



# *Michigan Triple Tau*

## *Official Publication of the*

### *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons*

#### June 2023

Dear Companions and Everyone:

When the snow melts away off Miller's Pond, Masonic Pathways residents travel to the pond for some good fishing. The pond has a lot of blue gills, big mouth bass, and a few walleyes too. I was glad to go on the trip this year. Of course, everyone caught fish some were big some you tossed back (too small). I was just blown away with my fishing partner, Bro. Randy Pardee, at the number we caught that were keepers. We caught three bass and fifteen blue gills. We ended up putting some of our fish in Sister Sandy Johnson's fish bucket because there were so many. Everyone caught fish even Sister Fran Defor (at 101), caught the largest bass! Thanks to our fishing partners, no one ended up in the pond this year. We will return next year to try our luck at catching fish at Miller's Pond.

We have three candidates running for the open chair in the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Michigan! The only draw back I have is we only can give each candidate a whole page. Two candidates had a two-page letter of introduction. All our candidates have an email or phone number to reach them for further information on themselves. I am sad that I could not place these letters in their entirety, but I did my best with what I had. Feel free to call upon Companions Richard "Rick" Williams, David A Patterson, and Scott A. Blanchard. Good luck Companions in your future endeavors.

Fraternally,  
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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**MEC Don Mayville**

**Grand High Priest**

**Lady Josephine**

**indsal@att.net**

Greetings Companions:

Membership Day in Traverse City Chapter No. 102 with the combine efforts of several other Chapters around Michigan, we had 7 Companions Exalted. I would like to thank Companions Paul Roggow, Mark Drake, and Mike Willsey for organizing the Membership Day and for their gracious hospitality. See you next year.

The Joint York Rite Golf Outing is fast approaching. The Picnic will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> and the Golf Outing is on July 16<sup>th</sup>. We are taking orders for tee box signs and golf flags. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote your Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, Business, or Yourself. Dedicate one to the memory of someone who is no longer with us but lives on in our memory. The Joint York Rite Golf Outing proceeds are equally divided between Grand Council, Grand Commandery and Grand Chapter for their Charites.

This year, I understand we have at least two candidates that are running for the open chair in the Grand Chapter Line. I wish the best for those Companions who are in the running.

Your Protocol Committee will assist any Companion seeking to run for the Grand Chapter open chair. The Chairperson is REC Donald Galway, PGHP, Grand Secretary. Please contact him if you have any questions.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship,  
Don Mayville, MEGHP





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

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## *Scribbles of the Secretary*

May is almost over. I am writing the June article just before the Memorial Day weekend. This day means a lot of things to many people. A little history.

By proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, the first major Memorial Day observance is held to honor those who died “in defense of their country during the late rebellion.” Known to some as “Decoration Day,” mourners honored the Civil War dead by decorating their graves with flowers. On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Civil War soldiers buried in the cemetery.

The 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances that had taken place in various locations in the three years since the end of the Civil War. In fact, several cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Mississippi; Macon, Georgia; Richmond, Virginia; Boalsburg, Pennsylvania; and Carbondale, Illinois. In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon B. Johnson, declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

Looking at the calendar for June, we realize that many of the Chapters will be going dark until September. There are several events taking place throughout the summer. One of the most important being the York Rite Session starting August 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. All the information is on the calendar either on the website or database. There are other events taking place throughout the State in many locations so check the calendar often, so you do not miss events you wish to attend. Chapter Secretaries, Council Recorders and Commandry Recorders feel free to utilize the calendar for your event to get the message out. The events are color coordinated to the bodies, so you can see who is hosting the event.

The Grand Lodge session was completed May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Mount Pleasant, with the installation of our new Grand Master Larry Judson. We at the Royal Arch Chapters wish Grand Master Larry a very successful year and will provide him with any help he may need. We also congratulate now Past Most Excellent Grand Master Leonard Davis on a successful year.

Sherry and I would like to wish everyone a very happy and enjoyable summer and hope to see you on our travels throughout the summer months. We hope to see you at the York Rite session in August.

Donald





**REC Brent Helm**  
Grand King  
Lady Nancy  
brentahelm@aol.com



**REC Thomas Black**  
Grand Scribe  
xsealtom@yahoo.com

Greetings Companions:

Recently when I was in Chicago, I was riding the Chicago Metra (transit) line. I noticed as we approached the end of the line the conductor would pull at the back of the seat, and it would end up facing the other way. This was not the first time that had seen something like this, but it did give the transit line a certain degree of flexibility.

It made me think of those Chapters that are afforded the flexibility of a knowledgeable Past High Priest. These Past High Priests become an asset of the Chapter – not only in the Opening & Closing, but also in the degree work. If your Chapter has knowledgeable mentors, they can be valuable in developing this flexibility.

Fraternally,  
Brent Helm, Grand King



Greetings Companions:

I was going to say that summer is upon us, but since it was 40° last night, I will hold off on the summer greetings until next month. May was terrific, York Rite Sovereign College, KYCH, Grand Rapids Chapter #7 Festive board, and Grand Lodge all in the same month. But as a saying says in the Navy, “The only easy day was yesterday.”

June is the month of the Nevada Grand Session (11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>), my friend, REC Harold Staley, and I will be attending. Since we have no air conditioning in the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple, my Grand Rapids Masonic bodies are dark in July and August. We have already fourteen people signed up to receive their Capitular degrees at the Outdoor Degree on September 9<sup>th</sup> in Reed City. The first year we had about seventy people there, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year we had about 100 Companions and candidates. This year, we have interest from Indiana and Ohio who wish to see and experience the wonders of what an outdoor degree can mean to the Royal Arch pursuit of more light in Masonry.

July brings the Illinois Grand Session on the 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Triennial Royal Arch in Bronson, MO on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August followed by the Michigan Royal Arch Grand Session on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August. I hope some of you can meet new friends from other Jurisdictions by attending other Grand Sessions, or at the very least meet them when they attend ours.

Until I see you again, keep seeking further light in Masonry.

Tom & Loki



**Harold Staley Jr.**  
**Grand Royal Arch**  
**Captain**  
**Lady Deborah**  
haroldstaley@yahoo.com



**Lou D. Scott Jr, PHP**  
**Exec. Director of DDI's**  
**Lady Pat**  
louscjt@yahoo.com

Greetings Companions,

**Rainbows, Robins and Ramps**

The suckers have run already, and the fishermen are in the rivers hunting trout. Fishing season is here. Foals and lambs are being born. We have not seen any fawns yet.

Remember bird lovers, take your feeders down if you value them, because this is the time of year all bears will be hungry, active, and unable to resist them.

Morel and Ramp (wild onions) Hunters are in their glory this time of year as these are the first delicious treats that come up once the soil hits about 60 degrees. Please stick to public lands to avoid conflict with the natives.

Boaters, kayakers, and canoe folks please have floatation devices and keep your wits about you as the water is barely 50 degrees and can still cause hypothermia. Please be thoughtful to fish populations. Do not take spawning females off their beds until they have completed their business. Be a conservationist.

May 6th was membership day in Traverse City Chapter No. 102. A total of 7 Companions were exalted that day and 17 Sir Knights received their Commandry Orders. Right Excellent Companion Tom Black and I will be representing the Michigan Grand Chapter at the Nevada Grand Session held on June 11th & 12th.

I hope everyone celebrated Mother's Day with their Family or in thought and memory.

Fraternally Yours,  
Harold R Staley, Grand Royal Arch Captain

Greeting Companions:

**JUNE 2023 TRIPLE TAU**

23 Schools of Instruction were reported. 52% completion rate.

23 Inspections were reported. 100% completion rate.

14 Masters Pins presentation reports have been received. 32% completion rate.

97 Violations of Michigan Capitular Law have been reported and recorded.

Total miles traveled by all District Deputy Instructors and the Executive Director as of May 02, 2023, is 11,784.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louis D. Scott Jr., P.H.P.  
Executive Director of District Deputy Instructors





# Richard 'Rick' Williams

## Candidate for Election to Grand Chapter Office

***High Priest - Hooker Chapter No. 38***  
2457 Sinclair Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
Cell #: (616) 719-9146 [masonichistorianmi@gmail.com](mailto:masonichistorianmi@gmail.com)  
[recorder@saladinshrine.com](mailto:recorder@saladinshrine.com)

Dear Companions,

I am on a journey with all of you. Mine began almost twenty-four years ago when I knocked, just as you once did, on the door of a lodge and it was opened unto me. It later continued in the company of two of my Companions as we three did agree and arrived at this moment where I ask you to join your support with that of Hooker Chapter No. 38 by electing me to serve as a Grand Officer of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

My own Masonic journey has been one of the services to the Craft seeking opportunities to have influence in the institutions I hold dear. I want to be part of a team that enhances the value of our Chapters and Grand Chapter to provide to our members. I do not represent myself as having all the answers, but I do see myself as a committed part of the process of reaching inventive and meaningful solutions to the shared challenges all Chapters and Companions face.

I have received many blessings in my life, among them my education (in law and finance) as well as the leadership roles I have held on the boards of several charitable and fraternal organizations. With each of those experiences I have found an opportunity to grow as well as pick up another working tool to bring to this present fight. That fight is one for our future.

As I have visited several Chapters in the last several months. I have had the opportunity to meet many of you around the altar and be reminded repeatedly how inspiring and dedicated each of you are to our future. It has also given me the opportunity to develop my own thoughts about the opportunity to serve. I want to be a part of making a difference in our Chapters and our Masonic journey. I ask for your support to embark on this phase of our journey together at the upcoming Grand Chapter Session.

I am interested in hearing your needs, ideas, and goals for Royal Arch Masonry in Michigan. Please feel free to reach out to me so we can continue this discussion. I would love to hear from you.



*With my Lady Hannah enjoying a little Tiki*

My name is David A. Patterson, and I announce my candidacy for the open chair in the Grand Officers Line of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. I currently am the Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. I intend to run for an open chair in the Officers Grand Line of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.



**Personal History:**

Married to my best friend and life companion Lady Linda Lynn Patterson. 54 years later and she is still my absolute best friend and soulmate. My wife blessed us with two wonderful children, Pamela Lynn, and David Scott.

My work career took me in many different directions. My first significant job started in 1969 employed as a Locomotive Engineer with the Grand Trunk Western Railroad. I retired from the railroad as a Federally Licensed Locomotive Engineer in 1988. My second significant career began when I was offered a job in 1982. This job I accepted and became a Certified Deputy Sheriff with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office located in St. Clair County, Michigan. I remained a deputy sheriff until retiring after 29 years of service. I first worked in the Sheriff's Marine Division for three years then was promoted to Sheriff's Road Patrol as a certified road deputy. I worked for 15 years as such and was then further promoted to Detective for thirteen plus years. I finally retired as a Senior Detective of the Department. Status at retirement was as a Detective working Major Crimes. I am immensely proud to have been a public service employee for the citizens of St. Clair County, and to our great State of Michigan.

**Business:** Owner/Operator: Thumb Area Civil Process LLC. (38 years).

**My masonic career** begins: Blue Lodge (30 plus years):

Initiated February 16, 1991. Raised to Master Mason, Smiths Creek Masonic Lodge #491, May 1992. Mason of the Year Smiths Creek Lodge #491, May 19, 2012.

Worshipful Master 2019 and 2020 (Two Years).

Honorary Membership Marysville Lodge #498, October 05, 2017.

Plural Membership with S. Ward Lodge # 62, June 11, 2020.

Plural Membership with Evergreen Lodge # 9, November 03, 2021. Currently serving as Junior Warden at Evergreen Lodge No. 9. Mason of the year Evergreen Lodge No. 9 December 2022.

**Royal Arch Mason St. Clair Chapter No.12 R.A.M:**

Exalted as Royal Arch Mason of St. Clair Chapter No. 12 Royal Arch Masons of Michigan, January 26. 1993.

Served as Excellent as High Priest 2004. 2005, 2006, and 2019.

Order of High Priesthood of Michigan member since 2005.

**Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan (Current).**

You can deductively reason that my Masonic Life has been just that, "Masonic.". St. Clair Chapter No. 12 Royal Arch Masons of Michigan fully supports my candidacy. I too have the full support of my great and loving family. My Masonic History and work experiences demonstrate my ability to serve in the Grand Officers Elective Line. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David A. Patterson, PHP, Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil

Greetings Companions:

My name is Scott Blanchard, and I am a candidate for the Open Chair in the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons line. My wish to be a Grand Officer is to be of service to the Companions who comprise the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. More personally, I want to give back a portion of what Freemasonry has given to me. Freemasonry has offered a community of men with whom I can be social and engage in good works, men I feel comfortable in the company of and supported. I have evolved as a person through my involvement.

I wish to be a part of planning for the future of Royal Arch Masonry in Michigan while working to inspire others to become active and involved. My goal is to explore best practices and work toward the retention and engagement of current members while casting a beacon that will attract new members to the York Rite. My focus while working through the line will remain on the local Chapters. Working within the Grand Chapter, to build relationships and to determine what is working well in some areas and what tactics could be employed in our Chapters to foster engagement, satisfaction, retention, and growth. We can be our strongest through collaboration, communication, harmony, and teamwork.

I am blessed to be supported by my wife of 28 years, Dawn and our two children. Dawn has been in active support of my masonic activities, and she is a member of Pontiac Chapter No. 228, Order of the Eastern Star. My son John is an officer in two symbolic Lodges and Captain of the Host in Battle Creek Chapter No. 19. My daughter Danielle is a college student studying business and veterinary technology. I could not think of undertaking this venture without their support.

In my professional life, I am a former paramedic and currently a registered nurse. I spent 10 years in manufacturing leadership as a team leader and Captain of the Emergency Response Team. I have spent the bulk of my professional career in emergency medicine. I now work as a coordinator in the Patient Safety and Quality Department of the Bronson Hospital Group.

I have been drawn to Community service-related careers and volunteer activities including serving as a firefighter in Leroy Township, Michigan and with the Boy Scouts of America. Working as a camp safety officer was fulfilling and allowed me to mentor the Scouts. Some have gone on to careers in public safety.

My Masonic history is as follows:

Symbolic Lodge raised a Master Mason on June 9, 2016, Ira A. Beck Lodge No. 503. Worshipful Master of Ira A. Beck Lodge No. 503 for 2020-2023. I am a Plural Member of Battle Creek Lodge No. 12, and currently serving as Secretary. I also belong to Sherwood Lodge No. 421 as a Plural Member. I am a member of the Battle Creek Masonic Temple Finance Corporation, 2017 to 2023. As of 2023 I am the corporations, President. District Deputy Instructor of District 37, 2023.

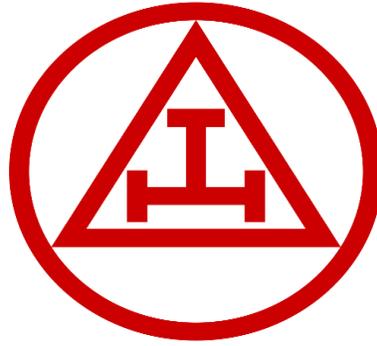
Royal Arch Masonry, I was exalted a Royal Arch Mason on February 25, 2017, in Battle Creek Chapter No. 19. I am currently the High Priest of Battle Creek Chapter No. 19.

Thank you for your consideration for this great honor. I would welcome the opportunity to answer any of your questions. I can be contacted via email at [blanchard1072@gmail.com](mailto:blanchard1072@gmail.com).

Fraternally,

Scott A. Blanchard, High Priest of Battle Creek Chapter No. 19

# Outdoor Degree 2023



## MM, PM, MEM, RA

In Reed City, carved out of the woods on the East border of the Manistee National Forest, is the home of the Outdoor All-Chapter Degree Day. Owned by a Royal Arch Mason, this 5-acre property will host the Outdoor All-Chapter Degree Day the first Saturday after Labor Day every year. This year, the outdoor degree will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

2021: 71 individuals total, 17 candidates.

2022: 97 individuals total, 33 candidates.

2023: ????.

### **Beginning at 10:00 Sharp!!!**

- Mark Master - Paw-Paw Chapter #34
- Past Master – Grand Rapids Chapter #7
- Most Excellent Master – Hooker Chapter #38
- BBQ lunch
- Royal Arch Degree – Michigan Grand Chapter
- Fun, Fellowship, & Hospitality all day long.

“Royal Arch Outdoor Degree 2023” hats are \$10, and “Royal Arch Outdoor Degree 2023” white polos are \$15. This IS outdoors in the woods. Normal attire for this degree will be what you would wear in the woods: hiking boots, jeans, perhaps a red shirt. Wear what you would like; however, this may not be the place for coat, tie, & dress shoes. Please bring a **chair**.

Follow Exit 159 on US 131. Approximately ½ mile north of 10417 220<sup>th</sup> AVE., Reed City, MI.

Follow the Royal Arch signs.

# Outdoor Degree Sign-Up Sheet

(Please print legibly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

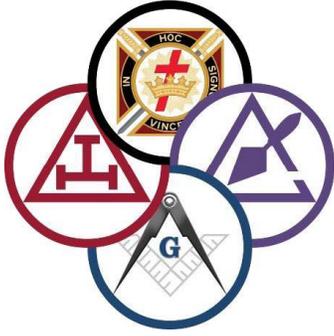
Shirt Size and quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Hat quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to “Judy Simons” for hats & Shirts. Please send in your information BY SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> for your shirt and hat. If you don’t want a shirt or hat, please sign up anyway to ensure we have enough food.

Send your information to:

**Tom Black**  
**2251 Wolfboro Dr.**  
**Kentwood, MI 49508**  
**Phone #: 616-438-8371**  
**Email: xsealtom@yahoo.com**



# 25th Annual York Rite Picnic & Charity Golf Outing Saturday, July 15th, 2023

## 25th Annual James R. Sprague Memorial York Rite Picnic

- Sprague Cabin, 2281 Martin Rd, Beaverton, MI 48612
- Noon -??? Food will be served at approx. 3:00 pm.
- The entree for dinner will be your choice of steak or chicken with a potluck assortment of sides and desserts. Water, tea, and lemonade will be provided.
- Alcohol will be BYOB.
- Please call or email to let us know your choice of entrée if you plan to attend. There are several motels nearby, so plan to come early and stay late.

## Sunday, July 16th Charity Golf Outing

- Gladwin Heights Golf Course, 3551 W. M-61, Gladwin, MI 48624
- Registration will begin Sunday at 8:30 AM and a Shotgun Start at 10:00 AM.
- Registration Fee Includes golf, cart, dinner, and door prizes. \$75.00 per player (\$70.00 if paid by 7/10).
- The event is a four (4) person scramble. Teams may be all men, all ladies, or mixed. You may submit your team, or we will be glad to put one together for you.
- There will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, as well as a “Closest to the pin” hole, and a “Longest drive” hole.
- Hole sponsorship is available for \$25. Individuals, Businesses, and Masonic Organizations are welcome to show their support!
  - o There will be mystery prizes for the most hole sponsorships sold, as well as the largest donation!
  - o All Profits will be divided equally between the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery Charities.

Questions? Contact:

David Montgomery montgomeryd48@gmail.com - (248) 207-5758

Chris Potts Christophotts@gmail.com - (517) 505-1937

Jim Rutherford norruth123@yahoo.com - (734) 262-9399



# 2023 York Rite Golf Outing Sponsor & Registration Form Sunday, July 16th, 2023



I/We would like to sponsor (individually, as an organization, or as a business) a hole or tee box, for only \$25.00 each hole. Please let the sign(s) read:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of holes sponsored \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Golf Sign Up

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(Registration Fee Includes: golf, cart, dinner, and door prizes) \$75.00 per player, (\$70.00 if paid by 7/10/2023), **(Dinner Only with no Golf \$30.00 Each.)**

Playing with: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my payment **in full of** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner will be served approx. 4:30 PM

Golf Outing Dinner Choices: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Steak Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ # of Chicken Dinners

**\*Make checks payable to Livingston Chapter No. 30 "YR GOLF OUTING" on the memo line.**

**Mail in Advance Registration & Checks to: Livingston Chapter No. 30**

**C/O Don Mayville, 148 Belmont Lane, Whitmore Lake, MI, 48189**