



Michigan Triple Tau
Official Publication of the
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons
December 2020

Dear Companions And Everyone:

Merry Christmas! It will be different this year because we are all COVID-19 weary. The Masonic Pathways in Alma, Michigan has been in several levels of lockdown. We are at the strickest level again due to a few residents tested positive for the virus. I can't thank the Activites Department enough for entertaining us while we wait for better days and eat in our rooms again. Eating in your room used to be a treat but it isn't as much any more.

I thank the Grand Officers and other submitters for doing a great job of getting the articles in. This helps me so much. They have some good ideas on how to make the most with our time at home. St. Clair Chapter is picking up the banner and will host a Birthday Celebration for our first President, Brother George Washington. Please take the last page off of your printed copy and send in to this very unique York Rite tradition. Sounds like a wonderful time and wear your mask.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This year several of us are going to make sure the next year comes in. We are all going to watch the ball drop at midnight and put this last year behind us. Happy 2021!

Fraternally,
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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Merry Christmas Companions

The holiday season is upon us. A season of joy, hope, peace, and faith. A time to be with friends and family. Although we may not be able to spend the holiday season as we did in the past, we are still able to rejoice in the true meaning of Christmas. May that be your light that guides you this season and through your life.

December and January are a very busy time of year in Masonry as you know. Congratulations to all the newly installed Worshipful Masters and officers of the Blue Lodge. To all Royal Arch Masons that will be attending an installation this year or presenting the Master's pin, remember social distancing, wearing of a mask and obey all rules set down by Grand Lodge, also local and state level.

I would also like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

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





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

Scribbles



Here it is the end of the year 2020 and what a year it has been. I cannot begin to try and explain what has happened in the world of fraternal relations this past ten months. The last large function I attended was the weekend of March 14. We were in Ft. Wayne, Indiana for the East-Central Conference of Grand Chapter RAM International. The members of East Central had planned our year, with the members telling when their sessions were to happen. I came home with a full schedule and began making reservations for the year, thinking that this was going to be a full year. Within a week we here in Michigan, were in a lockdown (the first of many), in which our world in Masonry was turned upside down. We were no longer able to meet in person. This led to a long cessation of firsts, in terms of how we were and are conducting business. We as Grand bodies became inventive as to how we could do our business. Technology lent us a hand and we learned new ways to communicate with each other. We proved that you could teach old dogs new tricks. Because of what we learned we may never be the same. We have a new set of tools in our bag that may bring some of our members that are unable to travel at night back to Lodges, Chapters, and Councils by using virtual meetings in conjunction with our face-to-face meetings. We did have some high points this year when we could gather. The education seminar was a success, along with the Grand Masters reception. We also had a class of six for the Order Night of York in the York Rite College.

We are starting to plan events for the coming year, I would like to think that we are going to get back to some degree of normalcy in the coming year. There are several degrees planned for February, March, May, and June at this time but for the most part, they are not firmed up at this time. The only one that is firm is Tri-state in Byron, Ohio at this time, and that is the last Saturday in February. Commandry will have an all order day the first weekend in March, which will be in Angola In. I will keep you posted if more come on board, remember to check the web site for more events at www.ram-mi.org.

I am sitting here writing this article on Thanksgiving Day, I know before you chastise me it is called executive privilege. I don't usually take it because it does put Jane in a bind. I thought that this year we have not a lot to be thankful for but upon reflection, that is not true. Sherry and I are first off thankful for our health, our family, all of our friends, companions, and their ladies We are also thankful for the roof over our heads and the food on our table. We are sorry for the friends that have departed this past year and we feel the deepest sympathy for their families. We are blessed for every day that we spend with friends and family. Having said that, Sherry and I are hoping that every one of you has a BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WE HAVE HOPES FOR A JOYFUL AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

DONALD AND SHERRY

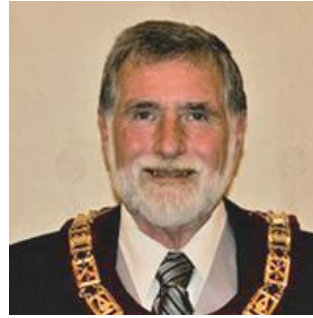


REC Jeff Heaven

Grand King

Lady Sandy

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REC Don Mayville

Grand Scribe

Lady Joanne

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Companions:

Well just when you thought it was safe to go outside again the state of Michigan shuts down. Here we all go on round two of this pandemic. I for one am sure sick of the word pandemic. Unless you are talking about the board game "Pandemic" by Z-Man games. Our family has been playing this game a lot lately. It is a unique game where you are playing against the game itself, trying to stop the infection before it takes over the world. Sound familiar? It is a fun game worth playing. I won't go into all the details but if you are interested, check it out for yourself.

What a change this year has been for all of us. I expected to be out running the roads visiting Chapters and in and out of the state but instead, I have been at home waiting, like the rest of you, for this virus to run its course. My family and I all have the benefit of working and schooling from home so we have been taking advantage of that. Now that the weather is turning cold we are enjoying it even more. It's nice to not have to get out and scrape frost off the windows in the morning. Some of you don't have that luxury and have to be out in the public, trying to stay safe and continue living your life. To those of you out there, I for one thank you for keeping our systems running and our economy moving along. Without you, it would be chaos out there.

Everyone hang in there, we will get through this.

Fraternally,
Jeff Heaven, Grand King



Greetings Companions:

Thanksgiving has just passed, hope all of you had the time to spend it with family and friends. On a personal note Lady Joanne and I have just returned from Seattle, Washington. We had a great visit with the two granddaughters and of course their parents.

December will be a busy month for our Chapters with Lodge installations to attend and Master's pins to present. Please do your part to make the Royal Arch presence known by visiting and showing your support for the new Worshipful Masters.

December, the month we celebrate the Birth of our Savior, and the end of one year, and the start of a new one. Companions, as we gather with family and friends to share memories of the past year events, and exchange greetings and possible gifts. Let us not forget the Companions and Widows we have lost touch with, pick up the phone or better yet go visit them, bring Holiday Greetings along with brotherly love and friendship.

Let us not forget the less fortunate, especially the children. Remember this adage, it is far better to give than receive. Reach into your heart and pocketbook and give a helping hand to those in need.

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





REC Brent Helm
Grand Captain
of The Host
Lady Nancy
brentahelm@aol.com

**George Washington's
 Birthday Celebration**

Held on

February 20, 2021

Greetings Companions:

As we come to the close of another year, we can all agree that none of us could predict a year ago what would come. In the lecture of the third degree, we are reminded that time, patience, and perseverance will accomplish all things. Certainly, we have been asked to persevere during this year. Hopefully, we find ourselves coming out on the other side of the circumstances with which we have been dealt.

One might also add to the previously stated virtues of "optimism". This time of year is a time of joy and optimism. As Grand Officers, we are moving to this new year with optimism. We already see plans underway for several degree days next year. We know, however, that we must always bear in mind the health and safety of our members and candidates as we move forward.

It is mine and Nancy's hope that everyone has a joyful holiday season. May the new year prove to be prosperous, eventful, and rewarding in every good way.

Fraternally,
 Brent Helm, Grand Captain of the Host



Greetings Companion Secretaries,

As most of you know, Caro Chapter hosted the George Washington Birthday dinner for 100 years. Unfortunately, they are no longer able to host this fine event. St. Clair Chapter has decided to continue the tradition by hosting a birthday celebration for Brother Washington on Saturday, February 20, 2021.

Attached to this email is an invitation letter, dinner reservation form, and motel accommodation information. If you would be so kind, please read the attached information at your stated Convocations in December and January, whether you meet in person or online. We would like to share this information with as many Companions as possible.

If you are no longer the Secretary of your Chapter, please pass this information along to the current Secretary or High Priest of your Chapter. Thanks in advance for your help in getting the word out.

We at St. Clair Chapter wish each of you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving. Wear your masks and stay safe.

Fraternally,
 Bill Herlihy, PHP





St. Clair Chapter No. 12, Royal Arch Masons St. Clair, Michigan

November 1, 2020

Dear Companions,

For 100 years, Caro Chapter hosted a dinner every February in honor of George Washington's birthday. It was always an enjoyable occasion, with good food and great Masonic fellowship. Sadly, Caro Chapter is no longer able to host this wonderful event.

With that thought in mind, St. Clair Chapter No. 12 has decided to continue the tradition, and host a birthday celebration in honor of our first President. A traditional turkey dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at the Marysville Masonic Temple, 1569 Michigan Ave., Marysville, Michigan. A brief program will follow dinner.

Reservations are required, with advanced payment. There will be no ticket sales at the door. Please see the enclosed page for a dinner reservation and motel accommodation information.

The dinner reservation deadline is February 1, 2021.
The motel room reservation deadline is January 18, 2021.

Companions and Ladies, please plan to attend and help carry on one of Michigan's great York Rite traditions. We look forward to seeing each of you.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
David A. Heise, High Priest



George Washington Birthday Celebration Dinner Reservation Form

Name: (Please print) _____

Chapter: _____ Number: _____

Number attending @ \$20 per person: _____

Total enclosed: \$_____ **There will be no ticket sales at the door**

Please make checks payable to **St. Clair Chapter No. 12.**

Send reservations with payment to:

St. Clair Chapter No. 12, R.A.M.

Terry G. Baker, Secretary

875 Wadhams Rd.

Kimball, MI 48074

The dinner reservation deadline is **February 1, 2021**

(clip here and send upper portion with check)

Motel Information

A block of rooms has been reserved for Friday, February 19, 2021, and Saturday, February 20, 2021, at the SUPER 8 Motel, 1484 Gratiot Blvd., Marysville, Michigan.

The following special rates have been arranged:

2 double bed standard room - \$89.99 per night plus tax

1 king bed standard room – \$84.99 per night plus tax

Rooms are on a first-come, first-served basis. Make your reservations early. When the rooms are gone, they're gone. If you need special accommodations (e.g. handicap accessible room) please make arrangements when you make your reservation. All rooms must be guaranteed with a credit card. Make your room reservations directly with the motel at (810) 364-7500.

Please mention the Group Name **Royal Arch Masons** when making your reservations.

The room reservation deadline is Monday, January 18, 2021.

Please note that this is not the same date as the dinner reservation deadline