PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS

One Hundred Seventy-First Annual Convocation

of the

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

of the

State of Missouri

HELD

JUNE 8, 2017

CAPITOL PLAZA HOTEL

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONSON OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
171ST ANNUAL CONVOCATION SCHEDULE
(SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS NECESSARY)

Thursday, June 8, 2017

6:30 a.m.  Red Cross of Constantine Breakfast Meeting – Members Only (Lincoln)
          Others, Breakfast – On Your Own
7:00 a.m.  Registration (Credentials Committee) – Chapter and Commandery only – until
          10:30 am (Atrium)
8:00 a.m.  Annual Meeting of Palmyra Historical Chapter No. 2 – Open to All Royal Arch
          Masons (Capitol/Truman)
9:00 a.m.  Grand Chapter Reception of Distinguished Guests – Open to Ladies and Guests
          (Capitol/Truman)
          Introduction of the Grand Lecturer and the District Deputy Grand Lecturers
          Introduction of the District Deputy Grand High Priests
          Introduction of the 2016-2017 Grand Chapter Officers
          Brief Welcoming Comments by the Grand High Priest
          Reception of the Past Grand High Priests of Missouri
          Reception of the Out of State Grand Chapter Officers
          Recognition of the Grand Representatives
          Reception of Heads of Missouri York Rite Bodies
          Reception of National Body Representatives
          Reception of the General Grand Chapter Officers
          Reception of the General Grand High Priest or Representative & brief remarks
          Reception of Grand Lodge Officers
          Reception of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri & brief remarks
          Summary Address of the Grand High Priest
          Necrology: Part of the Grand High Priest’s Address
          Grand Chorister Presentation (or as determined by GHP)
          Address of General Grand High Priest or his Representative (* if time permits)
          Address of Grand Master of Grand Lodge or his Representative (* if time permits)
          (* if out of time, moved to last agenda item)
          Dismissal of the Ladies and Non-Member Guests
10:15 a.m. Formal Opening of the 171st Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal
          Arch Masons of the State of Missouri
          Preliminary Report of the Credentials Committee
          Report of the Committee on the Address of the Grand High Priest
          Report of the Jurisprudence Committee
Thursday, June 8, 2017 (cont.)

11:00 a.m. Election of the 2017-2018 Grand Chapter Officers
   Report of the Grand Secretary
   Routine Business & Additional Committee Reports (as needed)
   Endowed Membership Committee Report
   Strategic Planning Committee Report
   Report of the Election Committee
   Acceptance of the Grand Chapter Officers Elect
   Report of the Grand High Priest Elect – w/Appointments
   Report of the Committee on Time and Place
   * Address of the General Grand High Priest or Representative
   * Address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri or Representative

12:00 p.m. Grand Chapter Closed or Called from Labor until 3:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m. Lunch Sponsored by Yeomen of York – Open to All – Special Presentation by
   Coyote Hill Christian Children’s Home (Carnegie)
1:30 p.m. Order of High Priesthood (Lincoln)
3:00 p.m. Grand Chapter Resumes Labor (concludes remaining business, if any)
   All Grand Chapter Awards will be given at the Saturday Grand York Rite Banquet
3:30 p.m. Installation of the 2017-2018 Grand Chapter Officers – Open to Ladies and Guests
4:30 p.m. Close of the 171st Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch
   Masons of the State of Missouri
   Pictures
6:30 p.m. “Matching the Stars” Dinner/Entertainment – Open to All (Lincoln)
9:00 p.m. Grand Commandery Practice – Grand Line Officers (Capitol/Truman)
9:30 p.m. “Old Buzzards” Meeting (Joplin Room)
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri
2016-2017

Elected and Appointed Officers

John W. Siscel, III ............................................................................................... Grand High Priest
Ronald L. Barrett ........................................................................................................... Grand King
Jerry L. Miles .............................................................................................................. Grand Scribe
Donald L. Trabue ................................................................................................... Grand Treasurer
Kevin B. Sample ..................................................................................................... Grand Secretary
David L. Leirer ................................................................................................. Grand Captain of the Host
Dan G. Daniel ........................................................................................................ Grand Principal Sojourner
Kyle R. Palacios .................................................................................................. Grand Royal Arch Captain
Clifton W. Wofford ............................................................................................ Grand Master of the 3rd Veil
Mark A. Bean ...................................................................................................... Grand Master of the 2nd Veil
John S. Lambros .................................................................................................. Grand Master of the 1st Veil
Daniel R. Quesenberry .................................................................................. Grand Chorister
Steven C. Monrotus .......................................................................................... Grand Organist
Ronald E. Wood, Jr. .......................................................................................... Grand Historian
Jack E. Timmons ................................................................................................ Grand Lecturer
Clarence L. Jennings ........................................................................................ Regional Grand Lecturer, Western Region
Michael L. Dodd ................................................................................................ Regional Grand Lecturer, Eastern Region
Ronnie E. Green .................................................................................................. Grand Chaplain
Dennis E. Fetter .................................................................................................. Grand Sentinel
Dennis N. Vogel .................................................................................................. Assistant Grand Sentinel
Mark T. Schmidt ................................................................................................ Assistant Grand Sentinel
Gale B. Morrison ................................................................................................ Assistant Grand Sentinel
Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr. .................................................................................... Assistant Grand Sentinel
Floyd G. Ward .................................................................................................. Assistant Grand Sentinel

District Deputy Grand High Priests

David D. Powell .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 1, District A
Richard A. Taylor .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 1, District B
Richard G. Jones .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 2, District A
William W. Mier .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 2, District B
Donald E. Gilkerson .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 3, District A
Jeffery L. Fielder-Bey .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 3, District B
Ronald L. Skiles .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 4, District A
Donald H. Vandegriffe .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 4, District B
W. Larry Wilson .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 5
James L. Woodfin, Jr. .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 6
John W. Shoemaker .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 7, District A
Brent E. Burney .......................................................... District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 7, District B
District Deputy Grand Lecturers

David A. Lloyd ............................................ District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 1, District A
Harley L. Kropf ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 1, District B
Ronald E. Wood, Jr. ...................................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 2
Scott S. Crawford ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 3, District A
Mark T. Schmidt ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 3, District B
Michael C. Rohman ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 4, District A
Timothy R. Lehnhoff ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 4, District B
Dennis L. Hammack ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 5
Clifton W. Wofford ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 6
Walter W. Doyle ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 7, District A
John C. Kuehn ........................................... District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 7, District B

Standing Committees

Address of the Grand High Priest
Loren D. Lloyd, Chairman

Credentials
Phillip W. Engel, Chairman
Robert L. Schmidt
Terry R. Struse

Education
W. Larry Wilson, Chairman
Tom G. Cupples, Jr.
Kyle R. Palacios
Mark T. Schmidt
Aaron M. Shoemaker
Michael S. Smith
Christopher E. Tilley
Clifton W. Wofford

Finance
Ronald L. Barrett, Chairman
Dan G. Daniel
David L. Leirer
Jerry L. Miles

Finance/Investment
Ronald L. Barrett, Chairman

E. Allen Kohler
Gail S. Turner

Jurisprudence
Glenn E. Means, Chairman
Walter W. Doyle
Robert W. Schlichter
Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr.
C. Brent Stewart
Jerry F. Ward

Returns of Chapters
Phillip W. Engel, Chairman
Robert L. Schmidt
Terry R. Struse

Time and Place
Ronald L. Barrett, Chairman
David L. Leirer
Jerry L. Miles

Triennial
Roy N. Thomas, Chairman
Harley L. Kropf
Kyle R. Palacios
Roy A. Welshon, Sr.
Special Committees

Audit
James L. Woodfin, Jr., Chairman
Robert W. Schlichter
Grand Chapter Line Officers

Charity
Harley L. Kropf, Chairman
Ralph S. Cantrell, Jr.
Robert E. Hardester
Donald L. Trabue

Endowed Membership
Tom T. Herek, Chairman
Roy L. Gilkey
Robert E. Hardester
E. Allen Kohler
Donald L. Trabue

Grand Master's Royal Arch Class
Jack E. Timmons, Chairman
Jerry L. Miles
Steven C. Monrotus
Kevin B. Sample

Illinois/Missouri Joint Royal Arch Class
Michael L. Dodd, Chairman
Dennis E. Fetter
Dennis L. Hammack
Kevin B. Sample

Membership and Youth Activities
Clifton W. Wofford, Chairman
Edward L. Choate
Mark T. Schmidt
Thomas A. D. Schmidt
Michael S. Smith
Kevin E. Weaver
W. Larry Wilson
Terry A. Yarbrough

Ritual
Jack E. Timmons, Chairman
Michael L. Dodd
Charles M. Huey
Clarence L. Jennings
Kevin E. Weaver

District Deputy Grand Lecturers

Royal Arch Mason Magazine
Roy L. Gilkey, Chairman/Editor
Loren D. Lloyd
Jerry L. Miles

Royal Arch Research Assistance
John C. Kuehn, Chairman
Ralph S. Cantrell, Jr.
Dan R. Hatley
Steven C. Monrotus
Kyle R. Palacios

Social Media/Communications/Internet
Kevin B. Sample, Chairman
Donald MacCormick, Web Master
Kyle R. Palacios
Aaron M. Shoemaker

Strategic Planning
Kyle R. Palacios, Chairman
Ronald L. Barrett
Dan G. Daniel
David L. Leirer
Jerry L. Miles
Kevin B. Sample

York Rite Conference
Kyle R. Palacios, Chairman
David L. Leirer
District Deputy Grand High Priests

Order of High Priesthood
Kevin E. Weaver, Secretary/Treasurer
Living Past Grand High Priests

Charles A. Bottermuller (1971-1972)
E. Allen Kohler (1976-1977)
Ervin A. Drewing (1989-1990)
Frank P. Wilfley, Jr. (1990-1991)
Larry L. Muir (1992-1993)
Ralph P. Bunnell (1996-1997)
Ralph S. Cantrell, Jr. (2000-2001)
Kevin B. Sample, Honorary (2005)
Donald L. Trabue, Honorary (2005)
Harley L. Kropf (2005-2006)
William B. Stephenson, Jr. (2006-2007)
George L. Duncan (2009-2010)
Christopher C. McLemore, III (2010-2011)
Steven C. Monrotus (2011-2012)
Claude M. Eckert, Honorary (2012)
John E. Schofield (2012-2013)
Roy L. Gilkey (2013-2014)
Loren D. Lloyd (2015-2016)

Grand Representatives

Jurisdiction to Missouri

United States of America

Alabama ......................... Claude M. Eckert
Alaska .............................. Alfred L. Mason
Arizona .......................... Jerry F. Ward
Arkansas .......................... Lionel J. Goede
California ...................... Louis L. Monken
Colorado .......................... Scott Crawford
Connecticut ..................... Thomas T. Herek
Delaware ......................... Kyle R. Palacios
District of Columbia ................
..................................... Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr.
Florida ............................
Georgia ........................... Roy N. Thomas
Hawaii ............................ Steven C. Monrotus
Idaho ............................ Andrew J. Dawson
Illinois ......................... George L. Duncan
Indiana .......................... William B. Stephenson, Jr.
Iowa ..............................
Kansas ............................ Jack Timmons
Kentucky .......................... Gale B. Morrison
Louisiana ....................... Robert W. Schlichter
Maine ............................. E. Allen Kohler
Maryland ........................ William W. Mier
Massachusetts ..................... Norman G. Schlagenhauf, Jr.
Michigan ......................... George M. Merkle
Minnesota ....................... Loren D. Lloyd
Mississippi ..................... Daniel R. Quesenberry
Missouri, PHA ........ Robert R. Anderson, Jr.
Montana .......................... D. Keith Duren
Nebraska .......................... Guy D. Ross
Nevada ............................. Clark McLemore
New Hampshire .. Albert A. "Sony" Miller
New Jersey ..................... Marion W. "Mick" Dey
New Mexico ........................ Roy L. Gilkey
New York .......................... David A. Watson
North Carolina ........ John E. Schofield
North Dakota ............ Ralph S. Cantrell, Jr.
Ohio ......................... Christopher C. McLemore, III
Oklahoma .................. Bobby L. Detherow
Oregon .......................... James E. McManigle
Pennsylvania ................ Phillip W. Engel
Rhode Island ................ Ronald E. Wood, Jr.
South Carolina ............ Clifton W. Wofford
South Dakota .............. Dan G. Daniel
Tennessee .................... Charles A. Bottermuller
Texas .......................... Ralph P. Bunnell
Utah ...................................... J. Joseph Hayes
Vermont ..................... Roy A. Welshon, Sr.
Virginia ..................... Harold J. Richardson
Washington ............... Dennis N. Vogel
West Virginia ............... Roy N. Thomas
Wisconsin .................... Ronald L. Barrett
Wyoming ..................... Larry D. Wyatt

Jurisdiction .................. To Missouri
Canada/Mexico
Alberta Canada .......... Richard J. Holmes
British Columbia and Yukon .............................................. David L. Leirer
Manitoba ..................... Harley L. Kropf
Mexico ...................... Frank P. Wilfley, Jr.
New Brunswick Canada .... Harry C. Reed, Jr.
Newfoundland and Labrador ........................................ Matthew Quesenberry
Nova Scotia .................. Bill A. Humble
Ontario Canada ............ Kevin B. Sample
Quebec Canada ............. Robert W. Schlichter
Saskatchewan Canada ........................................

Jurisdiction .................. To Missouri
Other Jurisdictions
Argentina .................. Robert E. Hardester
Austria ...................... LeRoy D. Unruh
Belgium ...................... Gary A. Phillips
Brazil ....................... Marion L. Briggs
Central America ............ Dennis E. Fetter
Croatia ......................... Jerry L. Miles
England ....................... Stanton T. Brown, II
Finland ....................... Rocky E. Weaver
France ......................... Michael L. Dodd
Greece ......................... Ronnie E. Green
India ......................... David R. Vogler
Ireland ....................... Larry F. Walters
Israel ......................... Kevin E. Weaver
Italy ......................... Russell S. Hanson
Netherlands ............ Fred M. Harle, Sr.
New South Wales, Australia ........................................
New Zealand .................. Ervin A. Drewing
Newfoundland and Labrador ........................................
Panama ....................... Lewis C. Odneal
Paraguay ...................... Dennis L. Hammack
Philippines ..................
Portugal ...................... William J. Bowser
Queensland, Australia ..... M. Robert Berger
Romania ..................... John E. Trower
Scotland ..................... John W. Siscel, III
South Australia, Australia .... Edgar D. Piles
Spain ......................... Steven C. Monrotus
Togo ......................... Mark T. Schmidt
Venezuela .................... William W. Mier
Victoria, Australia ........ Walter W. Doyle
Western Australia .......... Christopher C. McLemore, III
BIOGRAPHY OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

John W. Siscel, III
Grand High Priest, 2016-2017

Born 1946 St. Louis, MO
Married Barbara J. Simmons 1975
Son, John W., IV, 1978
Graduated St. Louis Public Schools 1964
AB History U M-St. Louis September 1968
Master of Education Administration UM St. Louis January 1971
Doctor of Education General School Administration UM -Columbia August 1974

Symbolic Lodge

Raised 1967 Meridian Lodge #2, A F & A M St. Louis, MO
Transferred to Gardenville Lodge #655 1978 which merged in 1999 into Gardenville-Cache #455.
Worshipful Master 1981-82 Gardenville #655
Worshipful Master 2008-09 Gardenville-Cache #455

Grand Lodge Service

Grand Tiler 1982-1983
Masonic Education Committee member 1983, Chairman 1986-1991
Long Range Planning Committee 1989-1992
Junior Grand Marshal 2010-2011
Samuel Smith Stewart Trust member 2010 - present, current Chairman
Grand Chaplain 2011-2012
PM, Missouri Lodge of Research 1997

Scottish Rite, SJ

32nd degree 1968 Valley of St. Louis, KCCH 1973 - 33rd Degree 1985
Under direction of SGIG, revised the SR Ritual 4th through 32 for Valley of St. Louis
Wise Master S.L. Chapter Rose Croix 1982
Chairman Bylaw Revision Committee Valley of St. Louis 1985-86
Founding Member Board of Directors, Walker Scottish Rite Clinic for Childhood Language Disorders 1988, Em. status 2015

York Rite

Joined all three bodies October 31, 1970

Capitular Masonry

High Priest, Keystone Chapter #146 2007-2008
Elected Grand High Priest 2016
Appointed Regional Coordinator for the East Central, North Central & South Central Regions of GGC RAMI for Royal Arch Research Assistance, by MEC Harrison & Bartrand 2011-2017

Cryptic Masonry

Illustrious Master, York Council #40 - 2011

Chivalric Masonry

Em Commander, Ivanhoe Commandery #8 2012

York Rite Appendant Bodies

Missouri Priory #17, KYCH Member York GCH I Quadrant 2016
Past Sovereign St. Louis Conclave, RCC 2012
Deputy Governor, Bruce Harmon Hunt College #162 2016, OPC 2013
Other Memberships
Missouri College SCIRF
St. Thomas of Acon
Knight Mason's
St. Louis Lodge #5, IOOF

**Professional Experience**

September 2007-present JWS Services LLC; Organizational consultant
Executive Vice President Mechanical Contractors Association of Eastern Missouri 1/1/1990-8/31/2007
Administrator, New Hope Living & Learning Center, Waterloo, IL 1978-1980 24 hour a day, 365 days a year fully licensed facility
Administrative Assistant to Chief of Dental Health Service, City of St. Louis 1977-1978
Supt. of Schools Dora R-III Public Schools 1975-77
Principal Armour Educational Center, Union R-XI Schools, Union MO 1973-1975
Doctoral Student, University of Missouri Columbia 1971-1973. Recipient; 1 of 2 two year scholarships, $5k per year, from Supreme Council, 33 degree, SJ

**Public & Organizational Service**

2000-2003 Member, Board of Directors, American Society of Association Executives, Washington, DC.
Member & Board Chairman of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District 1993-2003. Appointed by St. Louis County Executive Buzz Westfall to 4 consecutive three year terms, Chairman 1996.
Budget $250,000,000.00 per year.
Appointed in 1992 to the Board of Regents of Harris Stowe State University
Appointed in 1994 to a full 6-year term at Harris-Stowe ending in 2000, chairing the Audit & Finance Committees.
Appointed in 2002 as a member & chair of the Missouri Health & Educational Facilities Authority.
Appointed to the Truman State University Board of Governors in 2006, which Board I chaired in 2011.
Appointed to the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners, then placed on the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.
ADDRESS OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, I want to sincerely welcome each and every one of you to the 171st Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri. At this time last year you honored me beyond description by electing me as your Grand High Priest, a fact which still evokes the warmest of feelings in my heart. To you I will always be grateful, thankful and above all, deeply proud that this honor was bestowed upon me! I have tried through this year, to show you that I appreciated your decision. It is my earnest desire that I succeeded, through sincere effort, to make that point crystal clear!! Thank you Missouri from the bottom of my heart!!

The theme for this year is, and has been "Make the Effort" and together the line officers and I have strongly endeavored to do so across the board.

Visitations

Since June 10, 2016, I, with a variety of wonderful compatriots, crisscrossed this state and in the process visited 23 chapters; 6 of the 7 regional conferences; an exceptional Missouri/Illinois Royal Arch Class; the 6th Annual Grand Master's Class honoring MW Brother (& Companion) Richard L. Smith; the reception for the Grand Commander and Grand Illustrious Master (and yours truly) and a number of 50-year Royal Arch membership awards, the most recent in Lebanon. Additionally, on that date I was privileged to be able to present a 25-year membership award to MEC Roy L. Gilkey, Missouri Ambassador to the General Grand Chapter International, this was a singular honor for me.

As noted above, there were several companions who traveled with me on several occasions throughout the year. I want to call out for special appreciation- VEC’s Kyle Palacios, Clifton Wofford, Dennis Fetter and Dennis Hammack. Whether in Trenton or Bethany, West Plains or Poplar Bluff, Cape Girardeau or Farmington the story, thankfully, was the same- these companions were there; and for that I am eternally grateful. There is no award high enough nor words good enough to say any more than thank you- which I now do! I owe you all a debt I cannot repay!! Additionally, to all the Past Grand High Priests and officers I say thank you for all you did to move our Grand Chapter forward this year. The companions of Keystone Chapter #146 hold a special place in my heart because of their generosity as exhibited by the impressive reception and apron case, thank you Keystone!

Equally important, Companions, are these other special persons whose cooperation, support and/or leadership I am honored to recognize; First, my two traveling companions, MI Todd A. Schulze, Grand Master and RE Robert W. Schlichter, Grand Commander. I was privileged to be with them a record number of times throughout the year and our York Rite was the better for our joint efforts! Thanks Todd and Bob for all you do, you both stand tall in my book! A second mentor is and always has been, MEC Steve Monrotus. Though pancreatitis has sidelined him and his potential travel this year, it has not sidelined his support, his advice, his leadership skills and his dedication to the Royal Craft. Thanks Steve- you are an inspiration to us ALL!
Most of all I owe my love, support and undying thanks to my wonderful wife of nearly 42 years, Barbara. This journey would not have happened at all but for her, and I know it and I glory in the fact that after everything, she is still here. I am a very lucky man- thanks dear! Thanks for being there always! I really do owe you!

Memorial Service
by Very Excellent Companion Ronnie E. Green, Grand Chaplain

Dispensations

August 2, 2016
Granted Dispensation to Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78 to move their September 5, 2016 convocation, which would be the Labor Day holiday, to September 12, 2016.

August 2, 2016
Granted Dispensation: Joint Missouri/Illinois Royal Arch Class, R:.E:.C:. Dale L. Corrice, Grand Secretary, On behalf of our Grand High Priest, John W. Siscel, III, we bring you fraternal greetings. In anticipation of our joint Royal Arch Class, scheduled for August 20, 2016, and to be held at Franklin Masonic Temple, 1513 Washington Ave, Alton, IL 62002, we understand that distinguished companions of Missouri will be conferring the Mark Master and Past Master degrees, and distinguished companions of Illinois will be conferring the Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch degrees. This office is aware of two candidates from Missouri to date. We fraternally and most respectfully request authorization/dispensation for Missouri to confer the degrees of Mark Master Mason and Past Master Mason on Illinois companions present, and additionally herein grant authorization/dispensation for Illinois to confer the degrees of Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch on any Missouri candidates present.

August 5, 2016
Dispensation Received: Joint Missouri/Illinois Royal Arch Class; I am in receipt of your letter dates August 2, 2017, addressed to our former Grand Secretary, Companion Dale Corrice, and pertaining to degree work at our upcoming Illinois-Missouri Chapter Day on October 20, 2016 in Alton, Illinois. In regards to the dispensation request allowing the Companions from Missouri to confer the degrees of Mark Master Mason and Past Master Mason on Illinois Companions present, I grant such request and thank the Grand High Priest, Companion John Siscel, for granting a dispensation in return for the Illinois Companions to confer the Most Excellent Master Degree and Holy Royal Arch Degree on any Missouri Companions present that day. Given under my hand and seal, this 5th day of August, 2016 in Sycamore, Illinois, James Tome, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois.
October 22, 2016

Granted Dispensation to St. Charles–Missouri Chapter No. 1, RAM to remove from their approved meeting place located at 2051 Corporate Collier Pkwy, St Charles, Missouri 63303 to the Wentzville Masonic Lodge located at 602 Meyer Rd., Wentzville, MO 63385 for the months of January thru June 2017. This dispensation shall remain in effect until the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter or Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri on June 8, 2017.

February 21, 2017

Granted Dispensation to Palmyra Chapter No. 2 to remove from its domicile to the domicile of Jefferson City Chapter No. 34 located at 3211 Masonic Court in Jefferson City, MO for the purpose of opening the Grand Master’s Royal Arch Class on Saturday, March 4, 2017. This dispensation additionally permits Palmyra Chapter No. 2 to change its meeting date to March 4, 2017 for this event only, but does not preclude their requirement to meet during the Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri. Finally, this dispensation permits the opening time to be determined by the Grand Lecturer and the Grand High Priest based on scheduling needs.

Decisions

September 28, 2016

Arrested Charter of Lone Star Chapter No. 30. Additionally, Pursuant to our earlier verbal conversation in front of the Chillicothe Masonic Temple this evening, I am issuing the following directive effective immediately:

1) by copy of this e mail DDGHP VEC Ron Skiles is directed at his earliest convenience to physically retrieve the charter of the aforesaid chapter and return it to the GYR office forthwith.

2) You (Grand Secretary) are directed to send to every known RA Mason on our known records a dues card for the year 2016 together with both an invoice for 2017 for Chapter 0 and a Certificate of Good Standing. Additionally, this letter should include the names, addresses and contact information for every chapter near Chillicothe such that they could, should they choose, petition for affiliation. The dues invoice will be set at $40.00 for 2017. As we also discussed the letter should include our sincere apology to the recipient's family should he, in the interim, have passed away.

May 8, 2017

Granted Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78 until June 8, 2017 to complete their annual return due to the tragic death of Secretary Edgar D. Piles’ son
By Law Changes, Subordinate Chapters

October 16, 2017

Approved by-laws changes for Independence Chapter No. 12, to wit:

Article II: SECTION 1. STATED CONVOCATIONS. The Stated Convocation of this Chapter shall be held on the Second Thursday of each month at 7:30p.m. On the Second Thursday of November and December the Convocation will be held in conjunction with Independence Council No. 49 of Royal and Select Masters. No Stated Convocations well be held during the months of July and August.

Article IV: SECTION 1. PETITIONS AND FEES. Petitions for the Degrees shall be on the Form prescribed by the Grand Chapter, and shall be accompanied by a fee of $50.00.

December 19, 2016

Approved by-law changes for Springfield Chapter No. 15, to wit:

CURRENT WORDING ARTICLE III
Section 3. The Treasurer, in addition to the duties set out in Section 1 hereof, shall present annually to the Chapter, not later than its February convocation, a statement of all receipts, expenditures, securities or money he has received, expended or had in his possession in the name of the Chapter during the twelve months ending December thirty-first of the preceding year. He shall deposit all funds of the chapter in a bank or trust company to be designated by the Chapter. He shall deposit all securities, bonds and stocks of the Chapter in a safety deposit vault selected by the Chapter. The Treasurer shall report the financial condition of the chapter at each stated convocation of the chapter. He shall receive as compensation for his services the sum of twenty-five ($25 Dollars) Dollars per annum.

PROPOSED:

Section 3 Amended by deleting last sentence to read as follows:

Section 3. The Treasurer, in addition to the duties set out in Section 1 hereof, shall present annually to the Chapter, not later than its February convocation, a statement of all receipts, expenditures, securities or money
he has received, expended or had in his possession in the name of the Chapter during the twelve months ending December thirty-first of the preceding year. He shall deposit all funds of the chapter in a bank or trust company to be designated by the Chapter. He shall deposit all securities, bonds and stocks of the Chapter in a safety deposit vault selected by the Chapter. The Treasurer shall report the financial condition of the chapter at each stated convocation of the chapter.

CURRENT WORDING Section 4.

Section 4. The Secretary, in addition to the duties set out in Section 1 hereof, shall present annually to the chapter, not later than its February convocation, a statement of dues, fees, assessments and other revenues collected; money paid to and bills issued on the Treasurer. The report shall include a statement as to members initiated, admitted, demitted, suspended, deceased or expelled during the year. He shall keep and have charge of the Seal of the Chapter and shall attest by the impression of same on all official papers, receipts and documents issued or ordered by the chapter over his signature as Secretary. He shall receive as compensation for his services a fee of One Dollar ($1.00) for each member reported in good standing as shown in his annual report to the Grand Chapter. Payment of said compensation may be made either monthly or quarterly.

PROPOSED: Delete last two sentences and add additional language to read as follows:

Section 4. The Secretary, in addition to the duties set out in Section 1 hereof, shall present annually to the chapter, not later than its February convocation, a statement of dues, fees, assessments and other revenues collected; money paid to and bills issued on the Treasurer. The report shall include a statement as to members initiated, admitted, demitted, suspended, deceased or expelled during the year. He shall keep and have charge of the Seal of the Chapter and shall attest by the impression of same on all official papers, receipts and documents issued or ordered by the chapter over his signature as Secretary. The Recorder, upon submission of valid proof, may be reimbursed up to the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars ($150.00) per annum for his expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

All other sections of Article III to remain the same.

CURRENT WORDING ARTICLE VII Sections 1 and 2
Section 1. The fee for conferring the degrees shall be Thirty Dollars ($30.00) and must in all cases accompany the petition and shall be remitted or rebated directly or indirectly.

Section 2. The dues of each member of this Chapter shall be Twenty Dollars ($20.00) plus Per Capita Tax set by the Grand Chapter, payable annually in advance on the first day of January and become delinquent on the first day of April. Provided that a member is exempt from the payment of dues who has been a Royal Arch Mason in good standing for 50 years or more.

PROPOSED:

Section 1. The fee for conferring the degrees shall be Sixty Dollars ($60.00) and must in all cases accompany the petition.

Section 2. The dues of each member of this Chapter shall be Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00) plus Per Capita Tax set by the Grand Chapter, payable annually in advance on the first day of January and become delinquent on the first day of April. Provided that a member is exempt from the payment of dues who has been a Royal Arch Mason in good standing for 50 years or more.

March 14, 2017

Approved by-laws changes for Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter No. 284

Article I Name & Convocation

Para 2: The stated convocations shall be on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. By a vote of the members, the meetings of July and August may be omitted. No meeting shall be held on the eve of or the day of the meeting of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Missouri.

CHANGE: Para 2. The stated convocations shall be on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. By a vote of the members, the meetings of July and August may be omitted. No meeting shall be held on the eve of or the day of the meeting of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Missouri.

The remainder of the Article shall remain the same.

REASON: due to financial constraints we must give up one meeting date each month.
Edicts Issued

None.

Out of State Visitations

Throughout the year, I have been privileged to represent the Grand Chapter of Missouri at the following organizations:

- The Grand Chapter of Illinois annual session
- The Grand Chapter of Michigan annual session
- The Grand Chapter of Kentucky annual session
- The Grand Chapter of Nebraska annual session
- The South Central Regional Conference in Alexandria, Louisiana
- The annual communication of the Grand Lodge, AF & AM of Missouri and
- The Missouri Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls & Missouri DeMolay annual sessions.

Goals, Accomplishments and Observations for the Future

Making the effort, if truly serious, takes many forms and follows many paths. Such has been this journey in Missouri Royal Arch Masonry this year!

Some of the goals set and accomplished this year you will hear reported on by their respective committee chairs, i.e., Strategic Planning and Endowed Membership. VECs Palacios and Herek, together with their committees, have done yeoman work and their presentations will be the highlights of the session – they made the effort!!! Suffice it to say in advance, the best really IS yet to come.

Other goals accomplished deserve mention here in this statutorily mandated report to you; they are as follows:

- West Plains Chapter No. 108, stupendous success at bringing in 10 new companions in one day on February 25, 2017 – great work West Plains!
- Liberty Chapter No. 3, incredibly innovative Table Chapter which I and Barbara were able to attend – super work Liberty!
- Three new General Grand Chapter Ritual Award recipients, VECs Clifton Wofford, Willie Mier and EC Bill Humble. It was an exceptional privilege to personally present these to each in his home Chapter. Companions, when you happen upon them congratulate them, they have achieved a remarkable accomplishment, and
- The second annual Ritual Round Robin contest on April 1. This year's goal was exceeded by the fact that both the number of participants increased and the Regional Conferences served as “1st round” sites. Congratulations to REC Jerry Miles as this year's winner.

My experience in reading Grand Presiding Officer recommendations convinces me not to place a great deal of certainty in their acceptance so I prefer to leave you with a few observations over which I hope you seriously ponder:
The future of this Grand Chapter will depend on maintenance of and use of the Strategic Planning process. This year is but a start; we made the effort – our Royal Craft cannot afford to lessen it! Remember, the process is only as good as those who USE it!

Serious effort has been made to look at and improve the Endowed Membership program. This effort must not be allowed to languish but must be enhanced. Congratulations to VEC Tom Herek but the best is yet to come.

Our Ritual Leadership team led by VEC’s Timmons, Jennings and Dodd are to be highly commended not simply because they can teach but because they can lead! Our recent Grand Master’s Class was a great example of that leadership. I thank them all but I single out VEC Dodd for leadership by example and as a result the day was flawless! Great work Mike.

The Missouri Illinois class takes its next iteration this coming November 18, 2018 at the St. Charles Masonic Temple. Incoming Grand High Priests Jerry Stark and Ron Barrett have set this date up, subject to all proper calendar checking. This is a great opportunity to learn from and with each other and needs to be expanded to other neighboring states. Together we ARE making the effort! Make it your business to be in St. Charles on November 18, 2017 – you’ll not regret it!

These observations, together with a heartfelt appreciation to Roy Gilkey, Kevin Sample and Debbie Hanson, are the best manifestation I can make to show that, up to the last, I believe in making the effort!

At the outset, this year has been dedicated to MEC’s P. Vincent Kinkead and Jose R. Palacios. They always made the effort, let us ALL emulate them and do the SAME!

May the Supreme Architect of the Universe keep you and this Royal Craft in the Hollow of His Hand.

Fraternally submitted,

John W. Siscell, III
Grand High Priest, 2016-2017

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
GRAND CHAPTER OFFICER REPORTS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:
Companions, I submit the following accounts for 2016-2017:

Visitations:

June 13, 2016 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to Keystone Chapter
July 23, 2016 Reception for GHP Siscel
July 23, 2016 Region 5 Conference
Aug. 20, 2016 Missouri/Illinois joint degree work
Sept. 14, 2016 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to St. Charles Chapter
Sept. 16-17, 2016 York Rite Conference in Lafayette, LA
Sept. 27, 2016 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to Bellefontaine Chapter
Dec. 5, 2016 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to Oriental Chapter
Dec. 14, 2016 Table Chapter Region 5, Freedom Temple
Feb. 21, 2017 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to Cape Girardeau Chapter
March 4, 2017 RAM Grand Masters Class
April 1, 2017 Grand Chapter Budget Meeting
April 12, 2017 Official Visit with GHP Siscel to Mt. Nebo Chapter. Lewis and Clark presentation to Companion Charles Coy

As a representative of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, I was also pleased to be appointed IT Committee Chair for the GGCRAM

Fraternally submitted,
Kyle R. Palacios, Grand Royal Arch Captain 2016-2017

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:
Companions, this has been a very interesting year. I have traveled across the state and visited many Chapters in the state of Missouri. There have been highs, such as the reconstitution of West Plains Charter and Macon kickstart back to being an active chapter. To the lows of going to Chillicothe with the intention of pulling their charter. Throughout this year I have also met with many old friends and made many new friend in the state. The one thing you find in all the chapters in this state is a want to do better in terms of retention and the eternal search for those new companions who will be there to see these chapters grow and prosper.

In my travel, I attended the official visits by the Grand High Priest at various locations. The first at Freedom Lodge, Poplar Bluff, Cape Girardeau, West Plains, Shelbina, Hannibal and Uel. Traveled to several Chapters to help with degree work. The Royal Arch in Cape Girardeau, Shelbina for the Most Excellent Master Degree, Hannibal, the Most Excellent Master Degree, Mt. Nebo, the Royal Arch Degree, Alton, Illinois for the Joint MO-IL Degrees, and the Grand Masters Class held in Jefferson City. Attended the Region 7 Regional York Rite Conference, the Region 6 Regional York Rite Conference and the Jefferson City school of instruction held on Sept. 23, 2016. Attended other Chapters on just a friendly visit to say “hi” and see how things
were going. It has been many miles but would not change anything about what has transpired over the 2016-2017 year. I feel like next year will bring even bigger and better things for me personally and the Royal Arch in general.

The greatest event in the state in terms of membership was the making of 10 new companions in one day, as West Plains continued their journey back.

Fraternally submitted,
Clifton Wofford, Grand Master of the 3rd Veil

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS
(from the floor)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST’S ADDRESS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, your committee wishes to complement our Grand High Priest for his commitment to the Grand Chapter of Missouri during this year. His many travels and hours of hard work showcase his love of Royal Arch Masonry. He has traveled to other jurisdictions to carry fellowship to our neighbors. It shows his dedication, thoughtfulness and concern for the successful future of our order.

His decisions relative to By-laws, Decisions, Dispensations and Edicts are referred to the Jurisprudence Committee.

This committee offers its deepest thanks for his hard work and much time spent in serving our order. He has discharged the duties of his office with dignity and enthusiasm. We wish him all the best in the future and hope that he will continue to work for in the betterment of our order.

Fraternally submitted,
Loren D, Lloyd, PGHP, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Greetings, the Jurisprudence Committee has reviewed the Edicts issued, Dispensations granted, By-Laws changes approved for subordinate Chapters and all other relevant matters pertaining to the business of the Craft acted upon by the Grand High Priest. In our opinion the Grand High Priest has complied with the Statutory duties, responsibilities, and inherent powers
of his office. Our Grand High Priest is to be commended for his specific interest and attention to the Craft.

The Committee on Jurisprudence thanks the Grand High Priest for the honor and privilege of being selected to serve this Grand Chapter during his year. His recommendations will be referred to the appropriate committees for review and we express the hope for his continued successes in the years ahead.

Our congratulations to Most Excellent Companion John W. Siscel, Grand High Priest for a very successful year. In our estimation you have performed your duties and responsibilities remarkably well.

Fraternally submitted,
Walter W. Doyle
Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr.
Jerry F. Ward
Robert W. Schlichter
C. Brent Stewart
Glenn E. Means, Chairman

I move the adoption of this first part of the Report.

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION IN 2017

Item No. 1.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in strike through, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE II, Grand Officers, Section 6. Who are eligible? Any Companion shall be eligible to any office in this Grand Chapter who is, at the time of election or appointment, a Past High Priest, or a High Priest, of a Missouri Chapter, and a member of this Grand Chapter, except Grand Chaplain, Grand Sentinel and Grand Organist, who shall be members in good standing of a Chapter in this jurisdiction, provided that not more than one elected officer may be a member of the same Chapter.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: With more and more Companions electing to take dual or multiple membership in Chapters to help Chapters to continue to be able to open, perform work and exist, the prohibition of no two elected Grand Chapter officers holding membership in the same Chapter has the effect of either causing an eligible Companion to dimit from or cease his dual membership or decline to accept an elected office. The declining number of active Companions is already causing many Chapters to depend on those who are dual members to assist in keeping their Chapter active. Forcing an active dual member to dimit, from a Chapter is counter-productive to assisting a Chapter remain active. By restricting a dual member Companion...
from eligibility to a Grand Office deprives the Grand Chapter of the service and leadership of many of the most qualified, active Companions.

Fraternally submitted,
Robert W. Schlichter, PGHP, PHP
Liberty Chapter No. 3

Roy L. Gilkey, PGHP, PHP
Lebanon Chapter No. 64

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Item No. 2.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in strike through, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE XII, Chartered Chapters, Section 103, Annual Returns. Each Chapter shall, on or before the first day of March of each year, make and transmit by mail to the Grand Secretary an annual report return, according to the form furnished by the Grand Secretary Included as an attachment with the annual return shall be a copy of the latest IRS Form 990 or a copy of the acceptance of the electronic submission of a Form 990N. Failure to make such return as provided shall subject the chapter to… (remainder unchanged).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: Failure of an organization (Chapter) to file annually an IRS Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax Under Sec. 501(c), for 3 consecutive years results in a withdrawal of the tax exempt status of the organization (Chapter). The withdrawal of a subordinate organization (Chapter) places the parent organization’s (Grand Chapter) tax exempt status in jeopardy. It also places the organization whose tax exemption is withdrawn subject to income taxes at the State and Federal level and places the organization’s County property tax exemption at risk.

Fraternally submitted,
Glenn E. Means, PHP
Independence Chapter No. 12

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
Item No. 3.

Standing Resolution No. 12

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Whereas, pursuant to Article VIII, Powers of the Grand Chapter, Section 1, … And finally, it may consider and do whatever it may regard as necessary or appertaining to the well-being and perpetuity of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Missouri, and

Whereas, our Symbolic Lodges in the State of Missouri can submit for an award to be received at the Grand Lodge Session when they increase their membership by 5%, and

Whereas, it is appropriate and furthers the growth of Royal Arch Masonry in Missouri in recognizing and honoring Chapters that have increased their membership,

Now Be It Resolved, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry in Missouri create Chapter Growth Awards to be presented at the Annual Grand Convocation for Chapters that have increased their membership by 5%, 10%, and 15% during the year. The award to be a printed Certificate to be signed by the Grand High Priest and the Grand Secretary, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry should also recognize by a similar Certificate the Chapter that has increased its membership by the largest percentage during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Fowler, King
Harry D. Brown Chapter No. 284

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Item No. 4.

Lone Star Chapter No. 30

Shall the Arrest of the Charter of Lone Star Chapter No. 30 stand.

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Move that the complete Report of the Jurisprudence Committee be received, approved and printed in the final Proceedings.

Fraternally submitted,
Walter W. Doyle Robert W. Schlichter
Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr. C. Brent Stewart
Jerry F. Ward Glenn E. Means, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, the committee is very pleased to submit the following proposed budget for the 2017–2018 Capitular year. The committee met on March 18, 2017. At that time we were facing a $2,441.00 deficit. We had figured our per capita membership at 1,929 members figuring a 10% loss in attrition, endowed and fifty-year members at $19.60 per member. After returning home to reconsider where we might make cuts or take a transfer from the general fund, we were informed by e-mail that we had miss figured the amount of per capita income. With the physical year being June 1 through May 31, we should be figuring our income from the 2017 annual returns not the 2016 returns. The money actually comes in during the 2017–2018 year. After doing so, and refiguring our income, leaving us with a surplus. We submit this budget to you with our best wishes and do not feel at this time there is a need to increase the per capita tax. Although remembering that as things continue to increase, there may be need for periodic increases in the amount of the per capita tax.

2017-2018 Grand Chapter Budget

Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita, Membership (1,929 @ $25.60)</td>
<td>$49,382.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita, Endowed Membership</td>
<td>$3,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exaltation Fees (75 @ $10.00)</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Income</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$55,782.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salaries and Allowances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand High Priest Expense</td>
<td>$3,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Arch Mason Magazine Editor Expense</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Treasurer Expense</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Secretary Salary</td>
<td>$5,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical Assistant Salary</td>
<td>$7,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Taxes</td>
<td>$1,060.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonding Insurance</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritual Committee</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Committee</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Expenses</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Services</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Rent</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Rent</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Grand Chapter Per Capita (1,929 @ $3.00)</td>
<td>$5,787.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Convocation</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Officer Expenses</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Past Grand High Priest Regalia $100.00
Royal Arch Magazine $10,000.00
Triennial Fund (2,704 @ $0.07) $189.00
Grand High Priest Endowment to Palmyra $500.00
Emerging Leaders Fund (1,929 @ $0.10) $192.00
South Central York Rite Conference Contingency $750.00
MMS Annual Maintenance Fee $500.00
MMS One-Time Conversion Fee $1,000.00
Web Master $250.00
Miscellaneous $250.00
Total $50,728.00

Total Income $55,782.00
Total Salaries and Allowances $50,728.00
Balance $5,054.00

Fraternally submitted,
Dan Daniel
Jerry Miles

David Leirre
Ronald Barrett, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE/INVESTMENT

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:
Companions, I met with Donald Trabue on March 18th at the audit and preliminary finance committee meeting. On reviewing the current practices of the Grand Treasurer, I have found his practices to be clearly defined. I have found that most funds have a diversified mix of investments which the Grand Treasurer is keeping a digital copy of the financial files for access and safe keeping.

Respectively submitted,
Ronald Barrett, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions: All funds are invested in and/or thru banking institutions in Jefferson City. All bank accounts are interest bearing, with no service charges, with amounts being maintained at less than $250,000 in any one banking institution.

Investments in common stock or equal securities in nationally known corporations traded on the New York Stock Exchange, as allowed by Sec. 44 of the By-Laws are being utilized (Investor Services, American Balanced Fund, and American Income Fund).

I present herewith my report of the receipts, disbursements and the financial condition of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri for the fiscal year, June 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017.

### General Fund

**Total Assets, General Fund, June 1, 2016**  
$29,398.09

**Receipts:**
- Grand Secretary, etc. $22,366.14
- Interest Earned $4.95
- Transferred from General Fund (Spec. Act.) $3,000.00
- Increase in Market Value, etc. Investors Services $1,261.29

**Total Receipts:** $26,632.38

**Disbursements:**
- Jefferson Act. #xxxxx8915 $15,718.14
- Jefferson Act. #xxxxx4544 $25,074.24
- Jefferson Act. #xxxxx3929 - Debits $2,753.05

**Total Disbursements:** $45,545.43

**Excess of Receipts over Disbursements** $16,913.05

**Balance, General Fund, March 31, 2017** $12,485.04

### Statement of Assets- General Fund, March 31, 2017

- Interest Checking Act. #xxxxx8915, Jefferson Bank - Jefferson City, 0.05% $431.93
- Interest Checking Act. #xxxxx4544, Jefferson Bank - Jefferson City, 0.05% $1,231.58
- Interest Checking Act. #xxxxx4325, Jefferson Bank - Jefferson City, 0.05% $23.08
- Money Mkt. Act. #xxxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13% $3,057.60
- Business Investment Act.#xxxxx0211, Premier Bank-Jefferson City, 0.20% $208.56
- Investors Services (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) (Market Value) $7,532.29

**Total Assets, General Fund, March 31, 2017** $12,485.04

### General Fund (Special Account)

**Total Assets, June 1, 2016** $172,737.54

**Receipts:**
- Interest Earned $770.40
- Transferred to General Fund $3,000.00
- Increase in Market Value, etc., American Balanced Fund $6,268.08
- Increase in Market Value, etc. Investors Services $1,151.56

**Total Receipts:** $11,190.04

**Total Disbursements:** $3,000.00

**Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:** $8,190.04

**Balance, General Fund (Special Account), March 31, 2017** $180,927.58
### Statement of Assets - General Fund (Special Account), March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Mkt. Act. #xxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13%</td>
<td>$ (8.90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Investment Act. #xxxx0211, Premier Bank-Jefferson City, 0.20%</td>
<td>$ 206.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Balanced Fund (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City)</td>
<td>$ 63,541.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investors Services (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) (Market Value)</td>
<td>$ 31,196.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx3677, Hawthorn Bank-Jefferson City, 1.30%, Matures 10/3/18</td>
<td>$ 10,512.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx0630, Hawthorn Bank-Jefferson City, 1.30%, Matures 1/15/19</td>
<td>$ 21,659.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx0707, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 1.10%, Matures 4/10/19</td>
<td>$ 53,820.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets, General Fund (Special Account), March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 180,927.58</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Endowed Membership Fund

#### Total Assets, Endowed Membership Fund, June 1, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts: Memberships (14)</td>
<td>$ 6,740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>$ 616.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Market Value, etc. American Income Fund</td>
<td>$ 5,699.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Market Value, etc. American Balanced Fund</td>
<td>$ 2,538.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 15,936.63</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursements:</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 15,936.63</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance, Endowed Membership Fund March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 161,626.43</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statement of Assets, Endowed Membership Fund, March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Mkt. Act. #xxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13%</td>
<td>$ 13,362.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Investment Act. #xxxx0211, Providence Bank-Jefferson City, 0.20%</td>
<td>$ 498.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American-Income (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) (Market Value)</td>
<td>$ 56,165.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American-Balanced (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) (Market Value)</td>
<td>$ 25,791.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx3915, Providence Bank-Jefferson City, 1.10%, Matures 10/7/17</td>
<td>$ 30,166.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx4225, Providence Bank-Jefferson City, 1.00%, Matures 11/2/17</td>
<td>$ 20,454.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx5605, Providence Bank-Jefferson City, 1.21%, Matures 10/21/18</td>
<td>$ 15,187.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets, Endowed Membership Fund, March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 161,626.43</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Foundation Fund

#### Total Assets, June 1, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts: Grand Secretary, Etc.</td>
<td>$ 330.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred from Proceedings Fund</td>
<td>$ 3,931.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>$ 1,438.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 5,700.49</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursements:</td>
<td>$ 800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 4,900.49</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance, Foundation Fund, March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 150,734.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statement of Assets, Foundation Fund, March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Mkt. Act. #xxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13%</td>
<td>$ 2,099.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Investment Act. #xxxx0211, Premier Bank-Jefferson City, 0.20%</td>
<td>$ 1,084.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx3920, Providence Bank-Jefferson City, 1.10%, Matures 10/7/17</td>
<td>$ 25,734.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx0926, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 1.25%, Matures 4/4/18</td>
<td>$ 35,833.72</td>
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<td>CD#xxxx0139, Hawthorn Bank-Jefferson City, 1.25%, Matures 6/23/18</td>
<td>$ 52,361.83</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD#xxxx0633, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 1.25%, Matures 3/22/19</td>
<td>$ 33,620.12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets, Foundation Fund, March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 150,734.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Palmyra Fund

#### Total Assets, Palmyra Fund, June 1, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts: American-Income Fund (Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) Increase in Market Value, etc.</td>
<td>$ 245.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>$ 2.12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 247.61</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursements:</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 247.61</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance, Palmyra Fund, March 31, 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 5,179.80</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Statement of Assets, Palmyra Fund, March 31, 2017

Monetary Act. #xxxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13% $2,630.97
Business Investment Act.#xxxx0211, Premier Bank-Jefferson City, 0.20% $129.60
American-Income (Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) $2,419.23

**Total Assets, Palmyra Fund, March 31, 2017** $5,179.80

### Supply Fund

**Total Assets, Supply Fund, June 1, 2016** $13,831.37

**Receipts:**
- Inventory Sales $3,592.45
- Interest Earned $2.34
- Increase in Market Value, etc. American-Income $412.84
- Increase in Market Value, etc. Investors Services $7,461.78

**Total Receipts:** $11,469.41

**Disbursements:** $7,649.54

**Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:** $3,819.87

**Balance, Supply Fund March 31, 2017** $17,651.24

### Statement of Assets, Supply Fund, March 31, 2017

Monetary Act. #xxxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13% $670.30
Investors Services (thru Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) (Market Value) $12,912.63
American-Income (Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City) $4,068.31

**Total Assets, Supply Fund, March 31, 2017** $17,651.24

### Triennial Fund

**Total Assets, Triennial Fund, June 1, 2016** $210.07

**Receipts:**
- Interest Earned $0.15

**Total Receipts:** $0.15

**Balance, Triennial Fund, March 31, 2017** $210.22

### Statement of Assets, Triennial Fund, March 31, 2017

Monetary Act. #xxxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13% $210.22

**Total Assets, Triennial Fund, March 31, 2017** $210.22

### Leadership Fund

**Total Assets, Leadership Fund, June 1, 2016** $777.12

**Receipts:**
- Grand Secretary, etc. $28.20
- Interest Earned $0.57

**Total Receipts:** $28.77

**Balance, Leadership Fund, March 31, 2017** $805.89

### Statement of Assets, March 31, 2017

Monetary Act. #xxxxx3929, Jefferson Bank-Jefferson City, 0.13% $805.89

**Total Assets, Leadership Fund, March 31, 2016** $805.89

### Proceedings Fund

**Total Assets, Proceedings Fund, June 1, 2016** $3,930.93

**Receipts:**
- Interest Earned $0.75

**Total Receipts:** $0.75

**Disbursements (Transferred to Foundation Fund):** $3,931.68

**Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:** $(3,930.93)

**(9/4/16 - Fund Closed)**

**Balance, Proceedings Fund, March 31, 2017** $-
REPORTS OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, much has been done, and there is still much yet to do. Following this narrative, you will find the statistical reports of the Grand Secretary’s office. It would be of benefit to the grand officers and others to actually review and study these reports as they provide much information as to the overall financial and physical health of the subordinate Chapters of the Grand Chapter of Missouri.

As with the paragraph above, I will restate the following from last year’s report, which appears to have gone unnoticed and more distressingly unread and unobserved during the current year. “Over the years, with the changing of subordinate Secretaries and changes in technology, with what might have once been considered usual and customary communicative protocol, we are experiencing a loss of understanding of Masonic protocol with regard to sending official correspondence to the Office of the Grand High Priest and his committees. Sometimes when things change, some things need to remain the same. Chapter Secretaries are sending requests for Dispensations and By-Laws changes directly to the Grand High Priest or Jurisprudence Committee. We would urge and respectfully request that normalized communications be reinstated – by sending your requests to the Grand Secretary’s office wherein they will be appropriately distributed and tracked through to completion. We find this necessary when documenting and approving actions to be properly recorded by all involved.” Nothing has changed this year and we do not anticipate this practice changing in the years to come. We strongly encourage Chapter Secretaries to follow protocol in order that the actions required by the Grand High Priest can be appropriately recorded.

In addition to the expected protocol mentioned above, it must be clearly understood that District and Grand Line Officers (unless commissioned by the GHP for specific purposes) do not have the authority to communicate requests for dispensations, to grant dispensations, authorize relocations or to speak on behalf of the Chapter High Priest or Secretary. We appreciate the help in facilitating communications, but official requests must come from the appropriate channels and follow the by-laws of the Grand Chapter and the by-laws of the subordinate Chapter.

This year the Grand High Priest did review and make nominations for Capitular Commissions, completed in February 2017. We anticipate the completion of this process early this year.

On November 7, 2016, by order of the Grand High Priest, the Grand Secretary sent notices to all of the membership of Lone Star Chapter No. 30 for which we had address information,
advising them of the Arrest of the Charter, and inviting them to move their membership should they so choose. Only one companion’s membership was transferred to Lexington Chapter No. 10: Edgar Barnert of Chillicothe, MO. We receive about 4 notices of bad addresses and no other response. The failure to receive a response from the other members resulted in a loss of 65 Capitular Freemasons.

Late Annual Returns: This year the following Chapters filed late returns and some were assessed penalties: Sedalia Chapter No. 18 (due to very recent consolidation with Lexington Chapter No. 10, not the fault of the incoming Secretary); Rolla Chapter No. 32; Wyoming Chapter No. 43; Caldwell Chapter No. 53 (new Secretary); Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78 (excused, granted dispensation to file late); Joplin Chapter No. 91; Triune Chapter No. 93 (due to death of Secretary); Orient Chapter No. 102; Webb City Chapter No. 119 (due to Secretary turn-over); Putnam Chapter No. 123 (new Secretary); Uel Chapter No. 129, and East Gate Chapter No. 136.

Chapters not filed as of the date of this report: Hannibal Chapter No. 7; Mexico Chapter No. 27 (consolidated with Triune Chapter No. 93 on January 2, 2017 following death of Chapter Secretary); Tyrian Chapter No. 52 due to late term turn-over of Chapter Secretary); California Chapter No. 58 (now two years in arrears); and Mountain Grove Chapter No. 137.

On August 15, 2016, each Subordinate Chapter, Grand Officer, District Deputy Grand Officer and Past Grand High Priest was officially informed of the increase in the 2017 Grand Chapter per capita. Grand Chapter per capita for 2017, due with your 2017 Annual Returns will be $25.60. It is not appropriate for Chapters to attempt to wait to collect 2018 dues in order to be able to pay 2017 per capita. If Chapters are operating this way, you are causing your Chapters serious financial harm and it is entirely inappropriate.

Dues: Another issue for some is the definition of dues. In accordance with ARTICLE IX, Revenues of the Grand Chapter, Section 40. Annual Dues. A. Every chartered Chapter shall annually pay to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Chapter, twenty-two dollars and fifty cents per capita for each member borne on the rolls of the Chapter, on the 31st day of December, preceding the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, plus the per capita of the General Grand Chapter. (Other Grand Chapter fees and assessments are not addressed for this discussion). Additionally, in accordance with Section 167. Annual Dues. Each chapter in this jurisdiction has the right to assess and collect from its members in the manner provided by its by-laws, such annual dues as may be deemed necessary to defray the proper expenses of the chapter. Chapter dues therefore, those “dues” collected from the membership on an annual basis, is a total of Grand Chapter per capita and fees along with the subordinate Chapter “annual dues”, not just the local fees which are “added” to Grand Chapter per capita.

Financial Statements: The following Chapters either failed to submit or filed an incomplete Financial Statement: Liberty Chapter No. 3; Sedalia Chapter No. 18 (excused); Wyoming Chapter No. 43; Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61; Trenton Chapter No. 66; Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78; and East Gate Chapter No. 136 (excused).

RARA Donations: The following Chapters reported no contributions to RARA: Liberty Chapter No. 3; Lexington Chapter No. 10; Independence Chapter No. 12; Sedalia Chapter No. 18 (excused); Macon Chapter No. 22; Kansas City Chapter No. 28; Rolla Chapter No. 32; Jefferson City Chapter No. 34; Wyoming Chapter No. 43; Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61; Lebanon Chapter No. 64; Trenton Chapter No. 66; Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78; Bethany Chapter No. 80;
West Plains Chapter No. 108; Vincil Chapter No. 110; Webb City Chapter No. 119; East Gate Chapter No. 136; and Mt. Nebo Chapter No. 148.

In contrast, Triune Chapter No. 93 was the only Chapter to contribute $3.65 per member for each of their members.

I would remind Secretaries, in accordance with ARTICLE IX, Revenues of the Grand Chapter, Section 40. Annual Dues. B. The Secretary of every Chartered Chapter will cause to be written and provided to each Companion on its rolls, including those whose dues have been remitted, 50 year members, and those that are endowed, an annual dues notice on which are written line items for the suggested voluntary contributions for the charities that are supported by the Grand Chapter. Such line items should include, but may not necessarily be limited to Royal Arch Research Assistance (RARA) with a suggested contribution of $3.65. The Grand Secretary will issue each Subordinate Chapter a number of Penny-a-Day stickers to affix to the dues card of each Companion that donates at least $3.65 to RARA. Subordinate Chapter Secretaries will affix such stickers to the Companion’s dues card and send it to the Companion. Contributions collected are to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, the check written to the charity for which it was collected and in a timely and efficient manner.

Bonding: The following Chapters reported that the Treasurer and Secretary are NOT bonded: St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1; Liberty Chapter No. 3; Lexington Chapter No. 10; Independence Chapter No. 12; Columbia Chapter No. 17; Sedalia Chapter No. 18; Macon Chapter No. 22; Kansas City Chapter No. 28; Rolla Chapter No. 32; Jefferson City Chapter No. 34; Greenfield Chapter No. 38; Wyoming Chapter No. 43; Caldwell Chapter No. 53; Nevada Chapter No. 56; Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61; Lebanon Chapter No. 64; Trenton Chapter No. 66; Wilson Chapter No. 75; Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78; Bethany Chapter No. 80; Joplin Chapter No. 91; Triune Chapter No. 93; Shelbina Chapter No. 99; West Plains Chapter No. 108; Vincil Chapter No. 110; Webb City Chapter No. 119; East Gate Chapter No. 136; Mt. Nebo Chapter No. 148, and Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter No. 284. Although there is no requirement by law that bonds be established, I’m sure everyone can appreciate the necessity of ensuring your organizational officers who are responsible for your financial health are bonded.

Audits: The following Chapters did not file an Audit as part of their Annual Return: Liberty Chapter No. 3; Columbia Chapter No. 17; Sedalia Chapter No. 18; Rolla Chapter No. 32; Jefferson City Chapter No. 34; Caldwell Chapter No. 53; Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61; Trenton Chapter No. 66; Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78; and East Gate Chapter No. 136.

Audits: (repeat from last year, nothing has changed) I would direct the Grand Officers’ (as well as appropriate committees) attention to several items in the statistical reports – Chapters who report no Cash on Hand; no Paraphernalia value; Chapters who show an indebtedness; and Chapters whose dues are extremely low or even less than Grand Chapter per capita. Several Chapters failed to record the amount of their annual dues. DDGHP’s should take notice of those Chapters who failed to record any RARA donations and provide education. It would appear that we have lost track of the Penny-a-Day stickers the office provides for these charity donations. Finally, I would refer to the Grand High Priest and appropriate committees the list of Treasurers and Secretaries who are not bonded, and whose Chapters failed to submit an annual audit. We must start reviewing and addressing these statistical reports and what appears to be failures on
the part of the Chapters, although we are sure most of these items could be remediated through training and education for the officers by the appropriate Grand Chapter officers.

Russell S. Hanson, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, and I are pleased to report that early this year we completed the removal of all GYR storage items from the downtown Columbia storage facility. The Missouri Lodge of Research has taken delivery of all items deemed of any value to the GYR. A very special word of appreciation goes to Most Worshipful Brother John W.F. Hess who has started reviewing and indexing all of the historic annual returns and is posting some of the details of those returns on the MOLOR web site. Palmyra Chapter No. 2, with the approval of M.:E.:C.: Robert W. Schlichter, High Priest, granted the Secretary approval to buy storage boxes for which all of the historic annual returns can be filed and indexed. This effort is still under way and we hope to hear more about this progress in Saturday’s Lodge of Research Lunch Presentation by MWB Hess.

Missouri Chapter No. 0: I would encourage the Grand Chapter Officers to review the formation of this chapter and complete the process.

Lady Debbie Hanson continues to be the most valuable asset to the Grand York Rite of Missouri. This office would not function without her dedication. She is to be applauded, not only for putting up with both Russell and me, but for all the hard work she does and the “voice of reason” when Russell and I need counseling. I again thank REC Russell S. Hanson for his continued assistance in the business partnership that the leadership of the Grand York Rite agreed to when we developed the current business plan. I could not do this job without him.

Companions, the winds of change are upon us all. The officers of the Grand Chapter authorized the Grand Secretary to begin working with Robert W. Bigley, KGC, Assistant Secretary / Office Administrator for the Grand Encampment to move our membership records to the Masonic Membership Solution (MMS). I am pleased to report that our records were re-indexed into the format needed for import into MMS and have been delivered to his office. The impact is significant and I will attempt to iterate some of those changes.

The Grand Encampment expects to have all of our data uploaded into MMS within a couple of months.

1. There will be a training session on Thursday night, September 14, 2017 at the South-Central York Rite Conference to be held in St. Louis. All Chapter Secretaries or their IT support are STRONGLY encouraged to attend.

2. Chapter Secretaries will have until December 31, 2017 to correct their membership records.

3. There will be no Annual Return for 2017, in the form that you are used to. Chapters will be billed based on their membership records in the same fashion as the Grand Commandery did this year. If Chapter Secretaries do not complete the validation of their membership records, this will have a significant financial impact on the per capita and fees billed by the Grand Chapter in January.

4. Monthly Reports will be discontinued, but Chapter Secretaries (or their IT support) will be required to log into their membership database no less than monthly. Reports of those failing to manage their records will be forwarded to the Grand High Priest and the DDGHP’s for their follow-up action.
This action on the part of the Grand Chapter of Missouri will accomplish several very important tasks; to once and for all get an accurate membership database; to clean up the Royal Arch Mason Magazine mailing list to ensure everyone who is supposed to receive the magazine gets it and to remove those who have been removed from our rolls so we are not overpaying for our quarterly subscriptions; and to finally create a repository of membership records so when we lose a Chapter Secretary, the new guy doesn’t have to completely rebuild everything, something Secretaries like Gentry Slone and Matthew Ruth can really appreciate.

Companion Secretaries, this will not be without some growing pains. Debbie and I (and Russell) will be there to support you in remediating the anomalies which we will surely find. This will be for the betterment of Capitular Freemasonry in Missouri and I for one am really excited about this.

On a completely different note, by order of the Grand Master of the Grand Council, the Grand Secretary/Recorder developed a very detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2019, 2020, and 2021 years with an option for 2022 and 2023. This RFP was distributed to the Visitor and Convention Bureaus in each major metropolitan area in the State of Missouri, the State Visitor and Convention Bureau, and to known or recommended (by grand officers) hotels. We received responses from 10 facilities, of which none met our requirements due to dates unavailable or a complete and total failure to respond to the designated minimum requirements. Following presentation of the results to all three grand lines, the responses of each entity, and some very lengthy and passionate discussion, the Grand Secretary/Recorder was authorized to negotiate with Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City (the only hotel who came close to meeting our requirements) to see if we could come to agreement on the failed terms. After months of negotiating and with the approval of all three grand lines, a final contract for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 years was agreed to and signed by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery. We did not win our request for the two following options years but I was offered a job by two convention bureaus.

The result of all of this, as excruciatingly painful as it was on this Grand Secretary/Recorder, was that the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery did its due diligence in developing a very detailed requirement, soliciting that requirement, reviewing all responses to the RFP, negotiating with a facility authorized by all three presiding grand officers and finally signing a contract for our grand sessions. We hope, on behalf of all three grand bodies, that we have officially and professionally represented our offices and the responsibilities bestowed upon us.

Now comes the time for consideration of what the future will hold for us. A new Super Committee consisting of two advancing line officers from each grand line will meet in August 2017 to start discussions of what future grand sessions will look like, and to start developing a new RFP for the follow-on years. The new RFP needs to be developed and distributed now if we hope to be able to shop new hotels and better rates, something that needs to be done no less than 5 years in advance – we are already behind the curve. If you have suggestions on what improvements can be made, please reduce your suggestions to writing and forward them to the Grand Secretary/Recorder’s office no later than August 1.

I thank RIC Russell S. Hanson, Grand Recorder, MIC William G. Snyder and MIC Todd A. Schulze for their advice and even legal counsel regarding the above process.
Finally, I am developing a presentation for the Region 3 York Rite Conference this fall which will address the administrative aspects of a Secretary/Recorder. I am very pleased to have been asked and I feel that this program will be most useful to all Secretaries/Recorders. I encourage all who can to attend.

Fraternally and Most Respectfully submitted,
Kevin B. Sample, HPGHP, Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

STATISTICS

Number of Chartered Chapters 45
Number of Members, December 31, 2015 2813
Number Exalted 62
Number Affiliated 31
Number Reinstated 7
Total Gains 100
Number Dimitted 34
Number Suspended for Un-Masonic Conduct 1
Number Expelled 2
Number Suspended by Lodge 7
Number Suspended by Chapter NPD 98
Number Died 114
Total Losses 256

Total Members, December 31, 2016 2657
Net Loss 165

FINANCIAL RECAPITULATION
Through May 31, 2017

(Not Available at Time of Printing)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Chapter Location</th>
<th>Chapter Name</th>
<th>Charter Date</th>
<th>Chapter No.</th>
<th>Chartered By</th>
<th>Chapter President</th>
<th>Vice President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>St. Louis St. Louis</td>
<td>Missouri St. Louis</td>
<td>October 16, 1814</td>
<td>23-7526764</td>
<td>John W. Swell, III</td>
<td>2nd Wed in March</td>
<td>1st Mon in Dec</td>
<td>2nd Thu in Jan</td>
<td>3rd Wed in Jan</td>
<td>171st Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Grand Session</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>1st Tuesday</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>4th Monday</td>
<td>4th Tuesday</td>
<td>5th Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Credit for Remissions</td>
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<td>19. Remissions, Inability to Pay</td>
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<td>18. Total Per Capita and Fees</td>
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<td>17. 2015 Debits</td>
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<td>16. Per Capita</td>
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<td>15. Exaltation Fees</td>
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<td>13. Total Losses</td>
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<td>11. Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues</td>
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<td>10. Suspension by Lodge</td>
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<td>08. Suspension for UnMasonic Conduct</td>
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<td>06. Total Mbrship After Additions</td>
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## Preliminary 171st Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter
### June 8, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Missouri</th>
<th>2016 Debits</th>
<th>2016 Credits</th>
<th>Total All Payments</th>
<th>Date 2nd Payment</th>
<th>2nd Payment</th>
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**Note:** The table contains detailed financial information for the Grand Chapter, including debits, credits, total payments, and amounts owed for various chapters and members. The data spans from 2016 to 2017, with specific focus on credit for 50-year remissions and 50-year members. The table is structured to provide a clear view of the financial transactions and obligations for the period in question.
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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, The Committee on Education would like to thank MEC John W. Siscel, III 2016-2017 for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter as members of this committee. At this time, there were no changes made to the Distinguished Chapter Award Form for the 2017-2018. All chapters are reminded that parts of the DCA are mandatory, and must be completed on or before the dates listed in order for the award to be considered.

Distinguished Chapter Award winner for 2016-2017

Gold Level 1000 points and up:

Kansas City Chapter No. 28 ......................... Richard Alan Riepe ............................... 2054 points
Keystone Chapter No. 146 ......................... Ronald Hartoebben ............................... 1230 points
Independence Chapter No. 12 .................... Donald MacCormick ............................ 2015 points
West Plains Chapter No. 108 ...................... Andrew Dawson ................................. 1210 points
Liberty Chapter No. 3 ............................... Joseph S. Russell .............................. 1095 points
Columbia Chapter No. 17 ........................... Curtis Rickman ................................. 1000 points

We would like to congratulate these chapters for their efforts to further the cause of Royal Arch Masonry. A monthly education program was submitted to all chapters that had e-mail addresses associated to their chapter. No feedback has been obtained from any of the chapters as of yet. It was later discovered that due to e-mail problems, January 2017 to May 2017 had been automatically filed to the Chairman’s Outbox rather than being sent to subordinate chapters. I am sorry for this computer glitch and it has been corrected for future editions.

Fraternally submitted,
W. Larry Wilson, Chairman
Mark Schmidt
Tom G. Cupples
Christopher Tilley

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS OF CHAPTERS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

Companions, on May 20, 2019 your Committee on Returns of Chapters obtained the information in this report. We DID NOT physically examine the returns but received the information from Debbie Hanson, Grand Secretary's Assistant.

As of this date there are 42 Chapters. There were 32 Returns in on time. The 10 that are late were assessed penalties.
- Lone Star Chapter No. 20 was pulled.
- West Plains Chapter No. 108 was reopened.
- Sedalia Chapter No. 18 consolidated with Lexington Chapter No. 10.

There were a couple of Chapters whose Secretary’s deaths may have prevented a timely filing of their Returns.

NOTE: All Chapters need to make sure their Secretaries are computer literate as we move forward with MMS.

Fraternally submitted,
Robert L. Schmidt
Phillip W. Engel Chairman

Terry R. Struse

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF TRIENNIAL COMMITTEE

(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

Roy N. Thomas, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Companions, the committee has determined that the Grand Session for 2018 will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City Missouri on June 4, 2018 thru June 10, 2018.

Fraternally submitted,
Ronald L. Barrett, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

REPORT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

The Committee reviewed the current practices of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary and followed a couple items from the start to finish. The procedures that are followed are precise and kept with many checks to maintain accuracy.

The storing of off-site copies is a safeguard and one that is in practice.

The investments are such that Chapter monies are not in danger and investments are not in danger.

The Committee’s direction in this examination was with regard to the creditability of the offices of the Grand Secretary and Grand Recorder and not to specific dollars and cents.

It is recognized that the policies, practices and documentation of these Officers often do not follow exact accounting procedures, it also recognized that they are acceptable.

While this committee did the best it could with the experience it holds, it would be recommended that at some time and with adequate funds to hire an outside firm, to make an exact audit.

Fraternally submitted,
James L. Woodfin, Jr., Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHARITY

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

The Committee, per discussion with the Grand Treasurer, recommends we will donate $500.00 to each youth group next year.

Fraternally submitted,
Harley L. Kropf, Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Companions, this year we had fourteen (14) new companions that purchased an Endowed Membership. As of this writing we have a total of 628 members. This gives us a total value of $143,224.07 for the year. We currently have 391 living and 228 deceased endowed members.
That means Chapters are receiving from 228 deceased members’ monies that they normally would not be receiving.

I want to thank MEC Trabue for his dedication in all his endeavors to keep this fund running on the plus side and distributing funds to Chapters that are due funds.

I thank the committee for all their help, after our meeting we have come up with a payment plan which I will discuss at the Grand session. Any questions feel free to call me.

Fraternally submitted,
Thomas T Herek PHP Chairman

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND MASTER’S ROYAL ARCH CLASS

(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

Jack E. Timmons, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSOURI/ILLINOIS JOINT ROYAL ARCH CLASS

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Companions, the Illinois/Missouri Joint Royal Arch Class was held in Franklin Chapter No. 8, Alton, Illinois on August 20, 2016, with the following slate of officers.

Missouri Chapter Opening:
High Priest ...................... Dennis Hammack
King ................................. John Siscel
Scribe ............................. Kyle Palacios
Treasurer ......................... Leroy Jennings
Secretary ......................... Kevin Weaver
Principal Sojourner ............. David Leirer
Captain of the Hosts ............ Jerry Miles
Royal Arch Captain ............ Jim Woodfin
Master of the 3rd Veil .......... Clifford Wofford
Master of the 2nd Veil .......... Loren Lloyd
Master of the 1st Veil .......... Mike Stevens
Chaplain ............................ Roy Gilkey
Sentinel and Team Coordinator... Mike Dodd

Mark Master (West of Hwy 63 Team)
Right Worshipful Master ...... Jack Timmons
Senior Warden .................... Ron Beatty
Junior Warden .................... Leroy Jennings
Secretary ........................... Kyle Palacios
Marshal ............................. Bobby Smith
Senior Deacon ........................ Loren Lloyd
Junior Deacon ........................ Bill Sherman
Master Overseer .................. John Toyington
Senior Overseer .................... Will Woolsey
Junior Overseer .................... Dennis Hammack
Lecture and Charge .............. Willie Woolsey
Past Master (East of Hwy 63 Team)
Right Worshipful Master........... Bill Humble
Senior Deacon..........................Phillip Carey
Senior Warden..................Cliff Wofford
Junior Deacon .................Don Vandegriffe
Treasurer.........................Mike Stevens
Chaplain..............................Jerry Miles
Secretary............................ Kyle Palacios
Charge.....................................Jerry Miles

I would like to express a very special Thanks to MEC John Siscel for this opportunity and even more to those above who displayed the work of the craft with precision and skill making this a very successful day.

I would now like to announce the time and place for the next Missouri / Illinois Joint Royal Arch Class will be hosted by Webster Groves Masonic Temple, 12 East Lockwood, St. Louis, MO on November 18, 2017.

Thank each of you again for your dedication to the craft.

Fraternally submitted,
Mike Dodd, Regional Grand Lecturer East

Action Taken:  Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES
(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

Clifton W. Wofford, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RITUAL
(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

Jack E. Timmons, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ROYAL ARCH MASON MAGAZINE
(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

Roy L. Gilkey, Chairman
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

(No Report Available at Time of Printing)

John C. Kuehn, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS/INTERNET

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Companions, this year the Grand York Rite web site underwent yet another complete makeover and background rebuild under the design and engineering of our web master. We again continue to update our social media notifications. We extend to VEC Donald MacCormick our most sincere appreciation for his hard work and dedication.

We encourage everyone to “subscribe” to the Grand York Rite email distribution list and Like us on Facebook so you can receive the timeliest notices.

The Calendar of Events is open to everyone to post their events of import, Official Visits by Grand Officers, and especially degree work, all of which will be moderated and if approved by the committee members, posted usually in less than 24 hours.

There are a number of very useful forms and documents located under the Document Library which I would direct everyone to. If you find something missing, let me know and we will bring it up to date and post it for everyone’s use.

Fraternally submitted,
Kevin B. Sample, Chairman
Donald MacCormick, Web Master
Kyle R. Palacios
Aaron M. Shoemaker

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Strategic Plan 2017

Intro:
• As the Holy Royal Arch is the symbolic completion of the Master Mason Degree, so, is the Royal Arch, or Capitular Masonry, the premier Masonic Organization beyond the Craft.
• It is dedicated to helping each individual Mason achieve his fullest potential.

Our Mission:
• To empower Royal Arch Chapters to effectively communicate Ancient Craft Masonry so that Master Masons will seek to become… Royal Arch Masons

Our Values:
• Royal Arch Masons are zealously committed to improvement in Masonic Knowledge.
• As Ancient Craft Masons, companions of the Royal Arch support their Craft Lodge.
• Royal Arch Masons support the York Rite of Freemasonry- and guard their heritage.

Our Vision:
• To keep Royal Arch Masonry a relevant and respected part of Freemasonry in Missouri.
• As an extension of the Craft Lodge it proudly completes the symbolism and teachings of the Master Mason Degree.

Our Priorities:
• A forward-looking Grand Chapter, well-governed, well-managed and fiscally sound, with programs that support Royal Arch Chapters in their primary objectives.
• Support for the Royal Arch Research Assistance (RARA) and its charities.
• Commitment to York Rite Unity, and to strong and effective Councils and Commanderies.
• Strong vital and effective Royal Arch Chapters.
• Partnership between Royal Arch Chapters and Craft Lodges.
• Effective Conferral of the degrees of the Chapter.
Strategic Initiatives:

- Identify and Eliminate our Weaknesses.
- Improve and Increase our Strengths.

Weakness: Fiscal Responsibility and Security

Proposed Resolution

- ‘Cost of Business’ per capita increase
- Based on number of Dues paying Companions
- Begins Year One - When current budget is balanced
- Benefits to basing budgetary items on revenue from dues and endowment paying members
- Allows Finance Committee to pass or not pass each increase as needed. While using membership numbers as a protocol, per capita could actually go down.

Weakness: Lack of Dynamic Database

Proposed Resolution

- The stronger the database, the stronger we are!
- Numerous Benefits of a Dynamic Database- Plans underway!
- DDGHP’s to Complete New and Updated Audit Sheets
- Begins Year One, with Grand Secretary’s New MMS Database update

Weakness: Falling Membership

Proposed Resolution

- Commitment and Relationship with Craft Lodge Member to Member Program
- Support of Masonic Youth Groups- Strength for them is promise for OUR future!
- Continued Commitment to GHP Coin Fund to support Youth
- Regional Ritual Support Teams
- Regional Mentoring Support Teams
- Begins Year One with Development, Implemented in Year Two, Task Education and Youth Committees to Develop Program
**Biggest Weakness:**

Afraid of Change! Especially for the better!

**Strengths:**

- Core Membership Commitment
- Small in number, big on Action
- Leadership

Fraternally submitted,
Kyle Palacios – Chairman, Grand RAC  
Ron Barrett – Grand King  
Jerry Miles – Grand Scribe  
David Leirer – Grand Principal Sojourner  
Dan Daniels – Grand Captain of the Host

**Action Taken:** Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON YORK RITE CONFERENCES**

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri

Companions, all York Rite Conferences were completed exponentially and on time by the first week in October 2016. Most DDGHP’s communicated with the Chairman as to program protocol and success. Most were well attended and received!

Fraternally submitted,
Kyle Palacios, Chairman

**Action Taken:** Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other