am not only reflecting on the future but remembering this past year. The sands of time pass quickly the older you get and the ability to remember seems to fade a little each year. Having said that, this year has passed rather quickly it seems. There were a few high-lights to the year, one being the first joint York-Rite Education seminar was held and proved to be a success. Next years is already being planned. The seven-degree days went well, which increased our membership, as well as Council and Commandery's. The plans for next year are also in the works. The first one in February being held in Auburn Hills hosted by Oakland No. 5. The Tri-State York Rite Festival 2019 will be held in Angola Indiana on February 23, 2019. Flyer is on the web. There is talk of a festival in March but to date I have not received information on it. I do have the date for the Traverse City Chapter and Commandery festival being held on May 12th. I will put the Flyer on the web as soon as I receive it.

I would also like to mention another day, for which there is a flyer in this addition of the Triple Tau. The York Rite Sovereign College of North American will be holding the first ever degree day being held on March 30, 2019. The event will take place at the Detroit Temple. The day will be filled with not only the degree but educational presentations. Check out the flyer on our web site!

December and January are installation months, it also a very good time to visit the lodges in your area to present the Master's Pins to the in-coming Worshipful Masters. We have been doing this for a very long time and is one of the best PR programs we have ever had. We can stand in front of the lodge, and all in attendance, to not only to present the masters pin, but to give a 45 second elevator speech on Royal Arch! How could it get any better? Please take the time to put together a little speech and practice it. This could very well bring you some new members.

Since this is the last article for 2018, I would like to take a couple seconds to reflect on the year passed. I for one have enjoyed this past year, there may be some things I would change, but by and large it has been very enjoyable. We have lost a few members this year, and we have gained some, without looking I think we are ahead. We just finished Thanksgiving and I hope everyone had a happy and enjoyable one. I also hope you had some time to sit and reflect, on all that you have, to be thankful for. I also hope that in the coming Christmas season you take a couple of minutes and remember what the season is about. We seem to forget with the hustle and bustle, that we are celebrating a birthday and not just anyone, but the birth of our savior. Lady Sherry and I wish to extend to you and yours the VERY MERRYIST OF CHRISTMAS IS AND THE HAPPIST OF NEW YEARS.

Fraternally,

R.E.C. Donald L. Galway, Grand Secretary, P.G.H.P., K.Y.G.C.H., and O.P.C.



REC Carl Peterson

Grand King

***Note: We do not have an e-mail address for Our Grand King.**



REC John A. Ames

Grand Scribe

Lady Judi

GWhunter51@gmail.com

Greetings Companions.

From our Grand Session until now has been some rough and rocky roads but things seem to be under control. You all know that changing residents is a chore especially with a flight or two of stairway and in the last months we been through that twice.

Being around our State my main concern is with the lack of attendance and loss of membership. Companions, we have a big problem and just the Grand Officers and D.D.I.'s are not going to turn it around. We need each other to carry a petition to the Royal Arch and after regular meetings of the Lodges. Try to have a talk about bringing more light to the brothers. We need our secretary's to personally contact the members and let them know of the lack of participation. High Priests, please don't leave it all to the secretary to do. Create an appointed a membership committee for contacting and get a report each month. Companions we are losing chapters and the entire York Rite is suffering. Soon each one of us may have to consolidate and think of the distance to go to make a meeting. Oh, it won't happen to us. I heard it before and so have you. In a year or two and what happens? It's happening now and has been for a while. Now is the time to move and make sure your chapter stays afloat as well as helping other chapters. Just making a meeting isn't enough anymore if there is going to remain a Royal Arch Mason. We each need to take on the duty of retention and recruitment.

Keeping this in mind through the holidays and at the open installations of officers in Lodges around the state we hope to boost and somewhat eliminate this problem.

To all and your family's have a great Holiday Season.

Fraternally,
REC, Carl J. Peterson, Grand King

Season's Greetings Companions!

Well November is now behind us with all the various activities. We had mid-term elections, Veterans Day which marked the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I, many Lodges held their annual election of Officers as well as many of the Councils. Congratulations to all those newly elected Officers.

We also had Thanksgiving, and I hope everyone had a good day with family and friends, hope you did not eat too much, but hey that is part of the day. It was also the busy time for the Knights Templar as many of the Commanderies held their annual Inspections. December is now upon us and it is hard to believe that the Calendar year is coming to an end. There will be many Lodge Installations this month and I hope all of you get to be present at your Lodges installation.

December brings in the "Big" holiday. Christmas! During this special season there will be many gatherings to celebrate the Holiday. Let us not lose sight of the fact that we a celebrating the birth of the Christ child, and that we should make every effort to make everyone's days a little brighter and happier.

It is the time of year when the food banks are collecting for the needy, a can of soup, box of cereal, or any other non-perishable food would go a long way to make this season a little brighter for those less fortunate.

Those big bad warriors, the US Marine Corps, is again showing their soft spot for the children with their annual Toys for Tots program so if you have a few extra dollars please consider donating a toy to this worthy cause.

In closing, Lady Judi and I would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays!

Until next month; God Speed and God bless.
R.E.C. John A. Ames, Grand Scribe



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Most Illustrious Grand Master
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Greetings Companions,

This Cryptic year our instruction and focus has been on operational excellence, which is a good goal indeed. This is not to take away the importance of our traditions and ritual. Why do we go through such extravagant ritual to simply open and close a business meeting? Can't we accomplish the same thing over coffee and cookie around a table? I would argue no and encourage each of you to continue to strive for perfect and meaningful ritual, to open and close, each time you meet.

“Picture a pair of bookends — that is, matched objects that are used to bound a series of books on a shelf. From a practical perspective, bookends support the books to ensure that they stay together. Aesthetically, however, they do much more. Bookends neatly (and often artistically) provide visual symmetry for the books on display. In doing so, they draw more attention to the row of books, and give the impression that these books are special and to be admired.” [Andrew Dlugan](#) – *Six Minutes, Speaking and Presentation*



When we “bookend our meetings”, we provide similar support for the Masonic organization we are engaged in. By opening **and closing our meetings with a common element, well-rehearsed ritual**, we neatly (and maybe even artistically) provide symmetry for the meeting we are attending. We draw more attention to our words and give the impression that our time together is special. Our opening and closing rituals are a way to bracket out our time. It's a way of bringing a group of Brethren together to collaborate with an intention to dedicate ourselves, without distraction, to achieving the goals of the meeting.

Bookending our meetings conveys the impression to a new Brother or Companion that our meetings are crafted very carefully with a precise attention to detail. This boosts our credibility, and our newly initiated will be more likely to conclude that our entire organization was crafted with similar care. He will then likely come back.

The survey question was asked “How skilled in Michigan Council Ritual are the members of your Council?” 36% responded “somewhat skilled” and another 28% responded “not skilled at all”.

If you are not familiar with the survey mentioned above, please participate at <http://RSMsurvey.com>. Your input will help guide our future planning and help bring value to your Council.

Enjoy your holidays Companion, no matter how you celebrate it. From my family Merry Christmas.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Ryan Groat, Most Illustrious Grand Master



Shawn Bashore

R.E. Grand Commander

Lady Diane

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Loren A. Winn, PGC

Grand Recorder

Lady Gail

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Grand Commander's Christmas Message

Sir Knights,

At Christmas we gather together with family and friends to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We take time out our busy lives to visit with friends and family and enjoy the Christmas season by eating more than normal and sharing gifts with one another.

I remember as a child the joy my mother and father had when my sister, brothers and I opened presents that were placed under the tree. Lady Diane and I had that same joy watching our children open gifts on Christmas day. Imagine the joy our Lord receives every time one of His children receives the gift of Life that He has offered each one of us, not only during the Christmas season but throughout the whole year.

This Christmas season I ask each of you to continue to give of yourselves throughout the year and see how much joy you receive. Remember the lonely, the homeless, and the hungry. "The least that you do onto one of my brethren that you do onto Me." Matthew 25:40.

On behalf of Lady Diane and I along with the officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan, wish to you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We look forward to visiting with each of you throughout this Templar year.

Love one another and we will Build this Grand Commandery "One Good Sir Knight at a Time"
SK Shawn M Bashore KCT, R. E. Grand Commander

Grand Prelate's Christmas Message

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ this Christmas season, our hope is that the light and testimony of the Savior's divine mission as the Redeemer of all mankind will come into our hearts and be reflected in our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

It is easy to get caught up in thoughts about new gifts, fancy decorations, and expensive parties. With your focus on Jesus Christ, the stress of the holiday season will melt away, leaving only the true joy of Christmas to lift and warm your heart.

May each of us be blessed at this joyous season of the year as we acknowledge with sincere gratitude the Father's incomparable gift to us of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Master.

Fraternally,
Bill LeVeque, Grand Prelate



Edward James
Grand Governor of MI
of York Rite Sovereign College
of North America
edward_james32@yahoo.com

Companions All:

I trust everyone had a Blessed Thanksgiving surrounded by friends, family, loved ones and cranberries! Thanksgiving is that special time of year that for one day at least, we can lay all our worries and trials at our doorstep and be grateful to the Supreme Architect for that which He has made special in our lives. We remember that even though we may experience loss, He makes it possible for us to receive in abundance; that when our spirit is low, He lifts us up; that when we may stumble, He is there to catch us and when He gives us joy, we rejoice and celebrate! Christmastime knocking at our door, we would do that which is pleasing in His sight: we would give to those who have suffered loss; lift the spirit of a Brother when he is low and be there to catch him when he falls. For you see, the Supreme Architect teaches us that as He looks out for us, we would do the same for our Brothers. I wish everyone the happiest of Holidays this season, for it matters not what the name of the holiday or your faith walk is: All are His children and He cares for them for all time!

I would like to take a minute in this edition of the Triple Tau to announce that there will be an exciting York Rite College event taking place this coming year on Saturday, March 30th. There will be a State College Ceremonial conferring of the Order of the Knight of York and Companion Knight Conference taking place at the Detroit Temple with Registration at 9 am and conferral at 10 am. Its been awhile since we've had a gathering like this of College Companion Knights and I hope all members of the College in Michigan will come out to witness Detroit College #1 perform the Order. All Colleges are welcome and encouraged to bring their Candidates who have been invited to join and are in waiting to receive the Order. The Conference will commence after lunch and we will have speakers and presentations given from all the bodies of the York Rite. Hospitality and a separate check Dinner will follow. Overnight accommodations will be available both Friday and Saturday Nights for those Brothers coming from the four corners of Michigan. Watch for our Flyer coming out in the Triple Tau and on the Royal Arch of Michigan Website.

As always, have fun, safe travels and most importantly, enjoy the ride!

Ed James, PMIGM. G.Gov. of MI, YRSCNA



ATTENTION

M.E.C.'s, M.I.C.'s and Companions All!

After hearing that Flint will not be hosting the Chapter/Council Degree Day on February and that Saginaw will not be hosing that day either. The Companions from Oakland Chapter and Pontiac Council have agreed to host the Degree Day. So that the Companions from Chapters and Councils that cannot put on the Degrees will have the opportunity to bring new members into the York Rite.

We will need help from the Chapters, Councils and Companions from around that State if we are to keep the traditions of a February Degree Day in February in the Eastern part of Michigan. We will have to know what Degrees your Candidates will need before we can set up a timeline for the Degrees and a Cast List of some kind because Pontiac will not be able to do all the Degrees by themselves.

*** SPECIAL NOTE ***

Please contact me as soon as possible so we can make the final preparations to make the day a success. I will send out flyers when I get your input.

Fraternally,
Mike Whiting

Home: (248) 373-7081

Cell: (248) 722-4413

email: mikewhiting@webtv.net

**Please make sure this gets sent out to all the Grand Officers,
Secretary's and Recorders**

**York Rite Sovereign College of North America
Michigan State York Rite College – Order of the Knight of York
Ceremonial and Companion Knight Conference**



Saturday, March 30, 2019



**Held at the Detroit Masonic Temple,
500 Temple St., Detroit, Michigan**

**Registration is 9:00 am
Order of the Knight of York Conferral is 10:00 am
Held under the courtesies of Detroit York Rite College No. 1.**

**Please contact CK Jack Mengel at jhmengem@comcast.net or phone (734) 347-2858
For Order of the Knight of York and Lunch Registrations.
Please make all lunch reservations no later than Friday, March 22nd.**

*All Colleges are welcome and encouraged to bring any Candidates who have been invited
by their College to be created Companion Knights to this special
Conferral of the Order of the Knight of York. The Order Conferral will take place
In the Commandery Asylum.*

**Lunch to be held at 12:15 pm with the Companion Knight Conference
Beginning at 1:30 pm. Afternoon Conference will be held in the Tudor Room.**

**Afternoon Conference will feature Comments by the Grand East of Chapter,
Council and Commandery as well as a short leadership presentation by
Grand Lodge. Historical and educational presentations will be given by the
Deputy Grand Governors of the YRSCNA of Michigan.**

**Evening dinner will follow at the Traffic Jam & Snug,
Located at 511 W. Canfield St., Detroit (7 blks. From the Temple down 2nd St.)**

**Overnight accommodations have been arranged for Friday, March 29 and Saturday, March 30.
Please make your reservations at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Detroit/Troy by calling
(855).516.1092 located at 225 Stephenson Hwy., Troy, MI 488083. Special Rate will be \$119 per
Night plus tax. Cutoff date is March 15, 2019.**

**Please mention "York Rite College" for the special rate.
Hospitality room will be open Friday, March-29 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**



DeMolay Of Michigan

Vince D'Aguanno, Executive Director

E-Mail: daguanno@comcast.net

The month of November was filled with excitement for Michigan DeMolay. It started with the Honoring Day for the Most Worshipful Grand Master, David Hill. The day was to Honor our Grand Master and those individuals that had obtained the highest honors in DeMolay. The Grand Master served as the master of ceremonies, for the conferring of the Chevalier, Cross of Honor and Legion of Honor Degrees. It is only fitting as he is a senior DeMolay. The day began with a light breakfast of doughnuts and coffee and then Michigan State Chapter opened. The first ceremony was to honor those DeMolay that had been elevated to the rank and dignity of Chevalier. This honor was bestowed on Past State Master Councilor Justin, State Senior Councilor Seth and Past Master Councilor Kyle. This was followed by the conferral of the Cross of Honor, the highest honor bestowed for service as a DeMolay advisor. Dad Stewart of Walt Disney Chapter and Dad Lawson of Wayne Chapter were the recipients of this honor. (Pictured below.)



. Lunch was provided for all in attendance and then in the afternoon, the Degree of Legion of Honor was conferred on the following individuals; Derek Thamarus, Daniel Myers, Matt Shelton, Brad Norwood, Chris Bell, Jay Drick; as active members of the Legion of Honor. Larry Lieb, Craig Maison and Mark Manning, as Honorary members of the Legion of Honor. The distinction between active and honorary is that active members were members of the Order of DeMolay. The day's events were followed by the Annual Chevalier Observance Dinner. It was a great day for Michigan DeMolay.

The next event was the annual Heartland Ritual

Tournament of Champions, qualifying day, held on November 16, 2018. This is Michigan DeMolays tournament qualifier for the Heartland Tournament, where the young men from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, West Virginia and Michigan compete in Ritual work to see who the champion will be. There was excellent ritual work performed and Michigan DeMolay will be well represented in Springfield, Ohio in March.





DeMolay Of Michigan

Vince D'Aguanno, Executive Director

E-Mail: daguanno@comcast.net



I hope that everyone had a good Thanksgiving and Michigan DeMolay looks forward to the many events this December as well as the Holidays.

Fraternally,

Vince D'Aguanno, Executive Director of Michigan DeMolay

Any questions about Michigan DeMolay: E-Mail: daguanno@comcast.net



Ms. Terri Brower

Grand Guardian

E-mail: terri.c.brower@gmail.com

Happy Holidays to all, and a very special wish from Michigan Job's Daughters, for healthy, happy, and blessed holiday season to all our Masonic Family!!! May each and every one enjoy many peaceful days with loved ones and safe travels if you are headed away from home!

It has been very busy with our Pay It Forward projects over the past month. I was honored to spend my birthday making blankets for the Shriner's Children's Hospital, with Bethel # 52 in St Clair Shores. We had many donations of fleece for these blankets and were able to make almost 30 blankets that evening, with the help of daughters and adults. They even put a candle in my favorite dessert (mint chocolate chip ice cream) and sang Happy Birthday!



The next weekend we traveled to the Escanaba for a fun event, UP Friend's Day. We had a great time in spite of the uncooperative weather. It was very cold, very windy, and very snowy...but we didn't let that stop us from finding out how many Masons it takes to grill hot dog? For those who are counting...the answer is THREE. It takes one Past Associate Grand Guardian (Dad Dale Van Duinen), one current Associate Grand Guardian (Dad John Bodnar), and one future Associate Grand Guardian (Dad Jay Giese) to grill hot dogs in 30 degree weather!



The weekend after that was a very busy weekend! First, we headed back to Alma, for our Halloween/reverse trick or treat with the residents. The Grand Guardian Council all dressed as "Care Bears", including special "limited edition" "Yooper Bear" and "Neil Diamond Bear". And the daughters really got into the festivities in their various costumes. We played keno/bingo with some of the residents, before going through the halls, and handing out Halloween candy by knocking on the open doors, and offering it to the residents and staff.

The next day we headed to Novi for the George Washington Memorial Honoring for Robert Conley, PGM. This was held at the beautiful Suburban Collection Showplace, and we were honored to be invited to share in this event!

The following weekend found us headed to Minneapolis, Minnesota for a Supreme Leadership training, where among other things, we learned about "Sewer Pipe Sundaes"! And our very own Miss Keziah from Bethel 52 St Clair Shores, taught us the proper way to eat it!



Ms. Terri Brower

Grand Guardian

E-mail: terri.c.brower@gmail.com

Our final exemplification of 2018 brought us to the Bronson Masonic Center, where the Grand Bethel did a phenomenal job on their ritual work. Our Pay It Forward event for this weekend, was to make scarves for the homeless. The Order of the Eastern Star jumped on board with this project and donated SO MUCH FLEECE, that even after staying up until 3 a.m., and making 289 scarves. We also had a leadership workshop at this event, where we learned the “Power of I”, and we learned the importance of the roles that our Masonic DADS (our super heroes) play in our Jobie Journey.

In addition to this, because of a very generous donation by a Past Grand Guardian (Mom Judy Hudson), to our Pay It Forward project, we were able to announce five \$100 grants for special holiday “Pay It Forward” projects. All Bethels and individual daughters had the opportunity to apply for a grant of up to \$100, by filling out a grant application, including how the funds would be used, the potential impact on their community, and how the project would involve the members, if a group project.

Miss Rainey from Bethel 20 Genesee will be providing gloves for students at her public school, as she knows that a lot of kids don’t have gloves to keep their hands warm.

Bethel 20 itself will be making blankets for the Kids Foster Closet and Carriage Town, as they are aware that for foster kids, having something warm and soothing to call their own is very important.

Bethel 23 Walled Lake will be paying it forward to “the Warming Center” by purchasing toiletries and bus passes for the homeless in that community, so they can get to job interviews and doctor appointments.

Bethel 30 Grand Blanc will be adopting two families with young children for Christmas, to provide meals and gifts to those in need, and as a Bethel they wanted to give back to families who are less fortunate.

Bethel 74 Evart will be providing “Birthday Cake Kits” to their local food pantry, as a lot of low income families cannot afford to have a birthday cake, and this is something that is overlooked when pantry donations are made. We want to congratulate, and thank each of them for taking on these projects, and can’t wait to hear about the outcomes, and what they learned through this process!

Tuesday, November 13 was “World Kindness Day”, and Miss Liliy, our Pay It Forward Ambassador, and I went out in search of Acts of Kindness that we could do, that could be tracked on our Pay It Forward Coin Project website. Our first stop was at the Grand Rapids YWCA Women’s Shelter, where we met the CEO, and requested that she deliver flowers to the clients there. The flowers each had a positive/inspirational note attached to let the ladies know that we care about them, and that they do have the strength and power to make a bright future.

Our next stop was to the Grand Rapids Fire Department, where we delivered cookies to the ones who protect us! It wasn’t a “completely” unselfish act though...the very nice firemen allowed Liliy to sit in the fire truck!

Our final event for this issue was the Santa Parade in downtown Grand Rapids, on November 17. Michigan Job’s Daughters was thrilled to be able to participate in this event for the second year in a row, and we had a great time doing so! We had an extra special guest walk in the parade with us, Brother Brandon SMC! Special thanks to Bethel 10 in Grand Rapids for hosting us!

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Brower, Grand Guardian

Be the Change YOU Wish to See in the World!



Mrs. Maureen Riley

Supreme Drill Leader and Supreme Inspector

E-mail: mirainbowsupreme@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

Michigan Rainbow

The weekend of November 16-17 found 60 members of Michigan Rainbow and their adults at the Howell Nature Center for the girl's outdoor leadership and team building. While the adults stayed indoors and did Ritual training and worked on ideas for membership and growth.



On Friday night after pizza for dinner, the girls bundled up and went outdoors for a nighttime hike. They listened to the quiet of nature and heard the owls calling. Then they were back to the main cabin where they did spontaneous group skit presentations and the adults just loved them. Saturday morning started with blue sky and sunshine. The girls were outside on high ropes. After lunch, they were back outside for the high swing. This swing was a team adventure where the team members pulled up the individual on the swing to a height of 40'. On the way down on this swing adventure is when the girls started to swing. I saw a video of a girl on the swing and my answer to them was "Not so much!". After dinner, the majority were back outside again to go on the 7-level zip line with glow sticks. It took longer than anyone planned, and they were out there until 11:30 pm. Now please remember, they were outside all day with temperatures in the low 30's. They were very cold young ladies.

Sunday morning, after breakfast was our devotional led by Anna Otte, our Grand Chaplain. Anna started her devotional with the Lord's Prayer and it ended up with a conversation with God. It was time to clean up and go home.

While the girls were outside having fun, the adults were inside having a good time. Saturday morning, we did a Ritual floor instruction in a room that was probably a third the size of most of your Lodge Rooms. It was creative. The afternoon was spent introducing ourselves even though we pretty much knew each other. Then with our magic wand, each person came up with a magical wish that they would like to see happen for Rainbow. The biggest wish was for an increase in membership for each Assembly. This is a wish that you could help come true. Please, if you know any young women between the ages of 11 and 20, let me know and we will get them affiliated with an Assembly.

It was a marvelous weekend in spite of the cold. My thanks go to the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation for their support so that we were able to take everyone for just a nominal fee. I am already working on planning next year's seminar; however, I don't think the girls have thought out enough yet to even think of that.

May each of you have a blessed and happy holiday season,

Fraternally,
Maureen K. Riley, Supreme Inspector