



Michigan Triple Tau

Official Publication of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons

June 2020

Dear Companions:

I was also disappointed with our Governor's decision to hold us back another month. You see, a nursing or elderly care facility must be COVID-19 free for 30 days. I am surprised that it is not more days than that. We did get the COVID-19 bug here. The folks are asymptomatic instead of symptomatic. Those in Nursing quarantined, who tested positive tell us they do not feel too bad or they have no symptoms at all! Really strange how this bug has gotten everywhere but you must hand it to the staff here in keeping the Residential side of the building COVID-19 free. That is amazing!

How are we doing? Not too bad for a bunch of old folks. The activities crew keep our brains going with puzzles, quizzes, and bingo. The dietary crew are stir-crazy and keep us in snacks and lemonade in the afternoons. I have gone out on the front porch twice. It was extremely hot out the first trip. I had to come in earlier than anyone else because I was turning red. The last time we were out on the front porch, it was cool and wind-blown. It even tried to sprinkle on us. I am hoping it was rain because we were sitting under a nest of new hatchlings. We do have couples that are separated by being in the two different sides of the building. If you wanted to see your loved one on the Nursing side, you just cannot walk over there. No physical contact. Most of them get by using phone calls, video chats and letters. If you know of anyone that is in lock down or quarantined give them a call, send them a care package, or drop by the window and say "Hi"! It makes a big difference.

I just watched the Dragon Crew take off from Florida into space to hook up with the International Space Station! What a wonderful site! Some good news for us too! Stay safe and catch you next month.

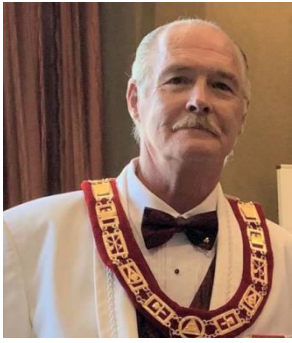
Fraternally,
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Companions All,

In accordance with the Grand Masters Edict (see Attached) the Grand High Priest has opened the northern portion of Michigan and the UP for work. You must adhere to the state guidelines of 10 or less and social distancing and masks. I have also attached a map showing the open counties north of the blue line.

We will get through this and overcome as Masonry has in the past.

Fraternally in Capitular Masonry,
MEC, Carl J. Peterson, GHP





May 20, 2020

To: All members of all constituent Masonic Lodges in Michigan

****EDICT 2020-6****

Greetings,

This edict will inform you about recent developments in Michigan as they pertain to the activities of our Lodges and my Edicts, 2020-1 through 2020-5.

At this juncture, the Governor appears to be moving toward allowing an opening up of social gatherings on a regional basis. Social gatherings are defined as 10 or fewer, which would include most of our Lodges.

It is my decision that when groups of ten (10) persons are allowed to gather in those areas within the State of Michigan geographic regions, Masonic lodge gatherings, meetings, and communications may occur in compliance with State Law. As I write this edict, the areas that the Governor has opened up to gatherings of ten or less are the entire Upper Peninsula (Region 8) and a portion of the northern part of the lower peninsula (Region 6). The lodges in these areas are the only lodges that I am releasing from the restrictions set forth in the above-noted Edicts. As more areas are released by the State of Michigan, I will issue new guidance to those Lodges in the affected areas. I expect Lodge leadership and individual members to act with a common sense regarding their attendance. If a Brother is compromised in terms of age or health, I would encourage them to stay home. Further, all requirements for masks, washing of hands, and social distancing must be maintained.

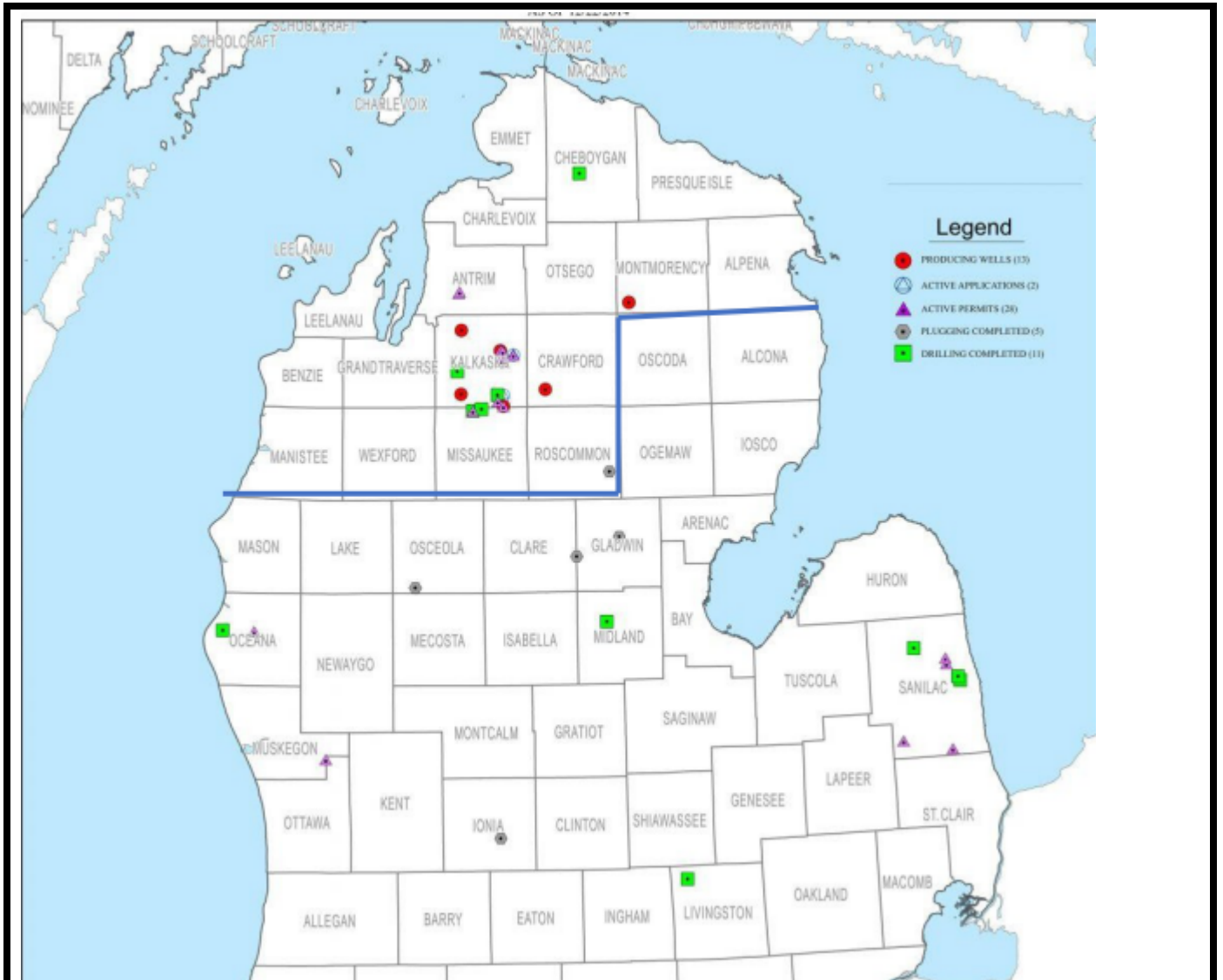
I will monitor future developments as they occur. If you have any opinions or feedback, please feel free to contact me.

Fraternally yours,

M Mark A. Manning

Grand Master







**Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
of Michigan**

Donald L. Galway PGHP

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May 31,2020

Companions Secretaries,

On June 1, 2020 the Grand High Priest will allow chapters to meet with the following restrictions. We must follow the current restrictions set forth by the Governor and the Grand Master. We will practice social distancing, wear masks and exercise common sense. The safety of our members is paramount; therefore, we will not be serving refreshments before or after the meeting. We will be conducting business in the Royal Arch degree with modifications to the opening and closing to maintain social distancing. Degree work will be suspended until we can once again make physical contact or we modify the ritual to accommodate contact.

Remember we can only meet in groups of 10 or less, and it may sound cruel, but that must be adhered to.

Royal Arch Degree opening and closing modifications.

Page 93 line 9 will be used and proceed to page 94 line 7

Page 95 line 43 I am certain that all are in possession of the word (skip line 15 thru 42)

Page 99 line 22 the companions will assemble around the alter practicing social distancing and not holding hands.

Page 100 Arise in groups of three (practicing social distancing) and Balance by three times Edict three. (do not grip hands)

The closing will be performed as the opening, practicing social distancing and no physical contact.

We realize this is not the best, but we must stay safe.

This notice will void when all restrictions are lifted, or rescinded by Grand High Priest

Donald L. Galway

Donald L. Galway

Grand Secretary

Carl John Peterson

Carl John Peterson

Grand High Priest



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

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Secretary's

Scribbles

In these times of trouble, this poem is spot on. We are not getting any younger. I just finished listening to the Governor hoping that the State would open some more so we may do a little safer gathering, but alas that has not happened, my opinion is it is now doing more harm than good. I do not have anything new to report for the month as nothing has changed. Next month I should have much more to report as there are several decisions that will need to be made. The governing board will have to make many decisions as to the near future of the Grand Chapter moving forward.

PLEASE SHARE THIS POEM (originally by Phyllis McCormack; adapted by Dave Griffith)

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in an Australian country town, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value. Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Melbourne. The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas editions of magazines around the country and in magazines for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but an eloquent, poem. And this old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is now the author of this 'anonymous' poem winging across the Internet.

Cranky Old Man

What do you see nurses?.What do you see?
What are you thinking ... when you're looking at me?
A cranky old man,not very wise,
Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes?
Who dribbles his food and makes no reply.
When you say in a loud voice. .. I do wish you'd try!
Who seems not to notice. .the things that you do.
And forever is losing A sock or shoe?
Who, resisting or not lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feedingThe long day to fill?
Is that what you're thinking? .Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse .you're not looking at me.
I'll tell you who I am As I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will.

I'm a small child of Ten. .with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one another
A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet
Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet.
A groom soon at Twentymy heart gives a leap.
Remembering, the vowsthat I promised to keep.
At Twenty-Five, nowI have young of my own.
Who need me to guide . . . And a secure happy home.
A man of Thirty My young now grown fast,
Bound to each other . . . With ties that should last.
At Forty, my young sons .. have grown and are gone,
But my woman is beside me... to see I don't mourn.
At Fifty, once more, .. .Babies play 'round my knee,
Again, we know children My loved one and me.
Dark days are upon me My wife is now dead.
I look at the future I shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing young of their own.
And I think of the years . . . And the love that I've known.
I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.
It's jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles grace and vigor depart.
There is now a stone . . . where I once had a heart.
But inside this old carcass. A young man still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells
I remember the joys I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living life over again.
I think of the years, all too few . . . gone too fast.
And accept the stark fact . . . that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, people open and see.
Not a cranky old man.

Look closer see ME!!

Remember this poem when you next meet an older person who you might brush aside
without looking at the young soul within.

We will all, one day, be there, too!

Please be safe, this too shall pass quickly, I hope.

Donald





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Companions,

Another month of quarantine has passed, and I hope that all is well with you and your families. The days are starting to get warmer and I am sure everyone is anxious to begin once again enjoying everything a Michigan Summer has to offer.

Everything is up in the air as far as our Masonic activities are concerned, so there is nothing to report on that front. The Leaders of all our Masonic Bodies have many things to consider once the quarantine is lifted. They will need to worry about the safety and welfare of all our Members and it will be on everyone's mind as they begin to return to Lodges and other Masonic Activities. One thing for sure is that it will be a long time before everything returns to normal, if at all.

Please follow the directions of our Political and Masonic Leaders, no matter how inconvenient they may seem for now. I miss Masonry as much as the rest of you and look forward to that day once again where we can start attending our various activities. To meet again and enjoy the friends I hold so dearly, to laugh, to joke, and to share the fellowship that we have developed over many years.

Until then, be safe and remember this too will pass. Do not forget about Flag Day on Sunday, June 14th. Wishing all the Dad's out there an incredibly Happy Father's Day.

God Bless you all.

Michael Whiting, P.M.E.G.H.P.

Greeting Companions

As of May 14th, 2020 here are my statistics:
 33 Schools of Instruction were reported. 72% completion rate.

14 Inspections were reported. 42% completion rate.
 25 Masters Pins presentation reports have been received. 54% completion rate.

Total miles traveled by all District Deputy Instructors and the Executive Director as of May 14, 2020, is 15,514.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis D. Scott Jr., P.H.P.
 Executive Director of District Deputy Instructors
 Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan





E.C. David L. Montgomery

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E.C. Tom Black

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My wife Cynthia and I have been active in our church, Little League Baseball Programs, Holly Ambulance Company, Fly fishing, and many other outdoor activities.

I received my first three Masonic Degrees in 1974 and have had the honor of being a Master of my Lodges four times over my Masonic lifetime. I am active in all the bodies of the York Rite where I have been High Priest, six times, Thrice Illustrious Master, once, and Commander, one time. I am a member of the Flint York Rite College, where I have also served as Governor. Other honors include The Order of the Purple Cross, The Meritorious Service Award, and a Member of the Knight of York Cross of Honor.

I have had ten years of travel and experience on The Board of General Purpose. Also, twelve years of service as a DDI for the Grand Chapter of Michigan. I am the Master of the 3rd Veil for Grand Chapter. I feel that these experiences, my interest, and my long devotion to the Royal Craft, would make me an ideal candidate for the open chair and am actively soliciting your support for the position.

Fraternally,
E.C. David L. Montgomery

I entered my Masonic (Symbolic Lodge) in 1997. I am a Plural and Life member of San Diego Lodge No. 35, F.&A.M. Currently I am Senior Warden at Lisbon-Crescent Lodge No. 229, F. & A.M. I am High Priest at Grand Rapids Chapter No. 7, R.A.M. I currently am Royal Arch Captain at Kent-Newaygo Chapter No. 38, R.A.M. I have been the D.D.I. for District No.11.

My other Masonic activities are currently Deputy T.I.M. at Tyre Council No. 10, R. & S.M. I received the Cryptic Mason of the Year in 2019. Generalissimo at DeMolai Commandery No. 5, K.T. I am a member of Western Michigan York Rite College No. 128, Mt. Moriah. I am a member of Allied Masonic Degrees and currently President of Furniture City High 12 Club No. 236. A proud member of Order of DeMolay, Grand Rapids Chapter, and a Legion of Honor holder 1999.

My Royal Arch Objectives are Education, to encourage Ritual work on all levels, to promote charity, to sustain and improve York Rite cooperation, and promote visitations to all Chapters. Please direct your questions to me at xsealtom@yahoo.com or by phone, (616) 438-8371. One of my favorite quotes is from Albert Einstein himself, "Only a life lived in the service to others is a life living."

Fraternally,
E.C. Tom Black



On May 30, 2020 the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and Crew Dragon spacecraft rocket took two United States astronauts into space to hook up with the International Space Station. Congratulations to both business parties. The booster rocket actually landed back on a drone platform back on Earth. Wow!



Darrel "Butch" Winslow

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Greetings Brothers:

June blossoms into the year and here we are slowly getting into the swing of life. The past few months I have stayed pretty quiet regarding the "pandemic" and will remain so, not because I don't have an opinion, but I have learned that my opinion is just that. It often has little or nothing to do with leading this group of volunteers. I am finding that more often than not the expression of opinion only confuses the directions we need to make sure are understood.

I don't have many biblical issues that have frequented my reflections this past month, my studies have simply continued to focus on the "right to choose", in the sense of God's grace in allowing us to make choices in life where we might be better off if He just made it happen. He has blessed us with the choices, "How" we worship, when we worship, how we obey or don't the commandments He has set forth. Now please do not that for any sense of the word, we should not obey them all, but simply that He left the choice up to us. I choose to do so in every sense of my understanding.

As to the current choices of how we get on with life under the pandemic and restrictions of our Country, State, and Craft. I can only say that we are citizens of a country who allows the choice, but also men and women who have a dedication to supporting the rational laws and regulations of our Country and State. While our Most Worshipful Grand Master believes we should stand down on our activities until the Governor declares it legal to meet again, I support his decision. It is in the interest of our spiritual health that we continue to listen to the word of God in all things and I believe He does that for every decision that affects our craft. So while it is the law of the land, stay and safe practice personal protective options whenever you are required, or as they make you feel safer, and most of all, keep kneeling to pray for the voice of God's direction in your lives.

Fraternally,

Darel W. "Butch" Winslow KYGCH
Right Eminent Grand Commander
Knights Templar of Michigan

