



# *Michigan Triple Tau*

## *Official Publication of the*

### *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons*

#### *November 2020*

Dear Companions, All!

November! Time for family gathering (safely). The fall leaves are turned and some trees are finished showing off their leaves. Fire arm deer season comes on November 15<sup>th</sup>! Please get your deer by weapon not your vehicle. Time to get the crops in and put the garden to bed for the winter.

This month's issue has some points to ponder. A few reminders of awards that need nominees. A salute to Veteran's Day. A poem for our veterans whom have passed. Please read the Secretary's Scribbles section for upcoming events. Our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Eldin Miller, has asked you to reach out to those who are still quarantined or not able to come to Chapter due to the pandemic of COVID-19 virus.

The Masonic Pathways has stopped the outside visitations due to the cold weather and because our county has a high number of positive COVID-19 tests. We all hope this pandemic will be over soon. I don't know of anyone who have not become virus weary. Something my Mother would say "This too shall pass.". Have a safe and healthy Thanksgiving.

Fraternally,  
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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Greetings Companions:

How fast time flies. November is here. A time to give thanks for what we are grateful for and this year has taught us that life, family, and freedom must be cherished, loved, and protected.

I would like to thank all who were able to attend the Grand Chapter educational seminar in Mt. Pleasant. Many things were learned and discussed. The ritual committee is looking into ways to improve the Chapter degrees. There were talks about possible all degree days in the future. Health and safety were a key topic and it was agreed that all Companions should abide by all local safety precautions with social distancing, masks, etc. The health and safety of you, our fellow Companions, and your family is our utmost concern.

With some of our Brothers and Companions family and friends unable to attend Lodge, family gatherings, or even to go out due to health concerns. I am asking all Companions to call or send a letter to someone that maybe in that predicament. The feeling of being alone or withdrawn from family and friends can be damaging to mental health as well as physical health.

Fraternally,  
Eldin Miller, M.E.G.H.P





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## **Secretary's Scribbles**

Tick Tock, tick tock, tick tock, goes the clock  
It's so rhythmic it's almost soothing, it lulls you into a false  
Sense of security. Tick another coffee, Tock another meeting.  
Tick another lunch, Tock another quite night in.

And before you know it, you're so numb from the comfort  
Of routine that you didn't feel a thing as that great adventure  
Called life slipped away like the sand between your fingers

But fear not, adventure has other plans, Roll with them.  
Embrace adventure, grasp it with both hands, until your  
Knuckles turn pale. Don't let comfort take you down.  
Rise above routine and monotony. Ride shotgun with  
fear and the unknown, Don the uniform of the restless.  
Get uncomfortable being comfortable.

And here's the reward for discomfort. Your heart  
Will be fuller, your compassion deeper, your horizons  
wider and your memoir way, way better. Before you die,  
make sure you have lived.

***And never forget, you only get one spin.***

*Author Unknown*



I opened with this limerick, as for me it has a lot of truth to it, and in times of trouble, it keeps me on an even keel.

October has been interesting, to say the least. Just when we were beginning to get back to something close to normal, the game changed again. Having said that, we are starting to go forward with some plans for degrees.

Several degree days have been set aside for the coming year. There will be two in February, one in March, and one in May, along with Yooper Council in June. Stay tuned for the flyers with information and dates, the information will also be posted on the web site.

We are full-blown into fall, with a chill in the air and frost on the ground in the morning. This my favorite season. I like to go north when I can and take walks in the woods to hear the sounds and see the colors close up. I sometimes bring a bow or a shotgun to do a little deer hunting or upland bird hunting. That is the idea but, in reality, that is just the excuse I use to get into the woods.

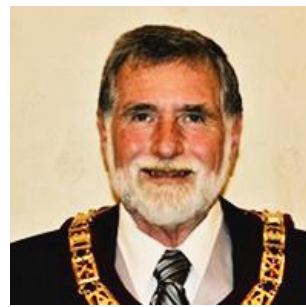
The season is fast approaching of installations of lodges, which means time for the master's pins. I am working on the chapter distribution of the pins and should have them out shortly. I will be sending them to the Secretaries this year, so check your mailbox in the next couple of weeks. I hope that you get a chance to enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends. I also hope that each one of you stays healthy and safe, to be able to enjoy the coming holiday season.

Donald



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**Companions Throughout Michigan:**

Where has the time gone? Seems like last week was the start of Summer. Sunny and warm with the sun beating down and warming your face. Waves crashing on the beach where your toes were buried in the sand while you held a cool drink in your hand, perhaps with a little umbrella hanging off the rim. Today told me it was not summering anymore. On my travels, I saw some snow this morning on a car heading south. I think they had a glimpse of what is to come and they are heading out before it gets too cold. I know some of you love the winter and think that there is nothing better than sitting on a frozen lake for hours at a time while your fishing lines freeze into the hole you carved out only minutes ago. To those of you, seek help! As you probably guessed, I am not one of them. Bring me summer sun and sand between my toes.

Fall is here and now is a great time to get out to your Chapter for fellowship and brotherhood. Summer is gone and winter is not here yet. Get together and go over ritual, share stories of great times you had in Chapter, recall the feeling you had when you were asked for the “loan of a quarter of a dollar.” Today is the day to contact a Companion you have not spoken to in God only knows when. Don’t wait for the Chapter to reach out to you, reach out to each other, and renew that spirit you felt when you first petitioned to become a Royal Arch Mason.

See you on our travels!

Fraternally,  
Jeff Heaven, Grand King

**Greetings Companions:**

September Educational Seminar has just concluded. I would like to thank all of you that attended and remind those that missed this event, please don't miss next year's because you'll be in the dark and not in the light of upcoming information.

Our guest speaker was PGM Robert P. Conley, who informed us of “The Live Better Program” and the wealth of knowledge you can acquire this presentation by calling 800-321-9357. A special presentation of the Kirby Award was made by Michael Whiting, PGHP, to Larry A Inscho, PGHP, with Wayne Turton, PGHP, observing from Alma by way of Zoom.

Please ask your DDI or Grand Chapter Officer for a Scholarship Program application. The Royal Arch Mason Foundation is awarding three (3), Fifteen Hundred ( \$1,500.00) Scholarships.

Please send in your nominations for the Bronze or MSA Award. Every Chapter has a worthy Companion.

The form can be downloaded at mi-ram, [mi.org](http://mi.org) web site.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship  
Don Mayville, Grand Scribe



## Veterans Day

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2020 occurs on Wednesday, November 11. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.”.

Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day.

The [Treaty of Versailles](#) was signed on June 28, 1919, marking the official end of [World War I](#). Nonetheless, the armistice date of November 11, 1918, remained in the public imagination as the date that marked the end of the conflict.

One year later, in November 1919, U.S. President [Woodrow Wilson](#) proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The day’s observation included parades and public gatherings, as well as a brief pause in business and school activities at 11 a.m.

On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at [Arlington National Cemetery](#) near [Washington](#), D.C. On the same day the previous year, unidentified soldiers were laid to rest at [Westminster Abbey](#) in London and the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

On June 4, 1926, Congress passed a resolution that the “recurring anniversary of [November 11, 1918] should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through goodwill and mutual understanding between nations,” and that the president should issue an annual proclamation calling for the observance of Armistice Day.

By that time, 27 state legislatures had made November 11 a legal holiday. An act approved May 13, 1938, made November 11 a legal Federal holiday, “dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day.’.

In actuality, there are no U.S. national holidays because the states retain the right to designate their own, and the government can only designate holidays for federal employees and the District of Columbia. In practice, however, states almost always follow the federal lead.

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.” President [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The next development in the story of [Veterans Day](#) unfolded in 1968 when Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which sought to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees—and encourage tourism and travel—by celebrating four national holidays (Washington’s Birthday, [Memorial Day](#), Veterans Day and Columbus Day) on Mondays.

The observation of Veterans Day was set as the fourth Monday in October. The first Veterans Day under the new law was Monday, October 25, 1971; confusion ensued, as many states disapproved of this change, and continued to observe the holiday on its original date.

In 1975, after it became evident that the actual date of Veterans Day carried historical and patriotic significance to many Americans, President [Gerald Ford](#) signed a new law returning the observation of Veterans Day to November 11th beginning in 1978. If November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the federal government observes the holiday on the previous Friday or following Monday, respectively. Government offices are closed on Veterans Day.

Great Britain, France, Australia, and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Great Britain, and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

In the United States, an official wreath-laying ceremony is held each Veterans Day at the [Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#) in Arlington National Cemetery, while parades and other celebrations are held in states around the country.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day—a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.





**In Flanders Fields**  
BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.