

The Quadrant

Your Guide to New Jersey's York Rite



February, 2017

Dear Companions and Sir Knights:

Valentine's Day brings visions of Cupid with his bow and arrow shooting at unsuspecting people. They are going about their daily routine, doing their usual tasks, not thinking about love, and then – TWANG! Cupid's arrow hits them, and all they can think about is love. They are blindly in love with someone, thinking about them, learning about them, going out of their way to please them.

Masonry's symbols and allegory are like Cupid's arrow. You're going through the day, doing your job, or reading the paper, or rounding errands, not thinking about Masonry, and then – RAP! You see a gavel, an archway, a triangle, or maybe even a sword, and some part of your brain reacts to that image as a Masonic symbol.

You are reminded of the emotions and wishes that brought you into Masonry, the search for more Light that lead you to the York Rite, and the ardent desire to better yourself that made you become an active member of our time honored institution. The symbol itself recalls to your inner self the Masonic meaning hiding behind the veil of allegory which parted for you in that moment.

When that happens, savor the moment! Take the time to thank the G.A.O.T.U. for the blessings you have received: friends, family, a free country, and Freemasonry. Contemplate the symbol and what it means to you. As you return to your allotted tasks, remember that you are a Mason. Always act walk, and conduct yourself as such before the S.A.O.T.U. and man.

Later, share that moment with someone you love and/or respect, to expand its effect on both of you. Attend a meeting of the group whose symbol you saw. Talk about it with the Brother, Companions, and Sir Knights. Remind them to be open to these moments themselves, so that the Light will grow in them too.

Light is stronger when reflected. The candle placed in from of a mirror does not burn any brighter, but the light is multiplied without hurting the candle.



Fraternally,

Richard A. Hammill

Right Eminent Grand Commander 2016



Douglas R. Policastro
Most Excellent Grand High Priest 2016



Mark E. Megee
Most Illustrious Grand Master 2016

Editor: Comp. & S.K. John D. Barnes, **MEPGHP**, **MIPGM**, **REPGC**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Reservations for any dinner should be made with the contact person for that dinner.

OV = Official Visit PV = Personal Visit GO = Grand HP/M/C Only IO = Information Only

| Date | Event | Who | Place | Dinner | Time | Contact |
|-------------|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| 02/04 | Council of TIMs | T.I.M.s | Westfield | | 10:00AM | CK Leverett |
| 02/04 | Convocation of Anointed High Priests | High Priests | Westfield | | 1:00PM | Michael DeMiro |
| 02/13 | York Rite Program (PV) | Durand Lodge | Pt. Pleasant | 6:30PM | 7:30PM | G. Roger Woodman |

Always inform the local body that you will be attending, especially if a dinner is provided.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| CK Leverett | gcramnj@gmail.com |
| Michael DeMiro | mdemiro@comcast.net |
| G. Roger Woodman | GWood40889@1791.com |

Capitular and Cryptic “Chair” Degrees

On Saturday February 4th the Convocation of the Anointed High Priests and the Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters will hold their annual meetings. The Council will open at 10AM, and the AHP at 1:00PM, as noted in the Calendar above. These meetings will be held at the Mason Temple in Westfield. No lunch will be served between the two sessions.

The Council of T.I.M.s confers their Degree on installed and on Past TIMs who have not previously received it. Your Council’s Recorder should contact R.I. Michael DiMiro, and verify your eligibility. There is a small fee, which covers the jewel you will receive.

Similarly, the AHP confers their Degree on installed and on Past High Priests who have not previously received it. Your Council’s Secretary should contact R.E. CK Leverett, and verify your eligibility. There is a small fee, which covers the jewel you will receive.

All Companions who have received either of these Degrees is encouraged to attend their conferrals next month, and show support for both the new members and for the Grand Chapter and Grand Council.

York Rite Program

On Monday February 13th, a program on the York Rite will be given by M.E. Douglas R. Policastro, MEGHP, M.I. Mark E. Megee, MIGM, and S.K. Richard A. Hammill, REGC at Durand Lodge, No 179. The Lodge is located at 911 Richmond Avenue, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742. The Worshipful Master has indicated that he plans to call for the program shortly after the opening of the Lodge, so set your travel plans accordingly.

This is a Personal Visit for all three Grand Bodies, but all York Rite Masons are welcome to attend. Please remember to notify the Lodge Secretary, S.K. G. Roger Woodman, if you plan to attend the dinner prior to the meeting.

Save the Date

The Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, the Annual Assembly of our Grand Council, and the Annual Conclave of our Grand Commandery will be held on March 3-5, 2017.

Due to the Crowne Plaza closing for repairs, we will be at the Clarion Hotel, Route 37 East, Toms River. Please see the forms on the websites for more information and the reservation form.

Present and Past Commanders who wish to join the Order of Knights Preceptor should contact S.K. Scott Gothe, VEDGC, at scottgothe@gmail.com for a petition; please note that membership is by unanimous secret ballot.

Those Companions and Sir Knights who wish to attend the Leadership Seminar "So you think you're ready for the East" should make a reservation with S.K. John D. Barnes, at johnmaple196@optonline.net. This seminar is open to all York Rite Masons, but preference will be given to Dais Officers if necessary.

The Cryptic Masons' Charity

The Cryptic Mason Medical Research Foundation (CMMRF) was incorporated in the state of Oklahoma in March, 1986. The foundation funds research at the Indiana University's School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana. During the 2001-2002 term, the research lab became a center of vascular biology and medicine, expanding its scope outward from a primary focus on atherosclerosis, which is a disease of the arteries characterized by the deposition of plaques of fatty material on their inner walls.

Because blood vessels are important in maintaining the health or repair of almost all living tissue, practically all diseases turn out to have a vascular component in their origin or the remediation. Diabetes, stroke, poor circulation, wound healing, and many other diseases share the common denominator of blood vessels. Centering our contributions to an organization that addresses so many different health concerns, both nationally and internationally, allows us to share in the medical advances of many different disciplines.

M.I. Mark E. Megee has appointed R.I. Newlin Williams, Grand Captain of the Guard, to head this year's charity effort. Also, the proceeds from the sale of M.I. Megee's lapel pin will be donated to CMMRF at the Annual Assembly in March, 2017. You can wear your pin with pride, both as a Cryptic Mason of New Jersey and as a supporter of CMMRF. **The pins also make wonderful gifts for newly greeted Companions!**

M.I. Megee has requested a change in the way the Councils have been making donations. On his OV's and throughout the year, if the Council's check is made payable to CMMRF instead of the Grand Council, the Council will receive the proper recognition from General Grand Council. M.I. Megee wants to ensure that the Councils themselves get credit for their donations. Moneys raised by the sale of pins should continue to be remitted to the Grand Council, with "CMMRF" in the memo line of the check.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BUY A PIN OR MAKE A DONATION TO CMMRF!