

MICHIGAN TRIPLE TAU

JANUARY 2011

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

Educational Message to the Lodge about Masonry and Capitular Masonry

*Presented to Mt. Pleasant Lodge #411
by High Priest William Young, 2009*

The Mount Pleasant Royal Arch Chapter of the Masonic Lodge was founded on February 4, 1884. It is to our ancestors dignity, for our future posterity, that we keep that lodge going. I can say that, and at least once I heard a response of 'why'? The most common reason that a man becomes a Mason is tradition's proof of manhood. Though there are other reasons such a legacy and curiosity. Tradition placed that a Mason had to actually complete the 4th to the 7th degrees to fully become a brother Mason. But its more than that.

All around us we see a resurgence of interesting historical things. This refurbishment of the Borden plant. The rededication of the Cupola at the town center court house. Of course had the original Court House been renovated that would not have happened. But I digress...

History; if we do not learn from it we are doomed to make the same mistakes. The Masonic Lodge is more than a Fellowship. Its more than a group of men getting together on occasion on a mission. Its more than a fraternity. Its history – living history! What has this got to do with the royal Arch? I am getting to that. It has been said that Masonic History can only be traced back to the 1700's. Yet there is the small chapel in Scotland which bears the discernable inscriptions of the Masonic Lodge. History lost.

History lost just like our own Wabon Lodge 305 history has been lost due to fire. Should we ignore it because we don't have it anymore? Or should we strive to reclaim it? Why I became a Mason? To continue tradition, a legacy as my dad was a Mason (Past Master, Cedar Valley Lodge #383, Winn) as was his before him. It wasn't until I looked through my dads Masonic items (after I learned what they meant) that I realized his link to me now. Through the Royal Arch lodge. He was a member of the Mount Pleasant Royal Arch Lodge #111. It was W.B. Sam Pratt and W.B. Ralph Safford who piqued my interest in the Royal Arch. A point of fact made clear when Sam talked about my dad. Memories I wished I had been part of. I also understand now why my dad tolerated my (almost obsessive insatiable) desire to read all I could concerning the tribes of Israel. The bible. The periphery (often called the Apocryphal) books. I realize now that he saw a clear link, and he knew, that once I discovered that link I would have the same drive to reveal what that research has lead

me to.

What have I discovered? Information based on an independent theological study since 1985. And it lead me right back to Masonry, my dad, in his one statement to me when I asked him about Masonry. What was his reply? Like a true Mason! "King Solomon's Temple. The Tabernacle in the Wilderness. I can't tell you more until you become a brother."

Within the Royal Arch Lodge there are four pennants. Quaint pennants that most don't really consider. Pennants that would instantly attract the attention of anyone who had done any research in genealogy. Especially anyone who had researched their family coat of arms. The first true knights of this planet were the sons of Jacob/Israel. The first true Knights of the Temple! It was from my independent study of the Temple of Solomon and the Tabernacle in the Wilderness. The first Knights of the Temple were Knight Templar, but were not officially called that then. the alignment and placement of the Houses of Israel in the wilderness.

Pennants of the House of Judah, Dan, Ephraim, and Ruben. To anyone who was schooled in the basis of the Tabernacle (in the wilderness) they would realize that those Pennants (Standards) were also the alignment and placement of the Houses of Israel in the wilderness.

The following diagram is a depiction of what the tribes on the move would have looked like if someone would have flown over them; In this case I will demonstrate their placement as if they were moving as Masons (from East to West).

	North	T – The items of the Tabernacle
	E	R – The Standard of Reuben
W	TR D E	E – The Standard of Ephraim
	J	D – The Standard of Dan
	South	J – The Standard of Judah

The tribes encamped: around the tabernacle – to guard it!		
	North	T – The items of the Tabernacle
	J	R – The Standard of Reuben
W	DTR E	E – The Standard of Ephraim
	E	D – The Standard of Dan
	South	J – The Standard of Judah

The Royal Arch Lodge in Mount Pleasant must survive because I have been placed where I am, with what I have discovered, for a reason. Brothers, Companions we need you at the meetings... I could also say that you need us to have true light (the secrets have always been there, beyond what I have seen in the lodge to this date).

Continued page 5 col. 1



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,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas.

It has been great to attend many of the Blue Lodge Installations this year. I've had the opportunity to assist in the presentation of several Master's Pins.

Now, that we are going into the New Year, it's time to revisit those New Year Resolutions. Each year we should consider the "Masonic Oath of Fidelity", and pledge anew our Masonic obligations. May I wish each of you a most successful and happy 2011.

Up coming events to be aware of are:

- 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.
"Rekindle the Fire"
- January 30, 2011 – Royal Arch Widow's Degree – Pawpaw Chapter # 34 - Noon. Contact
Richard Stange, DDI#20 (changed from January 23)
- January 29, 2011 – Reception of Grand Master of the 1st Veil, Richard James, Midland Chapter # 169.
Contact Richard H. Koch II, Sec.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in my travels this year. "Enhance the Secret"

Thank you and Fraternally,

From your Executive Director:

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a good start to the New Year.

This year your DDI's and myself embarked on a new training program for ourselves that was hosted by several of our Chapters. We got together to School ourselves in our inspection work for the upcoming year. This is our opening and closing in Royal Arch, receiving of Grand Officers and the Most Excellent Master Degree Work. It was a learning experience for all of us as our first school was a little rough. However, with comments and suggestions the next one was much better as was each further school. By the time we did our last session we really had it down pat. Which should point out the fact that the more time we put into it, the more fun we had and the more we all got out of it. The hosting Chapters seemed to really appreciate the program and we all got a lot of positive feedback from the Chapters, Grand Officers and each other. We are planning on something similar, new and hopefully improved, next year as this gets everyone on the same page.

Remember Chapters, we work for you, we as DDI's put our pants on one leg at a time so don't get all nervous and worked up when we come. Remember, your meetings are a place to have fun and good fellowship. Feel free to ask any question or put forth any concerns you have. If we can't answer them on our visit we'll find the answers and get them back to you. Don't feel shy about contacting your DDI about any concerns you have. You certainly don't have to wait for our visits. The more information we have the easier it makes our jobs.

I would like to thank all the Chapters who hosted our training programs this year, Tecumseh #42, Oakland #5, Romeo #17, Cadillac #103, Kalamazoo #13 and Grand Rapids #7. You all served great refreshments. I'd also like to thank all of the DDI's who attended. We had 19 out of 21 who made at least one of the sessions, what great participation.

A special thanks to DDI #8 Terry Baker who went out of his way to attend several of the sessions and was very helpful with his comments.

Please remember to have fun with all your Masonic activities as they won't mean much if they aren't.

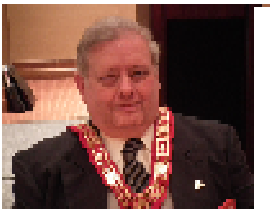
Tim Forche

ROYAL ARCH WIDOWS DEGREE

*This is a fun and enjoyable, educational degree for the ladies of the Royal Arch.
Ladies - You want to find out what is going on? No better way or time than now!!!*

Paw Paw Masonic Temple, 234 Main St., Paw Paw 49079

Sunday, January 30th 2:00 pm Dinner and Masters' Pins Presentations
Reservations, ASAP To - Richard Stange 269-628-4432 or cell @: 269-655-4157



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

615 Melrose,
Pontiac 48340-3116
248.373.7081

mikewhiting@webtv.net

Companions:

Many Lodge Installations have already taken place with some Installations yet to come in January. It is hoped that you have taken the opportunity to attend and present the Worshipful Masters with their Masters Pins. Some Chapters even have dinners for the incoming Masters and their Wives in recognition for their elevation to that esteemed office. They sometimes even ask interested parties who are thinking about becoming a Mason to join them. This is a good opportunity to have Masons from your District come and learn about the Royal Arch and you just might get a petition or two.

Have you visited the Grand Chapter web site lately? There are many downloads that can be of use to you and your Chapter. There are forms that your secretary can use to make his difficult job a little easier. It also has the Directory, the Installation of Officers and the Reception of Grand Officers.

The different Awards which you can earn such as the Ritual Award and the Travel Pins for Chapters and Lodges are also included. The most important of these are the Meritorious Service Awards. Someone in your Chapter is deserving of this award so please take the time to fill out the form and nominate him. Contact our Grand Scribe, David Dossette if you have any questions.

Has your Chapter considered hosting the "Enhance the Secret Program"? This can be done with the Grand Officers or D.D.I.'s in your area. If your Chapter feels ambitious enough, they could do it themselves. You can obtain the information on the website or contact any Grand Officer for more information.

New to the website are the Goal Cards for individuals and for the Chapter as a whole. It is much easier to plan your year and the future if you have set goals. Some goals can easily be achieved and some may take a year or more. The main idea is to sit down with your Companions and discuss what you can do to improve your Chapter. This might take some serious thought, so why not have each Companion write down what his ideas of where your Chapter is weak and needs improving. Then bring it to your next Stated Meeting and develop a plan where you all can agree, then put it into action.

I hope you also have an opportunity to view the Educational materials which are also provided on the website. Each Chapter has an Education Officer and he should be providing Masonic Education, of some, sort at each meeting. You could use those provided here or some other that you may have researched. Our Grand Principal Sojourner, Lou McCray is in charge of the Grand Chapter Education Committee

Continued in next column



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

13669 Hannan
Romulus 48174
734.941.3056

dbldfotog1@aol.com

Companions

I have just recently spoken to the Comfort Inn in Chelsea. They have indicated that they only have 7 reservations for rooms. You need to get your reservations in immediately. Call them at 1-800-4Choice or make your reservations through the internet at www.comfortinn.com. Please tell them that you are with the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Educational Seminar.

Susan and I only have lunch reservations for 15 people at this time. We are getting our meeting room because of the hope that we would have a larger turnout for the hotel luncheon and room usage. Contact myself at the above phone number or email to make you meal reservations.

All Grand Officers, prospective Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, DDI's, and Companions of the State are invited to atte

If you haven't taken care of these items already, we need to get this done.

Thankx Dave

Grand King - Continued

and is always looking for more material to use. Better yet, have you considered having it published in the Triple Tau? After all this is your communication, so why don't you use it?

I am working on setting up Committees and District Deputy Instructors for next year. If you are interested in serving in any of these capacities please contact me and let your desire be known. There are twenty-two Standing and Special Committees which must be filled. Where do your special talents lie? Let me know by phone 248-373-7081 or email me at mikewhiting@webtv.net.

I hope you have made plans to attend the Grand Chapter Educational Seminar on January 21-22. The 21st is just Hospitality, but the 22nd is open to all Companions. Our Grand Scribe has promised a very interesting day. Hope to see you there.

"Men are like trees; each one must put forth the leaf that is created in him." -- *Henry Ward Beecher*

"To be good is noble, but to teach others how to be good is nobler – and no trouble." -- *Mark Twain*

"If the winds are temporarily blowing against you, remember that you can harness them and make them carry you toward your definite purpose, through the use of your imagination." -- *Napoleon Hill*

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS
MAKE THESE CORRECTIONS!!!

P. 15 Greenstone, Seymour (Living PHP) (6) deceased.

Mt. Clemens Council No. 8

22000 E. 11 Mile Rd.
St. Clair Shores 48081-1670

Announces its 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.



Paul C. Howell, JGHP
Grand Secretary

Lady Beth, Ass. Gr. Sec.

17635 Manitou Beach Road
Addison, MI 49220-9773
- 517.262.5140 Beth -- 517.262.4070
meghpmi97@comcast.net
auntiebabe@comcast.net
id Chapter Web Site: www.ram-mi.org

Secretary's Scribbles

Hello Companions:

CALENDAR

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

- Jan 8 – Council All Degree Day. 150th Celebration. Mt. Clemens Council**
Jan 21 & 22 – Gr. Chapter Ed. Seminar – Chelsea
Jan 29 - Richard James Reception – 3 & 4 pm
Jan 30 – RA Widows Deg. – Paw Paw – 2 pm
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 9 – David Montgomery Rec. MSA – Auburn Hills
Apr 23 – Council All Deg. Day – Mason
Apr 30 – Robert Powers Rec. MSA - Samaria
May 21 – KYCH – Alma Pathways
May 23 – 25 – Grand Lodge – Mt. Pleasant
*****Jun 11 – Chapter All “Outdoor” Deg. Day**
Aug 6 – York Rite Charity Golf Outing
Aug 7 – Grand Chapter Picnic
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
Aug 27 – Tri-State – Wausaw, WI 8 am (Mich., Minn., Wisc.)

Its hard to believe that the earth, or as the old TV series once called it, the third rock from the sun, has completed another tour around that celestial globe which diffuses light and illumination to all within its providence. As it states in the Charge to the Master of the Lodge “it is within your province to diffuse light and instruction to all the brethren of your Lodge.” This as Royal Arch Masons we should try to expand by spreading that light of Masonry not only within our Lodges and Chapters but to those uninformed throughout the world, they first inquiring of us and we finding them worthy. Sometimes those which initially seem the least worthy are those the most in need of our assistance and guidance and will benefit the most from our instruction and also be the ones thereafter to make the biggest impact upon the world at large.

We should never recommend one for any of the degrees of Masonry that we do not firmly believe will conform to the principles and noble tenets of our institution however we should not be too hasty in evaluating another persons character. Let not that first impression, which may be solely based upon a persons physical appearance or his manner of examination be the sole determination. We must look deeper into his background and experiences and into his motive for questioning to judge our evaluation. The first impression may be the deepest and longest lasting, but it does not necessarily have to be the most accurate.

This rock which we are riding on is on that circumference of that elliptical circle from the sun and each creature on this rock is therefore equally near and equally distant from the sun receiving its warming effects in like amount as “is every creature whom God hath created equally near and equally distant from him.” Let us not prejudice, for we are also being prejudged.

May 2011 find the Blessing of Heaven resting upon all mankind.

May this year find Brotherly Love prevailing throughout the world and may we find all mankind being strengthened cemented by the Moral and Social Virtues derived from the Holy Scriptures which we have taken as the rule and guide of our faith.

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

Educational Message – Continued Page 1

Join me. Because I have a hunch we will be a light to all Masonry after our visit concerning the Rosslyn Chapel. An edifice that was built about 150 years (after) the disillusionment of the Knights Templar. An edifice that does have Masonic (and Knights Templar) images built into it.

The sons of Jacob were the first true Knights of the Temple dating back to the 1300BC via Jacob's son Levi Through their descendants deliverance from Egypt around 1453BC as depicted in the Pillar of Enoch (a stone monument). Enoch of course was the first Grand Maser Mason dating back to before 3000BC. But that's a different subject. The Knights had been officially founded in 1119AD to defend the Holy Land. The Knights Templar were disbanded by King Philippe of France in 1307. The Rosslyn Chapel was built by a family that testified against the Knights Templar in Edinburgh in 1309. Against their brothers who were already disbanded? Scotland won its independence from England in 134. The Regius Manuscript is the oldest parchment with Masonic relevance and is dated to about 1390. Brothers who were disbanded in 1307? The construction of Rosslyn Chapel began(presumably) in 1456.

EC Young presented a series of talks which will be presented to you in the coming months.

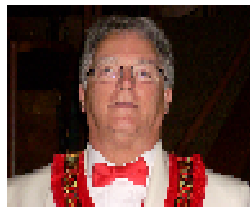
The Ark of the Covenant



The Ark of the Covenant was a small chest or coffer, made by Moses, Aholiab, and Bezaleel, and was three feet nine inches long, two feet three inches wide and deep. It was constructed of shittim wood, covered with fine gold, and over all were the Cherubium with expanded wings. In the ark were placed the pot of manna, Aaron's rod, and the tables of stone, containing the Decalogue, written by the finger of God. It was at first placed in the sanctuary of the tabernacle, and afterward deposited by King Solomon in the Sanctum Sanctorum of the temple, at the completion and dedication of the edifice.

When the temple was destroyed by the Chaldeans, the ark was also destroyed. Masonic tradition informs us that, before the temple was compled, King Solomon – foreseeing that the children of Israel would, in time, deviate from the laws of God and provoke his displeasure, and that the city would be taken and destroyed by their enemies, and that so would forever perish those sacred treasures.

He caused to be created an exact replica thereof for future generations to discover and thereby preserve.



DONALD L. GALWAY

Grand Royal Arch Captain

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RETENTION

One of the greatest challenges faced by member-based organizations is retention. Member dues represent a significant portion of the operating revenue, and many organizations depend on repeat annual dues to provide services to its members, and to operate efficiently. It is not uncommon for organizations to experience steady and predictable growth for many years, and have fairly high retention rates, yet sooner or later, for a myriad of reasons every organization experiences a downturn in member retention, before an organization can address its retention challenges it is important to understand the factors that affect member retention and their impact on the organization's long-term viability.

Reasons for not participating in Chapter meetings or activities

Fact: Companions say they become inactive for the following reasons:

1. I don't have the time.
2. It's not what I expected.
3. No one contacted me after the degree.
4. The Chapter was unfriendly.

There are other reasons for not participating or attending the Chapter meetings and activities but these are the ones that you will hear the most. The membership chairman of the Chapter along with his committee should develop a retention plan that is unique to their Chapter as there will not be a one fits all plan that will work for all Chapters.

Action Items: Develop a plan for each new companion. Make certain a member calls him prior to each meeting.

1. Make certain that every companion present talks with the new member at every meeting.
2. Ask the new member about his interests and expectations.
3. Invite the new companion to participate in some Chapter activity.
4. Schedule family activities for the new companion and his family.
5. Follow up with a coach and mentor. It is important to understand the needs and expectations of each new companion. Make an effort to get to know the new companion and understand what he is looking for in the Chapter.

Scorecards measure your performance in specific areas. What's performance? It's the ability to achieve results toward your goals. The Member Retention Scorecard measures how effectively you use strategies to retain members. Use the Scorecard, on the following page, to rate your performance for using each retention strategy. Add up the values for your Overall Retention Score. Write your score in the bottom row provided.

Retention Performance Score Card: On a scale of 1 – 4 with 1 being the lowest and 4 the highest, rate how well your Chapter uses each retention strategy.

Proactive Member Retention Strategies	1 Are you kidding?	2 It's hit or miss	3 Yes for the most part	4 Absolutely
1. Do you manage baseline info about your members (e.g., specific groups, profiles, retention rates)?				
2. Do you know the expectations and interests of new members who join the organization?				
3. Do you contact and follow up with new members on a regular basis, especially throughout their first year, to ensure their initial expectations are being met?				
4. Do you contact all existing members regularly to learn how you're meeting their expectations?				
5. Do you communicate your strategic plan to members (e.g., goals, strategies and accomplishments)?				
6. Do you use two-way communication venues to share information and collect member feedback?				
7. Do you collect and review 'member intelligence' (i.e., inquiries, needs, feedback, activities)?				
8. Do you help members connect with others, form alliances and participate in your 'community'?				
9. Do you reward members for their loyalty: for giving feedback, referring others and renewing?				
10. Do you recognize your best members and provide special opportunities to show your appreciation?				
11. Do you periodically modify your benefits to align with your members' current and evolving needs?				
12. Do you have a formal retention plan in place, with written procedures and action plans to implement?				
TOTAL				

OVERALL Retention Score:

--

Now that you have looked at the scorecard, how did you do? Part of the joy of membership is the fun you have at a meeting or activity. When you take a part in a degree you receive a sense of accomplishment in having taken part in making a new member's day special. That feeling gets better when that new member takes an active role in the Chapter.

One of the greatest resources that your Chapter has is the senior members. Most of them have done a number of parts in the degrees and have mentored younger members in the ways of the Chapter, as they were mentored, as a young member of the Chapter.

I have always been amazed at the wonders of a pot of coffee and a batch of homemade cookies after a meeting. There are a lot of questions that get answered for a new member that way. The one thing to remember is that it is much easier to acquire new members than it is to keep them coming back and participating over their life time. The love affair is not instant, it is acquired over time.

ANNOUNCING FOR GRAND HONORS FOR GRAND SECRETARY

Greetings Companions



Carl John & Midge Peterson

For those of you that haven't met us as of yet. I'm Carl John Peterson and this is my lady Midge. We reside in Gaylord, Michigan and attend Gaylord Masonic Temple. Midge and I belong to Chrysanthemum Chapter No. 114 of which I am a two (2) time Past Worthy Patron. As most of you know, after many dedicated years as our Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan, Paul Howell, P.G.H.P. has indicated that he and his lady Beth would like to retire this coming year and the office of Grand Secretary will be open for nominations. I am therefore letting it be know that I would welcome your support and vote at the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

Masonic and Personal Background: Master Mason, Gaylord/Cyrene Lodge #366, July 1978, Past Master, Secretary 1987-92, Treasurer since 2003. Grand Lodge DDI 2004-06. 6 times HP of Gaylord Chapter No. 119 and currently member of Mackinac Chapter No.134. DDI of Grand Chapter 1989 – 92 and again since 2005. 6 times TIM of Inverness Council, 3 years as Recorder currently a member of Straits Area Council #92. Commander and Past Commander of Cheboygan Commandery No. 50, Recorder for 9 years. Governor of Dennis F. Brawn YRC 2 years and Recorder 5 years. Other Masonic Affiliations: Elf-Khurafesh Shiners Int. and Northern Michigan Shrine Club, 1984; Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Consistory, Valley of Traverse City, 1985; KYCH Priory #22, Sentinel 2 years; Sunrise Council, Allied Masonic Degrees.

Community Organizations: Kiwanis Club of Gaylord, Recorder 6 years; Fraternal Order of the Eagles; John Cottrell Post, American Legion; Grace Baptist Church of Gaylord, Past Usher.

Retired Security Officer from Pinkerton Security & Investigations and retired D.N.R. Ranger from Otsego Lk. State Park.

Vietnam Veteran, discharged from the 82nd Airborne Division special forces, reenlisted and Honorably discharged from the Marian Division 1/64 Armor in 1971.

I would like to assure the Companion that I will do the very best I can in serving them and the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

Robert E. & Sharon Cooper

Greeting My Companions



In light of our Grand Secretary's announced retirement, I would like to announce my intentions to seek the office of Grand Secretary at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons on August 17th, 2011.

Masonic Background

Sparta Lodge #334 F & AM (Master – 1978, 2006) Mason of the Year – 2007, DDI District 31.

Kent-Newaygo Chapter #38 & Hooker Chapter # 73. Grand High Priest 2010 – 11. (High Priest – 1979, 06, 07, 08); Order of High Priesthood (Steward); General Grand Chapter Ritual Award.

Tyre Council #10. (Thrice Ill. Master – 1983, 2008); Order of the Silver Trowel (Steward); Grand Council TIM of the Year – 2009. DeMolai Commandery #5 (Eminent Commander – 1981, 1983, 2008); Past Commander's Association (9th Knight). Western Michigan York Rite College #10 (Governor -2010); Michigan Priority #22, York Cross of Honor (Herald); Mount Moriah Council No. 128 A.M.D. (Sec'y); Valley of Grand Rapids, AASR (Stage Crew);Harmony Springs Chapter, OES (WP – 1976); Holy Order of Knight Templar Priests – Gate of the Temple; High Twelve – Furniture City No. 236 (1st VP); Royal Order of Scotland; Order of DeMolay; Saladine Shrine; Knight Masons – Trinity Council#38 (Sentinel).

Personal Background: Married to Sharon, and have 4 grown Children and 4 Grandchildren. Worship at Red Pine Bible Church.

Profession: Manufacturing Computer Consultant, providing Education, Training, Systems Design and Implementation Assistance to a variety of manufacturing firms. Semi-Retired. Holds CCP from Institute of Computing Professions (Equivalent to CPA).

Other Organizations: American Production and Inventory Control Society; Ducks Unlimited

Hobbies: Golf; Running; Fishing; Stamp Collection.

We have two (2) announced candidates for Grand Honors for Grand Secretary. If you were/are considering the office you have plenty of time to make yourself known.

We only have one (1) announced for Grand Honors for Grand Chapter Line and none, yet, for the Office of Grand Sentinel. Why not you?

**MIDLAND CHAPTER No. 169
ROYAL ARCH MASONS**

Request your attendance
at a Reception Dinner Honoring



Richard E. James



**GRAND MASTER OF THE FIRST VEIL
Grand Chapter, R.A.M., MI**

Saturday, January 29, 2011
Social Hour -- 3:00 pm
Dinner -- 4:00 pm

Dining Room -- Midland Masonic Center

148 East Main at McDonald
Midland Michigan 48640

Reservations – RSVP --:

Richard H. Koch, Sec. at 989.225.6620
rhkoch2@hotmail.com

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 are the same as those of year 2010. You can go to the Grand Chapter Web Site at www.ram-mi.org and download the form.

You can and should begin preparing your write-up immediately.

Do not hesitate to begin your research and write-up. In writing the nomination you should assume that those who are reading it know nothing about the person nominated.

David Dossette the Grand Scribe will also be getting materials out to all of the Chapters in the near future.

If you nominated a Companion in the past and he was not selected as the recipient then update the nomination and get it resubmitted this year.

If your Companion has received the Michigan Regional Award then nominate him to be considered for the General Grand Chapter Bronze Award only.

On Dec 17th we had our 1st Recognition Dinner from last years recipient. Charles Collins from Nashville No. 171 in Middleville. It was a beautiful evening. Congratulations Ex. Comp. Charles.

Make it a point to attend the other Recognition Dinners!

No Michigan Triple Tau Edition

will be coming out at the end of February for the month of March 2011.

The editor will be traveling on his vacation at that time and therefore will not have the time in which to put the paper together.

Hope that each of you will miss this publication and be waiting with baited breath for the April edition. Even better, why don't you submit a "short" article for consideration.

We have received some lengthy articles in the past, several typewritten pages, and cannot use them as this would be changing the type of publication that we currently have. Longer articles should be submitted to the Education Committee and/or the Instructional Manual Committee for consideration.

If you need to get announcements published and out to our fellow Companions then get them early. They should be published at least two months in advance, if you desire a good attendance. Do not wait and miss out on this excellent media for making announcements and spreading the word.

REMEMBER – NO MARCH ISSUE!!!

We hope to be on my way
to getting a nice sun tan!

The Office of the Grand Chapter

will be closed
from Feb. 12th – Mar 26th

River Raisin Chapter No. 22

Monroe, Michigan

is pleased to announce

**E.C. MICHAEL S. ROBERTS
KYCH**

for **Grand Honors**

in **Grand Chapter**
at the

**163rd Annual Convocation of the
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons**

to be held in

Lansing, Michigan
August 17th, 2011

Mike has proven himself to be an organized leader and mentor in local Masonic bodies as well as a member of the Board of General Purposes for the Grand Lodge for District No. 48.