



Freemasonry at its Best



Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families

Missouri York Rite Beacon Magazine

Grand York Rite of the State of Missouri

Missouri York Rite Beacon Magazine
Vol.1 Thanksgiving Edition

Grand York Rite of Missouri:

Missouri York Rite Beacon Magazine is the official publication of the Grand York Rite of the State of Missouri.

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Michael S. Smith, Editor

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To Submitters:

The editor would like to remind you that photograph submissions should include 40-50 words telling who, what, when, where and why. Pictures should be high resolution jpg from a camera (at least 300 dpi). Phone pictures are unacceptable unless your camera app is set to high resolution.



Cover Art: MIC Donald McCormick & VEC Larry Wilson

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Christmas/New Years Issue: December 10, 2023



GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

DONALD MACCORMICK
GRAND SECRETARY
107 S. WILLIAMS STREET
FAYETTE, MO 65248-1017

PHONE (816) 830-1396
EMAIL SECRETARY@MOYORKRITE.ORG
WEB WWW.MOYORKRITE.ORG

Date: November 21, 2023

To: Grand Chapter Officers, Elected and Appointed
Chapter Secretaries
Past Grand High Priests
General Grand Chapter
Mark A. Bean, Grand High Priest 2023-2023
Dr. Paul L. Daniels, Grand Master 2023-2024
Kevin B. Sample, Grand Commander 2023-2024

Subject: Passing of R.:E.:C.: John S. Lambros

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of R.:E.:C.: John S. Lambros, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri. John passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at his home. He leaves behind his wife Jenny, daughter Kara, and son Max as well as a brother Mike and his wife, a sister Rachel and her husband, and several nieces and nephews. A complete obituary will be available later at <https://www.speakschapel.com/obituaries/john-lambros>.

Services will be held at the East 39th Street Community of Christ Church located at 15006 E. 39th Street in Independence, MO. The Visitation will be from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Saturday, November 25, 2023. Services will start at 11:30 AM in the following order:

- Masonic Service will be officiated by V.:E.:C.: Michael E. Wheeler
- Tribe of Mic-O-Say Service conducted by the Boy Scouts of America
- Religious Service will be officiated by V.:E.:C.: Richard A. Riepe

The officers and members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri express their deepest sympathies to the family of our friend and Companion.

Memorials may be made to R.A.R.A or the Shriner's Children Hospitals. If you would like to share a special memory of John with his family, cards and notes may be sent to the following address:

Jenny Lambros and Family, 4010 South Hands Circle, Independence, MO 64055-4134

As a tribute of respect and by order of M.:E.:C.: Mark A. Bean, Grand High Priest, all Missouri Chapters of Royal Arch Masons will present this communication along with the attached memoriam at their next stated meeting, will drape their charters for a period of 30 days from that meeting for our departed companion, and which will be duly recorded in the minutes.

Fraternally,

Donald MacCormick, Grand Secretary

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri



John Samuel Lambros *Grand King 2023-2024*

Born
June 28, 1970
Kansas City, Missouri

Died
November 15, 2023
Independence, Missouri

**As a tribute of respect, the Subordinate Chapters will
drape their Charters in mourning for a period of thirty days.**





A Message from the Grand High Priest

*MEC Mark A. Bean
Grand High Priest*



Companions,

A thankful heart is the parent of all virtues. This Thanksgiving, may you give thanks for everything you are blessed with. On behalf of your Grand Chapter Officers, I would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

M.:E.:C.: Mark A. Bean, Grand High Priest



Message from the Grand Master....

*MIC Dr. Paul L. Daniels
Most Illustrious Grand Master*



Companions,

As I travel through the Great State of Missouri, I am humbled by the warm welcomes that I get from you all. Our Councils are thriving and that is due to your efforts. Keep up the hard work, and in the end, you will see the benefits of those efforts come to fruition.

Cryptic Masonry is prospering. It is a testament to everyone's accomplishments to the craft. That is due to the tenets of Freemasonry in which you have brought to Missouri Cryptic Masonry. Which are brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Brotherly love in the way that you not only greeted me, but all of mankind. Relief as you help all those who are in need of your great gifts. Finally, truth as you impart with the world, not only how great you all are, but you show the truth of how great Freemasonry is. I thank you Companions for all this.

As the chill of the season begins to descend upon us all, it is a sign that the holidays are once again upon us. May you and your loved ones delight and enjoy in the upcoming festivities.

Happy Thanksgiving to you Companions,

MIC Dr. Paul L. Daniels,

Most Illustrious Grand Master
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons



Message from the Grand Commander

SK Kevin B. Sample
Right Eminent Grand Commander



Greetings Brethren, Companions and Sir Knights,

The road has been long and my old truck has been burning up the pavement. I have been from Nevada to Hannibal, Cape Girardeau to St. Joe, and many parts in between. Everywhere I go, I have been received by the best. That is you Sir Knights. You have been nothing but friendly and accommodating. It has been wonderful. Thank you for everything that you do for our Fraternity and each other. Brotherly love, relief, and truth is truly alive here in Missouri because of you.

This Masonic year is almost half over, but our mission is still the same – to improve upon everything that we are doing; making Freemasonry even better each and every day of our lives by improving upon what we do and by sharing it with the rest of the world; showing each and every person that we come in contact with that Freemasonry is and continues to be the premiere Fraternity that this world has to offer. In that manner, and through that conduct, the world will see who we are, and they will want to be a part of our great Fraternity. We must continue our efforts so that Freemasonry is safe and sound for future generations to come. Once again, thank you all for everything you do that makes us the best organization in the world.

Happy Thanksgiving all,

SK Kevin B. Sample, Right Eminent Grand Commander



WHAT IS THE MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH?

The Missouri Lodge of Research is a Masonic research organization composed of Freemasons dedicated to the study of Freemasonry, its history, and who by their contributions make it possible to publish, distribute, and discuss the results of their research.

It was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, AF&AM on September 30, 1941 under the direction of MWB Harry S. Truman. The Lodge gathers and disseminates, by discussion and/or publication, information pertaining to the origin and development of Freemasonry and the members who have contributed to its growth and development.

WHO MAY JOIN?

Any Master Mason. If living in Missouri he may become an Active Member, if in another jurisdiction, he becomes a Corresponding Member, if any organization, library, or lodge desires to join they are considered Subscribing Members.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO BECOME A MEMBER?

Please visit our membership page for details on the current dues amount. Membership in the Lodge of Research entitles you to receive the annual book published by the Lodge along with any other membership publications. Want to pay your dues now? Just visit your account on the grand Lodge Membership Portal on momason.org!

WHAT ARE THESE FUNDS USED FOR?

Administrative costs, printing of Masonic Literature, printing of the membership books and funding approved grants to Masonic Researchers. You may apply for these grants through the Secretary's Office located at 6033 Masonic Drive, Ste. B, Columbia, MO 65202-6568 or e-mail your request for information to info@molor.org.

HOW OFTEN DOES THE LODGE OF RESEARCH MEET?

The Lodge of Research has two stated meetings per year. The first meeting takes place in April or May of each year. The "Annual Meeting" which includes the election and installation of officers is held during the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, AF&AM. Please visit the Events page on this website for further information regarding our meetings.



APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION
WITH THE MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH

Date: _____

I am a Master Mason in good standing and am not under suspension or expulsion from any Lodge of Master Masons in any jurisdiction. I hereby apply for affiliation with the MISSOURI LODGE of RESEARCH.

I am currently a member in good standing of _____ Lodge No. _____ in the jurisdiction of _____ (state).

Annual Dues: \$25.00 within the United States, \$30.00 outside the country to defray postage, \$500.00 for a Life Membership. The Missouri Lodge of Research is now a 501 (c) 3 and is able to gratefully accept your tax-deductible charitable gifts.

Mailing address and contact information (please print):

Name: _____

Street or P.O. Box _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

You can help your Lodge of Research save operating expenses by receiving your quarterly newsletter in electronic format in the future. If you are interested in doing this, please check here: _____. Be sure to include your E-Mail address in the space provided above.

MAIL TO: MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH

6033 MASONIC DRIVE, SUITE B

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65202-6568

Acres of Diamonds

By: Russell Conwell

This is Russell Conwell's famous "Acres of Diamonds" speech—and the inspiration for Temple University's mission.

I am astonished that so many people should care to hear this story over again. Indeed, this lecture has become a study in psychology; it often breaks all rules of oratory, departs from the precepts of rhetoric, and yet remains the most popular of any lecture I have delivered in the fifty-seven years of my public life.

I have sometimes studied for a year upon a lecture and made careful research, and then presented the lecture just once—never delivered it again. I put too much work into it. But this had no work on it—thrown together perfectly at random, spoken offhand without any special preparation, and it succeeds when the thing we study, work over, adjust to a plan, is an entire failure.

The "Acres of Diamonds" which I have mentioned through so many years are to be found in this city, and you are to find them. Many have found them. And what man has done, man can do. I could not find anything better to illustrate my thoughts than a story I have told over and over again, and which is now found in books in nearly every library. This is based on a true story.

In 1870 we went down the Tigris River. We hired a guide at Bagdad to show us Persepolis, Nineveh and Babylon, and the ancient countries of Assyria as far as the Arabian Gulf. He was well acquainted with the land, but he was one of those guides who loved to entertain their patrons; he was like a barber that tells you many stories in order to keep your mind off the scratching and the scraping. He told me so many stories that I grew tired of his telling them and I refused to listen—looked away whenever he commenced; that made the guide quite angry.

I remember that toward evening he took his Turkish cap off his head and swung it around in the air. The gesture I did not understand, and I did not dare look at him for fear I would become the victim of another story. But, although I am not a woman, I did look, and the instant I turned my eyes upon that worthy guide he was off again. Said he, "I will tell you a story now which I reserve for my particular friends!" So then, counting myself a particular friend, I listened, and I have always been glad I did.

He said there once lived not far from the river Indus an ancient Persian by the name of Al Hafed. He said that Al Hafed owned a very large farm with orchards, grain fields and gardens. He was a contented and wealthy man contented because he was wealthy, and wealthy because he was contented.

One day there visited this old farmer one of those ancient Buddhist priests. He sat down by Al Hafed's fire and told that old farmer how this world of ours was made.

He said that this world was once a mere bank of fog. Which is scientifically true. He said that the Almighty thrust his finger into the bank of fog and then began slowly to move his finger around and gradually to increase the speed of his finger until at last he whirled that bank of fog into a solid ball of fire. It went rolling through the universe, burning its way through other cosmic banks of fog, until it condensed the moisture without, and fell in floods of rain upon the heated surface and cooled the outward crust. Then the internal flames burst through the cooling crust, threw up the mountains, and made the hills and the valleys of this wonderful world of ours.

If this internal melted mass burst out and cooled very quickly it became granite; that which cooled less quickly became silver; and less quickly, gold; and after gold, diamonds were made. Said the old priest, "A diamond is a congealed drop of sunlight."

This is a scientific truth also. You all know that a diamond is pure carbon, deposited sunlight—and he said another thing I would not forget he declared that a diamond is the last and highest of God's mineral creations, as a woman is the last and highest of God's animal creations. I suppose that is the reason the two have such a liking for each other.

The old priest told Al Hafed that if he had a handful of diamonds he could purchase a whole country, and with a mine of diamonds he could place his

children upon thrones through the influence of their great wealth.

Al Hafed heard all about diamonds and how much they were worth and went to his bed that night a poor man—not that he had lost anything, but poor because he was discontented and discontented because he thought he was poor. He said: "I want a mine of diamonds!" So, he lay awake all night, and early in the morning sought out the priest.

Now I know from experience that a priest when awakened early in the morning is cross. He awoke that priest out of his dreams and said to him, "Will you tell me where I can find diamonds?" The priest said, "Diamonds? What do you want with diamonds?" "I want to be immensely rich," said Al Hafed, "but I don't know where to go." "Well," said the priest, "if you will find a river that runs over white sand between high mountains, in those sands you will always see diamonds." "Do you really believe that there is such a river?" "Plenty of them, plenty of them; all you have to do is just go and find them, then you have them."

Al Hafed said, "I will go." So, he sold his farm, collected his money at interest, left his family in charge of a neighbor, and away he went in search of diamonds.

He began very properly, to my mind, at the Mountains of the Moon. Afterwards he went around into Palestine, then wandered on into Europe, and at last, when his money was all spent, and he was in rags, wretchedness, and poverty, he stood on the shore of that bay in Barcelona, Spain. When a tidal wave came rolling in through the Pillars of Hercules and the poor, afflicted, suffering man could not resist the awful temptation to cast himself into that incoming tide, and he sank beneath its foaming crest, never to rise in this life again.

When that old guide had told me that very sad story, he stopped the camel I was riding and went back to fix the baggage on one of the other camels. I remember thinking to myself, "Why did he reserve that for his particular friends?" There seemed to be no beginning, middle or end—nothing to it. That was the first story I ever heard told or read in which the hero was killed in the first chapter. I had but one chapter of that story and the hero was dead.

When the guide came back and took up the halter of my camel again, he went right on with the same story. He said that Al Hafed's successor led his camel out into the garden to drink, and as that camel put its nose down into the clear water of the garden brook Al Hafed's successor noticed a curious flash of light from the sands of the shallow stream, and reaching in he pulled out a black stone having an eye of light that reflected all the colors of the rainbow. He took that curious pebble into the house and left it on the mantel, then went on his way and forgot all about it.

A few days after that, this same old priest who told Al Hafed how diamonds were made, came in to visit his successor, when he saw that flash of light from the mantel. He rushed up and said, "Here is a diamond—here is a diamond! Has Al Hafed returned?"

"No, no; Al Hafed has not returned and that is not a diamond; that is nothing but a stone; we found it right out here in our garden." "But I know a diamond when I see it," said he; "that is a diamond!"

Then together they rushed to the garden and stirred up the white sand with their fingers and found others more beautiful, more valuable diamonds than the first. Thus, said the guide to me, were discovered the diamond mines of Golconda, the most magnificent diamond mines in all the history of mankind, exceeding the Kimberley in its value. The great Kohinoor diamond in Queen Elizabeth II's crown jewels and the largest crown diamond on earth in Russia's crown jewels, came from that mine. The pink Princie Diamond which recently sold for \$ 39 million, also came from there.

When the old guide had called my attention to that wonderful discovery, he took his Turkish cap off his head again and swung it around in the air to call my attention to the moral.

Those Arab guides have a moral to each story, though the stories are

not always moral. He said had Al Hafed remained at home and dug in his own cellar or in his own garden, instead of wretchedness, starvation, poverty, and death—a strange land, he would have had "acres of diamonds"—for every acre, yes, every shovelful of that old farm afterwards revealed the gems which since have decorated the crowns of monarchs.

When he had given the moral to his story, I saw why he had reserved this story for his "particular friends." I did not tell him I could see it; I was not going to tell that old Arab that I could see it. For it was that mean old Arab's way of going around such a thing, like a lawyer, and saying indirectly what he did not dare say directly, that there was a certain young man that day traveling down the Tigris River that might better be at home in America. I did not tell him I could see it.

I first heard this story when I was a sophomore in college, in Joplin. I was selling insurance with P.O.J. (Poor Ole Jim). We traveled together across the state. He was teaching me the ropes. He did not enjoy making cold calls. Instead, he trained me to keep close to those clients whom I already had. They were a precious commodity.

Every year or two I take this out and read it again for inspiration. Look at this from many different angles. Apply it in as many ways as you can to yourself, family, vocation, occupation and your York Rite bodies. Dream and dream big!

How many times have we listened to discussions concerning our Companions and Sir Knights who do not attend. Or maybe have not kept current with their dues. We are all too quick to cut them off. They are a precious treasure! We must cultivate them. Nurture them. Communicate with them. Think outside of the "box."

Instead of complaining, develop a plan to contact them in as many ways as possible. Use several different people. Find out with whom do they socialize. What is their favorite restaurant? Call their spouse and children by name. Invite them to coffee and a dessert. Become their friend. Discover their hobbies. Invite them to a round of golf or a fishing trip. Ask them for referrals.

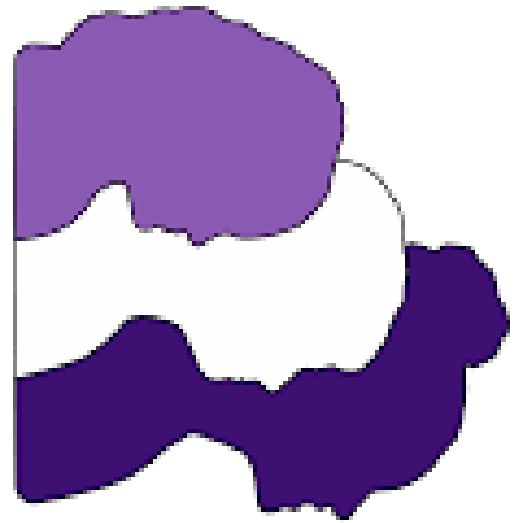
Let them know of the exciting things taking place in your Chapter, Council, and Commandery. Give them a brief overview of the last topic discussed and how it has made a difference in you personally.

Give them updates on our charities. Inform them about the tremendous progress they have made in finding the cures we each need. Personally invite them to your black-tie Gala's. Get close to them. They may have stopped attending because they felt as if no one cared. The old friends they did have may have passed away.

While driving home from the Tri-Annual in Branson, we stopped at an antique dealer in Nixa. One sign caught my attention. Smokey the Bear. "If Not You, Then Who?"

Treat your members with great respect. They are our Missouri York Rite "Acres of Diamonds!"

Richard A. Riepe
Grand Lecturer of the Cryptic Council of Missouri



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Job's Daughters

YOU ARE INVITED TO MARCH IN A Christmas Parade

Sir Knights, give attention! Ely Commandery No. 22 K.T. in Kirksville, Missouri, invites **you** to march with them in the Twelfth Annual Kirksville Kiwanis **Christmas Parade!** Ely Commandery is marching in celebration of their **150th anniversary.**

The Christmas Parade will be held **Saturday, November 25th, 2023 A.D. / 905 A.O.** Lineup begins at 4:30 PM, and the parade starts at 5:30 PM. Please wear your full uniform to march in the Christmas Parade. **Ely Commandery also asks you to bring at least one item of warm children's clothing for local children in need.**

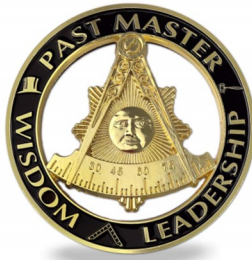
Following the Christmas Parade, enjoy a tree-lighting ceremony led by **Grammy-winning American bluegrass performer, and Christmas Parade Grand Marshal, Rhonda Vincent!** Following the tree-lighting, a traditional **Festive Board** will be held at a local restaurant for those who wish to enjoy further fellowship.

All events will be held within walking distance of each other in Downtown Kirksville. **Your families are encouraged to attend the evening's festivities!**

RSVP to Sir Knight Jeffrey L. Knight, Eminent Commander of Ely Commandery, at elycommandery150@icloud.com or by calling (or texting) (309) 645-4655. In your RSVP, please include your commandery name, your jurisdiction, and the number of sir knights and their guests attending, for both the Christmas Parade and the Festive Board (if responding for more than yourself).



Sir Knight Kevin B. Sample, Right Eminent Grand Commander, of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri requests that all Sir Knights join with him in participating in the Twelfth Annual Kirksville Kiwanis Christmas Parade! A goal has been set of 100 Knights to march in this parade. So come on out and show the world the glory of Missouri Freemasonry.



The Role of Master in Freemasonry: Beyond Mere Rituals to Leadership

By MIC David C. Witte PMGIM

Freemasonry, with its illustrious history and intricate rituals, is a realm where symbolism and substance intertwine. Central to this is the role of the Master of a Lodge. While, superficially, some may misconstrue this role as a mere rite of passage within the Masonic ranks, it is fundamentally a leadership position, demanding responsibility, guidance, and a deep commitment to Masonic principles.

1. Rites of Passage vs. Leadership Roles: Freemasonry undeniably has its rites of passage, most notably in its degree ceremonies where Masons progress and deepen their understanding of Masonic tenets. These rites are symbolic transitions, marking personal growth within the Masonic journey. The Master's role, however, extends beyond symbolic progressions. Being elected as Master is a testament to a Mason's leadership qualities, signifying trust and responsibility.

2. The Mantle of Responsibility: The Master isn't merely a title holder; he shoulders the operational, spiritual, and moral responsibility of the lodge. From ensuring adherence to Masonic laws to guiding ceremonies and rituals, the Master's role is pivotal in maintaining the sanctity and smooth functioning of the lodge.

3. Mentorship and Spiritual Guidance: Beyond administrative duties, the Master plays an indispensable role as a mentor. He assists fellow Brethren in their Masonic journeys, guiding them through challenges, offering insights, and ensuring that the foundational principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth are upheld in all undertakings.

4. Fostering Unity and Harmony: One of the hallmarks of Freemasonry is the harmony and unity among its members. The Master plays a key role in fostering this atmosphere. Through diplomacy, understanding, and compassion, he ensures that the lodge remains a haven of brotherhood and mutual respect.

5. A Continuous Commitment: Even after their tenure, Past Masters continue to play significant roles within the lodge. Their experience, wisdom, and guidance remain invaluable assets. This continuous commitment underscores the fact that being a Master isn't just a transient rite but a lasting pledge to leadership and service. The Master of a Lodge in Freemasonry is not to be equated with mere ceremonial rites or symbolic progressions. It is a profound leadership position, entrusted to those who demonstrate unwavering commitment, deep understanding, and the capacity to guide and uplift their brethren. It stands as a testament to the core Masonic belief in the pursuit of personal betterment, not just for oneself but for the collective good of the lodge and the wider community.

Premium CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Companions and Sir Knights,

If the energy level of your organization were anything like 903 Harrison Street, in the past, it was members hanging out in the foyer and waiting to see if there would be a quorum. If there was no quorum, some would stay and converse, others would head home. And eventually members lose interest in driving to the building and there is no quorum, just to turn around and go home. If there

was a quorum, there was a quick "declaration" opening, a dry, boring agenda, close and go home. Members all lost interest here.

The energy level and kind of energy at your convocations, assemblies and conclaves is particularly important not only to the flow of the gathering, but also to attract and keep your members engaged. The energy level refers to the enthusiasm, excitement, and engagement of your members. I am not saying you need to have an Outback Steakhouse cheering session but bring some energy to your meetings. This energy will serve as a catalyst for productivity and longevity of your organization.

Malcolm X "That which you do not hate, you will tolerate." If you are not upset about your low-quality gatherings, then you are tolerating them and change, or improvement will never come.

A low energy meeting will be counterproductive and draining to the members. Giving you quite the opposite of your desired effect. If your gathering is dry, boring and mundane. Members will disengage, reserve their input, and inevitably you will waste everyone's time. Unfortunately, we have all experienced these gatherings.

With any organization, especially Freemasons, our gatherings serve as an intricate part of collaboration, decision-making, goal setting and educational discussions. The energy level directly affects the end result of these gatherings and for the retention of your membership. A high energy level will generate enthusiasm, motivation, and idea sharing leading to a more active and attended gathering. I personally get energized when the agenda is flowing, there's constructive collaboration as everyone has the same goals in mind. New members share their masonic journey and growth. Sometimes we get off track, but the energy is there.

How do you get this high energy level? Firstly, the gathering needs to have a purpose and a planned agenda. These will play a key role in how effective your gathering is. Is your agenda well-structured, relevant, and clearly communicated in advance to your members? The presiding officer sets the tone for the gathering. He should be encouraging participation and an environment for an open sharing of ideas. One thing we do at 903 Harrison is "tell me something good" where we share positive things going on in everyone's life to not end the gathering on a down note with "sickness and distress". This also gets everyone in the room engaged, if even just a little. The presiding officer has also presented the membership with a topic and asked each member to share his opinion on the topic.

One of the best ways to engage everyone is presentation. Where there is a story to be told, visual aids to share, and time for an open discussion. I usually ask a "plant" to get the conversation started if the group is a little reluctant. The more your members begin to share, the more they will overcome their hesitations, and will be more willing to participate in following discussions.

Understanding and creating a high energy environment at your gatherings will foster more positive outcomes and enhance the productivity of your organization. By creating a well-organized and structured agenda you will be able to establish and eventually maintain a more desired level of energy among the members. Your high energy gatherings will benefit the organization by more contribution and participation for years to come.

If you need any assistance or guidance, that is why your membership and retention committee exist. We are here to help in every way we can but cannot do the work for you. If you plan an event, I would be more than happy to attend and assist in any way possible.

All York Rite bodies should set a 5% increase as a goal for membership.

Fraternally Submitted,

Corey B. Huntsucker
Chairman
Grand York Rite Membership and Retention
yorkmason903@gmail.com



CMMRF

CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The Science of Growing Muscle and Tissue

Research, through funds provided by CMMRF, has proven that we can grow new muscle for people that have lost muscle tissue. This is great news for victims of trauma, such as our soldiers and injuries from motor vehicle accidents. 3D printers are now developed and can be used to 'print' forms for the repair of muscles, ears, noses, and even blood vessels.

These 3D printers can be used just like an inkjet printer, an extrusion molding device, or even made through laser assisted printers. Once the cellular or other material is printed into the form that they need, they can then place the desired cell structures inside of it where it will start to act like the cells they are replacing.

Think of your child as the 3D printer and their Legos are the cells. After telling the child what they need to build, the Legos become the structure and the little round parts on the Legos are the cells that are trained to become the replacement cells. And just as a Lego creation can be just a few pieces or a huge masterpiece, the same is true with these stem cell replacement pieces. These 'bio-materials' are the key pieces to what is known as 'regenerative medicine.'

CMMRF is right in the middle of this technology, and with our donations they can continue to change the face of medicine! Donate to CMMRF today!



Did We Just Cure Diabetes?

Cryptic Masons, through our charity Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation CMMRF.org, provided a major portion of funding for Dr. Michael Murphy and his all-star team, may have done just that! Of course it is still too early to say that we have cured diabetes, but the science is pointing that direction. Imagine your family and friends no longer watching everything that they eat, no longer checking their blood sugar multiple times a day, and no longer injecting insulin. About 9% of the American population has diabetes. The side effects of diabetes is also brutal... vision loss, impaired kidney function, decreased circulation in the legs, etc.

Is this too good to be true? Since it hasn't been tried in humans, it's too early to say definitively. But hope is in the air! Dr. Murphy's team may have found the cause of the 13th leading cause of death, ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm, as well as developing a vaccine for it! Might as well throw in the treat-

ment of heart failure, COPD, spinal cord injury, Stroke patients with a 36 hour window after onset of symptoms, treatment of diabetic foot ulcers and Peripheral Artery Disease, fetal alcohol syndrome, necrotizing enterocolitis, as well as using a 3D printer to create structures for human tissue repair. These discoveries might have even lead another team to find the trigger for Multiple Sclerosis, and once the trigger is found, the treatment is not far behind!

Every Masonic organization is tied to a charity, but this may be one of the best kept secrets in Masonry! And just like every other charity, it cannot continue without funds. These donations aren't getting lost in some rich guy's pocket or paying for a night of drinks. They are used to purchase lab equipment and to supplement the cost of finding and treating these trial patients.

CrypticMasons.org and CMMRF.org are not asking for much, just a few bucks to equal the price of a fancy coffee, a lunch out, or a small family dinner. We all know that nothing in the medical field is cheap, but with adequate funding, Dr. Murphy's team can continue to advance these breakthroughs. And who knows... maybe cancer is next?

Vaccine for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Through funding provided by CMMRF, Dr. Michael Murphy and his team have created a 'vaccine' for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA). Why is this important? As the 13th leading cause of death in the USA, with the major risk associated with men that smoke cigarettes and are over the age of 60. That includes a lot of us!

Dr. Murphy and his team have found the cause of AAA, and by detecting the cause they now understand it and know how to treat it. It has been discovered that the body is fighting itself, and during this fight, the side effect is that it weakens part of the largest artery in the body. With this treatment used in veterans near Indiana University, they have started human trials and have stopped these AAA's from getting any bigger. Imagine that your water hose has a weak spot and is beginning to swell. A water hose can be easily cut and repaired, but the abdominal aorta must be fixed without cutting the bad part out. This operation is also not an easy one, as it is only dealt with once it reaches a critical size. Perhaps the best description of it is a 'ticking time bomb' that can go off at any moment. Treatment has progressed at record breaking speeds, moving from theory to human trials in a fraction of the time that most medications take to go through similar testing. This treatment is proven to stop the weak spot in the artery from growing! The number of lives that this treatment will impact, both the patient and their family, is something to talk about!





★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

DEMOLAY

MISSOURI

The premier fraternity for young men.

www.modemolay.org





VEC Greg Walker, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, presented VEC Jim McManigle, Grand Principal Sojourner, with his Part 1 Ritual Card for the Grand Chapter Ritual Proficiency program. VEC Walker is traveling across the state to present cards to each member



It was my honor and privilege to present VEC Stuart Inglish, Regional Grand Lecturer, with his Part 2 Mark Master ritual card last night at the Stated Convocation of Jefferson City Chapter No.34.



On August 14, 2023, our very own William G. Snyder, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri, was installed as Most Puissant General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International at the Triennial Assembly held at the Chateau on the Lake in beautiful Branson, MO. We are most proud of Bill and wish for him to have a successful term.



Regional Officers visit Kansas City Council No. 45

This evening VIC Laurent Emile-Ergas, RDGM and VIC Ben Caimi, RDGL had their official visit to Kansas City Council No. 45. It was a great evening of fellowship and education.



On August 22 Lebanon Chapter No.64, Bolivar Chapter No.5, and Springfield Chapter No.15 joined together to confer the Royal Arch degree on five candidates. Once again a superb rendition of the Principal Sojourner was given by VEC Tim Southard, DDGL Region 7A. There was a total of 25 Royal Arch Masons present including MEC Mark Bean, GHP; VEC Jim McManigle GRAC; VEC Greg Walker, GM2V; VEC Christopher Story, DDGHP 7B; VEC Tim Southard DDGL 7A.



The Inaugural Black and Red Gala for Royal Arch Research Assistance was held this evening, Friday October 6 2023, at the beautiful Belvoir Winery and Inn in Liberty. This was the old Odd Fellows Home and Orphanage and the perfect location for the event. Our sincere thanks to Orient Chapter No. 102, Royal Arch Masons for organizing the event - particularly to Steve Bright. Huge shout-out to Ben Caimi for a truly magnificent menu. Thank you to Bill Riggs from the Royal Arch Research Assistance Board for traveling from Kentucky to speak at the event. Some beautiful Music was provided by Maria Duhova Trevor from the Springfield Symphony on the harp. Donations to RARA can be made online through: <https://www.iatspayments.com/saaura/PA5FAE0E767DD632A1> Thank you to everyone that supported the event!



Region 6 York Rite Conference

The Region 6 York Rite Conference was held in Jackson, Missouri on October 7, 2023. It was filled with fun, fellowship, and education. Thank you all for hosting and attending this event.





THE GRAND LODGE of MISSOURI

The following presentation was originally intended to be presented to the Craft at Grand Lodge. However, it was never meant to be. Their loss is our gain. This is a beautiful letter to Freemasons, and we are proud to have it presented to us for this publication. We hope that you enjoy it as much as we have.

Most Worshipful Brother, Right Worshipful Brethren, Brethren All:

It is my distinct pleasure and honor to speak with you today. When Most Worshipful Brother Rick asked if I would serve as one of the Grand Orators this year, Immediately, the first statement I heard was, "We will need a translator!" My friends, I don't have an accent – ya'all talk funny.

The Grand Master's message this year was straightforward, simple and necessary:

- No eminence of station should make us forget that we are Brethren
- Treat every Brother as we would want to be treated ourselves
- Masons should act, and behave at all times, as Masons
- He also pointed out that when problems occur in our Lodges it is generally caused by Masons not behaving as Masons toward each other

I think that speaks to one of the most important qualities of a Freemason. What we each should possess, is quite simply – kindness. However, we should not be kind to Freemasons only! We should be kind to everyone. We should be kind in our actions, thoughts, and words. It certainly seems simple enough, does it not?

What is kindness? The Oxford dictionary defines kindness as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. I really do not think that does it justice.

How do you react when driving to or from work and someone cuts you off? What do you think about the person who cuts in front of you at the grocery line? What are your emotions when you are jostled on the sidewalk? I mean, they did not even turn around or apologize. Each of these situations can set us off. They can put each of us in an unfortunate state of mind.

How often have you reacted to an interaction like that? I know I have. It seems I have a special vocabulary especially for the traffic thing.

But you do not know their story. You do not know why they are in a hurry. You do not know why they may be stressed, or why they behaved as they did. Be kind to yourself and let it go. Be kind to them. Wish them a better day and let it pass. You can demonstrate the simple act of kindness in so many different ways.

To the Oxford dictionary I would suggest that the true meaning of kindness is being selfless, caring, compassionate, and unconditionally considerate. Like everything else in life, if you want to be good at it, it takes practice. Which is probably why I still have special words for the driving thing. Being kind is simply a human thing to do.

But how does kindness tie into the very core of Freemasonry? To many, particularly to those we do not know; our outward appearance is how they judge Freemasons. However, it is our words and actions which will dictate how all Freemasons will be judged.

We all know that the square represents morality, honesty, and integrity. It is used to symbolize the importance of living a virtuous and upright life. It also means adhering to ethical principles and acting with fairness and truthfulness in all your dealings in life.

The compasses represent self-discipline and the ability to maintain proper boundaries within your own life. It reminds us to exercise control over our desires and passions, and to make sure that they do not lead to excess or

immoral behavior.

The bringing together of the square and compasses symbolizes our belief in harmony. Harmony between our own morality and principles represented by the square. Harmony of our own self-control and the boundaries we set for ourselves represented by the compasses. This combination emphasizes the importance of balance and the pursuit of a well-rounded and good life.

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, we are introduced to Jacob's Ladder. It is a ladder or staircase that extends from the earth to the heavens. Each rung represents the foundation of our character faith, hope, and charity – the theological virtues. We also find temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice—the cardinal virtues. The symbolism of Jacob's Ladder is taken from [the Book of Genesis,] Genesis 28:10-19. Jacob is the son of Isaac and grandson of Abraham. Jacob dreams of a ladder reaching up to heaven. This serves as a symbol of communication between the earthly and divine realms.

To a Freemason it represents a very critical component in our journey. It symbolizes our journey toward self-improvement and moral enlightenment. Each step up the ladder you take is another step in becoming a slightly better person today than you were yesterday.

How does kindness, the square and compasses, and the goals of Freemasonry come together? That is simple – the Goal of Freemasonry is the Square and Compasses. The square symbolizes the earth. The compasses represent heaven. The staircase or ladder lies between the square and compasses, joining the two together. The further you travel in your Masonic journey, the closer Heaven should come to earth. The goal of freemasonry should be clear.

Therein lies the secret of Freemasonry – bringing heaven to earth:

- Whether that means simply understanding your place in the world,
- Or improving on your own personal conversation with the Creator, for your own self- improvement,
- Or for those within your sphere of influence or family - that determination is yours.

It all starts with kindness. Kindness to yourself, kindness to others. Kindness can change the world! The Square and Compasses can change the world! One interaction at a time, one person at a time.

May it begin with you!

Donald MacCormick
Grand Orator, 2022-2023



Mel Brook: The Man of a Thousand Voices

Sir Knight Tribe, Ph.D.



Although the name of Mel Blanc may not be widely known, over the last seventy-five years untold millions, especially children, have heard his voice in one of its numerous forms. Virtually anyone who has watched a Warner Brothers cartoon has heard his voice as that of Bugs Bunny, Foghorn Leghorn, Porky Pig, and numerous other Warner characters. Blanc did numerous other voices and sounds during the "Golden Age of Radio" and other cartoon voices as well. A lesser-known fact concerning Blanc is his long affiliation with the Order of DeMolay, blue lodge Masonry (fifty-eight years), the Scottish Rite, and Shrine. Entertaining children at Shrine hospitals became one of his principal causes in life.

Melvin Jerome Blank (spelling of last name later legally changed) was born to a Jewish family in San Francisco, California on May 30, 1908. The Blank family, which also included an older brother, Henry, soon moved to Portland, Oregon where Melvin grew to adulthood. For the most part, the youth proved to be an indifferent student, interested only in music and entertaining his friends with voice imitations. Some faculty were impressed while others were not. One unappreciative teacher told him "you'll never amount to anything" adding "you're just like your last name, blank"; Mel legally changed it as soon as he came of age. On the positive side, he joined Sunnyside Chapter of DeMolay Brother Mel Blanc: "The Man of a Thousand Voices" By Sir Knight Ivan Tribe in 1925. He held the group in high esteem for the rest of his life. In 1966, he received the Legion of Honor. On April 27, 1987, Blanc was inducted into their Hall of Fame commenting at the time, "I have been a member of DeMolay for sixty-three years. I thank God and DeMolay for helping me become kind and thoughtful to my parents and all my friends. I had many opportunities to do the wrong things, and I might have done them if it had not been for DeMolay. God bless them."

Intrigued by show business, Melvin watched vaudeville performances whenever he could and also saw opportunities in the new medium of radio. Station KGW went on the air in 1922, and Blanc who dropped out of school prior to graduation, sang there with friends on a program called The Hoot Owls. Since local radio paid only a pittance, the young dropout supported himself primarily as a tuba player. Initially interested in the violin, he switched to the big horn because there were few tuba players and he could get more work. After a couple of years he returned to Portland as pit conductor at the Orpheum Theater. However, vaudeville was on the decline, and with the onset of the Great Depression, it went downhill at an accelerated pace and eventually died.

Mel did, however, scrape up enough money to petition Mid Day Lodge No. 188 in Portland. He received his Entered Apprentice degree on November 20, 1930, and was passed a Fellowcraft on January 5, 1931. Blanc was raised on March 12, 1931. No one recalls whether he took his oral examination with different voices. Although he remained a faithful member of Mid Day Lodge for fifty-eight years, Blanc had virtually no opportunity to serve as an officer because he left Portland that summer for California where he lived most of his life thereafter.

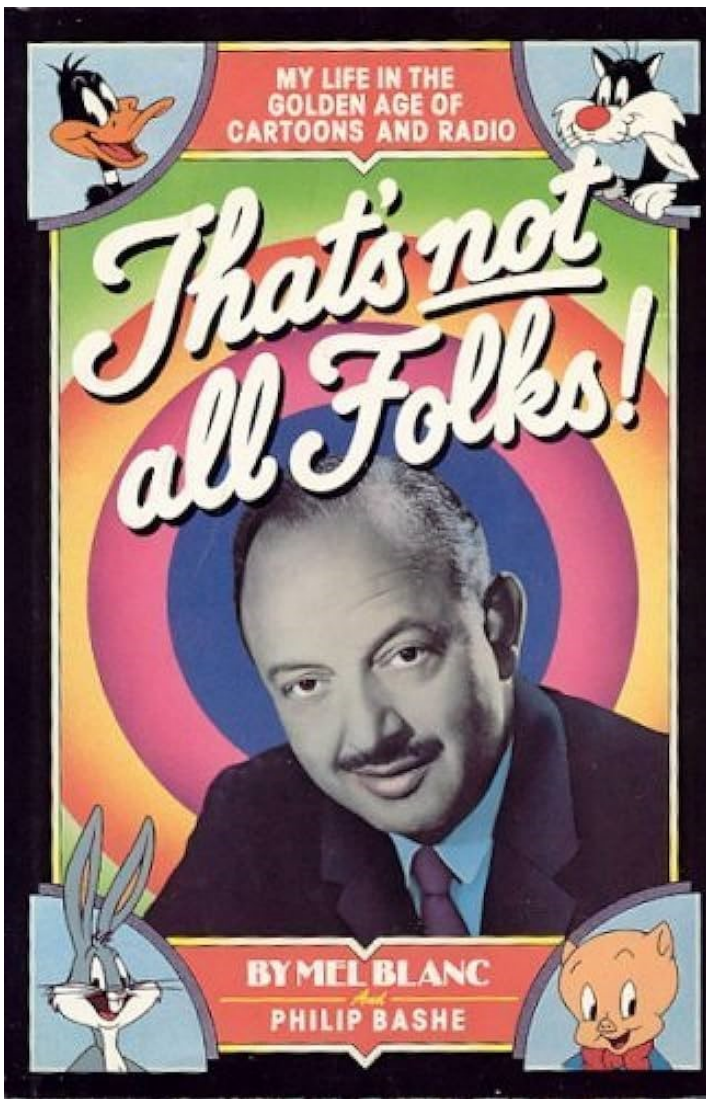
Mel figured that if he was going to make it in show business, then he would have to go to Hollywood. On his way southward he stopped for several months in San Francisco where he took a job as emcee and sometime joke teller in a variety program called The Road Show. Again, it did not pay much, but ethnically-diverse San Francisco enabled him to develop and assimilate a wide variety of dialects. Hollywood remained his ultimate goal where opportunities awaited in sound motion pictures, fledgling network radio, and perhaps musical work. Nonetheless, with the country mired in the Great Depression and more job seekers than positions, Brother Blanc did not expect success to come easily.

Small speaking parts and sounds on network radio programs became Blanc's principal forte, but he seldom cleared more than twenty-five dollars a week in those early days. He did meet his future wife, Estelle Rosenbaum, whom he married in 1933. Some years later the couple had a son, Noel. Eventually, better and more regular parts came Mel's way, but first he returned to Portland for a time where he did most of the male parts and wrote the scripts for a program called Cobwebs and Nuts. Estelle loaned her voice to the show, portraying such girls as the coquettish "Toots Waverly" and the snooty "Mrs. McFlaggpoodle IV." After a time, Mel's imagination wore thin and the Blancs returned to Hollywood.

Soon Brother Mel landed regular voice parts on such network radio shows as Jack Benny, George Burns & Gracie Allen, and Judy Canova. However, voices in animation art (or cartoons) really led to major success. In 1936, he became the voice of Warner Brothers cartoon star, the stuttering "Porky Pig" although he was not the original Porky. Later he added "Daffy Duck" and most notably "Bugs Bunny" who ultimately became the biggest cartoon "star" in the studio's animation department headquartered in the old wooden building known as "Termite Terrace."

As the decade of the forties ensued, Mel Blanc created additional voices to match new characters created by Warner artists. Often the creations were antagonistic to each other: "Tweety" and "Sylvester," "Henery Hawk" and "Foghorn Leghorn" (my personal favorite). Bugs Bunny, and Daffy Duck had two "human" rivals in "Yosemite Sam" and the hapless "Elmer Fudd" (the latter usually voiced by Arthur Bryan). New creations voiced by Blanc that came along in the fifties included the French skunk "Pepe LePew," the Mexican mouse "Speedy Gonzales," "Marvin the Martian," and the "Tasmanian Devil." In addition, he voiced many lesser figures in Warner cartoons and continued in network radio as long as the comedy dramas remained on the networks. Before he had an exclusive contract with Warner, during the decade of the 1950s, he voiced the Walter Lantz creation "Woody Woodpecker." Although he gave up this voice, Lantz Productions continued to dub in the distinctive laugh associated with Woody, a laugh Mel had originally created to irritate his high school principal many years earlier.

Outside of his voice work in cartoons, Mel Blanc had some other achievements. In the 1946-1947 season, he had a CBS network radio program,



The Mel Blanc Show, a sit-com in which he was the hapless owner of a fix-it shop. He had a pair of hit records "The Woody Woodpecker Song" and "I Taut I Saw a Puddy Tat" based on Tweety and Sylvester. He also voiced numerous commercials ranging from the "Frito Bandito" to "Toucan Sam" in Fruit-Loop advertisements. After his exclusive contract with Warner Brothers expired in 1960, he continued to do voice work for them but did other cartoon voices as well including "Barney Rubble" on The Flintstones, "Cosmo Spacely" on The Jetsons, and the cat Heathcliff, the first two characters being products of the Hanna-Barbera company.

Brother Blanc continued Masonic related activity becoming a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Los Angeles, taking his degrees from June 14 through June 16, 1951, giving his occupation as a "motion picture voice artist," and Al Malaikah Shrine Temple on June 29, 1951. Given his God-given talents, one might correctly expect Noble Mel to be drawn to Shrine Hospital work. In his autobiography he wrote, "when I was teenager, I used to pass by the Portland Shrine Hospital located not far from my parents home. Hearing about the work they did with crippled children was what initially piqued my interest in the fellowship and prompted me to seek admission."

Mel Blanc as a Shriner "spent countless hours with the youngsters" adding "I don't know who appreciates whom more, me or them. 'Do Bugs Bunny! Do Tweety! They . . . shout excitedly.'" Then on January 24, 1961, the person Rich Little called "the greatest voice man of all time" had a near brush with death. Brother Blanc's car was one-half of a head-on collision on Sunset Boulevard. He sustained numerous broken bones including thirty-nine fractures in his right leg and a severe concussion and lost nine pints of blood. For three weeks he was in a coma. Blanc finally responded only when his physician, seeing a Warner Brothers cartoon on the TV asked, "How are you feeling today, Bugs Bunny?" Mel replied in his best known voice, that of the brash rabbit. "Eh, just fine Doc, how're you." He then replied to another question when asked of Porky Pig, complete with

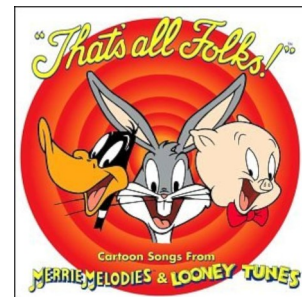
stutter. He credited the two cartoon animals with restoring his senses if not his life. After two more months in the hospital during which time he did some Barney Rubble sound tracks propped up in bed, he went home.

Thankful that he had gotten his life back, Brother Mel began to do more charity work. He wrote, "As soon as I was able to get around, I stepped up my number of appearances . . . at Shrine hospitals." Going to "the Los Angeles Shrine Hospital for the first time since my accident was very emotional for me," he wrote. He explained why, "As I sat talking in Sylvester's voice to a darling little girl, I thanked God for not revoking this undeserved gift."

Although he walked with a cane for some time, Mel Blanc's voice was as strong as ever. While Warner Brothers turned out fewer cartoons from 1960, Mel continued to voice them (until 1969), and Hanna-Barbera TV programs provided plenty of work. With son Noel, he founded Mel Blanc, Associates and turned out numerous advertisements some of which proved quite lucrative. In the 1980s Warner's produced some new animated films and Mel's familiar "what's up Doc" was as strong as ever. However, he did let others do voices of those who yelled loudly a great deal, such as Yosemite Sam and Foghorn Leghorn.

In 1988, Warner Books published Brother Blanc's memoirs, *That's Not All Folks*. Among other things, he noted that his voice totals were more like 850 rather than the thousand which public relations releases often claimed for him. In the volume he discussed his network radio days, how cartoons were made, his friendships with such notables as Jack Benny, his work with Shrine hospitals, and his close family. The memoir closes with his eightieth birthday party, held in 1988 at the Warner lot in Burbank, answering the question as to when he planned to retire with the short reply, "the day I drop."

Unfortunately, that "day" came a little over a year later. In early July, Brother Blanc was hospitalized and fell out of bed, breaking a femur. Complications soon set in causing a stroke; he died on July 10, 1989. A Warner animation artist, Darrell Van Citters, drew a memorable art work that featured a spotlight on a microphone with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and seven other Warner cartoon characters with their heads bowed in silence. Widely reprinted, it was appropriately titled "Speechless." In addition to the more conventional information, his tombstone contains the famous sign-off on Warner Brothers cartoons, "That's All Folks."



Sir Knight Tribe, Ph.D. is a professor emeritus of history at the university of Rio Grand in Ohio, and a holder of the KCT, KYCH, and 33o . He has been a regular contributor to the Knight Templar magazine for many years and resides at 111 E. High Street, McArthur, OH 45651.



The Development of the Royal Arch

From: The Royal Arch Masons of California Website

The Order of the Royal Arch has long been considered a necessary part of Freemasonry. The Royal Arch made its first appearance in England during the 1740s. We may assume that the seeds of this new ceremony were germinating for several years before we have records of it, but we cannot date the practice of the Royal Arch earlier than c. 1740.

It is impossible to say with certainty that the R.A. took its rise in any particular country, but it seems possible that the ceremony came into England from Ireland. Several of the earliest references to the R.A. are undoubtedly Irish, and when the second Grand Lodge, the "Antients", was founded in 1751 it recognized the R.A. as a more-or-less essential adjunct to the normal Craft degrees.

As to the development of the Royal Arch ceremony, there is every reason to believe that it was designed, originally, for Masters of Lodges or for men who had passed the Chair, and although there is some difference of opinion as to the interpretation of the evidence on this point, there is, in fact, a great deal of valuable evidence to support this view. In 1744, Dr. Fifield Dassigny published a book with an enormous title, *A Serious and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of the present Decay of Freemasonry in . . . Ireland*, and, speaking of the Royal Arch, he described it as "... an organized body of men who have passed the chair".

The first known reference to the Royal Arch is found in Faulkner's Dublin Journal, 10-14 January 1743, which reported that Youghal Lodge No. 21 celebrated St. John's Day with a parade in which "the Royal Arch was carried by two Excellent Masters."

If the question is asked, "Why did the Royal Arch appear?", the answer is that a further ceremony, or a separate "Fourth Grade", was inevitable, and this can best be explained by our knowledge of the evolution of the three Craft degrees.

If we go back as far as we dare in English Masonic history to the point where the separate grades or degrees were being evolved, it is almost certain that the first Masonic ceremony was designed for the Fellow or Fellow-craft, i.e., the fully trained Craftsman.

The system of apprenticeship in England makes its first appearance in the 1200s, and it is fairly safe to assume that the next degree was evolved as an admission ceremony for apprentices.

At this stage, and up to the late 1600s, it is certain that the Craft had no more than two admission ceremonies: one for the Apprentice or Entered Apprentice and the other for the "Fellow-craft or Master". Sooner or later it was inevitable that there would be a demand for a separate ceremony to distinguish the Master from the Fellow-craft; both were equal in their technical capacity, but the Fellow-crafts were employees, and those who were fortunate enough to be able to set up as Masters would quite naturally have wanted a separate degree to themselves.

The third degree appeared in England some time around 1724-1725 and, by 1730, it was already fairly widely known, though not widely practiced.

At this stage all three working grades within the Craft were covered by separate ceremonies only one grade remained unrepresented in this fashion. There was still no distinguishing ceremony for the men who had presided in a Lodge, i.e., for the Masters of Lodges, and inevitably a ceremony appeared around 1740. In England the first Grand Lodge, the "Moderns," (1717), gave no official recognition or support to the Royal Arch ceremony, although it was practised in several "Modern" Lodges, and it is interesting to notice that although the ceremony was not regarded as an integral part of the three Craft degrees, it was nevertheless worked in ordinary lodges. R.A. Chapters did not yet exist as separate organizations for conferring the new grade, and there was, of course, no supreme controlling authority.^{[1][2][3]} The first Grand and Royal Chapter of the Royal Arch of Jerusalem ("Moderns") was constituted in London in July 1767. The Grand Lodge of the "Antients" (1751), who had always counted the ceremony as the "root, heart and marrow of Masonry," had not realized the need for a separate controlling body, and their Grand Chapter minutes begin in 1782, after a series of resolutions in their Grand Lodge in

December 1771.

When the rival English Grand Chapters were united in 1817, the "chair-degree" was officially abolished, but it continued to be worked in many places until the 1850s. The Act of Union refers to the Order but does not qualify it as a degree.

To this day, in many of the American jurisdictions, the entrusting, which forms a preliminary to their R.A., is a brief ceremony which contains recognizable elements of the Installation work in England. The first record of conferment of the R.A. degree was George Washington in the lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia, on 22 December 1753.

The Degree of Royal Arch Mason is founded upon the destruction of the first and the building of the second Temple. The ceremonies of the Degree have an interesting and graphic historical setting, and a profound and reverential moral significance.

The value of Royal Arch Masonry will be justly appreciated by all who are Exalted to that Most Sublime Degree, particularly by those who are seeking to complete their Masonic education.

The Triple T.: did not appear until c. 1820.

In Peace, Love and Unity



Cryptic Masonry

by Hugh McCurdy

This article originally appeared in "The Voice of Masonry" in 1880. Even though this article is 143 years old, what is said is still powerful and relevant of anything written today. If we look back far enough Companions, we might discover that we are not that much different from our Brethren of yesteryear.-editor.

To Royal and Select Masters are given the keystone in Masonry, more precious than is known by the vast workers of the quarries; and it has been truthfully proclaimed that to preserve and transmit our principles to those who succeed us, in the hour of low twelve, is a sacred, bounden duty we owe to Cryptic Masonry. Thus believing, we should often revert to the origin of our Institution, for as has been said, it is only by digging to the foundation and examining each stone minutely that we can rightfully estimate what has been erected thereon. It is so with Freemasonry.

The first Grand Council which assembled at Jerusalem was composed of Solomon, King of Israel; Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff – the three Grand Masters, who, unobserved by "prying eyes," devised the entire plan by which the temple should be erected, how the workmen should be divided into various degrees, each class consisting of an independent body, whereby it might be recognized by the peculiar sign of that degree. Most happily, too, they combine within the power of the council the alpha and the omega of Freemasonry, thereby denominating Cryptic Masonry, by way of pre-eminence, the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry. Thus, in fact, the duties, the powers, the responsibilities of a council embrace the whole range of Ancient Craft Masonry, from the conception of the idea in the heart until the candidate is in the full possession of our mysteries, or in our own peculiar language, until he has passed the circle of perfection. It is in the secret vault, securely guarded, that the illustrious companions are required not only to search out the truth but to determine plans and design objects for the private as well as general good of the Craft.

If, therefore, companions who constitute this class and who have passed the circle of perfection – who have witnessed the wisdom, strength and beauty of our principles, would be but true to their obligations and faithful to their requirements, what immense good could be accomplished. No bickerings, no strife and no conflicts could ever exist in the Masonic institution, but peace, concord and tranquility would prevail, and the only contention in the whole Masonic family of earth would be who can best work and who can best agree. Brotherly love and charity would be happily blended together, and the life and character of a gentleman, of a faithful brother and devoted companion, would be merged in the life and purity of a consistent Mason. With you and all illustrious companions who have entered the secret vault rests the responsibility of confusion ever prevailing in the lodge, chapter or council. Hence you perceive that the charge of a Select Master is literally true when it says to each of you "that your obligations are increased in proportion to your privileges; and also let it be your constant care to prove yourself worthy of the confidence reposed in you and of the high honor conferred on, you in admitting you among Select Masters."

The degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason were originally Ancient Craft Masonry; while the old constitutions gave the Master the right and authority to congregate his members into a chapter for the purpose of conferring the Royal Arch, which originally constituted a part of the Third degree. In elucidating the Royal Arch it becomes necessary that other degrees should be incorporated into the chapter for the purpose of explaining the various parts of the temple. Hence the Mark and Most Excellent Master's degrees were added and conferred before the Royal Arch.

In process of time it became necessary to establish a Council whose province it should be to "account for the concealment and preservation of those essentials of the Craft which were brought to light at the erection of the second temple, and which lay concealed from the mystic eye four hundred and seventy years." Hence Cryptic Masonry was inaugurated.

In different countries different systems prevail to inculcate, enforce and teach Ancient Craft Masonry; but in this country it is confined to the degrees of the

lodge, chapter and council. Cryptic Masonry, therefore, is contained within the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, and are numbered eight and nine in the York rite, although in a chronological point of view they are the first and last degrees, hence called the alpha and omega of Ancient Craft Masonry. They illustrate the mysteries of Masonry, and without a full, perfect and complete knowledge of these degrees our Masonic edifice is incomplete and unfinished; or, as has been aptly said, "the degrees of Royal and Select Masters are polished and perfect ashlar, marked and numbered for the building."

Delos, an island of the Cyclades, was famed in ancient times for the number and skill of its artists, and for the splendid temple and oracle of Apollo, raised eventually as an asylum to his mother when she was pursued from place to place by the implacable Juno. From this famous oracle came the fount of inspiration, said to be a chasm from which issued the exhilarating vapor. Over this was built the tripod of the gods from which a populace could breathe the ascending distillations. To the inbred Mason we need not enlarge this illustration. The soul grows as truly as the Mason grows – as the tree takes in the air of the universe, aided by dew and rain, and by its mysterious chemistry transmits sap and fiber into wood and leaf, and flower and fruit, and color and perfume, so does the soul of the Mason drink in living knowledge and by a divine alchemy, as patent and with the same inherent force as that which lies hid in the germ of the acorn. The virtuous Roman truly said, "Either let not that which seems expedient be base, or if it be base, let it not be expedient."

If our Masonic Order were merely a thing of yesterday; if it were local and confined to one country, or to men of one faith; or if the number of its initiates were limited to this or that clime, or its capacity for good or evil devoted to selfish ends, the question of its morality and philosophy might well be consigned to one grave. Not in vain are the winged seeds of truth ever sown. GOD sees that they take root somewhere and grow. The truth of all this is witnessed in the past history of nearly 6,000 years – their pungent facts have been figured on the breast-plate of time. When our ancient brethren dispensed their charities under the frowns of barbarism – when they disregarded the anathemas of kings and rulers and gathered around common altars in fraternal relations – they gave divine evidence that the Order would survive the mutations of time; and if we, brothers, shall continue to emulate the virtues of these good and faithful men, it will survive the wreck of ages yet to come.

Need I say more in honor of that Craft whose acts shine among the brightest in the domain of "good will to man?" Deeds of love, it may well be claimed, are the chief employment of the angels of GOD, and into a soul that overflows with bounty the bright-robed messengers of faith, hope and charity constantly descend. Our faith after death shall be swallowed up in victory; our hope consumed only by its enjoyment, and our charity ended when we shake off mortality in the boundless atmosphere of eternal love.



Interesting Facts on the Knights Templar

From: <https://bricksmaisons.com/blogs/masonic-education/famous-knights-templar-figures>

THE TEMPLAR CROSS AND ITS MEANING

The Knights Templar is a military order that appeared in the Middle Ages. They were active from 1119 till 1317. The Templars were a prominent order in most Christian countries. Initially, a few knights from France founded the order to protect pilgrims and travelers coming to Jerusalem. Shortly after, the Templars became involved in military actions, mainly the Crusades, trade, and politics.

In fact, the Templars were fierce warriors who show braveness and competence in wars—their ideal military attitude made them a subject of interest and admiration. Let's have a closer look at the famous Templar Cross and its significance.

Basically, the cross is visually similar to many Catholic crosses. Unlike the cross seen in churches, the Templars' cross has branches of the same size, based on the Greek model. However, the Templar cross has thinner arms, and its legs are shaped like a "T," known as a Cross Pattée. It is also similar to the Maltese Cross, which wasn't developed until the 16th century. Nonetheless, these two crosses symbolize radically different meanings.

In the beginning, the order had no symbol. Then, they were granted permission to wear distinctive white mantles by Pope Honorius II. The garments symbolized purity and the chastity vows that the brothers took. Later on, they have authorized to add a red cross as a symbol of the suffering that Christ saved us from.

The Knights Templar often wore the cross on the battlefield as a symbol that evokes the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. The Knights Templar were not afraid of death because they are going to heaven fighting for the word of God.

The Templar cross is one of the most symbols associated with soldierly power, braveness, and courage. In fact, it is still worn on clothing and accessories with pride by many people today.

THE TEMPLARS AND THE HOLY GRAIL

The Holy Grail is allegedly the Cup that Jesus Christ used in the Last Supper. It is also thought that it's the same cup that Joseph collected with the blood of Jesus at the cross. It is often seen in many cultures around the world as a miraculous cup that brings youth and happiness. Since the medieval ages, it has been a subject of mystery and curiosity.

In fact, there are many superstitions and legends around the Holy Grail, which makes it difficult for historians to know the truth. Perhaps one of the most well-known legends is King Arthur's and his principal quest for the Holy Grail.

Many believe that the Knights Templar, a medieval monastic order that started in Jerusalem, took the cup and hid it away from the sights. As they aren't many records of the Medieval ages, it's difficult to explain the connection of the Templars to the Holy Grail.

It is possible that the Knights found the Holy Grail when they inhabited the Temple Mount and stored it somewhere else, taking into their consideration their international connections.

The question raised is what happened to the Holy Grail after the Templars' trial. There are two theories concerning that: North or South. The first assumes that it was taken to a secret fortress in Paris, but after the King of France turned on them, they sent it to Scotland. The latter presumes that the Templars took the grail to Portugal, a country they have helped build after they left Cyprus.

Regardless of what we know today about the Holy Grail and its connection to the Knights Templar is truth or legend, it's still an essential element of Medieval history and popular culture. It has inspired many famous books and movies, notably the Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OATHS

The Knights Templar is a monastic military order that started in Jeru-

salem in the Medieval ages. They were active for two centuries and fought in the Crusades alongside the Christians.

Today, the order's name is associated with great warriors, skilled traders, and faithful monks. However, there is so much more to the Templars. The Knights led a life regulated by strict rules and laws. Their daily life revolves around training for battles and refusing secularism. Bernard de Clairvaux wrote the Rule of the order after the Benedictine Rule that the Cistercians followed. One of its main components is swearing oaths.

Oath of Poverty: The Templars had to renounce personal possession and live a minimalistic life. The knights were prohibited from owning land. New members were supposed to donate their cash and property to the order. Even when the Templars' wealth grew over the years, things were no different. Given that the Knights developed a big institution's financial instruction, thanks to their side businesses, they operated as a bank. Nobles who had to leave their homes for a long time to fight in the Crusades placed their wealth under the Templars' safeguard.

Oath of Chastity: It required the monks to stay celibate as long as they were members of the orders. The main focus of taking the oath is not to be distracted with secular matters, such as marriage and engaging in romantic or sexual acts.

Oath of Obedience: Perhaps this is the ultimate oath taken by the Templars. Being a Knight Templar meant living by the Rule and following God's orders first and the Commanders second. It also meant dedicating their lives to spreading the word of God and helping the unfortunate. Although the Knights Templar led a life of discipline, including taking several oaths, it's all contributed to their incredible power.

FAMOUS KNIGHTS TEMPLAR FIGURES

The Knights Templar is one of the most noteworthy and influential monastic orders in history. They were involved in the Crusades, trading, and also banking. They appeared in Jerusalem and vanished after it was captured by the Muslim armies.

The Templars included wealthy and noble members of the society. In many countries, they had the admiration of the monarchy and the papacy. Here is a list of the most famous and influential Templars:

Afonso I, the first King of Portugal: Known as the Conqueror, Afonso spent most of his time in the war with the Moors. He had a great admiration towards the Knights Templar and offered many donations to the order.

Geoffroi de Charney is a French Knight who dedicated his life to the Templars. He was the Preceptor of Normandy in France. He was accepted from a very young age in the order. Geoffroi, along with other Knights, was burned at stake by the King of France, who accused the order of heresy.

Hugues de Payens is perhaps one of the most famous members of the monastic order. He co-founded the order with Bernard of Clairvaux. They also wrote the Latin Rule, which comprises all the rules and the regulations that the Templars lived by. He served as a Grand Master for twenty years and helped build the order as the strong military and financial institution it became.

Bernard of Clairvaux is considered as the Templars saint. He outlined the Rule, which soon after became the code for Christian nobility.

The names mentioned above are just some examples of important figures in history who joined the order and dedicated their lives to it. The Knights Templar had a great influence in the Holy Land and Europe for over two centuries and had direct connections with kings, noblemen, and the church.



From the Secretary's Desk

The Working Tools of Cryptic Masonry

The Grand Master asked for a reminder on setting the sword and trowel in the opening of a Council of Royal and Select Masters.

In the opening of a Council of Select Masters we always opened the Book of Law configured as a Master Mason. I have no doubt there is a very good reason that we do so, and I'm sure someone will let me know at some point in time. But I've always wanted to use the working tools of Cryptic Masonry during the opening. Once the altar is set as a Master Mason add a Trowel and Sword crossed on the altar. I had originally thought the Trowel should be seated on the edge of the left page of the Book of Law, but that could interfere with the Obligations during Degrees so crossed on the corner of the altar would be better.

Why should we do so – the Council is different from Lodge and Chapter but we don't stand alone in the York Rite. The Council completes the story of the journey of a Master Mason, fills in and explains much that is missing from the first 7 Degrees of the York Rite and completes the circle of Perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry. Each degree is a distinct step forward, following logically after the basic degrees of the Symbolic Lodge. The Chapter reveals that which is hinted at in the Lodge, and the Council makes clear the rational means by which the light has been preserved from Ancient times, to anyone who seeks it.

The sword and trowel of a Royal and Select Master's Council are appropriate emblems because the Council is a union or bridge between Ancient Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. They remind us of the secret and important work performed by 27 ancient craftsmen that saved the gift of the Jewish people for the future. Working with a sword in one hand, would be very difficult and slow down the process of constructing the secret vault, yet the importance and need for secrecy of the work they were doing, necessitated that few workers be employed and that every man be armed. They had to protect both the treasures and the work itself.

When used as symbols, the sword and the trowel have a deeper meaning. They show you, as a Royal and Select Master, that as you are building a just and moral life by means of your spiritual temple with the aid of the trowel, and that you must be on constant vigil to defend the work already completed in the secret vaults of your soul with the defense of the sword. The progress you have made in securing the treasures of a righteous life could be damaged or destroyed and the Great Architect's plan for you setback if you allow the enemies of light to freely attack the secret vault of your spiritual temple.

You should always bear in mind you are the Trowel, and the Book is the Sword.

The first occurrence that I know of the Sword and Trowel is from the Book of Nehemiah 4:15:

- 15 When our enemies heard that we knew their scheme and that God had frustrated it, every one of us returned to his own work on the wall. 16 From that day on, half of my men did the work while the other half held spears, shields, bows, and armor. The officers supported all the people of Judah, 17 who were rebuilding the wall. The laborers who carried the loads worked with one hand and held a weapon with the other. 18 Each of the builders had his sword strapped around his waist while he was building...

To a Cryptic Mason that should all sound fairly familiar...

Donald MacCormick PGM
Grand Recorder

Message from the Editor

Welcome Brethren, Companions, & Sir Knights,

We at your Publication Committee have been working hard on getting the best product to our members here in Freemasonry. As you have notice, we have put out a couple of different version of your magazine in prior months. This month we have designed the magazine in a way that is similar to a news stand version. We put it to you all on your opinion on what you like the best.

Our goal is to be new, innovative, and progressive on everything that we present to you. We want to be fresh and exciting in everything that is contained within these pages. We are open to you desires on what your magazine should and could be and hope that you will enjoy this and every future issue to come.

Thank you for all your patience and support,

Publication Committee

The Grand Lecturer Speaks

Companions,

For those that do not know it, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, has 10 ritual proficiency cards. They can be obtained by any members with just a little time and effort. I encourage every High Priest serving this year to get their Part I card: Opening and Closing of Chapter.

Ritual Card applications can be found on the Missouri York Rite website, under Subordinate Chapter Documents (<https://moyorkrite.org/DocsChapter/Chapter%20Proficiency%20Certificate%20Plan%202023.pdf>)

The ten cards are as follows:

Part I Complete Opening and Closing of a Chapter
Part II Mark Master degree (in its entirety)
Part III Past Master degree (in its entirety)
Part IV, Section A Most Excellent Master degree, first section (in its entirety)
Part IV Section B Most Excellent Master degree, King Solomon
Part IV Section C Most Excellent Master degree, Lecture and Charge
Part V Sect. A Royal Arch degree, Captain of the Host, Veils, & Royal Arch Captain
Part V Section B Royal Arch degree, Principal Sojourner
Part V Section C Royal Arch degree, Jeshua (High Priest) including Key Lecture and Apron Lecture
Part V Section D Royal Arch degree, Lecture and Charge

I hope you will be the next Companion that I test and present their proficiency card too.

Fraternally Your in Freemasonry

VEC Greg Walker
Grand Lecturer



Upcoming Events

November 2023

Thursday, November 23, 2023: Happy Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 25, 2023: Ely Commandery No. 22, 150th Anniversary, Kirksville Christmas Parade

December 2023

Friday, December 1-2, 2023: Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Ceremonial; 601 East Saint Louis Street, Springfield, Missouri 65806

Saturday, December 2, 2023: Region 2 York Rite Conference, Lathrop, Missouri

Monday, December 4, 2023: Royal Master Degree Conferral Springfield York Rite Temple, Springfield, Missouri

Wednesday, December 6, 2023: Valley of Joplin SR Valley Council Meeting, Richland, Missouri

Thursday, December 7-9, 2023: Grand York Rite of Texas Grand Session, Waco, Texas

Saturday, December 9, 2023: Region 1 and 4 Table Commandery at Jefferson City Masonic Center

Saturday, December 9, 2023: Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests Annual Meeting, Buckner, Missouri

Saturday, December 9, 2023: Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, 2nd Order Grade Conferral, Mt. Mariah Mausoleum, Kansas City, Missouri

Monday, December 18, 2023: Select Master Degree Conferral Springfield York Rite Temple, Springfield, Missouri

January 2024

Saturday, January 6, 2024: Council Degree Conferrals, Poplar Bluff Masonic Lodge

Saturday, January 13, 2024: Ascalon Commandery Confer all Orders, Ballwin, Missouri

Saturday, January 27, 2024: Royal Arch Degree Conferral, Webster Groves Masonic Temple

Saturday, January 27, 2024: Chaplains Recognition Dinner & Four Chaplains Remembrance Ceremony, Columbia Masonic Center

February 2024

Wednesday, February 7-11, 2024: Allied Masonic Degrees Masonic Week

Friday, February 23, 2024: Valley of Kansas City Scottish Spring Rite Reunion

Saturday, February 24, 2024: Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon - Immanuel Chapel # 10, Columbia Masonic Center

Saturday, February 24, 2024: Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis - Winter Colloquium, location To Be Determined

Wednesday, February 28, 2024: 20th Anniversary and Grand Master Reception hosted by Noble Lodge No. 684

Thursday, February 29-March 3, 2024 - Grand York Rite of Louisiana 2024 Grand Session, Nashville, Tennessee

March 2024

Saturday, March 2, 2024: Grand Master Invitational Royal Arch Masons Class, Jefferson City Masonic Center

Thursday, March 7-9, 2024: Grand York Rite of Arkansas 2024 Grand Session

Friday, March 15-16, 2024: Valley of Joplin Scottish Rite Reunion

Saturday, March 16, 2024: Grand Council Cryptic Day, Columbia Masonic Center, Columbia, Missouri

Saturday, March 30, 2024: Purple Gala for CMMRF, Kansas City, Missouri

April 2024

Thursday, April 11, 2024: The Order of the Amaranth Annual Grand Court Session, Springfield, Missouri

Friday, April 12-14, 2024: Grand Master's Breakfast weekend

Saturday, April 13, 2024 : Commandery Order Conferrals, Poplar Bluff Masonic Lodge

Saturday, April 20, 2024: Drill Completion, Columbia Masonic Temple, Columbia Missouri

Thursday, April 25-27, 2024: Grand York Rite of Oklahoma's 2024 Grand Session

REGION 5 ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY



All Companions and Sir Knights are invited to gather for games, food and more! Join us on

Wednesday December 13th

**Help us celebrate the season by coming together!
Bring a covered dish or dessert to share, and don't forget a roll or Quarters!**

Funds raised will be divided between RARA, CMMRF, and HLPF/KTEF

TABLE CHAPTER

When: Wednesday, December 13th

Time: 6pm Doors Open

7pm- Dinner and Program

Where: St. Charles Masonic Temple

2051 Collier Corporate Parkway

St. Charles, Mo

WHO: YOU!

All York Rite Masons & their Guests

**Open event for your Ladies and Family.
Please RSVP to your Recorder or Secretary.**

Questions? Contact:

D. D. Grand High Priest-V. E. Comp. Michael S. Smith

mikessmith66@gmail.com

R. I. Grand Master-V. I. Comp. Glenn B. Parker

gparker3052@gmail.com

R. Grand Commander- Sir Knight Jacob W. Thompson

Jacobthompson1641@gmail.com

Need to sign up for bringing food?.... Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A48A4AC2AA6FD0-45825442-region>

York Rite in Missouri by Regions

Region 1

Chapters

Hannibal Chapter No. 17
1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
Hannibal Masonic Temple
1102 Central Avenue
Hannibal, MO 63401
Roger McGregor, Secretary
mcgregorclan@charter.net

Caldwell Chapter No. 53
2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Kirkville Masonic Temple
217 East Harrison
Kirkville, MO 63501
William J. King, Secretary
kvyorkrite@gmail.com

Shelbina Chapter No. 99
4th Tuesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Shelbina Masonic Lodge
313 South Center
Shelbina, MO 63468
Darrell A. Wilham, Secretary
kwilham@centurytel.net

Putnam Chapter No. 123
4th Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
Hartford Masonic Lodge Hall
38428 Deerwood
Hartford, MO 63565
Loren D. Lloyd, Secretary
lorenlloyd69@gmail.com

Councils

Kirkville Council No. 44
2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Dark June, July, and August
Shelbina Masonic Temple
313 S. Center
Shelbina, MO 63468
Darrell A. Wilham, Recorder
kwilham@centurytel.net

Trinity Council No. 47
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Hannibal Masonic Temple
1102 Central Avenue
Hannibal, MO 63401
Roger McGregor, Recorder
mcgregorclan@charter.net

Shelby Council No. 59
4th Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.
Shelbina Masonic Lodge
313 South Center
Shelbina, MO 63468
Darrell A. Wilham, Recorder
kwilham@centurytel.net

Commanderies

Excalibar Commandery No. 5
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Hannibal Masonic Temple
1102 Central Avenue
Hannibal, MO 63401
Roger McGregor, Recorder
mcgregorclan@charter.net

Ely Commandery No. 22
2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Kirkville Masonic Temple
217 East Harrison
Kirkville, MO 63501
William J. King, Recorder
kvyorkrite@gmail.com

Malta Commandery No. 72
4th Tuesday at 9 p.m.
Shelbina Masonic Temple
313 S. Center
Shelbina, MO 63468
Darrell A. Wilham, Recorder
kwilham@centurytel.net

Region 2

Chapters

Liberty Chapter No. 3
3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Liberty Masonic Temple
10 East Franklin
Liberty, MO 64068
Don Gilkerson, Secretary
gilkersondon@yahoo.com

Lexington Chapter No. 10
4th Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Lexington Masonic Temple
126 1/2 North 11th Street
Lexington, MO 64067-0283
Martin L. Maulden, Secretary
mauldinmartin@gmail.com

Mitchell Chapter No. 14
1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Masonic Center
605 Robidoux Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501
James Jeffers, Secretary
jimjeffers25@gmail.com

Councils

St. Joseph Council No. 9
1st Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Masonic Center
605 Robidoux Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501
James Jeffers, Recorder
jimjeffers25@gmail.com

John F. Houston No. 42
4th Monday at 8:00 p.m.
Lexington Masonic Temple
126 1/2 North 11th Street
Lexington, MO 64067-0283
Martin L. Maulden, Secretary
mauldinmartin@gmail.com

Liberty Council No. 50
3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Liberty Masonic Temple
10 East Franklin
Liberty, MO 64068
Don Gilkerson, Recorder
gilkersondon@yahoo.com

Commanderies

DeMolay Commandery No. 3
4th Monday at 9:00 p.m.
Lexington Masonic Temple
126 1/2 North 11th Street
Lexington, MO 64067-0283
Lloyd G. Lyon, Recorder
lexingtonyorkrite@gmail.com

Hugh DePayens Commandery No. 4
1st Wednesday at 9:00 pm
St. Joseph Masonic Center
605 Robidoux Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501
James Jeffers, Recorder
jimjeffers25@gmail.com

Liberty Commandery No. 6
1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Liberty Masonic Temple
10 East Franklin
Liberty, MO 64068
Don Gilkerson, Recorder
gilkersondon@yahoo.com

Region 3

Chapters

Independence Chapter No. 10
2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.
Independence Masonic Temple
120 South Pleasant
Independence, MO 64050
Larry Walters, Secretary
larryfred61@gmail.com

Kansas City Chapter No. 28
1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Ivanhoe Masonic Temple
8640 Holmes
Kansas City, MO 64131
Donald MacCormick, Secretary
kcyorkrite@gmail.com

Wyoming Chapter No. 43
1st Monday @ 7:30 p.m. Except
September on 2nd Monday.
Jewel Lodge No. 480
1480 Broadway
Pleasant Hill, MO 64080
John D. Toynton, Secretary
johntoynton@yahoo.com

Orient Chapter No. 102
3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
Kansas City Masonic Temple
903 Harrison Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
Corey Huntsucker, Secretary
yorkmason903@gmail.com

Councils

Shekinah Council No. 24
4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Kansas City Masonic Temple
903 Harrison Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
Corey Huntsucker, Recorder
yorkmason903@gmail.com

Kansas City Council No. 45
1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Ivanhoe Masonic Temple
8640 Holmes
Kansas City, MO 64131
Donald MacCormick, Recorder
kcyorkrite@gmail.com

Independence Council No. 49
4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Independence Masonic Temple
120 South Pleasant
Independence, MO 64050
Larry Walters, Recorder
larryfred61@gmail.com

Commanderies

Kansas City Commandery No. 10
3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Ivanhoe Masonic Temple
8640 Holmes
Kansas City, MO 64131
Donald MacCormick, Recorder
kcyorkrite@gmail.com

Palestine Commandery No. 17
1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Independence Masonic Temple
120 South Pleasant
Independence, MO 64050
John D. Toynton, Recorder
johntoynton@yahoo.com

Oriental Commandery No. 35
1st Friday at 7:00 p.m.
Kansas City Masonic Temple
903 Harrison Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
Corey Huntsucker, Recorder
yorkmason903@gmail.com

Region 4

Chapters

Columbia Chapter No. 4
2nd Monday Odd Months at 6:30 p.m.
and even at 7:30 p.m.
York Rite Masonic Temple
#3 North Masonic Drive
Columbia, MO 65202
Russel S. Hanson, Secretary
hansonr@missouri.edu

Rolla Chapter No. 32
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Rolla Masonic Temple
400 East 2nd Street
Rolla, MO 65401
Steven F. Eberharter, Secretary
sfeberharter@gmail.com

Jefferson City Chapter No. 34
1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Jefferson City Masonic Temple
3211 Masonic Court
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Harold Coots, Secretary
hfcoots@gmail.com

York Rite in Missouri by Regions

Region 4

Chapters

Triune Chapter No. 93
1st Monday at 7:30 p.m.
No meeting if falls on Holiday
Montgomery Lodge #246
2nd and Sturgeon Street
Montgomery City, MO 63361
Phillip Engel, Secretary
Jrwahl_jyr@sbcglobal.net

Councils

Ezra Council No. 32
1st Monday at 8:00 p.m.
Jefferson City Masonic Temple
3211 Masonic Court
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Harold Coots, Recorder
hfcoots@gmail.com

Centralia Council No. 34
4th Monday at 7:00 p.m.
York Rite Masonic Temple
#3 North Masonic Drive
Columbia, MO 65202
Ronald Skiles, Recorder
rskiles@centurytel.net

Rolla Council No. 39
3rd Monday at 7:50 p.m.
Rolla Masonic Temple
400 East 2nd Street
Rolla, MO 65401
Steven F. Eberharter, Recorder
sfeberharter@gmail.com

Commanderies

St. Graal Commandery No. 12
2nd Monday Odd Months at 6:30 p.m.
and even at 7:30 p.m.
York Rite Masonic Temple
#3 North Masonic Drive
Columbia, MO 65202
Russel S. Hanson, Recorder
hansonr@missouri.edu

Prince of Pride No. 29
3rd Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Jefferson City Masonic Temple
3211 Masonic Court
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Harold Coots, Recorder
hfcoots@gmail.com

Rolla Commandery No. 59
3rd Monday at 8:40 p.m.
Rolla Masonic Temple
400 East 2nd Street
Rolla, MO 65401
Steven F. Eberharter, Recorder
sfeberharter@gmail.com

Region 5

Chapters

St. Charles-Missouri Chapter # 1
2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
St. Charles Masonic Temple
2051 Collier Corporate Parkway
St. Charles, MO 63303
Philip R. Cary, Secretary
Stcharlesmissourino1ram@yahoo.com

Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25
2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Saint Louis Masonic Center
15977 Clayton Road
Ballwin, MO 63011-2146
Michael S. Smith, Secretary
mikessmith66@gmail.com

Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78
1st Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Webster Groves Masonic Temple
12 East Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119
Michael Gmoser, Secretary
secretary@or78ram.org

Keystone Chapter No. 146
2nd Monday @ 10:00 a.m.
Freedom Masonic Temple
4557 LeMay Ferry Road
Mehlville, MO 63129
David L. Jacobi, Secretary
oket14@scbglobal.net

Councils

Hiram Council No. 1
4th Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Freedom Masonic Temple
4557 LeMay Ferry Road
Mehlville, MO 63129
Christopher Newbold, Recorder
hircouncil1stl@gmail.com

York Council No. 40
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Jan, Feb, May, June, Sept, Oct
Wentzville Masonic Temple
602 Meyer Road
Wentzville, MO 63385
Michael S. Smith, Recorder
mikessmith66@gmail.com

Jeremiah Council No. 48
3rd Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Webster Groves Masonic Temple
12 East Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119
Terry Coppotelli, Recorder
terry_coppotelli@hotmail.com

Commanderies

Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Beacon Masonic Temple
7251 North Hanley Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042
Michael S. Smith, Recorder
mikessmith66@gmail.com

Ascalon Commandery No. 16
1st & 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
Saint Louis Masonic Center
15977 Clayton Road
Ballwin, MO 63011-2146
Roger Fleer, Recorder
fleerroger@gmail.com

Region 6

Chapters

Wilson Chapter No. 75
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Excelsior Lodge No. 441
204 South High Street
Jackson, MO 63755
Kyle W. West, Secretary
kwwest@live.com

Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114
2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Poplar Bluff Masonic Temple
2303 North Main Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tony DePriest, Secretary
poplarbluffyorkrite@gmail.com

Uel Council No. 129
2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Farmington Lodge No. 132
211 West Columbia Street
Farmington, MO 63640
Clifton Wofford, Secretary
woffordclifton60@gmail.com

Councils

Cape Council No. 20
1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Excelsior Lodge No. 441
204 South High Street
Jackson, MO 63755
Kyle W. West, Recorder
kwwest@live.com

Popular Bluff Council No. 27
2nd Thursday at 8:00 p.m.
Poplar Bluff Masonic Temple
2303 North Main Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tony DePriest, Recorder
poplarbluffyorkrite@gmail.com

Bonne Terre Council No. 43
2nd Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.
Farmington Lodge No. 132
211 West Columbia Street
Farmington, MO 63640
Clifton Wofford, Recorder
woffordclifton60@gmail.com

Commanderies

Cape Girardeau Commandery#55
1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Excelsior Lodge No. 441
204 South High Street
Jackson, MO 63755
Kyle W. West, Recorder
kwwest@live.com

DeSoto Commandery No. 56
2nd Tuesday at 9:00 p.m.
Marcus Masonic Building
126 South Main Street
Farmington, MO 63640
Clifton Wofford, Recorder
woffordclifton60@gmail.com

Poplar Bluff Commandery No. 67
3rd Monday @ 7:00 p.m.
Poplar Bluff Masonic Temple
2303 North Main Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tony DePriest, Recorder
poplarbluffyorkrite@gmail.com

Region 7A

Chapters

Bolivar Chapter No. 5
3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Bolivar Masonic Temple
261 South Killingsworth Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613
Randy Presley, Secretary
pantherdad2772@gmail.com

Springfield Chapter No. 15
4th Monday at 7 p.m.
Except in December, 2nd Monday
Masonic York Rite Temple
1930 West Catalpa
Springfield, MO 65807
Christopher L. Story, Secretary
cstory@arvest.com

Greenfield Chapter No. 38
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Washington Masonic Temple
#5 South Allison
Greenfield, MO 65661
G. Timothy Black, Secretary
tblack@penningtonseed.com

Lebanon Chapter No. 64
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Laclede Masonic Temple
191 West Second Street
Lebanon, MO 65536
Gerald R. Hill, Secretary
flwabic@gmail.com

Councils

Zabud Council No. 25
4th Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Masonic York Rite Temple
1930 West Catalpa
Springfield, MO 65807
Dale R. Lovelace, Recorder
dalelovelace@gmail.com

Lebanon Council No. 56
3rd Tues at 7:00 p.m.
Laclede Masonic Temple
191 West Second Street
Lebanon, MO 65536
Gerald R. Hill, Recorder
flwabic@gmail.com

Bert S. Lee Council No. 58
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Washington Masonic Temple
#5 South Allison
Greenfield, MO 65661
G. Timothy Black, Recorder
tblack@penningtonseed.com

Commanderies

St. John's Commandery No. 20
4th Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Masonic York Rite Temple
1930 West Catalpa
Springfield, MO 65807
Gregory J. Walker, Recorder
gregoryjwalker@gmail.com

Constantine Commandery No. 27
1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Washington Masonic Temple
#5 South Allison
Greenfield, MO 65661
G. Timothy Black, Recorder
tblack@penningtonseed.com

Lebanon Commandery No. 33
3rd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Laclede Masonic Temple
191 West Second Street
Lebanon, MO 65536
Gerald R. Hill, Recorder
flwabic@gmail.com

York Rite in Missouri by Regions

Region 7A

Commanderies

St. Elmo Commandery No. 43
3rd Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.
Bolivar Masonic Temple
261 South Killingsworth Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613
Randy Presley, Recorder
pantherdad2772@gmail.com

Region 7B

Chapters

Tyrian Chapter No. 52
3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Neosho Masonic Temple
4080 LaQuesta Drive
Neosho, MO 64850
Matthew D. Ruth, Secretary
matt.ruth@rocketmail.com

Nevada Chapter No. 56
2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Osage Masonic Lodge No. 303
221 West Walnut
Nevada Mo 64722
Gary L. Jones, Secretary
No e-mail address

Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61
3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Carthage Masonic Temple
1339 Oak Street
Carthage, MO 64836
Chad E. Wagoner, Secretary
cwagoner1865@gmail.com

Joplin Chapter No. 91
1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
Joplin Scottish Rite Building
505 South Byers
Joplin, MO 64801
Royce P. Wahl Jr., Secretary
jrwahl_jyr@sbcglobal.net

Councils

Jasper Council No. 30
1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Joplin Scottish Rite Building
505 South Byers
Joplin, MO 64801
Royce P. Wahl Jr., Recorder
jrwahl45@sbcglobal.net

Carthage Council No. 41
3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Carthage Masonic Temple
1339 Oak Street
Carthage, MO 64836
Chad E. Wagoner, Recorder
cwagoner1865@gmail.com

Neosho Council No. 46
3rd Tuesday of each quarter
at 8:00 p.m.
Neosho Masonic Temple
4080 LaQuesta Drive
Neosho, MO 64850
Matthew D. Ruth, Recorder
matt.ruth@rocketmail.com

Nevada Council No. 65
2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Osage Masonic Lodge Building
221 West Walnut
Nevada Mo 64722
Gary L. Jones, Secretary
IT: Courtney Black
courtney28@sbcglobal.net

Commanderies

O'Sullivan Commandery No. 15
2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Osage Masonic Lodge Building
221 West Walnut
Nevada, MO 64772
Gary Jones, Recorder
No e-mail address

Jasper Commandery No. 31
3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Carthage Masonic Temple
1339 Oak Street
Carthage, MO 64836

Chad E. Wagoner, Secretary
cwagoner1865@gmail.com
Ascension Commandery No. 39
1st Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.
Joplin Scottish Rite Building
505 South Byers
Joplin, MO 64801
Royce P. Wahl Jr., Recorder
jrwahl_jyr@sbcglobal.net

Neosho Commandery No.56
3rd Tuesday at 9:00 p.m.
Neosho Masonic Temple
4080 LaQuesta Drive
Neosho, MO 64850
Matthew D. Ruth, Recorder
matt.ruth@rocketmail.com



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