



# THE KENTUCKY KEYSTONE

A PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF KENTUCKY  
ROYAL ARCH MASONS



VOLUME 31

NUMBER 2

NOVEMBER 2019

## Message from the Grand High Priest



**G**reetings Companions.

Since the Grand Session I have visited many Chapters, 10 to be exact and 50% of those Chapters had some degree work with more coming. On November 9th Morehead Chapter will be conducting all 4

Chapter degrees. I feel that Royal Arch masonry is alive and growing.

As this is being written we have had 2 area meeting 1 in Louisville and the other in Bowling Green. At these meetings a Royal Arch knife raffle was held. The Louisville meeting was attended by 33 Companions and \$120.00 was earned for RARA. The Bowling Green meeting was attended by 47 and the raffle gained \$247.00 for RARA. There is still 1 more meeting to be held at Paintsville and I challenge area 7, 8 and 9 to have more attendance and raise more money for RARA than areas 1, 2 and 3. At the Bowling Green meeting I had the opportunity to present Companions James David Halcomb, Donald Meredith and Jerry Marsh with their 50 year membership pins.

This month I have had the opportunity to attend and be part of 2 momentous Masonic occasions both on the same day October 27th. First the 150 year anniversary of Phelps Lodge #482 F&AM, my home Lodge and Second the 100 year anniversary of Morehead Chapter #168, my home Royal Arch Chapter.

Remember on November 23rd is the York Right Grand Officers reception to be held in Danville at the Show Room. Come out and support the Grand Officers.

This has been a good month for me and for Royal Arch Masonry for which I am so thankful, which leads me to wish each of you a Very Happy Thanks Giving.

Fraternally,

Rick Sears  
MEGHP

*If you Love Masonry you will want to come  
If you Love Masonry you will need to come  
If you Love Masonry you will come.*

## GRAND YORK RITE

### Officers Reception

*Rick Sears, Grand High Priest*

*Tom Bustle, Grand Illustrious Master*

*Marvin Blaine, Grand Commander*

*Saturday, November 23, 2019*

*5:00 PM*

*The Showroom*

*2405 Lebanon Road*

*Danville, KY 40422*

*Tickets \$20.00*



HAPPY  
*Thanksgiving*

Enter his gates with  
thanksgiving and his courts  
with praise; give thanks to him  
and praise his name.

*Psalm 100:4*

## *From the Grand Secretary's Desk*



Companions and  
Sir Knights,

Greetings,

I have been honored to be asked by the Grand High Priest Rick Sears to participate in the area meetings this year. Noel and I have attempted to

present a program to help the companions understand how the Grand Office works and some things about our websites.

As we have completed two of the area meetings with the third one scheduled for November 23, the attendance has been outstanding and we hope that all who have attended have enjoyed the programs that were presented.

Noel and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and look forward to serving you throughout the coming year.

Fraternally,

James King Jr. Grand Secretary/Recorder

*You can reach the Grand York Rite office at 859-209-4120.*



## **From the Editor**

Greetings, Companions!

It is good to look through our Facebook pages, and through my email and text messages and see all the work taking place across the state. I'm also seeing, par for the course here in Kentucky, Grand Officers present at many of these events. Please welcome these guys when they visit; extend a friendly handshake and a smile. I can assure you that it means a lot to see a friendly face when you've been on the road two or three hours and maybe got lost a time or two. Extend the same courtesy to your Deputies/Inspectors. They have sacrificed of their time to come visit, but they've also given a lot of time and effort to prepare themselves to meet the requirements of the position they hold.

I hope you are enjoying the Area Meetings in the Chapter. There have been a few issues with the new changes to the database, and some existing issues have come up. That is a good thing. Please let me know any time there are problems with KYRIS so that we can address the issues. Noel and Jim have been in contact, as well as a couple of you, and we've worked out some issues as a result of these meetings.

In a similar line of thought, I have a copy of the old database used by Grand Secretary/Recorder Bill Hinton. If you're looking for degree dates, I may be able to help. There isn't a lot in there, but there are some dates that didn't make it into KYRIS.

Companions, I wish for each of you and your loved ones a blessed, stress free, healthy Thanksgiving. For myself and family, we have much to be thankful for. A year ago at this time I was just out of the hospital following cancer surgery. I am, by all indications now cancer free, and on October 26, walked my daughter Rebecca down the aisle to unite in marriage with my new favorite son-in-law, Alex Morgan. May God bring them, and each of you, much happiness in the weeks and months to come.

*I will give thanks to you, Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. Psalms 9:1*

Fraternally,

Randall Partin, Editor

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
BROTHER GEARY F. LAIRD**



**Grand Master  
Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A. M.  
2019-2020**

*Brother Geary is a member of the Louisville York Rite bodies - Ed.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
BROTHER E. DARREN WILSON**



**Grand Junior Warden  
Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A. M.  
2019-2020**

*Brother Darren is a member of the Frankfort York Rite bodies – Ed.*



**From the Royal and Select Masters of  
Kentucky**

**Happy Thanksgiving!**



*Carl Jones, MIPGM,  
Grand Chaplain*

*O give thanks unto the  
Lord; for he is good:  
because his mercy  
endureth for ever. Psalm  
118:1*

At this special time of year, we pray for all the Companions and Sir Knights and their families: health, safety, peace and God's richest of blessings. As we gather with family and friends to celebrate this Thanksgiving season let us reflect on the blessings of the past year with anticipation of the year to come.

**We Thank Thee**

By: Ralph Waldo Emerson

For flowers that bloom about our feet,  
Father, we thank Thee.  
For tender grass so fresh, so sweet,  
Father, we thank Thee.  
For the song of bird and hum of bee,  
For all things fair we hear or see,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.



For blue of stream and blue of sky,  
Father, we thank Thee.  
For pleasant shade of branches high,  
Father, we thank Thee.  
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,  
For beauty of the blooming trees,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light,  
Father, we thank Thee.  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
Father, we thank Thee  
For health and food, for love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.



**On Leadership**

**“The single biggest way** to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them.” - John Maxwell

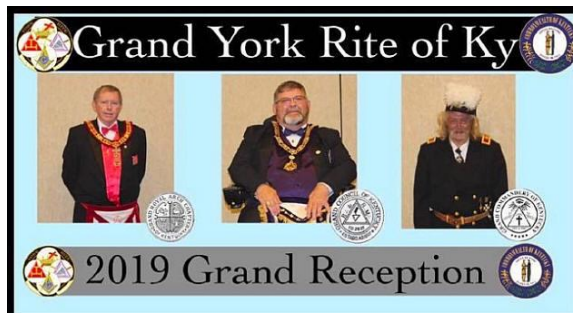


**To the York Rite Bodies  
of Kentucky:**

*We just wanted to thank you again, for the fabulous time we had reconnecting with Kerry's Brothers of York Rite. Kerry really enjoyed himself, and I think it was good for him to see you all. We want those who helped with everything that was done for us to know that it was certainly appreciated.*

*You all truly are family to us. We love you all!*

*Marilyn Sluss*



***Rick Sears, MEGHP***

***Thomas E Bustle, MJGM***

***Marvin Blaine, REGC***

**Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 at 5:00 PM**

**The Showroom  
2405 Lebanon Road  
Danville, KY 40422**

**Tickets \$20 each.**

**For tickets see Rick, Tom, or Marvin**

## Continuing the York Rite Journey



*MEM Degree at Jo Davies Chapter #32 in Owensboro KY, Monday, Oct 28, 2019. Five candidates from Utica Lodge completed the MEM degree. Jon Grantham, RWM and his team did excellent work.*

*It was an honor to represent the Grand Chapter, RAM at this degree work as Grand Master of the 1st Veil. Bruce Outlaw was also present; he's the one taking the photo. Charles Durham (PIGM) was also in attendance. (Submitted by Ron Dockery, photo by Bruce Outlaw)*



*W R Selby Chapter No. 4 (Danville) Royal Arch Degree. Five Past Grand High Priests were present, along with the current Grand High Priest and Grand King.  
October 24, 2019*





*Hardin Chapter No 195 (Elizabethtown) Royal Arch Degree. Welcome Companions Hector Cruz and Michael Hoyle. October 10, 2019 Photo by Greg Raque*



*Paducah Chapter No. 30 Most Excellent Master Degree  
October 29, 2019*



*Winchester Chapter No 12 and Richmond Chapter No 16 Royal Arch Degree  
October 22, 2019*



On Oct. 22, Winchester Chapter #12 conferred the Royal Arch degree on two companions, Ben Joynt of Winchester, and Daniel Cotton of Richmond. In the picture above, Companion/Sir Knight Tim Branham of Paintsville Commandery displays a banner from Winchester Commandery #30 labeled 1910. The banner was found by the members of the Widows Sons motorcycle club at an antique store in Scottsville and was given back to Winchester Commandery #30. In the picture on the left, Companion Steve Talbott, High Priest of Winchester Chapter provides a better view of the banner. Above, on EHP Talbott's left is newly exalted Companion Ben Joynt and on Talbott's right is Companion Daniel Cotton.

Chris Griffith of Paintsville York Rite comments that "Paintsville York Rite Bodies was proud that our Sir Knight Tim Branham saw fit to return this beautiful artifact to Winchester Commandery after discovering it being lost to antiquity but later returned by our dutiful Templar. Enjoy this piece of your history Sir Knights."

*Top photo submitted by Greg Raque, left by Steve Talbott.  
Article submitted by Steve Talbott and Chris Griffith.*



## The York Rite at Work



*The Madisonville York Rite Bodies recognized three newly elected Honorary Members with certificates and dues cards at our stated Conclave October 22, 2019. Presenting the certificates and dues cards are Ron Dockery, Secretary/Recorder, left and Jimmie Horne, Eminent Commander, right. In the middle (from left to right) are Bobby Hayes, Jon Grantham and Mike Jones. Bobby is a member at Princeton York Rite; Jon and Mike are members at the Owensboro York Rite. Submitted by Ron Dockery*



*Maysville Chapter having discussion on re-establishing a Council and Commandery there. Several Grand Line officers can be seen in attendance.*



*The following was submitted by Companion Chris Griffith. Chris is a member of the Paintsville York Rite bodies, and currently serves the Grand Chapter as Master of the Third Veil.*

I travelled to DC for work and while there I attended Washington-Potomac Chapter #8 RAM. I met their HP EC Mark Wright who welcomed me. It was their Grand Visitation night and MEGHP Sylvanus Newstead was in attendance. Due to the smaller size of this jurisdiction, the Grand High Priest attends every Chapter and is received, then the sitting High Priest reports on the state of the Chapter.

There are a number of recognitions that follow. I was pleased to be called to the alter and presented the Grand High Priests pin. I reciprocated and presented our own Grand High Priest, ME Rick Sears' pin to their Grand High Priest and to the High Priest of Washington-Potomac Chapter. It was an honor to bring greetings from our GHP Rick Sears and the Commonwealth of KY.

*Commandery Color Guard at Grand Lodge*



*A thought to ponder - The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning.*







*Morehead Chapter No. 168 meeting, October 15, 2019 Submitted by George Ralph Arnold*



**Garry L. Terry**

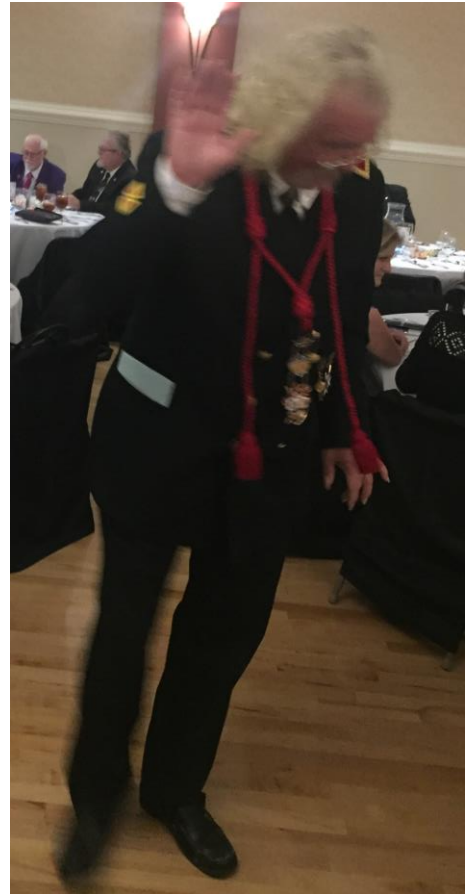
*Dec 28, 1942 - Oct 28, 2019*

*Companion and Sir Knight Garry L. Terry being installed at home as Grand Junior Deacon by Most Woshipful Grand Master Geary Laird.*

*Companion Terry was Past Master of Buechel Lodge No. 896, Past High Priest of King Solomon Chapter No. 5, Past Illustrious Master of Louisville Council No. 4, and Past Commander of Louisville DeMolay Commandery No. 12. He was Chancellor of North Central York Rite Sovereign College No 116 at the time of his death, and so proud to serve. He was 33<sup>rd</sup> degree Scottish Rite as well as a wonderful example of Masonry. Submitted by Joe Giles.*



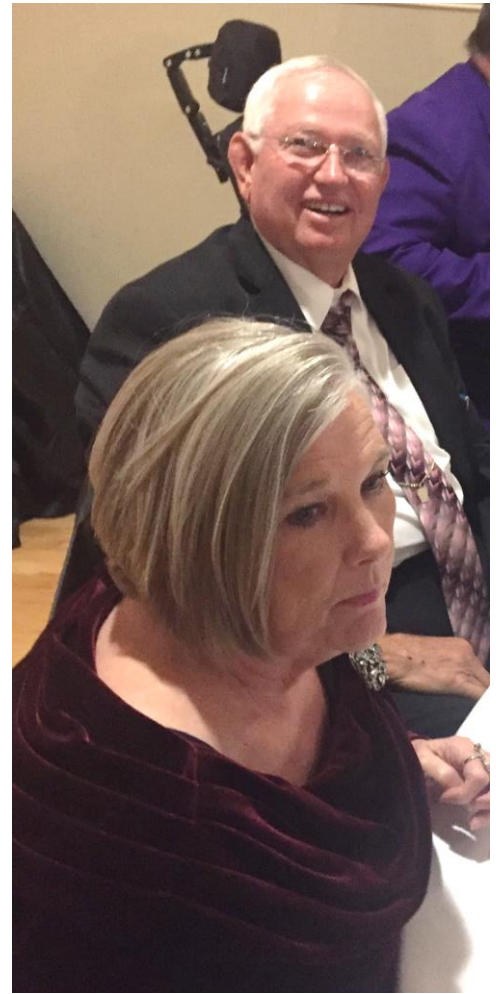
# GRAND MASTER'S RECEPTION



*Photos courtesy of Bruce Outlaw*









# Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A.



*Please Support and Participate in the following Events and Programs*

## **2019 DEPARTMENT CONFERENCES**

*The 2019 Grand Encampment Department Conferences are open to all Sir Knights.*

### **EAST CENTRAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE**

March 2020

**Including the Leadership Training Program**

## **The Knights Templar Eye Foundation 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Voluntary Campaign**

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Voluntary Campaign period will extend from *October 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020*. I ask each loyal Templar to assist his Commandery to the best of his ability. The 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Campaign, which ended April 30, 2019, raised a total of \$1,756,414.39

## **Easter Pilgrimage to Washington DC**

April 10 – 12, 2020

### **90th ANNUAL EAST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE**

The 90th Annual Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, will again be held on the steps of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on *Sunday, April 12, 2020*. The bus will leave Louisville on Friday morning, stop in Lexington, and arrive in the D C area for dinner. Saturday plans include a boat ride on the Potomac River.

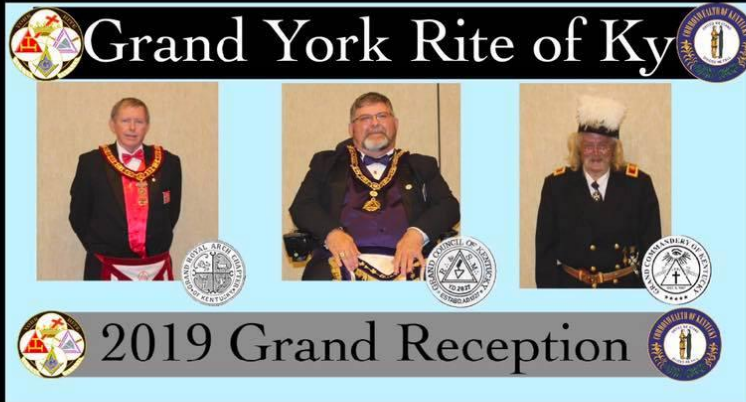
## **Upcoming Degree Work and Events**

*The following list is as provided by various Companions and Sir Knights across the Commonwealth. If your organization is planning to confer the degrees or orders, please let me know so that I can put it in the Keystone.*

- 11/11 – Chapter work, Williamsburg
- 11/19 – Order of Malta, Louisville DeMolay
- 11/22 – Grand Junior Warden Reception
- 11/23 – Chapter Area Meeting, Paintsville
- 11/23 – Grand Officers Reception, Danville
- 12/3 – Order of the Temple, Louisville DeMolay
- 2/1/2020 – Glasgow Chapter/Council Degrees
- 2/15/2020 – Glasgow Commandery Orders
- 2/??/2020 – Paintsville Winter Festival
- 7/11/2020- West Kentucky Festival - Paducah







*Graphic by Greg Raque*

*Saturday, November 23, 2019  
 6:00 PM  
 The Showroom  
 2405 Lebanon Road  
 Danville, KY 40422  
 Tickets \$20.00*

**Tickets \$25 per person**

**E. Darren Wilson's**

**Grand Junior Warden Reception Dinner**

**Oleika Shrine Temple**  
 326 Southland Drive Lexington, KY 40503

**Doors open at 5 P.M.    November 30, 2019    Dinner at 6 P.M.**

Deadline to RSVP is Friday NOVEMBER 22 2019

Join us for a night of celebration for our newly elected R.W. Grand Junior Warden  
 For tickets call:  
 Matthew Kirby 606-643-5203    Troy Blair 859-351-4224  
 John Grider 606-706-5124    Terry Boggess 270-978-5655

Come  
 Join  
 Us  
 Brothers



GRAND CHAPTER OF KENTUCKY  
AREA EDUCATIONAL MEETING  
FOR

**Areas 7A, 7B, 8 & 9**

November 23, 2019

10:00 AM

Paintsville Lodge No. 381

408 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Paintsville, Kentucky

Hosted by Paintsville Chapter No. 131

**Meeting Topics will include**

- A discussion of the historical relationship between the Royal Arch and the Symbolic Lodge, presented by Bill Riggs;
- Workings of the Grand Secretary's Office and use and importance of the KYRIS database, presented by Jim King/Noel Sloan;
- Chapter Protocol and other miscellaneous items, presented by Rick Sears, MEGHP;
- Answers to YOUR questions.

***Acknowledgments***

- *Photos – The photos of the Grand Chapter were provided by Noel Sloan. Most others are attributed to the submitter. We do appreciate our new contributors this month. If you sent something and it didn't get published, please notify the Editor; it likely got overlooked.*



## Chapter Inspection Schedule (Revised)

Area	Chapter	Location	Date	DDGHP
2	Madisonville No. 123	Madisonville	11/26/2019	Miles Ward
4	B W. R. Shelby No. 4	Danville	1/23/2020	Thomas Brown
1	Lindsey No 69	Mayfield	2/11/2020	Glenn D Barker
1	Paducah No. 30	Paducah	2/25/2020	Glenn D Barker
3	B Graham No. 80	Franklin	3/3/2020	David Puckett
5	B Shelbyville No 2	Shelbyville	3/5/2020	Joseph Giles
7	B Apperson No. 81	Ashland	3/5/2020	Paul Davis
5	A Bullitt No. 44	Shepherdsville	3/7/2020	John Johnson
2	Oriental No. 14	Princeton	3/10/2020	Miles Ward
3	A Jo Daviess No. 32	Owensboro	3/10/2020	James Reynolds
3	B Bowling Green No. 38	Bowling Green	3/10/2020	David Puckett
6	Cynthiana	Cynthiana	3/10/2020	Jeffery Smith
8	Ken-Tenn No. 148	Williamsburg	3/10/2020	Mark Gibson
5	B Carroll No. 55	Carrollton	3/16/2020	Joseph Giles
3	B Russellville No. 8	Russellville	3/17/2020	David Puckett
5	A King Solomon No. 5	Louisville	3/18/2020	John Johnson
6	Ft Thomas No. 177	Ft Thomas	3/19/2020	Jeffery Smith
5	B Frankfort No 3	Frankfort	3/19/2020	Joseph Giles
7	B Morehead No. 168	Morehead	3/21/2020	Paul Davis
5	A Iroquois No. 193	Louisville	3/25/2020	John Johnson
4	B Taylor No. 90	Campbellsville	4/2/2020	Thomas Brown
9	B Jackson No. 160	Jackson	4/2/2020	Anthony Skeans
4	A Daviess No. 29	Harrodsburg	4/6/2020	Bob Davis
7	A Richmond No. 16	Richmond	4/7/2020	Steve Talbott
4	A Hardin No. 195	Elizabethtown	4/9/2020	Bob Davis
9	A Jenkins No. 164	Jenkins	4/9/2020	Bobby Balthus
7	B Louisa No. 95	Louisa	4/13/2020	Paul Davis
9	A Pikeville No. 133	Pikeville	4/13/2020	Bobby Balthus
3	B Glasgow No.45	Glasgow	4/14/2020	David Puckett
7	A Winchester No. 12	Winchester	4/14/2020	Steve Talbott
7	A Irvine No. 42	Irvine	4/14/2020	Steve Talbott
8	Harlan No. 165	Harlan	4/14/2020	Mark Gibson
4	A Rowan No. 31	Bardstown	4/16/2020	Bob Davis
9	B Paintsville No. 131	Paintsville	4/16/2020	Anthony Skeans
5	B Lawrenceburg No. 138	Lawrenceburg	4/20/2020	Joseph Giles
8	Somerset No. 25	Somerset	4/23/2020	Mark Gibson
6	Temple No. 172	Newport	4/26/2020	Jeffery Smith
4	B Greensburg No. 36	Greensburg	4/27/2020	Thomas Brown
8	Monticello No. 152	Monticello	4/27/2020	Mark Gibson
3	A Western Star No 20	Hardinsburg	4/28/2020	James Reynolds
3	B Scottsville No. 171	Scottsville	4/27/2020	David Puckett
6	Covington No. 35	Covington	5/9/2020	Jeffery Smith
7	A Lexington No. 1	Lexington	5/14/2020	Steve Talbott
9	B Prestonsburg No. 182	Prestonsburg	5/14/2020	Anthony Skeans
6	Maysville No. 9	Maysville	5/20/2020	Jeffery Smith
4	B Edmonds No. 83	Lebanon	5/28/2020	Thomas Brown

## THE MORE YOU KNOW...

*This month we return to Dr. Mackey's writings. The subject should be self-explanatory. -Editor*



### The Letter 'G'

As in all Roman Catholic and in many Protestant churches the cross, engraved or sculptured in some prominent position, will be found as the expressive symbol of Christianity, so in every Masonic Lodge a letter G may be seen in the east, either painted on the wall or sculptured in wood or metal, and suspended over the Master's chair. This is, in fact, if not the most prominent, certainly the most familiar, of all the symbols of Freemasonry. It is the one to which the poet Burns alluded in those well-known and often-quoted lines, in which he speaks of

" - that hieroglyphic bright, Which none but Craftsmen ever saw; " that is to say, ever saw understandingly — ever saw, knowing at the same time what it meant.

There is an uncertainty as to the exact time when this symbol was first introduced into Speculative Masonry. It was not derived, in its present form, from the operative Masons of the Middle Ages, who bestowed upon Freemasonry so much of its symbolism, for it is not found among the architectural decorations of the old cathedrals. Dr. Oliver says it was " in the old lectures;" but this is an uncertain expression. From Prichard's *Masonry Dissected*, which was published in 1730, it would seem that the symbol was not in use at that date. But it may have been omitted. If *Tubal Cain*, which was published in 1768, is, as it purported to be, identical with Prichard's work, the question is settled; for it contains the lecture on the letter G, to which reference will directly be made.

It is, however, certain that the symbol was well known and recognized in 1766, and some few years before. The book entitled *Solomon in all his Glory*, the first edition of which appeared in that year, and is said, on the title-page, to be a translation of a French original, contains the reference to and the explanation of the symbol. The work contains abundant internal evidence that it is a translation, and hence the symbol may, like some others of the system subsequent to 1717, have been first introduced on the Continent, and then returned in the translation, all of which would indicate

a date some years anterior to 1776 for the time of its adoption.

In the ritual contained in *Tubal Cain*, (p. 18,) or, if that be only a reprint, in *Masonry Dissected*, that is to say, in 1768 or in 1730, there is a test which is called " The Repeating the Letter G," and which Dr. Oliver gives in his *Landmarks* (i. 454) as a part of the "old lectures." It is doggerel verse, and in the form of a catechism between an examiner and a respondent, a form greatly affected in these old lectures, and is as follows:

Resp. — In the Midst of Solomon's Temple there stands a G,

A letter for all to read and see;  
But few there be that understand  
What means the letter G. "

Ex. — My friend, if you pretend to be  
Of this Fraternity,  
You can forthwith and rightly tell  
What means that letter G.

Resp. — By sciences are brought about.  
Bodies of various kinds.  
Which do appear to perfect sight;  
But none but males shall know my mind.

Ex. — The Right shall.

Resp. — If Worshipful.

Ex. — Both Right and Worshipful I am;  
To hail you I have command,  
That you forthwith let me know.  
As I you may understand.

Resp. — By letters four and science five,  
This G a right doth stand  
In a due art and proportion;  
You have your answer, Friend."

And now as to the signification of the symbol. We may say, in the first place, that the explanation is by no means, and never has been, esoteric. As the symbol itself has always been exposed to public view, forming, as it does, a prominent part of the furniture of a Lodge, to be seen by everyone, so our Masonic authors, from the earliest times, have not hesitated to write, openly and in the plainest language, of its signification. The fact is, that the secret instruction in reference to this symbol relates not to the knowledge of the symbol itself, but to the mode in which, and the object for which, that knowledge has been obtained.

Hutchinson, who wrote as early as 1776, says, in his *Spirit of Masonry*, (Lect. viii.,) "It is now incumbent on me to demonstrate to you the great signification of the letter G, wherewith Lodges and the medals of Masons are ornamented.

*(Continued next page)*



"To apply it to the name of God only is depriving it of part of its Masonic import; although I have already shown that the symbols used in Lodges are expressive of the Divinity's being the great object of Masonry as Architect of the world."

"This significant letter denotes Geometry, which, to artificers, is the science by which all their labors are calculated and formed; and to Masons contains the determination, definition, and proof of the order, beauty, and wonderful wisdom of the power of God in His creation."

Again, Dr. Frederick Dalcho, a distinguished Mason of South Carolina, in one of his *Oration*s, delivered and published in 1801, uses the following language: "The letter G, which ornaments the Master's Lodge, is not only expressive of the name of the Grand Architect of the universe, but also denotes the science of Geometry, so necessary to artists. But the adoption of it by Masons implies no more than their respect for those inventions which demonstrate to the world the power, the wisdom, and beneficence of the Almighty Builder in the works of the creation."

Lastly, Dr. Oliver has said, in his *Golden Remains of the Early Masonic Writers*, that "the term G. A. O. T. U. is used among Masons for this great and glorious being, designated by the letter G, that it may be applied by every brother to the object of his adoration."

More quotations are unnecessary to show that from the earliest times, since the adoption of the letter as a symbol, its explanation has not been deemed an esoteric or secret part of the ritual. No Masonic writer has hesitated openly to give an explanation of its meaning. The mode in which, and the purpose for which, that explanation was obtained are the only hidden things about the symbol. It is to be regretted that the letter G, as a symbol, was ever admitted into the Masonic system. The use of it, as an initial, would necessarily confine it to the English language and to modern times. It wants, therefore, as a symbol, the necessary characteristics of both universality and antiquity.

The Greek letter *gamma* is said to have been venerated by the Pythagoreans because it was the initial of, γεωμετρία or Geometry. But this veneration could not have been shared by other nations whose alphabet had no gamma, and where the word for geometry was entirely different.

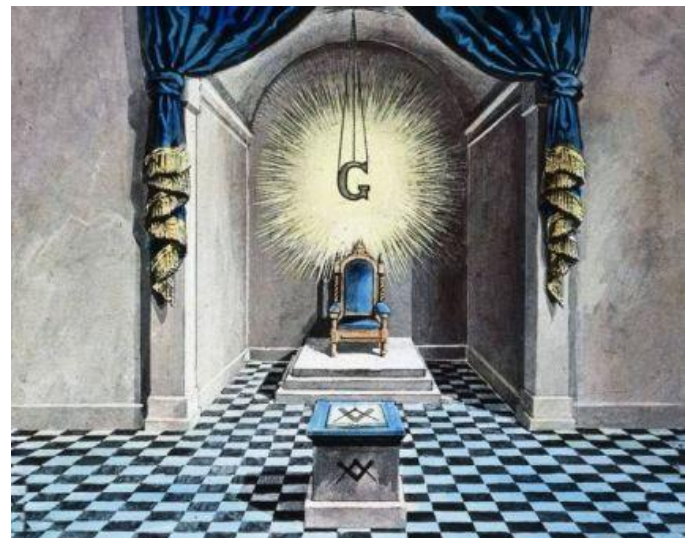
There can be no doubt that the letter G is a very modern symbol, not belonging to any old system anterior to the origin of the English language. It is, in fact, a corruption of the old Hebrew Kabbalistic symbol, the letter yod, by which the sacred name of God — in fact, the most sacred name, the Tetragrammaton— is expressed.

This letter, yod, is the initial letter of the word Jehovah, and is constantly to be met with among Hebrew writers, as the abbreviation or symbol of that most holy name, which, indeed, was never written at length. Now, as G is in like manner the initial of God, the English equivalent of the Hebrew Jehovah, the letter has been adopted as a symbol intended to supply to modern Lodges the place of the Hebrew symbol. First adopted by the English ritual makers, it has, without remark, been transferred to the Masonry of the Continent, and it is to be found as a symbol in all the systems of Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, and every other country where Masonry has been introduced; although in Germany only can it serve, as it does in England, for an intelligent symbol.

The letter G, then, has in Masonry the same force and signification that the letter yod had among the Kabbalists. It is only a symbol of the Hebrew letter, and, as that is a symbol of God, the letter G is only a symbol of a symbol. As for its reference to geometry, Kloss, the German Masonic historian, says that the old Operative Masons referred the entire science of geometry to the art of building, which gave to the modern English Masons occasion to embrace the whole system of Freemasonry under the head of Geometry, and hence the symbol of that science, as well as of God, was adopted for the purpose of giving elevation to the Fellow Craft's degree.

Indeed, the symbol, made sacred by its reference to the Grand Geometrician of the universe, was well worthy to be applied to that science which has, from the remotest times, been deemed synonymous with Masonry.

*Taken from "An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences" by Albert G. Mackey, M. D. containing also "An Addendum, the Results of Subsequent Study, Research and Discovery to the Present Time" by Charles T. McClenachan; PHILADELPHIA: L. H. EVERTS & CO., 1884.*





**GRAND COMMANDERY OF KENTUCKY  
HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE COMMITTEE**



**TEN FOR TEN CAMPAIGN**

**What it is – an opportunity for you to contribute to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation**

**How does it work – You donate \$10 per month for \$10 months, or a one-time contribution of \$100**

**What you get – a Life Membership in the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund**

- a Life Membership in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation
- a Holy Land Pilgrimage polo shirt

**Our goals – to send a Christian minister to the Holy Land every year**

- to have every knight in Kentucky become a member of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

**How you can participate –**

send donations to **Larry Carte**  
**PO Box 2045**  
**Williamsburg, KY 40769**

**On receipt of the full amount (\$100), the life memberships will be purchased in your name, and the shirt mailed to you.**

**For questions or additional information, contact Past Grand Commander Larry Carte at 606-425-6989**





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Continue the York Rite Journey

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