

Michigan Triple Tau

DECEMBER 2011

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan
233 E. Fulton St.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

Paul Howell, Editor
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Official Publication

of the

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan

www.ram-mi.org



Capitular Growth in Michigan through Masonic Education



Michael J. Kinney, PHP

St. Clair Chapter No. 12
Region 1 Recipient

Michigan Meritorious Service Award



At a Dinner in his honor!
Sunday, October 23rd, 2011
with

MEC Michael Whiting, GHP

Congratulating him.

In attendance were most of the Grand Officers along
with Companions, Family and Guests of EC Kinney and
St. Clair Chapter.

IRS AND GRAND CHAPTER

"The local chapter filings with the IRS for the
current year have been done. If you receive any
correspondence from the IRS, please forward a
copy directly to me."

Grand Treasurer Brent A. Helm

198 Saratoga Trail
Lapeer, MI 48446-8756 or brentahelm@aol.com

RIVER RAISIN CHAPTER NO. 22

&

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER NO. 37

Cordially invite you to the Reception Dinner
Honoring the election of

Michael Roberts

Right Excellent Grand Master of the 1st Veil

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Reception 3:00 p.m.

Dinner 4:00 pm

Mt. Vernon Chapter #37

1660 Samaria Road

Samaria, MI 48177

Buffet Dinner with 3 entrees:

Roasted Chicken, Fruit Glazed Ham

Vegetarian Mostaccioli

Tossed Salad, AuGratin Potatoes, Butter Corn

Green Beans

Desserts: Fruit Tarts and Cake

\$25.00 per person

Reservations **WITH REMITTANCE**

N.L.T. December 21, 2011

Checks payable to: **Mike Roberts**

Send to: Mike Roberts

432 East 3rd Street

Monroe, MI 48161

734-735-9436

Indicate your name, address, phone #, email address
Titles & whom you are representing.
Names of those attending with you.



Michael Whiting

GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Lady Jeanne

615 Melrore, Pontiac 4830-3116

248.373.081 mikewhiting@webtv.net

"GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND EAST"

Working together we will accomplish great things.

Greetings Companions:

As I travel through this Grand Jurisdiction I have been greeted and received wherever I've been. Sometimes they ask if I want to be received. You should never ask a Grand Officer if they want to be received. It is a part of Royal Arch Ritual, just like it is in every other part of Masonic Ritual. It only takes a couple of minutes and should be practiced like any other ritual. It should never be an awkward experience for you or the officer to be received.

Many have been worried about our Non-Profit status with the I.R.S. I have been assured by our Grand Treasurer that the proper paperwork has been filed. I apologize for any inconvenience or anxiety this may have caused you. On another note the Grand Chapter records and equipment have finally all been moved to the Grand Rapids Temple. My thanks to all who participated in making this move happen, but more especially, Don Galway, Stephen Striggow and Bob Cooper.

The next project that I would like to see done is that the records of the Grand Chapter are scanned to a more manageable level. The Royal Arch Foundation purchased five scanners several years ago to facilitate this project. Although it will take some time to accomplish this goal, I'd like to see some progress on this project. There are boxes upon boxes to be gone through. Contact our Grand Secretary if you are willing to assist.

Our Grand Secretary has enough to do running the Grand Chapter Office. I'm looking for someone to assist on the Grand Chapter Website. It needs to be more compatible for the Companions. Too many times it is unavailable to the membership. I'm asking for someone to either assist Bob or take over the website.

My travels this month have included the Reception for the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star. I was joined by our Grand King David Dossette, Past Grand High Priest Larry Inscho, our wives and Larry's Mother, Shirley. The Grand Officers accompanied me to St. Clair Chapter #12 for the dinner Honoring Michael Kinney for receiving the Meritorious Service Award for Region #1.

I have also traveled to Tecumseh #42, Washington #15 and Romeo #17. I was able to assist Palestine #159 as Royal Arch Captain and Union #55 by doing the Working Tools when they conferred the Mark Master Degree on two candidates. Although I got there late I congratulated Oakland #5 and Royal Oak #167 on exalting five companions at their Joint Inspection (two for Oakland and three for Royal Oak). I was surprised and humbled when Mt. Vernon #37 voted me an Honorary Membership in their chapter. Sunlight Chapter #189 had a practice which was something they wanted to do, to get it right before their Inspection. I thanked them for their efforts to improve their ritual work, something we could all benefit from.

Don't forget the presentation of the Masters Pins to the newly installed Masters. Just as important is to get those reports in as soon as possible. Don't just wait on any report that is due. For the Grand Chapter to run smoothly we need all reports in as soon as possible.

Enough of my ramblings for now, I'll save some for the next article. The Grand Chapter wishes you the very best this Holiday Season be safe in your travels. May you and your loved ones have a Merry Christmas or whatever Holiday you may be celebrating and a Joyous & Prosperous New Year!

Fraternally,



David W. Dossette
King's Korner

13669 Hannan
Romulus 48174
734.941.3056
dbldfotog1@aol.com



James M. Kiefer
Scribe's Scrawlings

3147 Sunny Creek Ct.
Hudsonville 49426-9027
616.662.0288
vetjim@sbcglobal.net

The Ritual Work

“I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not. I will lead them in paths they have not known. I will make darkness light before them and crooked things straight. These things I will do unto them and not forsake them...”

Is there anything that is more frustrating than to be on the road, and suddenly be on an unfamiliar road and find it rough and rugged, or worse under construction with those dreaded orange barrels? At a time like this, not even the best of GPS' can rescue you, you are at the mercy of those construction gods and your only hope is that you can go on to the end of the construction or over the rough patch without getting lost, losing too much time or having too many bumps and bangs to the car.

In many respects, our ritual is like that. When we get a candidate for our mysteries, we may be anxious to “get them through” the degrees, pressing on at any cost. Suddenly, we find ourselves, in unfamiliar territory. The old companion that did that particular part is no longer available; we have to “make do”. The degree work is cobbled together, some, much or perhaps most of the work is read, and at that, not read very well. At the end of the work, we congratulate ourselves and the candidate is gracious and thanks us for showing up to do the work. Does all of that sound familiar?

The Chapters are annually inspected in the work. Over the past few years, we have included opening in the Royal Arch Degree and receiving Grand Officers as part of the inspection, along with that portion of the degrees which the Grand High Priest might choose. Ask yourself, can my Chapter open in the Royal Arch Degree without books?

Can my Chapter receive Grand Officers without the books? What has the Annual Inspection taught my Chapter?

Obviously, introducing the candidate to our craft is an important function. He deserves the best that we can do. Preplanning the degree work and the cast for the degree work is paramount to having a truly good presentation. Practicing the ritual, when there are no candidates will keep us sharp and promote pride and teamwork in the ritual work. Visiting other chapters can not only promote fellowship but also promote pride and craftsmanship in the ritual. In the past, area degree teams have been suggested as a solution to ritual problems and they certainly are an alternative to poorly presented work, but they are not the final solution to ritual problems in the chapter, that solution remains in the hands of the companions to study,

Companions

The weather has changed and the Holidays are upon us. I hope you all enjoy them and observe them in the way they were meant to be celebrated. Remember that this is the time to be thankful for what we have and to help others who may need your assistance. There is nothing more fulfilling than to help someone in need.

I have been making visitations to many Chapters in Michigan and thank you for your welcome and hospitality. It is one task as a Grand Officer that I truly enjoy. Meeting and having discussions with you all has been very rewarding and educational. Thank you for your support and for being dedicated to our Royal Craft. Our work in the quarries is needed everywhere. Your Grand Officers will assist you wherever we can.

The Grand Chapter Education Seminar this year will be held in Grand Rapids at the Best Western Hospitality Hotel at 5500 28th Street SE on Saturday, January 28th, 2012. Reservation and room rates details should be posted elsewhere in this publication. I hope to see many of you there and is open to all Royal Arch Masons in Michigan.

If you are traveling South for the winter, I pray that you have a safe journey and a speedy return. Whether or not your Chapter is dark in the winter, I hope you are considering a worthy Companion for the Meritorious Service Awards in our state. Forms will be sent out to your Secretaries in late December. Please fill them out fully, out of respect for your nominee, so that we may fully consider his details.

May God bless you all,

The Ritual Work (Continued)
practice and present the work.

There is a happy ending to most road constructions; because at the end of the construction, the orange barrels are picked up, carted away, stripes are painted, the lights turned on and a smooth, broad road is opened for everyone to travel on. The analogy is obvious, if we are diligent in our studies and practice, industrious in our labors in the chapter, and proud of our presentation, then the candidate will not just be giving us lip-service when he thanks us for the impressive work we do, and a broad smooth way will be prepared for future chapter building.



Robert E. Cooper, PGC

Grand Secretary

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons
of Michigan

233 E. Fulton St.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

616.893.4426 bcooper@mkassoc.com

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

Secretary's Scribbles

Companions:

May I remind all Chapters to be sure to present your Master's Pins, The Lodge installation is a great time to do this, and introduce the Royal Arch to our Masonic brothers.

Chapter's if you are having Degree work, please let me know. From time to time I receive requests from Chapters inquiring as to dates, times and locations of Degrees.

Secretaries please make sure you report your activities to me promptly, so that I may update the Grand Chapter Data Base. The monthly reporting forms may be downloaded from the Grand Chapter WEB Site or your may call or E-Mail me to obtain them. As you review the Directory (which is downloadable from the WEB site) if you find any errors, omissions, spelling errors, etc. please let me know.

We have good news regarding our Non-Profit status with the IRS. May I refer you to this month's article from the Grand Treasurer.

If your Chapter or anyone would like to contribute to the Royal Arch Foundation, please contact Wayne Turton the Foundation President. Please consider a contribution to the Foundation, the Foundation monies assist the Grand Chapter in it's operations and help defer increases to the members.

If you would like your Chapter's events listed on the WEB Site's Calendar Page, please let me know 2 weeks in advance. Also, list location, time, and contact information.

Happy Holiday to each of you!

**General Grand Chapter
Bronze Award Dinner**

Honoring

Ex. Comp. Frank J. Huey

Kent-Newaygo Chapter No. 38

Rockford Masonic Temple

1430 Northland Dr., Rockford 49341

Reception 5:30 Dinner: 6:30

Saturday, May 19, 2012

CALENDAR

(*) = To be confirmed



Dec 21 – Hanukkah

Dec 25 – Christmas

Dec 31 – New Years Eve

Jan 13 – DeMolay Winterfest

Jan 14 – Reception, Mike Roberts, GM1V, Mt.
Vernon Chapter 37, Samaria

Jan 27-28 – Gr. Chap. Ed. Seminar, Gr. Rapids

*Feb 4 – All Chapter Degree Day (Flint/Saginaw?)

Feb 18 – Gr. Officer's/Foundation Meeting – Caro
George Washington Dinner – Caro

*Mar 3 – All Chapter Deg. Day – Schoolcraft

Mar 4 – Unity Meeting – All Bodies - Okemos

Mar 9-10 - East Central Regional, Merrillville, IN

Mar 11 – Daylight Savings Time “Spring Forward”

Mar 17 – All Order Day – Battle Creek

Mar 24 – MSA Rec. – Theodore Hall - Mason

Mar 31 – All Chapter Deg. Day – Mackinac 134,
St. Ignace

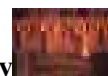
April 8 – Easter

Apr 22 – Gr. Council Educational Retreat

Apr 27 – All Deg. Day – Council – Mason

May 19 – KYCH - Mason

May 19 – GGC Bronze Award Dinner – Frank Huey
Rockford Temple



May 28 – Memorial Day

*June ? – All Chapter Outdoor Deg. Day



July 4 – Independence Day

*Aug 4 – Grand Chapter Picnic – Sprague's Cabin

Aug 5 – Joint YR Golf Outing – Gladwin



Aug 22 – Grand Chapter – Bay City

Aug 23 – Grand Council – Bay City

Aug 23 – Grand Banquet – Bay City

Aug 24&25 – Grand Commandery – Bay City

A more complete Calendar can be found on the Web Site of each of the Grand Bodies. Go to the Sites to find out what is happening within the state.

Should you need more information: contact the Secretary or Presiding Officer of that local organization. They can give you much more specific, detailed information.

Directory corrections have been posted to the Directory on the WEB.



WILLIAM A. SIEBERT
Grand Royal Arch Captain

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A NOTE ON St. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

December reminds us of an occurrence which was considered part of “the holidays” by our Ancient Companions. In fact, the Winter Solstice was probably the first holiday celebrated by Stone Age men. The ancient shaman kept his control of the village by promising the elders that the sun would indeed return and become warm enough to grow crops – the the villagers repented of their sins, of course. The early Christian Church picked the date of Christ’s birth to piggyback on the Roan Saturnalia festival and the birthday of Mithras; it was much easier to maintain attendance and secrecy when everyone else was out celebrating.

Chapters are permitted by Section 219 A. 1. of Michigan Capitular Law to hold a Stated Convocation of St. John’s Day each year. This applies to both solstices, but this is the winter season, so we will concentrate on that individual who referred to himself as “the disciple that Jesus loved.” St. John the Evangelist was probably a teenager at the time of the Crucifixion; the boyish individual in DaVinci’s Last Supper claimed to be Mary Magdalene by Dan Brown’s Leigh Teibing is more likely St. John. He would live into the Second Century and become a great teacher with disciples of his own. Many at the time of John’s old age thought him proof that the Second Coming was imminent, because Christ promised that some would still be alive when He returned.

St. John is responsible personally for two of the most important books in the New Testament. About A.D. 90, he wrote the Book of Revelation, that greatest of imaginative works that promises us the final triumph of Good over Evil and the wonders that will occur at the end of history. Ten years afterward, when he was in his nineties himself, he wrote his Gospel, describing the true nature of Jesus and his teachings. It is a philosophical and theological work, unlike the other three synoptic Gospels. After his death, his followers published some epistles under his name; these are called the “pastoral” letters because they deal largely with church organization.

The Masonic symbolism of John the Evangelist is that of education and knowledge, as opposed to the fiery passion represented by John the Baptist. We are called upon to be lovers of the arts and sciences, and to ground our passions in history, fact and experience, rather than buildings that were patterned after the ideas of the prince of abbot who wanted them built would eventually fall to the forces of gravity and weather. It was their duty and purpose to apply the rules of architecture to the ideas of their patrons, so that they would last for the centuries that these great building have lasted.

It is my hope that you will meet with your Companions on December 27th as you are allowed by the Grand Chapter, and to celebrate the season in the same manner as the ancients. It is also my hope that you and your family will have a happy and prosperous 2012, and many years thereafter.

Grand Chapter Committees !!!
“OFFICER’S WORKBOOK”

Each Committee of the Grand Chapter is charged with the responsibility of reviewing the sections of the “Officer’s Workbook” which pertains to them and compiling all suggested for improving and updating.

You may correct, change, add or remove as your Committee thinks would be best for all Chapters and Companions of the State.

The District Deputy Instructors will each review the sections related to Schools, Inspections, Ritual and the DDI Section.

All Committee members are to submit their suggestions to their Committee Chairman Not-Later-Than January 10th.

Each Chairman is to submit the compiled findings to me not later than January 25th, 2012.

If you are not a Committee member, however, you have suggestions then send them to the Committee Chairman as listed in the Directory.

Paul Howell, PGHP, Chairman
36598 W. Picasso St.
Maricopa, AZ 85138-5366 or
meghpmi97@yahoo.com

Grand Chapter Educational Seminar

Best Western Hospitality Hotel

5500 28th St., S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49512

616.949.8400 Fax: 616.949.9021

Room rates: \$69.99 + 14% tax.

(1 King – 2 Queens)

tell them it’s for “Royal Arch Masons”

25 rooms reserved for Friday, January 27th

& 20 for Saturday, January 28th, 2012

(Registered guests – complimentary breakfast, pool, exercise room, etc. available)

Hospitality Rooms on Friday & Saturday

Saturday lunch will be potluck w/GC ladies
Dinner: TB Determined. Probably next door
at Brann’s Steakhouse (*Order from menu*)

Agenda will be published in the January Triple Tau

*** Please notify Jim Kiefer that you will be in attendance. By name, number and for what events.

616.662.9027 vetjim@sbcglobal.net

Whose invited?

All Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, District Deputy Instructors, of the Grand Chapter plus all Past High Priests, High Priests, Kings, Scribes and Companions of the Subordinate Chapters of Michigan.

Continued from November Issue, Article by William Young, Past High Priest of Mt. Pleasant Chapter No. 111.

Stonehenge has been a place of contention for centuries. With much the same questions about it as there were about the Great Pyramid. What is it? Who built it? Why was it built?

Opposed to popular belief Stonehenge was not constructed by the Druids for sacrifices nor was it built to worship the summer solstice. Though it is aligned perfectly to the sunrise on the day of the summer solstice. Stonehenge is a perpetual chronometer (calendar) in stone. Unlike the Great Pyramid which is a timeline in stone. Stonehenge was aligned to the Summer Solstice for a reference to start from not to worship it or the sun.

Stonehenge was constructed with the same construction crew and overseer that built the Great Pyramid though Stonehenge was (like the Sphinx" and the Great Pyramid**)

Modified out of ignorance at least twice. Stonehenge was constructed and yet was left open to the elements and time. As it slowly crumbled – people over the years have attempted to rebuild parts of it based on a presumption of how those parts had been placed originally. Generations of time some of the items have been relocated (never to be found) while others were buried to stand the test of time in the location they were left. Such as the first block of a block wall is never seen again (since its buried) yet it remains there for as long as the wall stands.

Using a line from the center of the edifice in a direct line past the heel stone we have the starting point. Moving in a counter clock wise rotation in one degree increments for each degree you move about 19.4444 years. As for what year the start point is? If I can do the research and find it – anyone can. Right? Enjoy hunting. But a not to those who look: the day per year reference is not 100 percent verified in the account hat prior to the Hebrew departure from Egypt the year was 360 days in len gth. Of course it is now 365.242. The Hebrews used a lunar calendar not a solar one. The only way to be sure to be correct in any given calendar (and or timeline) is to use the one thing that is concurrent for both – days. IE: A 7000 year calendar arranged in a circle would have 360 reference marks (degrees). $7000/360=19.444$. We know that 19.444 would be years per degree but which (360 day year or 365 day year) year?

As for the Sphnix? People have looked for the answer to the mystery of *Continued next month.*

Continued from November Issue, "State of the Fraternity: The Call for Positive Change" by R.E. Comp. Richard James.

Than random acts or trivial pursuits.

- **After feedback has been received and priorities have been identified, the results of these efforts need to be clearly communicated.** Even though we may have clearly stated written goals and well-defined lists of tasks, these are not enough. The clarification process helps our membership to express the vision and the priorities.

To change one's life: 1. Start immediately. 2. Do it flamboyantly. 3. No exceptions. – William James

Move fast and break things. Unless you are breaking stuff, you are not moving fast enough. Mark Zuckerberg

5. To Strategize is to use insight for considering options that will lead to the achievement of a position of advantage. This represents selection and creativity, a time to analyze choices of potential courses of action and debate their likelihood of success. It is a time when the local membership can become saints through the process of questioning, challenging and confronting the ideas being considered. This process should then culminate in a design/preparation of a blueprint of action that assigns responsibility and provides structure, while allowing for innovative flexibility.

6. To implement is to activate a design in a manner that is consistent with the defined vision. However, the vision is worthless without having the capability to do something about it. Implementation is the day-to-day activities that will create the basis for growth. It is the execution of everything before it, and the catalyst for everything after it. Let's consider the importance of good implementation a moment, in a lot of masonic organizations masons are voicing concerns about declining numbers, attendance, an unwillingness of officers to take the chairs and ritual performance. Even if conservatively 40% saw nothing wrong or felt that these were not legitimate issues that would still leave 60% that were identifying all or some of these concerns (not to mention the non-masons taking shots at our fraternity).

Time to get real and break through the denial: What the 60% (in silence mostly) are really saying is that our organization is no longer practicing what it preaches *Continued next issue*



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PLANNING FOR A NEW YEAR – PART II

Last month we discussed how to plan for a new Capital year. As explained, the first step was to select a good line of Officers and what qualities a good line Officers should have. The next step was to plan the year by mapping or charting goals and actions for achieving the expected results of the long-range strategic plan. Suggestions of keeping in mind the necessary requirements of certain programs were also discussed in last month's article.

This month I will dive deeper into the programs and program planning segment. As already explained, to be a successful High Priest and to have a successful year in your Chapter, you must have a plan and a program. This plan and all programs must be in writing and frequently reviewed in order to be effective. One suggestion would be for the High Priest to hold a meeting of his Officers, to include the Past High Priests, very soon after the election and prior to the installation. By timing such a meeting between election and installation, the program can be distributed at or immediately after the installation. Even though the responsibility of the Chapters success is the High Priests, all programs should be discussed, understood, and agreed upon by all of the meeting members. No program can be a success if it is not worked on and followed by all. After the program(s) have been decided upon, a copy should be placed in a place to which you will most often refer too.

A few examples of programs are social programs, Degree programs, and business program to name just a few. Social programs should be planned to include the ladies, as we each know we could not succeed without the continued support of the ladies. The best approach to any social program is to name a committee with a chairman for each program. A good suggestion would be to appoint the King and Scribe as chairman; this will help them to plan for the years which they will be the High Priest. A necessary and often overlooked program is that of visitations. Many of our Brothers and Companions have always given so much to the Chapter, the response should be for the Chapter to return that support when our Brothers and Companions are ill or have other reasons for not attending. A good way to not overlook this necessary program would be to plan on making this a part of your monthly Stated Convocation business.

A Degree program is also a necessary program that is often taken for granted. Many Chapters I have visited, to include my own, have certain individuals that are relied on to do the majority of a Degree, but what happens when they cannot or wish to no longer do the work? This can be crippling to a Chapter. One suggestion for a Chapter to remove some of the pressure of those who bear the weight would be to select one Degree to focus on. First this allows others to learn the parts that have been performed by a few. After you have decided on a Degree, those participating should understand the degree to include the overall structure, theme, floor work required equipment, scope of each part and what is to be read and what is to be memorized. An easy way to assure this happens is to have a Degree Director. Next a schedule should be developed. You should have rehearsals with both open book and without book. After you are comfortable that you are in good shape, *Continued page 8.*

York Rite Youth Committee

By the time you read this article the York Rite Youth Committee will have met for the third time. I as chairman am pleased to report that we are progressing with a number of items that we feel are important for this committee to work both for the York Rite and our youth groups.

We are looking at a number of ways to fund this committee which will allow the committee to support the projects that we wish to try and fund. We have moved forward with our plan for a bake less bake sale. Flyers and a letter of explanation will arrive at your Chapters, Councils, and Commandry's soon. Please support this effort, as it is vital to the funding needed to support the projects that are planned.

Our next meeting will focus on a Mission Statement, Vision, and a set of Bylaws to govern the committee in the coming years, as the committee moves forward. We feel that these items may be needed in the future for a number of reasons, but more importantly to establish guidelines by which we shall work.

Our first project seems at this time to be a spring event for the youth, which will be patterned after the fall program known as 5F's. We have contacted the youth leaders and they are in favor of this type of function. Now we go to the planning stage which means the work now begins. The one thing to remember, this is your committee and if you have an idea for the committee to pursue, please feel free to contact any member.

Donald L. Galway, Richard G. Stange, Stanley B. Luyck
 James E. Hawm, Vernon T. Barnhart, Jack Temsey
 Mike Roberts, Walter F. Wheeler, J. Andy Jackson
 Edward J. Chezick, Brian K. Himes, Larry A. Inscho

I had the pleasure to attend the first annual All Youth Honoring event in Alma the 19th of November. I for one must say that it was a great event, with a fine crowd attending. I was very proud of the work that our youth did for all who attended. I would urge all that if you have a youth group near you make an effort to attend one of their meetings. I can guarantee you will be pleased with the work that they do. Remember supporting our youth means more then writing a check. Your presents at their meeting has a greater meaning.

Reception Honoring

Ex. Comp. Theodore V. Hall, PHP

Ingham Chapter No. 51

Region 2

Michigan Meritorious Service Award Recipient

Saturday, March 24, 2012

5:00 pm

Mason Masonic Temple

840 E. Columbia Street, Mason, MI 48854

Send Reservations to:

Timothy C. Forche, PHP, Secretary

Ingham Chapter No. 51

223 Elliott Rd., Mason, MI 48854-9506

Directory Corrections as of 10/15/2011:

Directory Changes since 8/17/2011 through 11/10/2011
8/25/2011

DDI District #1 – Change to George Maule (118) (pg-4)
PO Box 12, Rock: 906.356.6067

gmaule1@yahoo.com

Red Book Committee (pg-9) Drop Ruthruff and Cooper

9/5/2011

Richard James – email change to (pg-2)-

jamesrick.psych.3@gmail.com

Salathial – Location of Chapters (pgs-15, 33) – changed
number from 23 to 11

Added Eldon Miller's spouse – Shar (pg-2)

Huron Chapter # 27 (pg-18) HP - Frank H. Nicholson
4216 Pine Grove Rd., Ft Gratiot 48059

Colon Chapter # 81 (pg-23) King – Milton C. Joliff,
345 W. Chicago Rd. Coldwater 49036

Scribe – John E. Parks, 29260 Albion Rd., Albion 49224

Midland Chapter # 169 (pg-30) HP – John C. Berry
2288 Thayer Rd., Freeland 48623 989-708-6295

Scribe – Jerry M. Chambers, 2216 Kentucky Rd, Midland
48642-5781 989-631-5996

9/15/2011

Royal Oak Chapter # 167 (pg-29 & 30) James Sparks'
e-mail changed to royalarch167@comcast.net

Added Michael Robert's spouse – Rebecca (pg-2)

10/14/2011

Palestine Chapter (pg-29)

Changed Eric Romero's phone number to 734-564-1635

10/25/2011

Kalamazoo Chapter (pg-16)

Changed Richard Stange's phone number to 269-655-4157

11/4/2011

Lapeer Chapter (pg-24) Per Annual Report – Changed
High Priest to Richard Haynes and
Scribe to Wayne Hamlin

JUST FOR TODAY

Just for today, I will feel happy that I am at work, alive,
and well.

Just for today, if I correct someone, I will do it with as
much good humor and self-restraint as if I were the one
being corrected.

Just for today, I will not have any expectations about how I
should be treated, and I will not compare myself with
anyone else. I will just be glad I am who I am.

Just for today, when I leave work I will not dwell on how
much I did or did not get done. Instead I will look
forward to the evening and be thankful for whatever I
accomplished.

Article by: Benjamin J. Stein

Passing of Most Excellent Companion John F.
Kirby, Past General Grand Secretary, General
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International on
Wednesday, October 26, 2011.

THE EARTH OF MY DREAMS

Let me do my work each day with joy and hope; and if the
darkened hours of despair overcome me, may I not forget the
strength that comforted me in the desolation of other times. May I
still remember the bright hours which found me walking over the
silent hills of my childhood, or dreaming on the margin of the
quiet river, when a light glowed within me, and I promised my
early God to have courage in the tempest of the changing years.

Spare me from the bitterness and the sharp passions of
unguarded moments. May I not forget that poverty and riches are
of the spirit. Though the world know me not, may my thoughts
and actions be such that shall keep me friendly with myself.

Lift my eyes from the earth, and let me not forget the uses of
the stars. Forbid that I should judge others, lest I condemn
myself. Let me not follow the clamor of the world, but walk
calmly in my own path. Give me a few friends who will over me
for what I am, and keep ever burning before my vagrant steps the
kindly light of hope.

And though age and infirmity overtake me, and I come not
within reach of the earth of my dreams, teach me still to be
thankful for life, and for time's olden memories that are good and
sweet. And may the evening's twilight find me gentle still.

Original Source Unknown
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Planning – Part II – *Continued.*

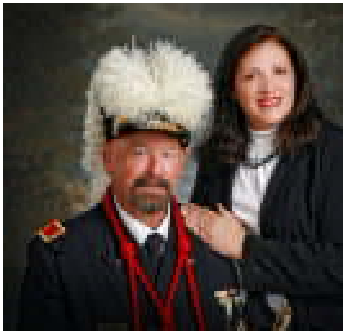
a dress rehearsal should be scheduled. A dress rehearsal will tell
your Chapter if more rehearsals are needed prior to a conferral.
When scheduling a dress rehearsal, it should be done with enough
time left to hold further rehearsals if needed.

Business programs are easier than the aforementioned
programs. A business program should address what the
Chapter has done and what it will do according to your pre-
discussed yearly plan. By having a business program already in
place, the Chapter's Stated Business meeting will go much
smoother and quicker. A business meeting should not last more
than 45 minutes to an hour. This leaves time to work the
programs that you have. A suggested order of business for a
Stated meeting would be;

- Open the Chapter
- Recognition and Reception of visitors and V.I.Ps
- Reading of minutes
- Sickness and distress
- Petitions for membership
- Balloting on petitions
- Reports of committees
- Communications and Bills
- Old or Unfinished business
- New business
- Good of the Order
- Program for the evening
- Close Chapter

This is just a light sample of programs and planning, and
should not be considered to be the only way or programs that can
be completed. However, any program that the Chapter adopts can
be approached by using these suggestions and ideas. The
important thing is to make the programs your Chapters own. Be
good at them and have fun doing them, and others will have fun
participating or attending them.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan



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Season's Greetings to the Sir Knights and Companions, Ladies and Families All:

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented to him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11).

I can still remember as a child getting so excited the closer it got to Christmas day. Helping my mother decorate the house. Helping my father set up the huge Christmas village under the tree that took up most of the living room that took what seemed like weeks to set up and waiting to take control of the train that ran through the village. And then Christmas morning waking up before the sun did and sneaking downstairs to see what Santa left for us. But as the years started to pass by so did the meaning of Christmas. It seems that too often today we tend to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and we get caught up in the commercialized end of the meaning of Christmas. Sound familiar? That's the time when we need to take that one step forward and remember the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Blessed Savior and the one gift that is priceless and needs to be shared. It's a gift that is unique because it comes from within oneself. It is that glorious gift of Love. It is a love that can never be sold or bought, but only given away. It is a true Christmas gift and one that needs to be given throughout the year. As we have ventured through life from childhood to adulthood the meaning of Christmas has changed from receiving to giving. There is love within all of us to be given away.

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach..."

As we venture into the Christmas Season, I encourage all of you to give the gift of love. Give of yourselves with Brotherly Love and true Friendship not only today but also every day of your life.

Lady Vickie and I extend to all of you and your families our wishes for a Happy and Loving Christmas and a joyous and very prosperous New Year.

In Christian Love and Templary,
Roy A. Ickes, Grand Commander



Cheboygan Commandery #50 Knights Templar invites you and your lady to our Annual Inspection, Saturday, December 3rd, 2011.

Our Inspection Officer from the Grand Commandery Knights Templar, State of Michigan, will be: Sir Knight Deputy Grand Commander Cort Rule.

10:00 short form opening
10:30 chamber of reflections
11:00 Order of the Temple

Followed by: Ten man full form opening

&

Reception of Inspecting Officer and shoulder straps

4:00 Dinner

Dinner \$12.50 per person. (at the door.)

Call: Carl J. Peterson [Rec'd] 989 448.8378

***** Leave name and how many will be attending the Dinner.

***** Call ASAP, or sooner, in order to have plenty to go around.

Menu:

Swedish Meatballs with egg noodles, Green Bean Casserole, Mixed Vegetables, Tossed Salad with Several Dressings and croutons, plus cheddar cheese and salad toppings.

Hors d'oeuvres Tray with Chunk Cheese (3 types) Pepper rings, Black & Green Olives, Hard Salami, Several types of Crackers and bar cheeses.

Soda, water, coffee, tea, beverage of your choice.

Deserts;

There will be several pies and cakes as well as cookies to meet your desire.