



Michigan Triple Tau *Official Publication of the* *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons* **NOVEMBER 2024**

Dear Companions and Everyone:

What a beautiful start to Fall we are having. I have some photos of our color tour in Michigan. The reds and golds were great. You had to go further north beyond Cadillac before the leaves become breath taking. Companion Kevin Brown has a piece on Zerubbable and the opening of each Royal Arch Chapter. It is a good read. Thanks for your support in this venue.

Fraternally,
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau

Zerubbable before Darius By Nikolaus Knupfer



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Greetings Companions:

Another crazy month of travel for myself and Royal Arch! I was invited to be a part of the Red Cross of Constantine at the end of September and attended Union Chapter #55 in the beginning of October. The beginning of October also brought about the Eastern Star Grand Session. Although I am not a member, I attended as a representative of your Grand Chapter. For Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. I was glad to be a part of the all-Council degree day in Grand Rapids before traveling to the State Master Councilor's reception that evening. October also brings meetings of HRAKTP and KYCH in Alma, as well as traveling to Muskegon #47, Trenton #173, and Cadillac #103, the Grand Marshal's reception near Port Huron.

Masonry can be so much fun and Capitular degrees can be awesome when everyone knows what they are doing, and everyone does their job. Masonry is ALL of us doing our job. When someone does not do their own job, or a task that they said they were going to do, it is a slap in the face to everyone else that has done their job. It is a great feeling at the end of a degree when you look over at the candidate and he is smiling and shaking other's hands as he has received further light in Masonry. Sometimes there is bad feeling when a look of confusion or disappointment is on the candidate, if a degree is put on poorly, as if he has just witnessed a bad production of an off-off-off Broadway play.

November I will be visiting Livingston #30, Oakland #5, Grand Ledge #85, Lafayette #4 (and maybe some others) as well as attending the Virginia Grand Session, in Williamsburg, VA. Until I see you again, keep seeking further light in Masonry.

With Fervency and Zeal,
Tom Black, MEGHP





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SCRIBBLES OF THE SECRETARY

This year is slipping away very fast. Summer is over, Fall is half over, Thanksgiving is at the end of the month. To all the gentlemen out there, don't tell your wives that there are only fifty-four shopping days left for Christmas. Let the shopping begin.

The Secretaries should have the Masters Pins in your hands, the first week of November. Installations will begin on the first of December and can go through to January. The packet that you will receive not only has pins, but there is also a pamphlet for each of the lodge bulletin boards. This pamphlet is a short explanation of the York Rite for the members of each lodge. Should any lodge wish to have more of the pamphlets feel free to contact me and I will see that they will be sent to them. Remember that it does not have to be only one member of the Chapter to present the Master's Pin. You can have more than one member of the Chapter go to the Lodge or the Lodge's installation.

Since I hopefully have the Secretary's ear at this point, I can say that you can also place more of your Chapter's information in the calendar. Then you can use the calendar for more than just your meeting night, you can add a degree night (especially if you could use help), or special events and fund raisers. This is the cheapest advertising you can get for your events. I hope that you have a great and happy Thanksgiving. This time of the year it is difficult to try to do degrees, with the elections and installation of the Lodges, but it is very important to support your nearby Lodges. Remember this is the only place where you get members for your Chapters.

Fraternally,

Donald





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Greetings Companions,

I had a busy October attending Chapters I needed to attend before the weather gets bad. I was both surprised and concerned at how I found the Chapters I visited. I was surprised at the effort and enthusiasm of the Chapters and concerned at the lack of involvement of our DDIs with the Chapters I attended. I plan to work with our new Executive Director to make whatever changes need to be made in order to help our Chapters get back on a better footing than I have found them. The Grand High Priest has made a strong commitment to helping the Chapters with education with the basics of our four degrees. I support what he is trying to accomplish and will make it a point to continue and add to the effort. Let us all try to grow and add to our Chapters, we have a great tradition that we should build on.

With the Thanksgiving holiday coming up in the month of November, I would like to encourage all the York Rite family to think about and help those in need. I hope everyone has a great month.

Fraternally,
Dave Montgomery,
Grand King



(Continued From Column 2)

In closing remember to be very careful because Halloween will be here soon and watch out for the little goblin's tricker treating and I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

(Return to Column 2)



Greeting Companions,

How quickly the month has flown by before we know Thanksgiving will be here. The weather here in northern Michigan is beginning to turn colder, and the color foliage is almost gone. The Michigan wildlife can sense the weather pattern, and it will not be very long before the hibernation cycle will begin.

Now down to business, October has been a very busy month for me and the other grand chapter officers. Everyone is trying to get their visitation and schools of instruction completed before old man winter arrives. I have completed my school of instruction at Jackson Chapter No 3 and have two more-Chapter visitations to make. I have noticed many of our chapters are struggling to open properly It is vital that when the Director of DDI's, REC Terry Baker, calls for his School of Instruction that all the DDI's attend not just 1 or 2 of them. Remember you represent the Grand Chapter.

I would like to thank Priory No 22 for inducting me into the KYCH, what an honor and privilege that you have bestowed unto me. That is an experience I shall always cherish, thank you very much. The Grand York Rite Officers Reception was held on October 26th, 2024, what a great time everyone had.



God Bless US ALL,
Harold Staley, Grand Scribe



Royal Arch Education – Who is Zerubbabel?

By Comp. Kevin Brown, PHP of Oakland Chapter No. 5

In the opening of the Royal Arch degree there is a mention of Zerubbabel and a reference to truth. Truth has been a consistent theme in our Masonic journey and in the first symbolic lodge lecture we are taught that “Truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry.” To understand the relationship, we first need to examine who was Zerubbabel and then why he is connected to truth.

We find in 1 Chronicles 3 that Zerubbabel is in the line of David: David – Solomon – Josiah - Johoiakim - Jeconiah - Pedaiah – Zerubbabel. Other books note that he was the son of Salathiel (Shealtiel) - it’s generally accepted that Pedaiah suffered an early death, and he was adopted by his Uncle Salathiel (Shealtiel).

It should also be noted that Zerubbabel is prominent in the story of the rebuilding of King Solomon’s temple in Ezra 5:2 “Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem” And when they were asked their names in Ezra 5:11 “And thus they returned us answer, saying, We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and build the house that was builded these many years ago, which a great king of Israel builded and set up.”



The direct relationship to truth comes from a book called Esdras, similar to the book of Ezra. In Esdras there is a story of the “Contest of the bodyguards,” in which three guards’ debate what is the most superior thing in the world. One wrote “Wine is superior”, another “The king is superior” but Zerubbabel wrote “Women are superior, but truth conquers all.” When given the opportunity to expound upon his answer Zerubbabel stated 1 Esdras 4:37-38 “You can’t trust wine; you can’t trust the king; you can’t trust women. No human beings are trustworthy. Everything they do is wrong. There is no truth in them. They will perish in their lives. But truth endures and is valid for all time; it lives and succeeds forever.” The reward requested by Zerubbabel to Darius directly relates to our allegory and why it’s fitting that his name is mentioned in every opening of Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

1 Esdras 4:43-46 Zerubbabel said to the king, “Remember the promise that you made to rebuild Jerusalem on the day that you became king. You promised to send back all the holy equipment that was taken from Jerusalem, which Cyrus set apart when he promised to destroy Babylon and also promised to send it back there. You also solemnly swore to rebuild the temple, which was burned down by the Edomites when Judea was devastated by the Chaldeans. Now Master and King, this is what I ask and request of you, something that is fitting for your greatness. I beg you to fulfill the pledge you solemnly swore to the king of heaven with your own mouth.”



Fraternally,
Kevin Brown, PHP, Oakland Chapter No. 5



Grand Commandery Knights Templar Of Michigan



Greetings Companions,

Our annual visit to Pathway's, Masonic Home in Alma will take place on December 8, 2024, we will be celebrating Christmas with our brother's, and Sisters who reside there. We will start the day with a worship service starting at 10am, after the service we will be handing out sugar free cookies, and Christmas cards to the residents by visiting their rooms and sharing in some Christmas cheer.

I am personally inviting each Sir Knight, whether you are a Grand Officer, or Past Grand Officer, to join with our current Grand Commandry officers at this wonderful event, it is our obligation to care for our widows and orphans, and this event is just one way that we can honor those men and women who call Pathway's their home.

The activities will start with, **Fall-in @ 9:00am at the Doig Chapel.**

I look forward to seeing you at Pathway's for this wonderful event, where we will hear a message of good news, with Jesus Christ as the center of this message, our world would be a different place to live in if Jesus hadn't come to save this world, and we would not have salvation without his birth.

Mark your calendars for this date and come share Christmas with those who need our support and love.

In Christ,
James E. Deguise Rutherford, KCT
Grand Generalissimo
Grand Commandry, Knights Templar of Michigan

