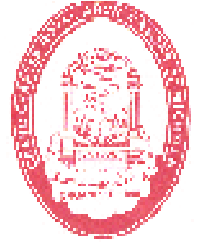
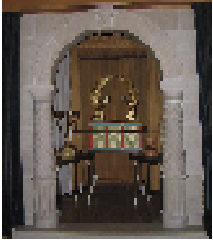




MICHIGAN TRIPLE TAU

NOVEMBER 2010

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan
17635 Manitou Beach Road
Addison, Michigan 49220-9773
www.ram-mi.org



Official Publication of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan
Capitular Growth in Michigan through Masonic Education

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMITTEES

There is more to Capitular Masonry than the holding of stated convocations and the conferring of degrees. Our job as Masons is to build character in men, and as Capitular Masons to instill in ourselves and others those principles of fraternity, morality, and spirituality which are characteristic of the Chapter. These purposes are not completely served by the bare routine of Chapter activity. Means must be provided to maintain interest among the members and to diffuse light and information. Intelligent use of committees will help in this matter, as well as serving to take some of the load from the High Priest.

The Chapter Bly-Laws probably specify several committees which are to be appointed by the High Priest. In addition, it is in his prerogative to appoint other committees for special purposes, and he should not hesitate to do so as the occasion demands. Consideration should be given to the desirability of having committees on membership, the sick, publicity, social affairs, Masonic education, York Rite Cooperative activities, delinquent dues, etc.

Of course, simply appointing several companions to serve on a committee is not enough. The need for a committee should be real, and its functions should be well defined. The chairman should be one of the Chapter's "live wires," and the other members should be selected for their industry and imagination. If a few key committees can be set up in this way, the High Priest's job will be much easier and the success of the year's activities assured.

Royal Arch Chapters Officers Manual, Revised 1968

TITLES

Regarding the use of titles, just remember that every member of a Masonic Body has a title and nothing else should be used in addressing him at a Masonic function. Every Freemason of the York Rite is either a Brother, Companion, or Sir Knight. In the Chapter, of course, the members are addressed as "Companion." The High Priest is referred to as Excellent High Priest and is addressed as "Excellent Companion." Past High Priests are also referred

to as "Excellent Companion."

The Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is referred to as Most Excellent Grand High Priest and is addressed as "Most Excellent Companion" as are all Past Grand High Priests.

The remaining Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter are all referred to as Right Excellent and then the title of the Office to which they hold for example "Right Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner."

To confuse the issue just slightly when a Past Grand High Priest is serving in an office of the Grand Chapter he is referred to as "Most Excellent Companion (give name) the Right Excellent Grand (give title) ie: Treasurer."

Any Companion who leaves the Officer line of the Grand Chapter after having been elected and installed as Grand King or Grand Scribe shall forever after hold the title of "Right Excellent Companion" and shall be referred to as Past Grand (King or Scribe.)

ALTAR DRAPING

The Sacred Altar must not be covered or draped by any National or any other flag at any time. Resting upon the Altar is the Holy Bible the Great Light in Masonry sending out its rays of faith, hope and charity toward all mankind.

Before reading the names of departed companions the High Priest shall raise the Chapter. Then he orders the Captain of the Host to see that the Altar is properly draped for thirty days. The Captain of the Host commands the Principal Sojourner to drape the Altar. The Principal Sojourner accompanied by the Royal Arch Captain advances to the Altar. The Royal Arch Captain holds the Holy Bible or otherwise assists in placing the cloth of mourning on the altar. (Never spread the cloth over any part of the Holy Bible) the Chapter remains standing until the sound of the gavel in the East.

It is in keeping with the occasion to have prayer by the Chaplain, or some other well versed companion (Clergyman) or even a Hymn sung, either by the entire Chapter or a soloist.



Robert E. Cooper

Grand High Priest

101 20 Mile Rd., Cedar Springs, Mi. 49319
616-696-4847 bcooper@mkassoc.com

"GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND EAST"

Greetings My Companions,

RARA (Royal Arch Research Assistance) is the Philanthropy of the General Grand Chapter, which we support. It issues research grants to various Institutions of Higher Study in efforts to improve the problems of Central Auditory Perception in children. These disorders cause life long disabilities for those affected. As a goal for this year we, in Michigan, are trying to raise \$3000 toward this valuable and needed cause. This represents less than \$1 per member. If each chapter would participate we would attain our goal. Please consider a donation, either from your Chapter and/or from you as a member. The children would be very grateful. You may send your contribution to Carl S. Hobday, PGHP, 8093 Hawkcrest Dr., Grand Blanc 48439-2430. Make the Checks payable to "RARA".

Up coming events to be aware of are:

December 17, 2010 – 6pm – Banquet & Reception Dinner for MSA Winner – Charles Collins of Zion Chapter # 171, Middleville. Contact Glenn Tussey, Sec.

January 22, 2011 – Grand Chapter Education Seminar – All Day – Comfort Inn, Chelsea, Mi. Contact David Dossette, Grand Scribe. Open to all members. David has a terrific program Planned.

January 23, 2011 – Royal Arch Widow's Degree – Pawpaw Chapter # 34 - Noon. Contact Richard Stange, DDI#20

January 29, 2011 – Reception of Grand Master of the 1st Veil, Richard James, Midland Chapter # 169. Contact Richard H. Koch II, Sec.

Best Wishes and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It is an honor and privilege to be serving the Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in my travels this year.

"Enhance the Secret"

Thank you and Fraternally,

Brothers, Companions and Sir Knights of Michigan:

Are you a veteran and a member, or not a member, of the American Legion? It is my pleasure to inform you that we have an all Masonic Post. American Legion Post 88 is one of the oldest Posts in Michigan. We, however, do not ever have enough members to own our own building, but we do meet regularly.

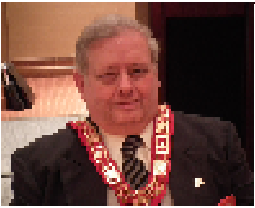
I would like to invite, and encourage, you to come and meet with us.

We will be meeting four times during 2011. We are currently meeting at the Berkley American Legion Post in Berkley, Michigan. If you are interested please call or email the following officers.

Paul C. Johnston, PGHP and Commander, 734-395-1006, email: pcj01@comcast.net

Raymond Anderson, Adjutant, 586 268-5749, email: rayandy203@yahoo.com.

Come out meet and greet with your Masonic American Legion Brothers.



**Michael Whiting's
King's Korner**

615 Melrose,
Pontiac 48340-3116
248.373.7081

mikewhiting@webtv.net

Companions:

I have noticed in my travels, not only through Royal Arch Masonry, but Masonry in general a decline in the pride we once had in our Degree Work. Not all Chapters and Companions are guilty of this, but a lot are. As our membership has declined and our mentors who gave us this great gift of Capitular Masonry have passed on to the Celestial Lodge, who is there to pick-up the torch and give us that further light, which all Masons should strive for.

Too many times I have observed Companions who have agreed to be Officers in their Chapters and still have to read the opening and closing. I can understand when someone has to fill a station at the last minute having to read it. But then they use outdated rituals instead of the new authorized ritual which have been provided to each Chapter.

I enjoy my travels to the various Chapters and meeting new Companions as well as friends made during the last 31 years of my Masonic journey. The one thing I would like to see is more pride in each Chapter and it all starts with each Companion. One of the first lessons I was taught when I joined the Lodge was that the more I put into Masonry the more I would get out of it. I truly believe in this statement.

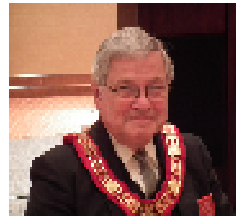
If each of us would put in a little extra effort in learning some ritual, serving on a committee or just attending a meeting each Chapter would benefit and Capitular Masonry would grow. It all starts with pride in our work, pride in our Companions and pride in our Chapter. What are you willing to do for Royal Arch Masons?

This time of year may we all be thankful for the many blessings bestowed upon us. Lady Jeanne and I wish for you and your families have a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

“Enhance the Secret”

The Enhance the Secret Program of the Grand Chapter has been up and running now for a period of over two years. It is established to be sponsored by one Chapter within the State and all other Chapters in the area can participate by each bringing Masons and their families from around the area and learning about what the Royal Arch and York Rite are all about. The program has been put on by primarily the Grand Officer's, however, it can be presented by your DDI and your Chapter, with proper instruction.

The Enhance the Secret Program together with the Masters' Pin presentations are excellent venues for enlightening the less informed and thereby gaining new petitions. “Spread the Word!”



**David Dossette's
Scribe's Scratches**

13669 Hannan
Romulus 48174
734.941.3056

dbldfotog1@aol.com

The Saga of Fritz the Frog Continues....

When we left Fritz the Frog, he was sitting in a tub of water in the middle of the woods. The tub had once been a center of fun and life, a “hot spot” but as the waters cooled, the friends left, jumping out to go on to more rewarding adventures. Fritz, true to his code as the “Alpha Frog”, stayed on, hoping to hold things together until a rescuer might come along.

Sitting in the cold water, Fritz reflected on his state; should he go on and leave the tub or should he stay and hope that a miracle would occur. Quite suddenly, Fritz realized that he was being addressed by two of the newest frogs in the tub. It was Todd and Ted Tadpole. Fritz recognized them because when they came to the tub he had been reminded of he and his brother Franz.

They wanted to know why everyone was leaving the tub and what they could do change it. They thought it was a great tub and everyone would really enjoy it if they could see it and try it.

Fritz thought long and hard and finally, he spoke. “It’ll be hard work. We have to change the dynamics around here. If we can warm things up again then we’ll see folks start to come back.”

With that he hopped out of the tub and Todd and Ted jumped out with him.

“Here is the first lesson that you’ll need to learn. The fire under the tub is just about out. We need kindling and more fuel for the fire. If any one of us tries to carry all the wood necessary to build the fire, he’ll soon get tired, burned out and probably quit. But if all 3 of us work, the work that is necessary will get done more quickly, and all 3 of us can jump back in and enjoy the tub together. It’s called TEAMWORK. Moreover, you’ll be surprised how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit, it’s sort of like working without hope of fee or reward.”

MSA = MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Have you and your Chapter decided whom you are going to honor by nominating them for the Meritorious Service Award this coming year?

The material for 2011 nominations will be coming out in the near future. You can and should begin preparing your write-up immediately.

Do not hesitate to begin your research and write-up.



Paul C. Howell, PGHP, Grand Secretary, Lady Beth, Ass. Gr. Sec.

17635 Manitou Beach Road, Addison, MI 49220-9773

Paul -- 517.262.5140 Beth -- 517.262 4070

meghpmi97@comcast.net auntiebabe@comcast.net

Grand Chapter Web Site: www.ram-mi.org

Secretary's Scribbles



Companion Secretaries:

It is the Holiday Season for all of us to enjoy and to share with others. It is that time of the year that we all work toward keeping that light shining bright and beautiful. Let us use this season to spread and share the light of Masonry (Brotherly Love and Affection) to all. If only everyone in the world were a Masonry and living by the principles taught therein, then we would finally achieve that goal of peace on earth. Of all mankind getting along with and accepting each other, regardless of their ethnic background, the color of their skin, their social or economic status. What a beautiful world this would be.

In keeping with the idea of spreading the word, it is not only necessary to spread it outside of the Masonic Community, but within and we in Michigan have an ideal platform for doing so. We have the Masters' Pins which we present to the new Master of the Lodge, generally at his open Installation. At this time we can spread the word of Capitular Masonry and also spread petitions to all of our Masonic Brothers that are not members of the Capitular Rite. Take advantage of this excellent opportunity and advantage that we have.

Remember, the Commandary so aptly puts it that every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar, every Mason should complete his Masonic experience and become a Royal Arch Mason (York Rite Mason). You need to spread the word.

Who is it in your local area that is well known within the Masonic Community? Who is it that the local Mason refers to as "Mr. Mason" for your lodge or district? I'll be that he is a member of your Chapter. Name a class after him and get his brothers, friends all to join the York Rite in his name and in his honor. It can and does work when it is properly planned and prepared for.

The weather outside is getting frightful. Cold and I saw snow in the air today. Let the warmth in our hearts spread to those around us. Spread the word of the York Rite and you will be helping to spread that warmth of Brotherly Love and Affection. You will be helping to spread the warmth of education and enlightenment of the York Rite.

God Bless each of you and stay well

Let me know what I can do to help you.

Keep a smile on your face, a chuckle in your voice and love in your heart.



Sara Szabo

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The Michigan Triple Tau

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Place your Advertisement within this publication and spread your word and work.

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P. 3 Johnson, Paul C., PGHP change email to paulcj01@yahoo.com

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Belonging to the family of our late
E. C. James H. Miller
Contact: **James Miller, Jr., PM** at
734.649.4832
If you might be interested
(Incorrect phone Number listed last month.)

Mt. Clemens Council No. 8

22000 E. 11 Mile Rd.
St. Clair Shores 48081-1670
Announces it 150th or
SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
with an
All Council Degree Day
beginning at 1 pm
Dinner at 6 pm
Followed by a *reconstituting of the Council* by the
Grand Council Officers.

CALENDAR

*** indicates what has been past practice. No official notification yet!

December & January Masters' Pins Presentations with appropriate presentations and petitions.
Dec. 17 – M.S.A. – Reg. 2. Zion Chapter 171 for Charles Collins.
Jan 8 – Council All Degree Day. 150th Celebration. Mt. Clemens Council
Jan 21 & 22 – Gr. Chapter Ed. Seminar – Chelsea
Jan 23 – RA Widows Deg. – Paw Paw - 12 Noon
***** Jan 29 - Richard James Reception**
Feb 5 – Chapter/Council All Deg. Day - * Flint**
Feb 19 – George Washington Dinner – Caro
Feb 26 – Chapter/Council All Deg. Day – Tri-State
Mar 5 – Chapter/Council All Deg. Day – Schoolcraft
Mar 11&12 – East Central – Grand Rapids
Mar 19 – All Order Day – Battle Creek
***** Apr ? – David Montgomery Rec. MSA**
Apr 23 – Council All Deg. Day – Mason
***** Apr 30 – Robert Powers Rec. MSA**
May 21 – KYCH – Alma Pathways
May 23 – 25 – Grand Lodge – Mt. Pleasant
*****Jun 11 – Chapter All "Outdoor" Deg. Day**
Aug 6 – Grand Chapter Picnic
Aug 7 – York Rite Charity Golf Outing
Aug 16 – 20 Grand York Rite Sessions – Lexington Hotel, Creyts Road, Lansing,
Aug 25-27 – General Grand Chapter/General Grand Council Triennial Conventions – Raleigh, NC
Feb 26 – Chapter/Council All Deg. Day – Tri-State (Mich., Minn., Wisc.)

Grand Chapter
Pre-paid Membership

Each Companion of the Grand Chapter should purchase a Pre-paid membership in their Chapter and the Grand Chapter of Michigan. These pre-paid memberships will perpetually assist the Grand Chapter in having funds available for future growth and development.

Some people believe that if you are a "Life Member" you shouldn't take out a "Pre-Paid" Membership. Not true. Once you are a Life Member then you continue to assist and support your beliefs in the benefits and traditions of the Royal Arch.

Go to the Grand Chapter Web Site and download the form. Send it to the Grand Chapter Office through your Chapter.

Support into perpetuity the Grand Chapter, your current Companions and future generations.

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Foundation

Every Chapter should make it a goal to raise and contribute a minimum of \$1.00 per member to their Grand Chapter Royal Arch Foundation. It is another Perpetual Financial Growth for you and your Successors. From their Income this year they are contributing up to \$5,000 to support your programs. This Foundation hopes to assist your Grand Chapter is having to raise its per-capita to future generations.

Zion Chapter No. 171 Royal Arch Masons

Invites all to a
Reception and Testimonial Dinner



HONORING
EXCELLENT COMPANION
CHARLES E. COLLINS, SR.



Recipient of the
Michigan Grand Chapter RAM
Region #2 – Meritorious Service Award

Friday, December 17, 2010
Immediately following the Lodge Installation of Officers which
begins at 6 pm

Middleville Masonic Lodge #231
123 E. Main St., Middleville, MI 49333

Dinner provided by Masonic Center Association
Entertainment by TK HONORS CHOIR

Reservations to:
Glen Tussey, WM, PHP
604 Green Meadows Dr.
Middleville, MI 49333-8145
269-908-7115
gctussey@yahoo.com

or
George H. French
203 Robin Rd.
Middleville, MI 49333-0404
269-795-9414
gfrench55@charter.net

E.T.S. = Enhance the Secret

The Enhance the Secret Program was prepared for you and your Chapter/Lodges by the Grand Officers of your Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons.

The first year the program was performed by your Grand Officers. Last year with the assistance of some DDI's it was continued to be presented. Now some Chapters have indicated a desire to use the program on their own.

The Program is established to assist the Chapter in going into the Lodges or bringing the Lodges to them to work toward the education of the Brothers about the Royal Arch.

The Program generally begins with a dinner provided for all in attendance. This dinner is not intended to be the main course. The main course is the Program which follows it.

The Program developed is a short skit, approximately 10 minutes, along with a DVD presentation on the York Rite followed by a question and answer session and concluded with handouts to all present, including a copy of the DVD, materials and a Chapter (York Rite Petition.)

More information contact:
Brent A. Helm, Grand Treasurer
810. 245.8756 or brentahelm@aol.com

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Improve and spread Masonic Light and
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Through the General Grand Chapter you can purchase a Perpetual Life Membership for only \$25.00. This membership will help your General Grand Chapter by placing monies into a fund and thereafter using the income produced to assist the financial welfare of your General Grand Chapter. It also assists the Grand Chapter of Michigan, because thereafter you purchase the Grand Chapter no longer has to pay the General Grand Chapter for per capita for you or your membership.

You can send your Check to the General Grand Chapter c/o Larry E. Gray, General Grand Secretary, 2250 N. Greenfield, IN 46140.





Richard E. James,
Grand Master of the 1st Veil
 1107 Hound dog Trail, St. Helen 48186
 989.389.1486
 rejames1107@yahoo.com

- Uphold/maintain the principles of good government and oppose divisive /degrading influences
- Practice positive relationships give and accept help when needed
- Value the internal qualities of a man over financial success
- Strive to participate with the fraternity and live a brotherly life
- Remain good at heart
- Act with honor and integrity in everything you do
- Believe in a Supreme Being and keep faith as the center of life
- Strive to leave the world a better place then when you entered it

The following is a synopsis, overview, of an article written by REC James for publication in the Triple Tau. Should you desire to read the article in its entirety then contact either the author himself, Lou McCray the Chairman of the Education Committee or Richard Hitch the Chairman of the Instruction Manual Committee.

AN INVESTIGATION OF MASONIC INSPIRATION

Companions/Brothers, in my first article I wrote about how Masonic ritual provides us opportunities for philosophical growth, reinforces Masonic rationale, thought and values, provides us knowledge of God, knowledge of the nature of man, and guidance for making decisions. My second article was a logical progression of the first, advancing the reader from an individual philosophical perspective to what in my opinion represents good Masonic leadership. This current article again progresses on from the previous two with the intent to explore how some great revolutionary leaders were inspired by the tenants of Masonry and shaped our world. The article is a little longer than the first two, it's a fairly complex project to make a case for Masonry's influence in inspiring a man's patriotism or selfless sacrifice, to show that his actions occurred as inspired by our philosophical beliefs and not collectively as part of some grand Masonic conspiracy. The Masons selected represent several locations throughout the world and were chosen as a sample to remind and inspire us about the historical importance of our fraternity.

Premise of the investigation The primary premise I would like you to consider is that these revolutionary leaders were inspired by Masonic philosophy resulting in patriotism, selfless sacrifice, a desire to right a political injustice and at times taking up the cause of revolution and changing the world we live in dramatically. A secondary premise is to demonstrate to the reader through similarities and differences among revolutions that these leaders were inspired by the philosophy and not as a part of some grand Masonic conspiracy to take over the world (as is at times suggested). To begin this investigation we need to clarify and expand on the premise by providing a synopsis of the attributes of Masonic philosophy and the causes of revolution.

Masonic Philosophy Freemasonry is actually an ancient fraternity or brotherhood (not a religious system/theology) that holds the hope that each Mason taking our obligations has the responsibility to make our world a better place. It is said, "Freemasonry encourages good men to become better men" by promoting a life dedicated to service to others, high ideals and benevolence. Freemasonry as an organization consists of men from all faiths, cultures, political systems and ideologies. As such the ideals of our organization have always been as follows:

- Be considerate of different religious, social and political views

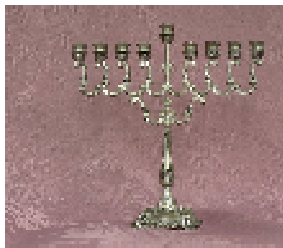
Keeping ... identified ... Masonry's basic philosophical beliefs in mind let's review and consider the causes of revolution in politics. Specifically, the factors that might have in some cases inspired individual Freemasons to adopt a political ideology and inspire them to become patriots and even engage in revolution! As Freemason's we are taught to embrace philosophy and education so let's give the Greek philosopher Aristotle a chance to shed light on another essential component involved in our premise.

After reviewing Aristotle he then led us to understand various Historical personalities from around the world and their being influenced by our Masonic philosophies.

- 1.) George Washington a revolutionary and political leader of the United States.
- 2.) Marquis de La Fayette, French aristocrat and military officer.
- 3.) Napoleon Bonaparte, military and political leader of France and Emperor of the French.
- 4.) Simon Bolivar, Venezuelan military and political leader.
- 5.) Benito Pablo Juarez, Zapotec Indian and five term president of Mexico
- 6.) Dr. Jose Rizal, Filipino patriot and advocate for reforms in the Philippines.
- 7.) Andres Bonifacio, Filipino nationalist revolutionary and founder/leader of the Katipunan movement.

Along with the causes and effects of various revolutions: The American Revolution; The French Revolution; Revolutions in Latin America, South America and the Philippines; The Russian Revolution; The Chinese Communist Revolution.

REC James leads us to the following assertions: There could have been no Masonic conspiracy. First, these revolutionary leaders although being inspired by Masonic Philosophy, Enlightenment ideals,... still held to individual differences in the practice of democracy. Second, most of these Revolutionaries upon overthrowing their oppressors quickly turned their attention to domestic issues and discouraged international involvement. Third, had a Masonic agenda really existed, why wait to spring it, when they had the most opportune time? And Fourth our fraternal ideals and our Masonic structure argues against that kind of organization. We were then and continue to be today, a fraternity of individual choice with the most worthwhile agenda, for each one of us to live ideals consistent with Masonry.



Hanukkah Menorah also known as the Hanukklya

Hanukkah (**Hebrew:** ‏ ‏ Tiberian: Hānukkāh, nowadays usually spelled ‏ ‏ pronounced [‏‏] in [Modern Hebrew](#), also romanized as **Chanukah**), also known

as the **Festival of Lights**, is an eight-day [Jewish holiday](#) commemorating the rededication of the [Holy Temple](#) (the [Second Temple](#)) in [Jerusalem](#) at the time of the [Maccabean Revolt](#) of the 2nd century BCE, Hanukkah is observed for eight nights, starting on the 25th day of [Kislev](#) according to the [Hebrew calendar](#), which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the [Gregorian calendar](#).

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a very special [candelabrum](#), the nine-branched [Menorah](#) or *Hanukiah*, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. The typical Menorah consists of 9 branches. An extra light called a [shamash](#) (**Hebrew:** ‏ ‏, "attendant" or "sexton")^[1] is also lit each night for the purpose of lighting the others, and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest. The "shamash" symbolically supplies light that may be used.

Forgetter Be Forgotten?

My forgetter's getting better,
But my rememberer is broke
To you that may seem funny
But, to me, that is no joke

For when I'm 'here' I'm wondering
If I really should be 'there'
And, when I try to think it through,
I haven't got a prayer!

Oft times I walk into a room,
Say 'what am I here for?'
I wrack my brain, but all in vain!
A zero, is my score.

At times I put something away
Where it is safe, but, Gee!
The person it is safest from
Is, generally, me!

When shopping I may see someone,
Say 'Hi' and have a chat,
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, 'who the hell was that?

Yes, my forgetter's getting better
While my rememberer is broke,
And it's driving me plumb crazy
And that isn't any joke.

CAN YOU RELATE???

LIVE, LOVE & LAUGH
A LOT



Christmas or **Christmas Day** is a [holiday](#) observed generally on December 25 to commemorate [the birth](#) of [Jesus](#), the central figure of [Christianity](#). The date is not known to be the actual [birthday](#) of Jesus, and may have initially been chosen to correspond with either the day exactly

nine months after some early Christians believed [Jesus had been conceived](#), the date of the [winter solstice](#) on the ancient Roman calendar or one of various ancient [winter festivals](#). Christmas is central to the [Christmas and holiday season](#), and in Christianity marks the beginning of the larger season of [Christmastide](#), which lasts [twelve days](#).

Although nominally a [Christian](#) holiday, Christmas is also widely celebrated by many non-Christians, and many of its popular celebratory customs have [pre-Christian](#) or [secular](#) themes and origins. Popular modern customs of the holiday include gift-giving, [music](#), an exchange of [greeting cards](#), [church](#) celebrations, a special meal, and the display of various decorations; including [Christmas trees](#), [lights](#), [garlands](#), [mistletoe](#), [nativity scenes](#), and [holly](#). In addition, several similar mythological figures, known as [Saint Nicholas](#), [Father Christmas](#) and [Santa Claus](#) among other names, are associated with bringing gifts to children during the Christmas season.

Happy, Safe and Enjoyable Holiday Season to ALL

*May all that you want, desire but more especially deserve
Be Yours!!*