



# GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL Organized October 24, 1797

## Words from the General Grand East April 2022

### Dear Companions,

The funeral took place on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem for a Jewish man from New York. He had lived a long life and died peacefully. Yet when his son read his eulogy, everyone had tears in their eyes. The son spoke about a man who was simple and poor. He spoke about how when he was younger, he was embarrassed by his father, but as he grew older, his respect for his father grew.

The son was sorry that he only came to appreciate his father when it was "too late" but was proud that he was continuing his father's legacy by raising his children in Jerusalem where they wouldn't have a luxurious life, but a meaningful one. The son concluded his eulogy: "Dad, you didn't have much to leave behind, but you left behind EVERYTHING that matters."

The Hebrew Scriptures say in Numbers 8:3, "*Aaron did so; he set up the lamps so that they faced forward on the lampstand, just as the LORD commanded Moses.*" God commanded the High Priest, Aaron and his sons to light the menorah, the seven-branched lamp in the Temple. God said that Aaron's descendants would light the menorah forever.

Question: Why highlight the menorah when there were many other duties that Aaron and his descendants would perform in the Temple? Another question: How was this "forever"? Didn't the lighting of the *menorah* cease after the Temples were destroyed?

Centuries later, under Greek oppression, Aaron's descendants would be the ones to defeat them. You see, his descendants were the Maccabees, and their victory is remembered every year on the holiday of Hanukkah. On that holiday, Aaron's descendants light their own menorahs, and that is how Aaron's descendants light the menorah forever!

The menorah and its lights represent spirituality, and lighting the menorah symbolizes spreading spirituality and the light of God in the darkness of this world. When God gave Aaron the job of lighting the menorah for eternity, He was telling him that through his family, God's light would be spread throughout the world and His legacy would be continued.

I've been delighted at New York and Alabama Grand Convocations, recently, to hear Masonic youth speak. It's a real joy to see light being passed to the next generation. You are making a difference each time you show Masonic light to the world around us.

Sharing God's light and passing it on to the next generation is the kind of contribution that lasts forever. It's not about how much we leave behind in this world; it's about leaving behind what matters the most.

Fraternally,  
Steven Tiner,  
General Grand High Priest,  
General Grand Chapter  
Royal Arch Masons International



# **King's Komments** By Teko Foly General Grand King

**April 2022**

**Dear Companions,**

April is beautiful time here in Washington DC from whence I greet you well. This is the time when every year, many visitors come from around the United States and abroad, to see and behold the Cherry Blossom event. The Vernal Equinox is traditionally the time for us to welcome spring and see mother Nature turn a new leaf after the dark and cold winter period. This is the time when Nature is breathing fully again, and we as human beings, attempt to emulate this great example of the rebirth in the beauty of the season. Furthermore, this is the time to reshape our goals, the time to renew our vision, the time to regrow our enthusiasm to achieve great things, the time to revolve to put in motion new efforts to sow new seeds of big dreams for ourselves and our society. This is the time to sow goodwill and harvest happiness This goes obviously for our intentions toward Freemasonry in general and our Royal Arch chapters. This is the time to manifest the blossoming of our bigger and better tomorrows from the seeding of enthusiasm toward what we set our goals to achieve in the near and far future. This is the time to create the reality of our future from the healthy optimism and positive thinking while the joy of spring is upon us. This is more than ever, the time to harmonize with Nature and learn to appreciate the beauty of life.



In the past month, I have visited with the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, Washington DC and participated in the East Central Regional Conference. The common theme I have observed is that we are all very happy to return to Masonic labors, Attendance in our chapters in returning to normal or even exceeding our expectation. Though we have sadly lost a number of companions through death and other casualties, many chapters and grand chapters are rowing in membership numbers with the process of initiation and exaltation into the chapters. These are not only from petitions that were held over because of the two years long pandemic, but also an observed growing interest in our royal art. This momentum will hopefully continue and be nourished by the extra efforts of each companion putting in the extra effort to grow freemasonry in quantity and more importantly in quality. We have the charge to be active architects of the success we set in our mind to create and foster for the future. This is the time to engage in growth.

In the meantime, please stay safe and stay blessed.

Sincerely and Zealously,  
*Teko A. FOLY*

General Grand King  
General Grand Chapter  
Royal Arch Masons International



# **SCRIBE'S SCRIBBLES** By Chadwick Burks General Grand Scribe

April 2022

Companions,

It is finally that time of year when all the individual state and province grand communications start rolling out. It is amazing to be seeing all the companions from around the world and across the US again, but quite honestly I'm not sure whether I'm coming or going and only partially sure of what time zone I'm currently in! However, that comes with the job being a GGC officer because it is very important to all the GGC officers that we visit as many companions as possible and do all within our power to assist them in every way. So be sure to get out there and attend your grand communication and your regional conference; there is so much great information that gets shared along with a lot of fun.



I am sure you are all aware of the recent events surrounding the Grand Encampment so there is no need to revisit them here. I will say, however, congratulations to Sir Knight David Kussman; your calm demeanor, levelheadedness, courage throughout extreme circumstances, and the loving and Christian manner with which you deflected so many slings and arrows has been an inspiration to us all.

Companions, regardless of how you feel about the Grand Encampment events, the critical thing to remember is that those events are in the past; our mission now is to learn from them, and more importantly, find a unified way forward. In my recent travels for GGC, I've heard grumblings from both sides of the aisle about the actions taken at the Special Conclave; most celebrate what was done, but there are still a significant number that are unhappy with the actions taken or how they were executed. Companions, remember that all Knights Templar are Royal Arch Masons first and foremost and only working as a team and a unified York Rite family can we rise above this.

## **It is time to heal.**

And we will heal by working together. If your fellow Companion or Sir Knight has a grievance or a differing opinion, hear him out with an open mind and talk about it. Communication in lieu of cowardice can solve so many problems. Even if you must agree to disagree, what matters is the path forward not the road behind us. These recent events dealt a serious blow to the York Rite as a whole but it can easily be overcome by doubling our efforts. What can YOU DO as an individual to make the York Rite more enjoyable? What can YOU DO as an individual to make the York Rite grow? What can YOU DO as an individual to make a disheartened brother feel better? If we all do great things as individuals, then we will succeed as a whole as the team continues to grow stronger and stronger. Brother Henry Ford (maybe you've heard of him?) very succinctly summarized this idea by saying, "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

## **So let's all move forward together.**

Again, Companions, let's get out there and go to our grand sessions and our regional conferences and spread the love of York Rite Masonry far and wide. Due to COVID, we've lost a lot of in person time that we need to make up, so let's do it! Honesty, passion, friendship, fellowship, and fun will make the York Rite grow and it is up to you to sow those seeds. I look forward to seeing you again soon, in person, and charge you to make our organization a success by remembering the words of Mother Theresa, "None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."

God Bless,  
Chadwick Burks  
General Grand Scribe  
Chadwick@YorkRiteVideos.org



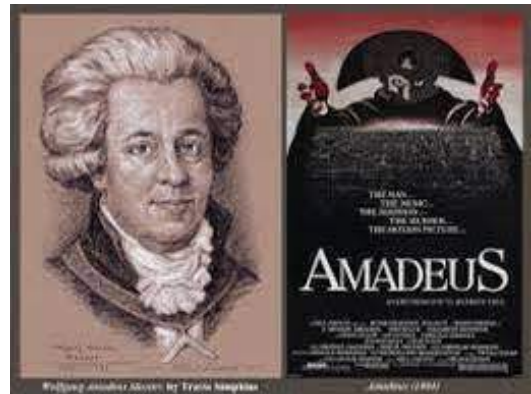
# DID JAH KNOW?

**April 4th** On this date in 1778, Voltaire was initiated in "Les Neuf Soeurs" Lodge in Paris. His conductors were Benjamin Franklin and Count Gebelin



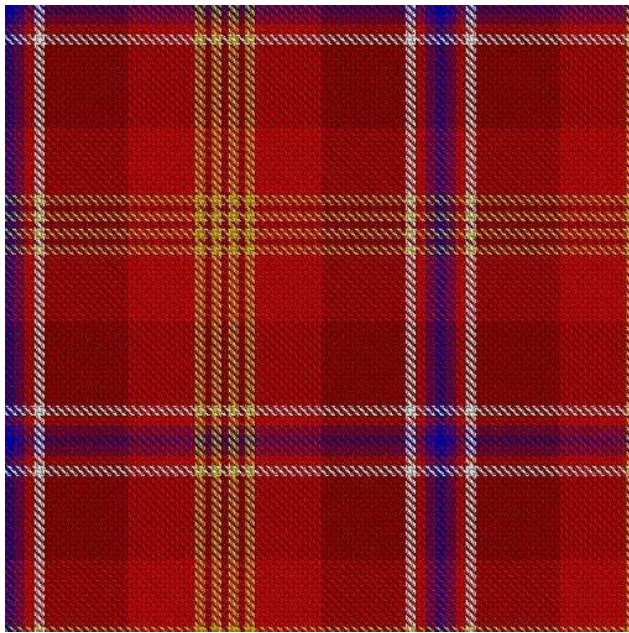
**April 21st** On this date in 1821 the Grand Lodge of Missouri was founded.

**April 22nd** On this date in 1785, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart received his 3rd degree.



Did you know we have a Facebook page? Please come check it out.

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



General Grand Chapter now has it's own, registered Tartan that is being made available in Kilt form to all Royal Arch Masons. There are accessories available and, after the initial Kilt order, there will be other items as well. Please go to <https://ggcrami-kilts.com> for more information and to order.

This effort is starting like a kickstart campaign. We need 26 kilt orders to get the process started, Once we get the initial orders, we'll be able to offer ties, vests and other tartan items.

Again, the link for the webpage is <https://ggcrami-kilts.com>

**If you have any questions after reviewing the page, please message Rod Waggoner, PGHP, Arizona.**

**[rod.waggoner@gainbroadband.com](mailto:rod.waggoner@gainbroadband.com)**



# Fielding questions about the Rite?

## WHAT ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IS

Founded in 1797, in Boston, Massachusetts, as a national organization, the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International now has jurisdiction over half the 7,000 Chapters in the world, including several provinces in Canada, the Grand Chapters of USA, Philippines, Germany, Italy, Portugal, and many chapters in Central and South America. Upon your exaltation as a Royal Arch Mason you will become a member of the oldest and largest rite of Royal Arch Masonry.

## WHO ROYAL ARCH MASONS ARE

One of the most fascinating aspects of Royal Arch Masonry has always been how so many men, from so many different walks of life, can meet together in peace, never have any political or religious debates, always conduct their affairs in harmony and friendship, and call each other brother. No Rite of Freemasonry covers the world so much as does Royal Arch Masonry. In every country of the earth, on every continent and on many isles of the sea, Will be found Royal Arch Chapters, eager and willing to receive their companions from other parts of the world into that full fellowship that characterizes Royal Arch Masonry.

## WHAT ROYAL ARCH MASONS BELIEVE IN

All Royal Arch Masons believe in one God and in respect for each other.

## WHAT ROYAL ARCH MASONS DO

Royal Arch Masonry contains some simple, plain statements of Truth, easily understandable and helpful in our relation to life. Lodge symbolism deals with lessons of the material side of life. The Chapter degrees, and particularly the Royal Arch, deal with the spiritual side of life. Upon your exaltation as a Royal Arch Mason you will become a member of the oldest and largest rite of Freemasonry. QUALIFICATIONS Royal Arch Masonry is the logical step for every Master Mason to take. If after becoming a Royal Arch Mason, you desire to continue your studies, you may take the Council Degrees and the Commandery Orders, both of which are illustrative of and carry forward the principles of the Royal Arch. Any Royal Arch Macon will eagerly propose your name as a candidate for the advancement in the mysteries of Freemasonry.

## THOSE WHO SEEK MEMBERSHIP

Anyone seeking Membership in the Royal Arch must sign a Petition, stating his age, occupation and place of residence. Members of the Chapter vote by ballot. To be accepted, the ballot must be unanimous.

## THE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

What has attracted so many Brethren to seek further light in Royal Arch Masonry?? The Royal Arch Degrees was considered most important in the early years of Freemasonry and so dogmatic was the Mother Grand Lodge - from which all Speculative Masonry derives - that in 1813, when the two grand lodges in England united, a firm and solemn landmark was adopted and placed in the Articles of Union to guide Masons throughout the world forever on this matter: "Pure Ancient Freemasonry consists of but three degrees, that of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." The Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry consists of four degrees, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.



# THINKING OUT OF THE BOX!!!!!!!



Once upon a time, a Missouri Royal Arch Mason had a dream – invite all Missouri Master Masons to experience the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees for free as an introduction to further light in Freemasonry and get their feet wet in the York Rite. This year, with the support of Companion and M.:W.:B.: Ty G. Treutelaar, Grand Master of Masons in Missouri, that dream came to fruition.

The Grand Master sent a personal invitation to all Missouri Master Masons either by email or snail mail. We received (to date) 132 petitioners. Regional degree teams were developed under the leadership of our Grand Lecturer to confer the MM and PM degrees in full ritualistic form. Over the past three months, in 15 different conferrals around the state, we conferred the Mark Master and Past Master degrees on 85 candidates, and an additional 3 have received the MM only. We have another 44 candidates signed up to receive both degrees at a future date. Those who received the first two degrees who chose to proceed through the Royal Arch were encouraged to petition their local chapters.

On Saturday, March 5, 2022, a Grand Master's Bicentennial Invitational Royal Arch Class was held in Webster Groves, MO to confer the MEM and RA degrees with over 60 Royal Arch Masons in attendance including the Grand Master and several Grand Lodge officers. We conferred the MEM degree on 42 Invitational candidates, and we conferred the RA degree on 44 Invitational candidates. Also, we performed courtesy work conferrals of the MEM and RA degrees on an additional 18 candidates for a total of 62 new Royal Arch Masons.

We could not be more proud of all the many Missouri Royal Arch Masons who worked so diligently to make this happen. We cannot thank the Grand Master enough for his support and encouragement.

I am so stoked about what lies ahead in Missouri Capitular Freemasonry.

Fraternally and Most Respectfully,  
Kyle R. Palacios, Grand High Priest, 2021-2022

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the  
State of  
Missouri



Most Excellent Master Degree Conferral, March 5, 2022, 60 Candidates



M.:E.:C.: Kyle R. Palacios, Grand High Priest  
Comp & M.:W.:B.: Ty G. Treutelaar, Grand Master



Royal Arch Degree Conferral, March 5, 2022, 62 Candidates



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## Royal Arch: Re-Building Temples to Re-Building our Bodies at MMRI

In the Royal Arch Degree, we learn about the assiduity and zeal of workmen who bring forward remarkable discoveries of the temple and bring the past alive. Today, Royal Arch Masonry has taken the lead in empowering researchers at the Masonic Medical Research Institute in Utica, NY to make remarkable discoveries about the temple that is the human body.

On February 11, 2022, Past General Grand High Priest Most Excellent Companion, Ted Harrison, and Most Worshipful Brother and Most Excellent Companion, Jeffrey Williamson, guided a delegation from the Grand Chapter of Brazil around the Masonic Medical Research Institute. Br. Anthony Cucci, Fraternal Relations and Development Associate at MMRI, along with Dr. Luana Nunes Santos, Postdoctoral Fellow at MMRI, who, herself, is originally from Brazil, guided them around the institute. The delegation from Brazil included Most Excellent João Guilherme Ribeiro, PGHP, Right Excellent Antonio Moreira, Grand King of Brazil Carlos Eduardo Moura, Grand Secretary Foreign Relations, Most Excellent Odilon Ayala, Regional Deputy of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International

The Institute first started out as the Masonic Foundation for Medical Research and Human Welfare in 1947, with a focus on rheumatic diseases. They provided funding to a number of external organizations including Cornell Medical Center and Mayo Center. The foundation was critical to the battle against hemolytic streptococcus. In 1958, the Foundation transitioned from being a grant making body to having its own laboratory on the grounds of the Masonic Care Community in Utica.

Taking a tour of the current facility was amazing! Using advanced electron microscopes, CRISPR technology, and gene sequencers, the research staff has been able to advance knowledge and understanding of the human heart, autism, Noonan Syndrome, and Autoimmunity. Research done at the Institute has resulted in numerous patents, and several of its projects are moving on to clinical trials. During COVID19, the lab helped to relieve the COVID19 testing pressure on local hospitals by conducting over 50,000 screening tests. Chances are if you or a loved one has had treatment for heart arrhythmia you have personally benefited from the research done at MMRI.

The research institute features medical researchers from Harvard, The University of Kansas, the University of Texas, Paris, University of Massachusetts, and other national leading universities. The setup of the Masonic Medical Research Institute allows for scholars to be able to move their research along more expeditiously than in traditional university settings.

The support of Royal Arch Masons can be seen throughout the research institute. Board rooms and conference rooms bear the names of Past Grand High Priests, there are endowed chairs named for prominent Royal Arch Masons, and the courtyard itself is named for Past

General Grand High Priest Ted Harrison. The New York Grand Chapter of Royal Arch sponsored the construction of various areas of the institute, including the molecular genetics laboratory, resulting in the Royal Arch Mason Wing.

Our companions have exchanged the pick, the crow, and the shovel for the microscope, the gene sequencer, and the supercomputer. Their discoveries are making the world a better place for all!



If your lodge or chapter is ever looking for an amazing program, please reach out to Br. Anthony Cucci, Fraternal Relations Associate [acucci@mmri.edu](mailto:acucci@mmri.edu) or by calling (315)- 624-7492

# Paul Revere Takes his Ride

Today April 18th in Masonic History Paul Revere takes his ride in 1775.

Paul Revere was an American silversmith, merchant and patriot in the American Revolution.

Revere was born in the North End of Boston on December 21st, 1734. Revere left school at 13 to apprentice with his father, a silversmith.

In 1754 Revere's father passed away and Revere was too young to become the master of the family silver shop. In 1756 he enlisted in the provincial Army to serve during the 7 years war, known in the America's as the French Indian War. His time in the Army was very short and by 1757 he was back in Boston and was married to Sarah Orne.

In 1765 the economy in the colony's was not good and was made worse by the Stamp Act. This caused Revere's business to falter and for a brief time Revere took up dentistry.

Also in 1765 the *Sons of Liberty* formed and coincidentally met at the Green Dragon, the same meeting place as St. Andrews Lodge. Frustration over a variety of policies coming from England and King George III had Revere making a variety of engravings about the events occurring in Massachusetts at the time including the Boston Massacre and a bowl commemorating the Massachusetts assembly's refusal to retract the Massachusetts Circular Letter. The Massachusetts Circular Letter called for colonial action against the Townsend Acts.

In 1773 Revere along with several *Sons of Liberty* companions boarded the merchant ship *Dartmouth*, dumping the tea in its hold into Boston Harbor. The event now known as the Boston Tea Party was further protest to the Acts of King George III and England.

In 1774 a year before his famous ride, Revere rode to Portsmouth New Hampshire on rumors the British were landing troops there. The Portsmouth Alarm as it is now called turned out to be a false alarm, it did inspire a rebel assault on Fort William and Mary where gun powder supplies were seized from 6 British soldiers guarding the fort.

On April 18 1775 Revere's famous ride took place. Riding from Charlestown to Lexington Revere avoided British patrols until being stopped just short of Lexington by a British roadblock. Held captive with other patriots Revere used every opportunity to warn the British soldiers not to continue on to Lexington. Eventually Revere and the other captives were able to scare off the soldiers who released them and returned back to the main British unit.

Revere was able to help John Hancock, one of the leaders of the revolution, and his family escape from Lexington.

During the American revolution, Revere was a military leader and participated in many battles and events of the war, some positive and some utter failures like the Penobscot disaster.

Revere passed away on May 10th, 1818.

Revere was a member of St. Andrews Lodge in Boston and was the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts from 1794 to 1797.



## ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTION FORM

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Amount of Donation	Special Instructions, if any
Number of Chapter Members	

Secretary / Donors Names
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Certificate Yes or No _____	It is understood that not everyone wishes to receive a certificate, or even a Keystone or Diamond Pin. This saves us money for certificates and mailing. However, if you do desire to receive one, please let us know as we are happy to obliged.!!!! If not indicated, no certificate or Pin will be sent!!!!
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**General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International  
2020 - 2024 MISSION STATEMENT**

**The Mission Statement of General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, with a heritage of over 200 years, is to offer services and support to its Subordinate and Grand Chapters throughout the world in fulfilling the goals of Capitular Masonry by:**

- providing a source of, and administration for, the rituals of the four degrees of the American Royal Arch system.
- Assisting in the creation and chartering of new Subordinate and Grand Chapters throughout the world while maintaining our traditional standards.
- Being the primary source for developmental information concerning the formation of a Royal Arch Masons Chapter or Grand Chapter.
- Providing a means of communication, liaison and interaction for our member Chapters and Grand Chapters worldwide.
- Supporting and encouraging York Rite unity around the world in harmony with regular Grand Lodges, the General Grand Council and Grand Encampment.
- Recognizing achievement and service.
- Helping member Chapters and Grand Chapters to fulfill the obligation of all Royal Arch Masons to spread further light in Masonry.
- Promoting the progress of the Royal Craft, disseminating true Masonic knowledge, inspiring interest, and encouraging Blue Lodge Masons to pursue their search for Light and Truth to its logical conclusion through the degrees of Capitular Masonry
- Organizing a Triennial Convocation for all member Chapters and Grand Chapters to express their concerns, offer programs, legislate and elect officers for the next three years.
- Representing Royal Arch Masonry to the world in its highest tradition and heritage.

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL  
2020 - 2024 VISION STATEMENT**

- To uphold and support the Mission Statement of the General Grand Chapter.
- To take all reasonable steps to secure membership of those Grand Chapters in North America which are not currently members of General Grand Chapter.
- To retain all existing members, helping them become true and zealous disciples of Royal Arch Masonry and not mere wearers of emblems.
- To respond to requests and to encourage development of the American Royal Arch system in foreign lands especially Eastern Europe, Latin America and Africa.
- To maximize our communication efforts through enhanced development of the Royal Arch magazine into the internet world and to maintain an electronic newsletter which serves as a method of instruction to supplement the ceremonies and lectures of the degrees.
- To live and work together in a devoted team spirit with the aim of promoting better education among Royal Arch Masons.
- To be the most useful and effective unit in the entire Fraternity in promoting the progress of Royal Arch Masonry among our member Grand Chapters through Regional Deputies and Ambassadors with duties and responsibilities to and from the General Grand Chapter to be visible as a support and a link.

**Royal Arch Mason Magazine**

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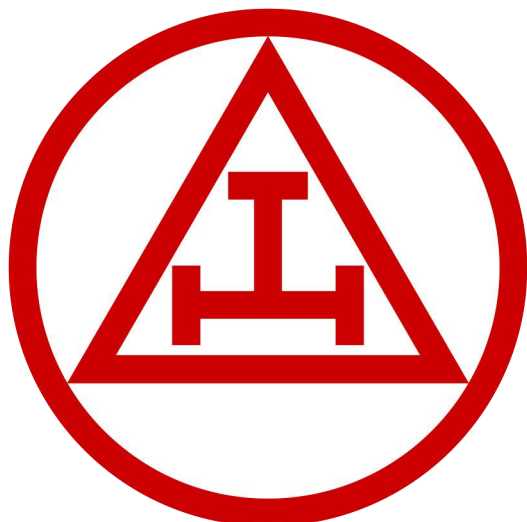
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The General Grand Chapter of  
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Larry Gray, PGHP, General Grand Secretary  
P.O. Box 128  
Greenfield, Indiana 46140-0128  
Phone: 317-467-3600  
FAX: 317-467-3899  
Email: ramintl@sbcglobal.net



**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**

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DEADLINE 25th of each Month for submissions

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