

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF MARYLAND



SEMI-ANNUAL CONVOCATION

MAY 9, 2024
ORIENTAL ROOM
Hunt Valley, Maryland



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland
Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Maryland
Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland



Call Letter for Semi-Annual Meetings,
and
Special Grand Assembly for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree
Annual Council of Anointed High Priests

Companions & Sir Knights

By order of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, ME Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, Most Illustrious Grand Master, MI Comp. William C. Hare, Jr, Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK Bradley D. Andrukitis, and Most Excellent President Robert B. Lumbert, an official notice is hereby given for:

**The Semi-Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland,
The Semi-Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland,
The Semi-Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, and
The Annual Meeting Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland**

The Grand Chapter will meet in Grand Convocation on **Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Convocation. The agenda includes Finance & Budget, Election of 2025 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary.

The dress is a Tuxedo with a Red Jacket, Apron, & Jewels for Officers and a Coat & Tie for all others. Please wear your Chapter Apron.

Location: Oriental Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD

The Grand Council will meet in Grand Assembly on **Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 7:00 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly. The agenda includes Finance & Budget, Election of 2025 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary.

The dress is a Tuxedo, Apron & Jewels for Officers and a Coat & Tie for all others. Please wear your Council Apron.

Location: Oriental Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD.

The Grand Commandery will meet in Grand Conclave on **Monday, May 20, 2024, at 7:30 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave. The agenda includes Finance & Budget, Election of 2025 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary. The dress is Full Templar Uniform, Chapeau & Sword.

Location: Gothic Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD

Fraternally & Respectfully,

ME Comp William C. Eppig
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Maryland

RIC. William C. Eppig
Grand Recorder
Grand Council of Maryland

SK Vernon H. Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of KT in MD

The Annual Meeting Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland
April 27, 2024
Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink
Cockeysville, Maryland

9:30 am - GRAND CHAPTER LAW SCHOOL for qualified MEHP’s-Elect is **ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED** for the CAHP Degree. Assemble in the Main Lobby of Freemason Hall.

9:30 am – 10:30 am - Oriental Room - COUNCIL OF ANOINTED HIGH PRIESTS Set up and Rehearsal (Officers Only)

10:30 am - Oriental Room - COUNCIL OF ANOINTED HIGH PRIESTS will hold its annual meeting and confer its Degree upon qualified candidates. This meeting is restricted to PHP’s, current MEHP’s, and qualified MEHP’s-Elect. The Application Form is on the Grand Secretary’s page of the Grand Chapter of Maryland (YORKRITEMARYLAND.ORG). No Fee is Required. The dress is a Tuxedo for Candidates and Officers.

No Aprons or jewels are required; Masonic jewels and pins are traditionally not worn at this meeting.

Chapters having candidates are especially encouraged to attend for the benefit of the candidates.

After the meeting, an Anniversary Dinner will be held at Pappas in Cockeysville at 1 pm. This Dinner will be open to all Council of Anointed High Priest members. A limited-minted Anniversary Coin will be available. More Information and costs will be published soon.

Dinner includes an appetizer, a choice of Entrees, sides, and dessert.

The Grand Council will confer the TIM Degree on May 23, 2024, at 6:30 pm at Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink Cockeysville, Maryland.

Fraternally and respectfully,

ME Comp William C. Eppig
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Maryland

RI Comp William C, Eppig
Grand Recorder
Grand Council of Maryland

Ex Comp Vernon
Huebschman
Excellent Secretary
Council of Anointed High
Priests
of Maryland

SK Vernon
Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of
KT in M

Ex Comp Dennis Ewing
Grand Lecturer

Ex Comp Vernon
Huebschman,
Grand Lecturer

Agenda
Grand Chapter Semi-Annual Convocation
May 9, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Oriental Room Hunt Valley, Maryland

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Opening of Grand Chapter | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 1a. Preliminary Conference Report -by Roll-Call | Vernon Huebschman, PGHP |
| 2. Reception of Past Grand High Priests | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 3. Proceedings of 2023 Annual Grand Convocation | William Eppig, REG Sec. |
| 4. Report of the Grand Secretary | William Eppig, REG Sec. |
| 5. Report of the Grand Treasurer & Trustees | John Lister, REG Treas. |
| 6. Report of the Committee on Accounts & Finance | Dennis Ewing, REGK |
| 7. Report of the Grand High Priest | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 8. Final Roll Call - Committee on Conference | Vernon Huebschman, PGHP |
| 9. Nominations & Election of Officers for the 24 – 25 Capital Year | Bruce Colburn, PGHP |
| 10. Report of the Grand Lecturer & Committee on Work | Dennis Ewing, Grand Lecturer |
| 11. Report of the Committee on Youth Relations & Scholarships | Richard Naegele, PGHP. Chair. |
| 12. Report of the Committee on Royal Arch Research Assistance | Andrew Martinez, MEGHP. |
| 13. Report of the Committee on Time & Place | Dennis Ewing, REGK Chair. |
| 14. Report of the Committee on Sessions Planning 2024 | Darryl Smith, Chairman |
| 15. Report of the Committee Correspondence & Fraternal Relations | Robert Lumbert, PGHP |
| 16. Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence & Grievance | Randall L. Watson, PGHP |
| 17. Report of Committed on Awards & Recognition | Randall L. Watson, PGHP |
| 18. Report of Committee on Events | Dennis Ewing, REGK |
| 19. Committee on Long Range Planning | Rafael Rodriguez, REGS |
| 20. Committee on Membership | Rafael Rodriguez, REGS |
| 21. Reports to be received and published, requiring no action | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 22. Doings of the Grand Officers | Joesph White, PHP |
| 23. Unfinished Business from Prior Grand Convocation | Richard Naegele, PGHP |
| 24. New Business introduced at this Grand Convocation | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 25. Introduction of Distinguished Visitors | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 26. Announcements & Schedule Items | As required. |
| 27. Voluntary Remarks | Companions in attendance |
| 28. Official Remarks | Distinguished Visitors |
| 29. Installation of Officers | Fall 2024 |
| 30. Final Remarks: MEGHP | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |
| 31. Closing of Grand Chapter | G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP |

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

1. Opening of Grand Chapter

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion G. Andrew Martinez, called the Grand Chapter to order with the following Grand Chapter Officers. No substitutes seated:

Grand High Priest: M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez

Grand King: R.E. Comp. Dennis W. Ewing – **Excused**

Grand Scribe: R.E. Comp. Rafael Rodriguez

Grand Secretary: M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P.

Grand Treasurer: R.E. Comp. John M. Lister

Grand Captain of the Host: Ex. Comp. William E. F. Miller III

Grand Principal Sojourner: Ex. Comp. Darryl Smith

Grand Royal Arch Captain: Ex. Comp. Dirk Wilker - **Excused**

Grand Master of the Third Veil: Ex. Comp. Robert Reynolds

Grand Master of the Second Veil: Ex. Comp. Gordon Munholland - **Excused**

Grand Master of the First Veil: Ex. Comp. James Kinnear

Grand Chaplain: Ex. Comp. A. Dean Burt

Grand Sentinel: Andrew Wilson – **Excused**

Grand Lecturer: Ex. Comp. Dennis W. Ewing – **Excused**

Deputy Grand Lecturer: M.E. Comp. Bruce G. Colburn

The Grand Chaplain offered the opening prayer.

The M.E.G.H.P. led the Pledge of Allegiance and directed that the Lights be set.

The Grand Chapter was then declared Open in Ample Form at 7:19 pm.

Full Report of the Committee on Conference: Complete Attendance

Concordia Royal Arch Chapter No.1: 3	Bruce G. Colburn, P.G.H.P. Robert B. Lumbert, P.G.H.P. Ken Kiessling	Phoenix Royal Arch Chapter No. 7: 3	William Miller William Wickham James Bradley
Chesapeake Royal Arch Chapter No. 17: 0	Not Represented	Salem Royal Arch Chapter No. 18: 0	Not Represented
Talbot Royal Arch Chapter No. 22: 0	Not Represented	Adoniram Royal Arch Chapter No. 21: 1	John Rafine
		Enoch Royal Arch Chapter No. 23: 1	Robert Koons
Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 25: 5	John M. Lister, REGTreas George Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. Rafael Rodriquez R.E. G.K. Gorden Davids James Jolly	Druid Royal Arch Chapter No. 28: 5	William E. Eppig, P.G.H.P. Robert W. Chase, P.G.H.P. George Christoff Robert Reynolds Richard Naegle, P.G.H.P
James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33: 1	James Kinnear	Carroll Royal Arch Chapter No. 31: 0	Not Represented
		Edenton Royal Arch Chapter No. 36: 3	Dean Burt Vern Huebschman, PGHP Stephen Twomey, II
Tuscan Royal Arch Chapter No. 42: 2	Darryl Smith Mark Wisnieski	York Royal Arch Chapter No. 44: 1	John Morris, III
*= Non-voting Comp's.			#= added by GrScrty

1a. Preliminary Report on Conference

R. E. William Eppig, Gr Sec

Attendance of Voting Members was taken by P.G.H.P. Vernon H. Huebschman by calling the Roll of all qualified voting members. This was due to issues with social distancing and reducing health risks.

M.E.G.H.P.,

The register shows the following:

- 9 - Chapters represented of 15.
- 25 - Voting Members were present.
- 0 - Non-Voting members were present.

2. Reception of Past Grand High Priests

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. Martinez presented and welcomed the following Past Grand High Priest in attendance:

Year Elected	Past Grand High Priest
2004	Vernon H. Huebschman
2010 – 2011	Robert B. Lumbert
2013	Richard P. Naegele
2018	William C. Eppig
2019	Bruce G. Colburn
2021	Robert W. Chase

Grand Honors were given to the assembled Past Grand High Priests led by the M.E.G.H.P. and assembled Companions. M.E. Comp. Friel responded for the assembled P.G.H.P.'s.

3. Annual Proceedings

R.E. Comp. William Eppig, Gr. Sec.

M.E.G.H.P.,

The Proceedings of the 2023 Annual Grand Convocation have been available on the Grand Chapter website since November 2023. As the 2023 Proceeding has been available for inspection and review and will continue to be so, I move that they be accepted as posted, subject to further correction should any cause be found.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report, passed unanimously.

4. Report of the Grand Secretary

R.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, G. Sec.

M.E.G.H.P.,

I have a few notes in this report and will touch on them briefly, but the most important thing I need to cover is the new membership management system.

990N: A yellow banner on the gateway page of yorkritemaryland.org links to the most expeditious route to the I.R.S. 990N submission page. Though the I.R.S. requires this form to be completed every two years, The Grand Chapter needs them completed every year. Yearly filing helps prevent a failure to report, primarily if a change in secretaries occurs. If this happens, you may lose your tax status and E.I.N. #.

Ritual Books: Approval was given to reprint the current White Ritual Book at the last meeting. The M.E.G.H.P. took the lead and had 100 New Ritual books printed. They are scheduled to be

picked up this week. We sold the old books for \$15, but with inflation, the cost of printing also went up, so the new price for the Ritual Book will be \$20.

Membership Management System: After some delay and scheduling difficulties with the Membership System administrator. Comp Huebschman and I had a Zoom call with Robert Bigley, the administrator for the System, in late March. While talking with him and his assistant, he informed us the office was moving. This move would have caused a time delay for them to enter the membership data into the System, and it would not have been completed until late fall.

Due to this, we would be allowed to enter the member's data ourselves and have the System up once we were done, so we took that option. They demonstrated how to enter the names, which is somewhat simple, but a little time-consuming.

We reached out to Kris Brown to help, and he agreed. With the three of us working on it, we hoped to have everything entered within a month. After that, we will set up training for those Secretaries and Recorders unfamiliar with the System. We completed entering the data at the end of April, and I would like to thank Comp: Huebschman and Brown for their assistance in entering over a thousand names into this System.

On a good note, by entering the database, we had an adjustment to the bill. It went from over \$4100.00 to \$1500.00.

We entered only the current active membership. We did not enter suspensions or those who died. We will let the secretaries and recorders enter the member if he is reinstated. I will keep the current deaths in the Access file. Any future will be entered into the new System. We ran the names through the GLMMS and found several members that had passed away over the years and not reported, also a few members suspended by the lodge.

We agreed on a process for entering Degree and exaltation dates if we did not have them. This mainly occurred with those members before 1995. Again, we will have the Sec. and Rec. to review and enter if they have it.

After this meeting, an email will be sent to the Secretaries to begin gaining access to the System and their chapter membership. Based on the schedule and location with Wi-Fi, I plan to set up at least three training classes over the next month or two. I want to hold at least three classes north, south, and west in the state. Once training is completed, the general membership will then be given access similar to the GL MMS.

With this new System, the Annual reporting process will change. Since the Secretaries will enter most of the information required on the old annual report form, we only need the tabulation page, 990n copy, and financial information. This year will be a little different than future years and will explain more to the secretaries.

As with any change like this, we expect a one-to-two-year break-in from our old Access system to this new M.M.S. The new System gives the Secretaries and Recorders greater flexibility and instant information at their fingertips.

Respectfully Submitted and move acceptance of this report.

William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P., Grand Secretary

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Report of the Grand Treasurer

R.E. Comp. John Lister, R.E.G.T.

G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP,

The report of the Grand Treasurer is that the Grand Chapter is in good financial condition. The Treasurers Final Report for 2023 is attached. Although the report shows the year being short \$2,495 in income, we spent \$12,925 less than budgeted and stayed in the black.

The Semi-Annual Treasurers Report for 2024, as of May 5, 2024, is attached, along with the 2024 Interim Report for the Trustees Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund report shows the status of the account as of March 31, 2024. The value of the account and its investments as of that date was \$572,744.30, that's a 20% increase since November 1st. This being an election year, often the market does well in the first half of the year. Let's hope this continues in the second half of the year.

Also attached, as reviewed by the Accounts and Finance committee, is the proposed budget for 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Lister
Grand Treasurer

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2023
11/1/2022 through 10/31/2023 Using 2023 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 33,164.80	\$ 35,700.00	\$ (2,495.20)
Council Anointed Hig Priests	\$ 560.00	\$ 600.00	\$ (40.00)
_IntInc	\$ 2.91	\$ -	\$ 2.91
Exaltations	\$ 210.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (790.00)
Invest Inc	\$ 654.78	\$ 3,600.00	\$ (2,945.22)
Donations Received	\$ 3,280.11	\$ -	\$ 3,280.11
Other Inc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Per Capita	\$ 11,757.00	\$ 13,800.00	\$ (2,043.00)
Transfer Income	\$ 16,700.00	\$ 16,700.00	\$ -
EXPENSES	\$ 22,774.82	\$ 35,700.00	\$ 12,925.18
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 150.00
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
1.4 - Grand Sentinel	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
1.5 - Grand Organist	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
2 - Personal Expenses	\$ 4,978.31	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 621.69
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$ 3,999.90	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.10
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$ 3,499.90	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 0.10
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
2.3 - Regional Meetings	\$ 784.35	\$ -	\$ (784.35)
2.3.1 - Grand Lecturer Instrction Mtgs	\$ 194.06	\$ 100.00	\$ (94.06)
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$ 5,887.76	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 5,612.24
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$ 3,069.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 531.00
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$ 2,718.76	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 281.24
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
3.4 -Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 1,808.84	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 2,241.16
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$ 216.10	\$ 450.00	\$ 233.90
4.02 - Printing Ritual Books	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$ 232.20	\$ 400.00	\$ 167.80
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.07 - Memorials	\$ 124.50	\$ 100.00	\$ (24.50)
4.08 - Membership Program	\$ 7.95	\$ 500.00	\$ 492.05
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$ 77.09	\$ 400.00	\$ 322.91
4.12 - Miscelaneous Expense	\$ 239.00	\$ 100.00	\$ (139.00)
4.13 - Awards	\$ 912.00	\$ 350.00	\$ (562.00)
5 - Service Contracts	\$ 2,530.54	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 1,569.46

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2023

11/1/2022 through 10/31/2023 Using 2023 Grand Chapter

5.1 - Office Rent	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
5.3 - Insurance	\$ 1,817.54	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 182.46
5.4 - Web Site	\$ 153.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 947.00
5.5 - Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 560.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 40.00
6 - Grand Sessions	\$ 2,709.37	\$ 2,100.00	\$ (609.37)
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 362.97	\$ 300.00	\$ (62.97)
6.2 - Luncheons (Members & Ladies)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$ 2,346.40	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (546.40)
7 - Charity	\$ 1,460.00	\$ 800.00	\$ (660.00)
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -
7.2 - RARA	\$ 760.00	\$ 100.00	\$ (660.00)
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Other 7 - Charity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Grand Chapter RAM D Ross VanSant Fund Final Report 2023

11/1/2022 through 10/31/2023 Using 2023 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 7,848.47	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 1,348.47
Invest Inc	\$ 3,232.10	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (267.90)
Donations Received	\$ 1,615.55	\$ -	\$ 1,615.55
_IntInc	\$ 0.82	\$ -	\$ 0.82
Transfer Income	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
EXPENSES	\$ 7,175.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (3,175.00)
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 175.00	\$ -	\$ (175.00)
Scholarships	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (3,000.00)

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2024
11/1/2023 through 5/5/2024 Using 2024 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual		Budget		Difference
INCOME	\$	1,601.56	\$	30,900.00	\$ (29,298.44)
_DivInc	\$	1,599.98	\$	-	\$ 1,599.98
_IntInc	\$	1.58	\$	-	\$ 1.58
_Rlzd Gain	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Donations Received	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Council Anointed High Priest	\$	-	\$	600.00	\$ (600.00)
Exaltations	\$	-	\$	1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
Invest Inc	\$	-	\$	3,600.00	\$ (3,600.00)
Other Income	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Per Capita	\$	-	\$	13,800.00	\$ (13,800.00)
Transfer Income	\$	-	\$	11,900.00	\$ (11,900.00)
EXPENSES	\$	13,125.47	\$	30,900.00	\$ 17,774.53
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$	1,800.00	\$	3,550.00	\$ 1,750.00
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$	1,100.00	\$	2,000.00	\$ 900.00
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$	200.00	\$	400.00	\$ 200.00
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$	500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$ 500.00
1.4 - Grand Sentinel	\$	-	\$	50.00	\$ 50.00
15 - Grand Organist	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00
2 - Personal Expenses	\$	2,000.00	\$	5,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$	2,000.00	\$	4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$	1,750.00	\$	3,500.00	\$ 1,750.00
2.1.2 - Grand King Personal Expenses	\$	125.00	\$	250.00	\$ 125.00
2.1.3 - Grand Scribe Personal Expenses	\$	125.00	\$	250.00	\$ 125.00
2.2 - Expenses N. E. Region	\$	-	\$	1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
2.3 - Regional Meetings	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$	-	\$	250.00	\$ 250.00
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$	3,016.76	\$	6,700.00	\$ 3,683.24
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$	2,868.00	\$	3,600.00	\$ 732.00
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$	148.76	\$	3,000.00	\$ 2,851.24
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00
3.4 -Triennial Expenses	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
4 - Office Expenses	\$	2,929.07	\$	4,050.00	\$ 1,120.93
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$	186.83	\$	450.00	\$ 263.17
4.02 - Printing Ritual Books	\$	2,164.34	\$	-	\$ (2,164.34)
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$ 500.00
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$	-	\$	400.00	\$ 400.00
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$ 500.00
4.07 - Memorials	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00
4.08 - Membership Program	\$	535.95	\$	500.00	\$ (35.95)
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$	-	\$	650.00	\$ 650.00
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$	-	\$	400.00	\$ 400.00
4.12 - Miscelaneous Expense	\$	41.95	\$	100.00	\$ 58.05
4.13 - Awards	\$	-	\$	350.00	\$ 350.00
Other 4 - Office Expenses	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2024

11/1/2023 through 5/5/2024 Using 2024 Grand Chapter

5 - Service Contracts	\$ 2,917.64	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 1,182.36
5.1 - Office Rent	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
5.3 - Insurance	\$ 2,122.64	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (122.64)
5.4 - Web Site	\$ 795.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 305.00
5.5 - Council Anointed High Priests	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
6 - Grand Sessions	\$ -	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
7 - Charity	\$ 462.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,338.00
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 400.00
7.2 - RARA	\$ 262.00	\$ 100.00	\$ (162.00)
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
7.4 - Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00

Printed: 5/6/2024

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of MD Trustees Reserve Fund 2023-24

	Total Value Last Period	Credits / Debits	Change in Value	Total Value this Period
November-23	\$ 474,900.21	\$ 677.03	\$ 31,709.34	\$ 507,286.58
December-23	\$ 507,286.58	\$ 1,540.70	\$ 18,886.50	\$ 527,713.78
January-24	\$ 527,713.78	\$ 78.55	\$ 5,219.88	\$ 533,012.21
February-24	\$ 533,012.21	\$ 860.73	\$ 20,063.21	\$ 553,936.15
March-24	\$ 553,936.15	\$ 1,271.01	\$ 17,537.14	\$ 572,744.30
April-24				
May-24				
June-24				
July-24				
August-24				
September-24				
October-24				

Value as of November 1, 2023	\$ 474,900.21
Value as of September 30, 2024	\$ 572,744.30
Total Gains (Realized & Unrealized)	\$ 97,844.09
	20.60%

BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
Randall Watson	2022-2025
John Maclay	2021-2024
John A. Rafine	2020-2023

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland 2024
Semi-Annual Convocation

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland			
2025 BUDGET PREPARATION			
Acct #	Description	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
		Nov 1 - Oct 31	Nov 1 - Oct 31
		2023-2024	2024-2025
1.0	Grand Officers Expenses & Related Items		
1.1	Grand Secretary	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
1.2	Grand Lecturer	\$ 400	\$ 400
1.3	Grand Treasurer	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
1.4	Grand Sentinel	\$ 50	\$ 50
1.5	Grand Organist	\$ 100	\$ -
	Sub-Total	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,450
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	\$ -	\$ -
2.3.1	Grand Lecturer Instruction Mtgs	\$ 100	\$ 100
2.4	Degree Team Expenses	\$ 250	\$ 250
	sub-Total	\$ 5,600	\$ 5,600
3.0	General Grand Chapter		
3.1	Dues General Grand Chapter (PC)	\$ 3,600	\$ 2,900
3.2	Royal Arch Mag for Members	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,900
3.3	RAM Editor Expense	\$ 100	\$ 100
3.4	Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub Total	\$ 6,700	\$ 5,900
4.0	Office Expenses		
4.1	Office Supplies	\$ 450	\$ 450
4.2	Printing: Proceedings	\$ 500	\$ -
4.3	Printing: Ritual Books	\$ -	\$ 500
4.4	Postage	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.5	Past GHP Jewel & Engraving	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.6	GHP Apron & Case	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.7	Memorials	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.8	Membership Program	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.10	Equipment Fund	\$ 650	\$ 450
4.11	Dues Cards	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.12	Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.13	Awards	\$ 350	\$ 350
	SubTotal	\$ 4,050	\$ 3,850
5.0	Service Contracts		
5.1	Office Rent	\$ 400	\$ -
5.2	Telephones		
5.3	Insurance	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,200
5.4	Website	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
5.4.1	Membership System	\$ -	\$ 400
5.5	Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 600	\$ 600
	Sub-Total	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,300

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland			
2025 BUDGET PREPARATION			
Acct #	Description	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
		Nov 1 - Oct 31	Nov 1 - Oct 31
		2023-2024	2024-2025
6.0	Grand Sessions		
6.1	Hotel: Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 300	\$ 500
6.3	Distinguished Guests:Meals & Entertainment	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,000
	Sub-Total	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,500
7.0	Charity		
7.1	Masonic Youth	\$ 600	\$ 600
7.2	RARA	\$ 100	\$ 100
7.3	Grand Lodge	\$ 100	\$ 100
7.4	Scholarships	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
	Sub-Total	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800
	Grand Total	\$ 30,900	\$ 30,400
	Income		
	Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 600	\$ 600
	Per Capita	\$ 13,800	\$ 11,063
	Investments	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
	Transfers	\$ 11,900	\$ 14,637
	Exaltations	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
	Total Income	\$ 30,900	\$ 30,400
	962 x \$11.50 =	\$ 11.50	
		\$ 2.50	RAGMAG
		\$ 9.00	
		\$ 3.00	GGC PER CAPITA
		\$ 6.00	MD GCRA

6. Report on Committee of Accounts and Finance

R.E. Comp. Rafael Rodriguez, R.E.G.K.

The M.E.G.H.P. and REGS reviewed the Grand Chapter's finances with R.E. Grand Treasurer John Lister via Zoom and found that our finances are in good shape and aligned with the budget. Companion Lister presented his budget for the upcoming year, and I asked the Convocation to approve and accept the budget.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rafael Rodriguez, REGS

It was moved and seconded to accept the report, and after discussion, the report and 2025 Budget were approved.

M.E.G.H.P. G. Andrew Martinez calls on Ex. Comp, Raphael Rodriguez, Grand Scribe, to assume the East to preside over the meeting to deliver the Report of the Grand High Priest.

7. Report of the Grand High Priest

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

It has been a very fast six months since the 2023 Annual Grand Sessions. Most of my work of recent is behind the scenes doing what I can to support the local Chapters and our Grand Chapter. (I've also been doing a lot of work supporting my very active family.) I was unable to attend November's Grand Master's Banquet as both of my kids were in their school's Fall musical that evening and I had to miss the Grand Lodge Annual Communication to attend the funeral of a dear friend of 31 years. I did get to attend the Initiation of another good friend into our fraternity two days later. My blue lodges (yes, plural) and other Masonic commitments have also kept me very busy.

In December, I got to attend Palestine #7's Christmas Observance on December 9th for a very well-done service and lunch. December 12th brought an unexpected treat in being invited to attend dinner at Toby's with Concordia #1 to see Miracle on 34th Street, a great out of the box way to gather as Companions, family, and friends. Unfortunately, Covid raised its ugly head again and the York Rite Bonnie Blink Service was cancelled on December 17th. Another unexpected treat was attending Odenton Lodge #209's holiday dinner and book exchange, a fun night of fellowship on December 20th.

January brought in the Blue Lodge Installation Season, where quite a few Companions helped distribute the 2024 Worshipful Masters pins. I did get to present REGS Rodriguez with his 2024 Worshipful Master pin at our Lodge, Sol Naciente #242, on January 24th. How often do two Grand Officers get to do that?! We got more pins out this year than the last and my plan is to hand out the remaining pins at the Annual Communication at Grand Lodge on May 18th. A BIG THANK YOU to all those who helped with the Masters pin this year! Also, on January 8th I got to hand out a

Triple Tau to MEHP James Jolley and two White Taus to Companions Matt Buhler and Chris Thompson at Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter #25.

February brought the Grand Visitation to Mt. Vernon #25 on the 12th and Concordia #1 on the 13th, where I got to present MEHP Gordon Munholland his Triple Tau. Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite kept me pretty much busy the rest of the month.

March brought more car rides supporting my kids for the Spring Rock & Roll Revival, though the Grand Scribe and I did get to the Delaware Grand Chapter Sessions on March 9th and the Washington D.C. Grand Chapter Sessions on March 16th. March 11th, I had my Grand Visitation to Enoch Chapter and enjoyed participating in their Most Excellent Master conferral that evening. On March 22nd, I had a grand time attending the Rainbow Grand Assembly and got to catch up with many good friends like Claudia Eaton and Gene Chance from OES #46. I was a true honor to be able to attend that event.

On April 2nd, I happily was happy to help out at Edenton Chapter #36 stepping in as Captain of the Host. Four new Royal Arch Masons were exalted that evening! As many members of Talbot #22 were in attendance and as were several Grand Officers (Munholland, Burt, and Huebschman), we made it an on-the-fly Grand Visitation. On April 5th REGS Rafael and I visited York #44 and had a good evening talking over future plans for the Chapter. April 11, the Grand Line did the Installation of Officers at Druid #28. It was a fine evening of fellowship and PGHP Bob Chase and I got to present Service Awards to Companions John Thomas and Keith Warner. April 27th, was the 200th Council of Anointed High Priests where Companions Mark Wisnewski and Bryan Remley were brought into the Maryland MEHP fold. A fantastic luncheon was had after the meeting and many stories were told about the Council over the years.

The next two months will close out my 2023-24 Grand Visitations to Tuscan #42, Adoniram #21, and James F. Allen #33 in May and Salem #18, Phoenix #7, and Chesapeake #17 in June. There are Installations to be done and degree work for me to assist! The new Grand Chapter pins have come in depicting the Grand Chapter seal and year of establishment and they will be available starting at the Semi-Annual on May 9th.

Companions, I still have many things I want to get done before the end of this year, mostly as forward-facing actions to support my successor and hopefully not leaving a lot of unfinished business when he takes the reins. I continue to work in the quarries for you, doing the work you that you ask me to do. I still firmly believe that every Freemason should be a Royal Arch freemason.

Travel Bright and Be the Light the World Needs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, MEGHP

It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Passed unanimously.

M.E. Comp. Martinez resumed in the East to continue with the meeting.

8. Committee on Conference, Final Report

R.E. William C. Eppig, G. Sec.

The register shows the following:

- 9 - Chapters represented of 15.
- 24 - Voting Members were present.
- 0 - Non-Voting members were present.

9. Nominations and Elections:

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. Chase presided over the nominations and Elections of the Officers of the Grand Chapter for the 2024 – 2025 Capitular Year. The following were nominated.

R.E. Comp. Raphael Rodriquez, Most Excellent Grand High Priest
R.E. Comp. William Miller, Right Excellent Grand King
R.E. Comp. Darryl Smith Right Excellent Grand Scribe
R.E. Comp. John M. Lister Right Excellent Grand Treasurer
M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig Right Excellent Grand Secretary

The outgoing Trustee was identified as Comp. John Maclay, P.G.H.P. Maclay, and was re-nominated to an additional three-year term.

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There being no further nominations, the ballot was closed, and the Grand Secretary was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for the above Companions.

After the elections, MEGHP Martinez installed M.E. Comp. Bruce Colburn as Grand Lecture for the remaining year.

10. Report of the Committee of Work

R.E. Comp. Dennis Ewing, REGS

No written or verbal report was received.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

11. Youth and Scholarships Report

ME. Comp. Richard Naegele, P.G.H.P.

Your committee for the D. Ross VanSant Scholarship submits the following report.

Applications for scholarships were down this year. We have only received two.

The following submitted applications for 2024 Scholarships:

Aisa Wrights (Yd year) current GPA 3.44

506 Rose Hill Ave.

Cumberland, 21502

Affiliation: Daughter of Billy Joes Wrights Member Salem Royal Arch Chapter No. 18

Frostburg State University

Ryan Myers (1 st year) current GPA 3.954 11637 Possum Hollow Rd.

Wolton, MD 21678

Affiliation: Cousin of John H. Myers, Jr. Scribe of Edenton Royal Arch Chapter No. 36

Each is well qualified with excellent GPAs. The committee recommends that each recipient receive a scholarship.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter and thank all who donated for the betterment of our youth.

Fraternally,

Richard P. Naegele, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

Since \$4000.00 was budgeted for the scholarships, R.E. Comp. John Lister made the motion to award the two recipients \$2000.00 each.

The motion was seconded and passed.

12. Report of the R.A.R.A. Committee

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The RARA fundraiser of the Grand Chapter challenge coins are still going well. Another 22 have been sold since the 2023 Annual Grand Sessions, raising a total of \$1100.00 to date. These coins are limited minting, and only 100 have been pressed with only 45 left for sale. The cost per coin is \$20, and 100% of the proceeds from this coin will go to RARA. Donations from our Chapters and at the Member level will be reported at the Annual Sessions. It is hoped that all of our Chapters can continue contributing to RARA, no matter how small the sum in the upcoming year. It is a truly worthy cause!

As always if you need materials on for RARA, don't hesitate to reach out to me or go to <https://givetorara.org/>

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, MEGHP

About the coins:

The front is a nod to MEGHP Carl Wisner's coin from 1963-64 with the addition of the Ark of the Covenant. The reverse is something special, as the coin is in imitation of part of the Mark Master obligation, immediately recognizable by every Mark Master, making this challenge coin a functional component when participating in the Mark Master degree.

The MEGHP Presented the Grand Chapter a Check in the amount of \$540.00 for RARA.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Passed unanimously.

13. Report of the Time and Place Committee

R.E. Dennis Ewing, E.G.K.

M.E.G.H.P.,

The Grand Chapter has determined that the Holiday Inn of Ocean City, MD, was a desirable location for the 2025 Annual York Rite Sessions, and the final room rates and meeting rooms were still being negotiated.

Respectively submitted,

Dennis Ewing, Grand King

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

Since the location of the 202 Annual sessions has not been secured and to fulfill the Grand Chapter Constitutional requirement, M.E. Comp. Vernon Huebschman motioned to lock in the dates for the 2024 Grand Session for October 25-26, 2024, and to authorize the committee to negotiate and make decisions for the 2025 session.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

S14. Report of Sessions Planning and Activities

E. Comp. Darryl Smith

Committee:

Dennis Ewing, Grand King

Darryl Smith, Grand Principal Sojourner

Mark Wisniewski, Excellent High Priest Tuscan Chapter #42

The committee continues to work with the Council and Commandery to

- develop the meeting schedule,
- formulate the necessary menus,
- ensure that needed meeting space is provided and arrange the meeting dates and times,
- Contact the appropriate contact persons in the Chapter, Council and Commandery to determine what materials and equipment will be needed for the meetings including the Ladies programming,
- Organize appropriate personnel for any set up and clean-up and ensure the proper equipment is provided.
- Attend any final meetings with Holiday Inn Ocean Front, Ocean City, Maryland, staff to ensure that all rooms, menus, and meeting schedules are communicated and provided.

Respectfully Submitted,
Darryl Smith, GPS., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

15. 2026 Triennium Report

R.E. Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K.

No Report

16. Report of Jurisprudence & Constitution

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, PGHP

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

No issues have been referred to your Committee on Jurisprudence & Constitution since the Annual Grand Convocation.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

The updated report was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

17. Report of Awards and Recognition

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, P.G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

The committee report will be submitted at the Annual Grand Convocation in October.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

18. Report on Grievance

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, P.G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

No issues have been referred to your Committee on Grievance since the Annual Grand Convocation.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

19. Report Long-Range Committee

R.E. Comp. Rafael A. Rodriguez, R.E.G.S.

The focus of the long-range committee continues to be working to ensure our Chapters can do our ritual with a current focus on the Mark Master and Past Master degrees. The idea of appointing additional Deputy Grand Lecturers is being explored and the goal for the DGLs will be, in addition to working with aspiring High Priests on their certification, to work with the chapters to further develop their ritual capabilities. Although most chapters maintain their membership numbers constant, active participation of those members seems to have diminished.

During Grand Visitations MEGHP Martinez has encouraged the chapters to “think outside the box” and develop programs for their chapters. These programs could include social events, presentations from companions, discussions about subjects related to the Royal Arch or the York Rite; anything that will keep new companions wanting to attend the meetings. We must remember that in this day and age, we need to provide something of interest to keep companions engaged.

As MEGHP Martinez has said many times before; the Royal Arch is the gateway of the York Rite. If Chapters have difficulties getting new companions and keeping their current companions engaged, their Council and Commandery will also suffer. As we move forward, we should continue to work with the Grand Council and Grand Commandery to strengthen the Maryland York Rite as a whole by encouraging Companions and Sir Knights to attend and support their York Rite bodies.

I want to thank all the officers of the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch of Maryland for their support to the York Rite bodies and I am looking forward to continuing to grow and strengthen the York Rite of Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted, Rafael A. Rodriguez, R.E.G.S.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

20. Report Membership Committee

E. Comp. Rafael A. Rodriguez, R.E.G.S.

To date, our membership seems to be holding at less than 10% of the entire Grand Lodge membership. An updated membership trend report will be delivered at the Annual Session in October 2024 once the Chapter's annual reporting completes. There were (2) new Most Excellent High Priests anointed this year. As it was stated in the Long-Range Planning report; Chapters should look at innovative ideas to bring in new members and to maintain their members actively engaged in the chapters.

Several chapters are holding regular open table chapters, dinner theater nights, and ghost tours, family nights and other events to attract new and existing members to their chapters. We will continue to work with the MEGHP, REGK and PGHP other Grand Chapter Officers to provide the tools the chapters will need to grow. I am looking forward to the remainder of this term and hope to finish the year with positive growth for the York Rite of Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted, Rafael A. Rodriguez, R.E.G.S.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

21. Reports Received and Published requiring no action

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez

None

22. Doings of the Grand Officers

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The M.E.G.H.P. recapped the past year in the Grand High Priest report. He reviewed upcoming dates and thanked the Officers for their attendance and support over the last six months.

23. Report on Unfinished Business

M.E. Comp. John B. Maclay, Jr., P.G.H.P.

None.

24. New Business Introduced at this Grand Convocation

None.

25. Introduction of Distinguished Visitors

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

MEGHP Martinez introduces Richard P. Naegele, Ambassador for the General Grand Chapter and Past Grand Master of Maryland. At this time, he gives the fraternal greetings for Most Excellent General Grand High Priest Teko Foley and covers the happenings of the General Grand Chapter. Comp Naegle introduces Vernon Huebschman as a Past Deputy Grand High Priest.

26. Announcements and Scheduled items

Announcements were made during the Events Report and the website for the visitation schedule.

27. Voluntary Remarks

Richard Naegele, PGHP, informed everyone that he would not be attending the October Grand Session. He has a commitment to the Order of Eastern Star and will attend their General Grand Session.

28. Official Remarks Distinguished Guests

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

Companion Naegele made his official remarks when he was introduced as Ambassador.

29. Installation

Grand Chapter Installation will be held in October 2023.

30. Final Remarks of the Grand High Priest

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The MEGHP remarked on how fast the last six months have gone with the help of this year's Grand Officers, congratulated the newly elected officers, and wished them the best.

He related a story of meeting someone in Cincinnati while on vacation. He turned out to be a Royal Arch Mason PHA, which shows how widespread Royal Arch is. He always wears something to advertise Royal Arch.

He thanked everyone for being in attendance and wished everyone a safe ride home.

31. Closing of the Grand Chapter

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The Grand Chaplain offered a closing prayer.

The M.E.G.H.P. directed that the Lights be broken and declared the Semi-Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland closed at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wil C. Eppig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wil" and last name "Eppig" clearly distinguishable.

M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P.
Grand Secretary



The Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland

Oriental Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink
Cockeysville Maryland
April 27, 2024 10:30 a.m.

This Bicentennial Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland was opened in full form by the Most Excellent President with the following officers in their stations and places:

M.E. Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP	Most Excellent President
Ex. Comp. Spyridon G. Treklas	Excellent Vice President
M.E. Comp. A. Dean Burt III, P.P.	Excellent Chaplain
Ex. Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP	Excellent Secretary
Ex. Comp. John M. Lister	Excellent Treasurer
Ex. Comp. Christian E. Jensen	Excellent Master of Ceremonies
Ex. Comp. William C. Eppig, PGHP	Excellent Conductor
Ex. Comp. Christian J. Miele	Excellent Herald
Ex. Comp. Dennis W. Ewing	Excellent Steward
Ex. Comp. John B. Maclay, PGHP	Excellent Sentinel

The following candidates were announced and confirmed as prepare in all respects to be elected and installed as the Most Excellent High Priest of his respective Royal Arch Chapter:

Comp. Jeffrey L Disney – Carroll Royal Arch Chapter No. 31
Comp. Bryan L. Remley – James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33
Comp. Mark E. Wisniewski – Tuscan Royal Arch Chapter No. 42

A Roll Call vote was taken by the Ex. Secretary. The vote was unanimous and in favor of all candidates. Comp. Disney was not present to receive the Degree at that time.

The M.E. President then proceeded to confer the Order of High Priesthood on those elected and present. As the altar drape was removed the M.E. President paused to point out that the Silver Service for the Council had been refurbished by Bro. Keith Nusinov to its former glory. Also, the wine service was replaced and set with the Bicentennial Seal for this occasion.

After the Candidates had been Anointed, Consecrated, and Set Apart, each were presented Bibles by the Excellent Chaplain, receiving his words of instructions and admonition.

Each new Excellent Companion of the Council expressed his gratitude for the impressive work done in the Order of High Priesthood.

The Ex. Secretary reported that the minutes of the 2023 Council meeting were published in the Semi-Annual Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland and moved that the minutes be approved as published. Seconded by Ex. Comp. Eppig and passed unanimously.

The Ex. Treasurer gave his report on the status of the funds of the CAHP held within the investment accounts of the Grand Chapter of Maryland. He also stated that while a budget of \$5000.00 had been voted upon by the Council in 2023, the funds used for the refurbishment of the Silver Set, the new Wine Service, the Bicentennial Coins, and the several mailings had just exceeded \$3000. And there was a revenue of about \$750 for the dinner reservations.

The names of those who were reported as having passed away during the year were called and a prayer offered by the Ex. Chaplain.

The following Past Presidents of the Council of Anointed were greeted by the M.E. President:

M.E. Comp. Arthur D. Sellars	1994 – 1995
M.E. Comp. A. Dean Burt III	1996 – 1997
M.E. Comp. Clifton R. Friel, PGHP	2012 – 2013
M.E. Comp. Frederick A. Spicer MWGM	2014 – 2015
M.E. Comp. Richard P. Naegele, MWPGM, PGHP	2016 – 2017
M.E. Comp Robert M. Penny	2018 – 2019
M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson RWDGM, PGHP	2020 – 2021

Regrets were received from M.E. Comp. Gordon A. Davids. It was noted that M.E. Comp. William E. Lautenschlage was currently a resident in a continuing care facility in Severn, MD, and will celebrate his 102nd birthday in May 2024. Ex. Comp Louis P. Romeo, Jr. was called upon to report on his well-being.

The Ex. Secretary made a motion to contribute \$100.00 each to the Grand Lodge of Maryland and to the Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Library & Museum. Seconded by Ex. Comp. Treklas and

passed unanimously. Those checks were later presented to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

There being no further business before this Council, it was closed in full form at 11:45 a.m.

A convivial luncheon was held at Pappas' Restaurant in Cockeysville where the Companion lingered over an elegant luncheon and warm conversations.

The following members of the Council were present for the day's events:

John H. Austin	Alex. Dean Burt III	Robert W. Chase, PGHP
George Christoff	Bruce Colburn, PGHP	William C. Eppig, PGHP
Dennis W. Ewing, REGK	Clifton R. Friel, PGHP	Vernon H. Huebschman, PGHP
Christian E. Jensen	James Kinnear	John M. Lister
Robert B. Lumbert, PGHP	John B. Maclay, PGHP	G. Andrew Martinez, MEGHP
Christian J. Miele	William Miller	Richard P. Naegele, PGHP
Robert M. Penny	Eugene D. Racz	John A. Rafine
Robert W. Reynolds	Rafael Rodriguez, REGS	Louis P. Romeo, Jr.
Arthur D. Sellares	Darryl Smith	Frederick A. Spicer, MWGM
J. Jacob Todd, Jr.	Spyridon G. Treklas	Stephen R. Twomey II
Randall L. Watson, PGHP		

Those reported as deceased since the last Council:

Urban T. Peters, PGHP	York	John Thomas	Carroll
Larry Bowen	York	Roy Rapp	Adoniram
Henry McDonald	Druid & Phoenix	Teddy R. Barkley	Druid
James P. Morgan	Concordia	Randolph S. Disney, PGHP	Mt. Vernon