



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

Dear Companions and Everyone:

Spring finally made it!!! The magnolia trees are beautiful if the weather cooperates. A blast of cold or a wild rainstorm and they will be gone. Having the trees grow leaves again makes me sneeze and the allergy is back. I still love to see everything blossom again.

I am sure you are all ready for the second Sunday of May, which is Mother's Day. Chocolates and flowers are always a good choice. Dinner out, even better! No dishes.

In our Education section has Companion Kevin Brown, PHP, talking about "Why we study the ritual of the Royal Arch.". A good article and food for thought.

Thank you again for the articles and your support with this newsletter. Until next month, have a wonderful Mother's Day and **God Bless Our Veterans!**

Fraternally,
Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau



Donald Galway, PGHP, Grand Secretary
500 Temple Street
Detroit, Michigan 48201-2695
Cell Phone No. (517) 231-7109
E Mail: dgalway12000@yahoo.com



Jane Todd, Editor of the Triple Tau
1200 Wright Ave., RM 281
Alma, Michigan 48801-1133
Phone No. (989) 423-7642
E Mail: creakyjane281@gmail.com

Website: www.grandchapter-mi.org



MEC Thomas Black

Grand High Priest

xsealtom@yahoo.com

Companions All,

Only four more months until the York Rite Grand Session where a new Grand High Priest will be installed in Michigan. I cannot believe how fast the year is going; there is still so much more to do!

This month I was honored to install the officers for Grand Rapids Chapter #7, Hooker Chapter #38, and Grand Ledge Chapter #85; in addition to heading down to Nashville, Indiana for the Indiana Grand Chapter Grand Session. The Prince Hall Grand Chapter Session in Muskegon, Michigan on April 20th, and Union Chapter #55 in Northville for the Most Excellent Master degree on the 23rd of April.

In the month of May, I will be heading to Durand, Lapeer, Jackson, and Saginaw Chapters as well as the Annual Communication for Grand Lodge; however, that is for next month. Study your ritual, be kind to one another, rejoice in others good fortune, comfort those with misfortune, and until I see you again, keep seeking further light in Masonry.

WFZ,

Tom Black, GHP





REC Dave Montgomery
Grand King
 dmontgomeryd48@gmail.com



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

Greetings Companions;

It seems great to get past winter and enjoy the warmer weather again. May has always been a month for our Grand Lodge annual meeting. Grand Chapter will be setting up a table to promote and answer questions about York Rite Masonry. In my travels I'm seeing a great deal of interest and new members coming from younger men. As Chapters we need to get out and approach men in our Blue Lodges, if our Chapters are going to be successful it will take effort and commitment to making our Chapters grow. I don't know of any Chapter events currently for May around the State.

In July the annual golf outing and picnic are planned, flyers have been sent to all the Chapters in the State, and it can also be downloaded from the website. Put a team together and enjoy the golf and companionship. Following the golf, a picnic is planned at the Pinckney Masonic Temple, all are welcome to come and enjoy food and friends.

Fraternally,
 Dave Montgomery, Grand King



Greetings Companions:

Just when we thought Spring had arrived here in northern Michigan. Mother Nature delivered a massive ice storm on March 29, 2025. This storm covered over 26 counties area wide, knocking out the power grid to over 100 thousand residents. The infrastructure must be rebuilt in many areas. Currently almost everyone has their power restored.

Companions March was a busy month for the Grand Chapter on March 9th the Grand Chapter attended the east central conference at Fort Wayne Indiana. The All-Chapter Degree Day was held on March 22, 2025, at the Grand Rapids Temple hosted by Hooker Chapter No. 38. It was a good turn out and we exalted 14 new Companions. Everyone did a great job. The Grand Chapter traveled to the Indiana Grand Session that was held in Nashville, Indiana on April 3rd through April 5th. The Grand Chapter will have some officers attending the Prince Hall Grand Session on April 19th, 2025, at Muskegon Michigan also the Grand Chapter will be represented by myself on April 24 thru 25 at the Ontario Grand Convocation to be held in Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

Companions remember the Order of York will be conferred on April 26th at the Detroit Masonic Temple have your Sir Knights there by 9am. Also, there will be an All-Degree Day hosted by Pontiac No 21 at Auburn Hills, Michigan. Have your Companions there by 9am.

In closing, please have your MSA nominations submitted to me by the 30th of April. Companions continue to visit your local blue lodges and promote Royal Arch Masonry. I would like to thank all the first responders nationally and locally who recovered our electrical grid. God bless them and keep them safe.

May God bless us all,
 Harold Staley, Grand Scribe





R. E. C. DONALD L. GALWAY, P.G.H.P.
GRAND SECRETARY

Lady Sherry

500 Temple Street, Detroit, MI 48201-2695

Cell (517) 231-7109

dgalway12000@yahoo.com

Scribbles Of The Secretary

We have made it through the first month of spring and mother nature has held true to form. Michigan has four seasons, and we can get them all on the same day. We have started the busy season for Masonry in Michigan, with all the Masonic bodies working full steam ahead with degree work and education in the works from now until winter. Our York Rite bodies have been active in April with degrees and education. The Grand Council held their annual retreat last month. The Grand Council annual all-degree day (Strawberry Fest) was held the last weekend with 17 new members being added to the membership. York Sovereign College of North America held a statewide degree day in the morning of the same day of which I believe had 9 new members added to the list of membership. For some of us it was a busy day, but very enjoyable for all involved.

May is more than likely to be just as active as April was. The Grand Lodge of Michigan will be holding their annual communication on May 19th and 20th with the new officers being installed on the 20th. KYCH will be held on the 17th in Alma, Michigan, Masonic Pathways Doig Conference Center. Degrees will be happening throughout the month for all the York Rite bodies, it would be nice if the bodies would put the information on the calendar so we could know. I know that some Chapters, Councils and Commandery's would like to help or have a candidate that could take that degree and maybe could bring them to your location. We can all use help at one time or another.

Remember to have a safe time on your travels, and if you are opening your vacation homes for the summer, safe travels. Have a Happy Memorial Day and begin enjoying the summer.

Fraternally,
Donald



Hooker Chapter #38 is excited to announce the decision for Excellent Companion Brent Raterink as a candidate for the Grand Chapter line of Michigan. His heart is deeply invested in the York Rite, and he is eager to bring positive, impactful attitude. He pledges to work tirelessly to foster growth and serve the Companions of Michigan.

Brent Raterink



For the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan

Past Master-Sparta #334, 2018

Alexandria Lodge of Research and Study #1002

DDI-District #11, 2021-Present

High Priest-Hooker #38

Tyre Council #10 R & S.M.

DeMolai Commandery #5

Mt. Moriah Council #128 AMD

Western College #10 York Rite College

President-Beer City #807 High Twelve Club

Saladin Shriners

Scottish Rite

Robert Cooper PMEGHP, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "C".

Royal Arch Education – Why do we learn the ritual?

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

It's understandable that Royal Arch Masons experience a variety of emotions regarding ritual work. The transition from Blue Lodge to Royal Arch can indeed be overwhelming due to the increased complexity and volume of ritual. For more experienced Companions, the frustration with the limited number of members who can perform the work from memory is also valid. If the task of memorizing the ritual is the source of so much angst among our members, then why do we do it?

Early on in my Masonic Journey, Comp. Louie Cole, PHP told me “don’t memorize it, learn it”, something I didn’t fully understand at the time. Bro. Darren Allat offered some thoughts on learning versus memorizing in an online article titled “Learning Ritual – What Everyone Get’s Wrong”

Masonic ritual learning goes beyond simple memorization; it's a journey towards understanding that fosters transformation and growth. In today's world, where quick fixes and distractions are rampant, the discipline of ritual learning emerges as a meaningful challenge, encouraging us to explore personal development on a deeper level.

Consider the transformative power of the ritual's difficulty. It's not just about the effort of memorization but the resilience and discipline cultivated through this process. This discipline is not for tradition alone but is a crucial aspect of personal and collective growth within Freemasonry, affecting both individuals and our community.

Imagine the discipline gained from learning rituals as a cornerstone for a Mason's daily life. This foundation strengthens the bonds within lodges, creating an environment of support and empathy rather than judgment.

Bro. Carl H. Claudy offers a slightly different view on the value of learning the ritual in “Old Tiler Talks – Learning the Work” The tiler was discussing with a younger member about the need for everyone to learn the work and he asked:

But wouldn't it be enough if only a few men learned the work – those well qualified and with good memories? How would that do? His response: Masonry is not a despotism but a democracy. If a favored few were the custodians of the work would not the favored few soon become the rulers of Masonry.

In my opinion, learning the ritual is what makes Masonry better and more meaningful than joining other organizations, but is not a quick or easy process. What if we each took just 15 minutes a day studying, 15 minutes before a meeting with a mentor/mentee, and an occasional practice session with the Chapter or DDI – imagine how transformative our ritual would be for our new companions and how much stronger our bonds would be with each other.

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





27th Annual York Rite Picnic & Charity Golf Outing

Saturday, July 19th

27th Annual James R. Sprague Memorial York Rite Picnic

- Pinckney Temple, 210 Mann St., Pinckney, MI 48169
- Noon-??? Arrive ~2:00. Food will be served at approx. 3:00 pm.
- Potluck, burgers, brats and hotdogs. Bring a dish to pass. Alcohol is BYOB.
- Water and soda will be available.
- Picnic costs: \$5.00 per person.
- There are several motels nearby, so plan to come early and stay late.

Charity Golf Outing

- Whispering Pines Golf Club, 2500 Whispering Pines Dr., Pinckney, MI 48169
- Registration will begin at 8:00 AM. Single tee start at 9:00 AM.
- Registration fee includes golf and cart. \$65.00 per player.
- The event is a four (4) person scramble. Teams may be all men, all ladies, or mixed. You may submit your team, or we will gladly put one together for you.
- There will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, a “Closest to the pin” hole and a “Longest Drive” hole.
- Hole sponsorship is available for \$25. Individuals, Businesses, and Masonic Organizations are welcome to show their support!
 - All profits will be divided between the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery Charities.

Make checks payable to: Grand Rapids #7

AND

Mail to: Mike Clark, 6815 Sunrise Ct., Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Questions? Contact:

Harold Staley	harold.staley@yahoo.com	(989) 470-8737
Dave Montgomery	montgomeryd48@gmail.com	(248) 207-5758
Richard Hitch	richhitch62@gmail.com	(734) 612-4809
Don Mayville	indsal@att.net	(810) 874-1637



2025 York Rite Golf Outing

Sponsor & Registration Form

July 19, 2025

I /We would like to sponsor (individually, as an organization, or as a business) a hole or tee box for only \$25.00 for each hole. Please let the sign(s) read:

Number of holes sponsored _____ x \$25 Total.....\$_____

Golf Sign Up

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

(Registration fee includes golf, cart and picnic) \$65.00/Player

Playing with: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Enclosed, please find my payment in full of..... \$ _____

Picnic only (\$5.00/person) \$ _____ Number attending picnic: _____

* Make checks payable to: Grand Rapids #7

Please enter "YR GOLF OUTING" on the memo line.

Mail advance registration & checks to:

Mike Clark
6815 Sunrise Ct
Grand Rapids, MI 49546