



# *Michigan Triple Tau*

## *Official Publication of the*

### *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons*

# **August 2023**

Dear Companions and Everyone:

I hope you are being careful during these extremely hot and humid days. We have a lot of our activities on the front porch of Masonic Pathways. Since it has been so hot, we have moved the activities to the cooler basement. Please check up on each other until we get some cooler weather.

Thank you so much to you Grand Line Officers. We will be starting a new year soon! If you think of it remember to take a new picture for the Triple Tau 2023-2024 year. Those who read the issues like to see who is in the Grand Line Officer's chair. Don't forget to smile. Good luck to all and catch you all in the September issue of the Triple Tau.

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:

This is my last article as your Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. I wish to thank the Grand Line Officers and Companions throughout the State for all their efforts in making Lady Joanne and I feel welcome and enjoyed your generous hospitality.

The past eight years have been a wonderful teaching and learning experience for both Lady Joanne and me with many memories to re-live as the years go by. I appreciate all the help passed along by all organizations and intend to use this knowledge that has been passed on to me with any organizations I become involved with in the future.

We have had easy and difficult moments over the past year, but I feel I have learned something with all of them and hopefully passed some of these lessons on to my Grand Line Officers. No matter what organization or position I am involved with I hope I can absorb new and useful knowledge and help others along the way. Lady Joanne and I will always be available to assist in any area when needed, you just have to ask.

Grand Session is right around the corner from August 15-20, hope to see many of our officers and companions at the meetings and their ladies at the luncheons to thank all of you for your help and hospitality in 2022-2023.

Lady Joanne and I wish you successful and exciting Masonic years to come.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship,  
**Donald Mayville, Grand High Priest, and Lady Joanne**





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

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## *Scribbles of the Secretary*

The month of August, dog day afternoon's, summer vacation, and what some would say, masonic purgatory. The masters of our fraternity could not have created this month's planning schedule if they had been in the same room and tried. We could not have placed all the events for this month and stacked them up on top of each other if we had tried. We will make it through this and try not to make the same mistake again. York Rite Sovereign College of North America will have ended their conclave before you read this article, So I will take this time to congratulate the new officers, governors and new OPC's that have received their office and awards. We are looking forward to the officers and our sessions in the coming year.

Michigan DeMolay will have their conclave on the 12<sup>th</sup> with further information on Facebook. Registrations will be closed I think by this writing, but you can check to make sure. The Tri-annual for General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council which is being held in Branson Missouri from the 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> will make it very difficult for some members to go to our session as an adventure.

Michigan's York Rite session will be held August 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> in the Bay City Doubletree Hotel. The Officers, DDI's and Arch Deputies will have meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Grand Chapter will have three candidates for the open chair and the bios are in the publication. We still have 13 chapters that have not completed their annual reports currently. I will not be able to process their report after the 14<sup>th</sup> as I will be at the session. I will help any secretary that is having trouble with the report if needed.

Sherry and I hope to see you at the York Rite session, if not we do hope that you have a great summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Remember communication is Key.

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 visiting my brother in Illinois, we did a road trip to visit the cemetery where my parents are buried. The cemetery was, I remember it, up on top of a steep hill with a cool north wind blowing across. We left some flowers on the grave site and then drove through the small town where my grandfather had lived years ago.

Many of the little stores which I remembered from years gone by were no longer there. They have been replaced by new stores and restaurants.

Time does bring about many changes over the years. That is not necessarily a bad thing. It does however require that we adapt and move forward.

Sincerely & fraternally,

Brent Helm, Grand King



Greetings Companions:

The upcoming events are:

August 15 – Triennial Session in Branson, MO

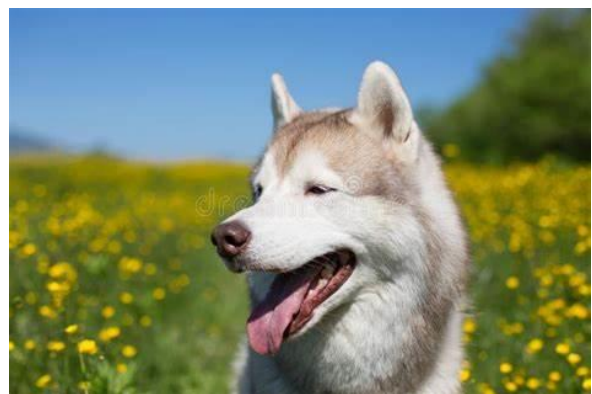
August 16-20 Michigan Grand Session, Bay City

For the 8 individuals who read my TT article:

We are taught in the Most Excellent Master’s degree to disperse light and information. Let us not forget that we should seek first the Greatest Light and ask that wisdom be added unto you. Give credit to the Greatest Light for allowing you to exist on Earth and for giving you inner light. Your talents are gifts from God, don’t waste them and do not abuse them. Thank God for all that you can do.

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**  
 lousctt@yahoo.com

Greetings Companions,

I hope everyone is having a safe and happy summertime with their family and friends. The York Rite picnic was another astounding success this year.

Companion Secretaries and DDI's, if you are having any trouble with our organizational website, please contact our Grand Secretary. It is vital that your Chapter information is properly inputted. The Annual return must be completed before the Grand Session. If the High Priest cannot attend, your Chapter needs to delegate a proxy representative to vote on important matters.

In other news, District 2 is seeking a new Deputy District Instructor (DDI). Please contact Lou Scott or one of your Grand Officers.

I would encourage all Chapters to appoint an Educational Officer to initiate group discussions and add value to your meetings. They can plan events, outings and give presentations. In my experience this greatly benefits the members present and draws others in who have been absent.

In closing, I hope to see you at the Grand Session on August 17-19.

Fraternally Yours,  
 Harold R Staley, Grand Royal Arch Captain

Greetings Companions:

**August Report 2023**

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

23 Inspections were reported. 100% completion rate.

14 Master's 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 July 08, 2023, is 12,726.

**Special Note**

I am seeking a replacement for MEC Jeff Heaven, as D.D.I. for District #3.

Please have anyone interested contact me immediately.

Fraternally,  
 Louis D. Scott Jr., P.H.P.  
 Executive Director of District Deputy Instructors  
 Grand Chapter of Michigan  
 Royal Arch Masons  
 810-229-9294  
 lousctt@yahoo.com





# 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 to 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. (Picture 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.

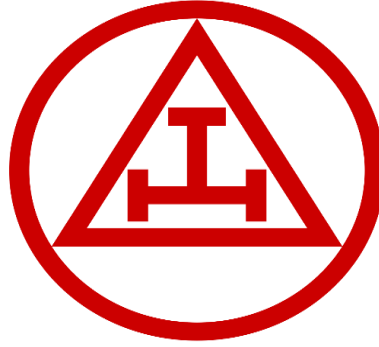
Thank you for your consideration for this great honor. I would welcome the opportunity to answer any of your questions. I can be contacted via email at [blanchard1072@gmail.com](mailto:blanchard1072@gmail.com).

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