



Michael F. Robbins, REGC
GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

April 2020

www.indianaknightstemplar.com

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Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies,

“You never know how strong you are, until being strong is your only choice..” – Bob Marley

2019-2020 Indiana Grand Commandery Officers:

Michael F. Robbins	Grand Commander
Edward E. Fodrea	Deputy Grand Commander
Thomas D. Johnson	Grand Generalissimo
Phillip D. Whisner	Grand Captain General
David Miller, Sr.	Grand Prelate
Robert J. Frazer, PGC	Grand Treasurer
George A. Ingles, Jr. PGC	Grand Recorder
Randal P. Ellington	Grand Senior Warden
Randy W. Spaulding	Grand Junior Warden
Randy J. Darling	Grand Standard Bearer
Joseph L. Sparks	Grand Sword Bearer
Rex A. Goodman	Grand Warder
Jonathan M. McCracken	Grand Sentinel

Happy Birthday!!!
April Birthdays:



Lady Joanna Bowling, wife of Charles R. Bowling
Lady Arlene Davis, widow of Stanton L. Davis
Lady Dawn De Bolle, wife of Victor C. De Bolle
Lady Shawna Diakis, wife of Dion Diakis
Lady Rita Gray, wife of Larry E. Gray
Lady Linda Hill, wife of Lewis Hill
Lady Mary Jackson, wife of Andrew R. Jackson
Lady Wanda Kehrer, wife of Terry L. Kehrer
Lady Kelley Miller, wife of David L. Miller II
Lady Virginia Prairie, wife of Jeff Prairie
Lady Darlene Ramsay, wife of Marvin J. Ramsay
Lady Patty Smith, wife of Carson C. Smith
Sir Knight Patrick Baird
Sir Knight David M. Bertch
Sir Knight John B. Coleman

Sir Knight Carl Dykman
Sir Knight Virgil G. Humphrey
Sir Knight Sean Jones
Sir Knight Andrew R. Jackson
Sir Knight George D. Kivett, Jr.
Sir Knight Brian C. Lewis
Sir Knight Alan L. Martinez
Sir Knight Thomas C. Patterson
Sir Knight Jeff Prairie
Sir Knight Ronald E. Snell
Sir Knight H. Fred Smith
Sir Knight Matthew E. Trice
Sir Knight John Tuttle
Sir Knight Dennis R. York



Happy Anniversary!!!
April Anniversaries:

Andrew & Julie Bowman
Don & Mickey Borchert
Marty & Mary Jane Evens
Stephen & Margaret Kroman
Don & Jill Laudeman
Max & Wilma Maupin

Glenn & Debra Moulton
Don & Nina Olvey
Lawrence Wayne & Linda Sue Ravellette
Keith & Gloria Spurgeon
Bradley & Patricia Wooten

Let us celebrate with you!

Send me your birthday and anniversary so you can be included in the newsletter.

monipaints4u@yahoo.com



**GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF INDIANA**



Bulletin No. 14 Robbins

March 19, 2020

Postponement of Grand Conclave

Sir Knights, all,

In recent days we have all be inundated with information regarding the Coronavirus, how contagious it is, and how serious the effects can be, possibly even resulting in death. With those thoughts in mind and after careful consideration I have made the following decision:

The Indiana Grand Conclave, scheduled to be held in Muncie, Indiana on April 24-25, 2020 is at this time postponed to a future date.

Take note that this is a postponement and not a cancellation.

As soon as possible, the Grand Conclave will be rescheduled. You will be notified as soon as that date is available. Those with room reservations for any hotel should insure that they are canceled. Meal reservations will be refunded. Those who used PayPal need to initiate the refund process.

As stated in a previous bulletin, the health and welfare of our membership is of the utmost importance.

Take care of yourself and your families during this troubled time.

Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of March, A.D. 2020, A.O. 902.

Michael F. Robbins, Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

George A. Ingles, Jr., KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder





Drill Team Competition

The 2020 Drill Team Competition will be held at Grand Conclave. So far, three teams have begun to practice for the competition: Raper #1, Baldwin #2, and Greenfield #39.

This year's Drill Team Competition will include a Pass and Review at the end of the Competition. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Bill Short at wm.short@att.net.

Drill Team Competition and Ritual Competition will rescheduled.

If you use some of your unexpected time at home to brush up on your Ritual work, and would like to enter, please contact Ed Fodrea.



Ritual Competition

Indiana will be holding its first Ritual Competition at Grand Conclave. Sir Knights will have the opportunity to compete in the Junior Warden's Address, the Prelate's Address or the Ode to the Skull. You may compete in the Drill Team Competition and the Ritual Competition. If you are interested in competing, contact Ed Fodrea at hfa.phd1@gmail.com.

March 19, 2020

Companions and Sir Knight's,

After much consideration and our consulting with the Horizon Convention Center, our combined Grand Sessions are being postponed until further notice. We will be paying close attention to the President and the Governor of Indiana for policies regarding the COVID-19 a.k.a Corona Virus as to when it will be appropriate to reschedule our event.

If you have reserved a room on Wednesday or Sunday, you will need to contact the hotel to cancel it as it is outside the block of dates we had blocked.

We have no idea when this problem will be solved, and we can get back to normal.

The Convention Center and the Hotel have canceled our sessions for April 23/25, 2020, and that we will be in contact with both to reschedule a new date for the event. Hopefully you will have at least a thirty-day notice of when the event will be scheduled. George is getting ready to send all checks back that are not cashed and writing checks to those that have already paid. If you chose PayPal you will have to contact them to get your money reimbursed.

We are sorry for this inconvenience, but this health issue leaves us no choice. We are doing our best to protect the membership.

We will be posting the new date for the Grand Sessions as soon as possible with adequate time to make your plans to attend.

Fraternally;
David R. Ulrich, MIGM



March 17, 2020

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest Archie R. Smallwood has issued the following Directive:

I am authorizing this letter of notice to the Companions of all Chapters within the State of Indiana and any and all those who were to attend our Grand Chapter Convocation, which was scheduled for April 3rd and April 4th 2020, advising them I have postponing the Grand Chapter Convocation until at least May 18th, 2020, or later depending on the restrictions put forth by the President of the United States, The Governor of Indiana, and suggestions of the Grand Master of Indiana, and especially for the health of all our Companions who were anticipating attending our Grand Chapter Convocation. We will review the circumstances of this virus outbreak on or before May 18th, 2020 and will advise all, the date we may be looking at for our Annual Convocation. Our Primary responsibility is to the health of our Companions and we understand that, as we pray for their health during this time of turmoil of the epidemic.

It is further ordered that all R.A.M. Chapters under the authority of the Grand Chapter will not meet due to the measures we must take to assure the health of our Companions during the same time period. However, the local chapters may pay necessary bills without a vote of the Chapter.

If any Companion has paid in advance for the Grand Convocation as to registration or degrees this will be refunded to them in whole, in a timely manner. we regret that these measures must be taken, but for the good of the Companions we serve we must and will look out for their best interest and health.

Looking forward we pray for good news from the CDC about this virus and lifting of regulations so we may get on with our business for the good of the Royal Arch Masons of Indiana.

With this confusion of displacement of moving our Grand Chapter Convocation I am giving my permission to the Right Excellent Grand King, Companion Steve Maxwell the go ahead to appoint his appointed officers and to set in place any and all appointments he would have made. The current Elected Grand Officers will remain in office until the Grand Convocation when we will be relieved of our duties as the new officers are elected and installed. We are working with the hotel for a future Convocation date and time, which will be announced when established. To all Companions, during this time of confusion, my Prayers will be for your health and my hope is that each one of you will be praying for each other with the help and mercy of Almighty God we work through this.

Fraternally,
Companion Archie R Smallwood, MEGHP
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons
State of Indiana

Attested by:
Wesley K Phillips REGS



March 13, 2020

Dear Brothers All:

The Grand Lodge of Indiana had been closely monitoring the quickly changing developments related to the pandemic outbreak of Corona Virus (Covid-19). We have been observing the suggestions and directives of the World Health Organization and are now in consideration of our Members and their families I am suspending all Masonic activities until the end of April. This included all Area Conferences, Treasurer and Secretary Conferences, rededications, dedications and Lodge meetings. Memorial services should be done and attended as is necessary and appropriate per the Worshipful Master.

During this time the Worshipful Master and the Lodge will not be penalized for not have a meeting, but many things can still be accomplished as far as the business side is such as Annual Reports and the Grand Master's Award are concerned. The officers should communicate and do any business as necessary through any means possible. The Annual Communication registration and event on May 19, 2020 will continue as planned.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or contact myself, Richard J. Elman, the Grand Secretary or the Grand Lodge office. This is not a time to panic but is a time to be vigilant about the health and safety of you, your family and your Lodge Members. Most importantly, remember your Masonic vows and support your Brothers and their families in the spirit of Freemasonry through this unprecedented situation.

We will continue with updates as they become available and hope to do so weekly. Stay health my Brother and God Bless!!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Kenneth Roy, Jr.
Grand Master

Richard J. Elman, PGM
Grand Secretary



Brothers All:

Please understand that the Corona Virus message from the Grand Master is addressed to Grand Lodge functions and the subordinate Lodges. The appendant, dependent and non affiliated organizations have leadership that should decide on the fitness of meetings or gatherings based on the available information. The previous correspondence did not intend to influence or incumber the other organizations under or related to Indiana Freemasonry.

Please use your best judgement and information available going forward.
Rick

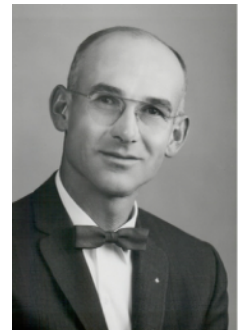
Precious Savior, We bring our hearts to you. We are deeply troubled, but we trust in you. You created us, your Holy and beloved children to be in community together. You created us to laugh and sit together. You created us to live closely with each other. We find ourselves now unable to stand next to each other, shoulder to shoulder as we were created, and you have commanded us to do. We find we must leave a gap. Come, Lord Jesus and fill the gap between us. Fill it with your grace, your mercy, and your protection. Fight this battle for us, with us; so that every person is drawn closer to you, so they every person glorifies you. We are in the time when we remember the sacrifice of Your Son Jesus. We remember the winter of unknowns between the grave and the resurrection. We call on you now. Remind us of the glorious resurrection, and the beautiful spring that follows it. Remind us this may last for the night, but the joy will return again. We are not abandoned. We are not destroyed. We honor your name and give you our adoration. AMEN



By Christine Fodrea

Floyd P. Jenni, 94, of Lewistown, passed away quietly in his sleep on Jan. 27, 2020, after a long and happy life. He was a devoted member of Masonic organizations, holding local and/or state offices in Friendship Lodge #39, the York Rite Chapter, Council, and Commandery, Scottish Rite, Al Bedoo Shrine, and Order of Eastern Star. He served as Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of MT in 1969-70. In 2015, he received the national Ephraim Kirby award for service beyond the normal boundaries of dedication.

See complete obituary at cloydfuneralhome.com



Charles (Chuck) Johnson, 80, of Chesterton, IN, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2020. Chuck proudly served his country in the United States Navy and was employed as an electrical engineer at the steel mill for many years. He was a member of Real Life Community Church of the Nazarene in Portage for several years. He was also a member of the Calumet Lodge No. 379 in Chesterton, where he was the past Grand Prelate Emeritus for the Grand Commandery. He was also a proud Knight Templar and was the past Deputy Governor of York Rite Sovereign College.

See complete obituary at ChestertonTribune.com

Too Much Time on Your Hands?



Your health and your family are your number one priority right now! After you take care of your obligations, do you find that you have some extra time on your hands?

While it seems everything is cancelled or postponed, what is your Lodge doing to stay in communication with each other? What is your Commandery doing? Are you having Committee meetings by email? Are you calling each other to talk about ideas? Are you making plans for later this year? Are you having video conferences? Are you at home reading through your Ritual?

Prather York Rite: "Pursuant to the orders of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the leaders of our Appendant Bodies, the Prather York Rite has completed its first online meeting using Zoom Video Conferencing, likewise, the next installment of the "Raising the Keystone" Masonic Education Series will be convened, online, on Monday, March 23, 2020."

Tell me what you're doing. I'll include it in the next newsletter so we can inspire each other.

monipaints4u@yahoo.com

Are you having Committee meetings by email?

Are you having social meetings online?

Are you thinking of new ideas to implement once life returns to normal?

Have you checked on the widows?

You know that elderly person that sits in your lodge that you've never had time to talk to? You have time now.



Have you tried having virtual meetings?

Do you have a member that is at higher risk and might need food or supplies?

EAST CENTRAL DEPARTMENT MEETING



The East Central Department Meeting was held in Ft. Wayne on Saturday, March 14th. There were leadership training classes held throughout the day. The leadership training is a three year program that is open to all York Rite Members and their ladies. If you are interested in attending next year, contact Lane Pierce at lane@ghizmo.com.



What can your Lodge do to Support Masonic Youth Groups? (continued)

16. Serve on an Advisory Council, Board, or Guardian Council.
17. Help a youth member learn a ritual part (their ritual is written, so you needn't know the part beforehand)
18. Provide help with costuming, makeup, floor-work, or rehearsal for degree conferrals.
19. Don't just wait for "problems" to communicate with your local group... send them a note when they do something right ("Thanks for leaving the kitchen so clean after your spaghetti dinner...")
20. Offer a professional skill or hobby that may be helpful to the group, or offer to teach them how to do it themselves.
21. Hold a joint social, athletic, or fundraising event with a chapter, or start an annual event (the "Bowling Challenge," for example).
22. Wear a youth group pin, t-shirt, or emblem to show your support, and be prepared to tell people what it is!
23. Sponsor a statewide competition held by one of the youth groups.
24. Offer to sponsor a new piece of ritual equipment or to replace or refurbish old equipment.
25. Put up flyers or brochures for youth groups in your lodge building, or in your place of business, if possible.
26. Include youth group leaders as invited "dignitaries" for public lodge events.
27. Read the "Masonic Youth Minutes" cover to cover!
28. Contribute to one of the many scholarship funds to assist Masonic Youth in furthering their education.
29. Be a mentor to local youth -take an interest in what they do.
30. "Brag" about positive experiences with Masonic youth to other Lodge members.
31. Attend a meeting of the advisory board/council for a youth group to get to know the advisors and their needs.
32. Read a book or take a "correspondence course" offered by the youth groups to learn more about them.
33. Sponsor the making of sports jerseys, jackets, t-shirts, or other "wearable PR" for a local group.
34. Say hello to everyone you see wearing a youth group emblem and identify yourself as a Mason. Encourage their involvement!
35. Include youth calendars or flyers in a Lodge mailing.
36. Post a schedule of youth events in a prominent area of your lodge building.
37. Offer the youth group space for a bulletin board in the lodge building to display photos and other memorabilia of events. Then keep up with the postings!
38. Hold a testimonial dinner for youth group leaders or members with notable accomplishments.
39. Put a youth group emblem on your car, and tell everybody what it is.
40. Offer to provide a Masonic education program, or program on your profession or hobby, at a youth group meeting.
41. Offer to bring refreshments for a youth group meeting.
42. Make a financial gift to the operating budget of a local youth group.
43. Offer Masonic service opportunities to youth, like "odd jobs" around the lodge building.
44. Invite youth to go with Lodge members to visit shut-in members or widows.
45. Find out about special needs in families of local youth, like medical needs, home repairs, etc. - and get your lodge involved in meeting that need.



See the complete list at: https://pamasonicyouth.blogspot.com/2020/02/101-things-you-and-your-lodge-can-do.html?spref=fb&fbclid=IwAR1Z58Cj437JxntS3buuJM56EH_wfuSyPdQK-RCWZh3ccbmgGkn2yZ7QMzk

What's Happening in Other Masonic Bodies...

Supporting and celebrating the accomplishments of others



Scottish Rite

Presenting the SPRS award to Illustrious Brothers Bill Munson and Bill Ludlow. And our brethren enjoying the annual table lodge. (The award is for having seen all of the Scottish Rite degrees at least twice.)

Source Scottish Rite Indianapolis Facebook

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Michael Williamson for receiving his Keystone Award recognizing new members who become actively involved. Michael is a member of Prather Chapter #157.

Source Prather York Rite Facebook



50 Years!

Hamilton Lodge #533 presented Brother Heller with his 50 year award courtesy of the Grand Lodge of California at their stated meeting this month. Brother Heller was joined by his family.

Source Hamilton #533 Facebook



Murat Shriners

Murat Spring Ceremonial was Amazing!!! On Saturday, March 7th, 54 new Nobles crossed the sands and secured their spot in Shrinedom for all future generations.

Source Murat Shriners Facebook



Shriners Hospital

The Shriners Hospital for Children in Lexington had a ribbon cutting ceremony for their brand new playground on Tuesday, March 10th. Look at those smiles!

Source Shriners Hospitals for Children Medical Center - Lexington Facebook



TriState Chapter/Council

The Chapter/Council degrees at TriState were held on March 29th at Jackson-Coolidge Lodge #17 in Michigan Center. There were 27 candidates that received the degrees.

The TriState Festival was featured in the local newspaper, The Herald Republican

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

LIFE

www.kpcnews.com THE HERALD REPUBLICAN

A3

Angola Masons participate in regional festival

ANGOLA — Angola York Rite Masons participated in the 47th annual Tri-State Festival to bring in new members, according to Paul Friend, local member.

The Tri-State Festival started in 1973 when active York Rite members from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan used the festival to bring new candidates into membership. The festival is held yearly on two Saturdays, the last Saturday in February and the first Saturday in March, to initiate Master Masons.

This year, the festival was held in Michigan Center, Michigan and Bryan, Ohio. The festival will be hosted in part by Angola in 2021. Candidates come from all three states — and this year eight Indiana members — were received into York Rite bodies from Angola, Elkhart and Fort Wayne, along with candidates from Michigan and Ohio, with a total of 27 new members. Lee Porter of Angola was one of the local members to join Angola York Rite.

York Rite is one of several appendant bodies of the Masonic Lodge. To join one must be a Mason and then petition or inquire

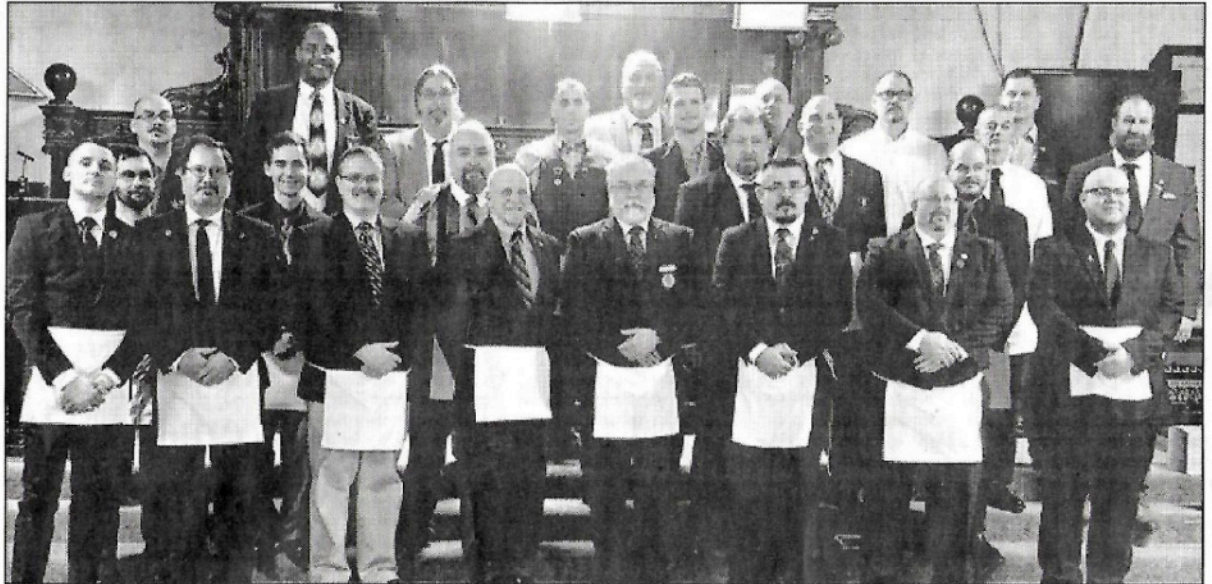


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Twenty-seven York Rite members were brought into membership at a recent Tri-State Festival held on Feb. 29 and March 7. Pictured are a portion of the candidates. The new members have joined York Rite bodies in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. The festival has been held annually since 1973.

from a current member of York Rite. Angola is one of the most active York Rite bodies in Indiana. The York Rite consists of three bodies — the Chapter, Council and Commandery. Each has their

own separate set of officers. Over the years Grand York Rite officers have included many from Angola.

Interested Masons who desire to join York Rite may inquire with any local

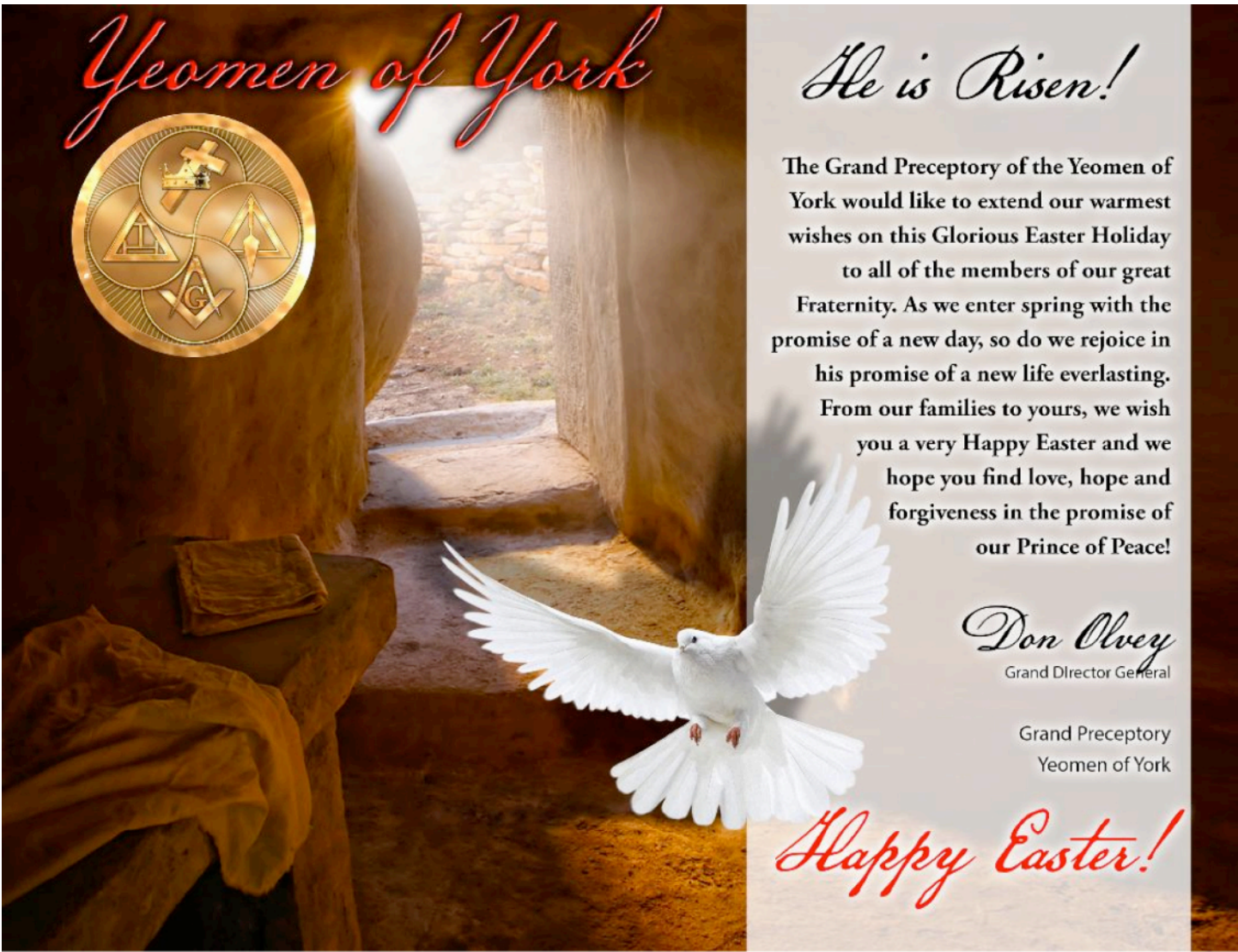
member. York Rite, as other Masonic organizations have their own special philanthropies such as research funds for auditory perception issues and vascular biology and sending Christian ministers to the

Holy Land.

“The work and degrees of York Rite Masons help teach lifelong lessons in the development of its members to improve themselves as they serve God, their country, their

neighbor and themselves,” said a news release from Angola’s chapter.

Several York Rite websites are available to learn more about their purposes and ideals.



He is Risen!

The Grand Preceptory of the Yeomen of York would like to extend our warmest wishes on this Glorious Easter Holiday to all of the members of our great Fraternity. As we enter spring with the promise of a new day, so do we rejoice in his promise of a new life everlasting. From our families to yours, we wish you a very Happy Easter and we hope you find love, hope and forgiveness in the promise of our Prince of Peace!

Don Olvey
Grand Director General

Grand Preceptory
Yeomen of York

Happy Easter!



Triennial

Are you looking for information about the General Grand Chapter's and General Grand Council's Triennial?

www.yrtriennial2020.com

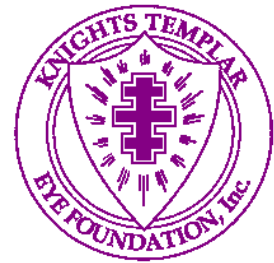
Social Order of the Beauceant



On March 15th, the Social Order of the Beauceant #90 held a meet and greet Tea at Hancock Lodge. It was a great opportunity to meet new ladies that might be interested in joining the Beauceant. It was a successful afternoon. Thank you to all who attended!

Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Some ways your donations are being used...



Doug Chung, Ph.D. awarded a \$65,000 research grant

Doug Chung, Ph.D., from Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA was awarded a \$65,000 research grant to get a better understanding of an inherited disorder in children that currently requires corneal transplantation.

Congenital hereditary endothelial dystrophy (CHED) is an inherited disorder of the corneal endothelium that is present at birth or early childhood and is characterized by corneal opacities, which significantly impair vision. Children affected with CHED often require corneal transplantation, which is currently the only method to treat CHED.

However, the worldwide shortage of donor corneas and postoperative complications present challenges to surgically treating children who are blind from CHED. Therefore, a clearer understanding of disease mechanisms that underlie CHED is needed in an effort to develop alternative treatments (e.g. gene based therapeutics) that will improve patient outcomes and decrease the dependence on donor cornea tissue.

The corneal endothelium is made up of a monolayer of endothelial cells that govern the transport of fluids across the back of the cornea, which is necessary for the maintenance corneal clarity. Mutations in the SLC4A11 gene have been identified in approximately 80% of screened CHED patients. The SLC4A11 gene encodes a membrane transporter that is hypothesized to be essential for corneal endothelial pump function, and potentially for other cellular functions.

As such, to better understand how mutations in SLC4A11 cause CHED, the first aim of this proposal is to elucidate the impact of CHED associated SLC4A11 mutations on various corneal endothelial cell functions. The second aim of this proposal is to examine the feasibility of SLC4A11 gene replacement therapy in treating CHED by determining whether or not introducing exogenous SLC4A11 in cell-based models of CHED will restore normal corneal endothelial cell transcriptional and functional profiles.



Source: KTEF Facebook Page

Presenting Dr. Chung with the check from Department II in California were Commander, Roger Ross also Grand Senior Warden and Adjutant Michael Sekera

Important Dates

Subject to Change

Postponed **Grand Chapter Grand Session**
The Seasons Lodge in Nashville, IN
IndianaRoyalArchMasons.org/events/175th-annual-convocation/

Canceled **Grand Commandery Easter Sunrise Bus Trip**

Postponed **Grand Council and Grand Commandery Grand Sessions**
Courtyard by Marriott Muncie at the Horizon Convention Center
601 S. High St. Muncie, IN 47305
See pages 20-22 of this newsletter for more information
or visit: IndianaKnightsTemplar.com

May 19-20 **Annual Communication - Grand Lodge of Indiana**
Scottish Rite, 650 N. Meridian, Indianapolis

This Month in History...

648 BC - Earliest solar eclipse recorded by the Ancient Greeks.

1614 - In Virginia, Native American Pocahontas married English colonist John Rolfe.

1633 - Galileo was convicted of heresy, for announcing that the Earth revolved around the Sun.

1865 - John Wilkes Booth fatally shot President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

1867 - The Alaska Purchase - the United States bought Alaska from the Russian Empire for \$7.2 million, in a treaty ratified by the U.S. Senate.

1912 - Titanic sank in the North Atlantic Ocean after hitting an iceberg the night before.

1933 - Prohibition in the United States was repealed for beer of no more than 3.2% alcohol by weight.

1955 - McDonald's opened its first franchised restaurant

1967 - The first Boeing 737 made its maiden flight.

1968 - Martin Luther King, Jr was assassinated by James Earl Ray in Memphis Tennessee.

1970 - Paul McCartney announced the breakup of the Beatles

1973 - The World Trade Center in New York is officially dedicated.

1992 - Pope John Paul II died.

1996 - Suspected "Unabomber" Theodore Kaczynski was arrested at his Montana cabin.

Source: popsulturemadness.com



Check out Indiana Grand Commandery's website

<http://indianaknightstemplar.com/>



Indiana Grand Commandery is on Facebook too!

<https://www.facebook.com/INGrandCommandery/>



What is your Commandery doing?

Community Service? Public event? Reception? Rededication?

Pancake Breakfast? Chili Dinner? Social Hour? Bowling?

New Sir Knights? 50 year award? Parades?

Important Dates to add to the Calendar?

Send me your pictures and your stories!

monipaints4u@yahoo.com

Edited by Lady Monica Peterson