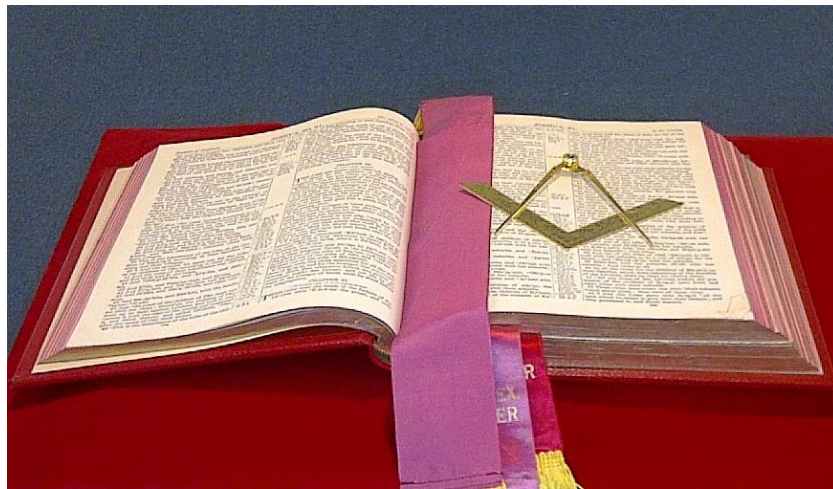




Proceedings of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of
Maryland

Semi-annual Grand Convocation
Held on Tuesday, May 11, 2016

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons **2016** Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

May 11, 2016 Agenda:

- 1 Opening of Grand Chapter/ Preliminary Report of Conference
- 2 Reception of Past Grand High Priests
- 3 Reading of Proceedings of Prior Grand Convocation
- 4 Report of the Grand Secretary
- 5 Report of the Grand Treasurer & Trustees
- 6 Report of the Committee on Accounts & Finance
- 7 Report of the Grand High Priest
- 8 Final Report of the Committee on Conference
- 9 Nominations & Election of Officers for the Next Capitular Year
- 10 Report of the Grand Lecturer & Committee on Work
- 11 Report of the Committee on Youth Relations & Scholarships
- 12 Report of the Committee on Royal Arch Research Assistance
- 13 Report of the Committee on Time & Place
- 14 Report of the Committee on Sessions Planning & Activities
- 15 Report of the Committee on the Triennium
- 16 Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence & Constitution
- 17 Report of Committee on Awards & Recognition
- 18 Report of Committee on Grievance
- 19 Committee on Long Range Planning
- 20 Committee on Membership
- 21 Unfinished Business from Prior Grand Convocation
- 22 New Business introduced at this Grand Convocation
- 23 Introduction of Distinguished Visitors
- 24 Announcements of Schedule Items
- 25 Other Committees (Doings, Correspondence)
- 26 Voluntary Remarks
- 27 Installation of Officers, if required
- 28 Final Remarks: MEGHP
- 29 Final Remarks: General Grand Officer
- 30 Final Remarks: MWGM
- 31 Closing of Grand Chapter

The MEGHP may abridge or amend the order of these items at his discretion.

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The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

James F. Allen RAC No. 31

Rockville , Maryland

May 11, 2016

7:30 p.m.

1. The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion, Randall L. Watson, with the following officers in their respective places and stations or excused:

M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson	Grand High Priest
R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis	Grand King
R.E. Comp. William C. Eppig	Grand Scribe
R.E. Comp. John M. Lister	Grand Treasurer
M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP	Grand Secretary
E. Comp. & Rev. Arthur F. Hebbeler	Grand Chaplain
E. Comp. Bruce Colburn	Grand Captain of the Host
E. Comp. Robert Hamilton	Grand Principal Sojourner (absent)
E. Comp. John Austin	Grand Royal Arch Captain
E. Comp. Robert M. Penny	Grand Master of the Third Veil
E. Comp. W. Michael Boughman	Grand Master of the Second Veil
E. Comp. Richard Reccardi	Grand Master of the First Veil (absent)
Comp. William Baldwin	Grand Sentinel
M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP	Grand Lecturer
E. Comp. Robert E. Young	Grand Organist (Absent)

Pledge of Allegiance:

M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, MEGHP

Prayer:

Ex. Comp. Arthur G. Hebbeler, Grand Chaplain

Supreme Architect of the Universe, we invoke Thy blessing at this time and ask Your watchful eye over our deliberations this evening of this Grand Chapter. May our work be pleasing in Your sight, conducted in peace, so that we may depart in harmony. Amen So mote it be.

The MEGHP then declared this Semi-Annual Grand Convocation opened in Ample Form.

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Full Report of the Committee on Conference: Complete Attendance

Concordia Royal Arch Chapter No.1	Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP Bruce Colburn, GCoH	Phoenix Royal Arch Chapter No. 7	William Miller, MEHP-Elect Arthur Gordon
Chesapeake Royal Arch Chapter No. 17	Athur Tawes, MEHP James A. Massey, EK	Salem Royal Arch Chapter No. 18	Not Represented
St. Johns Royal Arch Chapter No. 19	Vernon Huebschman, MEHP John A. Rafine PHP James B. Coker PHP	Adoniram Royal Arch Chapter No. 21	Not Represented
Talbot Royal Arch Chapter No. 22	Robert M. Penny, GM3V	Enoch Royal Arch Chapter No. 23	James M. King, MEHP
Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 25	John M. Lister, REGTreas	Ithiel Royal Arch Chapter No. 27	R. Joseph White, MEHP
Druid Royal Arch Chapter No. 28	Randall L. Watson, MEGHP William E. Eppig REGS Richard P. Naegele, MEHP (V.H. Huebschman, Secty)	Hayward Royal Arch Chapter No. 29	Christopher Jensen MEHP
Carroll Royal Arch Chapter No. 31	William Baldwin GSentinel	James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33	John Austin MEHP Jeff Alderdice, ES Kris Brown Tom Marraffa, Secty* Skip Richard* Brian Remley* David Holland*
Edenton Royal Arch Chapter No. 36	Clifton R. Friel, PGHP (Christian Jensen, Secty)	Baltimore Royal Arch Chapter No. 40	Ronald L. Aughenbaugh MEHP
Tuscan Royal Arch Chapter No. 42	W. Michael Boughman, GM2V	York Royal Arch Chapter No. 44	Patrick A. Curtis, REGK Frank Hamilton*
	Piscataway Royal Arch Chapter, No. 46	Charles Matulewicz, MEHP-Elect Arthur F. Hebbeler III MEHP	<i>*= Non-voting Comp's.</i>

1. Continued... Interim Report of the Committee on Conference Baldwin

Ex. Comp. William

MEGHP,

The register shows the following:

16 Chapters represented of 19.

27 Voting Members present.

4 Non-Voting Members present.

This Interim Report was received with the thanks of the MEGHP, and declared a quorum present.

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2. Reception of The Past Grand Officers present;

M.E. Comp. Clifton R. Friel	Past Grand High Priest 1997
M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman	Past Grand High Priest 2004, REDDGGHP
M.E. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert	Past Grand High Priest 2010 – 2011 GG Amb/MD
M.E. Comp. Richard P. Naegele	Past Grand High Priest 2013

Grand Honors were given to the assembled Past Grand High Priests led by the MEGHP and assembled Companions. PGHP Friel was chosen to respond for the Past Grand High Priests:

MEGHP,

Looks like I got out-voted. On behalf of this rather thin, in numbers, gathering...but it's a pleasure to be here. If there is anything we can to help you, or make the rest of your year better, call on us.

3. Reading of the Proceedings

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

MEGHP,

The Proceedings of the 2015 Annual Proceeding are available to be read at this Convocation. The Grand Secretary reports that the Annual Proceeding are available on the Grand Chapter web site.

Motion to accept as posted by PGHP Huebschman; Seconded by PGHP Naegele, Passed Unanimously. The Grand Secretary offered to receive comments or correction until the Annual Grand Convocation in October.

4. Report of the Grand Secretary

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

Report of the Grand Secretary

Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

IRS:

Chapters must complete their IRS 990N Forms after March 31, 2016. Please retain a copy of the confirmation reply, and attach to this year's Chapter Annual Report.

Chapter Annual Reports:

The Annual Reports are a snapshot of the Chapter on August 31st of each year, but the work of preparing the report can begin with the last meeting in the Spring. The Forms are available on the Grand Secretary's

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Page on the Website. By June most Chapters know who has been Exalted, who has died, demitted or suspended. I strongly urge all Secretaries to begin the Annual Report over the Summer months, and make any final modification immediately after September 1st.

The Annual Reports of constituent Chapters will close on August 31, 2016, and is due to the Grand Secretary by October 1, 2016 with all data supplied and all payments made to the Grand Chapter for Exaltations at \$10.00 per new member, and the Annual Per Capita Fee totaling \$10.50 per Companion on the books as of August 31st. (\$5.00 Grand Chapter Assessment, \$2.50 RARA per member assessment, and \$3.00 General Grand Chapter). Necessarily, Chapters should make adjustments in their dues bills to fund the coming increases in the pass-through assessments. The dues bill for 2017 should reflect the General Grand Chapter increase. This is based on the recent summary provided by our General Grand Secretary, M.E. Comp. Larry Gray.

Waivers of Territorial Jurisdiction among our Sister Grand Jurisdictions:

There have been only request for Territorial Dispensations from Maryland Chapters since the 2015 Grand Convocation. There has been one requests for Territorial Dispensation from the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia.

Royal Arch Mason Magazine:

The Additions & Deletions to Grand Chapter of Maryland mailing list has been submitted to the RAM Mag office, with a request for a check copy to be supplied back to the Grand Secretary for verification. This return has not yet been received.

Membership:

The Grand Lodge has extended “read only” access to the GL Membership Management System. To date it has been used to verify the current status of the Companions who are members of this Grand Chapter, and the Council of Anointed High Priests...which is one and the same list. Also, the Companions of Druid RAC No. 28. This is a long and tedious process to do an entire Chapter. In this process I included Mother Lodges, and available phone numbers and email addresses. This can be done for each of our Maryland Chapters who request this verification. Please submit what you believe the be the current membership of your Chapter, noting those Companions who appear to have problems with contact information. These will be taken in a first come basis. This is a new service for this office, and is a significant use of time. Please allow a couple of weeks for response.

Thank you to all the Secretaries for their generous support of their Chapters, and all the officers who give so freely of their time, energy, and dedication to make our Chapters prosper.

Fraternally & Respectfully,

M.E. Comp. Vernon Huebschman, PGHP Grand Secretary / Grand Lecturer

Motion to accept by the Grand Secretary, seconded by the REGK: passed unanimously

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Report of the Grand Treasurer

R.E. Comp. John M. Lister, REGTreas

- 5.** The scanned reports submitted by the Grand Treasurer are appended to this document in the final pages, as supplied by the Grand Treasurer.

Motions were made by RE Comp Lister and seconded by PGHP Naegele that the following reports be accepted as presented, (and here attached):

Revised 2014-2014 Budget (needed to accommodate payment of Liability Insurance premium).

End of Year 2014 -2015 Income/Expenses Report;

Interim 2015 -2016 Income/Expenses Report.

Passed Unanimously

Committee on Finance

R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, REGK

- 6.** MEGHP,

As chairman of the accounts and finance committee i have reviewed the books of the treasurer for the past six months find the grand treasurer continues to perform his duties in an excellent manner.

The attached budget for the year 2016 - 2017 Capitular year is thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000.00).

Also attached is a the budget for 2015 – 2016 with recommendations for changes. The net result is a reduction of tree hundred dollars (\$300.00) to a total of twenty eight thousand, five hundred dollars (\$28,500.00).

Respectively submitted,
William c. Eppig, REGS
Frederick a. Spicer, PHP
Patrick a. Curtis, REGK, Chairman.

The 2016 -2017 Proposed Annual Budget in the Grand Treasurer's pack was offered for consideration and moved by REGK Curtis, seconded by Comp. Hebbeler: Passed Unanimously.

The Grand Secretary pointed out that one of the major items of increase in this budget was a \$3000.00 line item for Triennium Expense. This exists to defray the expenses of the MEGHP, REGK, REGS, and GSecty, who are required by the Constitution attend.

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Report of the Grand High Priest

M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, MEGHP

7.

Companions,

I will start my comments by thanking you for your trust and the opportunity to serve you and this Grand Chapter for the 2016-2017 term of office. It's been quite busy – in the 29 weeks since the Annual Session, I have attended 99 functions on behalf of the Grand Chapter. REGK Curtis and REGS Eppig have represented the Grand Chapter at numerous other functions including Lodge Installations and presentations of Master's Pins, Grand Sessions of other jurisdictions, and Masonic Youth sessions.

Grand Visitations

The Grand Line and I have attended Grand Visitations to 16 of the 19 Chapters. The three remaining are scheduled:

- October 3rd – Ithiel #27 (rescheduled from September 7th)
- October 4th – Baltimore #40 (rescheduled from March 1st)
- October 26th – Piscataway #46

All of the scheduled Grand Visitations were successful this year.

2016 Master's Pins

January was the usual busy installation season for Maryland Masonic Lodges. The Grand Chapter presented Master's Square pins to the incoming Worshipful Masters. This practice was started in 2006 by MEGHP Stephen J. Ponzillo, III. In addition to giving the opportunity for the York Rite to be seen by the Lodge members, these pins are treasured by many of the incoming Worshipful Masters.

The 104 Maryland Lodge installations were crammed into the 31 days of the month. Due to weather problems, a few were canceled and delayed into February. As MEGHP, I presented 30 WM Pins at the

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installations. I also attended presented two (Mt. Moriah #116 and King David's #68) at other meetings where the initial presenter had forgotten to make the presentation at the installation.

Unfortunately, there are always the situations of weather cancellations and illness and other unforeseen conflicts that caused a presenter to miss the installations. Therefore some of the pins got presented at a meeting after their installation. If by chance a WM indicates that he was missed, please let the MEGHP know so we can make a belated presentation.

One of the high points of the Lodge installation tour this year was on Friday, January 29th at Temple #128 in Denton. WM Dennis Devers allowed us to make the formal presentation of the General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal to "Doc" Christian Jensen at the Open Installation. "Doc" wasn't able to attend the Annual Grand Convocation in October. I was able to call on GG Ambassador Robert Lumbert, PGHP, to make the presentation with the assistance of PGHPs Friel and Naegele.

Other Functions Attended

- 11 Grand Lodge functions, including memorial services for MWPGM William M. Clark; Murray K. Lilley; MEGHP Louis F. Bandell, Jr., and John Paul Jones.
- 7 other Masonic functions, including giving the response to the toast to other bodies at the Scottish Rite Feast of Tishri; and the rededication of the Temple for Silver Spring #215.
- 6 Youth Group functions, including DeMolay's Chevalier Bowling, where I tore the tendon connecting my right bicep at the elbow; and Job's Daughters' Grand Bethel Session. REGS Eppig represented the Grand Chapter at Rainbow's Grand Assembly and DeMolay's Congress Meeting.
- 20 other York Rite functions.
- A copy of the full list of events is attached to the formal report.

Dispensations

Upon taking office at the Annual Convocation in October 2014, I directed the R.E. Grand Secretary to respond to certain routine types of requests with my approval without unnecessary delay:

- Cancel a stated Convocation for:

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- Weather and road conditions;
 - Proximity to Holidays; or
 - Schedule conflicts.
- Hold a Special Convocation for Degree conferrals and/or other specified business when meeting in:
 - The Chapter's regular meeting location;
 - The regular meeting location of another Maryland Royal Arch Chapter or Masonic Lodge; or
 - A location that has previously been approved and used for a closed Chapter Convocation.
- Waiver of Territorial Jurisdiction for a Maryland resident to petition a Chapter in a neighboring jurisdiction when he:
 - Already has established Masonic membership(s) in the other jurisdiction;
 - Resides closer to the petitioned Chapter in the other jurisdiction than he does to the nearest Chapter in Maryland; or
 - Has a family connection to the petitioned Chapter.

No non-routine dispensation requests were received since the October 2015 Annual Session.

Edicts

No edicts have been issued since the Annual Convocation in October.

October 2015 Amendment Regarding Funding for the Maryland Council of Anointed High Priests

The Grand Chapter amended its Constitution at the October 2015 Annual Grand Convocation to establish an annual fee of \$30 per Chapter that is collected by the Grand Chapter to replace the \$100 fee for High Priests-elect to be Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood. This new section has provisions that it doesn't become effective until the Maryland Council of Anointed High Priests amends its procedures to accept this change to its funding structure. At their April 30th Convention, the Maryland Council of Anointed High Priests formally adopted a resolution to approved this change, so the Annual Returns to be submitted this fall will include the \$30 fee per Chapter to be turned over to the Council of Anointed High Priests for their April 2017 session; and starting with next year's elections, there will be no direct fee for the newly elected High Priests to be Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

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This year five new High Priests-elect were Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood: William E. Miller from Phoenix #7; Dennis W. Ewing from Adoniram #21; G. Andrew Martinez from Mt. Vernon #25; Robert W. Chase from Druid #28; and Charles J. Matulewicz, IV from Piscataway #46.

Miscellaneous

I wish to express my continuing gratitude to the support and efforts of the Grand Chapter Officers and Past Grand High Priests who have accompanied me on many of the outings, as well as providing guidance and good counsel in addition to their own labors in the quarries.

Finally, I wish to express thank each of you for all your support and service for York Rite Masonry.

Fraternally yours in fervency and zeal,

Randy Watson

M.E. Grand High Priest

Motion to accept by the MEGHP, seconded by PGHP Friel: passed unanimously.

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Grand High Priest's Activities – October 2015 to May 2016

Wed, Oct 28	Piscataway #46 - Visitation
Thu, Oct 29	Druid #28 - Visitation
Sun, Nov 08	DeMolay Chevalier Observance & Installation of Officers
Wed, Nov 11	Feast of Tishri - Scottish Rite - Respond to Toast
Fri, Nov 13	Grand Master's Banquet
Sat, Nov 14	Grand Lodge Annual Communication
Mon, Nov 16	Silver Spring #215 Lodge Rededication
Wed, Nov 18	Grand Visitation to James F. Allen #33
Sat, Nov 21	KYCH
Mon, Nov 23	Grand Visitation to Carroll #31 - PM & MEM Degrees
Thu, Dec 10	Druid/Hiram Festive Board - Visitation
Fri, Dec 11	Grand Visitation to York #44
Sat, Dec 12	Knight Masons, Allied Masonic Degrees, Royal Arch Mariner
Mon, Dec 14	Grand Visitation to Mt. Vernon #25 - PM & MEM Degrees
Wed, Dec 16	Grand Visitation to St. Johns #19
Fri, Dec 18	Druid-Hiram-Monumental Holiday Party - Visitation
Sat, Dec 19	Montgomery County PM Association at Silver Spring #215
Sat, Dec 19	Southern Md PM Association at Centennial #174
Sun, Dec 20	York Rite Religious Service at MMH - Followed by KT Christmas Observance
Wed, Dec 23	Grand Visitation to Phoenix #7
Mon, Dec 28	Western Md PM Association
Sat, Jan 02	Annapolis #89 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 02	Granite #177 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation

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Mon, Jan 04	Tuscan #202 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Jan 05	Montgomery/Cornerstone #195 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Wed, Jan 06	Perry Hall #235 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Thu, Jan 07	Glen Burnie #213 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Fri, Jan 08	Ionic #145 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 09	Queen City #131 10:00 am - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 09	Potomac #100 1:00 pm - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sun, Jan 10	Scottish Rite Installation
Mon, Jan 11	Friendship #84 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Jan 12	Bonnie Blink Daylight #1 - 10:30 am - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Jan 12	Liberty-Pickering #219 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Wed, Jan 13	Highland #184 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Thu, Jan 14	Door to Virtue #46 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Fri, Jan 15	Lebanon #175 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 16	Kensington/Bethesda #198 10:00 am - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 16	Oxon Hill #231 4:00 pm - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sun, Jan 17	Ancient Baltimore #234 - 11:30am - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sun, Jan 17	Wm. Clark Memorial Service at GL Corinthian Room - 4pm
Mon, Jan 18	Evergreen #153 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Jan 19	Jephthah #222 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Wed, Jan 20	Charity #134 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Thu, Jan 21	Columbia #58 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Jan 26	St. Columba #150 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Wed, Jan 27	Prince Frederick #142 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation

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Thu, Jan 28	Birmingham #188 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Fri, Jan 29	Temple #128 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation - Present Bronze Medal
Sat, Jan 30	Coats #102 - 10:00 am - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Jan 30	Roelma #206 - 2:00 pm - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Mon, Feb 01	Scouter's #236 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Tue, Feb 02	Grand Visitation to Tuscan #42
Sat, Feb 06	Regional Meeting - Cockeysville
Sun, Feb 07	Chevalier/DeMolay Bowling
Mon, Feb 08	Enoch #23 - MEM Degree - Visitation
Wed, Feb 10	Piscataway #46 - MkM Degree - Visitation
Thu, Feb 11	Druid #28 - MkM & PM Degrees - Visitation
Sat, Feb 13	Regional Meeting - Mt. Ararat #44
Thu, Feb 18	Md Masonic Lodge of Research #239 - Installation & WM Pin Presentation
Sat, Feb 20	Druid MEM & RA Degrees - 10:30 am - Visitation
Mon, Feb 22	York Rite College Rehearsal - SR Auditorium
Wed, Feb 24	Piscataway #46 - Visitation
Thu, Feb 25	York Rite College Rehearsal - Jephthah #222
Sat, Feb 27	Regional Meeting - Centennial #174
Sat, Mar 05	Regional Meeting - Hagerstown #217
Mon, Mar 07	York Rite College Rehearsal - SR Banquet Hall
Tue, Mar 08	Grand Visitation to Concordia #1
Thu, Mar 10	Druid - Hiram - RM & SM Degrees - Visitation
Sat, Mar 12	Regional Meeting - Cambridge #66
Tue, Mar 15	Murray Lilley's Memorial Service

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Wed, Mar 16	Grand Visitation to Adoniram #21
Thu, Mar 17	Louis Bandell's Memorial Service
Thu, Mar 17	York Rite College Rehearsal - Jephthah #222
Sat, Mar 19	York Rite College #58 - Odenton
Sun, Mar 20	DeMolay Legion of Honor Observance
Thu, Mar 24	Maundy Thursday - Living Last Supper - Perry Hall Presbyterian
Fri, Mar 25	KT Good Friday Service
Tue, Mar 29	Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests - Frederick - 7:00 pm
Tue, Mar 29	Past Commander's Association - Frederick - 8:00 pm
Sun, Apr 03	Frederick DeMolay Installation of Officers
Tue, Apr 05	Grand Visitation to Talbot #22, Hayward #29 & Edenton #36 at Denton
Sat, Apr 09	Druid Planning Breakfast
Sun, Apr 10	DeMolay Bingo - Scottish Rite
Mon, Apr 11	Grand Visitation to Enoch #23
Thu, Apr 14	Grand Visitation to Druid #28
Sat, Apr 16	Scottish Rite Reunion Day
Tue, Apr 19	Grand Visitation to Salem #18 - RA Degree - Installation of Officers
Wed, Apr 20	Meet With Grand Hotel in Ocean City for October Sessions & Meals
Fri, Apr 22	Grand Visitation to Chesapeake #17 - Installation of Officers
Sun, Apr 24	John Paul Jones Memorial Service
Fri, Apr 29	Council of Anointed High Priests Set-up & Rehearsal
Sat, Apr 30	Royal Arch Law School at 1pm; Council of Anointed High Priests at 2pm
Tue, May 03	Tuscan #42 - MkM & PM Degrees - Visitation - Installation of Officers
Thu, May 05	KT Ascension Day Observance

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Fri, May 06	Job's Daughters Session - Princess Royale in Ocean City
Sat, May 07	S. Md. Degree Class - Centennial #174
Tue, May 10	Grand Commandery Semi-Annual
Wed, May 11	Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

When the Report of the Grand High Priest was concluded the Chapter Memorial Service was offered in memory of our late Past Grand High Priest Louis F. Bandell, Jr. This was the first use of the service for a fallen Companion.

Committee on Conference

Ex. Comp. William Baldwin

8.

INTERIM REPORT (GIVEN TO ASSURE THERE IS QUORUM FOR THE MEETING)

Present this information as early as possible after the Grand Sentinel is posted

Number of Chapters Present: 16

Number of Voting Members: 27

Non-Voting Members: 4

FINAL REPORT (Given to verify the Number of Ballots)

Present this information when called for by the MEGHP

Number of Chapters Present: 16 Amended to be 17 (Jensen/Hayward 27)

Number of Voting Members: 27

Non-Voting Members: 4 Amended to be 5 (Marraffa/JFA 31)

Details from the sign-in sheets are shown above in Attendance.

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Nominations and Elections

M.E. Comp. Clifton R. Friel, PGHP

9. M. E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, not being nominated, chose to preside

M.E. Comp. Clifton R. Friel nominated the following, Seconded by Comp. John Austin

Grand High Priest	R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis
Grand King	R.E. Comp. William C. Eppig
Grand Treasurer	R.E. Comp. John M. Lister, REGTreas
Grand Secretary	M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, REGSecty
Trustee, 2016 - 2018	M.E. Comp. Stephen J. Ponzillo III (returning Trustee)

There being no other nominees for these positions after asking three times, the MEGHP declared the nominations closed, and directed the Grand Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of all.

Nominations were then taken for Grand Scribe. Comp. Bruce Colburn was nominated by PGHP Friel, seconded by PGHP Naegele. Again there were no other nominations, and in similar fashion the Secretary was directed to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Comp. Colburn, who was declare duly elected.

Report of the Grand Lecturer; Comm. on Work

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman

10. Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

The following Companions have:

Phoenix RAC No.7	Comp. William Miller
Adoniram RAC No. 21	Comp. Dennis Ewing
Mt Vernon RAC No. 25	Comp. George A. Martinez
Driuid RAC No. 28	Comp. Robert L. Chase
Piscataway RAC No. 42	Comp. Charles Matulewicz

1. exemplified one of the patterns of degree conferrals selected by the MEGHP and witnessed by the Grand Lecturer or one of the Deputy Grand Lecturers.
2. been granted dispensation from the requirement to exemplify all four degrees.
3. participated successfully in the Grand Chapter Law School on Saturday, April 30, 2016.
4. were present and were elected to be Anointed, Consecrated, and Set Apart to the Order of High Priest in the Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

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Each MEHP-Elect was given a copy of the current Constitution as available on the website, a copy of the revised Summary Page of the Constitution including the now confirmed \$30 assessment for each Chapter for the benefit of CAHP, and a copy of the Proposed Amendment to recodify the Constitutions various Sections and paragraphs concerning qualification, election and installation of MEHP's and other Line officers.

And as such are now fully qualified to be installed as High Priests in their respective Chapters,

Respectfully Submitted,

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP.
Grand Lecturer

Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

The Work in the Chapters throughout the jurisdiction has continued to improve in general. The Chapter that are doing the Work are improving in the quality of their ritual and the number of degrees. The Chapters that have not attempted work also have not attempted rehearsals or schools of instruction with the Grand Lecturer.

MEHP Joe White of Ithiel RAC No. 27 has attended recent conferrals of Degrees to re-acquaint himself with the Work. This is good beginning to an effort to re-ignite the flame in Hagerstown. MEHP Faby devised an really great way to present the Veils in Phoenix RAC No.7 in a rather confined space...clever, efficient, and effective.

The MEGHP and the Grand Lecturer have committed to return to the proof-reading of the new Ritual text, to commence in the weeks after the Semi-Annual with a goal of having all four Degrees reviewed prior to the Annual Grand Convocation.

Respectfully,

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman PGHP,
Committee on Work, Chairman

Motion to accept both by PGHP Huebschman, seconded by PGHP Naegele: passed unanimously.

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11. **Youth Relations & D Ross Vasant Scholarship** **Ex. Comp. Jeffrey L. Dill, Chairman**
• No report has been submitted for this occasion. One Chapter, Druid, has submitted a donation of 4500 which has also been forward to RARA.

12. **Royal Arch Research Assistance** **R.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, REGS**
• No report has been submitted for this occasion. R.E. Comp. Eppig, but spontaneous comments were offered from his station by R.E. Comp. Eppig.

As Chairman, much material is received through the year. The are several available presentations that are posted to YOU TUBE concerning the RARA program. Descriptions of the program and specific activities.

The RARA Pin was explained to those present.

13. **Time & Place** **R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, REGK**
• MEGHP

The time and place committee after visiting hotels in Hagerstown, Westminster and Clinton, Maryland is prepared to offer to the membership two possible locations for the 2017 grand session

- 1) the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Westminster, and
- 2) the Colony South Hotel and Conference Center in Clinton.

The attached sheet provides a comparison of the two hotels to include room prices and suggested food prices. We also have this short presentation providing pictures of the two suggested locations. (referenced material was not supplied, and therefore not attached.)

For those voting, it should be noted, the Grand Commandery voted at their semi-annual grand sessions to hold the 2017 annual session at Westminster.

Motion to accept the Report made by REGK, second by REGS: passed unanimously

Following the above statements, R.E. Comp. Curtis read off comparative information concerning room rates, space charges, and meals rates upon which a motion was made to accept the offer by Comp. Curtis, seconded by PGHP Naegele to accept the package offered by the Best Western In Westminster. Motion passed with only three dissenting votes.

The Grand Secretary requested that the Committee on Time and Place be granted authority to conclude negotiation and to request such deposit checks as may be needed to finalize the deal offered, which the MEGHP granted immediately.

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14. Sessions Committee

MEGHP,

ME Comp Richard P. Naegele, PGHP

The 2016 York Rite Sessions will be held October 28 – 30, 2016 at the Grand Hotel and Spa in Ocean City, Maryland. The schedule will be as follows:

Friday, October 28 – 4:00pm	Grand Council Annual Assembly
6:30pm	On your own dinner Embers Restaurant
Saturday, October 29 – 8:00am	Breakfast
9:30 am	Reception of Guests/ Grand Commandery Annual
10:30am	Ladies Program and Luncheon – Museum/ Harrison Harborwatch
12:00pm	Men's Luncheon
1:00 pm	Grand Chapter Annual Convocation
6:30pm	Banquet

All of these times are subject to change. The hotel prices will be the same as last year with extra nights available before or after at the same rate. Those desiring hotel reservations need to contact the Grand Hotel direct at 410-289-6191 or 800-447-6779 by September 20th. Room rates are \$84.00 (Ocean view) or \$104.00 (Oceanfront) plus taxes.

Plans are still being made and prices finalized. We hope to have forms available by the end of the month and on the website.

Fraternally,
Richard P. Naegele (Commandery)
Patrick Curtis (Chapter, Council Commandery)
Bill Eppig (Chapter, Council)
Spyridon Treklas (Council)
John Austin (Council)
Thomas Maraffa (Council)
Bob Hamilton (Chapter)
Arthur Dickerson (Chapter)
Henry McDonald (Chapter)

Motion to accept by PGHP Naegele, Seconded by REGK: passed unanimously

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15. **Triennium** MEGHP,

R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, REGK

I would like to inform this grand chapter, the 2017 Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter RAM International and the assembly of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International will be held at the Red Lion on the River, Portland Oregon, from 25 August to 30 August 2017. Additional details, regarding rooms, food and tours have yet to be posted on the general grand council web site.

Motion to accept by the REGK, seconded by Comp. Colburn: passed unanimously

16. **Jurisprudence**

M.E. Comp. Stephen J. Ponzillo, III

(Read by Grand Secretary)

MEGHP,

The Jurisprudence Committee has reviewed two items which may be voted on at this Semi-Annual Convocation. Both appear to be in order:

1. The Constitutional actions regarding editorial “clean up” and clarifications on installation / election process;
2. The General Grand Chapter Life Membership clarification.

Wishing you success in the Semi-Annual Convocation.

Fraternally,

Stephen J. Ponzillo, III PGHP

Motion to accept by the Grand Secretary, Seconded by Comp. Art Hebbeler: Passed Unanimously.

17. **Awards and Recognition** PGHP MEGHP,

ME Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman,

The committee holds an adequate supply of the Grand Chapter Awards for this year for the use of the Grand High Priest:

Triple Tau White Tau Breast Plate MEGHP Award.

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It is with much sadness, the death of one of the Ephraim Kirby Award is noted, M.E. Comp. Louis F. Bandell, Jr. A request has been made for direction from the General Grand High Priest to see if we can replace a fallen awardee.

Recommendations will be submitted to the Grand High Priest for the above awards together with the Bronze Medal for Meritorious Service over the summer months.

Respectfully,

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP

Moved for acceptance by PGHP Huebschman, Seconded by REGS: passed unanimously.

The Banner Chapter Banner was presented to Comp. Art Hebbeler for display until the Annual Grand Convocation in October 2016.

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| 18. | Grievance Committee | ME Comp. Bennie G. Owens, PGHP |
| • No report submitted as there was no contact with this committee. | | |
| 19. | Long Range Planning | M.E. Comp. Richard P. Naegele, PGHP |
| • No report offered for the Semi-Annual. | | |
| 20. | Membership | M.E. Comp. Richard P. Naegele, PGHP |
| • No report offered for the Semi-Annual. | | |
| 21. | Unfinished Business | M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, GHP |
| • The Council of Anointed High Priest did adopt a change in its Constitution which fulfills the necessary conditions for the Grand Chapter's Constitution to begin into full effect the plan to fund the CAHP as long as the conditions remain unchanged. | | |

Liability Insurance approved at the prior Grand Convocation has enacted, and the necessary premium paid for the present Capitular Year. Comp. Ron Block was unable to attend the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery meeting this May, but will be present at the Grand Council Semi-Annual Assembly to explain the conditions and mechanics of this new program.

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The Grand Secretary requested that any Chapter making a claim against the Hartford Insurance Co. liability policy inform the MEGHP and the Grand Secretary at that time so that Grand Chapter is informed of any such loss or liability claim.

The Grand Scribe recommended that each Chapter take an inventory (note added...photographic record would be an excellent evidence of this process) and a current value be established if possible for replacement purposes.

22. New Business

- a. The Grand Chapter has provided a copy of the General Grand Chapter's operations and training manual to each Maryland Chapter. It was noted that not all the information is precisely aligned with Maryland law and practice, but the general presentation of materials are a useful guide and tool for our current and rising leadership and secretaries.
- b. **Amendment for Consideration** **M.E. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP**
Current wording of Article VI, Section 2 of the Grand Chapter Constitution

Each Chapter shall pay to the Grand Chapter by October 1st of each year the sum of ten dollars for each exaltation since the last annual return and an annual assessment, whose value shall be five dollars plus the per member assessment due to the General Grand Chapter plus the amount due to the General Grand Chapter for the Royal Arch Magazine, for each Companion who is a member of the Chapter on August 31th of that year, except that where a Chapter has excused one of its members from the payment of dues by reason of residence in the Maryland Masonic Homes or because of such member being confined in an Institution as non compos mentis, such Chapter shall make no return of per capita tax on such member. However, all such members shall be listed in the annual returns in the space provided for the same.

c. Proposed wording

Each Chapter shall pay to the Grand Chapter by October 1st of each year the sum of ten dollars for each exaltation since the last annual return and, for each Companion who is a member of the Chapter on August 31th of that year, an annual assessment, whose value shall be five dollars plus the per member assessment due to the General Grand Chapter for that Companion plus the amount due to the General Grand Chapter for the Royal Arch Magazine, except that where a Chapter has excused one of its members from the payment of dues by reason of residence in the Maryland Masonic Homes or because of such member being confined in an Institution as non compos mentis, such Chapter shall make no return of per capita tax on such member. However, all such members shall be listed in the annual returns in the space provided for the same.

The first underlined phrase has been moved and the second underlined phrase has been added.

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Supplementary motion

The Grand Secretary shall maintain a list of those members whose General Grand Chapter assessments differ from the norm (currently, all Life Members of General Grand Chapter) and supply such information to a Chapter on request. The annual report form shall make provisions which allow these members to be differentiated. This will take effect with the report due October 1, 2016.

There was an objection to proceeding without a written text, therefore no further action on this proposal could be taken at this Convocation.

The Grand Secretary stated that there could be an administrative solution to the issue involved and Moved that the Chapters be informed that Companions holding Lifetime Memberships in the General Grand Chapter would be exempt from that portion of the annual assessment from the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and therefore the Chapter will remit that part of the annual dues from these Companions. Seconded by REGK: Passed unanimously

Second Proposed Amendment

M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP

Proposed Amendment to the Grand Chapter Constitution:

Motion by M.E. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP

Delete the following Material:

Article XII, Section in its entirety:

~~Section 5: — Each Chapter shall elect its officers in March annually by ballot, beginning in March 1962. No High Priest elect shall be installed unless he is competent to confer the traditional work of the Capitular degrees. Such competency shall be determined by a majority of the committee on work, composed of the Grand Lecturer and two permanent members of the Grand Chapter, appointed annually by the Grand High Priest. They shall issue a certificate to that effect to be placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary who shall notify the respective Chapter prior to the installation of its officers, which shall be after the High Priest elect has been Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood in Maryland, at a stated or special Convocation of the Constituent Chapter concerned, immediately following the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter; provided, however, that the Grand High Priest may, for good cause, issue a dispensation to elect or to install at a different time, and to waive the requirement of competency to confer the traditional work of the Capitular degrees.~~

Delete as noted:

~~Section 21: No Chapter shall elect its installed officers in any other manner than by ballot; nor shall it decide on any petitions for advancement or membership in any other way than by ballot~~

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Delete and incorporate into Section 5

~~Section 27: No Chapter shall elect for its High Priest any other than a King, Past King, Scribe, Past Scribe, or Past High Priest, unless by dispensation from the Grand High Priest.~~

Add the following, having deleted the above:

Article XII

Section 5: ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

1. Each Chapter shall elect its officers in March annually by ballot, beginning in March 1962.
2. Qualifications for High Priest.
 - a. To be nominated for election to High Priest of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland, a Companion must have the following qualifications:
 - i. A Companion must be a member in good standing in the Chapter in which he is nominated.
 - ii. He must be certified by the Grand Lecturer as meeting the current standards for Ritual proficiency.
 1. A Companion must have exemplified the following as the presiding officer, without assistance of written material, and with minimal corrections:
 - a. Opening & Closing of Chapter
 - b. One of the following combinations:
 - i. The Mark Master Degree and the Most Excellent Master Degree.
 - ii. The Past Master Degree and the Royal Arch Degree.
 - iii. The Mark Master, Past Master, and either the Principal Sojourner or Captain of the Host in the Royal Arch Degree.
 - iv. Any other pattern of Exemplification will require prior approval and dispensation of the Grand High Priest.
 - iii. He must be a current or past High Priest, King, or Scribe of a constituent Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland.
 1. Consideration of any other member requires prior dispensation of the Grand High Priest.
 2. Consideration of a Companion having served in another jurisdiction shall be referred to the Grand High Priest for direction.
 - b. A Companion may not be elected to serve as High Priest when he has been elected to serve in the same Capitular year in another Maryland Chapter, except if granted prior

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- dispensation of the Grand High Priest, and it shall be the joint responsibility of the Companion and Chapter to prohibit this situation with prior dispensation.
- c. A Companion, having been qualified as above, must be elected by a simple majority ballot at the Stated March Convocation of the Chapter.
 - i. Dispensation for elections in other circumstance must be granted by the Grand High Priest.
 - ii. If only one candidate is nominated for an office, the officer presiding over the elections, having invited nominations three times, shall direct the Secretary to cast an unanimous ballot in favor of the nominated Companion(s).
 - d. A qualified Companion, having been duly elected by his Chapter shall:
 - i. Attend the Annual Law School conducted by the Grand Lecturer.
 - ii. Receive a satisfactory instruction in the Degree conferred by the Council of Anointed High Priests, when he shall be Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood in Maryland.
 - iii. Having been Qualified, Instructed in the Law, & Elected, Anointed, Consecrated and Set Apart to the Order of High Priesthood in Maryland, the High Priest-Elect shall be installed at a Stated or Special Convocation of the Constituent Chapter, following the Semi-Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.
 - iv. If a Chapter is to Install a Past High Priest, or the current High Priest for the succeeding term, the Chapter may do so prior to the Semi-Annual Convocation.
 3. Election of King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary and other positions established by Chapter Bylaws:
 - a. Shall be held annually at the same time as the election for High Priest.
 - b. Special elections for vacancies may be held only by dispensation of the Grand High Priest.
 4. Installation of Officers shall be in compliance with the authorized version(s) of the Grand Chapter Ritual. The Grand High Priest shall be consulted regarding Installing Officers.
 5. The Chapter Secretary shall report to the Grand Secretary within one week of Installation of Officers the contact information for all the installed Officers to include:
 - a. Full Name.
 - b. Mailing Address.
 - c. The Companion's preferred phone number.
 - d. The Companion's preferred email address.
 6. An installed Most Excellent High Priest holding Plural memberships shall be automatically enrolled in the Chapter which has installed him as his Mother Chapter for all purposes of Grand Chapter functions and organization. This status shall revert to his original Mother Chapter upon the completion of his term as High Priest.

Seconded by PGHP Naegele, passed unanimously and adopted as part of the current Constitution.

The MEGHP repeatedly pointed out that as each of the two proposed amendments were presented without prior presentation with due notice a unanimous vote would be required to adopt, and that with a single objection they would be held for the Annual Convocation in October 2016.

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C. Masonic Membership Management System

M.E. Comp. Richard P. Naegele, PGHP

A discussion was held on the need for a committee to study the potential benefits of the Grand Chapter participating in the function of the membership program with the Grand Lodge. The MEGHP established an ad hoc committee for the purpose of study and reporting to the Annual Convocation, chaired by PGHP Naegele, with PGHP Huebschman and Comp. Carl Michel.

23. Distinguished Visitors

ME Comp. Randall L. Watson, MEGHP

• The following Companions were introduced:

M.E. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP

General Grand Ambassador to Maryland

Comp. John Rafine, PHP

Right Illustrious Deputy Gran Master of Maryland

Comp. Arthur G. Hebbeler, Gr Chaplain

Right Eminent Grand Commander of Maryland

R.E. William C. Eppig, REGS

State Executive Officer, MSADC

24. Schedule Announcements: None offered

25. Other Committees:

A. Report of Electronic Communications Committee

Comp. Daniel Brewer, Chairman

Most Excellent Companion Randall L. Watson, Grand High Priest,
Most Excellent Companions, Right Excellent Companions, Excellent Companions,
Companions all:

The local website for the Maryland Grand York Rite bodies and subordinate bodies (<http://yorkritemd.org>) continues to host the Maryland York rite calendar. The calendar is updated daily with data submitted by the local and Grand bodies of Maryland. The local body information is outdated, however, as local bodies provide this information it is corrected. The contact information remains current, for all bodies, so as to provide prospective members a human contact.

The list server (email group) [Marylandyorkrite @ gmailgroups.com](mailto:Marylandyorkrite@gmail.com) continues to provide calendar reminders and other timely notifications to subscribers. There have been 1540 messages sent via the email list and currently there are 146 companions which receive them.

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The Facebook page, <http://facebook.com> (Maryland York Rite), has 185 members, however, this is an open list, therefore total number of viewers is unknown.

The primary focus of this page is for recruitment, however, general information and reminders are posted.

There has been an increase in the number of local Chapters submitting their schedules for posting to the calendar. We would like to see an increase of local chapter submissions, for degree work and regular communications.

I have truly enjoyed being able to provide this small service to our Grand Chapter and being appointed by Most Excellent Companion Randall L. Watson to continue to serve in this capacity.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grover D. Brewer
Chairman

B. Multi-Jurisdictional Festival

R.E. Comp. Patrick A. Curtis, REGK

MEGHP,

The committee wishes to report the 2016 multi-jurisdictional festival will be held in Newport, Delaware, on 17 September 2016. Maryland will be responsible for conferring the Most Excellent Master degree. I am in the process of bringing the cast together for this conferral. It is my intention to do the part of the right worshipful master. Anyone interested in taking the part of senior warden, master of ceremonies, senior deacon, junior deacon and tiler. Please see me.

Arrangements have already been made for Maryland to host the 2018 festival at Bonnie Blink on Harvest Home day. We will be responsible for the conferral of the Royal Arch Degree.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED
WILLIAM COLBURN, GCH
WILLIAM C. EPPIG, REGS

PATRICK A CURTIS, REGK, CHAIRMAN

Closing Remarks

M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, MEGHP

25

- a.R.E. Comp Patrick Curtis express his gratitude for his election and stated that he looked forward to working for the Grand Chapter beginning on October 29, 2016. He also

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announced that there would be a York Rite Picnic held at Centennial Lodge on Saturday, August 13th, donations only .

- b. R.E. Comp. William Eppig also expressed his gratitude for his election as Grand King and that he looked forward to working with Comp. Curtis in the coming years. Comp Eppig made a motion that the Grand Chapter purchase a \$75 full page ad in the DeMolay Conclave Program, seconded by PGHP Naegele and passed unanimously.
- c. Ex. Comp. Bruce Colburn in like fashion thanked the body for his election as Grand Scribe, and hoped that he could serve well.
- d. (30) MEGHP Watson thanked all for coming out this evening to support the work of the Grand Chapter, reminding all that the Grand Chapter was not the officers but the membership the officers serve. MEGHP extended his thanks to the Companions of James F. Allen Chapter No. 33 for their hospitality in hosting tonight's meeting, and especially to Companions Austin and Marraffa for their significant efforts this evening.
- e. (29) PGHP Robert B. Lumbert, speaking in his capacity as General Grand Ambassador to Maryland brought the warm fraternal greetings of Most Excellent General Grand High Priest Louis Bartrand (whose birthday it was this date). He also confirmed that there was little solid information on the coming Triennium beyond its dates and location, and that we should check the websites for further developments. The Northeast Regional York Rite Conference will be held in Manchester Mass on Friday September 9th . The NEYR Conference provides a unique opportunity to meet and share with Companions of many different states with many of the same challenges. The registration information will be available on the websites so keep an eye out. RARA has a program for \$300 donors called the Keystone Club...available on their website. The General Grand has an electronic monthly newsletter that deals with the travels of the officers and timely issues.

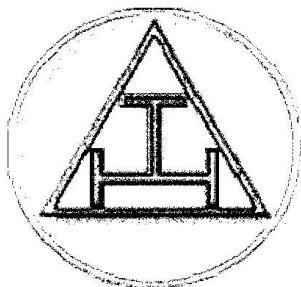
31. **Closing of the Grand Chapter** **M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson, MEGHP**
• There being no further business coming before this Semi-Annual Grand Convocation, the MEGHP proceeded to Close in Ample Form at 9:45 p.m.

Closing Prayer

Ex. Comp. Arthur F. Hebbeler, Grand Chaplain

Supreme Architect of the Universe, we ask your blessing on the officers elected to serve this Grand Chapter in the coming year. Watch over us as we travel to our homes this evening. Be with those who are sick, and who care for the sic, and those that are facing death. Watch over those in the military who protect us and are in harm's way in foreign countries. May the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe rest upon us and all regular Companions. May brotherly love prevail and every moral and social virtue cement. Amen. So mote it be!

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Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland

John Lister, Grand Treasurer
42 Quarter Horse Dr.
Capon Bridge, WV 26711

May 10, 2016

Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Randall L. Watson

MEGHP,

The report of the Grand Treasurer is that the Grand Chapter is in good financial condition. I would like to address a bit of housekeeping from the annual convocation in October when the Grand Chapter approved the proposed liability insurance. Attached is a revised budget for 2016, included is an increase of \$2,700 to the budgeted income in the transfer from the Trustees Reserve Account. PGHP Ponzillo established during his tenure that the reserve account would operate on a fiscal year basis of April 1st thru March 31st each year and that 85% of that year's earnings would be transfer income to the Grand Chapter. As of March 31, 2016 the earnings were in excess of \$16,000. I move that the revised budget be approved to increase the transfer income to cover said expenses.

The Treasurers Final Report for 2015, as of October 31, 2015, is attached. A couple of notes, although the actual income collected fell short of the budget, the Total Expenditures for all categories did not exceed the amount of income generated and overall the budget stayed in the black.

Also attached is the 2016 Semi-Annual Report for the Grand Chapter, the D Ross VanSant Fund, and the Trustees Reserve Fund. The Grand Chapter and the VanSant reports show little activity as most of the income and expenses occur in the second half of the capitular year. The transfer income from the reserve fund was made in April.

The Trustees report attached shows the status of the account as of April 30, 2015. The value of the account and its investments as of that date was \$305,014,.40.

Respectfully submitted,
John M. Lister
Grand Treasurer

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Page 1

Proposed Grand Chapter Budget 2015-2016

Grand Chapter of Royal ArchMasons in Maryland				
2016 BUDGET REVISED				
Acct #	Description	Approved Budget Nov 1 - Oct 31 2015-2016	Proposed Transfers	Revised Budget Nov 1 - Oct 31 2015-2016
1.0	Grand Officers Expenses & Related Items			
1.1	Grand Secretary	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ 1,750
1.2	Grand Lecturer	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
1.3	Grand Treasurer	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 800
1.4	Grand Sentinel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1/5	Grand Organist	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total	\$ 2,800		\$ 2,800
2.0	Personal Expenses			
2.1	Expenses GHP I/O State	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500
	Expenses Grand King	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
	Expenses Grand Scribe	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
2.2	Expenses N.E. Region	\$ 1,250	\$ -	\$ 1,250
2.3	Regional Meetings			
2.4	Degree Team Expenses	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
	sub-Total	\$ 5,500		\$ 5,500
3.0	General Grand Chapter			
3.1	Dues General Grand Chapter (PC)	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ 1,800
3.2	Royal Arch Mag for Members	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ 4,500
3.3	RAM Editor Expense	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
3.4	Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub Total	\$ 6,400		\$ 6,400
4.0	Office Expenses			
4.1	Office Supplies	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 450
4.2	Printing: Visitation Booklet	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750
4.3	Printing: Annual Proceedings	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
4.4	Postage	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400
4.5	Past GHP Jewel & Engraving	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 800
4.6	GHP Apron & Case	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
4.7	Memorials	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
4.8	Membership Program	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
4.10	Equipment Fund	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 700
4.11	Dues Cards	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400
4.12	Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
4.13	Awards	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 700
	SubTotal	\$ 5,900		\$ 5,900
5.0	Service Contracts			
5.1	Office Rent	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400
5.2	Telephones			
5.3	Insurance	\$ 300	\$ 2,700	\$ 3,000
5.4	Web Site	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
	Sub-Total	\$ 300		\$ 3,500
6.0	Grand Sessions			
6.1	Hotel: Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 700		\$ 700

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Page 2

Proposed Grand Chapter Budget 2015-2016

6.3	Distinguished Guests:Meals & Entertainment	\$	3,000		\$	3,000
	Sub-Total	\$	3,700		\$	3,700
7.0	Charity					
7.1	Masonic Youth	\$	500	\$	-	\$ 500
7.2	RARA	\$	100	\$	-	\$ 100
7.3	Grand Lodge	\$	100	\$	-	\$ 100
	Sub-Total	\$	700	\$	-	\$ 700
	Grand Total	\$	25,800		\$	28,500
8.0	Northeast Conference					
	Meals					
	Income					
	Per Capita	\$	14,300		\$	14,300
	Investments	\$	3,500		\$	3,500
	Transfers	\$	7,000	\$	2,700	\$ 9,700
	Exaltations	\$	1,000		\$	1,000
	Total Income	\$	25,800		\$	28,500

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Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2015

11/1/2014 through 10/31/2015 Using 2015 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 21,637.60	\$ 25,800.00	\$ (4,162.40)
_DivInc	\$ 1,353.68	\$ -	\$ 1,353.68
_IntInc	\$ 3.32	\$ -	\$ 3.32
Exaltations	\$ 380.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (620.00)
Invest Inc	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (3,500.00)
Per Capita	\$ 12,900.60	\$ 14,300.00	\$ (1,399.40)
Transfer Income	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -
EXPENSES	\$ 17,276.08	\$ 25,800.00	\$ 8,523.92
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ -
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -
2 - Personal Expenses	\$ 5,204.32	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 295.68
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
2.1.2 - Grand King Personal Expenses	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
2.1.3 - Grand Scribe Personal Expenses	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
2.2 - Expenses N. E. Region	\$ 915.58	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 334.42
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$ 288.74	\$ 250.00	\$ (38.74)
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$ 6,584.02	\$ 6,400.00	\$ (184.02)
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$ 1,459.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 341.00
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$ 5,025.02	\$ 4,500.00	\$ (525.02)
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 1,372.61	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 4,527.39
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$ 230.81	\$ 450.00	\$ 219.19
4.02 - Printing Visitation Booklet	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$ 226.05	\$ 400.00	\$ 173.95
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.07 - Memorials	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.08 - Membership Program	\$ 377.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 122.50
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$ 138.25	\$ 700.00	\$ 561.75
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
4.12 - Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.13 - Awards	\$ 400.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 300.00
5 - Service Contracts	\$ 250.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 550.00
5.1 - Office Rent	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
5.3 - Insurance	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 50.00
5.4 - Web Site	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons 2016 Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2015

11/1/2014 through 10/31/2015 Using 2015 Grand Chapter

6 - Grand Sessions	\$ 790.13	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 2,909.87
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$ 790.13	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,209.87
7 - Charity	\$ 275.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 425.00
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$ 75.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 425.00
7.2 - RARA	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons D Ross VanSant 2015 Final Report

11/1/2014 through 10/31/2015 Using 2015 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	2015 Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 5,399.48	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 899.48
_DivInc	\$ 4,234.35	\$ -	\$ 4,234.35
_IntInc	\$ 0.13	\$ -	\$ 0.13
Donations Received	\$ 1,165.00	\$ -	\$ 1,165.00
EXPENSES	\$ 8,150.00	\$ 5,900.00	\$ (2,250.00)
7 - Charity	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ (8,000.00)
7.4 - Scholarships	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ (8,000.00)
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
4.12 - Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons **2016**

Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2016 11/1/2015 through 5/10/2016 Using 2016 Grand Chapter

Category	11/1/2015 Actual	Budget	5/10/2016 Difference
INCOME	\$ 10,522.33	\$ 25,800.00	\$ 15,277.67
_DivInc	\$ 811.26	\$ -	\$ 811.26
_IntInc	\$ 11.07	\$ -	\$ 11.07
Exaltations	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
Invest Inc	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (3,500.00)
Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 14,300.00	\$ (14,300.00)
Transfer Income	\$ 9,700.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 2,700.00
EXPENSES	\$ 13,863.68	\$ 25,700.00	\$ 11,836.32
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 1,400.00
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 875.00
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$ 400.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00
2 - Personal Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 500.00
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
2.1.2 - Grand King Personal Expenses	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
2.1.3 - Grand Scribe Personal Expenses	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
2.2 - Expenses N. E. Region	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$ 4,675.63	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 1,724.37
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$ 2,660.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (860.00)
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$ 2,015.63	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,484.37
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 1,185.05	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 4,714.95
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$ 200.70	\$ 450.00	\$ 249.30
4.02 - Printing Visitation Booklet	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$ 100.71	\$ 500.00	\$ 399.29
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$ 333.64	\$ 500.00	\$ 166.36
4.07 - Memorials	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.08 - Membership Program	\$ 550.00	\$ 500.00	\$ (50.00)
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
4.12 - Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.13 - Awards	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
5 - Service Contracts	\$ 3,103.00	\$ 800.00	\$ (2,303.00)
5.1 - Office Rent	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
5.3 - Insurance	\$ 3,103.00	\$ 300.00	\$ (2,803.00)
5.4 - Web Site	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
6 - Grand Sessions	\$ -	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons **2016** Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2016

11/1/2015 through 5/10/2016 Using 2016 Grand Chapter

7 - Charity	\$	-	\$	600.00	\$	600.00
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	100.00

Grand Chapter RAM D Ross VanSant Fund Semi-Annual Report 2016

11/1/2015 through 5/10/2016 Using 2016 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 1,853.45	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (1,646.55)
Invest Inc	\$ 1,853.45	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (1,646.55)
EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Maryland
“Trustees Committee”

May 10, 2016

Since the report at the Semi-Annual in May the Reserve Fund exceeded \$300,000 in value but, due to market volatility was up and down in value twice and as of September 30, 2014 settled at the value shown below. Overall during the past year from November 2013 to September 2014 the value of the fund has increased approximately 8%.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, “Reserve Account” (633-115782-529) balance as of 30 April 2016 was \$305,014.40. Breakdown of funds:

Cash	\$ 20,887.31
Common Stocks	\$186,873.25
Closed End Funds	\$ 25,204.00
Corporate Fixed Income	\$ 28,928.00
Mutual Funds	\$ 43,121.84

For the Committee,

Stephen J. Ponzillo III, PGHP

John B. McClay, PGHP

Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons **2016** Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

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Proposed Grand Chapter Budget 2016-2017

Grand Chapter of Royal ArchMasons in Maryland			
2017 BUDGET PREPARATION			
Acct #	Description	Revised Budget Nov 1 - Oct 31 2015-2016	Proposed Budget Nov 1 - Oct 31 2016-2017
1.0	Grand Officers Expenses & Related Items		
1.1	Grand Secretary	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750
1.2	Grand Lecturer	\$ 250	\$ 250
1.3	Grand Treasurer	\$ 800	\$ 800
1.4	Grand Sentinel	\$ -	\$ -
1/5	Grand Organist	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800
2.0	Personal Expenses		
2.1	Expenses GHP I/O State	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	Expenses Grand King	\$ 250	\$ 250
	Expenses Grand Scribe	\$ 250	\$ 250
2.2	Expenses N.E. Region	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250
2.3	Regional Meetings		
2.4	Degree Team Expenses	\$ 250	\$ 250
	sub-Total	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500
3.0	General Grand Chapter		
3.1	Dues General Grand Chapter (PC)	\$ 1,800	\$ 4,500
3.2	Royal Arch Mag for Members	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,000
3.3	RAM Editor Expense	\$ 100	\$ 100
3.4	Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ 3,000
	Sub Total	\$ 6,400	\$ 12,600
4.0	Office Expenses		
4.1	Office Supplies	\$ 450	\$ 450
4.2	Printing: Visitation Booklet	\$ 300	\$ 300
4.3	Printing: Annual Proceedings	\$ 200	\$ 200
4.4	Postage	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.5	Past GHP Jewel & Engraving	\$ 800	\$ 800
4.6	GHP Apron & Case	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.7	Memorials	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.8	Membership Program	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.10	Equipment Fund	\$ 650	\$ 650
4.11	Dues Cards	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.12	Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.13	Awards	\$ 700	\$ 700
	SubTotal	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100
5.0	Service Contracts		
5.1	Office Rent	\$ 400	\$ 400
5.2	Telephones		
5.3	Insurance	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
5.4	Web Site	\$ 100	\$ 100
	Sub-Total	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
6.0	Grand Sessions		
6.1	Hotel: Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 300	\$ 300

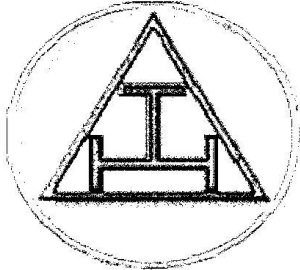
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons **2016** Semi-Annual Grand Convocation

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Proposed Grand Chapter Budget 2016-2017

6.3	Distinguished Guests:Meals & Entertainment	\$	1,500		\$	1,500
	Sub-Total	\$	1,800		\$	1,300
7.0	Charity					
7.1	Masonic Youth	\$	500		\$	500
7.2	RARA	\$	100		\$	100
7.3	Grand Lodge	\$	100		\$	100
	Sub-Total	\$	700		\$	700
	Grand Total	\$	25,300		\$	32,000
8.0	Northeast Conference					
	Meals					
	Income					
	Per Capita	\$	14,300		\$	15,400
	Investments	\$	3,500		\$	3,600
	Transfers	\$	7,000		\$	12,000
	Exaltations	\$	1,000		\$	1,000
	Total Income	\$	25,800		\$	32,000

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons | 2016 Semi-Annual Grand Convocation



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland

John Lister, Grand Treasurer
42 Quarter Horse Dr.
Capon Bridge, WV 26711

May 10, 2016

Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Randall L. Watson

MEGHP,

The report of the Grand Treasurer is that the Grand Chapter is in good financial condition. I would like to address a bit of housekeeping from the annual convocation in October when the Grand Chapter approved the proposed liability insurance. Attached is a revised budget for 2016, included is an increase of \$2,700 to the budgeted income in the transfer from the Trustees Reserve Account. PGHP Ponzillo established during his tenure that the reserve account would operate on a fiscal year basis of April 1st thru March 31st each year and that 85% of that year's earnings would be transfer income to the Grand Chapter. As of March 31, 2016 the earnings were in excess of \$16,000. I move that the revised budget be approved to increase the transfer income to cover said expenses.

The Treasurers Final Report for 2015, as of October 31, 2015, is attached. A couple of notes, although the actual income collected fell short of the budget, the Total Expenditures for all categories did not exceed the amount of income generated and overall the budget stayed in the black.

Also attached is the 2016 Semi-Annual Report for the Grand Chapter, the D Ross VanSant Fund, and the Trustees Reserve Fund. The Grand Chapter and the VanSant reports show little activity as most of the income and expenses occur in the second half of the capitular year. The transfer income from the reserve fund was made in April.

The Trustees report attached shows the status of the account as of April 30, 2015. The value of the account and its investments as of that date was \$305,014.40.

Respectfully submitted,
John M. Lister
Grand Treasurer