



MISSOURI YORK RITE BEACON



Missouri York Rite Beacon Magazine

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.

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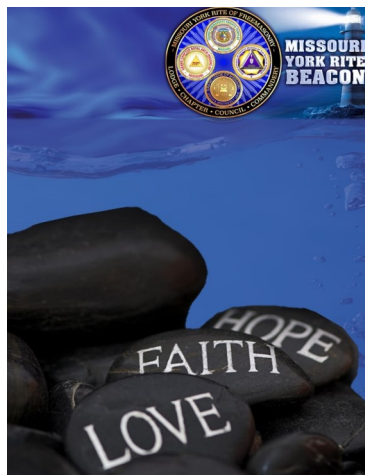
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To Submitters: The editor would like to remind you that photograph submissions should include 40-50 words telling who, what, when, where and why. Pictures should be high resolution jpg from a camera (at least 300 dpi). Phone pictures are unacceptable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



Cover Art: Donald MacCormick

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

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

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April Issue: March 31, 2024



Message from the Grand Master

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



Companions,

I'm not sure about the rest of you, but it is hard to believe that March is already here. March heralds in the beginning of the Easter season. Of course, we all know the meaning of Easter. Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after the Crucifixion. It is one of the most important holidays, or Holy Days, of Christianity. It is a time when Christians glorify and give thanks for the Resurrection of Jesus. While discussing Easter recently with some fellow Companions, I was reminded about the equal importance of the Ascension of Christ which was said to have occurred 40 days after the Resurrection. The ascended and enthroned Christ applies the blessings of salvation. Having accomplished redemption through his suffering on the Cross, the risen and exalted Christ now applies the salvation he has won, by granting the gifts of repentance and forgiveness of our sins. Finally, with the Resurrection and the accompanying Ascension, this ensures there will be a second coming.

For myself, Easter was also a time for family. Each Easter, my family would gather at our ranch for the annual weiner roast. My Dad always had a nice big brush pile to burn after cutting wood all winter, and because the weather is always unpredictable in March, it was always nice to have a warm fire to gather around. As with many family traditions, this event became extinct over time, however, due to it making an impression on one of my nephews, it is now being resurrected. The message here is, go to the Church of your choice and celebrate the Resurrection of Christ, then, spend some time with your family and maybe create or resurrect a family tradition of your own. Companions, have a Happy Easter!

Fraternally,

Dr. Paul L. Daniels, Grand Master



*Grand Masters'
Cryptic Day
March 16, 2024*

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**

St Patrick's Day

This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday, March 17, 2024. St. Patrick was a real person and patron saint of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain in the late fourth century, he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. Upon escaping, he became a Catholic Priest and returned to Ireland approximately 432 ADE to help convert the Irish to Christianity.



By the time of his death, on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Since then, many legends have grown up about him. For example, St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the shamrock to explain the Trinity. Ireland came to celebrate this day with religious services and feasts.

It was emigrants to the United States, who transformed St. Patrick's Day into a secular holiday of rev-

elry and celebration of all things Irish. Cities with a large population of Irish immigrants would often stage extensive celebrations, which would include parades and parties.

Boston was one such city that held its first St. Patrick's Day parade on March 17, 1737. It was followed by New York City in 1762.



Since 1962, the City of Chicago has colored its river green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. (Although blue was originally the color associated with St. Patrick, green is now commonly connected to the day).

Irish and non-Irish alike commonly participate in the wearing of the green clothing. Sporting teams have been known to wear an item of green on their clothing or a shamrock, the Irish national plant. Corned beef and cabbage is usually eaten and is now associated with the holiday.

Some bars and restaurants will even dye their beer green to celebrate the holiday. Eventually some of these practices were adopted by the people of Ireland, they usually did it for the benefit of tourists.



2024 Missouri **GRAND YORK RITE** **SESSIONS**



THE 3 AMIGOS INVITE YOU TO SPRINGFIELD

**GRAND COUNCIL
CRYPTIC MASON
158TH ASSEMBLY**

**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
163RD CONCLAVE**

**GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASON
177TH CONVOCATION**



**THURSDAY
JUNE 6**



**FRIDAY
JUNE 7**



**SATURDAY
JUNE 8**

2024 Missouri **GRAND YORK RITE** **SESSIONS**

JUNE 5- 9

**GRAND COUNCIL
CRYPTIC MASONS
158TH ASSEMBLY**



**THURSDAY
JUNE 6**

**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
163RD CONCLAVE**



**FRIDAY
JUNE 7**

**GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
177TH CONVOCATION**



**SATURDAY
JUNE 8**

The Grand York Rite Sessions will be held in Springfield, Missouri this year:

- **Thursday June 6: Grand Council**
- **Friday June 7: Grand Commandery**
- **Saturday June 8: Grand Chapter**

Hotel Reservations are open now at:

**University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center
333 John Q Hammons Parkway
Springfield, MO, 65806**

Book your room now at:

[https://bookings.travelclick.com/17728?
groupID=4004441#/guestsandrooms](https://bookings.travelclick.com/17728?groupID=4004441#/guestsandrooms)

There are many awards and recognitions you should consider for your Chapter, Council and Com-

mandery - check them out below and don't forget to recognize the ladies that help us, and those non-masons worthy of recognition in your community.

Come celebrate 175 years of Royal Arch Masonry with Lexington Chapter No. 10 on March 23, see the events calendar for more information.

Check the Grand York Events Calendar for all upcoming events, add your event to the calendar and share!

Donald MacCormick

Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter
Grand Recorder, Grand Council

Roger D. Fleer

Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery



Congratulations to all our new Capitular Masons who passed under the Living Arch at the Grand Masters Royal Arch Class in Jefferson City on March 2nd, 2024. You have now experienced the first 7 Degrees of the York Rite. The Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Masons Degree are the first three Degrees of the York Rite followed by the 4 degrees of the Royal Arch - Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch.

The first 2 degrees of the Council of Cryptic Masons - the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees complete the Circle of Perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry and complete the legend of Hiram. They are the 8th and 9th Degrees of the York Rite, though chronologically they are the 1st and last degrees. The Degrees of the Council are known as the Cryptic Degrees as they take place in a Crypt under the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Temple, they are known as the Degrees of Preservation as they save the secrets and treasures of Freemasonry so they can be rediscovered in the Royal Arch and by you!

The 3rd Degree of the Cryptic Council is the Super Excellent Master Degree - a degree generally only performed in full form once a year at the Grand Masters Cryptic Day. It is a Degree that highlights the destruction of the first temple and the construction of the second and begins on the last day of the siege of Jerusalem by the army of Nebuchadnezzar. It's a Degree that explains much of the important symbolism of Freemasonry and is pageantry at its finest - it's not to be missed.

Freemasonry is a way of life, a system passed from generation to generation through the language of symbols and allegories. The treasures we are charged to preserve are not only the words of masonic rituals, but the meaning. We must preserve the language of symbols that teaches the lessons of freemasonry, without the key of knowledge the ritual and symbols of freemasonry become empty and unintelligible. It is the duty of all Cryptic Masons, especially those that hold leadership positions in any masonic body to work to preserve the treasures of freemasonry. Teach, learn, lead and live are all verbs and words that will transform our masonic rituals. Through the actions of teaching, learning, leading, and living in accordance of the principles of our order, our ritual is transformed from a noun to a verb.

Join us at the Grand Masters Cryptic Day in Jefferson City on March 16th and continue your Journey.

MIC Donald MacCormick
Grand Recorder, Grand Council of Cryptic Masons



On February 20th, Wilson Chapter No. 75 and Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114 conferred the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees on Brother Bryan Edgar. Nicely done Companions!



Jasper Commandery No. 31 Knights Templar out of Carthage, MO presenting a check of \$500 to the Carthage Crisis Center collected through their Christmas knife raffle - outstanding job Sir Knights!



Great visit with the Sir Knights of Kansas City Commandery No. 10. So proud of the guys, they've come a long way.



Congratulations to VEC Jeff Stokes & VEC Christian M. Jessen on being accepted into the Thomas Fiveash Riddick Society.



16 Brothers received the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees today in Jefferson City. Outstanding!



Cryptic Mason Veterans Medal



At Zabud Council No. 25's last meeting, on Monday, February 26th, IC Christopher Story and the members of that council presented **VIC Carlin Smittle** with the Cryptic Mason Veterans Medal.



His wife, Mrs. Vivian Smittle, was present and had the honor of presenting Carlin with his lapel pin. VIC Smittle served in the Army during the Vietnam War. Stationed in Saigon, he was present the day the Tet Offensive began against the US Embassy. Thank you for your service.

Grand Master's Breakfast

Kansas City



The 2nd Annual Grand Master Breakfast was held on Sunday March 10 at the Ararat Shrine in Kansas City. With 163 in attendance almost \$2500 for the Kansas City Area Masonic Youth Groups.

Thank you to MWB Charles F. Wiegert, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and his Officers for coming together and supporting the event.



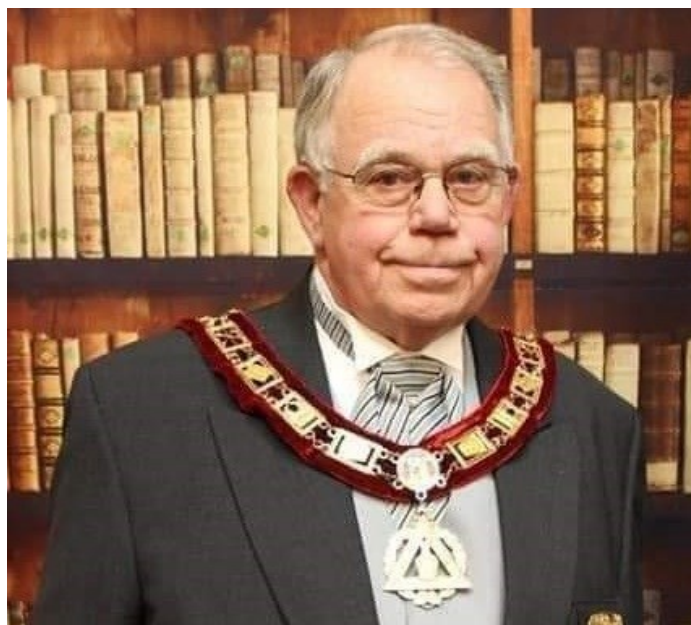
Five Brethren Advanced to the Degree of Mark Master & Inducted Into the Oriental Chair in Putnam Chapter Number 123 R.A.M.



Putnam Chapter No. 123 R.A.M. advanced five brethren to the degree of Mark Master, and subsequently inducted them into the oriental chair through conferral of the degree of Past Master, during a stated convocation on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at the Unionville Lodge No. 210 A.F. & A.M. Lodge Hall in Unionville, Missouri. The Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, MEC Mark A. Bean, joined with the Grand Scribe, REC Michael L. Dodd, and companions from across the region, to assist Putnam Chapter with the conferral of these degrees. This was the first time that a candidate has received a capitular degree since 2006.

Pictured are: front row, from left: VEC Ashley W. Young, District Deputy Grand High Priest for Region One, candidate Kevin D. Lloyd; candidate Logan P. Gatlin; candidate Chad V. Gatlin; VEC Thomas C. Yunick, Past District Deputy Grand High Priest, candidate Mark A. Lloyd; candidate Joseph R. Plate II; MEC Bean; and MEC Loren D. Lloyd, Past Grand High Priest (2015-2016).

Back row, from left: EC Jeremy A. Lloyd, Past High Priest, EC William J. King, Past High Priest, EC Clyde F. Bondy, Jr., Past High Priest, VEC Jeffrey L. Knight, District Deputy Grand Lecturer for Region One, REC Mike Dodd; Comp. Herbert R. Houf, EC Melvin L. Hall, Past High Priest, and VEC Richard A. Taylor, Past District Deputy Grand High Priest for Region One.



Companions and Sir Knights,

As General Grand Chapter Custodian for the Ephraim Kirby Award in Missouri it is my high honor to announce the selection of Most Excellent Companion David L. Leirer, Past Grand High Priest (2019 - 2021), as the recipient of the award for 2024. This is the highest distinction for any Royal Arch Mason who has served as a past grand presiding officer in any of the four coordinate York Rite Grand Bodies and after nomination, must be unanimously approved by the General Grand Chapter dais officers. There can only be one selectee per year. This distinctive jewel will be presented by MEC Dr. John W. Siscel, III.

The full description of the lifetime contributions of the honoree will be highlighted at the award presentation on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 6:45 pm at Freedom Masonic Temple, 4557 Lemay Ferry Road in St. Louis Missouri. You are invited to be present.

David is the sixteenth Missourian to be so honored with this award since its creation in 2014 and his selection adds to that group another of its most distinguished sons.

Missouri's Grand York Rite salutes him on this recognition.

John W. Siscel, III Ed. D.
PGHP (2016—2017)
Custodian
Ephraim Kirby Award
General Grand Chapter

Grand Master's Class

Royal Arch Masons



MEC Mark A. Bean, Grand High Priest, of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri greeting MWBro. Charles F. Wiegert, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri to the Grand Master's Class to honor him on Saturday, March 1, 2024, at the Jefferson City Masonic Center. At this session, we greeted 38 Freemasons to that of Royal Arch Masons. A great day was had by all with all.



Congratulations to our New Companions

2024 Grand Masters' Royal Arch Class



St. Charles-Missouri Chapter No. 1

Vincent Brandt, Jr. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1
James L. Carter. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
Darrel D. Ditto St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
Kurt Gawedzinski. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
Charles Hedges St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
David Hillbun St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
Steven Kell St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1
John White St. Charles Missouri Chapter No.1

Bolivar Chapter No. 5

Donald Glenn Bell Bolivar Chapter No. 5
Jerry Robert Gardner Bolivar Chapter No. 5

Springfield Chapter No. 15

Jesse Ray Darden Springfield Chapter No. 15

Columbia Chapter No. 17

Christian Cody McCollum Columbia Chapter No. 17

Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25

David Andrew Bell Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25
Kurt A. Mungenast Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25

Rolla Chapter No. 32

Stacy Lee Ball Rolla Chapter No. 32
Jason Dewayne Evans Rolla Chapter No. 32
Ronald George Hawk Rolla Chapter No. 32
Larry Earl Murphy Rolla Chapter No. 32
Douglass Merrill Nabors Rolla Chapter No. 32
Gilbert Negrete Rolla Chapter No. 32
James Wesley Pearce Rolla Chapter No. 32
Cody Allen Robert Rolla Chapter No. 32

Andrew John Colin Sinclair Rolla Chapter No. 32

Matthew Wade Stone Rolla Chapter No. 32

Wesley Alan Wilfong Rolla Chapter No. 32

John Joseph Wright Rolla Chapter No. 32

Jefferson City Chapter No. 34

Matthew Price Thomas Jefferson City Chapter No. 34

Donald L. Whitaker Jefferson City Chapter No. 34

Shane C. White Jefferson City Chapter No. 34

Wilson Chapter No. 75

Bryan Scott Edgar Wilson Chapter No. 75

Oriental-Rabboni No. 78

Theron Richard Poe Oriental-Rabboni No. 78

Triune Chapter No. 93

Jason Donald Hilkerbaumer Triune Chapter No. 93

Bryan Lester Jonas Triune Chapter No. 93

Putnam Chapter No. 123

Herbert Ray Houf Putnam Chapter No. 123

Mark Allen Lloyd Putnam Chapter No. 123

Kevin Dale Lloyd Putnam Chapter No. 123

Joseph Rudolph Plate II Putnam Chapter No. 123



Grand Officers Coins for Sale

The Grand York Rite has numerous items for sale. One of which is the Grand Officers coins. For a small donation of \$20.00 you may obtain their coin or \$60.00 for all three coins through our Grand York Rite Offices (660) 248-5100.



MEC Mark Bean, Grand High Priest Coin 2023-24



MIC Dr. Paul Daniels, Most Illustrious Grand Master Coin 2023-24



SK Kevin B. Sample, Right Eminent Grand Commander Coin 2023-24

These coins are in limited production. So, hurry and purchase one now as they will soon be out of stock. All donations go to the Grand Officer's charity. Thank you for your consideration.



The Missouri Grand York Rite Office is asking for your help

Did you know that you can make changes to your own MMS Profile Page?

You can!

Simply go to <https://www.masonic-web.com/mms/memberbio/default.aspx> and use your membership number which can be found on the side of any of your York Rite dues cards with your name and date of birth. You have only one Profile Page which links to each Chapter, Council, and/or Commandery where you have a membership.

The information on your Profile Page helps us stay in contact with each of you. Please carefully check the information on your Profile Page:

- **Full name:** First, Middle, Last (No Abbreviations) with any prefix or suffix.
- **Birth location:** City and State.
- **Current Address:** Where mail comes.
- **Phone Numbers:** Home and/or Cell
- **Email Addresses:** Home and/or Work
- **Spouse's name:**
- **Her Date of Birth:** Month and Day (We like to send birthday cards!)
- **Your children's Names:**
- **Information about your job (Optional)**

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Thank you,

Debbie Hanson
Executive Assistant

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A Brief Resume on the History of the Knights Templar

*by Terry Plemmons, Chairman Public Relations Committee
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, USA*

Multitudes of pilgrims in the eleventh and twelfth centuries visited Jerusalem for the purpose of offering their devotions at the Holy Sepulcher of Christ and



Calvary or Golgtha in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem

other Holy Places in Jerusalem. Many of these religious wanderers were weak, old, and mostly unarmed; and thousands of them were subjected to the hostilities of the hordes of Arabs who even after the capture of Jerusalem by the Christians continued to infest the sea coast of Palestine and the roads to Jerusalem. Nine French Knights, the followers of Baldwin, united in the year 1118 in a military brotherhood and entered into a solemn pact to aid each other in clearing the roads and defending pilgrims in their passage to the Holy City. Two of these Knights were Hugh de Payens and Godfrey de St. Aldemar. They, along with seven others, took the usual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience before the king of Jerusalem. They assumed the title Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ. The Abbot of Jerusalem gave to them, as a place to store their arms and supplies, portions of the old Temple Mount and the street between the palace of the king and the temple whence they derived the name Templars.

Hugh de Payens journeyed to Europe to solicit a new crusade on behalf of Baldwin, and he presented his companions to Pope Honorius II from whom he craved permission to form a religious military order. The Pontiff referred them to the ecclesiastical Council which was then in session. Having presented his voca-

tion and that of his companions to the Fathers, their request was granted. St. Bernard was directed to prescribe a rule for the new Order. In this rule, the knights of the Order were called *Pauperes commilitis Christi et Templi Salomonis*, or The Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon.

Hugh de Payens returned to Jerusalem carrying with him many recruits from the noblest families of Europe. The Order prescribed for the professed knights white garments as a symbol of a pure life to which Pope Eugenius II later added a red cross to be worn on the left breast as a symbol of martyrdom. The Templars soon became preeminently distinguished as warriors of the cross. St. Bernard speaks in the warmest terms of their self denial, their frugality, their modesty, their piety, and their bravery, "Their arms are their only finery, and they use them with courage without dreading either the number or the strength of the barbarians. All their confidence is in the Lord of Hosts, and in fighting for his cause they seek a sure victory or a Christian and honorable death."

The banner or Beauseant of the order was half white and half black, indicative of peace to their friends but destruction to their foes. At their reception each Templar swore never to turn his back on his enemies but either to vanquish his foe or die. The word *beau* in medieval French meant a lofty state, for which translators have offered such terms as noble, glorious, and even magnificent. As a battle cry, the Beauseant was a charge to "Be noble" or "Be glorious."

The Order very quickly grew from its simple beginnings to a complicated organization. By the twelfth century it was divided into three classes; Knights, Chaplains, and Serving Brethren. In the case of the Knights, whoever presented himself for admission into the Order was required to prove that he was born from a knightly family and was born in lawful wedlock; that he was free from all previous obligations; that he was neither married nor betrothed; and that he had not made any vows of reception into another Order. That further, he was not in debt, and finally, that he was of a sound and healthy constitution of body.

The Chaplains consisted only of laymen. They were required to serve a novitiate of one year. They were required to take the three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Their duties were to perform all religious offices and to officiate at all the ceremonies of the Order. The Serving Brethren's only qualification was that they should be free born and not slaves. They fought in the field under the Knights and performed at home, the menial offices of the household. Later this group was divided into two; Brethren at Arms and the Handicraft Brethren. The latter was the most esteemed group and remained in the preceptories to exercise their various trades.

Hugh de Payens had departed Jerusalem as one of a group of just nine knights bound together in an obscure, unofficial order. He returned later as Grand Master of an order which was only responsible to the Pope; possessed gold, silver, and property wealth; and was composed of three hundred knights sworn to stand and die if the master so ordered. Instant obedience to his superiors was required of every Templar, and since the order was responsible to no one but the Pope, it essentially created its own system of punishments up to and including the death penalty, for disobedience.

The Templar Rites of Initiation and Chapter Meetings were conducted in total secrecy. Any Templar revealing any proceeding, even to another Templar of lower rank than himself, was subject to punishment including expulsion from the order. To preserve secrecy, the knights wore their swords drawn. Although there is no documentation, legend has it that several times spies or perhaps merely the curious met their death the moment they were caught.

The reception of a knight into the order was a very solemn ceremony. Unlike the Knights of Malta whose form of reception was open and public, none but Templars were permitted entrance. Perhaps this difference between a public and secret reception was attributed to the spirit of persecution exhibited by the Church toward the order in the later days.

Ultimately the Templars held over nine thousand manors all over Europe plus mills and markets. During its two-hundred-year history, over twenty thousand initiates brought land or money dowries to the order. They eventually owned ships to transport men and sup-

plies to the East as well as fighting ships to guard the fleet. With their fleet, the Templars earned revenues by transporting material, secular Crusaders, and Pilgrims to the Holy Land. The Templar financial activities varied from serving as a "safe deposit" for traveling nobles, to administering the estates of the ailing nobility who wished for their heirs a safe inheritance. The Church at Rome contributed often and encouraged the same actions in its followers. The wealth of the Templars grew as did their reputation as perhaps the first "world bankers." Toward their later days, the glory and simplicity of the order began its slow decline through weaker Grand Masters.

With the fall of Acre in 1292, the Templars abandoned Palestine and the Holy Lands and returned to the comfort and wealth of their Preceptories across Europe. At the beginning of the 14th Century, the throne of France was occupied by Philip the Fair, an ambitious, vindictive, and avaricious prince. This prince had been in controversy with Pope Boniface. The Templars had, as was usual with them, sided with the Pope against the King. The King of France became envious of the extreme wealth of the order, and their power interfered with his designs of political control over Europe. He then secretly concerted with Pope Clement V, whom Philip had placed upon the throne of Peter. Their plan called for the destruction of the Templars and the seizure of their wealth and Preceptories.



Phillip the Fair or Phillip the IV

Their plans having been made, Pope Clement V wrote to DeMolay, the last of the Templar Grand Masters, inviting him to come and consult with him on matters of great importance to the order. DeMolay obeyed and arrived in Paris early in the year 1307, accompanied by sixty knights and a large treasure, DeMolay had made the voyage in the hope of one final crusade to retake the Holy Lands from the Muslim hoards. A date which even today children around the world consider an "unlucky day" had its roots in the occasion of this visit.



Pope Clement V

The day DeMolay arrived in Paris was Friday, October 13, 1307, and he was immediately imprisoned as was every Templar in France. By secret order of the King, the Templars were arrested on the pretended charges of idolatry and other crimes against the throne of the King and the authority of the Church. The fires that the King and Pope ignited soon swept across all of Europe. On the 12th of May, 1310, fifty-four knights were publicly burned at the stake. Neither Knight nor Templar Chaplain was spared.

With the exception of a few nations in Europe, the Templars were forced to flee or perish. They found refuge in Spain and in England, and there warned of Philip's plans, they were able to flee into Scotland

where the order went underground. DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Templars, had obeyed the orders of his superior the Pope hoping for the final crusade to free the Holy Lands. He was unaware of the political tides that flowed across Europe as each nation strove for dominance over the other.

It was decided that the Grand Master should be brought before public view to admit his guilt and that of his Templars. The nobility, the prelates of the church, and influential commoners were invited to witness the historic event. On March 14, 1314, a high platform had been erected before Notre Dame from which DeMolay would make his confession. The Grand Master was escorted to the platform with Geoffroi de Charney and two other officers of the order.

With the eyes of the world upon him and the blood of his beloved Templars on the hands of his accusers, DeMolay condemned himself to martyrdom. "I think it only right that at so solemn a moment when my life has so little time to run, I should reveal the deception which has been practiced and speak for the truth. Before heaven and earth and all of you here as my witnesses, I admit that I am guilty of the grossest iniquity. But the iniquity is that I have lied in admitting the disgusting charges laid against the order. I declare, and I must declare, that the order is innocent. Its purity and saintliness are beyond question. I have indeed confessed that the order is guilty, but I have done so only to save myself from terrible tortures by saying what my enemies wished me to say. Other knights who have retracted their confessions have been led to the stake, yet the thought of dying is not so awful that I shall confess to foul crimes which have never been committed. Life is offered to me but at the price of infamy. At such price, life is not worth having. I do not grieve that I must die if life can be bought only by piling one lie upon another."





Jacques DeMolay

**BE PART OF OUR STORY
JOIN OUR TEAM**

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/>

Message from the Editor

Welcome Companions & Sir Knights to March's issue of you Missouri York Rite Beacon. What a crazy time of year we are in. The weather has been nothing by interesting; Chapters, Councils, and Commandries are busy with their turn ins to the Grand Offices, and the planning of the Grand York Rite Sessions underway. Your leadership is busy in the attempt of making York Rite Masonry the shining star that you all have come to know and expect.

On Saturday, March 1, 2024, your Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Mason held the Grand Master's Class to honor MWBro. Charles F. Wiegert, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Thirty-eight Past-Masters showed up and received their Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason Degrees to become the newest members of our craft. I was a wonderful show of candidates, Grand Chapter members, Grand Lodge members, and members of the Craft. It was some of the most beautiful of ceremonies that was presented to the candidates. Congratulates Companions, welcome to Royal Arch Masonry.

Thank you for everything that you all do. The way that the membership of this state pulls together is nothing more than amazing. We see it quite often, and it is always amazing to be seen. Keep up the good work and always remember that we are judged by our actions. So, make sure that those actions are what you want the world to see. Well, it time to run, so we will be seeing you all soon on down that dusty trail.

Publication Committee

The others with DeMolay quickly joined him in proclaiming the innocence of the order. By their own words, they had brought monumental embarrassment to both king and church to which the only answer was the stake. The verdict was announced for that same evening.

The executions were held on a small island in the River Seine, but a crowd still managed to gather by boat to witness the end of the last Templar Grand Master. Legend says that as Jacques DeMolay's flesh was being burned away he called down a curse upon Philip of France and all of his family, and he called upon both king and pope to meet him within the year for judgment at the throne of God. Clement V died the following month of April, followed by Philip's unexplained death in November of the same year. As the two nemeses of the Templars faded into history so did the remaining Templars fade into the shrouds of time; perhaps an invisible force protecting the destiny of man.

The Missouri York Rite supports Masonic Youth Groups of Missouri



ONCE A RAINBOW GIRL, ALWAYS A RAINBOW GIRL

★★★★★
DEMOLAY
MISSOURI

LOVE OF PARENTS • REVERENCE • COURTESY • COMRADESHIP • FIDELITY • CLEANNESS • PATRIOTISM

The premier fraternity for young men.

WWW.MODEMOLAY.ORG

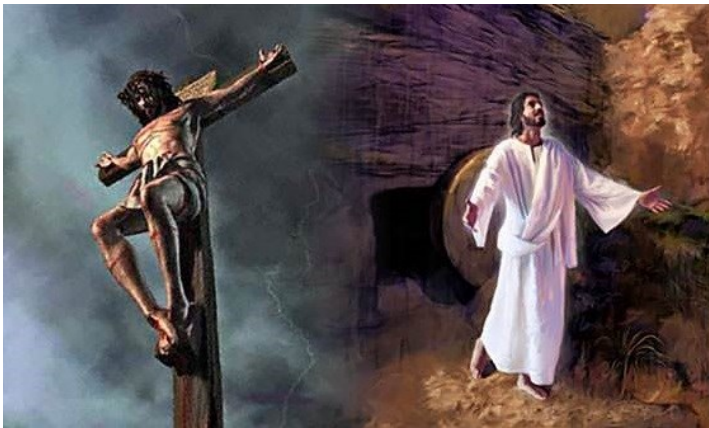


Job's Daughters

I N T E R N A T I O N A L ®

EASTER

This year, Easter will be celebrated by Christian on Sunday, March 31, 2024. Easter is the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Who died and rose again on the third day after his Crucifixion. The earliest records of the observance of a Easter celebration was in the 2nd century.



Fixing a true date on which the Resurrection of Jesus was to be observed and celebrated has triggered numerous arguments in early Christianity. To which an Eastern and Western position on the day can be found. The dispute, also known as the Paschal controversies, was not fixed until the eighth century.

In Asia Minor, Christians observed the day of the Crucifixion on the same day that Jews celebrated the Passover offering, (the 14th day of the first full moon of spring). The Resurrection was then observed two days later, regardless of what day of the week it fell on.

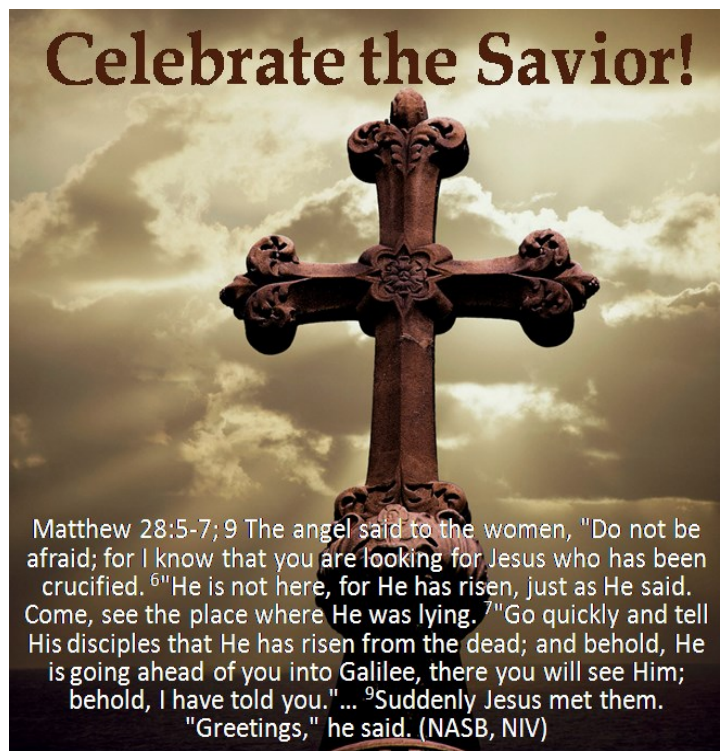
The Western observation of the Resurrection of Christ was celebrated on the first day of the week, Sunday, when Jesus had risen from the dead. So, Easter would be celebrated on the first Sunday after the 14th day of the month of Nisan (Nisan" is also the name for the month of April in Levantine and Mesopotamian Arabic). Increasingly, the churches opted for day of Sunday to celebration the occasion of Easter. In 325 ADE, the Council of Nicaea decreed that Easter should be observed on the first Sunday following the

first full moon after the spring equinox (March 21). Thus, Easter can fall on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25.

The Eastern Orthodox Churches use a different calculation for determining Easter. It is based upon the Julian rather than the Gregorian calendar (a 13-day difference), which results in the Orthodox Easter celebration occurs later. The Orthodox tradition prohibits Easter from being celebrated before or at the time of Passover.

The Christian calendar shows Easter follows Lent, the period of 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter. During this period acts of penance and fasting are recommend by various Christian denominations. Easter is then preceded by Holy Week, which includes Maundy Thursday, the commemoration of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples; Good Friday, the day of his Crucifixion; and Holy Saturday, the transition between Crucifixion and Resurrection.

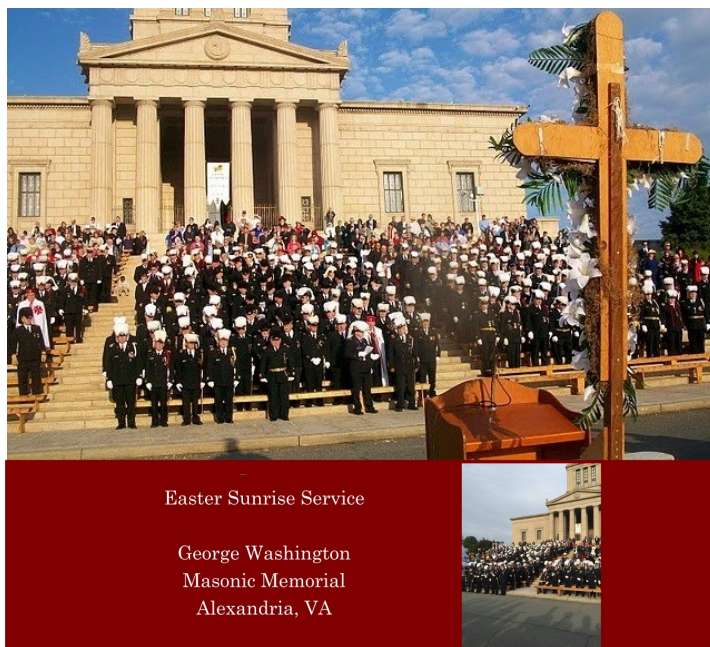
Celebrate the Savior!



Matthew 28:5-7; 9 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. ⁶"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. ⁷"Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you."... ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. (NASB, NIV)

In the fourth century, Easter vigil would be established in various liturgical expressions. It was characterized by a spirit of joyful anticipation of the Resurrection and the return of Jesus. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the vigil had four parts: the celebration of lights focused on the Paschal candle; the service of lessons called the prophecies; the administration of the sacraments of baptism, and the confirmation of adult converters; and ending with Easter mass.

The importance of baptism at Easter goes back to early Christianity, when baptism was administered only once a year. In the Roman Catholic service, the priest blesses the water to be used in the forthcoming year for baptism. Lutheran and Anglican churches use a variation of this vigil service.



As we head into modern times, Easter has added numerous practices and celebrations. The use of painted and decorated Easter eggs was first recorded in the thirteenth century. The church prohibited the eating of eggs during Holy Week, but chickens continued to lay eggs during that time. A notion of specially identifying this as “Holy Week” eggs brought about the decoration of those eggs. The eggs then became a symbol of Resurrection or re-birth. Just as Jesus rose from the tomb, the egg symbolized new life emerging from the eggshell. In the Orthodox tradition eggs are painted red to symbolize the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

It is unknown when the first Easter egg hunt was held, but it has been given to First Lady Lucy Hayes,

the wife of President Rutherford B. Hayes. Which was held on the White House lawn, in 1878. This would include an Easter egg rolling contest by the children as a competition.



Easter is a time of rebirth, the Resurrection of Christ. Even though there has been debate over when the celebration should be held, it can be agreed upon by all Christian denominations the importance of the holiday. So as Easter quickly approaches, may you and your families so enjoy and celebrate Easter for what it truly represents.





CMMRF

CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Companions:

In honor of Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation month, I would like to recognize and thank the following Companions, Councils and a Commandery for their donations in 2023.

Thank you for your generous contributions and helping move Missouri into the number 8 position for General Grand Council International for 2023. Some donations may not be included due to late submissions to the CMMRF office.

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri:

Hiram Council No. 1
Cape Council No. 20
Shekinah Council No. 24
Zabud Council No. 25
Poplar Bluff Council No. 27
Jasper Council No. 30
York Council No. 40
Bonne Terre Council No. 43
Kirksville Council No. 44
Jeremiah Council No. 48
Independence Council No. 49
Liberty Council No. 50
Lebanon Council No. 56
Shelby Council No. 59
Nevada Council (UD)
Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8 Knights Templar
and the following individuals:
Mitchell Carter
Dr. Paul L. Daniels
Roger D. Fleer
Scott W. Hampton

Jeffrey Knight

Donald MacCormick

Charles H. May III

Jessie Morrison

Kevin B. Sample.

Michael S. Smith

Dan Smothers

William G. Snyder

John Bridegroom /The Masters Craft

Chad Wagoner

Larry Walters

Become a monthly donor at:

<https://www.cmmrf.org/donate/>

For those Councils hosting Table Councils and other CMMRF fundraising events, please mail the donations to the address below and be sure to include your organization's information and any individual donor information from your Council's event.

**Cryptic Mason Medical Research Foundation
PO Box 210
Brownsburg IN, 46112-0210**

Fraternally,

Corey B. Huntsucker

Missouri Representative for CMMRF

*Thank
you*





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 Gen-

eral 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.

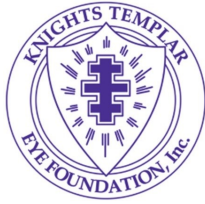
Certificates are designed for contributions of \$25.00, \$50.00, and \$100.00. A \$1000.00 contribution receives a very impressive pin with a keystone in the center. Additional contributions of \$500.00 add a small diamond to the pin. Certificates and pins are awarded to both individual donors and donating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





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, or sex 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 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, & Life Sponsor \$30. Those who are designated Life Sponsors or above are relieved from the annual assessment.

Since 1956, over \$98 million has been spent on subjects, 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 & 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. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is a co-sponsor of the Seniors Eye Care Program with Eye Care America, a Public Service Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The Seniors Eye Care Program helps those 65 years or older 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 to 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 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 like donation in his honor.



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.



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 of the Grand Commandery can provide more information about qualifying Ministers.

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.



What a Difference a Gala Makes!

This year's CMMRF Purple Gala will be held at two locations, Kansas City & Springfield, at the same date and time; Saturday, March the 30th.

Last year the Inaugural Purple Gala was able to donate \$6,500 to CMMRF. When the 2023 donation report was released from CMMRF, Missouri was \$7,000 above 2022 and in 8th place for donations raised to CMMRF in the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International. In 2024, it is our goal to double that amount, and we are doubling the opportunity for you to help and have fun doing so.

March is CMMRF month and what better way to celebrate, raise money and more importantly raise awareness for CMMRF than attending one of the two Purple Galas? The Purple Galas will be hosted simultaneously; one in Kansas City and the other in Springfield.

The Purple Gala is not just for Cryptic Masons. It is designed to help expand the reach and awareness of CMMRF to your community. Invite physicians working in the area of vascular medicine, (or any other field), invite philanthropists, and invite

your friends who might enjoy a glamorous evening out for a good cause. These are elegant, well-planned events that are both informative and entertaining.

Gala Schedule:

- 6:00pm - Social hour with a cash bar.
- 7:00pm - Welcome, introductory remarks and dinner consisting of a three course meal; salad, entree and dessert.
- 7:45pm - Presentation from Dr. Michael P. Murphy CMMRF Chair and Professor of Biosciences at Indiana University. The presentation will be simulcast to Springfield from Kansas City
- 8:30pm - Finishing the evening out with entertainment, dancing, and continued fellowship.

By attending this purple-tie gala, you will be contributing to advancing groundbreaking research initiatives that aim to prevent, diagnose, and treat vascular diseases. Together we can make a lasting impact on the lives of millions affected by vascular conditions.

For additional information on the Springfield Purple Gala, contact Greg Walker at:

springfieldyorkrite@gmail.com

for additional information on the Kansas City Purple Gala, contact Corey B Huntsucker:

903harrisonstreetyr@gmail.com

We hope you can make it.



*The St. Louis Chapter Rose Croix in conjunction with the
Valley of St. Louis Library & Museum Committee
present the
2nd Annual*

ILL. CHRISTOPHER E. TILLEY BOURBON TASTING
Saturday May 18th, 2024

SOCIAL AT 5:30PM -TASTING AT 6:30PM

Tasting will occur in the Valley of St. Louis Memorial Library & Lounge

\$125.00 PER TICKET

***LIMITED ATTENDANCE- ONLY 33 TICKETS TO
BE SOLD***

Join us for an enjoyable evening of bourbon tasting and fun. This event honors Past Wise Master and Valley Librarian, the late Ill. Christopher E. Tilley, 33°. Funds raised will benefit the continued efforts of the St. Louis Scottish Rite Library Committee in its new text acquisition efforts as well as restoration of our various Collections.

TICKETS INCLUDE:

- Enjoying 6 Bourbons as part of the tasting-representing the expanse of Bourbon Whiskey
- Commemorative Glencarin whisky glass

How to purchase tickets:

Go to

<http://gotform.com/240455320821144>

Or use the QR Code:



Questions? or to purchase tickets offline
Contact Jacob Thompson, 32°, KCCH at
jacobthompson1641@gmail.com

*This is an Open Event- You need not be a Mason or Member of the Scottish Rite.
First Come- First Serve in holding your spot for reservation.
Must purchase ticket to confirm seat.*



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 friend's 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

They say that we are all a bunch of stories in the end, so let us make ours a good one. Well, my story has not always been good, but with Freemasonry it has and continues to be great. My name is Larry Wilson, and I am a Deputy Sheriff with the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department. Not only a career, but a lifestyle that I have lived for the last 28 years. Do not get me wrong, it has been an interesting ride and one that I would not change for anything. However, I have seen things that have stained my soul and wish that I could forget.

For years, as most peace officers would, I attended choir practice quite regularly. It was funny at first, but

got old as the years went by. You might ask, "what is choir practice." Well, it isn't where a bunch of police officers get together to sing. Choir practice is when you get together at a bar, drink, and tell stories of what happened during your shift. What you find out fast is that everyone has a story and if you listen long enough, they start to become the same stories. We find out that we all have gone to the same houses, dealt with the same people (that's the clean name for those individuals), and arrested those same people for similar crimes. After a while, it starts to become a bit much because you never seem to get away from the job. After a few years of doing this, I figured that there has to be more to life than this vicious circle that I had gotten myself into. So instead, I started exercising after my shift ended. This lasted me a little while, but at two o'clock in the morning, all by myself in a weight room, I quickly got bored.

So, I added other interests to help pass the time. Building plastic models was fun, but not fulfilling. I tried video games, but I found out that I died more than I accomplished anything. Long walks ended in sore feet, but it didn't help me with my thoughts for the day. I finally decided to research my family tree and see what I could find.

Genealogy was a fabulous challenge for me. Not only did it help me figure out who I was, but it brought out the investigative nature in me that came from my job. A hundred people quickly appeared in my family tree, two hundred, a thousand, and finally five thousand. By this point, I was traveling and getting information from various courthouses throughout the states surrounding Missouri. During one of my trips, I even got kicked out of a courthouse by a circuit clerk. I was being nice, she wasn't, (I will leave it at that). One day, I was sitting at my desk, with a ton of research to go through, when I sighed and thought to myself, "there is got to be more to life than this." Don't get me wrong. I was making great grounds on research, but at the end of the day, I was always by myself. I would travel alone, I would sit in libraries alone in research, and I would be inputting data into a computer alone and by myself. I felt like I wasn't sharing anything with anybody. I would go to work and deal with other people's problems, and then go home to hide in a mountain of research, repeating day after

day. I hit another wall. Once again, there has got to be more than this to living. I was alone most of the time.

One day, I decided to look closer into the lives of my predecessors, and I started to see a pattern. From my Great-Grandfather's time on back, they belonged to a group of persons called, "Freemasons."

That name rang a bell with me. I remember my mother tell me that her Grandfather was a Freemason and past Potentate for a Shrine in California in the early 1900s. She was even a Jobs Daughter at a young age, but that she had a Catholic Grandmother who refused to allow anyone to talk about them. So, in the end, I didn't know much about them. I was always someone who would push the envelope, and I decided to research Freemasonry. With the help of the internet, I was able to discover the good and the bad of the group. What I discovered about that the bad was laughable, and the good, it intrigued me. So, for the next few months, I read everything I could on the subject. I probably learned more about Freemasonry than I should have before I was accepted by a lodge. However, the journey that I was now on has been an 18-year trip that has only gotten better and better as time goes on.

My story isn't over yet, but it continues on. It is one of discovery and a journey that I hope will not end for many years to come. I can only hope that this sliver of my life may interest others on their journey into this mystery that we call life.

Larry Wilson

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/4TG6d7zz>



Easter Observance Following

The Grand Commander's Breakfast

Location: 15977 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Date: 24 March 2024

Doors open 8:30 am

Breakfast 9:00 am

Cost: \$20.00





March 2024

Friday, March 15-16, 2024: Valley of Joplin Scottish Rite Reunion
Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.: 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
Monday, March 18, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.: Super Excellent Master Degree, Jeremiah Council No. 48
Monday, March 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.: Region 2 Table Council-Liberty Masonic Temple
Thursday, March 21-24, 2024: Moolah Shrine Circus, St. Charles Family Arena
Saturday, March 23, 2024, at 10:00 p.m.: Limerick Council No. 88 Knights Masons, Freedom Masonic Temple
Saturday, March 23, 2024: Grand High Priest Visitation, 175th Anniversary Chapter Rededication of Lexington Chapter No. 10
Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 5:00 pm: Table Council-Kirksville Council No 40, Kirksville, Missouri
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, at 5:30 p.m.: Purple Gala for CMMRF, University Plaza Hotel, Springfield, Missouri
Saturday, March 30, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.: Purple Gala for CMMRF, Kansas City Masonic Temple
Sunday, March 31, 2024: Easter Sunday Observance, Rolla Commandery No. 59, Rolla Masonic Center
Sunday, March 31, 2024: Easter Sunrise Service, Ely Commandery No 22 Kirksville, Missouri

April 2024

Friday, April 5-6, 2024: York Rite Festival-Independence, Independence Masonic Hall, Independence, Missouri
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: Royal Order of Scotland-Special Meeting, Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore, Tampa, Florida
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
Friday, April 19-20, 2024: Scottish Rite 2024, Rite Way Conference, Kansas City, Missouri
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
Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 7:00 p.m.: Santa Fe AMD Council no. 417, Regular Meeting, Ararat Shrine Temple

May 2024

Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.: Table Commandery-Region 2, St. Joseph Masonic Center, St. Joseph, Missouri
Thursday, May 2-4, 2024: Grand York Rite of Kansas
Friday, May 3-5, 2024: Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center
Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.: Lord of lords Tabernacle LI, HRAKTP, Jefferson City Masonic Temple
Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.: Installation of Officers, Rolla York Rite, Rolla Masonic Center
Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.: Columbia Preceptory, Yeomen of York, Columbia Masonic Lodge Building

York Rite in Missouri by Regions

Region 1

Chapters

Hannibal Chapter No. 7
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
keyorkrite@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
keyorkrite@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
keyorkrite@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

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

Happy
St. Patrick's Day
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

York Rite in Missouri by Regions

Region 7A

Commanderies

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

Region 7B

Chapters

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

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

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

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

Councils

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

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

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

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

Commanderies

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

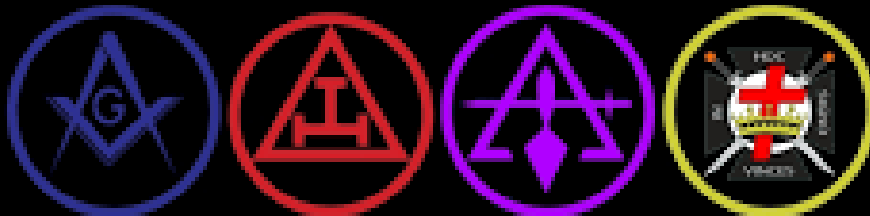
Jasper Commandery No. 31
3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Carthage Masonic Temple
1339 Oak Street
Carthage, MO 64836
Chad E. Wagoner, Secretary
cwagoner1865@gmail.com

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

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



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