

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



**MISSOURI
YORK RITE
BEACON**



Grand York Rite of the State of Missouri

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

Grand York of Missouri
107 S. Williams Street
Fayette, MO 65248-1017
(660) 248-5100

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Committee on Publication:

Mark A. Bean
Paul L. Daniels
Kevin B. Sample
Donald MacCormick
Roger D. Fleer
Mike Smith
Larry Wilson
Steven Eberharter
Russell Hanson
Adam Iwanow
Jacob Tompson
Ashley Young

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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 MacCormick & VEC Larry Wilson

Articles to be considered for publication should be e-mailed to:

<https://moyorkrite.org/missouri-york-rite-beacon-news-submission-form/>

Missouri York Rite Beacon Magazine is published monthly. The submission deadline is as follows:

February Issue: January 31, 2024



A Message from the Grand High Priest:

MEC Mark A. Bean
Grand High Priest



Companions,

We are past the Winter Solstice and the holidays are just behind us. It is nice to see the sun out a little while longer. However, the cold has set in for most of us and it is time to check in on our older members of the craft. To make sure that they receive the help that they need. This cold affects everyone one of us, but as the fickle finger of time weighs down on us, the poor weather makes it so much harder on those wiser members of our craft than others. A nice phone call to see how they are doing or if they need anything would make the world of difference in what are hardships to us are great difficulties to others. Remember companions the Tenets of Freemasonry are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Go out and live and share them with the rest of the world. So, until next time, I hope that you and your families are doing well and I look forward to the next time that we see each other.

Fraternally Yours in Freemasonry,

Mark Bean



Message from the Grand Master:

MIC Dr. Paul L. Daniels
Most Illustrious Grand Master



Greetings Companions,

I hope that you all have had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Years. The weather here in Missouri reminds me a lot of a yo-yo. We had warmer weather for Christmas, it started changing for the new year, and we are now in one of the most bitterest of cold snaps that I can remember of recent times. Right now it has once again turning around and has started thawing, but be careful all. The weather man has said that this weekend the temperature will drop once again. In this bitterest of cold, look out for each other. Not everyone is as fortunate as you and may be in need of your assistance. We are Brothers first and foremost. So, as family, we must check in one and all of the members of our Masonic Family to make sure that they are doing well and are not in need as we suffer through the cold winter.

On a different note, we have several wonderful event coming up: Masonic Week is in Washington D.C. in February, the Grand Master's Invitational Classes for the Royal Arch and Cryptic Masons in March, and in June we will be holding the Grand Session once again for the Grand York Rite of Missouri in Springfield, Missouri. Once again, Grand Session will be held at the University Plaza Hotel and the schedule is as follows:

Grand Council Thursday, June 6, 2024
Grand Commandery: Friday, June 7, 2024
Grand Chapter, Saturday, June 8, 2024

More information to follow as we get closer to our sessions. Once again, thank you all for everything that you do. Do good unto all, especially to the household of the faithful, and I hope to see you all at your council meetings very soon.

Fraternally Yours,

Paul Daniels



Message from the Grand Commander:

SK Kevin B. Sample
Right Eminent Grand Commander



Happy New Year Sir Knights,

It has been a whirlwind of a term and thousands of miles so far with many trips, official visits, installations, special events, and of course palling around with the Grand High Priest and the Grand Master. It is work, but it is also so enjoyable to visit old friends and hopefully make new friends along the way.

Most of the official visits are out of the way, just a few more to knock out in the next couple of months. I am gearing up for Masonic Week in Washington D.C., then off to Louisiana and Arkansas Grand Sessions the first of March. Of course we will have our annual drill competition on April 20 in Columbia. All drilling Commanderies are reminded to bring their beauceants (with all of your prior drill streamers attached) – I would encourage you to review the history of military beauceants and battle streamers, this is why they are important to your Commandery. Show up, show off, and let's have some fun.

I want to strongly suggest to every sitting Commander, I expect every Commandery to submit their Honor Commandery Award form NLT April 6, 2024, even if you think you didn't qualify. I get to make that determination and if you have at least made an attempt to do something, I want to try to somehow recognize your efforts and the efforts of the Sir Knights of each Commandery. Don't forget to submit your nominations for the Grand Commandery Lewis and Clark Award to recognize someone special in your Commandery for all their hard work and dedication.

More recently, the weather has forced me to buckle down into the debts of my castle, it has given me the chance to work on some much need administrative work, but rest assured the clouds will soon part, the sun will return, and with warmer weather I will be ready to mount my mighty steed once more and ride back to the local commanderies where we will once again share a nice mug of ale and some much needed fellowship.

With that being said, please remember you fellow Sir Knights, Companions, and Brethren during the bitterest of nights. As the nights run long and their needs are a plenty. A friendly phone call may just help those in need. Life is short and fleeting, remember those less fortunate and do something about it.

Until next time, keep the campfires ablaze, a hog cooking on the spigot, a candle lit in the window, and I will be there as soon as my faithful steed will allow.

Your humble servant,

Kevin B. Sample



MASONIC CALENDAR SYSTEM: WHAT IS 6019 ANNO LUCIS?

Reprinted from: <https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/anno-lucis.html>

The term, Anno Lucis, is used by Freemasons to denote the Year of Light, which is the year in which God created the world, approximately 4,000 years before the beginning of the Common Era.

Anno Lucis is Latin for “Year of Light.” You will also see it abbreviated as “A.L.” It is used as a calendar system within the Freemason fraternity. Year of Light refers to the biblical account of the creation of the universe wherein God spoke and said: “Let there be light,...and there was light.” (Genesis 1:3).

You will often see the abbreviation “A.L.” on Masonic certificates, plaques and building cornerstones. This calendar system is not exclusive to Freemasonry. It was designed as a simplification of the Anno Mundi calendar by an Irish cleric, James Ussher (1581-1656) nearly a century before the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717. Ussher established the year 4004 B.C. (approximately 6013 years ago) as the date of the biblical creation of the Earth.

Why does Anno Lucis add 4000 years to the current year?

First, a short refresher on the meanings of B.C./B.C.E., C.E./A.D. & A.M.:

- **B.C. /B.C.E.:** Before the Christian Era: Some people remember “B.C.” as “Before Christ”, which is somewhat appropriate, if not totally politically correct. B.C.E. is also known as “Before Common Era.”
- **B.C.E.:** denotes the years before the Christian Era/ Common Era. The beginning of the Christian Era is the date when Christ was assumed to have been born. (I say “assumed”, here because not all religions embrace his birth in their religious belief system and because biblical scholars are not completely sure of the exact date of his birth.)
- **C.E./A.D.:** *Anno Domini*: “In the Year of our Lord” Some people remember “A.D.” as “After Death”, however, A.D. is Latin for Anno Domini,
-

- which means “In the Year of our Lord” (referring to Jesus Christ).

In Latin, the base word, “domus” means house, so, technically Anno Domini means In the Year of our House in the Lord”. Due to the obvious Christian overtones associated with the term “A.D., many scholars prefer to use more non-secular abbreviations like C.E. to denote the “Common Era.”

- **A.M.:** *Anno Mundi*: “In the Year of the World” Based on rabbinic calculations, A.M. (Anno Mundi) is the date of the year of God’s creation of the world. Since about the 9th century, various dates have been advanced by Jewish scholars. The current date which is generally accepted within Judaism is October 7, 3761 B.C.

This date is based on calculations performed by Rabbis using the book of Genesis to calculate genealogy mentioned in Genesis and then to add the time that has elapsed since Genesis was written.

Most notably, the calculations are based upon the Seder Olam Rabbah of Rabbi Yose Ben Halafta in the second century C.E. (Common Era.) Anno Lucis: Determining the Year of Light.

Hebrew Calendar: The Hebrew calendar is based upon the Torah (the 5 Books of Moses) which contains several calendar-related commandments, one of which is God’s commandment during the Exodus from Egypt to affix the month of Aviv as the first month of the year. Therefore, it is interesting to note that our current Gregorian calendar in use, today is different from the Hebrew calendar as related in the Torah (known to Christians as part of the Old Testament.)

Those of the Jewish faith conform to the Gregorian calendar and its use as a “civil calendar” (used to denote days of work and other dates.) They use the Hebrew calendar to celebrate religious festivals as set out in the Torah. According to the original Hebrew calendar, the year 2009 (after Rosh Hashanah in September) would be the year 5770. (2009 + 3761.)

- **Julian Calendar – 46 B.C.:** We currently use a form of the Julian Calendar. It was a solar calendar introduced by Julius Caesar in Rome in 46 B.C. It was slightly modified by Augustus. It established our current 12-month year of 365 days with each 4th year having 366 days and delineates the months having 31 or 30 days except for February.

(Each 4th year is called Leap Year because we add one more day in February.)

- **Gregorian Calendar-1582 A.D. to Present:** The Gregorian calendar is the solar calendar in general use, today. The need for the introduction of the Gregorian Calendar came about because a year is not exactly 365 days long. It is actually 365 and a quarter days long. The Gregorian calendar was introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 to correct an error in the Julian calendar by suppressing (omitting) 10 days, which incorrectly made October 5th be designated as October 15th, and it provided that only centenary years (years divisible by 100) which were also divisible by 400 should be leap years. The Gregorian calendar was adopted by Great Britain and the American colonies in 1752.

Anno Lucis: Albert Mackey, Freemason historian, in his Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry published in 1920 describes Anno Lucis as follows:

- “The date used in ancient Craft Masonry; found by adding 4000 to the Vulgar Era; thus, $1911 + 4000 = 5911$.

Anno Mundi: In the Year of the World:

- The date used in the Ancient and Accepted Rite; found by adding 3760 to the Vulgar Era until September. After September, add one year more; this is because the year used is the Hebrew one, which begins in September. Thus, $July, 1911 + 3760 = 5671$, and $October, 1911 + 3760 + 1 = 5672$.”

End of Albert Mackey

The “Vulgar” era which Dr. Mackey describes is what we now call our current year. Vulgar is defined as lacking quality, taste or refinement. What Year was Latin omitted from English Craft Certificates?

- From 1755 until 1819, original Grand Lodge Certificates were written in English, only.

- In 1819, the United Grand Lodge of England (U.G.L.E.) began producing certificates in both Latin and English. From 1766, the Antient’s Grand Lodge issued certificates in English and Latin.
- January 1965: The United Grand Lodge of England (U.G.L.E.) omitted Latin from Grand Lodge certificates.

For more information, about the history of English Craft certificates, see T. O. Haunch’s paper in “Ars Quatuor Coronatorum,” Vol.82, 1969 (class mark: A31 QUA) or browse the subject of “certificates” in their Library and Museum Catalogue.

Anno Lucis – In Summary

As you can see from the foregoing, exact calendar dates are very difficult to discern by scholars because of a lack of written records. Much like the books of the Bible, the many changes calendars have undergone have usually been at the behest of Emperors, Popes and Kings:

- Hebrew Calendar: Based upon the Torah and other rabbinical works, the Hebrew Calendar establishes the date of the earth’s creation by adding 3761 years (after Rosh Hashanah in the Fall) to the current year.
- Circa Mid 1500s, James Usscher established the date of the earth’s creation as 4004 B.C., thus adding 4004 years to the current year.
- The Freemason calendar system adds 4000 years to the current year.

What happened to the other 39 years between the Hebrew calendar and the Freemasons calendar system? The exact answer is lost to us, today, however, consider this:

- In suppressing (omitting) 10 days each year from 1 A.D. thru the mid 1500s, when the Julian calendar was updated to the Gregorian calendar, this could very nearly account for the 39 year difference between the Freemason calendar system and the Hebrew calendar. $(4000 - 3761)$
- Freemasonry is a very old fraternity. It has many archaic words, like Anno Lucis, within its rituals.
- Therefore, $(2020 + 4000)$ would be the year 6020 A.L. (Anno Lucis)



The York Rite Needs You! It is volunteers that keep the heart of York Rite Masonry beating strong. Some roles require specific skill sets, some require time throughout the year, and some at specific times. Sign up and volunteer, let us know what you are interested using the online form at:

<https://moyorkrite.org/volunteer/>



York Rite Leadership Program 101 Personal Effectiveness (Online)

The current York Rite Leadership Training Program consists of six well-developed courses that are designed to give you the skills to be a better leader of yourself and others. The six courses cover three bodies of knowledge, offering both a “theory” (online) course and a practical application (in-person) course.

Level 100: Personal Effectiveness Level 200: Group Dynamics Level 400: Influential Communication The first skill in your journey to becoming a better leader is either the online (101) or in-person (102) class on Personal Effectiveness. This class will help you with assessing your current leadership skill set and abilities while teaching some core leadership principles. Upon completing the class, you are expected to put into practice what you have learned to be a more effective personal leader.

The second class you will attend is Group Dynamics either online (201) or in-person (202). In this class, you will learn how groups develop social identities that lead to better (or not better) outcomes. You will also learn the nuances of working with and motivating

volunteer groups and how to be an effective leader of such groups, whether you are in charge or not.

The third class and the capstone of leadership training is Influential Communications. You may take the class either the online (401) or in-person (40). Here you will learn how the human mind processes language and how to use those processes to communicate more effectively and with greater influence. When you understand how people process language, you can construct your language to create the communication you desire.

The new cycle of online classes for 2024 start on Saturday February 17. To sign up, please send an email to yr1@yorkriteleadership.org/ and use the subject: "February 17, 2024 - 101: Personal Effectiveness" and you will be asked any relevant questions to get you registered. This is the first course in our series, so this is a perfect opportunity for folks to start. Please remember that this program is for all members of our Masonic Family. For detailed information go to:

<https://yorkriteleadership.org/>

In Loving Memory.....

Gentlemen and Sir Knights:

It is my responsibility to report the passing of Sir Knight Charles G Coy, Eminent Past Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8 and Ascalon Commandery No. 16, Past Grand Sentinel (2018-2019) of the Grand Commandery of Missouri on Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Please keep Charley and Else in your thoughts and prayers. Charley was a member of Hope Lodge #251, Bellefontaine No. 25, Royal Arch Masons, Jeremiah No. 48 Royal & Select Masons, Ascalon Commandery No. 16, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, Bruce Harmon Hunt York Rite College, Red Cross of Constantine, etal.

He was a good friend, mentor and confidante.

Sincerely,

SK Roger D Fleeer, Right Eminent
Past Grand Commander, Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
of the State of Missouri



Ely Commandery No. 22 K.T. received S.K. Kevin B. Sample, the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri, for his official visit during their December 14th, 2023 conclave at the Masonic Temple in Kirksville, MO. Pictured are S.K. Jeffrey L. Knight, Commander of Ely Commandery and Regional Grand Commander for Region One of the Grand Commandery (left) and S.K. Sample (right).

(EMC) from Sir Knight Steve Eberharter, Regional Grand Commander for Region 4.



Prior to their meal, Rolla Commandery No. 59, KT held their monthly Conclave. Four Sir Knights were presented with Endowed Membership Certificates





Raymond Robert Jr. received an EMC for the Commandery. Wayne Fryer received an EMC for the Council & the Commandery. Ike Bonebrake received an EMC for the Chapter, Council & Commandery. Kevin Bonebrake also received an EMC for the Chapter, Council & Commandery. Congrats Companions & Sir Knights!



On December 18th, the Rolla York Rite Bodies hosted a Christmas Meal for members of all Bodies that meet at the Rolla Masonic Center, & their family members.

**ELEVATE YOUR
MASONIC LEGACY
BECOME A SHRINER**

**SHRINERS
INTERNATIONAL**

From the Editor

Happy New Year, and welcome to January's issue of your Beacon Magazine. We hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday and that you all are rested, refreshed and ready to return to labor.

Now that the new format of your magazine has been running for a few months, we hope that it is meeting your expectations. Yet, we are open to outside opinions on the development of this magazine. So, if you have any suggestions, idea, or criticism, please forward those e-mails to the Missouri Grand York Rite Office. They will be kind enough to get those e-mails to your publication committee for their consideration and implementation. Your suggestions are the only way that we will be able to improve this publication. We look forward to hearing from you all.

This month, we have an article that we think that you will find enjoyable. The article comes from across the pond, in Jolly Old England, "The Royal Arch and the Pathway, and the Search of Lost Knowledge." written by WBro. Dr. David Harrison, a writer of numerous books and articles for various publications. We are lucky to share an article that is written by such an accomplished author.

Next, we will be sharing something that is near and dear to my heart. It was a love letter to the craft that was created by our very own MIC Donald MacCormick, "My Masonic Story." So, how is this a love letter, you may ask? Well, it is a gathering of stories from our Brethren on who they are, why they are in this glorious fraternity, and it illustrates the love that they have for Freemasonry. It is a splendid way to share with the world why we are the greatest fraternity that has been created on God's Green Earth.

This will be coming out as a series over the next several issues. Hopefully, as people add their stories to the group, we will be able to make it a regular feature in your magazine.

Now we have hit a snag in the development of this project. The intention behind this endeavor is to include everyone's story. This was and is to become a living document. One that would grow as the years and stories came in. A testimonial to future genera-

tions. However, the amount of stories coming in have slowed to a trickle. I can't believe that no one has anything to share. Its not possible. I know for one, me that is, there is a new story everyday of my life. So, take a few minute and share your story with us. We would be excited to read and share them with the craft. Your stories can be shared at:

<https://s.surveypalnet.com/4TGg6d7zz>

Well, since I have runout of paper, I guess I will end it here. May the Blessing of Heaven rest upon you and your families and we will be seeing you all on down the trail.

The Publication Committee



The Shrine Circus is coming to Abou Ben Adhem Shrine in Springfield, Missouri, on February 2nd through 12th, with 18 INCREDIBLE shows!

A LIMITED number of \$9.99 adult tickets are available NOW but only for the FIRST 100 GUESTS---you've gotta buy ONLINE NOW to get that exclusive \$9.99ticket.... and WEEKDAY TICKETS are just \$12.50 each!!PLUS you can get a FREE KID'S ticket too with your purchase of





The Knight Templar of Oriental Commandery No. 35 cordially invite you plus one guest to attend our inaugural dinner:

Four Chaplains Remembrance and Military Chaplin Recognition Dinner

As Christian soldiers it is only right that we recognize those Christian Soldiers that do the Lord's work as a profession. This event recognizes the Chaplains that serve our U.S. Military, veteran organizations, and frontline responders. Last year, we recognized 6 chaplains from the Kansas City area, of which one was a Sir Knight, with a framed certificate and a Grand Commander's challenge coin. Additionally, we were able to donate over \$3,200.00 toward the Missouri Holy Pilgrimage Operating Fund, which our Grand Commander continues to support this year on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., at the American Legion Post No. 202, 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201. Contact Person:

Corey B. Huntsucker **816-500-2772** or **yorkmason903@gmail.com**

We memorialize The Four Chaplains, men of faiths, with a solemn and moving ceremony. These chaplains have paid the ultimate price in the performance of their duties while singing hymns, praying, and giving away their personal gear needed for survival as their ship sank by the impact of a German torpedo.

Your support will help cover the costs of this magnificent event. Below is a list of ways you can support this effort:

- Sponsor a chaplain and guest for \$100.
- Sponsor a table of 8 - this provides 6 meals for chaplains and their guests and 2 meals for members of your Commandery or organization. This allows for your members to interact with our guests more directly - \$350.
- Reserve a table of 8 - which provides for 8 meals for your Commandery or organization - \$350.
- Attendees - \$50 per meal.
- Or donate whatever amount you prefer.
- If you know of a Chaplain that you would like to have recognized. Invite them!! It is free of charge for the Chaplain and a guest.
- I have attached a flier. Spread the word to your places of employment, churches, friends, and neighbors. We need to get our charities in the public eye and quit breaking the banks of our own members.

All net proceeds will go to the Missouri Holy Land

Pilgrimage Operating Fund which offsets the cost of the Holy Land Pilgrimage. From MO to NY and NY to MO legs of their trip. Visit here to support:

<https://tinyurl.com/2024ChaplainRecognitionDinner>

Events of the Night will include:

- Presentation of the Colors by the American Legion Post No. 202 Color Guard.
- Invocation and Introduction of Guests.
- Incidental Music throughout the evening provided by a jazz trio from the University of Missouri.
- Dinner - A three course meal; salad, entrée, and dessert, prepared by an Executive Chef from McCormick and Schmicks in Kansas City.
- Holy Land Pilgrimage Presentation by the Grand Commander or designee.
- Chaplain recognition ceremony.
- The Collection, Offertory, and Homily.
- Candle Lighting Ceremony.
- Retiring of the Colors.
- Benediction, Moment of Silence, and Departing Honors Taps.



The Royal Arch and the Pathway to the Search for Lost Knowledge

by Dr. David Harrison

"It is regrettable that Masonic research during recent years has failed to throw light upon the origin and early history of the Royal Arch." Arthur Edward Waite, 1921.

- "...go and prepare for the foundation of the second temple. But let me lay this injunction upon you - that should you meet with anything belonging to the first temple, you will communicate no part thereof to anyone, until you have faithfully made your report to the Sanhedrin here sitting in chapter."--Richard Carlile, 1825.

"In 1740 he (Ramsay) came over to England and remained in this country for more than a year; after which he returned to France, where the rage for innovation had now fairly commenced. It was during this period, I am persuaded, that the English Royal Arch was fabricated; for very soon afterwards, the ancients publicly announced that 'Ancient Masonry consisted of four degrees' while modern Masonry had only three, the fourth signifying the Royal Arch." Dr. George Oliver, *The American Freemason*, 1859.



Dr. George Oliver

The Moderns and the Antients had finally come together in union in 1813, the rift between the two Grand Lodges being healed. One of the main problems had been the Royal Arch ritual, seen by the Antients as a fourth degree but practiced by the Moderns as the completion of the third degree. The bitterness and feuding had escalated until both sides finally came together, and after the union, it was settled that the Royal Arch was the completion of the third degree, though was practiced in separate 'Chapters,' the Chapter room set out differently than the craft Lodge room. Despite this, the Royal Arch was still referred to as a fourth degree by some stubborn lodges until around 1850, and the rebel Grand Lodge of Wigan still practiced the Royal Arch as a separate degree. In fact, during the Liverpool Masonic Rebellion, the Royal Arch became a point of debate.

In my book, *The Genesis of Freemasonry*, I put forward how Dr. John Theophilus Desaguliers had reconstructed the Masonic ritual in the 1720's, creating the three-degree structure set within Solomon's Temple, describing its initial construction by chief architect Hiram Abiff, disclosing his murder and the attempt at raising him from the dead to regain his lost knowledge. The Royal Arch ritual continues this theme with the rebuilding of Solomon's Temple under Zerubbabel and the search for lost knowledge within the temple ruins, the ritual revealing a number of lost artifacts set within the keystones of three arches in the temple. These artifacts were lost in the destruction of the original temple, but with their discovery, the temple could be reconstructed, the divine measurements of God being found to recreate the most sacred holy place on Earth.

The Royal Arch ritual has obscure origins, and the first tantalizing mentions of the ritual reveal hints that it was put together after the three Masonic degrees were formed, continuing the mystical dramatization of the building and rebuilding of Solomon's Temple. It has the hallmarks of being put together by Desaguliers himself, the ritual continuing the education of the

Master Mason and revealing the Biblical story of Solomon's Temple with embedded themes of the search for hidden knowledge. It does make sense that this could be a fourth degree and that there could have been a proposed fifth degree ritual to follow it telling the story of the construction of Herod's Temple, five being a mystical number in Freemasonry and completing a cycle. Because it was left unfinished may be the reason why, after the death of Desaguliers, the Royal Arch was seen as an awkward "add on" to the third degree. It should have been the fourth degree, but without the fifth to complete the story, it caused debate and confusion.



The Moderns and the Antients discussing the future of Freemasonry

The ritual reveals similar language to the third degree, with poetical elements and references to Newtonian language, the "science of sciences" taking the Master Mason to a higher level of secret knowledge. Indeed, Carlile writing in his *Manual of Freemasonry* in the 1820's calls the Royal Arch a degree in its own right, and the story does standalone rather than acting as a mere add-on to the third degree. In this sense, the Royal Arch seems to be the next chapter in the unfolding story of the temple, taking the search for hidden knowledge and the understanding of the temple, taking the search for hidden knowledge and the understanding of the divine measurement of God to another educational level. As the rebuilding of the temple is announced, "three sojourners from Babylon" arrive to offer their services in the rebuilding. They explain that they suffer the wrath of God because their ancestors "deviated from the true Masonic principles" and "ran into every kind of wickedness." These three men are thus travelling on a path

of enlightenment and have been sent by God to complete a task which will not only redeem them but will educate them. They "deem the lowest situation in the Lord's house an honor" and beg for employment as labourers. During the construction work to rebuild the temple, a discovery is made, and the workers report back: "being at our work early this morning, our companion broke up the ground with his pickaxe, and we, judging from the sound thereof that it was hollow, called upon our companion with his shovel to clear away the loose earth and discovered the perfect crown of an arch.



"With my crowbar I removed the keystone." The Royal Arch ritual describes an archaeological excavation, and the workers from Babylon are deemed trustworthy as they report back to "the Most Excellent Principal" with their discoveries. Like the third degree, a moralistic and educational drama is being enacted, and though not exactly of Shakespearian quality, the ritual is vibrant, embracing themes of how the weakness and wickedness of man can lead to the loss of God's sacred word, the divine measurement of the Temple itself. Through trust, unity, and industry the workers first retrieve a lost scroll from an excavated arch, a scroll which is the long-lost book of the holy

law. The workers return to the excavation, and find a second "crown of an arch," though after removing the keystone, they find nothing. However, judging from the hollow sound beneath, the workers continue to search, and find a keystone of a third arch, and on removing it: "the sun, having now gained its meridian height, darted its rays to the center. It shone resplendent on a white marble pedestal, whereon was a plate of gold. On this plate was engraved a triple triangle, and within the triangles some characters which are beyond our comprehension."



The word "meridian" was also used in the third-degree ritual, again suggesting that Desaguliers had an influence, who in 1724, wrote his *Dissertation Concerning the Figure of the Earth*, a work based on Newtonian principles in which he discussed the "proper method for drawing (the) Meridian," and "observations of the rising and setting sun," putting forward the importance of the meridian in creating more accurate maps. The Royal Arch, like the third degree, certainly celebrates the Newtonian obsession for the search for lost knowledge, and when the workers report back with their glittering find, they are informed as to the importance of the gold plate which displays "the Grand Omnific word." "The three mysterious words" displayed "in a triangular form, is the long-lost sacred word of the Master Mason," and the secret signs of the Royal Arch are thus revealed to the workers. Redemption and trust are earned, and the mysteries are revealed. God's sacred word has been rediscovered, and the temple can be rebuilt.

The essence of the Royal Arch ritual is undoubtedly a continuation of the temple story, in effect a sequel to the third degree continuing the themes of lost knowledge being found by the worthy and that the lost divine word will be revealed to those who seek it for

selfless reasons. A strong moralistic overtone is portrayed as the ritual is dramatically set among the Temple ruins, and the Mason is reminded of the destruction of the most sacred place on Earth which has been destroyed by man's selfish greed and lust for war. As in the third degree where the master is murdered by selfish Masons who lust after the secret for themselves, man's weaknesses have led to the destruction of the temple which can only be rebuilt by finding the true path to enlightenment. The men involved in the reconstruction rediscover the true way to God. The rebuilding of the temple in the Royal Arch ritual reflects the interest within the Premier or Modern Grand Lodge of the rebuilding of St. Paul's Cathedral by the Freemason, Sir Christopher Wren, after its destruction, the parallel being evident when recognizing St. Paul's as the new temple built in London.

The Royal Arch ritual is a powerful reminder of man's folly, and it would be natural for the cycle to continue, with a fifth degree revealing the story of the building of Herod's Temple, again reflecting the theme of the search for lost knowledge and its rediscovery leading to a rebuilding of the temple and a reminder of the importance of following a moralistic and righteous path. The person who wrote the Royal Arch ritual was astutely aware of Biblical knowledge and of the rebuilding taking place after Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon's destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, and the ritual is filled with Biblical characters such as the Principal Zerubbabel and Nebuzaradan, who is described as the chief of Nebuchadnezzar's officers. Herod the Great rebuilt the temple, and this version of the temple was finally destroyed by the Romans. The ritual also contains poetical elements and rhythmic style which reflect the presentation of the third-degree ritual. When reminded that Desaguliers was a practicing Reverend and a poet, as well as being the driving force behind Freemasonry in the 1720's and 1730's, he once again becomes the obvious contender for the authorship of the Royal Arch. Desaguliers would have been familiar with the themes of searching for lost knowledge, especially concerning Solomon's Temple, as his mentor Isaac Newton worked obsessively on searching for the divine measurements of the temple for many years.

Masonic historian, Dr. George Oliver, writing in

the 1850's, had suggested that the Royal Arch was purely an "Antient" Grand Lodge invention, inspired by Jacobite Freemasons in France and brought over to England by Chevalier Ramsay. Oliver rather confusingly put forward that the Modern's had not properly practiced the Royal Arch until the 1770's:

- "The introduction of the Royal Arch degree into the modern system could not be earlier than the dedication of Freemasons Hall in 1776."

Oliver was a prolific Masonic writer in the nineteenth century though he was never far from criticism, his views bringing him into conflict with the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, the Duke of Sussex. Oliver's confusing views on the origin of the Royal Arch have been well and truly criticized over the years, an example being the Masonic historian Leon Hyneman who politely sums up Oliver's misinterpretations:

- "Dr. Oliver [wrote] in his 'Account of the Schism' in England and his elaborate letters on the 'Origins of the English Royal Arch' with seemingly the best intentions to be unbiased in writing to his friend and reverend brother, Dr. Crucifix, yet he wrote as if trammelled and confined in his range of thought to views in accord with all his other Masonic writings."

There had been a Grand Chapter of England formed in London under the authority of Lord Blaney in 1766, Blaney having previously served as Grand Master of the Moderns. From this governing body, many Royal Arch Chapters soon emerged all over England, Wales, and even several in Scotland. Thus, the Moderns were as keen on practicing the Royal Arch as their Ancient counterparts.

Oliver's Jacobite culprit for the creation of the Royal Arch degree was an associate of Desaguliers' named Chevalier Ramsay. Andrew Michael Ramsay had been granted the rather exalted title of Chevalier of the neo-Chivalric Order of St. Lazarus by the Duke of Orleans while in France. Ramsay was a Scottish Jacobite who had gone to France, tutoring the sons of aristocrats, and when in London in 1730, he entered Desaguliers' prestigious Horn Tavern Lodge. In his "Oration" to the Paris Grand Lodge in 1737, Ramsay

presented that Freemasonry was originally linked with the crusaders and the chivalric orders, and after being preserved in the British Isles, it was thus passing to France. There is no historical evidence for what Ramsay put forward in his address in 1737 regarding a link to the crusaders or chivalric orders, but it does reveal that he desired a noble and chivalric origin for Freemasonry. Ramsay was an idealist, and the oration was a presentation of his ideal of Freemasonry, that its principles and values should reflect the romantic chivalrous attitudes of the medieval Knights. Though Ramsay did not set out plans for new Masonic orders in his oration, he certainly inspired them with his ideals of virtuous principles that were reflected in his romantic views of medieval crusader chivalry, and as aristocrats became increasingly interested in Freemasonry, exotic degrees and rituals with romantic chivalric themes would certainly appeal.

Oliver's views that the Royal Arch was an ancient Jacobite creation had some support at the time, and in a feature entitled "The Antiquity of The Royal Arch" in the Freemasons Magazine and Masonic Mirror dated January 1868, his theory was discussed again:

- "...it is clear that Dermott and his associates extended the second part of the third degree until they made it a fourth degree and gave it the name of the Royal Arch. The fact is also clear to me, and to my mind quite conclusive that the English Royal Arch – as a degree or in name – did not exist before 1740."

Lawrence Dermott had been the spiritual leader of the Ancients, founding the successful "Antient" Grand Lodge in 1751, though there had been earlier references to the Royal Arch by the Premier or Modern Grand Lodge which had been founded in 1717. Desaguliers' associate, James Anderson, when writing the first edition of the Constitutions in 1723, writes about the "Arch," saying it was the cement of brotherhood preserved "so that the whole body resembles a well-built arch." In this respect, the "Arch" symbolized strength, not just within architecture but within the society of Freemasonry.

The writer of the feature in the Freemasons Magazine and Masonic Mirror was sternly taking the official line that the Royal Arch was the "completion" of

the third degree, being its "second part," referring to Dr. Oliver's *Origin of the Royal Arch Order of Masonry*, a new edition of which had been published the previous year. The writer, who praised Oliver as "the greatest modern light of Freemasonry," also discussed Oliver's theory on the mysterious "Rite Ancien de Bouillon" manuscript, of which, he stated, had displayed the first "faint glimmerings" of the Royal Arch ritual, "styled by its fabricators as the fourth degree" being "designed by the brethren who seceded from the Constitutional Grand Lodge (the Moderns) in 1739." Oliver had discussed this secession of the Ancients in 1739, in his work, *A Dictionary of Symbolic Masonry*, this date fitting his theory of the Ancients creating the Royal Arch soon after:

- "In the year 1739 a few brethren, having violated the laws of Masonry, were expelled from the Grand Lodge...they appropriated to themselves the exclusive and honourable title of Ancient Masons."

Although the Ancient Grand Lodge was officially founded in 1751 by Lawrence Dermott, there had been an incident of "irregular Making of Masons" by certain brethren reported in the minutes of the Premier/Modern Grand Lodge in 1739, and the Grand Lodge faced increasing ridicule and criticism throughout the early 1740's with "Mock Masonry." Oliver omitted the official "Antient" Grand Lodge foundation date of 1751 from his discussion on the Ancients, again presenting a confusing picture. The ritual displayed in the "Rite Ancien de Bouillon," which Oliver dismissed as "unsatisfactory jumble," has also been described as a "deviant ritual," and though dated to 1740, it largely presented a different version of the Hiram legend which makes up the third-degree ritual. However, what the "Rite Ancien de Bouillon" also reveals is the way writers were experimenting with the Hiram legend at this early stage, introducing different versions of the legend and emphasizing the search for the divine lost word.

The mysterious "Rite Ancien de Bouillon" puts forward a very early mention of the golden plate which appears in the Royal Arch ritual as displaying the lost word, and like the Royal Arch ritual, it also mentions Newtonian terminology with the word

"meridian":

- "...when we retired from labour to refreshment, at High Meridian..."

Oliver recited the origin of the gold plate as put forward by the "Rite Ancien de Bouillon" in his *Origin of the Royal Arch Order of Masonry*:

- "We permitted our lamented Brother, after casting the two pillars of the porch, to engrave the mysterious word upon a plate of gold within the cabalistic figure of our signet, and to wear it as a mark of our royal favor and good will."

A ceremony of finding the golden "medal" on the corpse of the master then took place, with the description of the "medal" revealing a "double triangle enclosed within a circle and the Tetragrammation in the center. The medal was then placed upon the Holy Bible." Oliver discusses how the mysterious word would have been forever lost if not recovered as "if it had fallen into improper hands, they might have prized it for its metallic value" and not "its symbolic worth."

A similar manuscript displaying the confessions of Freemason John Coustos, made before the Portuguese Inquisition on the 21st of May 1743, also puts forward an early reference to the gold plate of the Royal Arch, when Coustos, who had been a member of a London lodge, stated that:

- "When the destruction of the famous Temple of Solomon took place, there was found below the first stone a tablet of bronze upon which was engraved the following word, JEHOVAH, which means GOD."



John Coustos had been made a Freemason in London, but after moving to Lisbon, Portugal where he had founded a lodge, he had been arrested and tortured by the Inquisition. Coustos survived the numerous tortures, and in 1744, he was finally released, going on to write an account of his sufferings.

What is certain is that the Royal Arch story, the re-discovery of the lost word of God hidden among the ruins of the first Temple, was known by the early 1740's. Desaguliers died in 1744, and it is around this time that more evidence of the Royal Arch in practice appears. The earliest record of the Royal Arch in a possible ceremonial context comes from Youghal in Ireland during a public procession on St. John's Day, in the Winter of 1743, when a local newspaper account describes that the Master was preceded by "the Royal Arch carried by two excellent masons," and in 1744, a certain Dr. Fifield Dassigny spoke to an assembly of Masons at York who had gathered under the title of "Royal Arch Masons."

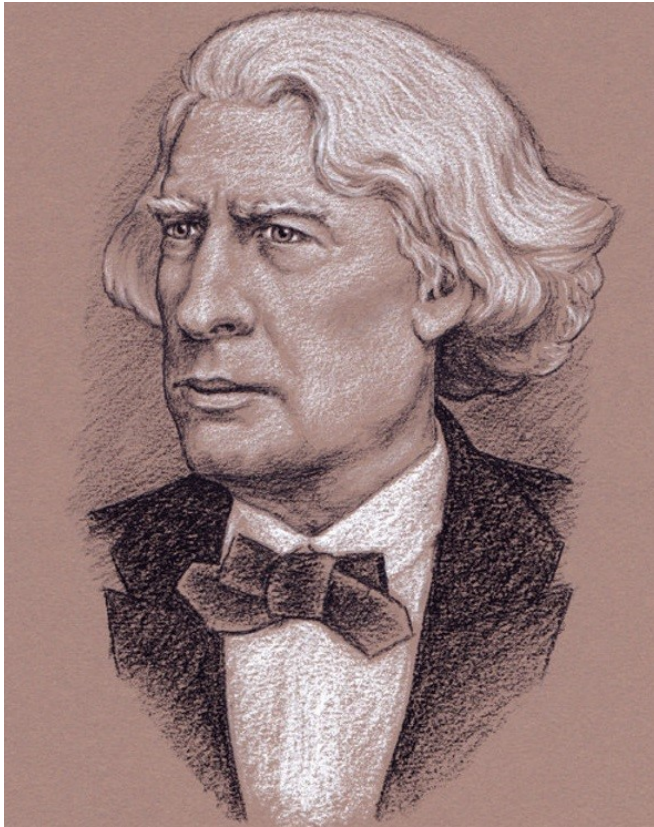
Oliver had dismissed the importance of "Rite Ancien de Bouillon" and confusingly used it as "evidence" for the Royal Arch as being an "Antient" concoction, suggesting that it was an early attempt at creating a degree. But the manuscript does verify the development of the popular Hiram story of the rediscovery of hidden knowledge in the ruins of the Temple, a story that Desaguliers could have easily influenced, a story that remained unfinished and left open for adaptation. Oliver created a confusing picture of events, linking the Royal Arch to the Jacobites, and with the Royal Arch being used as a fourth degree by the Antients, he thus produced a Jacobite agenda.

During the period that Oliver was writing about his dubious theory of the origins of the Royal Arch, other Masonic "degrees" were becoming highly fashionable. The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was founded in 1856, the medieval masons' marks becoming a popular fascination with Freemasons of the prosperous middle classes who were developing an interest in medieval churches and cathedrals, many of which were being renovated or rebuilt in extravagant Victorian gothic style. The foundation of the Mark Grand Lodge has been linked to the increasingly prosperous middle-class Freemasons separating themselves socially from the older ruling aristocrats who were held responsible

for the disastrous running of the Crimean War. It also reveals the desire to form new organizing bodies for further attainable Masonic "degrees," Oliver referring to the fact that during "the building of Solomon's Temple, every Fellowcraft undoubtedly had his own mark, and was therefore a Mark Mason." This was yet another mysterious Masonic degree which could reveal further secrets, though as with the Royal Arch, the Mark degree had originally emerged in the eighteenth century.

As the Victorian era progressed, interest in Freemasonry grew, Masonry becoming a conventional culture. The desire for networking combined with the yearning to discover deeper secrets within Masonry resulted in the success of further rituals and degrees such as the Royal Arch and the Mark Master Mason. With thriving trans-Atlantic ports such as Liverpool, where trade with the United States led to established business contacts, Masonic ideas were also being traded, and a glance at the lodges from Liverpool at this time reveals many visiting brethren from ports in the United States, notably New York. There are a number of Masonic graves in cemeteries in Liverpool that display tales of American brethren who had died at sea and received a Masonic burial in Liverpool. Indeed, there was such a close relationship with Liverpool Masonry that a report on a Masonic Ball held in the Town Hall in Liverpool "in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution" attended by the local Masonic dignitary including the Earl of Zetland and Earl de Grey and Ripon, was featured in the Boston based Freemasons' Monthly Magazine in 1864. Further Masonic degrees and rituals soon took hold in the United States and Oliver's Masonic writings became extremely popular over there.

The desire for further degrees and Masonic mysteries in the United States led to the success of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite" commonly referred to the "Scottish Rite," which was nurtured from an obscure Masonic practice in the early 1800's to a Rite of foremost importance by attorney, Confederate officer, and Freemason Albert Pike. The Scottish Rite enables the Mason to complete thirty-three degrees, each ritual revealing deeper mysteries to the Freemason as he continues his journey to gain the ultimate 33rd degree. Pike received the 4th to the 32nd degree in South



Carolina in 1853 from the Masonic writer Dr. Albert G. Mackey, eventually receiving the 33rd degree and becoming the Grand Commander for the Southern Jurisdiction in the United States. The Scottish Rite has its beginnings in the later eighteenth century and like the "Antients," it has been linked to Jacobite origins. It was Pike however, who reworked and revised the rituals, and by 1872, he published the gargantuan work *Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry*. The Scottish Rite also captured the keen interest of Dr. George Oliver and Dr. Robert Thomas Crucefix in England, and together they helped to form the Supreme Council 33° in 1845, which was warranted by the Northern Jurisdiction in the United States.



WBro. Dr. David Harrison

WBro. Dr. David Harrison is a Masonic historian and leading academic expert on the study of Freemasonry. He has lectured at the University of Liverpool and Hope University, and has worked as an archaeologist, specializing in industrial archaeology in England. WBro. Dr. David Harrison has published several books on the subject of Freemasonry:

- The City of York: A Masonic Guide
- Rediscovered Rituals of English Freemasonry
- The Rite of Seven Degrees
- Freemasonry and Fraternal Societies
- The Lost Rites and Rituals of Freemasonry
- The Genesis of Freemasonry
- A Quick Guide to Freemasonry
- The Liverpool Masonic Rebellion and the Wigan Grand Lodge

They can be found at Lewis Masonic:

<https://www.lewismasonic.co.uk/>

In search bar, type in David Harrison.



ANCIENT CRAFT MASONRY IS JUST THE BEGINNING

2024 Grand Masters' Royal Arch Class

IN HONOR OF
COMPANION AND M.:W.:B.: CHARLES F. WIEGERT
GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE
&
M.:E.:C.: MARK A. BEAN
GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS

THE RECOVERY OF WHAT WAS LOST

9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. MARCH 2, 2024
JEFFERSON CITY MASONIC TEMPLE

2024 Grand Masters' Cryptic Day



**IN HONOR OF
COMPANION AND M.:W.:B.: CHARLES F. WIEGERT
GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE
&
M.:I.:C.: DR. PAUL L. DANIELS
GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND COUNCIL**

**IN FULL FORM
ROYAL MASTER
SELECT MASTER
SUPER EXCELLENT MASTER**

**PUT IT ALL
TOGETHER
IN THE
CRYPTIC RITE**



**9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. MARCH 16, 2024
JEFFERSON CITY MASONIC TEMPLE**



Philanthropy of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri & General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International

Since its conception in 1974, Royal Arch Research Assistance (R.A.R.A.) has been the world's leading philanthropy dedicated to helping children with Central Auditory Processing Disorders. R.A.R.A., through the contributions of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, supports the Able Kids Foundation.

The Able Kids Foundation is a Colorado-based nonprofit that partners with local, national, and international corporations and organizations to remove barriers for people with disabilities.

The Central Auditory Research Center concentrates on exploring causes and solutions for individuals with central auditory processing disorder (CAPD). Thanks to generous support from the Royal Arch Research Assistance, Inc., a philanthropy of the General Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, International, audiologists certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and researchers work with the Director, Dr. Joan Burleigh, to develop the next generation of diagnostic tests and effective treatments and technologies.

The Beginning

At the 1972 Triennial meeting in Las Vegas, Most

Excellent (M.E.) Edward Selby, Past Grand High Priest (P.G.H.P.) of Ohio and Grand King of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter International, proposed at the Grand King's meeting that General Grand Chapter should have a unique and unified Philanthropy, one that would not conflict, detract or duplicate existing charities.

In 1974, the R.A.R.A. was born after extensive investigation. The plans were implemented in 1975 during M.E. Gordon Merrick's term.

How can I help?

If you would like to take part in helping children with Central Auditory Processing Disorders, share this information with your friends, coworkers, family and your local school system. Your financial contribution will allow you the satisfaction of knowing that this invaluable research and service to humankind will continue for years.

If in Missouri, send your R.A.R.A. contributions to your Chapter Secretary who will forward it to the Grand Secretary. Otherwise, send your R.A.R.A. contributions to the address at the bottom of this page.

Certificates are designed for contributions of \$25.00, \$50.00, and \$100.00. A \$1000.00 contribution receives a very impressive pin with a keystone in the center. Additional contributions of \$500.00 add a small diamond to the pin. Certificates and pins are awarded to both individual donors and donating organizations. Donations are IRS deductible.

Other than the pin, a greater incentive might be that the research you have funded in part might very well have brought a better life to some one who were affected with CAPD, an important learning disability.

Contributions can be sent to:

**RARA, MGYR Office
107 S. Williams Street
Fayette, MO 65248**





CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

New Equipment made possible by CMMRF

We have recently purchased an ‘encapsulator,’ a fancy name for a machine that will make a protective bubble around the miracle cells being introduced into the body. These cells are being trained to become new heart cells, nerve cells, and even cells that treat diabetes.

Think of what this could mean! The team of physicians, with CMMRF as their major donator, has created treatments that can repair heart muscle after a heart attack, nerve tissue after a spinal cord injury, and cells that regulate someone’s blood glucose levels. Everyone knows somebody that has had a heart attack or that is diabetic. It is estimated that 7% of the American population is diagnosed with diabetes with another 2% that do not even know it yet. This treatment can ensure that you and your loved ones can avoid the health issues that come with diabetes. Heart disease is another big issue, but these treatments are now being created that will repair heart tissue, should a heart attack happen to you or a loved one. And our donations are making it possible!

Please consider giving to this amazing charity of ours. This may be Freemasonry’s best kept secret, but it should not be a secret at all. This is HUGE! Imagine being diagnosed with diabetes this year and within this decade being told that you no longer have diabetes because of this life saving treatment being created by Dr. Michael Murphy and his all-star team at Indiana University. Our contributions are building their medical lab so that they can create more treatments and save more lives. Imagine what they can do when their lab is fully stocked! Since money doesn’t grow on trees (but this team is so intelligent, they can probably make that happen too), we should all consider investing in these life changing treatments, because it will someday change our lives, either directly or indirectly.

Reducing the Negative and Increasing the Positive

Dr. Michael Murphy, with Dr Steve Miller and Dr Mervin Yoder, are working with stem cells to create new and lasting treatments for a large number of medical conditions. These are not the stem cells that you have heard about in the past... these are sometimes taken from your own body and trained to take over for the part of your body that is not working properly.

Foot ulcers in a diabetic patient can worsen into a major infection or blood circulation issue. 53,000 amputations are performed every year, with each patient needing extensive rehab in a hospital or nursing home. Many of these patients that require having large portions of their legs removed never leave that hospital or nursing home. In the diabetic patient, because of a decrease in feeling and blood flow to the feet, their sores often go unnoticed or untreated. This is where the stem cells are introduced. Unfortunately, not all of these limbs can be saved, but through further research, perhaps this treatment can be used to greatly reduce the likelihood of amputation and greatly reduce healing times.

Warning! Science stuff ahead! These stem cells are pulled from the patient’s own bone marrow. The pluripotent stem cells, regrown through cell mediated angiogenesis, are isolated and impregnated into an alginate hydrogel solution for protection and to create a suitable environment to thrive. These cells can then be directed to replace the multitude of the types of tissue that is compromised.

CMMRF, through your donations, are producing treatments that have only been seen in science fiction movies. Soon, these treatments will be perfected and used to change the lives of thousands of people, and perhaps even save your life someday.



KNIGHTS TEMPLAR Charities

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION (KTEF)

The mission of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is to provide assistance to those who face loss of sight due to the need for surgical treatment without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin provided they are unable to pay or receive adequate assistance from current government agencies or similar sources and to provide funds for research in curing diseases of the eye. This includes the correction of strabismus (cross-eyes) in children up to the age of 16 years.

Funds for the operation of the Eye Foundation are obtained in part from an annual assessment of each Knight Templar, contributions made by Masons from throughout the Masonic Family, fund-raising activities, memorials, wills and bequests, donations from endowment funds or similar sources. Special award programs for contributions include the Grand Master's Sword of Merit (\$25,000), Golden Chalice (\$10,000), Grand Master's Club (\$1,000), Grand Commander's Club (\$1,000 in \$100 annual installments), Patron Certificate (\$100), Associate Patron Certificate (\$50), and Life Sponsor (\$30). Those who are designated as a Life Sponsor or above are relieved from the annual assessment.

Since 1956, over \$98 million has been spent on approved cases, and applications have been received from 80,000 people. Research Grants totaling in excess of \$9.2 million have been awarded to researchers working in the fields of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Ophthalmic Genetics.

Application for assistance from the Foundation can be made through a Knight Templar who is a member of one of over 1,200 Constituent Commanderies of the Grand Encampment. Information is available from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 1000 East State Parkway, Suite I, Schaumburg, IL 60173, Phone (847) 490-3838; Fax (847) 490-3777. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is a co-sponsor of the Seniors Eye Care Program (formally known as the National Eye Care Project) with Eye Care America, a

Public Service Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The Seniors Eye Care Program helps those persons 65 years or over who do not have an Ophthalmologist. Anyone wishing to contact the Seniors Eye Care Program may do so by calling 1-800-222-EYES and telling them you were referred by a Knight Templar.

MISSOURI KNIGHT OF SILOAM

The Knight of Siloam special award program in Missouri was created by Sir Knights J. Edward Blinn, REPGC, and Danny L. Ferguson, REPGC, during the 93-94 Templar year as a means of recognizing those Missouri Sir Knights who make substantial contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and to encourage others to do so. A special medal and patent is presented to those who donate \$500.00 or more to KTEF either in a lump sum or in installments. The jewel is designated as a meritorious service jewel and may be worn on the Knight Templar uniform. Friends and relatives may honor any Sir Knight with the Knight of Siloam by making a donation in his honor.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Division of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri, provides financial assistance in the way of low cost student loans to college juniors and seniors, as well as trade school students.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE FUND

The Missouri Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund is used to pay the expenses of sending a Minister to the Holy Land under the provisions of the Grand Encampment. The Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee can provide more information about qualifying Ministers.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Missouri Holy Land Pilgrimage Endowment Fund is an endowment, the interest of which is used to generate income for the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund (above). Commandery Recorders are to ask each Sir Knight on their annual dues statement to remit at least \$3.65 towards the Holy Land Endowment Fund, and Commanderies are encouraged to have fund raisers to generate money for this fund.



Articulating the goals, purposes, benefits of Freemasonry isn't easy. Encapsulating the history, the meaning, the symbolism, and esoterism doesn't come as part of an elevator speech. Why are you a Freemason, and what you get out of it isn't a soup question.

Let your story resonate with those who want to be part of something larger than themselves, who want to grow spiritually, who want to be better and do better, who need to be - and should be a Freemason.

Each of us passed through the West Gate for a different reason. For myself, I became a Mason as the result of a pretty bad day. My best friend, Col. Jim Trafton, was killed on Easter Sunday, 2010. Our families vacationed together, we hunted, fished, traveled, and shared adventures and stories.

As a measure of my friends character the funeral procession from Church to the Leavenworth National Cemetery was several miles long. State Troopers blocked all highway ramps and stood to attention and saluted as a sign of respect. Even the trooper that called me that night wanted to talk about his service with Jim, and what it meant to him.

At the funeral service Col. Cliff Silsby delivered his Eulogy and spoke to his military career, his leadership skills, his role as a life coach and mentor to so many, and his many other virtues.

But I was surprised when Cliff said, with emphasis, several times "and he was a Freemason". That spoke to me, and it struck me that was the extra spark that made the difference from a leader to an inspirational leader, from someone that directs and manages to a true life-coach and mentor.

It was additionally significant as until that moment I did not know my friend was a Freemason. That why I knocked on the door and passed through the West Gate.

Each of us has a story as why we joined the craft. For some it will have been due to a family legacy in Masonry, for others simply because Dan Brown writes a good book.

But I would hazard a guess that the majority of us are here because of the example and inspiration from a good man in our past lives. I encourage everyone to share your story; as when you do so we will understand the draw of Masonry, learn how to articulate it, and understand a little bit more who should become a Freemason in the future.

M.:I.:C.: Donald MacCormick, PGM
Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter
Grand Recorder, Grand Council



My Masonic story begins just over 40 years ago when I was a Staff Sergeant on active duty for the US Army stationed at Darmstadt, West Germany. I was assigned as a squad leader in Bravo Company 547th Eng Bn at the time. My platoon sergeant at the time was also an active Mason along with a few other squad leaders in the unit. I was not familiar with the fraternity back then and was amazed by how morally strong and forthright they were. I asked a few other soldiers about them and was informed that they were Masons. There was no internet at the time, so I asked my platoon sergeant what a Mason was and he told

me. I continued to observe these “Masons” for the next several months and thought that their character was one to emulate, so decided to ask to become one.

I was raised in January 1983 in Raymond Bennett Military Lodge #33 F&AM PHA. Being raised in a Prince Hall Lodge was a great experience. I enjoyed the fellowship and true concern that we all had for one another. Within the first year I was elected as treasurer of the Lodge and learned a lot about Lodge management. Interesting though, when I was raised as a Master Mason, I assumed that all masons were the same to which I discovered was not correct. I did not know that there were different variations of Masons in Masonry, some which at the time did not associate with others because they were considered irregular, however that did not change my view on Freemasonry. On contrary, I began a journey of research on Freemasonry. I wanted to see why the variations and what Freemasonry was all about. I have always been an individual that wants to learn more and there was and is so much to learn on this subject. So, I read books from many authors: Mackey, Haywood, Roberts, White, Chriswell, and McCoy to name a few. I continued my journey in Prince Hall Masonry through the years, but life caught up with me and when I was assigned as a US Army Recruiter and assigned in Kansas, I got so busy with family and the long hours as a military recruiter and I began to slip into the inactive role as a Mason.

Years later I retired from the military in 1998 and settled in Missouri as a Department of Defense employee. After a few years I began to realize I was missing the fellowship and focus of the military. So, I started to look for other ways to reengage. I attended a few Veterans of Foreign wars meetings, volunteered at the USO, and volunteered and other agencies. Although they were great fellowship, it was not filling the void. Soon I began volunteering with a good friend and now Brother Lawson Smith. As we were working as volunteers for an event, we started discussing different affiliations we were familiar with and he mentioned Freemasonry. We talked about my history as a Prince Hall Mason and he recommended I look into Waynesville Lodge. However, when I petitioned, I was informed that I would be required to go through all my degrees once again. So, after careful thought and prayer, I acquiesced.

So, in Jun 2010 I was again raised to the sublime

degree of Master Mason, but this time as an AF&AM in Waynesville Lodge #375 AF&AM in Waynesville, Missouri. I felt I was back home, a renewed sense of belonging to a family. I realized, this was what I was missing, the “fellowship of Brothers”. I became an active member of Waynesville Lodge. Within months I was elected as the Secretary and in August of 2010, I joined the Valley of Joplin Scottish Rite and Abu Ben Adhem Shrine Temple of Springfield. I started doing ritual in all the Masonic bodies that I was a member. I joined Richland Lodge #385 in 2011 as a dual member and assisted in their ritual work as well.

Working on ritual renewed my desire to learn more about my craft and again, the more I learned the more I wanted to understand. So, once again I began to research Masonic history, symbology, and moral lessons. All the while doing my best to practice what I was learning. In 2013 I was elected and installed as the Worshipful Master of Waynesville Lodge #375. I found that it was natural to apply what we are taught in our craft to the position as Worshipful Master. Learning to work on ritual in my lodges with those Brothers that were experienced was a great opportunity. I not only learned the ritual; I was taught its meaning. Additionally, aside from bible study, I spent sufficient time in studying my craft. I found that there was endless information on Freemasonry and magnitudes of opportunities to practice our craft. In 2014 I was asked by the Grand Master to represent the 30th Masonic District of Missouri as their District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM), which I accepted. I enjoyed traveling with my District Deputy Grand Lecturer (DDGL) to the Lodges in our district. We visited each of our lodges several times a year over the next three years. During our visits we would help with their degree work, conduct ceremonies, or just conduct ritual practice, but it was the fellowship I enjoy most.

My passion for ritual also found a place in the Scottish Rite. As the Assistant Director for the Auditorium Crew for the Valley of Joplin, I got the pleasure to setup and watch degrees three times a year during the reunions, thus witnessing all the degrees in Scottish Rite several times. I so enjoyed the degrees to a point I started participating in them and ultimately directing certain degrees. In 2015 I was invested as a Knight Commander Court of Honor and in the following honors year I was given the privilege to be the

Sovereign Grand Commander for the KCCH Investiture team for the Valley of Joplin, for the past three honors years (which are every two years). Working the degrees was a way to understand what the degrees meant, not just memorized the words. I continued to learn all I could about Scottish Rite Freemasonry through all sources to include the Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Program, thus completing the Master Craftsman I and II courses and now working on the Master Craftsman III course. They are a good source of the meaning of the Symbolic Lodge as well as the application of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

I found myself very active in Freemasonry in 2015. Not only did I continue to work in my Lodges, Valley and Shrine, I was compelled to work to help others. I was elected onto the Valley of Joplin Rite Care Board with my good Brothers Ken Odell and Ron Hawk and served there for six years. It has been and will always be one of the greatest opportunities I have experienced in Freemasonry. Simple acts of charity to a child can never be forgotten. This I believe is what we are about “charity and brotherly love”. “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” 1 Corinthians 13:13 KJV.

As I was completing the last year of being a DDGM, I decided that I wanted to learn more about Freemasonry and joined York Rite in Rolla. I felt at home on my first meeting. The members welcomed me and shown how good Masons “do best work and best agree”. I soon became a Past High Priest in the Rolla Chapter #32, Past Illustrious Master of Rolla Council #39, and Past Eminent Commander in the Rolla Commandery #59 KT. The lessons and ritual were amazingly refreshing and full of symbolism. As I attended several degrees, I could be recognized so much of the ritual being taken directly from the bible. Here also there was so much to learn and understand. Last year I was given the honor along with my friend and Companion Jim Ashby to become a member of the of Missouri Priory No. 17 Knights of the York Cross of Honor. It was a great honor and pleasure to share that experience my friends and Companions. Additionally, last year I received the privilege to serve my region as Regional Deputy Grand Master and Regional Grand Commander of Region Four. This has been an unbelievable adventure. I have been blessed with so many Companions from the Rolla York Rite bodies interest-

ed in traveling with me to other bodies and regions. They are full of the desire to learn and the passion of the craft. This is what we are about and why I continue my journey in Freemasonry.

As part of my journey in the York Rite, I have the honor of being a member in the Elizabeth St Leger Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and a Knight Mason in Gates of Derry Council #82. These two bodies have engendered my pursuit to research topics of our craft and has given me venue to present my findings. I am scheduled to present my first paper at our July 2023 meeting.

I am an avid learner. I am at my best in a book, magazine, or whitepaper. I enjoy the chase of the research and the final discovery of the data I was hunting. Interestingly, I have spent half my life researching the daunting question “What is Freemasonry” and so far, the question is still not completely answered. We all search for our own answers to that question and have our own focus of its purpose in our lives. In my circumstance, I have found foundational data for the answer, but it is not quite complete, at least to my satisfaction. I am far from being a Masonic Scholar, but I can say I believe I have uncovered some great truths of our ritual meaning and craft studies. Here are a few I that I would like to share with the reader.

A true Freemason does not become one for their self-interests. He believes that we as Masons are not placed on earth by our God for ourselves, but for what we can do for others. He is an example of the right way to live and act. He treats all whom he comes into contact with dignity and respect, as well as be civil to all and is circumscribed in all his affairs. He practices charity and compassion to the destitute, incapacitated and distressed and those he does not have the ability to aid, he prays always to our Heavenly Father for their aid and healing. Compassion and charity we show to others is what aides us to our reward of eternal life for our faithful and honorable service.

We as Masons should be ever so willing and ready to teach others by emulation or oral instruction these moral and ethical traits. I believe our ritual is a key thread in sharing and teaching our lessons of morality, faith and life. I firmly believe that without ritual, freemasonry would not be Freemasonry.

A Mason should realize that whatever time God has given him, it was time blessed to use to His glory.

These principles mentioned above when shared along with our tenants of brotherly love, relief and truth can make a difference in others' lives when we apply them properly. This is the core of my Masonic story.

Steve F. Eberharter



My Masonic Story

Articulating the goals, purposes, and benefits of Freemasonry isn't easy. Encapsulation the history, the meaning, the symbolism, and esoterism doesn't come as part of an elevator speech. Why are you a Freemason, and what you get out of it isn't a soup question.

Share your story!

Let your story resonate with those who want to be a part of something larger than themselves, who want to grow spiritually, who want to be better and do better, who need to be— and should be a Freemason.

Share you story through the Grand Council of Missouri's survey at:

<https://s.surveypal.com/4TGg6d7zz>



WHAT IS THE MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH?

The Missouri Lodge of Research is a Masonic research organization composed of Freemasons dedicat-

ed 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 web-site 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

**The Scottish Rite of
Missouri Presents**
Three-Year
Anniversary Show of
the
Scottish Rite Cinematic
Reunion
**JOIN THE SCOTTISH
RITE**

**ENCORE
SHOW**

**February 1st -4th
JOIN THE
SCOTTISH
RITE
ANYTIME**

**THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL SCOTTISH
RITE MASONS OF THE SOUTHERN
JURISDICTION AND NORTHERN
MASONIC JURISDICTION.**

**MASTER MASONS IN GOOD STANDING OF
MISSOURI AND OUTSIDE OF MISSOURI IN THE
SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN JURISDICTIONS
MAY JOIN THE SCOTTISH RITE SOUTHERN
JURISDICTION DURING THIS CINEMATIC
EVENT.**

*Witness the Cinematic
Communication of the Twenty-
Nine Degrees of the Ancient &
Accepted Scottish Rite of
Freemasonry*

**WWW.SCOTTISHRI
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*Join the Brotherhood of Wisdom,
Strength and Beauty
through a majestic cinematic
journey produced by
Scottish Rite Brothers from all
across Missouri*

Registration for members and candidates is now available. Please note that if you were registered for any of the previous Cinematic Reunions, either as a member or candidate, you may still be able to use your past UserID and Password. We recommend attempting to Login to the website if you have done so at least once in the past, before attempting to register again. This only applies to members and candidates who have registered once before already.





UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2024

Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Installation of Officers, Shelbina Chapter No. 99
Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Royal Arch Degree Conferral, Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78.
Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.: Chaplains Recognition Dinner & Four Chaplains Remembrance Ceremony, Columbia American Legion
Monday, January 29, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.: Ray Vaughn Denslow 102, AMD-Fenton Masonic Temple
Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.: Santa Fe AMD Council No. 417, at Ararat Shrine Temple

February 2024

Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.: Grand Commander Official Visit-Excalibur Commandery No. 5
Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.: Columbia Preceptory Yeomen of York-Columbia, Columbia Masonic Lodge
Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.: Heart of Missouri York Rite College No. 188, Columbia Masonic Lodge
Monday, February 5, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Mark and Past Master Degrees, Triune Chapter 93
Wednesday, February 7-11, 2024: Allied Masonic Degrees Masonic Week
Monday, February 12, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Columbia Chapter No. 17
Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, GL's School, Jefferson City Masonic Center, (Cast Members of Grand Masters Class)
Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Mark & Past Master Degree, Jefferson City Chapter No. 34
Monday, February 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.: Grand Commander Official Visit-Kansas City Commandery No. 10
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, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.: Mid-Missouri Council No. 291 AMD at Columbia Scottish Rite

March 2024

Friday, March 1 to 3, 2024 - Grand York Rite of Louisiana 2024 Grand Session, Nashville, Tennessee
Saturday, March 2, 2024: Grand Master Invitational Royal Arch Masons Class, Grand High Priest Visitation, Jefferson City Masonic Center
Thursday, March 7-9, 2024: Grand York Rite of Arkansas 2024 Grand Session
Monday, March 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.: Grand High Priest Visitation, Columbia Chapter No. 17
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 16, 2024: Table Council-Region 2-Liberty Masonic Temple, Liberty, Missouri
Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.: Red Cross of Constantine-Mary Conclave, Buckner Masonic Lodge
Saturday, March 23, 2024: Grand High Priest Visitation, 175th Anniversary Chapter Rededication of Lexington Chapter No. 10
Sunday, March 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.: Grand Commanders Breakfast/Palm Sunday Observance, St. Louis Masonic Center
Monday, March 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.: Grand Commander Official Visit-St. John's Commandery No. 20
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
Thursday, April 11-13, 2024: Grand Commandery of Texas
Friday, April 12-13, 2024: Valley of St. Louis Scottish Rite Reunion
Friday, April 12-14, 2024: Grand Master's Breakfast weekend
Saturday, April 13, 2024 : Commandery Order Conferrals, Poplar Bluff Masonic Lodge
Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.: Court of Discovery No. 80, Masonic Order of Athelstan, Fayette Masonic Temple
Tuesday, April 16, 2024: Grand Commander's Official Visit—Lebanon Commandery No. 33
Saturday, April 20, 2024: Drill Completion, Columbia Masonic Temple, Columbia Missouri
Monday, April 22, 2024: Table Chapter-Region 2, Liberty Masonic Temple, Liberty, Missouri
Thursday, April 25-27, 2024: Grand York Rite of Oklahoma's 2024 Grand Session

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

Excalibur 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
gilkersondan@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
gilkersondan@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
gilkersondan@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
johtoynton@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
johtoynton@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
hiramcouncil1stl@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_jjr@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
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_jjr@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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