

# Michigan Triple Tau



*"Sharing the York Rite is the Right Thing to do"*

Volume X, No. 5

January, 2007

## Plan to join in & share activities

There are a some of the upcoming activities in the Chapters in the months ahead. Mark your calendar for them and attend as many as you can. Show your support to the Chapters and Companions of the State.

Trenton, Royal Arch Degree, Friday, January 12, 7:30 pm. Fish

Fry at 6:30.

Ann Arbor, Past Masters Degree, Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. 7 pm.

Northville, Past Masters Degree, Wednesday, January 24, 7:30 pm (Round Robin)

SEMJYR Association Meeting, Ann Arbor, 7 pm. Dinner, 6:15 pm

Flushing, All Chapter/Council

Degree Day, Saturday, February 3. Livonia, Colonial Chapter, Most Excellent Masters Degree, 7:30 pm (Round Robin)

Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo Chapter, All Chapter/Council Degree Day, Saturday, March 3.

Westland, Wayne Chapter, Walter Hutchins Class, Royal Arch Degree. Dinner, 5:30 pm

## Nominations sought in March

Companions, soon, if you've not already, your Chapter will receive a

nomination form for Meritorious Service Award. There will be given out three Grand Chapter Meritorious Service Awards, one for each of the 3 regions, and one General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal Award for the whole state.

It is hoped that you will take these nomination forms seriously, and

nominate that most deserving Companion in your Chapter. Maybe he's a

Companion who is going through the chairs, or has already gone through

them and now should be recognized for his hard work, and devotion to your Chapter.

Maybe he has never been an officer, but is always there working behind the scenes, helping at the breakfasts and dinners, and other duties. He might be active

in the community, volunteering in other organizations, or taking an active part in PTA, the United Way, etc... Maybe he is young and energetic, and receiving such an award might encourage him to continue his devotion to the Chapter. If he is elderly, and you want to wait another year, another year might be too late and you'll think why did we not do this before.

Remember if a Companion has already received the Regional Chapter Meritorious Service Award, he can still be nominated for the General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal Award. If a Companion was nominated in previous years and not chosen, nominate him again. It did not mean he did not deserve.

We are looking forward to hear from your Chapter soon. Nominations will be due by April 1, 2007.

*Paul D. Williams, Grand Scribe*

Do you have your material into the Publisher of the Triple Tau, The Belderstadts', PO Box 1, Turner, MI 48765 or email: [belderstadts@juno.com](mailto:belderstadts@juno.com) of all of the activities that you have coming up for your Chapter. Those materials must be in on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Companions cannot attend your activities if they do not know about them. The better you advertise the better chance you have of having a larger attendance to show their support.

*Paul Howell, Grand Secretary*

Keep a smile on your face and a chuckle in your voice.



**Think about this: What happens without a keystone?**

# From the Grand High Priest By Harry A. Walbridge

## Unity

As our membership continues to age and decline, we are finding it more difficult and, in some instances almost impossible, to exemplify the degrees. Thus we turn to All Degree Days or to finding another Chapter, which exemplifying the degrees, to initiate our candidate. This situation is what in part, has prompted the emphasis on Unity during this year – Chapters working together. When a Chapter can not do the work

alone a call should be made to surrounding Chapters to assist in the initiation. This has benefits.



Being together with members from another chapter presents an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and introduce our newer companions to companions outside their own chapter. It also might inspire new companions to get involved in the presentation of degrees.

In addition to focusing on unity in degree presentation most Chapters need to consider adding a short educational session at each meeting. This produces a group that is knowledgeable about Royal Arch Masonry, and thereby conversant with those who are uninformed. (Can you see how this can be a benefit to a membership drive?)

A great deal of consideration needs to be given to retaining members after they are initiated. It occurs to me that one way to do this will take a few minutes at the close of a meeting. It alarms me to see companions “jetting out” of the building the minute the Chapter is closed. A new companion can only begin to feel he is being “used” or that a business meeting is what RAM is all about. Forget about a little fellowship. Forget about providing an opportunity for questions and answers. If you do not have a light meal before Chapter meetings, plan a light snack for afterwards. Notify all your members, espe-

cially newer ones, of what will be occurring at each meeting.

Make yourself aware of the Area Degree Team Program, adopted 9 September 2005. (You should find it in the Officers Handbook, Section K) The Membership Committee, listed in the Directory, has expanded the list of Companions who are able and willing to be of assistance in presenting degrees. The Grand High Priest has requested that Grand Officers not perform degree work as a group. Should requests be made to individual officers who do accept, that is different; but to expect the Grand Officer line to put on a degree at all Degree Days is not acceptable to the Grand High Priest. The rationale underlying this is that if Grand Officers do the work, other companions are not given the opportunity to learn and/or perfect their abilities.

*H.A. Walbridge*  
Grand High Priest



Excellence is willing to be wrong.  
Perfection is being right.

Excellence is risk.  
Perfection is fear.

Excellence is powerful.  
Perfection is anger and frustration.

Excellence is spontaneous.  
Perfection is control.

Excellence is accepting.  
Perfection is judgment.

Excellence is giving.  
Perfection is taking.

Excellence is confidence.  
Perfection is doubt.

Excellence is flowing.  
Perfection is pressure.

Excellence is journey.  
Perfection is destination.



## Michigan Triple Tau

The Michigan Triple Tau is published monthly (except June and December by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan).

### Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Michigan Triple Tau is to provide the Royal Craft of Michigan with information and educational articles designed to strengthen and edify Royal Arch Masonry in Michigan.

**Harry A. Walbridge**

Grand High Priest

**Rev. Jan L. Baderstadt, PGHP**

Editor & Publisher

**Deadline:** Fifteenth of the month prior to issue.

### Subscriptions

The Michigan Triple Tau is mailed free of charge to each Michigan Chapter High Priest and Secretary. Others may purchase one year subscriptions for \$5.00 each, payable in advance. Make checks payable to: Grand Chapter of Michigan.

### Send all articles to:

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## Grand Secretary's Scribbles

by Paul C. Howell, PGHP, Gr. Secretary

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Most of you have seen to it that your Masters' Pins have been presented at the Open Installation of Lodge Officers. There are, I know, a few more Installations to be conducted in the month of January. I hope that those of you who made the presentations were able to convince your Brothers that they needed more information to improve themselves in their Masonic knowledge and be better able to instruct others by their newly gained knowledge.

If you did not pick up additional members then you have to do the next step. Attend Lodge with other members of the Chapter and talk about the reasons for joining. We want to and need to improve them. By so doing we can improve ourselves and our Chapters.

Has your Chapter got a plan going for bringing back the Companions of your Chapter to your Stated Convocations and Special Convocations? Have you made arrangements to pick them up and bring them or to have them pick up and bring another.



Have you gone by to visit with them at home? Have you gone out and visited with them at lunchtime in a nearby restaurant? When is the last time that you called upon a widow of your Chapter?

We have to be active and encourage our Companions to be

active in order to show growth and strength in our Chapter.

Brother Secretary: Are you keeping your records up to date? Are you sending in your monthly activity reports. The Grand Chapter Office needs to have the most recent information on all of your members. We need any email addresses to go along with the current addresses of all members of your Chapter. Please assist the Grand Chapter in keeping all records accurate.

*Paul Howell, Grand Secretary*

Keep a smile on your face and a chuckle in your voice.

### Grand Chapter Materials

We still do not have any of the new Rituals on hand in the Grand Chapter Office. Wish I could give you a better update on this. We will keep you informed on the status of these Rituals.

We are also out of the Red Books at the Grand Chapter Office. The Red Book Review Committee has been working diligently for the past several years on the updating of our Red Book. It is a very difficult and arduous task and they have been very diligent in their endeavors. Due to the cost of printing, when the Committee has completed its work we will reprint. We are not reprinting prior to that because of the high cost of publication which would mean that we would be spending good money that could not be recovered when the new Red Books are approved.

As you know, we are on a very austere budget and can not spend money that we do not have, that can not be recovered. Hope that you understand.

*Paul Howell, Grand Secretary*

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## Grand King's Corner

By Howard Little

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Companions, can your chapter answer "yes" to the following questions:

Has your chapter taken in new members?

Can your chapter do all four degrees in your chapter, without depending on an all degree day?

Does your chapter have enough companions to fill all the parts for each degree?

Can your chapter do the degrees with companions that portray the degrees from memory?

Are your candidates inspired and motivated from your degree work to come back to your chapter meetings and ask to take an active part in chapter, also to bring in new candidates?

If the answers to the above ques-

tions are not yes, you may want to read further as your Grand Chapter has a program that can assist you to help achieve the results you need to answer "yes" to all of the questions.

The program referred to is the Area Degree Teams and the chapters using this type of a program are receiving results.

If your chapter wishes to have this program presented to your members, contact me for information or to set up a date for the presentation.

Fraternally,  
*Howard J. Little*  
Grand King

Think of this:  
"Growth through Friendship"

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# Time Flies.....

The holidays are over, for a short time. As fast as time is going at this time in our lives it will only appear to be a few days and they will be upon us again. The time appears to be going along fast, because we are busy. Now that is good. It is good that we are busy. Much better than sitting along not doing anything, and then the time goes by so slow.

Let's hope that we are so busy in our Masonic work this coming year that the time continues to fly by. Perhaps at an even faster rate. When time flies by for this reason we find that it is flying by for the betterment and benefit of ourselves, our Fraternity and for our community.

Let's hope that we are able to bring in more Men into the Fraternity and more Masons into the York Rite. Let's really make it an enjoyable and rewarding year for all.

Let's have the time fly by, by staying busy in the Fraternity for the benefit of all. By staying busy we will be able to improve the Fraternity. It would be a pleasure to have the holidays upon us in a hurry, so that we can celebrate with all, all that has been accomplished.

If we are busy then we are not concerned about our time. We are enjoying ourselves and improving others and improving our Fraternity. We are anxious to see next week come along so that we can improve the Fraternity by assisting others in gaining that which we respect and admire so much.

Let's all hope that the reason that the year is going by so quickly is that we are busy in our Masonic commitments.

There is no better place to be than at a Masonic meeting, with friends, helping others to improve themselves. You will wonder at the end of 2007, where did the year go and know at the same time that it went by with us doing that which we so loved.

The holidays are over, for a short time. The greatest gift we can give is more education and understanding in Masonic growth to our Brothers and Friends.

Encourage others to enjoy all that you currently enjoy. Let's hope that time does fly for all of us.  
Paul Howell, Grand Secretary

## Why do you go to Chapter?

Why should you attend a Lodge or Chapter Meeting or Activity? I know why I do. It is not for the Degree work, which I truly enjoy. It is not for the listening to the health and welfare of the Organization, although I am glad when I hear that they are doing well. It is for the friendships which I renew and for the new Brothers and Companions which I make with each of these visits.

I thoroughly love watching the degree work. As a matter of fact as most of you know I enjoy participating in the work, however, I am find-

ing it much more enjoyable watching the new Companions doing that work than I do in doing it myself. It is great watching others do the work that I can do. Very impressive. Very encouraging.

It is encouraging to see that a Lodge or Chapter is growing in strength; financially, in membership, attendance, ability to perform their own work and in their support within the community.

These are great reasons to attend, however, I attend because I love the time that I have to renew and make new friendships. It is for the few

minutes that we have time together to share with each other.

I attend because I enjoy meeting and visiting with each of you.

I hope that you are attending and visiting your Lodges and Chapters, and as a visitor to others for the same reason.

Looking forward to seeing you in my journeys and in yours.

Paul Howell, Grand Secretary

Keep a smile on your face and a chuckle in your voice.

Upper Michigan York Rite College # 40

# Cordially invites you to the Upper Peninsula Royal Arch All Degree Day Saturday, April 21, 2007

Marquette Masonic Temple  
128 West Washington Street Marquette, Michigan 49855

- 10:00 a.m. (EST) Upper Michigan York Rite College Annual Assembly (Members welcome)
- 11:30 a.m. LUNCH
- 12:30 p.m. MARK MASTER DEGREE .....Marquette # 43
- 1:35 p.m. PAST MASTER DEGREE.....Delta # 118 / Manistique # 127 R.A.M.
- 2:15 p.m. MOST EXCELLENT MASTER DEGREE.....Mackinaw # 134 R.A.M.
- 3:30 p.m. ROYAL ARCH DEGREE..... Grand Chapter Officers
- 6:00 p.m. DINNER at Marquette Masonic Temple
- 7:00 p.m. Royal Arch Widows Degree (Whole Family Invited) - Grand Chapter

Anyone desiring overnight accommodations should make them direct with the Motel:  
Rooms have been blocked for Friday & Saturday Evening at the Cedar Motor Inn - (888) 551-7378 - Mention York Rite when calling (Hospitality Room will be at the Cedar Motor Inn Conference Room)

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### PRE-PAID MEAL RESERVATION REQUIRED

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for Chapter All Degree Day Lunch/Dinner to be held at Marquette Masonic Temple on April 21, 2007.

Cost: \$ 15.00 per person TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: Marquette Chapter, No. 43 Reservations must be received no later than April 10, 2007. Tickets can be picked up at the Temple when you arrive. Send this Reservation Form together with your check to: Bill LeVeque, E 9586 Cedar Street, Wetmore, Michigan 49895 H: (906) 387-3068 Cell: (906) 250-1961, Email: bleveque@up.net