



THE KENTUCKY KEYSTONE

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ROYAL ARCH MASONS



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Message from the Grand High Priest



Greetings, companions. I hope all are surviving the dreary days of winter with relative comfort. I am urging all companions to attend the District Meetings in your areas and make a York Rite presentation to our brothers. Most Worshipful Brother

With warm weather approaching, (rapidly, I hope) we will be travelling more widely and frequently as the year progresses. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you need help or questions answered. Always remember that our job is to help you. Please keep us in your prayers as we travel both inside and outside our great Commonwealth to represent you.

Fraternally Thine,

Ron

Gary has allowed us to do this again this year, and we need to put that to good use in spreading our message of more light in Masonry.

This is also a good opportunity to get inspection points this year, as all the line has agreed that this is an activity that should be rewarded. Anyone needing brochures for these presentations should contact the Grand Secretary's office at (859) 209-4120. Please make sure you give Jim and Noel ample time to fulfill your request.

Winter does curtail our visits somewhat, but your line officers have been out stirring. Companions George Ralph, Wilson and I were able to attend the festival in Paintsville, with several new Companions being exalted. Companion Rick was not able to attend because of his knee surgery, but is now on the mend. I also wish to commend Companion Wilder on the effort he is putting in to promote the York Rite while doing officer installations in the Blue Lodge. Nothing like a captive audience!

Happy Birthday



Mr. President

From the Grand Secretary's Desk



Companions and Sir Knights,

We as members of the York Rite once again have the opportunity to solicit membership at the district meetings. Grand Master Rose has graciously allowed us to set up a table

at each district meeting in order to deliver our message about the York Rite to those in the symbolic Lodge. Please check with your district deputy Grand Master to obtain permission to have a York Rite presence at his district meeting.

You can obtain pamphlets from the York Rite office in Danville; please contact us at 859-209-4121 for information.

Fraternally,

James King Jr.,
Grand Secretary/Recorder



*Richmond confers Most Excellent Master Degree
February 5, 2019*

Congratulations to candidate and cast!

From the Editor

Greetings, Companions!

I hope you have been enjoying the Keystone over the past few months. I have certainly enjoyed putting it together. I think my wife has appreciated it as well. I have been unable to do a great deal since having surgery in late October, and this has not only given me something to occupy some time; it's also kept me out of her hair.

I do want to report to you that our mailing list has grown considerably. We now have over three hundred *valid* email addresses in the mailing list! Which of course means there are still around three thousand members who don't receive it, but our subscription list is increasing. Thanks to our webmaster, Brother Darrell Waddell, the Keystone is also available on our website.

I should also confess that I have unashamedly harvested every email address I could find of a Kentucky York Rite mason. I hope you don't mind if you're one of those who has suddenly started to receive a monthly email you may not remember signing up for. I believe our newsletter is worth your while to take a look at, and I do intend to continue to work to make it better. However, if you don't want to get that monthly email, let me know and I'll remove your name from the list.

Particularly to the Secretaries, I would also point out that having the Keystone available at your Chapter meetings is worth points on Inspection...

Future plans are to run a series on the announced candidates for the Grand Line, closer to the Annual Sessions, and to profile the men next in line to 'wear the hat' in each of the bodies. Rick, Tom, Marvin, you've been warned!

That being said, I also need feedback from you. What would you like to see in the newsletter? What can we do to make this a better tool for Kentucky freemasonry? Let me know your thoughts. Send your articles and pictures!

Fraternally,

Randall Partin, Editor

Paintsville 5th Annual Winter Festival

January 18 and 19, 2019



Congratulations to the candidates and cast from the 5th Annual Paintsville Winter Festival

The Paintsville York Rite Bodies hosted our 5th Annual York Rite Winter Festival on January 18th and 19th. We conferred the Chapter and Council degrees on 11 new Companions. We were pleased to have several visiting dignitaries in attendance with us including several current and past elected and appointed Grand York Rite Officers. Among these, to name a few, were the Most Excellent Grand High Priest Ron Ledford, Most Illustrious Grand Master Charles Durham, Right Eminent Grand Commander J. William Riggs and current Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host and Past Grand Master Wilson Wilder.

This event is very important to us. We have worked to restore the luster of our local York Rite by working hard to promote it and dedicating ourselves to learn ritual and improve every year. Our efforts have borne fruit in that 80 Companions/ Sir Knights have entered our great York Rite of Masonry as a result.

We have found that passion, commitment of time, and a willingness to perform good ritual has invigorated our local York Rite body. We also know that when we were found lacking in these areas, we nearly lost our way. Our ritual and history is essential for one's Masonic experience and we share this throughout the year in our Blue Lodges.

Paintsville York Rite has certainly been blessed with outstanding new members who have shown a willingness to take part and serve. The important thing is that we give them a place to serve and express our support and encouragement of them all along the way.

Article and photos submitted by Companion Chris Griffith, Deputy Grand High Priest, Area IX-B



The Winter Festival will conclude on February 9 with the conferral of the Orders of the Commandery. The Order of the Temple will be conferred by REGC J. William Riggs; The Order of Malta by Past Grand Commander Sir Knight Larry Carte. – Editor

MEET OUR YORK RITE LEADERS



*J.B. Hitt II, PGHP
Grand Treasurer*



*James King Jr.
Grand Secretary/Recorder*

John Baxter Hitt, II, PGHP, Grand Treasurer, is a native of Louisville where his father was a member of the York Rite, and he a Demolay. While attending school in Lexington in 1960, he was raised a Master Mason in Lexington Lodge No. 1. He shortly thereafter became a member of the York Rite, serving as both High Priest and Illustrious Master in 1968. He graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy in 1963, remaining in Lexington for several years. He returned to Louisville in 1973, moving his Symbolic Lodge membership to St. Matthews Lodge No. 906 where he served as Master in 1980. He also became an active member of the Louisville York Rite bodies, serving as Commander of DeMolay Commandery in 1979-80; High Priest of King Solomon Chapter in 1976; and Illustrious Master of Louisville Council in 1977. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1986, serving two terms. He and Elaine are also members of Crescent Hill Chapter, OES, where they have served as Worthy Patron and Matron.

He is a member of multiple honorary and other appendant bodies, including the Scottish Rite and Shrine. A partial list of his memberships and honors may be found in the 1986 Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, Royal Arch Masons. At present, among his other responsibilities, J. B. is a Board Member and Secretary for the Board of Directors of Kosair Charities.

James King, Jr., PGHP, PGC, Grand Secretary/Recorder is a native of Danville, graduating from Boyle County High School in 1969. He was employed by the Danville Fire Department for 28 years, and was serving as Chief when he retired in 2002. His Masonic career began in 1985 in Franklin Lodge No. 28, where he served as Master in 1993, Secretary from 2008 through 2017, and currently serves as Chaplain. He served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy in 2008, and a member of the Awards Committee since 2015.

Jim joined the Danville York Rite bodies in 1990 where he soon served as presiding officer in all three bodies. He was elected as Grand Commander in 2006, Grand High Priest in 2011, and has served as Grand Recorder since 2013. He is past Governor of Blue Grass York Rite College, currently Deputy Grand Governor for the York Rite College in Kentucky; is a Knight of the York Cross of Honor, a Knight Commander of the Temple, and a member of numerous other appendant and honorary bodies, including the Scottish Rite and Shrine in Lexington. He also holds various dual and honorary memberships across the state, and is known across the state for his abilities as a ritualist. He can frequently be found assisting in the conferral of the degrees and orders of Masonry, from the symbolic lodge through the Commandry. He and Nancy still reside in Danville near their children, grand and great-grand-children.

Inspection Calendar

I highly recommend that you call ahead and verify these dates and times before you travel. The dates are as provided, or determined from the calendar based on “Third Tuesday of May”, etc. Corrections are appreciated. Changes/Corrections are highlighted in red.

Chapter

2/11/19 - Lindsey 69, Mayfield
2/26/19 - Paducah No. 30, Paducah
3/5/19 – Graham 80, Franklin
3/7/19 – Shelbyville 2, Shelbyville
3/7/19 – Apperson 81, Ashland
3/9/19 – Bullitt 44, Shepherdsville
3/11/19 – Jo Daviess 32, Owensboro
3/12/19 – Oriental 14, Princeton
3/12/19 – Bowling Green 38, Bowling Green
3/12/19 – Cynthiana 17, Cynthiana
3/14/19 – Ken-Tenn 148, Williamsburg
3/18/19 – Carroll 55, Carrollton
3/19/19 – Russellville 8, Russellville
3/20/19 – King Solomon 5, Louisville
3/21/19 – Ft. Thomas 177, Ft. Thomas
3/28/19 – Temple 172, Newport
3/28/19 – Eureka 101, Louisville

Council

2/12/19 - Warren 2, Princeton @ 7:00C
2/28/19 – Earl Ransdell 3, Danville @ 7:30E
3/11/19 – Mayfield 39 @ 7:30C
3/11/19 – Cumberland 77 @ 7:00E
3/12/19 – Harlan 91, Harlan @ 7:00E
3/26/19 – Paducah 32, Paducah @ 7:00C
3/26/19 – A.E. Orton 93 @ 7:30C
3/28/19 – Lebanon 56, Lebanon @ 7:30E

Commandery

02/05/19 - Franklin 44, Franklin
02/11/19 – Glasgow 36, Glasgow
02/21/19 - Frankfort 4, Frankfort
02/27/19 – Jefferson 52, Louisville
03/05/19 – Richmond 19, Richmond
03/14/19 – Jenkins 54, Jenkins
3/19/19 – Morehead 53, Morehead
3/21/19 – Paintsville 48, Paintsville
03/28/19 – Williamsburg 50, Williamsburg

Work Calendar

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 – you can email me at the address on the back page of this publication – and I will put it in the Keystone. We will also have the dates put on the calendar on the York Rite home page.

- 02/09/2019 – Winter Festival Commandery Orders - Paintsville Commandery
- 02/16/2019 – Chapter and Council Degrees Williamsburg York Rite Bodies
- 03/16/2019 – Commandery Orders Williamsburg Commandery
- 07/20/2019 – West Kentucky York Rite Festival; Paducah York Rite Bodies

Acknowledgments

- The Mystic Tie – Dr. Albert Mackey
- CMMRF dinner information - Doug Bunch and Mike McQueary
- Easter Pilgrimage – Bill Ryan
- Leadership Program- Clay Ackiss and Lane Peirce

Photo Credits

- Photos at Easter Pilgrimage not otherwise credited – Grand Encampment website
- Paintsville Winter Festival – Chris Griffith
- Richmond MEM – David Jones

Corrections

Last month we reported there were four York Rite Colleges in Kentucky; there are actually five: Blue Grass 104 in Danville; North Central 116 in Louisville, Highland 134 in Paintsville; West Kentucky 157 in Madisonville; and Northern Kentucky 206 in Ft Thomas. Thanks to Tom Wheeler for the correction.

We reported that Williamsburg would hold a one-day festival on February 16. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Chapter and Council degrees will be conferred on February 16th, and the Orders of the Commandery will be conferred on March 16th.

Warren Council Inspection is at 7:00 PM C rather than 7:30 as reported. Thanks to Ron Dockery for the correction.



YORK RITE RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY

Grand Master Gary Rose has again given permission to the appendant bodies to make presentations at the local District Meetings. The elected leadership of all the York Rite bodies, the Grand Secretary/Recorder, the Grand Commandery Membership Committee, are united in support of this effort.

This is an excellent opportunity to help grow our organization. Approximately ten percent of the symbolic lodge memers have continued the journey through the York Rite by taking the Chapter and Council degrees and Commandery Orders. Those of us who have know how important those degrees and orders are to becoming a knowledgable member of the fraternity.

We need your help to make this effort succeed. Volunteers are needed to attend the District Meetings and make presentations. **YOU** can be a part of this effort.

HERE'S HOW

- Contact Grand Secretary/Recorder Jim King at the office in Danville at 859-209-4120 or by email at grandrecorderky@yahoo.com. He will provide you with pamphlets and other information to hand out and discuss.
- Let him know what meeting(s) you plan to attend.
- Have contact information for the local York Rite bodies
- Have a schedule of degree work from our web page and this publication.
- Have Petitions and a Fees and Dues schedule with you.
- Share your experience as a York Rite Mason.

Grand Lodge of Kentucky District Meeting Dates and Times and Published Locations

<u>Date</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Location</u>
3/1/2019	9	7:00 PM	Radcliff	4/5/2019	16	7:00 PM	
3/2/2019	12 / 13 / 14	1:00 PM		4/6/2019	20	1:00 PM	
3/2/2019	15	7:00 PM	Bullitt High School	4/6/2019	25	7:00 PM	
3/8/2019	1	7:00 PM	Paducah	4/12/2019	23	7:00 PM	
3/9/2019	2	1:00 PM	Murray	4/13/2019	27	Noon	
3/9/2019	3	7:00 PM	Grand Rivers	4/26/2019	29	7:00 PM	
3/15/2019	11	7:00 PM	Gamaliel	4/27/2019	28	1:00 PM	
3/16/2019	22	1:00 PM		4/27/2019	24	7:00 PM	
3/16/2019	21	7:00 PM		5/4/2019	30	1:00 PM	
3/22/2019	4	7:00 PM	Cadiz	5/4/2019	26	7:00 PM	Clay Co High
3/23/2019	6	1:00 PM		5/17/2019	5	7:00 PM	
3/23/2019	10	7:00 PM	Bowling Green	5/18/2019	7	1:00 PM	
3/29/2019	17	7:00 PM		5/18/2019	8	7:00 PM	
3/30/2019	18 / 19	1:00 PM	Covington				

YORK RITE EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

March 9, 2019, Fort Wayne, IN

ANY York Rite member is eligible to attend this training, including Blue Lodge members who are not active York Rite Masons. Registration for the Conference is required. Classroom space is limited to 75 attendees in each of the first two courses at the Fort Wayne Conference, and to 50 for the 401 course. Registration by February 12 will get the special room rate of \$114. Those who have completed the program are encouraged to return for Level 4.

All candidates for the YRL training must be first nominated. Once received, the nomination will be vetted (approved by someone in Kentucky York Rite leadership) and an invitation will be extended to approved nominees. Nominations need to be in to the program administrator by the first week in February in order to complete the vetting process, get the invitation sent, and get registered for the Conference by the deadline. Kentucky does not generally have a large number of attendees at the training and we need more members to take advantage of this excellent program.

What is the York Rite Leadership Training Program? A program to provide business-class leadership training to masons identified as Emerging Leaders, to better enable them to guide our fraternal organizations into the future.

Participants are expected to invest the time to attend three Department/Regional Conferences to complete the program. There is no charge for the courses; however, participants pay for their own travel, lodging, and food. **In addition, each student is REQUIRED to register for the Conference.** (\$20)

What can I expect from Leadership Training? Three classes, taken in sequence:

Leadership 101 is focused on the individual and imparts the necessary skills of personal leadership development and the creation of teams.

Leadership 201 builds on 101 and introduces the student to creating and motivating 'tribes' by establishing principles and creating mission and vision statements.

Leadership 401 is a highly engaging class on how communication works and how to be an influential

Preference will be given to those who are not currently in a Grand Elected line. The intent is to train prospective leaders, not those who are already in place. If places are open, current leadership will be selected.

How do I Register?

Send, at minimum, the name, address, phone number and email of any nominee to the new administrator/registrar. You may self-nominate, but will have to be approved by a Grand Officer before being invited.

Questions?

If you have questions, contact any elected Grand York Rite officer, the Grand Recorder's office, the editor, or the Program Administrator.

Program Administrator

S. Lane Pierce
York Rite Leadership Program Administrator
334 S College St
Pilot Point, TX 76258



Two of the topics covered during the Grand Lodge Education Conference were the Ancient Charges and Anderson's Constitutions. The following is excerpted from the 1723 edition of Anderson's Constitution, as republished by Benjamin Franklin in 1734 while he was the Grand Master of Pennsylvania. It was the first masonic book published in America. - Editor

THE CHARGES Of a FREE-MASON, *Extracted from the ancient RECORDS of Lodges beyond Sea, and of those in England, Scotland, and Ireland, for the Use of the Lodges in London: To be read at the making of New Brethren, or when the Master shall order it.*

THE
CONSTITUTIONS
OF THE
FREE-MASONS.
CONTAINING THE
History, Charges, Regulations, &c.
of that most Ancient and Right
Worshipful FRATERNITY.

For the Use of the LODGES.



LONDON Printed; Anno 5723.
Re-printed in Philadelphia by special Order, for the Use
of the Brethren in NORTH-AMERICA.
In the Year of Masonry 5754, Anno Domini 1754.

Title page of the 1734 Ben Franklin edition

Honour of the Fraternity, who ever flourish'd in Time of Peace. So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as any unhappy Man; and, if convicted of no other Crime though the Loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown hi Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.

III Of LODGES.

A Lodge is a place where Masons assemble and work; Hence that Assembly, or duly organized Society of Masons, is call'd a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its By-Laws and the General Regulations. It is either particular or general, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annex'd. In ancient Times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a sever Censure, until it appear'd to the Master and Wardens that pure Necessity hinder'd him.

The persons admitted Members of a Lodge must be good and true Men, free-born, and of mature and discreet Age, no Bondmen, no Women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good Report.

I. Concerning GOD and RELIGION.

A Mason is oblig'd by his Tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid Atheist nor an irreligious Libertine. But though in ancient Times Masons were charg'd in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that Religion in which all Men agree, leaving their particular Opinions to themselves; that is, to be good Men and true, or Men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denominations or Persuasions they may be distinguish'd; whereby Masonry becomes the Center of Union, and the Means of conciliating true Friendship among Persons that must have remain'd at a perpetual Distance.

II Of the CIVIL MAGISTRATE *supreme and subordinate.*

A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots an Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much dispos'd to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answer'd the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the

IV Of MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS and APPRENTICES.

All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real Worth and personal Merit only; that so the Lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to Shame, nor the Royal Craft despis'd: Therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by Seniority, but for his Merit. It is impossible to describe these things in Writing, and every Brother must attend in his Place, and learn them in a Way peculiar to this Fraternity: Only Candidates may know that no Master should take an Apprentice unless he has Sufficient Employment for him, and unless he be a perfect Youth having no Maim or Defects in his Body that may render him incapable of learning the Art of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a Fellow-Craft in due Time, even after he has served such a Term of Years as the Custom of the Country directs; and that he should be descended of honest Parents; that so, when otherwise qualifi'd he may arrive to the Honour of being the Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to his Merit.

No Brother can be a Warden until he has pass'd the part of a Fellow-Craft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden, nor Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge, nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellow Craft before his Election, who is also to be nobly born, or a Gentleman of the best Fashion, or some eminent Scholar, or some curious Architect, or other Artist, descended of honest Parents, and who is of similar great Merit in the Opinion of the Lodges.

These Rulers and Governors, supreme and subordinate, of the ancient Lodge, are to be obey'd in their respective Stations by all the Brethren, according to the old Charges and Regulations, with all Humility, Reverence, Love and Alacrity.

V. Of the MANAGEMENT of the CRAFT in WORKING.

All Masons shall work honestly on Working Days, that they may live creditably on Holy Days; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land or confirm'd by Custom shall be observ'd.

The most expert of the Fellow-Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master or Overseer of the Lord's Work; who is to be call'd Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disobliging Name, but Brother or Fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the Lord's Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own; nor to give more Wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their Wages justly, shall be faithful to the Lord and honestly finish their Work, whether Task or journey; nor put the work to Task that hath been accustomed to Journey.

None shall discover Envy at the Prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him, or put him out of his Work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's Work so much to the Lord's Profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the Designs and Draughts of him that began it.

When a Fellow-Craftsman is chosen Warden of the Work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the Work in the Master's Absence to the Lord's profit; and his Brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their Wages without Murmuring or Mutiny, and not desert the Master till the Work is finish'd.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All the Tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No Laborer shall be employ'd in the proper Work of Masonry; nor shall Free Masons work with those that are not free, without an urgent Necessity; nor shall they teach Laborers and unaccepted Masons as they should teach a Brother or Fellow.

VI. Of BEHAVIOR.

I. In the LODGE while CONSTITUTED.

You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation without Leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master: Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming Language upon any Pretense whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to Worship.

If any Complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the Award and Determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent Judges of all such Controversies (unless you carry it by Appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referr'd, unless a Lord's Work be hinder'd the meanwhile, in which Case a particular Reference may be made; but you must never go to Law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

2. BEHAVIOR after the LODGE is over and the BRETHREN not GONE.

You may enjoy yourself with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free Conversation, for that would blast our Harmony, and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the Door of the Lodge, far less any Quarrels about Religion, or Nations, or State Policy, we being only, as Masons, of the Universal Religion above mention'd, we are also of all Nations, Tongues, Kindreds, and Languages, and are resolv'd against all Politics, as what never yet conduct'd to the Welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will.

3. BEHAVIOR when BRETHREN meet WITHOUT STRANGERS, but not in a LODGE Formed.

You are to salute one another in a courteous Manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other Brother, freely giving mutual instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being ever seen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that Respect which is due to any Brother, were he not Mason: For though all Masons are as Brethren upon the same Level, yet Masonry takes no Honour from a man that he had before; nay, rather it adds to his Honour, especially if he has deserve well of the Brotherhood, who must give Honor to whom it is due, and avoid ill Manners.

4. BEHAVIOR in presence of Strangers NOT MASONS.

You shall be cautious in your Words and Carriage, that the most penetrating Stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated, and sometimes you shall divert a Discourse, and manage it prudently for the Honour of the worshipful Fraternity.

5. BEHAVIOR at HOME, and in Your NEIGHBORHOOD.

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise Man; particularly not to let your Family, Friends and Neighbors know the Concern of the Lodge, &c., but wisely to consult your own Honour, and that of the ancient Brotherhood, for reasons not to be mention'd here You must also consult your Health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from Home, after Lodge Hours are past; and by avoiding of Gluttony or Drunkenness, that your Families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6. BEHAVIOR toward a Strange BROTHER.

You are cautiously to examine him, in such a Method as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be impos'd upon by an ignorant, false Pretender, whom you are to reject with contempt and Derision, and beware of giving him any Hints of Knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in Want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved; you must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employ'd. But you are not charged to do beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good Man and true before any other poor People in the same Circumstance.

Finally, All these Charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be recommended to you in another Way; cultivating Brotherly Love, the Foundation and Cap-stone, the Cement and Glory of this Ancient Fraternity, avoiding all wrangling and quarreling, all Slander and Backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his Character, and doing him all good Offices, as far as is consistent with your Honour and Safety, and no farther. And if any of them do you Injury you must apply to your own or his Lodge, and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication and from thence to the annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable Conduct but when the Case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly Advice of Master and Fellows when they would prevent your going to Law with Strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy Period to all Lawsuits, so that you may mind the Affair of Masonry with the more Alacrity and Success; but with respect to Brothers or Fellows at Law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their Mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their Process, or Lawsuit, without Wrath and Rancor (not In the common way) saying or doing nothing which may hinder Brotherly Love, and good Offices to be renew'd and continu'd; that all may see the benign Influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the World, and will do to the End of Time.

AMEN, SO MOTE IT BE

Even a brief scan through this document shows how much of an impact it continues to have on our ritual. Look at the Kentucky Monitor, discuss Freemasonry at your next meeting, and see how many of these ideas are brought up.



February marks the birth of George Washington (1732-1799), our first president and arguably the best-known American Freemason. Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), whose accomplishments are not as celebrated today, may have had more impact on the fraternity, and was perhaps equally important to the survival of our nation as Ambassador to France during the war.



Franklin Opening the Lodge,
Kurz and Allison, Chicago, 1896

Parts of the following are excerpted from *Short Talk Bulletin - Oct 1933*

“Greatest of American diplomats, hero of the War of Independence, distinguished also as publisher and printer, editor and author, a notable philosopher, a scientist whose valuable discoveries are even today highly esteemed, Benjamin Franklin was also a devoted Freemason, occupying for many years places of official prominence within the Fraternity.”

Franklin was initiated in St. John’s Lodge in Philadelphia in February 1731. His involvement with the fraternity extended over the next fifty years. He served as Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734 and Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1749.

The first masonic book published in America, Franklin’s reprint of the 1723 version of *Anderson’s Constitutions* was printed shortly after he became Grand Master in 1734.

“The genius of Franklin was so overwhelming, and manifested in so many different directions, that no short biography can begin to list his achievements; Printer, author, editor, inventor, scientist, diplomat; founder of schools, postal systems, government; ambassador, wit, speaker; philosopher, politician and Freemason, he was not only the amazing intellect, the Voltaire of Colonial America, but one of the most complex and gifted men of all times.

Certain facts of his Masonic career stand out; particularly it is to be noted that Franklin was not merely a lodge member content with that and nothing more, but a Freemason intensely interested in his Craft, willing to give his enormous powers for its welfare, and leaving an indelible impress on its history in America.

Franklin lived to be eighty-five years old. Sixty of those years as a Freemason; he lived and wrote and practiced the principles of the Order.”

Knights Templar Easter Pilgrimage



*2018 Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise Service, George Washington National Masonic Memorial
Photo provided by Nick Simpson*

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KENTUCKY EASTER PILGRIMAGE

Friday, April 19 – Sunday, April 21, 2019

- **\$250 per person if sharing a room, \$375 for Single Occupancy**
- **Grand Commandery will pay half the cost for sitting Commanders if their commandery pays the balance**
- **Cost covers trip to Gettysburg**
- **You are responsible for your own food costs and other attraction entry fees**
- **Sign up deadline March 30**

ITINERARY

- Friday, April 19 – 7:00 AM – Bus departs Louisville DeMolay Commandery on Gardiner Lane
 - Approximately 9:00 AM - Depart Embassy Suites Hotel in Lexington
 - Approximately 6:00 PM - Arrive in Crystal City area; dinner on your own
- Saturday, April 20 – Morning - Gettysburg
 - Evening - Dinner at the Fish Market in Alexandria.
- Sunday, April 21 – Morning - Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.
- Following the service, participants will return to the hotel to pick up luggage and then depart for home. Arrival in Lexington is generally around 11:00 PM.
- Family members are welcome on this trip!

Send names and payment to:

James H. King, Grand Recorder
400 North 4th Street
Danville, KY 40422



Grand Commander's Message



Happy New Year! We have all said and heard that phrase this time of year. We repeat it almost automatically, without even thinking about what we are really saying. But, what do we mean, and what are we wishing for others? The thought of a new car is easy. We sell or give away the old one and move on to the new. And, it doesn't need to be a "brand new" car, just new to us. A new job is very much the same. We leave the old behind and start fresh in a different company or different department and we move on, forgetting the old to concentrate on the "new".

But a new year? What is it we are hoping for? Well, for me at least, the new year presents

a new and fresh opportunity. A chance to continue, on a well proven path, or to change directions or correct the missteps we might have made in the past year. In golf it is called a mulligan. A chance to try again, without penalty. So, when I say Happy New Year to you, what I'm really saying is here's a mulligan, or a do over for the coming year. The mistakes you may have made are forgotten, you get another chance.

Why do we feel the need to wish everyone a "New Year"? Why do I think that you might need a mulligan, or a do over? Well, that has more to do with me than with you. It's my own missteps or mistakes I'm really thinking about. And unfortunately, I make many of these each year. I'm wishing a New Year to you in hopes that you extend the same well wishes to me. And boy do I need them. And just as in my golf game, I could use several of these mulligans throughout the year.

As I reflect on my performance in the past year, I realize that I've let many opportunities slip by. I truly meant to accomplish them, but things happen, and life got in the way. The months of November and December are prime examples. I planned on attending several events, but work, and family crisis got in the way.

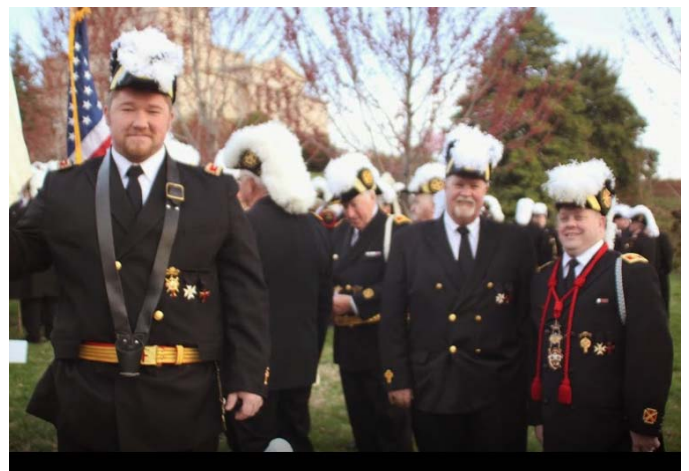
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Then there was the pneumonia that laid me up for a couple of weeks. I tried, I really tried, but after spreading germs and heaven only knows what else to heaven only knows how many people for several weeks, I had to finally spend some time at home trying to get better. (A side note to all that I may have infected, I'm truly sorry).

But now we have a New Year! A new opportunity to make things better. We have a mulligan that we can use. We get a do over. Let's make good use of it. And as we make plans for improving our personal lives and families, let's not forget our Masonic obligations. Let's resolve to attend more meetings. To master more of the ritual. To visit more Commandries and help when it's needed. Let's resolve to make our local and state Bodies stronger. Surely you can think of at least one thing you might change to improve yourself or others. So, whether you need it or not, here's a mulligan. Use it wisely. Happy New Year!

*Courteously, J. William Riggs,
Grand Commander*



Grand Encampment Sunrise Service, 2015; Assembly at the bottom of the hill. L-R TJ Hamblin, Ray Swanson, Mike Yount, Bill Jackson

The following is another offering from Dr. Albert Mackey (1807-1881), excerpted from 'The Mystic Tie', published in 1867 - Editor

The degree of Entered Apprentice, is the first in which the aspirant for masonic knowledge is initiated, and hence it is said to be emblematical of the early period of life, commencing with birth, and terminating with the approach of puberty. This allegory, by all the ceremonies, symbols, and instructions of the degree, is conveyed to the candidate with a beautiful consistency. The blind ignorance and helplessness and destitution of infancy, are impressively portrayed. The first lessons of faith in God, of hope for immortality, and charity to all mankind, emblematically inculcated. The necessities and advantages of a virtuous education are pointed out; the practice of those cardinal virtues, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice, are recommended; and the obligations of willingness, (which in our antiquated language was called freedom) of fervency, and zeal, in the discharge of all our duties, are recounted to the candidate. Nor are those lessons, well befitting the period of youth, taught alone in what the old Greek called "winged words," which, passing with rapid flight, after a time, leave no trace of their visit in the memory. But each precept is accompanied with some allegorical ceremony, or some symbolical allusion, which irrevocably impresses it upon the heart, and seems, on all future occasions, to enable a single sign, or word, or brief allusion, to remind the Mason of his duties.

In the second degree, as a Fellow-Craft, the candidate is made to represent the period of manhood. Here it is supposed that the virtuous principles, inculcated in the first degree, or period of youth are to receive the reward to which their practice is entitled. The corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy, are here bestowed upon him, who has been faithful in his labor, and diligent in the discharge of his duties. He is admonished that unity is strength, that peace is happiness, and that plenty must crown the labors of industry. He is reminded by peculiar rites, that the institution into which he has been received, was established in the strength of Jehovah, and depends on his support alone, for its future prosperity.

But the Fellow-Craft, in his representation of the stage of manhood, is taught to extend the principles of education, which were instilled in the first degree, to the acquisition of useful knowledge. Wisdom, which "cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, and whose price is above rubies," is here pursued with unremitting attention. The human senses, those avenues to all human intelligence, and the liberal arts and sciences, by the pursuit of which man elevates his condition, and enlarges his mind, are made the subjects of impressive and interesting contemplation, as leading the grateful recipient of these truths, to that humble reverence and fervid adoration of God which forms a striking portion of the ritual of this degree.

The third, or Master's degree, is emblematic of old age, with its trials, its sufferings, and its final termination. Youth has long since passed away — manhood has fallen into the sere and yellow leaf; but the virtuous principles inculcated in the one, and the useful knowledge acquired in the other, are now to exercise their legitimate province, in sustaining integrity and truth. The lessons inculcated in this degree, are so unutterably beyond what any mere description can convey, and so far surpass anything that the candidate has as yet received, that the attribute of "sublime" has been, by unanimous consent, conferred upon it.

While its precepts, and ceremonies, dilate upon all those moral qualities, which should distinguish the aged being, "whose days are dwindled to the latest span;" as, for instance, that pure heart, which is the most acceptable sacrifice to the Deity — that silence and circumspection which should distinguish age from youth, and that well-grounded hope, which can arise only from the consciousness of rectitude; it tells us also of the rapid progress of human life, which, like the passing sands of an hour-glass, is fast drawing to a close — of time, which is but the introduction to eternity, and of that All-seeing Eye, from whose searching glance no thought is hidden. And thus, by these mournful contemplations, are we gently led to the last hour of humanity, when the soul is delivered to the bitter pangs of death — when the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit unto God who gave it.

If the first and second degrees admonish the Mason how to live, the last gives a still more important lesson, and teaches him how to die.



CMMRF BENEFIT DINNER

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COUNCIL #68**

WHEN
April 13th
5pm Est.

WHERE
200 Electric Ave.
Somerset, KY 42501



TICKETS
\$30.00 Each
Tickets must be
purchased by March
15th 2019

MEAL
BBQ pulled pork and
sides

ATTIRE
Coat and Tie

CMMRF BENEFIT DINNER 2019 ORDER FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
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# OF TICKETS	PRICE PER TICKET	TOTAL
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MEAL TICKET RESERVATIONS ARE DUE IN BY MARCH 15th 2019

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CMMRF supports the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine, (ICVBM), located at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the Richard Roudebush Veteran's Administration Medical Center located at Indianapolis Indiana.

Because blood vessels are important in maintaining the health or repairing almost all tissues, practically all diseases turn out to have a vascular component connected to their origin or remediation. Diabetes, stroke, poor circulation, heart failure, wound healing, and many other diseases share the common denominator of blood vessels. Centering our contributions to an organization that addresses so many different health concerns, both nationally and internationally, allows our supporters to share in the medical advancements, regardless of geography.

Through the basic and clinical research conducted by ICVBM and supported by CMMRF, advancements are being made to discover cures for many of today's health problems, prevent major diseases, and save lives.



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