



# *Michigan Triple Tau*

## *Official Publication of the*

### *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons*

## November 2021

Dear Companions and Everyone:

Hello again! It is so nice to start another month. November is the beginning of the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays. October went out with a bang. Yes, we that live at Masonic Pathways (The Big House) are shut down and eating in our rooms again. This routine is getting very old, and we all want this over with. Last time this happened some of us lost weight. Not from being sick, from not doing anything so why eat? You can only play computer games, watch TV, or read a book just so long.

I am sorry but I had 2 late articles that I just could not squeeze into this issue. There is a new section from the Grand Commandery and from my fun Sister Tammy Dankenbring. They have some interesting things to say and a few pictures plus a video of the reception held here (Masonic Pathways-Doig Chapel) for one of the adult Jobies.

Thank you all for your articles and pictures. This is your Triple Tau, and I am happy to put it together for Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. You must put a period somewhere to finish a project. So, I will sign off and everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Fraternally,  
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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Happy November Companions!

October was a busy month and I enjoyed seeing many of you in my travels. Below are some of the highlights from the month.

The York Rite Joint Reception was held at the Doherty Hotel Conference room on October 10th. It was a great event and for those of you that were in attendance, had you ever seen a slice of pork that big before? I sure hadn't! I want to congratulate Most Illustrious Grand Master Ken Simons Jr. and Right Eminent Grand Commander Gary Paquet on their speeches at the reception. Well done, it's an honor to be in such fine company.

October 10th was the Royal Oak Centennial celebration, the same day as the Joint York Rite Reception so obviously, I was not able to attend. Congratulations nonetheless to Royal Oak Chapter for 100 years of Royal Arch Masonry. I am sure that you all had a great event and I wish you well over the next 100 years.

On October 23rd your Grand Officers and I traveled to St. Ignace to present, and congratulate, Companion Harold Staley Jr. with the Bronze Award. A true honor for such a supporter of the York Rite. We know that he will continue to serve the craft and spread the word on Capitular Masonry. The next time you see Companion Harold make sure to shake his hand and congratulate him on receiving the distinguished, and well-deserved, Bronze Award.

I hope to see many of you on my travels in November.

Fraternally,  
Jeffery A Heaven  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest





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

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## *Scribbles of The Secretary*

We have made it through ten months of twenty twenty-one and nothing seems to have changed very much. I would have thought things would have gotten better, but at this stage I think I would be better off to just stop thinking. We started the year with shortages on almost everything, and from the looks of things we are going to end the year the same way. With this we only have fifty-four days till Christmas, are you getting excited yet? The forecast that I have seen we are going to end the year the same as we started it with shortages on everything that we need for a comfortable lifestyle. Like toilet paper, \$5.00 gas, higher food bills, higher heating bills and everything else.

October was not all bad, some of the Grand Officers made the trip south of the boarder to visit the Grand Chapter of Ohio to get our fair share of abuse from the south. We had a good time at the session and as much as I hate to say it, it was nice to see the companions that we did not have the pleasure of seeing for a couple of years. I had a full weekend with KYCH on Saturday and the York Rite Grand Officers banquet on Sunday.

We had the pleasure of presenting the Bronze Award to Harold Staley, Jr. the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> in St Ignace. The dinner was great, and the speeches were short, and the conversations were a pleasure. Anytime I can get to the 'upper', it is a pleasure; I do not get enough time to get up there as much as I would like.

The first thing to remember in November is to turn your clocks back on the sixth. We would hate to have you missing things because you were too late. You will be having your Lodge elections in November, with the new officers being installed in December or January. The Chapter Secretaries will have the Master's Pins in plenty of time for you to present the new Masters with their 2022 pins. The thing to remember about presenting the Master's Pins is that you are representing your Chapter, and this is the only way you can get members to join, if the Lodges see some of the work that you do, it becomes easier to explain other things your Chapter does in masonry and the community.

The one thing at the end of the month is to enjoy the day with family and friends, the 25<sup>th</sup> is Thanksgiving. Sherry and I wish each one of you a happy and joyful day spent with the ones you love. Enjoy the day and the people you are with and leave the worries at the curb. The year has been stressful enough as it is. Take the day off and enjoy the people you are with, in a lot of cases you may not see them but once a year, if they are coming from out of town.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

Donald and Sherry



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**Greetings Companions:**

The fall weather is upon us, and this brings out the Grand Chapter Officers and DDI'S making their Chapter Visits. GREAT NEWS: we are making these visits to assist in any way we can to help build your Chapter. So Please-Help us to Help you, we serve to be of service to your Chapter.

Your Chapter could nominate a Companion for either the MSA or Bronze award. The applications can be found in the download section of the Grand Chapter web site. The Grand Chapter Foundation is giving three \$ 1,500.00 scholarships to students of Companion's family to further their educational goals. The application can be found in the download section of the Grand Chapter web site.

Remember Veterans Day is November 11th, the day is set aside for us to commemorate and honor all those who have served or are currently serving, us and our country.

Thanksgiving Day is November 25th, a lot of us take this for granted with a day of family and friends enjoying a meal of turkey with all the trimmings but let us not forget the less fortunate. Some ideas include food bank donations or helping at a food bank. give the gift of life, DONATE BLOOD. Speak with your local Pastor, to see if there is a family in need.

Above all Enjoy the up-coming Holiday Season with Family and Friends.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship,  
REC Don Mayville, Grand King

**Greetings:**

Ex. Companion Harold Staley, Jr. was named as the General Grand Bronze Award recipient in 2020 for Michigan. The Grand Officers headed up to St Ignace this month for a reception and dinner to honor Ex. Companion Harold Staley, Jr. While we honor Ex Companion Harold, we should remember those Companions who have worked in the quarries of our local Chapters. To nominate a Companion for these awards, go to the Grand Chapter's web site and download the application. There is but one General Grand Chapter Bronze Award and the three Meritorious Service Awards have been established and are given out each year. The applications are due back to the Grand Chapter Secretary by April 2022.

Fraternally,  
Brent A Helm, Grand Scribe





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**Eric Zervos**  
 State Senior Councilor  
 DeMolay International  
 Jurisdiction of Michigan

Greeting Brothers:

I hope this communication finds all in good health. Well, summer is about over, and the fall season is upon us with all the special holidays that come with it.

My name is Steve, Grand Royal Arch Captain, my position is the start of the moving line in the GRAND CHAPTER R.A.M. of Michigan. I am learning to work more efficiently with my Companions in the moving line. It is time to support the needs of the Chapters. This being my first letter to the Triple Tau. In the future compositions I will be out lining articles about York Rite and more of the Royal Arch Capitular Degrees. I will close for now

Fraternally,  
 R.A.C. Steve J. Eliopoulos, G.R.A.C.



Greetings,

My name is Eric Zervos, and I am the current State Master Councilor of DeMolay in the jurisdiction of Michigan. Last time, I wrote a brief explanation of DeMolay and its seven precepts. Now, I would like to discuss a bit about our history. The name DeMolay is derived from the great hero and martyr Jacques DeMolay, who was the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar. While he was Grand Master, the Knights Templar were accused of treason by King Phillip of France. DeMolay and his three preceptors Geoffrey de Charney, Godfrey de Goneville, and Hughes de Peralde were condemned to life imprisonment. After 13 years of torture and brutal persecution, he still refused to give up the location of the rest of his brothers, their treasure, and the secrets of the Templar Order. The King was so fed up with their refusal however that during one of their hearings the King demanded that DeMolay and Geoffrey de Charney be burned at the stake. The fact that Jacques DeMolay was able to face such harsh persecutions for such a long time and still never betray the trust that was reposed in him by his fellow brothers sets an example for all of us to follow.

If you wish to see a dramatization about Jacques DeMolay and his final moments, we perform the DeMolay Degree where we show a depiction of DeMolay's and his preceptors' final hearing. State degrees have been planned throughout the term, so I hope to see you there.

Yours in Solidarity,

Eric Zervos, State Senior Councilor  
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Sir Knights and Ladies:

November is a time for reflection, giving thanks, and counting the many blessings bestowed upon each of us. At least, that is what we normally do. But these are not normal times, are they?

In this time of Covid, I'm sure many may not have this thinking of blessings and giving thanks on the forefront of their mind. I certainly cannot blame you and to minimize the difficulty of the last 20 months would be irresponsible of me. It has been a difficult time. I'm sure all who are reading this right now know of someone who became ill, maybe even yourself, and for others, you know of someone who passed away. It may have been because of the virus, another illness or from a full life. I am not immune to this loss. I lost my mother this year. There is not a day that goes by that I do not think of her. However, now that time has marched on, I can reflect on the blessing that I had her in my life when I did. I know there are many who were not as fortunate as me, so I will consider myself blessed.

A few days ago, I had the privilege to be part of the banquet for the officers and families of the York Rite of Masonry. I had the opportunity to speak, a task of which I do not particularly feel comfortable with, but one that does go with the territory. In it, I reflected on the act of holding the banquet. Over the years, I have heard a growing chorus of individuals who bemoan having to attend this. Do we really need to have these dinners? I would argue, yes! And I say so for this reason. We just found out how life as we know it can change in an instant. We were going on our merry way, doing our thing and boom, it all came to a screeching halt. For several months we were isolated from each other. It goes against our general nature as human beings and certainly within our fraternity to not be around our family and friends or our brothers and sisters. Something as simple as human interaction ended and Masonry as we have come to define it through our meetings, ended.

These dinners, while they are an opportunity to say thank you to the officers for their service, are symbolic of something deeper and much more lasting. It's an opportunity to give a handshake, receive a hug, catch up on what's going on in each other's lives, tell stories and reminisce. It's a time to meet new people, rekindle friendships and build one of our tenants, brotherly love, and friendship. Without opportunities like this, I feel we would be depriving ourselves of one of our foundational ideals of what it means to be a Mason and part of a fraternity.

At this dinner, I also reiterated what the responsibilities of a Grand officer are. It is not an option to not visit each of our respective Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. It's not an option to not visit our sister jurisdictions. It's not an option to not go to functions within our own organization, specifically Commandery, but also to those across the whole of Masonry. (Continued on Page 7)



This is where we are introduced to new brothers and sisters, develop new ideas and programming, build relationships, and make life-long Friends. Without partaking in the foundations of our fraternity, we are depriving ourselves of the riches of what it means to be a Mason.

Some of my dearest friends are those who I would not have met had I not become involved in Masonry. I would not know most of you had I not sought “further light in Masonry,” visited sister jurisdictions or gone to visit those Chapters, Councils and Commanderies throughout the state. My life would not be as full, enriched and blessed had I not continued my journey in Masonry. These dinners provide a forum to strengthen that bond. Seeing and speaking to you feeds my soul and recharges my battery to do more for you. I don’t know if it does the same for you, but I certainly hope on some level it does.

I use these examples from my experience to remind all that we need to look beyond our immediate situation or just the surface of our day-to-day activities. Life is not always easy. There will be difficult times. There are things we have control over and others, not. However, never lose sight of the blessings around us, especially those that may not be so obvious. So, to all those who say these are unprecedented times and “not normal,” I say, look again.

If you are blessed to be with family or friends this Thanksgiving, give an extra little squeeze of the hand as you gather around the dinner table to say grace. Let your eyes linger for just a moment longer onto the faces of those you speak with. Capture the love of those present and reminisce on those who are no longer able to be with you but remain in your heart. If you do, the difficulty of the last 20 months and before will fade just a bit. You will clearly see the blessings around you and for the abundance of things to be thankful for.

Until our paths cross again, safe travels to wherever the journey takes you!

Sir Knight Gary L. Paquet, PC, KYGCH  
Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Knights Templar of Michigan

**November Inspections –**

For a full list of inspections and details go to [KT-MI.ORG](http://KT-MI.ORG)

***November Birthdays of Grand Officers  
and Ladies: The happiest of birthdays  
to each of you!***

- 12<sup>th</sup>-Lady Linda Murphy
- 17<sup>th</sup>-S.K. Tommy Amidon
- 21<sup>st</sup>-Lady Beverly Bladen
- 21<sup>st</sup>-S.K. William Herlihy
- 22<sup>nd</sup>-S.K. Lloyd Darling
- 23<sup>rd</sup>-S.K. Adam Wygant

## Youth Group Updates With Tammy Dankenbring, Grand Guardian Job's Daughters of Michigan

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### Michigan Job's Daughters Dream BIG



Job's Daughters International BOT is currently asking that the Bethels limit their cross-Bethel activities and only meet within their "Bethel Bubbles"... So, hosting a state, or multi-state event has proven to be challenging. But we attempted it on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Masonic Pathways, Doig Chapel. Bethel #52 St. Clair Shores hosted a virtual honoring for Diane Bloch, Supreme Guardian. They were allowed a minimal number of protem officers to help, which were filled in with Grand Bethel members. Then they asked that well-wishers send in videos or written greetings for Mom Diane. Once received the video production team put together a script intermingled with the video submissions, and it came out beautifully. Mom Diane cried, happy tears, throughout the entire event. Kind words were said, gifts were given, and we were able to feel a part of the Masonic World again for that little while.

Thank you to all that help make this event possible. It was new to us, it was tricky to figure out, but it was well worth of the work. Thank you to JoNeil Conley, for your vision on this event, Briahna (Grand Bethel Honored Queen) for the most adorable skit, Keziah (Bethel #52's Honored Queen) for hosting, Masonic Pathways, their staff and the Michigan Mason's for your support and patience when it came to putting this all together. It truly takes a village.

**Would you like to see what we did?** [Click here](#) to go to YouTube and watch the replay of the day. *Fast forward 12.5 minutes to the start of the event.* If you have trouble opening this link, please go to the Michigan Job's Daughters Facebook page to access the link.

We hope to be able to attend more invents soon, but if not, watch for our videos and on-line contests we are holding for our members. Remember, Job went through many trials in his life, and we are being tried now. Remain true to the organization and we will come out stronger on the other side of this test.

Fraternally,  
**Tammy Dankenbring, CMP**