



JANUARY

Michigan Triple Tau *Official Publication of the* *Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons* **JANUARY 2025!!!**

Dear Companions and Everyone:

Happy New Year to all! I was so touched by those of you who came to my Dad's memorial service. Thank you so much for your support and good wishes. I was surprised to see so many Grand Officers of the Masonic and York Rite bodies represented at the memorial. Now I have a face to the name!

Your MEGHP Tom and Grand Secretary Don have a few dates in January to remember to get us out and about the State of Michigan. In February, there are two more dates to go out in. One is the George Washington's Birthday Celebration on the 15th. It will be held in Port Huron again, but you need to make reservations for them because it is a catered meal. The deadline for reservations is February 10th, 2025. As it states in the flyer, "No dinner tickets will be sold at the door."

These next two months January and February can be a long-drawn-out time. My folks would have a Cabin Fever Clinic where we would do a small project, something you could make and take home, and then have refreshments afterwards. Your Chapter could have a practice, during one of those days where it is above 35 degrees, checking on the building for frozen pipes, and have refreshments later. I am sure we will have a few warm days just to tease us about the coming of Spring. Take care and stay well. See you next month.

Fraternally,
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



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MEC Thomas Black

Grand High Priest

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Greetings Companions:

Happy New Year to all the Companions!! At times, I take for granted the life I have. Yesterday, I was at the VA clinic having a tiny piece of shrapnel removed. It had stayed in place since 2012, but somehow wiggled loose and I had to have it take out. I remember the medevac, and the friends that I will never see again, but I am thankful to have friends here in Michigan in the Royal Arch. In the new year, let us cherish the life and friends we have since we never know when either of them will be taken from us.

In December, I was able to attend Durand #139, Hooker #38, Grand Rapids #7, Jackson #3, and Sturgis #26. I was also able to attend the Texas Grand York Rite Session in Waco, TX. In the Texas Grand Chapter, the High Priest, King, and Scribe all wear white cowboy hats, and it was a site to see!! On Saturday the 21st of December, I will be installing Port Huron Lodge #35 F&AM and that should be the last of my travels for the month of December.

In January, Companions of each Chapter should already be learning their ritual for the upcoming Capitular year starting at the end of April. Not only as Companions ascend through the ranks of their own Chapter learning the opening and closing, but each Companion should also be learning new and different parts for degrees. I am learning the Right Worshipful Master in the Most Excellent Master degree. I have always been the Marshal to that degree, but as I learn new parts, this provides an opportunity for others to learn the parts that have been vacated by others. It's a WIN-WIN!!

Grand Rapids Chapter will be put on the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees on Saturday January 11th in the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple. The George Washington Celebration will be in Port Huron again on the 15th of February, and the Michigan-Indiana-Ohio degree day (formally known as the Tri-State) will be held in Angola, on February 22nd. Until I see you again, keep seeking further light in Masonry.

Fraternally,
Tom Black, GHP





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REC Harold R. Staley
Grand Scribe
Lady Deborah
haroldstaley@yahoo.com

Greetings Companions,

Now that the holiday season has passed, I hope yours was as good as mine. This was my first year preparing the Thanksgiving dinner for my family. I did well, but it's going to take a couple more times to get it down. Christmas was at my son's house and a more relaxing day for me. It always seems good to have family around for special times.

November 2024 also marked 50 years for me in Masonry. I was presented with a pin and certificate by people I have come to regard as family also. Louie Cole was at my MM degree in 1974 when I was raised in Austin Lodge. He is still involved in his blue lodge and a main stay in all York Rite bodies. I have had the good fortune to have many great Masons in my life and made me a better person for knowing them. If you have been away from Masonry and York Rite, make a choice in the New Year to get involved. You may make a difference in your life and someone else's.

Fraternally,
Dave Montgomery, GK



Greetings Companions,

As I sit here at my laptop and try to contemplate how quickly the year 2024 has passed by. I hope everyone had a merry Christmas with their family and friends and I wish everyone a prosperous and blessed new year in 2025. Now that the new year is here upon us let us all take the time and try and accomplish our goals and new year resolutions. I and the grand officers have always strived to instill education in all our Chapters. The weather here in northern Michigan has been bitterly cold and a lot of us are settled in the comfort of our homes, this is the time to open our ritual books and learn on how to open and close our Chapter and degrees. Your Chapter can take pride along with their Companions if this can be done by memorization.

We as grand officers are trying to finish our visits and schools of instruction before the George Washington celebration. There are some important dates coming up so mark your Calanders (a) George Washington celebration at Port Huron on February 15th, 2025, so make your reservations early (b) East Central York Rite Conference on March 8th, 2025, at the Grand Wayne Convention Center located at 1020 S. Calhoun St. Fort Wayne, Indiana. (c) All Chapter degree day March 22nd, 2025, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, also Chapter High Priest and Secretaries be sure to get the masters pins presented and recorded before February 15th. I have not received any nominations for the MSA and Bronze Award as of this date remember the deadline is May 1st, 2025. I know there are deserving Companions in our Chapters so please send them in as soon as possible. In closing a reminder to all the Chapter Secretaries let's try and get all our Chapters up to date on our appendix system. Thank you and let's all have a great new year.

Fraternally,
Harold Staley, Grand Scribe.



**R. E. C. DONALD L. GALWAY, P.G.H.P.
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SCRIBBLES OF THE SECRETARY

Welcome to 2025, this seems funny since I can't believe just how quickly that 2024 went by. I realized that things seemed to be moving quickly, and I was active, I just didn't think that we were moving that fast. The years just seem to be slipping away, they go a lot quicker now than when I was a kid. One of the things that we need to do very quickly is plan our year looking forward. The Secretaries can put information on the calendar for your degrees and events.

The best way for us (the Secretaries and Grand Chapter Officers) to get more mileage out of information is by using the calendar. Ninety-eight percent of us have and use a calendar on our phones. I check mine every night to see what the next day is bringing. My wife puts everything on the wall calendar, so we know where we need to be. We don't like surprises like, if it isn't on the calendar it can't happen. It works for us, but we have done it for fifty plus years. We as a York Rite body have all the three bodies available on the calendar and they are color coded to keep them straight. This is to help us plan our events, in hopes of growing our membership along with giving our membership wider visibility to all York Rite.

Here's looking forward to a fruitful and prosperous New Year.

Donald



Royal Arch Education – Learning Ritual – Memory Palace

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

As we celebrate the new year, it is a time when many of us will be making new years resolutions. I'd like to suggest that we all add "Learning a part of the Chapter ritual" to the list for 2025 – I am confident it will be easier than giving up the bad habits we have. I would also like to stress that the goal is not to learn "ALL" of the ritual – just break it up in to small sections, work your way through a specific degree or chair and when you feel confident you can add the next part.

One of the techniques that I have found very helpful is called the "Memory Palace." The idea behind this approach is to associate things that you have difficulty remembering with physical locations in your long term memory. First, select the portion of the ritual that you want to focus on and break it up into smaller pieces that individually would be easy to learn – the length can vary with your skill at memorization. Then, for each of those smaller pieces select a word or two that would help trigger your memory for the full section and pick a related image that will help you remember it. Finally, pick a visual memory like the layout of your house or your drive to work/lodge – something that is firmly ingrained in your memory, and assign those "trigger words" to those location. In your mind, you can picture the layout of your house, imagine walking from room to room and seeing those images in place to help put the smaller sections into the right order.

As a quick example, lets take the beginning of the Declaration of Independence and a typical layout of a house:

Place	Image	Phrase
Font porch	you hugging a loved one	<i>We hold these truths</i>
Foyer	A self portrait in a fancy frame	<i>to be self-evident</i>
Dining room	A scale of justice balanced or a giant equal sign on the table	<i>that all men are created equal</i>
Kitchen	your image of a Creator sitting in the sink full of soapy water	<i>that they are endowed by their Creator</i>
Family room	A large green Alien sitting in your favorite chair	<i>with certain unalienable Rights</i>
Fireplace	The Liberty bell in front of the fireplace	<i>that among these are Life, Liberty</i>
Television	A big yellow smiley face on the TV.	<i>and the pursuit of Happiness</i>

Once you learn a paragraph or section, you can add another and then another. If necessary you can create another Memory Palace to tie each paragraph together. Now the various memory palaces will act as your own personal prompter.

More information is available online: <https://youtu.be/p9IOqd1LpkA>

Fraternally,

Kevin Brown, PHP, Oakland Chapter No. 5





**St. Clair Chapter No. 12, Royal Arch Masons
Invites you to the 105th Annual
George Washington Birthday Celebration**

The 105th Annual George Washington Birthday Dinner will be held on
Saturday, February 15, 2025
At the Port Huron Masonic Temple
927 6th St., Port Huron, Michigan
6:00 p.m.

All Brothers, Companions, Sir Knights, and Ladies are invited to attend.
\$25.00 per person

**DINNER IS BY PREPAID RESERVATION ONLY
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**

No reservations accepted after Monday, February 10, 2025

Clip Here

Name: (Please print) _____

Number attending @ \$25 each: _____ Total _____

Make checks payable to St. Clair Chapter No. 12, R.A.M.

Send prepaid reservations to:
William Herlihy
874 Crystal Ln.
Marysville, MI 48040-1598

Dinner is Saturday, February 15, 2025
Reservation deadline is Monday, February 10, 2025
NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR

