

MICHIGAN TRIPLE TAU

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan
17635 Manitou Beach Road
Addison, Michigan 49220-9773



Official Publication of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan

January 2008

Capitular Growth in Michigan through Masonic Education -- "Quality Yields Quantity"

IRS notice CP-299

Most all Chapters have by now received an IRS notice CP-299 stating that you must register or your Chapter can lose its non profit status.

Sherman Parker, our consultant on Tax matters will be putting together a letter for each of the Chapters on what they must do, and how to do it.

It will be necessary that each Chapter fill out the form on the Web Site and complete the on-line IRS form.

This letter from Companion Sherm Parker should be available in the very near future. We will get it to each Chapter as soon as it is available.

Companions: If you do not have access to a Computer and the Web – May I suggest that when it becomes time to do this that you go to your local library and ask them to assist you. Most are very cooperative.

Life Membership

Companions:

Please note on page 91, Sec. 245A. Emeritus or Life Members of your Red Book of Capitular Law:

The following change was approved at the October 2006 Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter, by vote of the members in attendance.

"All Companions exalted after January 1, 1997 will not be eligible for Emeritus or Life Membership. All Companions exalted after January 1, 1977 would have to be 70 years old, and all Companions exalted after January 1, 1987 would require 40 years of membership in good standing to receive Emeritus or Life Membership."

Please note the underlined dates and insure that they are changed in your Red Book as they were originally printed in error.

This is the first year which this will begin to affect your Chapter and your members.

No Chapter has to grant Life Membership to any member, it is an honor that Chapter may bestow.

No New Members?

Did I hear you say that your Chapter has no new members or that you can't get the new ones to come back? What are you, we, doing wrong?

Let's just reflect on this for a moment. That's all of your time that I need for you to read on.

How many of you and your Chapters made a strong presentation to the Worshipful Master and Brothers of the Lodge when you presented the pin from the Chapter and the Grand Chapter this year. Did you explain the Royal Arch and its history to the Lodge? Did you pass out materials and petitions for membership.

I have an even more distressing thought! How many did not even pass out the pins? I know of several Lodges that did not get them, and some that say they haven't gotten them in years. Forgetting the fact that these pins cost you and the Grand Chapter money, you have just lost a valuable opportunity to spread the word and good works of the Royal Arch. You probably have lost members, partially because they do not even know that you exist.

How many of you have been regularly attending Lodges in the area and explaining to the membership the Royal Arch? Not just your Lodge. Brothers are not going to come to you if they do not know that you are a Royal Arch Mason or what the Royal Arch is.

Now to New Members. They have just come in recently. What did you do for them? Sit down and talk with them about what they just went through? Did you ask them what part they would like to try in the degree just to get them started? Do you have scheduled practices to go over the parts and the Degrees?

All too often I hear to a brand new member. "Now you can help us. We need Officers. How about becoming Principal Sojourner or even King or Scribe. Not only are we pushing them up the line, we are pushing them out the door.

Let's make and keep Royal Arch appealing to all.



Paul D. Williams, Grand High Priest

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“Quality Yields Quantity”

FROM THE GRAND EAST

My Companions:

Companions, now that the Holidays are over, I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope that one of your New Year's Resolutions will be to get out to the Symbolic “Blue” Lodges and try to get members that are not Royal Arch Masons to join our Great Organization. Do not forget to also ask your friends, relatives, and acquaintances that you think worthy, if they ever thought about joining Masonry, and what a great fraternity it is.

This month I plan to visit Sunlight Chapter #189 in Garden City on Friday the 4th at 9:30am, Palestine Chapter #159 on Monday the 7th, and Monroe #1 on Wednesday the 9th. Our Grand Officer's Retreat will be January 11th and 12th. Oakland Chapter #5 will be doing the Past Master's, and Most Excellent Master's Degree on January 16th with Your Grand High Priest doing many parts in the Most Excellent Master's Degree. I also plan(weather permitting) to be in Sparta on January 21st for Kent-Newaygo #38 and Hooker #73 Chapters joint inspection.

On January 29th, St. Clair Chapter will be doing the Past Master's Degree. They expect as many as 40 Royal Arch Masons from Canada to attend, and receive that degree. Ontario does not have the Past Master's Degree, and therefore are not supposed to attend our Royal Arch Mason's Degrees, or Most Excellent Master's Degree until they receive the Past Master's Degree from us. Going back to the first of the month, I also hope to visit Union Chapter #55 in Northville, and Washington Chapter #15 in Flint on the 2nd, and 3rd respectively.

I have received 21 Commitments so far from Companions who want to memorize parts of the 4 Royal Arch Degrees, with Commitments promised. Our Grand Officers and DDI's no doubt have more. I want to thank the companions for these commitments, as I know they will help our Royal Arch to grow. In some way I want to recognize those who do memorize their parts, and this will be discussed at our next Grand Officer's meeting. I hope all of you have a wonderful New Year, and God's blessings be with you all.

God Bless each of you and remember, *“Quality Yields Quantity.”*



R. Michael Colpus

R.E.G.C.O.H.

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Chapter Pins

I cannot stress enough the importance of not just dropping off the new incoming Master's pins. We as a body of Masons have a duty to follow up with the officer's and members of our Symbolic Lodges. Whether it be a dinner for the new

Master's as practiced by Livingston Chapter No. 30, a free breakfast for all the Lodge Members in your area, or at least attending Lodges and spreading the word about Capitular Masonry.

I have either just attended or been the part of several Symbolic Lodge Installations and Pin presentations. During the reception, after the Installation ceremony, I have been asked by several Symbolic Lodge Members for Royal Arch petitions. If you can pique their interest during the pin presentation it carries over to the reception and you start getting questions about Chapter and what goes on there. I always tell them it is just another Brother's step towards further light. I stress the individuality of the degree work such as in the Symbolic Lodges, and never fail to mention that the Mark Master Degree is my second favorite degree in Masonry after the Entered Apprentice Degree. Always be ready to answer a Brother's questions and inform him of the new lessons learned by the Companions of Royal Arch Masonry.



KING'S KORNER:

**William B. Fairchild, 627 S. 15th St., Escanaba 49829
(906) 786.8526 wfpopeye@uplogon.com**

Dear Companions:

Another year is almost behind us. How fast the years go. I hope that all of you had the greatest of Thanksgiving's. This is a special time of the year.

Ann and I hope that all of you, and your families have the greatest of upcoming Holiday's. This is a time when our Blessed Saviors Birth is celebrated. I know we all have a special place in our hearts for our Blessed Redeemer.

Companions, please remember the Grand Chapter Winter Retreat, to be held on January 11th through January 13th at Lapeer. Any further information on this please contact R.E. C. Larry Inscho, Grand Scribe. This event is always very interesting to attend. This is a very informative session. Many items are discussed and I always come away from this meeting with new ideas.

Ann and I have been taking a vacation this past month. Planned on visiting friends and relatives while we had a chance. We were in an accident, while going through Atlanta. We were in a traffic hold, and a semi truck ran right into the back of us. Ann and I are doing better, after the car accident. . We are thankful we were not more injured, other than glass cuts and a few bruises. Car was severely damaged, we have just settled with the Insurance people. We thank you for all of the prayers sent for us. Prayers do work.

May we all continue to work together for the improvement of growth in Capitular Masonry as this new year of 2008 comes upon us .

Again, Ann and I wish all of you Companions, and your families, the very merriest of Holiday Seasons.



Indianapolis or Bust by Bicycle



Companions, as you may remember, in the last issue of the Triple Tau I started that I was going to Ride "Old Faithful" (my Bike) to Indianapolis, for the Tri Annual Meeting of General Grand Chapter, to raise money for R.A.R.A. We are in the process of looking at maps and discussing which way we will go. I will again be accompanied by my able-bodied assistant "Nurse Jane" who is also known as my daughter, Jennifer. She will be operating the sage wagon. To you non-bikers, that is mobile parts mobile, that is when she is not too busy antique shopping! Later this winter or early this spring we will drive down to Indianapolis to seek which route will work the best.

There has been an article prepared for the Royal Arch Mason Magazine which will come out this winter announcing the ride and asking for contributions. The Editor of the Royal Arch Magazine, Ed Sebring, has volunteered to be the Target for a PIE in the Face to be thrown by the Grand High Priest of the state that contributes the most money to R.A.R.A. So let's give OUR Grand High Priest that opportunity.

Companions, you have over the last three rides helped to raise over \$4,400 for RARA. If you or your Chapter would like to make a contribution to the fund, make your check out to Paul VanDeLester (and in the memo line put "RARA Bike Ride) 4115 East Kirby Road, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017.

ALL MONEY COLLECTED GOES TO R.A.R.A. NOTHING GOES TO THE COST OF THE RIDE. ALSO, REMEMBER THAT THIS GIFT IS TAX DEDUCTABLE.



Paul C. Howell, PGHP, Grand Secretary

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Secretary's Scribbles:

My Companions:

I sure appears that winter has decided it was time to descend upon us. It has come in with all of it's normal pomp and circumstance. Since I do not like the cold this is no fun at all. Do like the snow but wish it were 75 degrees so that I could enjoy it more.

I guess that is like everything else in life. You have to take the good with the bad.

I have been going through all kinds of medical tests lately. Appears that 6 years, according to some Doctors is too long for a complete checkup. Good news to report and that is that everything appears to be as it was 6 years ago. Just goes to show how Doctor's can get upset too easily, for no good reason. A few other minor tests to go through, but, nothing of any major concern.

Sure hope that each of you were able to celebrate your recent holiday seasons with family, friends and loved ones.

It is amazing how fast this past year has gone by. If you haven't already done so in a few short days you will be flipping the calendar over and find that it is used up. Must put up those for 2008. It has surprised me at how fast mine is already filling up and it isn't even 2008 yet. It is of course better to have a full calendar with places to go and people to meet than it is to be setting around reading the bad news in the paper or watching that idiot tube we call "television". Hope that you also make it a point to get out more often in the coming year. It may go by faster if you do, but at the end of the year it will have been much more enjoyable.

Spending time with friends makes the time spent so much more enjoyable. Where will you ever find better friends than at the various Masonic Activities? Friends to help and support you throughout the remainder of the years.

Beth and I hope for each of you, your families, friends and neighbors only the very best of everything in the coming year. May you find peace, fun and happiness in all your travels, visits and adventures. May you continue to help others to grow and advance in life and in their own spiritual awareness.

May the Supreme Architect of the Universe, by whatever name you worship HIM, watch over you and yours and always keep you in the gentle touch of HIS loving, tender and caring hands.

Always keep a smile on your face and a chuckle in your voice.

Grand Chapter Phone Number Change

I know that the local phone company will not be very pleased with us, but --- Beth and I have dropped their service and will be using our Cell Phones for all voice communication.

Please make this change in your Directory and wherever else you have our number posted.

New Numbers

Paul Howell -- (517) 262.5140

Email: meghpmi97@comcast.net

Beth Masten -- (517) 262.4070

Email: auntiebabe@comcast.net

Grand Chapter Educational Seminar

Annually the Grand Officers hold an Educational Seminar. This is planned and coordinated by the Grand Scribe. This year Larry Inscho has set the dates for Friday, January 11th to Sunday, January 13th in Lapeer, Michigan.

This years programs will include specific areas of work and study for the Grand Officers, the Past Grand High Priests (Red Book Review) and the District Deputy Instructors (helping to establish and determine their roles and responsibilities in the future of the Grand Chapter.

This should be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all.

Mark your calendars to attend.

Livingston Chapter No. 30
Royal Arch Masons
Howell, MI

Livingston Chapter No. 30 will host it's 29th Annual Masters Testimonial Dinner at the Howell Masonic Temple on Saturday, January 12th, 2008.

Social Hour: 6:00 pm

Dinner and short Program to follow.

The dinner honors the newly Installed Masters of the Symbolic Lodges of Livingston County and the surrounding area.

Cost: \$10.00 per person.

Reservations with **remittance** are requested by January 7th, 2008 to:

Ex. Comp. Donald Trumbull

P. O. Box 997

Pinckney, MI 48169-0997

Tickets will be held at the door.

Companions: this is an excellent opportunity for you to bring your fellow Brothers and Companions to a very enjoyable social function put on by a Chapter in Michigan.

This will give you an additional idea of activities that may be helpful to you in spreading the word to the Brothers in your area as to what the Royal Arch is and some of the advantages of belonging.

It is an excellent opportunity for you to introduce and encourage prospective candidates and for you to learn ways to help you increase your exposure in the Masonic Community. Take advantages of what others are doing to help yourself.

Do you have activities going on that you are doing within your area that might be interest and assistance to others around the State? Send these ideas to the Grand Chapter Office for inclusion in the Triple Tau.

Recognition Dinners

February 23, 2008: Romeo Chapter No. 17 to recognize Ex. Companion Woodson Orvis, Region 3 Michigan Meritorious Service Award.

April 12, 2008: Bedford Chapter 188 to recognize Ex. Companion John G. Roe, Region 2 Michigan Meritorious Service Award.

Dates not available for A Eugene Smith of Manistique Chapter No. 127 or for the reception into the Grand Chapter Line of Jim Kiefer or Louis McCray.

More information on all of the above to follow.

Individual Ritual Award

The Dale C. Rickrode Individual Ritual Award is a program of the Grand Chapter which was begun in October of 1997.

The Award is to distinguish those Companions who are willing to perform the various parts within the degrees of Capitular Masonry.

A pin is awarded by the number of points that a Companion is able to earn. It is not based upon a specific length of time to accumulate the points.

The Companion should, if possible, do the ritual work from memory, but, he does not have to be letter perfect. Working for the betterment of the Craft is the important part of this Award. It does require that the Companion keep his own records and submit them as he completes the next 150 points.

There are Four (4) pins which a Companion will be able to earn. Each is based and designed upon the Four (4) Veils of the Royal Craft. Each of these pins can be earned by receiving a progressive number of points. Each Pin is emblematic of the Veils of the Craft, opening toward the pinnacle of the Royal Craft.

The first pin (150 points) is blue in color opening to the purple veil. The second pin (300 total points) is purple in color opening to the red veil. The third pin (450 total points) is red in color opening to the white veil and the fourth or final pin (600 total points) is white in color opening to Yellow (the sunshine of your work.)

Each part, speaking and non-speaking, of every degree has its specific point value attached. Each part may be used twice, but only twice, in accumulating the total points necessary to receive the 4 pins available.

These Awards are to pay special recognition to our Companions who labor in the quarries and who assist the Craft and to identify these Companions within the Grand Chapter.

So far, only 3 Companions have presented their applications for up to 600 points for their work. Dale C. Rickrode (whom the award is named after), Paul C. Howell and Elliott F. Walters.

We know that there are other Companions out there who have and can do the work. Receive the recognition due you and them. Fill out and submit the paperwork, that is all that is required of you.

Get the recognition you deserve and wear and display the veils pins with pride and accomplishment.

Happenings from St. Joseph County Masonic Organizations

It has been a busy summer and fall for the St. Joseph County Masonic organizations. Mount Herman Lodge No. 24 from Centreville began the summer by sponsoring the Chips program and a float at the Centreville's Annual Covered Bridge Days. Working together volunteers from 5 of the counties Masonic Blue Lodges, 3 Chapters, one Council, one county Commandery, and volunteers from three Eastern Star Chapters the program was a success. In a two day event, we were able to identify 136 children and sponsor a Masonic float in the Covered Bridge Days Parade.

Mt. Herman Lodge also erected two signs at the Village limits announcing the presence of the Lodge within the community.



During the fall, Centreville's Lodge once again sponsored the CHIPS program during the week of Centreville's Fair. It was a long week requiring workers to be present from 10am until 10pm. But once again with the support of volunteers from 5 of the counties Masonic Blue Lodges, 3 Chapters, one Council, one county Commandery, and volunteers from three Eastern Star Chapters the program was an overwhelming success. We had the privilege of identifying 436 children and were able to promote Masonic values to all who stopped by the booth.

General Grand Chapter – Ritual Award
“Without the Hope of Fee or Reward”

The General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, International announces the establishment of an award to acknowledge those companions who work “Without the Hope of Fee or Reward” and excel in ritualistic work.

A beautiful jewel has been struck for this purpose and it shall be awarded to those Companions who have performed the following ritualistic parts:

1. Conferred the Mark Master Degree as Right Worshipful Master
2. Conferred the Past Master Degree as Right Worshipful Master
3. Conferred the Most Excellent Master Degree as Right Worshipful Master
4. Conferred the Royal Arch Degree as the High Priest (Joshua)

The Companion must have performed the above parts *from memory*, on at least two (2) occasions for actual candidates. The work must be accomplished between the time period of January 1, 2000 and August 15, 2008.

Nominations

Secretaries of Constituent Chapter are to send nomination forms to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary is to send the nomination form to the General Grand High Priest, who will have the Companion’s name inscribed on the jewel and returned to the Grand Secretary for presentation. The jewel shall be presented to the Companion at a Chapter Convocation.

Please note? This award may or may not be continued into the next triennium.

Nomination Form

(Please duplicate as necessary)

I certify that Companion _____ a member in good standing
of _____ Chapter No. _____ in the Jurisdiction of
Michigan has performed the required ritualistic parts
and is entitled to wear the Ritualistic Jewel.

_____, 200____
Secretary Date

Constituent Secretaries send to:
Paul C. Howell, PGHP, Grand Secretary
17635 Manitou Beach Road
Addison, MI 49220

Grand Secretary will forward to Larry E. Gray, GGHP, General Grand Chapter RAM International

<p style="text-align:center">Directory corrections and changes:</p> <p>Larry A. Inscho (new email) laika@tds.net Paul Howell (new phone) 517 262.5140 G. Gordon Goodman, PGHP, (wrong phone number printed) 727 785.6191 York Rite Sovereign College of Michigan (remove George C. Sellars, Grand Secretary) Washtenaw Chapter 6 (Dark: January and July) Paw Paw 34 (change to: Dark: January & February) Lebanon 126 (send correspondence to: Dallas Rooney, HP. Death of Secretary: Robert Kerr) North Branch 138 (Stated Convocation: 3rd Thursday) Palestine 159 (Terrance Bradley, HP, email address: bagpipemusic@gmail.com) Palestine 159 (Jeff Lee, Secretary Phone: 810.991.1139)</p>	<p style="text-align:center">Your Royal Arch Publication</p> <p>Companions: This is your Royal Arch Publication. You have ideas that you would like others to read about! You have events, past and upcoming, others should know about! You have pictures others should see! Submit them to the Triple Tau editor, that’s me, Paul Howell, by the 15th of the month for them to get in the next issue. Give me your ideas and information and I will put them together for you.</p>
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