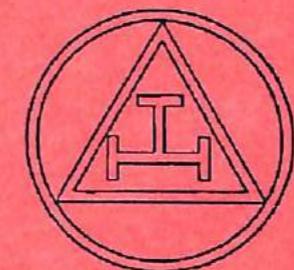
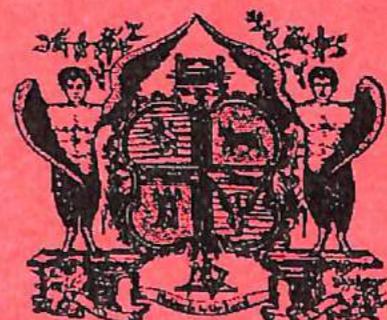


The Grand Chapter
of
Royal Arch Masons



of
Florida



1997

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF
FLORIDA

ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNUAL
GRAND CONVOCATION

HARVEY L. WARD
Presiding

FREDERICK R. YOUNG
Elected

Held at Daytona Beach, Florida
20 May 1997 A. I. 2527

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HARVEY LAGRANDE WARD
MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Born March 1, 1944 in Gainesville, Florida to John Hazzard Ward and Yvonne Elizabeth (Seckinger) Ward. Graduated Gainesville High School 1962, Graduated Sante Fe Junior College, '69, University of Florida 1970. Married to Julia Ann Klein Ward in 1967, have 2 children: Harvey L. Ward, Jr., Master Mason/York Rite Mason. Elizabeth A. Ward, Gainesville Rainbow Assembly.

Florida Highway Patrol, Radio Operator '64-68, Gainesville Police Department Communications, supervisor, 1970-80. Owner Operator of Rental Properties in the Gainesville Area. Member of Highlands Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Former Sunday School Superintendent Christ Methodist Church, Gainesville.

Past Chancellor Commander Mount Vernon Lodge # 20, Knights of Pythias, Gainesville, '63. Past District Deputy Grand Chancellor Knights of Pythias, '66. Joined Phoenix Lodge # 5, '91. Noble Grand, Gainesville Lodge # 6 Independent Order of Odd Fellows '90-91. Member Colfax Rebekah Lodge # 2, Gainesville.

Former Board of Directors, Children's Home Society of Florida, Ocala Branch. Member Board of Directors Gainesville Crescent Foundation.

Masonic History: Initiated and Entered Apprentice Mason, 1976, Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft, 1976 and Raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason, '76 R.T. Schafer Lodge, F&AM, Gainesville. Worshipful Master, '87. District 12 Youth Chairman '84-85. Grand Lodge Zone 3 Chrm. Masonic Youth Activities Comm. '86-88. Grand Lodge Zone 3 Chrm., Public Education and Citizenship Comm. '92. Florida DeMolay Association: Gainesville Chapter Advisory Council 1981-90. Zone "T" Director 1982-86. DeMolay Cross of Honor, 1985. State Chapter Dad 1985-86.

Gainesville York Rite Bodies: Royal Arch Mason 1982. Gainesville Chapter # 2 RAM as High Priest '86. Order of High Priesthood '86. Greeted a Royal & Select Master, '82. Super Excellent Master, Polk Council # 11, '85. Gainesville Council # 27 R&SM, Illustrious Master, '86. Order of the Silver Trowel, '86. Order of the Temple on '82. Pilgrim Commandery # 7 K.T., Eminent Commander, '86. Knight Crusader of the Cross, '86. Director of the Work, Gainesville Bodies, 1987-95. Chairman-Director of Work 1 Day Statewide York Rite Class Honoring M. W. George Hayes, '87. Secretary/Recorder 1988 to present. Chm '90-91' Grand Commander's Homecoming Comm, for R.E. James Dalzell. Master of Ceremonies at Grand High Priest's Homecoming on '93 honoring MEGHP William L. Buck, Jr. Rec'd the 69th Membership Jewel awarded by Grand Encampment K.T. U.S.A., '93.

York Rite Bodies of Florida: DDGC, 8th Chivalric District, '87. Appointed Grand Sentinel, '88, Grand Master of the 1st Veil '89, Grand Master of the 2nd Veil '90, Grand Master of the 3rd Veil '91. Grand Royal Arch Captain May 1 until May 13, '92. Grand Principal Sojourner May 13, 1992. Grand Captain of the Host, '93. Grand Scribe, '94. Grand King, '95. M.E. Grand High Priest May 20, 1996. Wrote the Ritualistic Ceremony of Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation May 1993. Chm. Membership Committee, '93. Grand Chapter Representative to South Dakota, '92.

General Grand Chapter R.A. M. International: Coordinator Southeastern York Rite Conference, St. Augustine 1991. Under direction of M.E. Companion Vernon H. Miller, Southeastern Deputy of M.E.G.G.H.P. R.A.M. International.

York Rite Sovereign College of North America: Knight of York Degree, in Northeast Florida College # 114, '87. Marshal, '88; Seneschal '89; Chancellor '90; Deputy Governor '91; Pre-eminent Governor, '92. Order of the Purple Cross and Associate Regent '94, Toronto, Canada.

Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Florida Priory # 60, '88. Red Cross of Constantine, Miami Conclave, '93. Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Valley of Jacksonville '89. Secretary of the J. Edgar Hoover Class.

Royal Order of Scotland: Received the Heredom of Kilwinning and Knighthood of the Rosy Cross Degrees in Charlotte N.C. in August 1989.

AAONMS: Morocco Temple, '82; Gainesville Shrine Club '82; Gainesville Normads '82. High Twelve International: Interlachen Club # 607 (Franklin C Smith Club) Charter member '83. Member Board of Directors since '88. President '92. Masters & Wardens Assoc. 12th Masonic District, charter member, '85. Masonic Relief & Charity Comm '88. White Shrine of Jerusalem, Queen Esther, Bellview '95.

Knight Masons: Space Coast Council # 32, Charter member, Melbourne '86. Charter Member Gateway Council, U.D. Jacksonville, Junior Knight '94, Senior Knight '95.

Member: Philalethes Society, '88. Florida Lodge of Research, '92.

Allied Masonic Degrees: Wesley C. Harter Council U.D., A.M.D. Charter Member 1993; Junior Warden, '93; Senior Warden, '94. Sovereign Master of Wesley C. Harter Council # 302 A.M.D., '95.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon: Joined Seminole Forest, U. D. (Now No. 193) Tall Cedars of Lebanon in Deland, 1995.

Honorary Memberships: Lawtey York Rite Bodies, '88; Live Oak York Rite Bodies '91; Duval Chapter No. 48 R.A.M. 1994.



**THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA
OFFICERS FOR 1996 - 1997**

Harvey L. Ward (2) Julia 2121 NE 55 Blvd, (Box 654, Gainesville 32602-0654)	M. Ex. Grand High Priest 352/378-3936
Frederick R. Young (4) Mildred 623 Cherry Tree Lane, DeLand 32724	R. Ex. Grand King 904/736-7410
Leslie H. Scott Jr (12) Betty 4409 Shiloh Lane Jacksonville 32210	R. Ex. Grand Scribe 904/771-5186
Duane B. Young (29) Norma 141 Shadow Lane, Lakeland 33803	R. Ex. Grand Treasurer 941/646-6695
Wm. Robert Young (27) Jean 3845 Catalina St Titusville 32796 Office: 400 C. Julia St., Titusville, FL 407/383-1530 or 407/383-3462 (FAX)	R. Ex. Grand Secretary 407/267-4556
William L. Buck, Jr. (9) Elizabeth 1307 S. 14th Street, Palatka 32177	Ex. Grand Chaplain 904/352-4981
David C. Wilkinson (9) Kay P.O. Box 161 East Palatka 32131	Ex. Grand Captain of the Host 904/328-6432
Virgil P. Brown Jr (27) Lorraine 2360 Bal Harbour Terrace, Titusville 32780	Ex. Grand Principal Sojourner 407/269-5969
Wayne E. Parks (7) Donna 1004 Nin Street, Orlando, 32835	Ex. Grand Royal Arch Captain 407/292-1700
Steven Q. Steele (11) 750 Wren Ave. Miami Springs 33166	Ex. Grand Master of 3rd Veil 305/889-0977
Myron C. Boice (6) Charlotte 8509 Winding Lane Pensacola 32514	Ex. Grand Master of 2nd Veil 904/478-9671
H. Warren Almand Jr (32) Lydia 4980 Flynt Drive Marianna 32446	Ex. Grand Master of 1st Veil 904/482-4809
Luther Bodiford, III (1) Anne 2605 Nez Perce Trail, Tallahassee 32303	Ex. Grand Sentinel 904/562-3148

Charles J. Corbin (2) --- (Passed Away Nov. 1996)	Ex. Grand Organist
Charles R. Denman (27) Joan 2520 Friday Road, Cocoa 32926	Ex. Grand Organist 407/632-7806

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS EMERITI

Roy R. Wright, Jr. (15) Polly 611 E. First Street, Sanford 32771	R. E. Grand Treasurer Emeritus 407/322-1503
Howard P. Bennett (27) Pauline 2805 Matthew Dr., Rockledge 32955-3815	R. E. Grand Secretary Emeritus 407/636-0668
Wilbur W. Masters, Jr. (Passed away Sept. 1996)	R. E. Grand Chaplain Emeritus

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION
MAY 20, 1997**

Gainesville Chapter No. 2 Royal Arch Masons, home Chapter of Most Excellent Companion Harvey L. Ward, Grand High Priest, acting on his request, opened the Chapter in full form. The Grand High Priest and the Grand Chapter Officers were received into the Grand Chapter room. Proper Grand Honors were accorded the Grand Council of the Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter Officers assumed their stations and Gainesville Chapter No. 2 retired. The Grand High Priest then closed Gainesville Chapter and declared the One Hundred Fiftieth Annual Grand Convocation of Royal Arch Masons of Florida open for business at 8:30 A.M.

ROLLS WERE CALLED

Harvey L. Ward	M.E. Grand High Priest
Frederick R. Young	R.E. Grand King
Leslie H. Scott	R.E. Grand Scribe
Duane B. Young	R.E. Grand Treasurer
Wm. Robert Young	R.E. Grand Secretary
William L. Buck, Jr.	Ex. Grand Chaplain (Absent)
R. Earl Shiver	Ex. Grand Chaplain (Acting)
David C. Wilkinson	Ex. Grand Captain of Host
Virgil O. Brown	Ex. Grand Principal Sojourner
Wayne E. Parks	Ex. Grand Royal Arch Captain
Steven Q. Steele	Ex. Grand Master of the 3rd Veil
M. Charles Boice	Ex. Grand Master of the 2nd Veil

H. Warren Almand, Jr.	Ex. Grand Master of the 1st Veil
Luther Bodiford, III	Ex. Grand Sentinel
Charles R. Denman	Ex. Grand Organist

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS EMERITI

Roy R. Wright, Jr.	R.E. Grand Treasurer Emeritus
Howard P. Bennett	R.E. Grand Secretary Emeritus

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS PRESENT

Roy R. Wright, Jr.	1965	James W. MacDonald	1967
Walter H. Winchester	1971	Richard I. Lanier	1975
Joseph C. LeSuer	1977	Duane R. Young	1978
Thomas E. McGowan	1981	Wendell D. Harrington	1982
William A. Cogburn	1983	J. Russell Hammond	1987
Vernon H. Miller	1988	R. Earl Shiver	1989
William G. Norrie	1991	Ewell J. Langdale, Jr.	1992
William O. Walker	1993	Harry R. "Bob" Davis	1995

SILVER DISTINGUISHED MEDAL HOLDER

Marvin W. Gerhard

BRONZE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL HOLDERS LIVING

Joseph J. Johnson	1969**	Howard P. Bennett	1986**
Wallace P. Dix	1970	George A. Chipouras	1987**
Orville W. Cassady	1972	Roy R. Wright, Jr.	1988**
Harold F. Enter	1976	Charles E. Palmour	1989**
Frank J. Busbey	1977	Lawrence L. Howell	1990**
Ralph A. Jones	1979**	William E. Eubanks	1993
C. Allen Pattison	1980**	Frederick M. Morris	1994**
Wallace C. Stich	1982	Ralph G. Weed	1995**
Willis M. Lewis	1985	Quinnie R. Williams, Sr.	1996**

(** Denotes Present)

REPORT OF THE RETURNS & CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We find the list of Grand Officers and Representatives of Chartered Chapters furnished by the Grand Secretary at the roll call to be correct. All have made returns, paid per capita tax and are represented.

J. W. MacDonald, Frank B. Clawson, Robert C. Wilson

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

1. Leroy E. Fackler	2. Andrew M Stanforth (Abst)
3. Daniel C. Gillespie	4. Joe K. West
5. Alan J. Graulich	6. J. C. Merritt
7. Charles E. Middleton	8. Troy Thompson
9. Dencil R. Smith	10. Harry W. Seibert

GRAND CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

AL	Paul W. Friend	AK	Steven Q. Steele
ARG	William W. Kingston, Sr	AZ	Richard J. Carr
AR	William G. Norrie	BC	Robert E. Burleson
CA	William B. Porter	CAN-On	Richard I. Lanier
CO	Thomas E. McGowan	CT	Virgil P. Brown, Jr.
FIN	Daniel E. Dale	FR	H. Warren Almand, Jr.
GA	William O. Walker	GR	Richard E. Foreman
HI	Walter H. Winchester	ID	Rodger L. Craig, Sr.
IA	David C. Wilkinson	IRE	Howard P. Bennett
IS	Ralph A. Jones, Jr.	KS	Jacob J. Krawiec
KY	Robert F. Scott, Jr.	LA	J Russell Hammond
ME	Wayne E. Parks	MB	Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr.
MD	James W. MacDonald	MA	James W. Dazell
MEX	William A. Cogburn	MI	Earl R. Allan
MN	Clarence N. Gruber	MS	Gordon L. Anderson
MT	Duane B. Young	NE	George A. Chipouras
NETH	Leonard E. Whitehead	NH	Addison A. Bennett
NM	M. Charles Boice	NSW	James B. Vanders
NY	Marvin W. Gerhard	NZ	Quinnie R. Williams
NWFLD	George Lundigan	NS	Robert A. Niles
OH	Vernon H. Miller	OK	C. Allen Pattison
OR	R. Earl Shiver	PAN	Ralph O. Sheppard

PI	Frederick R. Young	QUE	Leslie H. Scott
AUS	Roy R. Wright, Jr.	RI	George E. Malone
SCOT	William A. Howard	S/AUS	Harry R. Davis
SC	Robert C. Wilson	SD	Harvey L. Ward
SWIT	Russell E. Strawn	TX	Wendell D. Harrington
UT	Columbus Webb	VT	Wm. Robert Young
WA	Ewell J. Langdale, Jr.	WI	Joseph J. Johnson
WY	Hugh F. Moore		

REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Florida	No. 1	J. S. Jackson	Proxy
		J. D. Moffit	Proxy
		Orman Van Ardsale	Proxy
Gainesville	No. 2	Raymond D. Harris	HP
		Hugh Smith	Proxy
		George Hayes	Proxy
Tampa - Cushing	No. 3	Roger W. Myers	HP
		Robert Moore	King
		Frank Potter	Proxy
St. Johns	No. 4	William Schuck	HP
		Peter Van Ness	Scribe
Halifax	No. 5	Elmer Geralds	HP
		Harry U. Criss	King
		Peter Filippello	Proxy
Mt. Horeb	No. 6	Clary Gordon	Proxy
		Charles Green	Proxy
		Freddy Briggs	Proxy
Eureka	No. 7	George T. Collier	HP
		Virgil D. Albright	King
		George Collier	Scribe
Dade City	No. 8	Steven R. Dieckober	HP
		Louie King	Proxy
Putman	No. 9	Grady B. Law	HP
		Robert Niles	Proxy
		E. Snochana	Proxy
Jericho	No. 11	Blas Pellon	HP
		Steve Steele	Proxy
		George A. Chipouras	Scribe
Jacksonville	No. 12	Walter H. Hammond	HP
		William Ferrell	King
		Albert Russ Jr.	Scribe

Ocala	No. 13	Albin W. Dipasca	HP
		Durward W. Eastman	King
		James A. Smith	Scribe
Monroe	No 15	LeRoy Franklin Thrift	HP
Plant City	No 16	Edwin Martin	Proxy
		Donald Carnley	King
		Floyd Martin	Proxy
St. Augustine	No. 17	Reuben Owens	HP
		Fred Shone	Proxy
		Burt Maguire	Proxy
Manatee River	No. 18	Jesse Johnson	Proxy
Keystone	No. 20	Cyril M. Shortle	HP
		William Green	Scribe
Thomas Brown	No. 22	M. D. DeChambeau	Proxy
		Timothy Moore	King
Palm Beach	No. 24	Allen Simmons	HP
		Herbert Briggs	King
		James Worth	Scribe
Live Oak	No. 25	Carl William Sr.	Proxy
		Donald Mock	King
Indian River	No. 27	William Dreir	Proxy
		George H. James	King
Joppa	No. 28	Robert E. Phelps, Jr.	HP
		Robert E. Phelps, Jr.	Proxy
		Paul W. Friend	Proxy
Lakeland	No. 29	Robert Histed	HP
		Charles R. Lanier, Sr.	King
		Jack Shoemaker	Scribe
St. Petersburg	No. 31	Donald E. Harriott	Proxy
Jackson	No. 32	Charles Tatum	Proxy
Eustis	No. 33	James Moore	HP
		Stuart Sadler	King
Sarasota	No. 35	B. John Ross	HP
		Stephen H. Clark	King
		Melvin Yoc	Scribe
Lake City	No. 38	Hugh F. Moore	Proxy
Bay County	No. 39	David Emery	Proxy
		A.A. Pete Bennett	Proxy
Crestview	No. 40	Robert Best	Proxy
		William R. Johnson	HP
		James E. Brown	Proxy
		Fred Turner	Scribe

Winter Haven	No. 41	Charles F. Niles, Jr.	HP
		Norman L. Hilt	King
		Holloway Rollins III	Scribe
Clearwater	No. 45	Jack G. Stabler	HP
		Jack G. Stabler	Proxy
		Daniel Gillespie	Scribe
Duval	No. 48	Gustave O. Rappold	HP
		Jerry Walsding	King
		Richard Barger	Scribe
Nassau	No. 49	Ed O'Rourke	HP
		Quinnie Williams	Proxy
Poinciana	No. 50	J. W. Hogg	Proxy
Surf	No. 57	Robert G. Melvin	HP
		Robert Shower	Proxy
		Willis B. Porter	Proxy
Melbourne	No. 59	Richard Pettit	HP
		Jon F. Egerton	King
		William Stacey	Scribe
James Yeager	No. 62	Herbert Slate	HP
Eden	No. 63	H. John Shinn	Proxy
Highlands	UD	Frank Whittam	HP
		Frank Whittam	Proxy
		William McCracken	Scribe
Island	UD	Michael Padron, Jr.	King

GRAND CHAPTER AWARDS FOR 1996 - 97

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
BRONZE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

J. D. Moffitt

GOLD KEY AWARDS

Name	Chap # - Dist #	Name	Chap # - Dist #
Jorge Aladro	65 1	Willbur R. Allen	22 4
Glenn E. Chandler	12 7	Billy Collier	48 7
George Collier	7 5	Donald R. Finkell	5 5
Jim Foster	25 8	Donald T. Harriott	31 3
Edward C. Jones, Jr.	2 8	Michael A. Padron, Jr.	65 1

James Rudman	13	8	Dell Sanders	2	8
Harry Seibert	6	10	Fred Shone	17	7
Dencil R. Smith	1	9	Frank Whittam, Jr.	64	4
George Malone	27	6			

GRAND HIGH PRIEST AWARD

Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6, District No. 10

TRIPLE TAU AWARD

Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22, District No. 4

KEYSTONE PLAQUE

St. Johns Chapter No. 4, District No. 5

TOP LINE SIGNERS

20 Petitions - Glenn E. Chandler, Jacksonville No. 12, Dist. No. 7

14 Petitions - Frank E. Whittam, Jr., Highlands No. 64, Dist. No. 4

5 TO 9 PETITIONS

District No. 1	Jericho No. 11	George A. Chipouras	Jorge Aladro
	Palm Beach No. 24	Cyril M. Shortel	
District No. 2	Sarasota No. 35	Jerry A. Debusk	B. John Ross
District No. 5	Halifax No. 5	Elroy C. Dalton	
District No. 6	Joppa No. 28	Paul W. Friend	
District No. 8	Gainesville No. 2	John W. Mathis	
	Lake City No. 38	Hugh F. Moore	
District No. 9	Florida No. 1	Mike A. Free	Martin H. Reiser
	Jackson No. 32	Wilbur W. Morris	

3 TO 4 PETITIONS

District No. 2	Manatee River No 18	Calvin Bonnett
	Lakeland No. 29	Charles Lanier, Sr.
District No. 3	Tampa No. 3	Ernest Fry
	St Petersburg No. 31	Donald T. Harriott
	Clearwater No. 45	Jack G. Stabler
District No. 4	Thomas Brown No. 22	Joe Ken West
District No. 5	Eureka No. 7	Richard J. Carr
	St. Johns No. 4	Charles W. Warren
		John Combs

District No. 6	Indian River No. 27	George Malone
District No. 7	St. Augustine No. 17	Burt McGuire
District No. 8	Live Oak No. 25	Carl Williams
District No. 9	Florida No. 1	James G. Jackson
District No. 10	Mt. Horeb No. 6	Harry W. Seibert Henry Helton

There was 107 Top Line Signers of 1 to 2 Petitions, added to the above awardee's there was a Grand Total of 136 Top Line Signers.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

District No. 1	Jericho No. 11	Blas Pellon	Jay Morrison
		Jay Glover	
District No. 3	Tampa-Cushing No 3	C. K. McAvoy	Kenneth Randolph
	Eden No. 63	Ralph Vaughn	Nicola Pansis
		Herbert Roberts	
District No. 4	Thomas Brown No 22	Ben Holland	
District No. 5	St. Johns No. 4	Walter Breyer	
	Halifax No. 5	Harold Cooper	
District No. 7	St. Augustine No. 17	Ruben Owen	
	Duval No. 48	Clarence Gruber	Cecil Wright
District No. 10	Mount Horeb No. 6	Joe R. Kebort	Leonard Whitehead

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

District No. 1	Jericho No. 11	Steven Q. Steele	
District No. 4	Thomas Brown No 22	Joc Ken West	
District No. 5	Eureka No. 7	Frederick Morris	Robert E. Burleson
District No. 7	Putman No. 9	William E Eubank	
District No. 8	Gainesville No. 2	Lee Taylor	Charles Palmour
		Raymond Harris	John W. Mathis
		Fred L. Piasecki	Howard Osgood III
		Stanley Griffis Jr	George Hayes
		Harvey L Ward Jr	John O'Donnell
		William S Jackson	William Sanderson
		Kenneth Sykes	
District No. 9	Florida No. 1	Luther Bodiford III	Dencil R. Smith
		James Jackson	
	Jackson No. 32	H. Warren Almand Jr	
District No. 10	Mount Horeb No. 6	Freddie Brigg	D. P. Caldwell
		Harry W. Seibert	Charles E. Green

FIFTY YEAR PIN AND CERTIFICATE

Most Worshipful Michael A. Padron, Jr., Grand Master was afforded the honor and was very pleased to present a 50 Year Pin and Certificate to Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest Joseph C. LeSuer. The Grand Master then caused the Grand Honors of Symbolic Masonry to be rendered to our Most Excellent Companion. The Grand Master made appropriate comments, M. E. LeSuer was deeply moved. Many congratulations were given from the Craft.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR FY ENDING 30 APRIL 1997

On May 3, 1997 the Audit Committee, consisting of Leslie H. Scott, R. Ex. Grand Scribe, Chairman (Ex-Officio); Charles R. Denman, Chief Auditor, Columbus Webb; and Wallace C. Stich, was scheduled to meet with Duane B. Young, R. Ex. Grand Treasurer, and Wm. Robert Young, R. Ex. Grand Secretary, at the office of the Grand Secretary/Recorder in Titusville, Florida. Due to conflicts only Charles Denman, Duane Young and Robert Young were present.

To close out open items from last year's report, it is noted that:

1. The IRS forgave the penalties for the late filing of the Form 990. This saved the Grand Chapter about \$2,000.00.
2. Good progress has been made on computerization of the membership records. It is estimated that our records are now in agreement between the Grand Chapter and subordinate chapters with about a 95% confidence level. Since these are constantly changing with new members, deaths and changes of address, this level is appropriate.

The R. Ex Grand Secretary's books were reviewed, as well as computer generated spread sheets maintained for the office account. The R. Ex. Grand Treasurer's records were reviewed and used for the bulk of the Audit effort. All financial records were found to be in order. Unfortunately the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer became ill immediately following this meeting and his summary report was not available for audit prior to the writing of this report. A supplementary report will be prepared and published in the proceedings. Items marked with "*" are the missing data lines.

A summary report follows:

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS

Income		\$	*
Per Capita Tax & Fees			*
Sundry			*

Reimbursements	*
Convention Committee	*
Interest Income	*
Total Income	\$
 Disbursements	
Grand Secretary's Salary	\$ 2,800.00
Grand Secretary Assistant	2,800.00
Office Assistant	2,000.00
Payroll Tax	622.20
Payroll Tax Employee Allowance	622.20
Grand High Priest	3,000.00
Grand King	800.00
Grand Treasurer Expense	1,200.00
Accountant & Audit Committee	300.00
Grand Secretary Expense	600.00
Grand Secretary Assistant Allowance	200.00
Chairman Charity Committee	250.00
Committee on Work	154.87
Delegate's Per Diem	9,106.76
Distinguished Guests	1,746.11
S. E. Conference	200.00
Triennial Fund	828.90
Library Committee	500.00
Area Meetings	400.00
February Meeting	152.89
Masonic Youth	300.00
Masonic Home	1,000.00
 Grand Secretary's Office	
Miscellaneous	662.73
Postage	700.00
Rent	1,032.72
Telephone	700.00
Electric	200.00
Computer Expense	100.00
Maintenance	300.00
 Miscellaneous	
Printing	490.25
Summer Assembly	100.00
Proceedings	1,272.00
YR Publications	4,511.52
Corporate Fee	61.25
Per Capita Tax	3,730.05
Unemployment Compensation	128.34
Reimbursable	1,502.21
Awards	934.59
Insurance	522.67
Jewel, Apron & Case	576.05
Contingencies	1,024.80

Out of Budget for 150th Anniversary	5,856.05
Depreciation	113.14
Total Disbursements	\$ 54,160.31
Gain	\$ * *

BALANCE SHEET

Assets		
General Fund	\$ 36,709.86	*
Savings Account		*
Certificates of Deposit		*
Charity Fund		*
Convention Fund		*
Triennial Fund		*
Grand High Priest's Jewel	4,000.00	
Depreciable Assets		
Office Equipment	7,998.69	
Paraphernalia	11,061.25	
Total	19,059.94	
Accrued Depreciation	(18,607.39)	452.55
Total Assets	\$	*
Liabilities & Net Worth		
Net Worth		*
Total Liabilities & Net Worth	\$	*

Leslie H. Scott Charles R. Denman, Chief Auditor
Columbus Webb Wallace C. Stich

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

This committee is pleased to report that the Constituent Chapters and the Companions of those Chapters have been supportive of our Philanthropies, Youth Groups, and caused to aid in the relief and welfare of the distressed. On behalf of this Grand Chapter, we commend each of you for your concern for the welfare of others. We wish to extend the thanks of this Grand Chapter to each of you and through you to the Companions of the Constituent Chapters.

Ewell J. Langdale Jr. William A. Cogburn Jr. J. Russell Hammond

BLUE LODGE REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM

We wish to thank those Blue Lodge Representatives who through their enthusiasm and dedication to the York Rite have continued to bring new members in to our fold. Your committeemen firmly believe that the Blue Lodge Representative Program has yielded positive results in the past and will continue to yield positive results when properly embraced and utilized. As in the past, results and use of the Blue Lodge

Representatives vary significantly across the state. Continued encouragement of an active and zealous cooperation between the Blue Lodge Representatives, York Rite District Deputies, High Priests and the Worshipful Masters of the particular lodges.

Your committee proposes the following recommendations for your consideration:

An education program to ensure that our representatives can effectively sell our York Rite principles and history. Strong, self-motivated and educated representatives being our best asset.

Encourage local York Rite bodies to become involved in the Blue Lodge degrees. Enabling our representatives to be on the scene early with encouragement and the story of the York Rite.

Steven. Steele	Joseph Secrest, Sr.	Lee Taylor
W. Ronald Taylor	Robert V. Erdman	Jack Rickles

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget and Finance Committee met on February 8, 1997 in Northside Lodge, St. Petersburg, Florida. The following members were present:

Randal E. Shriver, Chairman	George A. Chipouras	Keith W. Dean
Frederick R. Young	Duane B. Young	Wm. Robert Young
Harvey L. Ward, MEGHP		

The committee held its final meeting on May 17, 1997 at the Ramada Oceanfront Resort in Daytona Beach. At that time another item by item review of the budget was made resulting in the following recommended changes in the 1997-98 budget:

1. 10002-Grand Secretary Asst. This account is increased from \$2,800.00 to \$4,000.00. GSA will be employed full time.
2. 10002A-GSA payroll tax. This account is increased from \$200.00 to \$350.00.
3. 10003-Office Assistant. This account is deleted as it is no longer required.
4. 10003A-Office Assistant payroll tax. This account is deleted.
5. 10045 -Membership Development. This account is funded for \$1,000.00 as requested by the Grand King.
6. 10070-Library Committee. This account is increased, one time only, from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 to help fund the General Grand Chapter expansion of the Royal Arch Mason Library. This funding will return

to \$ 500.00 next year.

7. 10075-Area Meetings. This account is being increased from \$600.00 to \$800.00 as Area Meetings are being replaced by district meetings.
8. 10105-Postage. This account is increased from \$700.00 to \$800.00.
9. 10110-Rent. This account is reduced from \$1,100.00 to \$1,000.00.
10. 10120-Telephone. This account is being increased from \$400.00 to \$800.00. An 800 number and FAX service is being added.
11. 10130-Electric. This account is being increased from \$200.00 to \$400.
12. 10999-Out of Budget Acct. for 150th Anniv. This account is closed out and deleted from the budget.

Randal E. Shriver George A. Chipouras Keith W. Dean

CHARTERS, DISPENSATIONS & BY-LAWS

On 9 September, 1996, the Grand High Priest received a Petition for Dispensation to form a Royal Arch Chapter at Avon Park, Florida. All necessary forms and documentation accompanied the petition and were in proper order.

On 5 October, 1996, the Degrees of the Royal Arch Chapter were conferred upon several candidates at Poinciana Lodge No. 227, in Avon Park, FL, by degree teams assembled for that purpose. Immediately afterwards, HIGHLANDS CHAPTER UD was set to work by M. Ex. Grand High Priest Harvey Ward.

Since 5 October, several members of this Committee have dropped-in to visit and observe the Chapter at work. In addition, members of the Committee on Work have visited and provided schools of instruction for the Chapter.

On 14 March 1997, Highlands Chapter U. D. Opened the Royal Arch Chapter in full form and formally received the Grand High Priest and his party. Work was then suspended in the Chapter and a Mark Master Lodge was opened in full form, and the Mark Master Degree was conferred. After the MM Degree was completed, the Lodge was closed and work resumed in the Royal Arch Degree, which was then closed after the completion of business. The Grand Secretary was present and examined the books of the Chapter which were found to be in proper order.

The Committee on Work, the Grand Secretary, and this Committee, have concurred that the Chapter was ready to be granted a Charter. Highlands Chapter U. D. has submitted a Petition for Charter.

In view of the above, this Committee recommends that Highlands Chapter U. D. be

granted a Charter, hereafter to be known as HIGHLANDS Chapter NO. 64, ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA.

In March, 1997, approximately 30 Royal Arch Masons in Marathon, FL requested a dispensation to form a Royal Arch Chapter at Marathon.

On 25 April, 1997, Island Chapter U. D. was set to work by the M. Ex Grand High Priest Harvey Ward. On that same evening, Island Chapter U. D. Demonstrated their proficiency by opening the Chapter in full form, properly received Distinguished Guests, conferred the Past Masters Degree in full form, and, closed the Chapter, all being done with great proficiency. The secretary of Island Chapter U. D. demonstrated his ability to properly perform his duties to the Grand Secretary.

Island Chapter U. D. has since submitted a Petition for Charter, and has submitted all forms and documents necessary to be granted a Charter. The committee on Work, The Grand Secretary and this Committee have concurred that Island Chapter U. D. is ready to be granted a Charter.

In view of the above, this committee recommends that Island Chapter U. D. be granted a Charter, hereafter to be known as ISLAND Chapter NO. 65, ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA.

Virgil P Brown, Robert A Niles, Charles E Palmour, Luther Bodiford III, Jorge Aladro, Carl E. Gilmore, William F. Collard, James J. Morrison, Daniel Dale, Wm. Robert Young

REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE REVISION & UP-DATE OF THE CONSTITUTION

Approximately three years ago this Ad Hoc Committee was charged to revise and up-date the Constitution, laws, Rules & Regulations for this Grand Chapter, R.A.M. of Florida.

At the beginning of our task it was discovered the existing Constitution adopted in 1987, with additions and revisions through 1989, was printed from a draft copy versus an edited corrected copy. Also, the disk containing the edited copy was not to be located by this Committee. Therefore, the Constitution as printed and distributed to the Craft has been suspect.

The members of this Ad Hoc Committee reviewed old documentation, the Constitution adopted in 1981 and Proceedings from 1981 through 1996. Corrections, omissions, spellings and additions of adopted resolutions or amendments have now



been made on two printed master copies of the entire Constitution, Laws, Rules & Regulations through the Grand Convocation of 1996.

This Ad Hoc Committee hereby proposes sixteen (16) amendments for consideration and adoption as shown on the Attachment to this report.

It is recommended that at the conclusion of this 1997 Grand Convocation this Committee be authorized to edit and finalize the revised, corrected and up-dated Constitution, to include all legislation adopted at this Grand Convocation. It will then be read for printing and distribution.

Upon finalization the work of this Committee will be concluded. With the adoption of Amendment # 3 a standing Committee will review & up-date the Constitution, Laws, Rules & Regulations annually following each Grand Convocation.

The Members of this Committee are grateful for the opportunity to serve Grand Chapter.

Vernon H. Miller, Joseph C. LeSuer, R. Earl Shiver, William G Norrie, Harvey L Ward, Frederick R. Young, David Wilkinson

PURPOSED GRAND CHAPTER AMENDMENTS - 1996 - 1997

The hereon listed Amendments to the Constitution, laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, RAM, of Florida were proposed for consideration and adoption at the Grand Convocation on May 20, 1997.

AMENDMENT # 1. ARTICLE XII, Section 4 - Convocation Committees.

" Add 4 f. Thanks " (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 2. ARTICLE XII, Section 5 - Standing Committees.

Amend Section 5 m to read: "m Finance (3) A chairman, 1 member and the Grand Treasurer. This Finance Committee is charged with study and oversight of the long-range financial matters of this Grand Chapter and proposing appropriate legislation in a timely manner (1997 - Effective May 20)

AMENDMENT # 3. ARTICLE XII, Section 5 - Standing Committees.

Add Section 5 n. "Constitution Revision (3). 1 PGHP, Chairman plus 2 members. The Grand Secretary and a Legal Advisor shall be Ex Officio Members." (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 4. ARTICLE XII, Section 8 - Manual of Procedures

Amend last sentence to read: "Such Manual of Procedures to be published by the Grand Secretary's Office for the Grand High Priest and distributed to all Grand Officers with revisions and up-dates as appropriate." (1997 Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 5. ARTICLE XII, Section 11 - Grand Secretary.

Amend Section 11 a: Delete "as soon after the close of each Grand Convocation as possible". Add "within 180 days after the close of each Grand Convocation." (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 6. ARTICLE XII, Section 11 - Grand Secretary.

Add 11 k: "To perform the duties of Registered Agent for the Corporations of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., of Florida and the constituent Chapters thereof, and, to receive, monitor and forward to the Secretary of State for Florida the Annual Corporate Reports with amount of fees due for Constituent Chapters." (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 7. ARTICLE XII, Section 11 - Grand Secretary.

Add 11 l: "To furnish Constituent Chapters with all necessary blank forms as may be prescribed, or may from time to time, be developed and prescribed by the Grand Chapter, and, to provide all necessary blank forms of Charters, dispensations, diplomas, etc., and to cause the same to be properly executed under the seal of the Grand Chapter when required. (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 8. ARTICLE XII, Section 11 - Grand Secretary

Add 11 m: "To notify, by the most expedient means, the Grand High Priest, all living Past Grand High Priests, Elective and Appointed Officers of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., and the several Constituent Chapters of the death of a Past Grand High Priest, Elective Grand Chapter Officer, or other prominent York Rite Masonic Person, with the time and place appointed for the funeral. Such notice shall state if an Emergent Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter is called by the Grand High Priest, giving time and place for convening. (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 9. ARTICLE XII, Section 11 - Grand Secretary.

Renumber "11 k" to "11 n".

AMENDMENT # 10. ARTICLE XVII - Ritual, Section 1, designation.

Add. "The ritual adopted, published and distributed by General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International together with the Instructions and Guidelines contained in Appendix "D" to this Constitution, a "Book of Essentials" and a "Key Lecture" shall constitute the adopted ritual for this Grand Jurisdiction." (Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 11. CHAPTER SIXTEEN -SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CONSOLIDATION & MERGER.

Add 16.04. Regulatory Procedures.

"Procedures for proposing, processing, notification, voting and implementing consolidation and/or mergers of Royal Arch Masonic Chapters within this Grand Jurisdiction will be in accord with the provisions prescribed in Chapter 16, Digest of Masonic Laws of Florida."

AMENDMENT # 12. CHAPTER SEVENTEEN - SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CHARTERS.

Add 17.07. Forfeiture of Charter.

"A Chapter failing to convene in at least four convocations in one year, or failing to make returns and payment of dues to The Grand Chapter, or failing to be represented at The Grand Chapter for two consecutive years, forfeits its Charter, and the Grand High Priest shall order the Charter, records and effects of such Chapter, sent to the Grand Secretary." (1997 Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 13. CHAPTER TWENTY EIGHT-CHAPTER PROPERTY, OWNERSHIP & USE.

Add 28.02. CORPORATE REPORTS.

"In accord with s.617.1623 F.S., the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida and the several Constituent Chapters, each a corporation under the laws of Florida, will be required to file an Annual Corporate Report with amounts of fees due to the Secretary of State for Florida between January 1 and July 1 of each calendar year. Such Corporate Reports will be forwarded thru the Grand Secretary's Office for monitoring and recording purposes. (1997 - Effective May 20, 1997)

AMENDMENT # 14. CHAPTER THIRTY SEVEN -FORMS AND CEREMONIES

Amend 37.01 Deviation Forbidden.

a. Delete the words "Red Book". Add in place thereof the words: "Appendix D, Instructions and Guidelines,"

Also Add following the words "Key Lecture the following words: "Ritualistic Ceremony of an Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation of Royal Arch Masons".

Add 37.01 b. Ceremony for Antient Craft Table Chapters.

The Ritualistic Ceremony of an Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation of Royal Arch Masons is the officially adopted form and order for a tiled Convocation of Royal Arch Masons at the Feast or Festive Board. The Committee on Work is charged to include this ritual in the programs for Schools of Instruction. The Grand Secretary will make this Ritualistic Ceremony available to the Constituent Chapters upon request for a nominal cost. (1993)

AMENDMENT # 15. CHAPTER THIRTY SEVEN -FORMS AND CEREMONIES.

Amend 37.04 by adding the following sentence: "When any degree is opened for Work or Conferral of the Degree, any member not wearing robes shall be properly clothed with the Royal Arch Apron. (Grand High Priest Ruling 1997)

AMENDMENT # 16. CHAPTER FORTY-THREE-RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS.

Add 43.06 Membership Growth Awards.

a. The Grand High Priest shall formally recognize each year at the Grand Convocation those outstanding Companions who distinguished themselves in the promotion of Capitular Masonry and Membership recruitment.

b. The Secretaries of each Royal Arch Chapter will submit to the Grand Secretary the names of each "Top Line Signer" on petitions for the Royal Arch (Capitular) Degrees of Freemasonry.

c. The Grand Secretary will tabulate and present those names of "Top line Signers", with the number of petitions signed by each, to the Grand High Priest in a timely manner for scheduling and presentation of awards.

d. The Grand High Priest is authorized to present awards to "Top line Signers" on petitions for Capitular Degrees in accord with the following awards schedule:



AWARDS SCHEDULE

TOP LINE SIGNERS

AWARD

One	Special Lapel Pin With the Royal Arch Triple Tau.
Three	Special Certificate presented by this Grand Chapter. Their name will be read at the Grand Convocation and will be published in the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida.
Five	Their Grand Chapter Convocation Registration Fee paid, plus a gift certificate for \$20.00 to the Masonic Order Supply House of their choice.
Ten	A Special Plaque in recognition of their dedication and service to Capitular Masonry, plus a Free Ticket to the Men's Luncheon at the Grand Convocation.
Fifteen	All of the above Awards, plus a free Banquet Ticket at the Grand Convocation, and a Specially designed York Rite Watch.
Twenty	A Guest Banquet Ticket, A Very Special Plaque announcing the dedicated service of the recipient, plus Perpetual Membership as a Royal Arch Mason

e. Funds for the Membership Growth Awards shall be included in the annual budget for the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida. (1997 - Retroactive to May 20, 1996.)

ALL OF THE ABOVE ADMENDMENTS WERE PASSED AND ADOPTED.

Vernon H. Miller, Joseph C. LeSuer, R. Earl Shiver,
William G Norrie, Harvey L Ward, Frederick R. Young, David Wilkinson

CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Income:	Advertising Income	8,966.32
	Registration	1,360.00
	Banquet	6,095.00
	Ladies Luncheon	666.00
	Mens Luncheon	<u>1,920.00</u>
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 19,007.32

Expenses:	Souvenir Program	3,158.00
	Fruit Baskets	96.83
	First Ladies	140.00
	Hospitality	92.72
	Banquet, Mens/Ladies Lunch	9,766.23
	Postage	404.82
	Miscellaneous	163.00
	Phone	59.49
	Divine Service Printing	121.45
	Barbeque	570.23
	York Rite Charities	255.07
	Office Supplies	<u>170.09</u>
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 14,997.93
	Net for 1997 Convention	\$ 4,009.39
	Balance remaining in checking	500.00

After three years of going to the Altamonte Hilton in Orlando, it was decided by the Grand Presiding Officers that we needed a change and this year we came to the sun and sand of Daytona Beach. The staff of the Ramada Oceanfront Hotel gave us excellent service, attempting to cater to our every need. While there were some problems, these problems could not diminish the brotherhood, camaraderie and fellowship which always accompanies the Grand York Rite Convention.

Before we delve into the specifics of the Convention, there are two people who need to be specially thanked, Linda Dale and Lorraine Brown. Our Hospitality Room was once again a colossal success. Linda and her crack staff did an outstanding job under difficult circumstances. Lorraine and her staff also did an excellent job. The bazaar table was a focal point at the convention. While the Bazaar table looks simple, it is a year long operation finding those items to sell. The gratitude of this committee and the three Grand Bodies seems little compensation for all that these ladies have done, but it is all we have.

The Ladies lunch was a success with 130 ladies attending. R E. P. G. C. Harry Rosenthal gave a talk on antique glass, followed by First Lady of the Commandery, Joyce Waltman, regaling the audience with a few renditions of her own.

The Mens Lunch was an unqualified victory. For the first time in several years we were able to have a full sit down lunch for the men rather than the usual sandwiches. All attending expressed their great appreciation.

Our Grand Banquet had a few changes in it this year. Some were successful and others were not. The Grand Presiding Officers implemented some suggestions that

had been made to them. Sometimes what sounds good and looks good on paper does not work out in the real world. However, this committee and the Grand Line learned a lot and while those positive aspects will be retained, those negative ones will just as quickly be disregard. While we did have 341 in attendance at the banquet several of our Companions and Sir Knights were not served even though we were well within our contract. This committee expresses its deepest apology to these Brothers and has issued refunds to them. Our Current Grand Presiding Officers are currently handling this situation with the hotel.

Florida Graphics was again the low bidder for our programs, and did an extraordinary job again this year. They really seem to give us more then our moneys worth and we applaud their efforts.

Our souvenir program is an excellent representation of York Rite in Florida. It is however, much under used. Every year we struggle to get ads not only from within the Masonic family but also from outside. It is imperative that the Grand Line Officers and the District Deputies get started on selling the ads early.

Every year since the convention has been computerized, we have stressed pre-registration. This severely cuts down the time that each of you has to spend at the registration desk and allows us to be able to have adequate materials for those attending. We end up guessing each year how many have not preregistered and bringing extra materials. Each year we run out and there are those who do not get the materials they need all because these individuals refuse to preregister. The Grand Secretary's office cannot afford to print an extra 100 copies of everything to cover those who may or may not attend. All of those individuals who preregistered received everything they needed.

Speaking of the Grand Secretary's office, this committee wishes to thank Comp/Sir Knight Robert Young for his assistance, and especially thank Chris Dixon for all of her efforts throughout the year. Chris is and always has been available to assist us in anyway she can. Without her help, this committee would have a lot more work to do.

This year an experiment was tried utilizing the convention database for Mileage and Per Diem. We worked out the bugs and it was a success. We have been informed that this system will be implemented again next year. What this does is reduce the computer time for Mileage and Per Diem, and gives the Convention Committee an additional check for those attending the convention. With this additional check we discovered that 12 Comp/Sir Knights Registered with Mileage and Per Diem to receive their checks but failed to register with the convention committee and pay their registration fee. Comp/ Sir Knights, it is absolutely essential that everyone register with the Convention Committee. Please do not forget this next year.

Special thanks need to go to Companion Bernard Cole for handling the room set ups and the fruit baskets. Also special thanks need to go to Mrs. Shirley Anderson and Mrs. Elaine Graulich who manned the registration desk throughout the convention along with providing other services to York Rite. Without their help, we would not have been able to provide you with the services we did.

Last but not least, this committee wishes to welcome Comp/Sir Knight Walter Hammond to this committee. Companion Hammond, was elected to fill the Chapter chair on this committee. We look forward to working with him. As always it has been a pleasure serving the craft in putting this convention together, and we are looking forward to seeing each of you at the Camberley Plaza, Sabal Park, Tampa next year.

Gordon L Anderson

A. J. Graulich

Bernard Cole

1997 GRAND YORK RITE CONVENTION SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

The 1997 Grand York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry of Florida held their annual convention at the Ramada Resort Oceanfront Hotel on Daytona Beach. The pre convention activities got under way on Saturday May 17, 1997. Several committees met on Saturday and Sunday preceding the Grand Bodies. As is the custom of Miami Priory No. 10, K.Y.C.H. and Miami Conclave Red Cross of Constantine each met on Saturday afternoon with a good number of members and guests attending. The evening culminated with the usual combined Banquet of the two organizations. The meetings assist in setting the proper frame for the coming business of York Masonry.

On Sunday morning a devotional service was held in the Convention room. The Volume of Sacred Law was read in the Old and New Testaments. Songs were offered up as praise to the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe and Companion/Sir Knights Harvey L. Ward, Joe K. West and Robert A. Niles were pleased to offer testimonials of the grace and mercy of our Heavenly Father in providing life and health after physical adversities.

The afternoon brought considerable registration, committee meetings, fellowship and the combined Divine Service conducted by the Grand Commandery of K. T..

For the first time the convention guests were invited to come together after the Divine Service to enjoy Barbeque and other refreshments on the rear deck of the hotel by the pools and the beautiful Atlantic Ocean. The occasion was enjoyed by several hundred Companions/Sir Knights and their families. While the serving line was crowded the refreshments, fellowship and atmosphere was absolutely great and made up for the inconvenience of the line. Mrs. Fred (Sonja) Piasecki was asked by the



three presiding officers to take care of the event and she is to be heartily congratulated for making it happen so well. The presiding officers were well pleased as were the attendees. A great and memorable time was had at the social mixer. Thank you Sonja.

The Bazaar, a Florida York Rite tradition, probably established by Mrs. Frank (Virginia) Smith at this same hotel site when Franklin Smith, Kenneth Johnson and Joe Asply presided was very ably, wonderfully and graciously handled and run by Mrs. Virgil (Lorraine) Brown and Mrs. Warren (Lydia) Almand. Their efforts preceded the event by months of planning and gathering so that there would be items of interest to those passing the bazaar. The results of their hard work and the money of our people and guests produced nice revenue for our three York Rite charities. Thank you Loraine and Lydia.

The craft room was very ably set up and handled by Mrs. Guy (Joyce) Waltman. Several ladies were anxious to hone their skills and teach others some tricks of the handcraft art.

On Monday the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar met at their annual Grand Conclave. It was well attended and the business was well and ably conducted by Right Eminent Sir Knight Guy E. Waltman, Grand Commander.

The Ladies Luncheon Monday was decorated by Mrs. Harvey (Julia) Ward, Mrs. Paul (Tammi) Friend and Mrs. Jonell Friend (Paul's Mother). The Luncheon was very well attended by what seemed to be room full of beautiful ladies. Companions/Sir Knights Ward and Chipouras were invited to appear in behalf of the R.A.R.A. Charity the ladies were laughing and giggling with delight at the several drawings of prizes and opportunities to have fun together while raising money for our charitable endeavors. As recollection serves Mrs. Charley (Marie) Tatum was awarded the hand made plastic canvas Christmas Village.

The efforts of Julia Ward aided by a great number of Royal Arch Ladies from all branches of the Rite produced over \$500.00 in contributions for Royal Arch Research Assistance through the sale of pencils. I am especially grateful to Julia for her hard efforts in our behalf. Because of these efforts the contributions to R.A.R.A. for the year broke all previous records for donations to it in Florida. Thank you Julia and ladies.

Monday evening the three Grand presiding Officers held separate social receptions enjoying the company of their statewide and national friends.

On Tuesday morning all the ladies were invited to a Social Order of the Beacont Breakfast hosted by Mrs. John (Betty) Fletcher. It was well attended and the ladies got a good start on the day.

At the same time Tuesday morning the Companions/Sir Knights were hosted by Richard Carr, Very Eminently Distinguished Governor General of Florida at a Breakfast of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. All was enjoyable and the attendees got a great start on the day.

Tuesday at 8:15 A.M. Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. opened, using the Charter from Daytona Beach No. 5. Then received the Grand Chapter Officers, afforded the proper Capitular honors to the Grand Council of the Grand Chapter after which the Grand High Priest closed that Chapter, opened the Grand Chapter and continued with the business.

Tuesday evening the traditional Grand Banquet was observed in a filled room. The meal of Prime Rib and Shrimp was rapidly served and enjoyed by all. Each presiding officer was to be allocated 20 minutes for his presentations and area of specific interest. The time part was soon forgotten. The Grand High Priest was presented a P.G.H.P. jewel by M. E. Vernon Miller. Ward was presented an outstanding plaque with the insignia of office, special silver coins, photograph and names of the officers of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. for 1996-97 suitably inscribed thereon by his loving wife Julia, son and daughter.

M. E. Jacque Sweeney, SE Deputy of the General Grand Chapter then presented the Bronze Distinguished Service Medal to J. D. Moffitt, who, with his lady Peggy, was pleased to receive it.

The Council section was presided over by M.I. Paul Friend who was pleased to present several awards pertaining to Royal and Select Masters.

The Commandery section was presided over by R.E. Guy Waltman who was pleased to present several awards relating to the Grand Commandery.

Wednesday the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters met in Grand Assembly. The Grand Council was very ably presided over by Most Illustrious Paul W. Friend and the business handled properly. After which the Companions and Sir Knights departed.

This supplemental report is presented because it was noted that some important items were overlooked or viewed with a caustic eye, negatively. It is meant to further recognize, in a positive manner, the hard work of several men and women without



whose assistance the Grand York Rite Convention would have been bad off. I am absolutely sure that there are still names missing from the list of hard workers. Please accept my apology for the oversight. An overwhelming majority of those attending the convention were well pleased and found their time well spent. The hotel was gracious and accommodated every whim and request that I am familiar with. It is noted for the benefit of the Craft that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Florida, Michael Padron and his wife Sally arrived on Sunday and remained through Wednesday and participated in the whole convention.

Harvey L. Ward

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

We, your Committee on Distinguished Guests, are happy to report that all Distinguished Guests of this Grand Chapter were extended a warm Welcome, were introduced and received appropriate Grand Honors and were personally greeted by the Grand Body Leaders of Florida.

Visiting Grand High Priests, Past Grand High Priests and Grand Chapter Officers introduced were:

M.E. Companion	Luther Lee	Grand High Priest - Alabama
M.E. Companion	Wm. Henry Lewis	Grand High Priest - Georgia
M.E. Companion	Samuel McJunkin	Grand High Priest - South Carolina
M.E. Companion	Samuel C. Palmer Jr.	Grand High Priest - Virginia
M.E. Companion	Stephen D. Piner	Past G. H. P. - Connecticut
M.E. Companion	*Dennis O. Rohrer	Past G. H. P. - Indiana
	* Personal Rep of M.E.G.H.P. Joseph O. Eiler, Indiana	
M.E. Companion	Johnnie T. Morris	Grand Secretary - South Carolina

Sixteen Past Grand High Priests were introduced, and given Grand Honors and one holder of the Silver Service Award from General Grand Chapter R.A.M., International was introduced.

General Grand Chapter, R.A.M., International Officers present were:

M.E. Companion	J. Benny Allen	General Grand Scribe
M.E. Companion	John F. Kirby	General Grand Secretary
M.E. Companion	J. Jacques Sweeney	D.G.G.H.P., S. E. Region
M.E. Companion	Walter H. Winchester	Past General Grand High Priest
M.E. Companion	William O. Walker	Gen. Gr. Ch. Ambassador to Florida
M.E. Companion	Ralph O. Sheppard	Gen. Gr. Ch. Ambassador at Large

Presiding Officers of Appendant Orders:

M.E. Companion Howard P. Bennett M. Reverend Gr. Prior, Gr. Priory of America For C.B.C.S. & Chief Adept S.R.I.C.F Masonic Rosierucians in FL.

M.Eminent Donald E. Friend, K.C.T. Past Grand Master General, Convent General, K.Y.C.H

Sir Knight David L. Hargett, Jr. R. Eminent SE Department Commander Per Rep SK Blair C Mayford, M.E.G.M. Gr. Encampment, K.T. USA

Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin Honorary Past Department Commander Gr. Encampment KT, USA, REDDGHP

From the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Florida were:

M. Worshipful	Michael A. Padron, Jr.	M.W. Grand Master
R. Worshipful	Jacque A. Couture	R.W. Senior Grand Warden
R. Worshipful	Keith A. Dean	R.W. Junior Grand Warden
M. Worshipful	George Hayes	Past Grand Master
R. Worshipful	James P. Rudman	W. Grand Orator
R. Worshipful	C. Allan Pattison	W. Grand Tyler Emeritus

We were pleased to have the opportunity to present these distinguished Masons.

Move that all the distinguished guest, who have not been previously so honored, be extended Honorary Membership in this Grand Chapter.

Duane B. Young, Joseph C. LeSuer, William L. Buck, Jr.,
William O. Walker, John B. Fletcher, Jr.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Your committee on Foreign Relations is pleased to note that within the United States there seems to be peace and quiet, as we continue to be guided by the rules and regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Florida.

By following the direction of the Grand Lodge, we have been able to avoid most controversy. This is not to say, however, that some of our sister jurisdictions seem



to have set aside from time to time a few of the precepts of brotherhood. The result has been that some reject the opportunities to further our cause by visitations back and forth.

By reviewing the proceedings for our 1996 annual convocation, we note that a Grand Chapter in Greece has appointed one of our members as their Grand Representative near our Grand Chapter, and that someone in Greece appears as our Grand Representative near a Grand Chapter of Greece. This was not done by action of this Grand Chapter in annual convocation convened. We recognize that there has been confusion in the temple in Greece for several years. It is our hope that a statement will be forthcoming illustrating that harmony now exists among the several Grand Chapters in Greece as well as the several Grand Lodges. As of now, with Greece being smaller than the State of Alabama, it would seem appropriate to recognize only one Grand Lodge and one Grand Chapter.

A letter of inquiry has been received from a Grand Chapter in Belgium concerning the possibility of recognition. The Regular Grand Lodge dates only from 1979, although there were lodges in what is now Belgium as early as 1784 (under English Supervision). The Grand Chapter is newer, and does not appear in Grand Chapter rosters around the world. Your committee feels it proper to wait for more information as to "regularity", and other matters before exchanging Grand Representatives.

In 1979, the Grand Lodge followed the old Grand Orient into irregularity by abandoning the necessity of a belief in God; they became the "old Grand Lodge". The "Regular" Grand Lodge apparently maintained the belief in God, and now consist of 21 lodges as the new or "Regular" Grand Lodge. Should one contemplate visiting a Chapter in Belgium, one should first verify through our M.W. Grand Lodge the lodge with which it might be affiliated.

Your committee members thank you for the privilege of serving.

Walter H. Winchester, Robert E. Burleson, Marvin W. Gerhard
Richard E. Lynn, Vernon H. Miller

GRAND BANQUET

On Tuesday May 20, 1997 at 7:00 P.M. the Traditional Grand York Rite Banquet was held. The room filled with Companions/Sir Knights and their Ladies in elegant Evening Attire, they were served a grand meal of Prime Rib and Stuffed Shrimp. The Master of Ceremonies, Robert E. Burleson, M.I.P.G.M., was his ever so entertaining self. The presiding Grand Officers of Chapter, Council and Commandery each took

a turn presenting their awards and comments. (Awards are listed in Awards section) The Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward was presented a P.G.H.P. Jewel by M. E. Vernon Miller.

THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST REPORT

It is a distinct pleasure and high honor that I have this morning. Before we get into the meat and bones of my report I want to extend a warm sincerely heartfelt welcome to each of you who are here for this 150th Annual Grand Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida. I want you to know that you are most appreciated by having honored us with your presence. As I look around this hall at the delegates and visitors who have assembled I see many old friends, and some new ones. It is always a pleasure to have distinguished Companions representing the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida. Most Worshipful Brother Padron, it is a real honor to have you and your party here with us.

We are pleased to have visitors from our sister grand jurisdictions. We are honored to have representatives of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International with us, Most Excellent Companion Benny Allen, General Grand Scribe and Most Excellent Companion Jacque Sweeney, Southeastern Regional Deputy of the General Grand High Priest. I trust that you all are enjoying these accommodations; the world famous beach at Daytona just outside the East Gate; the ever changing Atlantic Ocean; and the fellowship of these grand sessions. I hope that you will profit greatly by having been here with us.

It is my prayer that we approach the deliberations of this Grand Convocation with a sense of gratitude to the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and earth, The Great I AM. Help us recognize the many blessings bestowed on each of us during this past year. Cause us to be humbly conscious of our frailties. We pray always for the courage and strength to do right. May we all look forward with confidence to opportunities for more effective service and greater accomplishments in the coming years.

Time has flown. I was Initiated, Passed and Raised in 1976. I worked a lot in those days. However, in October of 1980 I became active with my son in DeMolay. Because of the influence and high esteem I felt for three Masons I asked to become a part of the York Rite of Freemasonry. Charles E. Palmour, Milton Immanuel Ryberg, and William Abram Bessent, III had all made deep and favorable impressions on my mind. They epitomized Freemasonry to me, each in a different manner. Because of their influence I was Exalted to this Most Sublime Degree of the Holy Royal Arch and made a Knight Templar in 1982. Family, work, DeMolay and Freemasonry were the major influences of my life for years.



DeMolay influenced my son to master the politics of DeMolay and become State Master Councilor. His mother and I were glad to finance this opportunity for him.

During those years I had the pleasure of getting to know Most Worshipful Franklin Columbus Smith, P.G.M. and P.G.H.P. and his lady Virginia. He always made me feel as if he were really interested in me and my improvement and advancement in Freemasonry. Looking back, it seems that he saw to it that we would talk often. I am sure that he influenced my thoughts and actions heavily.

Unknown to me in the meantime, the influence of Bessent, Ryberg, and Palmour were at work. They saw to it that I was looked at in Schafer Lodge and the Gainesville York Rite. Somebody had to fill those stations and places, and, after all, Julia is a good cook and fed the Craft well. By 1985 they engineered me into Junior Warden of my Lodge and the next year presiding in all three Chairs across town in the York Rite Bodies. My Lodge advanced me to the East in 1987. Not long afterward, I was asked to represent Right Eminent George Chipouras as his Deputy in the Eighth Chivalric District. Unknown to me there had been a real thrust of political influence made in my behalf by Charlie and Right Excellent Companion Lee Taylor of James Yeager Chapter No. 62. In those days, such appointments were highly prized, and rightfully so. The Deputies in all the lines felt the duty to the Craft to do their best all the time. Charlie and Lee won.

I was not aware of the contest. I had a plate full of Freemasonry to take care of. My Grand Master in 1987 was M. W. George Hayes from right there in Gainesville. We wanted to support him properly and let Florida know we were proud of our Grand Master. We did our best, and I believe Most Worshipful George was pleased. The Gainesville York Rite Bodies gave the York Rite the biggest One Day York Rite Class there had been in 10 years on October 30, 1987 in honor of our Grand Master. Most Excellent Russell Hammond Exalted and Right Eminent George Chipouras Knighted 107 Templars that day.

Again Charlie was at work talking to Vernon Miller. I didn't know it. Several months later Most Excellent Companion Vern Miller called to talk. We did and some time later he asked if I was interested in learning and preparing myself to become Grand High Priest of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter. I was. I sincerely hope I learned enough to have governed this Craft well and to their satisfaction. I also hope that I exhibited enough polish over the year not to offend my Companions. I am rather plain. Those years of Masonic training for this job, I pray, have not gone to waste. Charlie, Lee, and Vernon, we must believe that Milton and Bill and Franklin have seen all this and are at least somewhat pleased.

To the Companions of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. I give my sincere thanks and appreciation for making this whole portion of my life possible. The opportunity to serve my Chapter in the Chairs, as Secretary, and as Director of Work has been wonderful. At times it has been stressful. But it has been an association wherein I have gotten to know pretty well some very good men and Masons. My Royal Arch Chapter, my Council, my Commandery, and my Lodge have continuously and heavily supported my activities in this Grand Chapter and in Freemasonry. I am very grateful. Thank you all.

To Most Excellent Companion Vernon Miller I will say with pride that for these ten years I have found and developed a very close friendship and even a type of kinship that I am pleased to have had develop. Your advice and admonitions have served me well. I am proud to call you and Miss Fran my very close friends. I will cherish that friendship for the rest of my life.

I owe my deep and abiding love and gratitude to my wife Julia. She has truly been a Masonic Widow. She has, almost unfalteringly, supported me in all my Masonic activities. I am very grateful to her. We have shared over thirty years of each others lives. Hers has been the hardest job. My children seemed to know that Daddy was either working or off taking care of Masonic business. Elizabeth turned 21 in April having so far survived the experiences of aging. Harvey Jr. is earning a living and improving himself in Masonry. He is currently the Senior Deacon of our Lodge and holds appointive offices in the rest of the Rite. It is a pleasure to know that he also loves our Fraternity. I am a proud man.

I have served one year in this highest office in your power to bestow. I was Elected and Installed into the office of Grand High Priest on May 20, 1996 and this is May 20. I worked the whole year. The start was a little slow due to my heart attack last May 12th, The Supreme Grand Master said "Slow Down", I did. I dropped a good portion of my planned activities and re-scheduled. I prefer living to the alternative.

The climax of this Capitular year is upon us. You are the judges of whether this was a good, mediocre, or poor year in Capitular Masonry. Charlie and Vernon have their ideas and I have my hopes. I have done my best. The plans I gave this Grand Chapter if pursued will not mature quickly. It will be three to five years before we can notice significant countable differences. If pursued, our numbers will grow.

These 365 days have run very fast. It has been a busy and rewarding year. It is time for me to render an accounting of my stewardship in the administration of the affairs of this Grand Chapter. I do so with tremendous gratitude to you, the Craft for the privilege of serving you as Grand High Priest.



During my term of office Warrants to the Treasurer have been signed numbered 001 through 148. The Grand Chapter budget was approved for \$48,755.00. The Grand Chapter has spent \$48,284.11. Which is 99.03% of the budget, for a savings of \$471.00.

Added to that and set aside in February of 1996 by this Grand Chapter was \$20,000.00 to finance the Sesquicentennial Celebration. Since February 1996, I have requested the Grand Chapter spend \$12,794.13 of that \$20,000.00. Of that \$12,794.13 we have paid back into the Grand Chapter treasury the sum of \$ 6,938.07 (as of 4-30-97). That currently puts that special 10999 numbered account in the hole by \$ 5,856.06. There is still some memorabilia from the 150th Anniversary celebration to sell to interested persons. All proceeds from those sales will go toward the repaying of the 10999 account. Whatever that total falls short of when we finalize it during the term of the next Grand High Priest is what it cost this Grand Chapter to celebrate its anniversary in a proper manner and advertise Royal Arch Masonry. I would like to think that we have sown some seeds that will, if cultivated, sprout into more new Royal Arch Chapters and new Royal Arch Masons. That will take time and attention. When you have heard and seen the rest of this report then decide if this budget was spent frivolously, or wisely. I believe you will be favorably impressed with the financial aspects after weighing the progress.

Necrology

Each year we are saddened by the absence of our familiar Companions. Those familiar faces whose memories we cherish and can no longer greet. Those Companions who have completed their labors in the quarries and vineyards of this life and have gone on to present their token and to receive their wages. In the midst of our deliberations we remember with love of Brotherhood the 272 Companions of this Grand Chapter who passed from here to their reward during this Capitular year.

While the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and earth was gracious to us we have lost Companion Charles Junior Corbin, Grand Organist from our Grand Line. He was a truly gifted musician and has no doubt assisted in the making of music in that celestial Grand Chapter on high. We were also saddened by the loss of M.E. Companion Wilbur Masters who led all four bodies of Ancient Craft Freemasonry. While we are saddened by their loss from us we confidently can leave them in the hands of a being who doeth all things well and we are comforted that they have been rewarded by the greater glory of God.

State Of the Craft

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida is similar to other Grand Jurisdictions and areas of Freemasonry. While in some areas of our Craft there are

outstanding initiatives, innovations, zeal, and enthusiasm; other areas of our Craft suffer for lack of interest, cooperation, or application of leadership. Many officers and High Priests can look back with rightful pride to their accomplishments in the past year.

I have had the opportunity to observe many Chapters in the ten Capitular Districts throughout the past nine years, most particularly though, during the past year. I assure you that there is a wide spectrum of not only ritualistic proficiency, but in the fervency and zeal that is necessary to promote Royal Arch Masonry. We should promote that from Chapter to Chapter and District to District. We must, with fervency, zeal, and great enthusiasm evangelically sell Royal Arch Masonry and the completion of Antient Craft Masonry to our Brothers in every Lodge. Especially YOUR LODGE. I believe an improved positive visibility will produce increased activity, desire, and membership. Overall our Grand Chapter sustained a net loss of 180 Companions for the Capitular calendar year 1996-97. The number suspended NPD was 234 while Exaltations were 240. The Supreme High Priest summoned 272 from our midst. There were secretarial adjustments downward of 116. Our membership numbers are 7,946 as of April 30, 1997. The number of Companions Exalted from May 1, 1996 to May 1, 1997 is 287

I will remind you, the Companions who can make a difference, that the population of this great state of Florida continues to rise at a rapid rate. The Masonic population of this Grand Chapter and of Freemasonry in Florida overall continues to decline. In my view this is a strange phenomenon. I believe that with the action described here by the leadership of Capitular Masons at all levels of our fraternity we can reverse this strange phenomenon. For too long we have hidden ourselves. We must do things publicly to bring a positive recognition by the public to our fraternity. We must do that same thing within our fraternity so that the Holy Royal Arch is not hidden out of existence. For at least 50 years we have not promoted ourselves well enough within Freemasonry. We live in an age where name recognition says it all. It either sells or it does not. We must do things differently than we have been doing. If not, then Companion Luther Bodiford will not have much to preside over. We are able to change. The whole secret for success is

GO TO WORK

ONE DAY CLASSES

This Grand Chapter was pleased to participate in three One Day York Rite Classes honoring our M.W. Grand Master Mike Padron and our Capitular Class celebrating our 150th Anniversary. I am aware of what it takes to hold a successful One Day Class. A Lot of Work. These classes were sponsored by the Chapters and York



Bodies who had local jurisdiction. This Grand Chapter is appreciative of the local Companions hard work in making each one successful.

Jericho Chapter No. 11 of Miami sponsored the Class at Marathon on June 29, 1996. R. E. Companion Leroy Fackler, D.D.G.H.P. saw to it that all the tremendous amounts of regalia and gear was taken from Miami to Marathon so that we would want for nothing. He was ably assisted in that endeavor by many Companions. Steve Steele was a tremendous help in all of the Work and R. E. Companion George Chipouras was the Director of Work. All these and more did outstanding work.

The Class in Pensacola on November 30, 1996 was superbly executed by the Companions of Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6 under the direction of R. E. Companion Harry Seibert, D.D.G.H.P., R. E. Companion D. P. Caldwell and many other Companions in Pensacola who produced outstanding Work. An extra pleasure and benefit that the Companions at Pensacola produced was the Ground breaking Ceremony for a new York Rite Temple in which I had the pleasure and honor of assisting the M. W. Grand Master take care of. That evening we all enjoyed a wonderful banquet where I was presented with several gifts including an honorary membership to Mount Horeb No. 6. I will long remember my Companions in Pensacola and their outstanding efforts in behalf of Capitular Masonry.

The Class in Orlando on March 22, 1996 was also superbly executed. It was in the charge of R. E. Companion Fred Morris of Eureka Chapter No. 7. The Chapter under whose Charter it was worked was that of Monroe No. 15 because it occurred at the Scottish Rite Center of Orlando that is actually in Seminole County. The teams and workers performed outstandingly to the enlightenment and enjoyment of all.

The Sesquicentennial Class on February 1, 1997 in Tallahassee was ritually in the charge of M. E. Companion Jim MacDonald, Chairman of the Committee on Work of this Grand Chapter. The teams he chose all conferred the Work outstandingly well. The props and regalia were taken care of in a perfect manner by R. E. Companion Dencil R. Smith, my sitting Deputy from Florida Chapter No. 1.

These Companions mentioned did not do it all, but they caused it to happen in such a well-planned and executed manner. I am appreciative and thank all who participated in these endeavors for Capitular Masonry.

Cabal - Jericho Merger

As we know, Hurricane Andrew several years ago devastated the Homestead area of South Florida. It destroyed the Masonic Temple that housed Cabal Chapter No. 61 R.A.M. The membership became scattered while building new lives for themselves.

Some of their leaders died. The Royal Arch Chapter became unable to meet its Constitutional obligations to hold viable Convocations. The Companions of Jericho Chapter No. 11 in Miami became aware of the plight of the surviving Companions and voted to accept all of the members and property of Cabal No. 61 as theirs. No memberships were lost. The rights and benefits of the Royal Arch Masons of Cabal Chapter were not impinged upon and they retained membership as R.A. Masons in Jericho Chapter. This action saved the members from losing rights as Cryptic or Chivalric Masons, as well as all the other orders that predicate their membership on Capitular membership. Most of the Chapter regalia and books were lost over the several years.

M. E. Companion Earl Shiver of Jericho Chapter was asked to see to it that the laws concerning the merger of these two Royal Arch Chapters was adhered to and that the merger be accomplished in a proper manner so that the Companions best interests as well as the laws of this Grand Chapter would be served. M. E. Shiver did an admirable and timely job.

Highlands Chapter U. D.

Excellent Companion Frank Whittam, PHP in Pennsylvania, lately of Florida loves Capitular Masonry. After living here a while and becoming active with the Companions of Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22 of Bartow he decided to see if he could involve himself in starting a Royal Arch Chapter. He spoke with R. E. Companion Joe Ken West about his desire. Right Excellent Companion West being a devout Freemason and desirous of assisting the promulgation of the high causes of the Holy Royal Arch of Freemasonry was more than pleased to assist. R.E. Ken West provided the leadership and direction to many Companions. He inspired the involvement of other leaders in Thomas Brown Chapter to become involved in an effort to assist Companion Whittam and other Companions in the Highlands County area. Soon with the aid of Almighty God, plenty of fervency and zeal and plenty of hard work these Companions applied for Dispensation to form a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Avon Park. Permission was granted by the Brothers of Poincianna Lodge No. 227 for a Royal Arch Chapter to hold Convocations there. Your Grand High Priest was pleased to grant the Dispensation. On October 5, 1996 Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22 R.A.M. opened a Convocation in Avon Park and the Capitular Degrees of Freemasonry were conferred on a class of Master Masons. After Exaltation the Chapter was closed.

An Emergent Convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened for the purpose of Setting to Work Highlands Chapter U.D. Royal Arch Masons. The Dispensation was presented. The Grand Chapter officers assisted by many P.G.H.Ps installed the officers of Highlands Chapter U. D.. The Chapter has met regularly since that time



under and with the continued watchful eyes of Ken West, Wilbur Allen, Ben Holland, and others who have assisted the Companions of Highlands Chapter often.

On March 14, 1997 Highlands Chapter invited the G.H.P. to ask the Committee on Work and the Charters and Dispensations Committee to come watch them perform. Highlands Chapter under the leadership of E. Companion Whittam and others performed all the tasks asked for by the Committees without ritual or falter.

Of course, there is much more to the story than can be related here. Suffice it to say we are extremely proud of the accomplishments of this dedicated group of Royal Arch Masons. R. E. Companion Joe Ken West has set a high standard. He is deserving of the credit for causing it to happen. Congratulations Ken. You have the thanks of this Grand Chapter.

I am pleased to recommend that you vote positively to grant this new Royal Arch Chapter a Charter today.

Island Chapter

On June 29, 1996 this Grand Chapter participated in a One Day York Rite Class honoring Most Worshipful Michael A. Padron, Jr. in his home District at Marathon in the Florida Keys. Interest was stirred since the Royal Arch and the rest of York Masonry had not been conferred in the Keys since early this century.

The Companions there led by Excellent Companion Jorge Aladro notified your G.H.P. on April 8, 1997 that on Friday April 25 they would like to start a Royal Arch Chapter. Jericho Chapter has voted their approval. The Request for Dispensation was received with more than the required number of signatures (39). The Grand Chapter wheels were set in motion to assemble at the Lodge in Marathon to assist these Companions. At preliminary meetings they have chosen the name of Island Chapter to replace the original Island Chapter No. 4 that was at the second Grand Convocation in 1848.

Island Chapter U.D. R.A.M. was duly and legally Set To Work on Friday April 25, 1997. Accompanying me, also representing the Grand Chapter was M.E.P.G.H.P. Jim MacDonald, Chairman of the Committee on Work, R.E. Fred Young, Grand King, R.E. Wm. Robert Young, Grand Secretary, and R.E. Robert Niles, of the Charters and Dispensations Committee.

Island Chapter demonstrated at that time a sufficient level of proficiency to satisfy the printed statutory requirements. There were about 45 Companions in attendance

At that Convocation I was pleased to officially receive our M. W. Grand Master, Michael A. Padron, Jr. He was afforded the Public Grand Honors of Capitular Masonry and additionally the Private Grand Honors of Symbolic Masonry. He is the King of Island Chapter. When our Grand Master received the gavel he proceeded to present M.E. Companion Jim MacDonald a 50 year pin and Certificate of Membership from the Grand Lodge. He was afforded the Grand Honors of the Lodge. M.E. MacDonald was very appreciative.

I am pleased to recommend that you vote positively to grant this new Royal Arch Chapter a Charter today.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The sum of the parts equal the whole. Therefore, the following are not listed in an order of importance:

1. The Constituent Chapters and Companions were made more aware of the need to positively enhance the image of the York Rite of Freemasonry in general and the Holy Royal Arch in particular.
2. The visibility of the Holy Royal Arch has been increased by recognizing the rightful and proper place of the Royal Arch in the order of Appendant Bodies.
3. We have revived the publication of The York Rite Light and have sent it not only to Capitular Masons but to All Masons of Florida Lodges, our prime prospects. Due to cooperation between the Grand York Rite and the Grand Lodge The Florida Mason was used to carry the information. Some of our good works are published. R.E. Companion Bob Burleson has presented outstanding work as our Editor.
4. Two new Royal Arch Chapters have been set to work U.D.. The Companions in Highlands County around Avon Park requested a Dispensation to form a Chapter. They had more than the required number sign the request as Charter Members (43) and on October 5, 1996 this Grand Chapter set Highlands Chapter U.D. to work. They have met regularly and have accomplished their required goals. We will have an opportunity to grant them a Charter today.

The Companions in Monroe County around Marathon requested a Dispensation to form a new Royal Arch Chapter. They also had more than the required number sign the request as Charter Members (finally 39) and on April 25, 1997 this Grand Chapter set Island Chapter U.D. to Work. They have accomplished their required goals. They have set a course to establish the rest of the York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry in Monroe County. We will have an opportunity to grant them a Charter today.



5. The work of the York Rite of Freemasonry was conferred in the Florida Keys for the first time in many, many years. There is now a Royal Arch Chapter in Marathon. We have a toehold. Let's build on that.
6. We have attempted to teach through the various schools conducted, the exercise of proper protocol and Masonic etiquette in the execution of the business and fraternal matters of the Chapters.
7. This Grand Chapter has maintained good relations with foreign jurisdictions and our sister appendant orders. We have substantially increased our relationship with and our recognition by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida. It is my earnest prayer that we can maintain and increase our positive relationship with the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge has beyond a doubt placed this Grand Royal Arch Chapter in full recognition. Our wholehearted thanks go to our M. W. Grand Master, Mike Padron.
8. A plan to increase our membership has been written and distributed to the Grand Chapter officers and deputies last year. It has been implemented in some places to a small degree. The results have been positive. You must decide to further execute the plan or let it die.
9. I have by edict implemented a plan of awards and rewards for Top Line Signers of petitioners for your Chapters. Today you will have the opportunity to decide if you want that plan adopted and continued by this Grand Chapter.
10. As a result of the official Florida Work not being found in the Chapter Red Books by the Craft in the local Chapters we have prepared legislation allowing the publication of that Work, except for the Key Lecture and Secret Work, as an appendix in the Constitution Rules and Regulations. You will have an opportunity to approve that today.
11. We have been living with a Life Membership plan that did not pay the members per capita tax. This caused the Chapters to pay additionally to take care of its enrolled members. Legislation has been prepared so that we can grandfather the Life Membership plan into one that will work to our benefit and not cost our Constituent Chapters. It is patterned after the Grand Lodge Perpetual Membership plan that is so popular. You will have an opportunity to adopt that ETERNAL MEMBERSHIP plan today.
12. We have celebrated with great enthusiasm the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of this Grand Chapter. The 150th anniversary was marked well on January 31 and February 1, 1997 in Tallahassee. Details are in this report under that subject.

13. We financed and paid for a portion of the 150th Anniversary costs by the sale of various and sundry items of official memorabilia including bronze and silver coins, shirts, car tags, tote bags, caps, and lapel pins. These items increased our visibility and some are good public relations items. The figures appear in the financial reports.

14. Our Grand Secretary now has a computerized list of the Capitular Masons of Florida Chapters. If we can get our local Secretaries to complete the requested paperwork correctly and timely our Grand Secretary has our membership information readily available.

15. Our M. W. Grand Master, Mike Padron has truly been great for Royal Arch Masonry in Florida. He has been true to his word that he gave me four years ago when he was in contention for the Grand South. He is a Man of His Word. He has been with us and participated in three One Day York Rite Classes in his honor held in Marathon on June 29th, 1996, one in Pensacola on November 30, 1996 and one in Orlando on March 22, 1997 (his wife's birthday), as well as being with us during the Capitular Degrees on February 1 in the 150th Anniversary Class.

16. M. W. Brother and Companion Padron requested your Grand High Priest to assist and participate in the Ground breaking Ceremonies he conducted at Pensacola on the site of the new York Rite Temple. It was an exciting and moving experience. I am grateful to have had the opportunity.

17. Perhaps the most significant growth in the relationship between the Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of Florida can be exemplified by the fact that our Grand Master requested the presence of me, the Grand High Priest, as often as I could, at his District Meetings. I had five opportunities to join Most Worshipful Padron at District Meetings, and each time the Grand High Priest was introduced as a part of the Grand Master's official party and afforded a seat in the East. My Companions, this is a significant step forward in the recognition of Capitular Masonry in Florida. By affording the Grand High Priest this honor, the Grand Lodge of Florida acknowledges the rightful place of the Holy Royal Arch within the York structure. Grand Master, this Grand Royal Arch Chapter as well as the rest of the York Rite of Freemasonry has well enjoyed the time and attention you have given to Antient Craft Masonry. The Craft in Florida have realized that you understand from whence you and Freemasonry came. The ancient historical relationship and kinship between the Symbolic Lodge and the Holy Royal Arch has been recognized and made stronger by you and the efforts you have exerted while leading the Freemasons in Florida. You have the gratitude of the Freemasons who know their historical roots and who are in possession of both, the Substitute Word, as well as, the Long Lost Master's Word. Thank you.



18. The work of the Ad Hoc Committee set up for the update and completion of the Constitution Rules and Regulations has done a tremendous job. We have too long been without our up dated laws easily referred to. We will have the opportunity today to accept their work.

19. Your Grand High Priest represented the Capitular Masons of Florida on as many occasions as time and circumstances would permit. The visibility of the Royal Arch was enhanced. (See the activities and visitations section of this report).

20. For the first time in memory a calendar of Capitular and York Rite activities was made and published that was never in conflict with that of the Grand Lodge in a geographical area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. I recommend that the plan initiated this last year to enhance the image and increase the visibility of Capitular Masonry be continued to the ultimate ends of:
 - A) All Master Masons in Florida realizing that the Holy Royal Arch completes the Master's Degree.
 - B) Having a healthy Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons in every county in Florida.
2. I recommend that this Grand Chapter initiate planning and organization to celebrate publicly the 200th Anniversary of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International. That Anniversary will occur in October of this year.
3. I recommend that this Grand Chapter exert greater efforts to recognize, utilize, and reward the leadership abilities of Companions at the local level of the constituent Chapters.
4. I recommend that each constituent Chapter strive to confer each of the Degrees of Capitular Masonry in their Chapter for their candidates so as to increase activity, sense of purpose, and Chapter pride.
5. I recommend that this Grand Chapter cooperate with the rest of York Masonry including the Grand Lodge and continue to publish and disseminate The York Rite Light. We must advertise our existence to the rest of Freemasonry. We must give our membership the knowledge that we are active and worth their while.
6. I recommend that this Grand Chapter continue the practice of appointing the Grand Line from the Sentinel through the Captain of the Host and electing the Scribe,

King, and M.E. G.H.P. The reason for that long schooling process is evident to those who have passed through it. In order to perform well a great deal of preparation is necessary. Commitment is tested. Above all, the Craft of all Florida must have an opportunity to see if they approve of the officer, and the officer must have an opportunity to decide if he can handle all the implications of the job. The Craft of Florida should not be asked to elect grand officers who are not willing to pay a great price of themselves.

I want to tell the M. W. Grand Master, Michael Padron, the M. I. Grand Master, Paul Friend and our R. E. Grand Commander, Guy Waltman that I appreciate the opportunity of serving the York Rite of Freemasonry with the three of you. It has been quite a year, packed with experiences.

To the Officers and District Deputies of this Grand Chapter with whom I have had the pleasure to serve I want you to know that I have enjoyed the relationships we have formed. To those of you who have earnestly promoted my program I know that you have seen the planned for results occur and can truly enjoy the fruits of your labor. You have earned your Capitular wages and are entitled to the enjoyment of them.

My Companions I sincerely pray that Almighty God continues to bless this great fraternity and continues to provide the leadership of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter with the wisdom to contrive, the strength to support and the beauty of harmony to administer the affairs of this Grand Chapter so that all our doings will continue to be pleasing in His sight.

To the incoming M. E. Grand High Priest, His Officers, and my Companions, I pledge my support when called upon and my advice when I think it might help and for as long as God provides health and strength.

APPOINTMENTS

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Robert C. Wilson	to	South Carolina
Jack P. Rickels	to	Saskatchewan
Joe Ken West	to	Argentina
Luther Bodiford, III	to	Arkansas
Dencil R. Smith	to	Germany
Harry W. Seibert	to	Illinois
Jorge Aladro	to	Italy
Frank Whittam	to	Pennsylvania
William G. Norrie	to	Tennessee

Harvey L. Ward, Sr. to Virginia
Robert G. Stearns to South Dakota

Harvey L. Ward, G. H. P.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED

I am pleased to report to you that I have received several honorary memberships during my time in this Grand Chapter line. I am very proud to have been found worthy of such a gift. I will list them here in chronological order.

1. James Yeager Chapter No. 62 R.A.M. and the Lawtey York Rite Bodies, 1988.
2. Live Oak Chapter No. 25 R.A.M. and the Live Oak York Rite Bodies, 1991.
3. Duval Chapter No. 48 R.A.M., 1996
4. St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 R.A.M., 1996
5. Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6 RAM. and the Pensacola York Rite Bodies, 1996.
6. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, 1996.
7. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alabama, 1997.
8. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Carolina, 1997.

Requests for By - Law Approval

July 7, 1996 Halifax No. 5 Move from Daytona Beach to Ormond Beach Lodge in Ormond Beach. Approved

Sept. 21 Eureka No. 7 to Change the Time of the Convocation on even numbered months. Approved.

Sept. 26 Eustis No. 33 Request to change meeting place from Tavares to Eustis Masonic Temple. Approved.

Oct. 25 Sarasota No. 35 Meets 5 times yearly in even months. Approved.

Oct. 25 Sarasota No. 35 Dues change, \$9.00 on time, \$14.00 if after 12-27. Approved.

Nov. 10 Manatee River No. 18 change by-law to meet 5 times yearly and be open in the Summer. Approved. Legal but not good business.

Dec. 15 Halifax Chapter No. 5 Request to hold Convocation on odd months plus December, Denied due to improper seal, on 12-4, resubmitted properly and approved.

Dec. 22 Joppa No. 28 Change Fee for initiation down to \$25.00. Approved because it was legal and in proper form, however I sent a letter cautioning them against such an unwise move.

Feb. 5, 1997 Keystone No. 20 Denied By-Law change because it had no Chapter seal or time of Convocation.

Feb. 20 Keystone No. 20 By Law Change on meeting date from 1 st Wednesday to 1st. Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Approved.

Mar. 24 Winter Haven No. 41 By Law Change to only hold one Convocation per month due to rent increase from Lodge.

Apr. 4 Poincianna No. 50 Change time of Convocation to 7:00 p.m.

Dispensations Requested

May 26, 1996 Halifax No. 5 Dispensation request to move meeting place in emergency from Daytona to Ormond Beach due to money demands from Lodge. Approved.

June 8 Jericho No. 11 Request to move the Charter to Marathon High School on June 29, 1996 for Capitular work. Approved

Feb. 5, 1997 Joppa No. 28 Temporarily move meeting place from 29th Street to Orange Ave. in Fort Pierce. Approved

Feb. 6 Joppa No. 28, Temporarily move Charter from Ft. Pierce to Stuart. Denied not in proper form, not signed or sealed properly, bad wording.

Feb. 20 Jacksonville No. 12 Request to hold first ever Antient Craft Table Chapter on March 13, 1997 at their Temple. Approved.

Feb. 26 Monroe No. 15 Requested to move the Charter to the Scottish Rite Center of Orlando on March 22 for the Capitular Degrees in the Grand Master's Class. Approved.

Mar. 2 Joppa No. 28 Request Dispensation to Temporarily move the Chapter meeting place from Ft. Pierce Lodge to the Lodge at Stuart Approved, with concerns and reservations written.

VISITATIONS

May 20, 1996 I attended the Grand Convocation of RAM at Altamonte Springs, I was Elected and Installed into the office of M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida

May 20 I attended the Grand Council of the Holy Order of High Priesthood. I was introduced as the Grand High Priest.

May 27 Visited at Duval Chapter No. 48, No quorum.

May 30 I attended R.T. Schaefer Lodge No. 350. I was introduced as the MEGHP. I assisted in conferral of the Master Mason Degree.

June 4 I attended Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. and fulfilled duties of Recorder. Introduced as G.H.P.

June 6 I participated in Masonic Funeral with RTS #350 in Brooker.

June 6 Official visit at Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22 in Bartow. Nice meal was provided for ladies and guests. Properly received with DDGHP Joe K. West. Some members presented the Gator G.H.P, with Seminole regalia.

June 8 Attended R.T.S. # 350 Bar-B-Que fund-raiser.

June 10 Attended the opening ceremonies and the activities of the day at the convention of High 12 Intn'l in Tampa. Introduced as GIIP.

June 13-15 Attended Southeastern York Rite Conference in Charlotte, N.C. Presented a paper on Masonic Charity.

June 16-19 Attended M.W. Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida in Tampa.

June 20 R.T.S. # 350 stated Communication

June 25 Visited Eden Chapter No. 63 R.A.M. observed R.A. Degree work on three candidates. I was introduced.

June 26 Assisted at Entered Apprentice Degree conferral at RTS # 350.

June 28 Visited the Marathon Shrine club. Introduced as G.H.P., held registration for the One Day Class honoring M.W. Mike Padron.

June 29 Attended the One Day Class Honoring our Grand Master in Marathon at the High School. There were 15 candidates Exalted, Received and Knighted.

July 2 Pilgrim Commandery No. 7. Attended Recorder duties..

July 6 Area Meeting Districts 4 & 5 at Eola Lodge in Orlando.

July 8 Visited Florida Chapter No.1 R.A.M. in Tallahassee. properly received with DDGHPs Dencil Smith and Troy Thompson of District. 7. GHP was presented a check for \$300 from the Chapter for RARA. Discussed plans to accomplish the 150th Anniversary Celebration of this Grand Chapter.

July 9 Visited Lake City Chapter No. 38 RAM. I was properly received.

July 11 Visited Putnam Chapter No. 9 Charles Corbin, GrandOrganist was present also. Enjoyed dinner and was properly received.

July 13-16 Attended Great Smokies Summer Assembly in Waynesville and Maggie Valley N.C. Received in form and presented them a check from the R.A. Masons of Florida.

July 18 Attended RTS# 350 Stated Communication

July 20 Area Meeting for Districts 1 and 6 in Ft. Pierce. Attended Homecoming for M.L Paul Friend at the Ft. Pierce Masonic Temple.

July 22 Attended R.E. Companion Hugh Smith's Mothers funeral at Day.

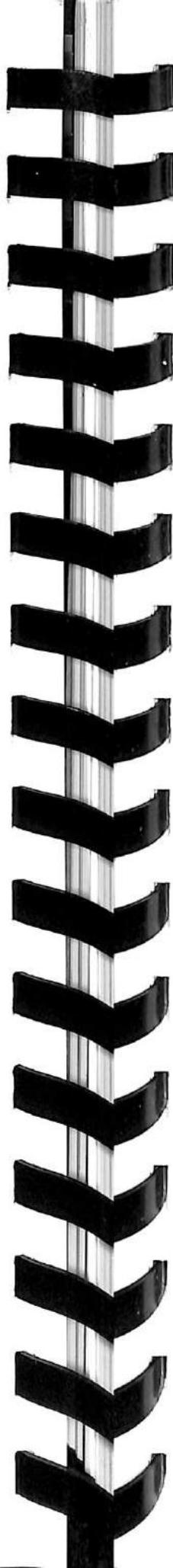
July 25 Attended 14 District Masters and Wardens meeting at RTS # 350. Introduced as the MEGHP Spoke briefly on Royal Arch Masonry.

July 27 Grand Master's Homecoming in Key West.

Aug. 1 RTS # 350 Stated Communication

Aug. 3 Area Meeting Districts 7 and 8 at RTS # 350 in Gainesville. Homecoming for GHP at University Centre Hotel.

Aug. 4 Breakfast at Gainesville Shrine Club honoring G.H.P..



Aug. 5 Attended the opening session of the Florida DeMolay Conclave, presented the State Master Councilor with a \$100 check from the Royal Arch Masons of Florida.

Aug. 6 Visited Live Oak Chapter No 25 in Mayo. Dinner and received.

Aug. 8 Visited Jacksonville Chapter No.12 R.A.M. . There were 29 Companions present. Properly received after nice dinner.

Aug. 10 Area Meeting for Districts 9 and 10 in Marianna. Received \$225.00 for RARA.

Aug. 12 I attended Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6 Royal Arch Masons in Pensacola. Had dinner with Companions and ladies. There were 31 Companions present in the Convocation. The GHP was properly received.

Aug. 15 I attended R. T. Schafer Lodge No. 350 Family night supper, followed by the stated Communication.

Aug. 17 I attended Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. I assisted in the Conferral of the Capitular Degrees in the Summer Festival.

Aug. 20 I attended Gainesville Council No. 27 R&SM and assisted in the Conferral of the Cryptic Degrees in the Summer Festival.

Aug. 23 I attended Wesley C. Harter Council No. 302 Allied Masonic Degrees in Tallahassee.

Aug. 24 I attended Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. in Gainesville and assisted in the Conferral of the Chivalric Orders in the Summer Festival.

Aug. 29 I traveled to Jacksonville where I attended a special Council of Past Excellent Chiefs of Gateway Council No. 51 Knight Masons. I received that Degree.

Aug. 31 I attended the annual meeting of Gateway Council No. 51 in Jacksonville. I was elected and Installed as Excellent Chief of that Council. The other ceremonies included the Degrees of that Council being conferred on a class of candidates.

Sept. 4 I made an Official visit to Clearwater Chapter No.45 R.A.M., Dinner was served, I was properly received. I toured the DeMolay Hall of Fame and observed the General Grand Chapter R.A.M. Library.

Sept. 5 Visited Winter Haven Chapter No. 41 R.A.M. I had Dinner with the Companions and ladies. I was properly received.

Sept. 6 The M.W. Grand Master, Mike Padron visited District 14 in Gainesville. The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn West. It was presided over by R.W. and Companion James Chesnut. The G.H.P. was officially received in The Grand Master's party. There was a standing room only crowd. A reception followed at the Shrine Club.

Sept. 7 I attended Miami Conclave Red Cross of Constantine introduced as G.H.P.. I made brief comments on the Royal Arch program.

Sept. 9 I Made an official Visit to Plant City Chapter No. 16 R.A.M. The Companions and ladies enjoyed a nice meal at a local restaurant. There were 12 Companions present at the Convocation. The Grand High Priest was received in due form.

Sept. 12 I made an official visit to Eureka Chapter No. 7 in Orlando. There were 16 Companions present including R.W. Jacque Couture, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge. The G.H.P. was received properly. The MIGM made his official visit afterward. Refreshments were served after the Council Assembly.

Sept. 13 I Attended Lakeland Chapter No. 29 R.A.M. I enjoyed dinner with the Companions and ladies prior to the Convocation. There were 17 Companions present. I was properly received.

Sept. 14 I attended the Area Meeting at St. Petersburg Northside Lodge for Districts 2 and 3. That evening I attended the Homecoming for R. E. Guy Waltman, Grand Commander, at St. Pete York Rite Temple in the evening.

Sept. 15 I attended York Rite Day at the Masonic Home. The Grand Chapter R.A.M. was well represented in attendance and activity. There were five Past Grand High Priests who attended.



Sept. 16 I attended the Board of Directors meeting of the Gainesville Crescent Foundation. Introduced as the GHP. Charitable discussions occurred.

Sept. 17 Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. held an Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation at the Gainesville Shrine Club. I was properly received.

Sept. 9-18 I attended and assisted at the Conferral of an Entered Apprentice Degree at R.T. Schafer Lodge.

Sept. 19 I attended a stated Communication of Schafer Lodge.

Sept. 20 I attended the regular meeting of the Gainesville Shrine Club. My appointment as Ambassador for Morocco Temple AAONOMS. was announced by the President, Noble Fred Piasecki.

Sept. 21 I attended Royal Arch School of Instruction at Jacksonville York Rite Temple with Ray Harris, King of Gainesville Chapter No. 2. R.A.M.

Sept. 27 I attended an Official Visit of the M.W. Grand Master Mike Padron at the Bass Capitol Shrine Club in Crescent City. A crowd of 400 plus was in attendance. The Grand Master placed the G.H.P. in his party for reception.

Sept. 28 I attended the Official Visit of the M.W. Grand Master, Mike Padron in the 11th and 12th Districts at the Scottish Rite Center in Jacksonville. R.W. William Walker & R.W. and Excellent Companion Glen Chandler presided prior to the Grand Master. Grand Master Padron placed the G.H.P. in his party for reception.

Oct. 1 I attended to the duties of Recorder at Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. in Gainesville.

Oct. 3 I attended Schafer Lodge Stated Communication in Gainesville.

Oct. 4 I attended a Royal Arch School of Instruction at Lakeland Chapter No. 29 R.A.M.

Oct. 5 I attended a called Convocation of Thomas Brown Chapter No.22 of Bartow in Avon Park, Highlands County at Poincianna Lodge No. 227. I assisted in the conferral of the Capitular Degrees.

Thomas Brown Chapter was closed and an Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida was called for the purpose of Instituting and Setting to Work Highlands Chapter U.D. R.A.M.

Oct. 9 I attended a Called Communication of Schafer Lodge for the purpose of Conferring the Fellowcraft Degree.

Oct. 11 I participated as G.H.P. in the Homecoming Parade of the University of Florida. Representatives of the Grand Lodge, the rest of the York Rite of Freemasonry, the O.E.S., Rainbow Sorority at U. of F., Cub Scout pack and R.T. Schafer Lodge were on a large Float sponsored by Schafer Lodge. Considerable coverage was given on local T.V..

Oct. 11 I attended the Official Visit of the M.W. Grand Master, Mike Padron in Perry. It was presided over by R.W. and Excellent Companion Carl Williams at the Methodist Church Dining Hall. Grand Master Padron placed the G.H.P. in his party for reception.

Oct. 14 I inspected and selected hotels in Tallahassee preparing for the 150th Anniversary Celebration. This was necessary again to accomplish, because of the sale and renovation of the hotel originally selected.

Oct. 14 I made an Official Visit to Jackson Chapter No. 32 R.A.M. in Marianna. I was received properly.

Oct. 15 I attended a Religious Affirmation service at Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. A Covered Dish Supper with the ladies was enjoyed prior to the Convocation.

Oct. 17 I attended Manatee River Chapter No 18 in Palmetto. Dinner was served and enjoyed with the ladies. The meeting was concise. The G.H.P. was properly received and was accompanied by several distinguished Companions.. The D.D.I.G.M. was received at his Official visit in Council Assembly after the Chapter Convocation.

Oct. 19 - 20 I attended Winter Haven Lodge for a Masonic Renewal lecture. It was followed by a meeting of Florida Priory No. 60, K.Y.C.H. Later in the evening the Super Excellent Master Degree of the Council was conferred beautifully. Sunday there was a religious service at the Lodge followed by Octoberfest activities at the Convention Center. The Octoberfest was organized and conducted by the Grand Council in conjunction with Polk Council.



Oct. 21 I attended Gainesville Crescent Foundation Board of Directors meeting. The G.H.P. was introduced. Charitable activities were discussed.

Oct. 22 I attended a dinner with the membership of Gainesville Lodge No. 6, I.O.O.F. and Colfax Rebekah Lodge No. 2 at a local restaurant. Afterward I attended their meetings.

Oct. 25 I attended the Official visit of the M.W. Grand Master, Mike Padron at Live Oak. Dinner was enjoyed at the Pavilion. The meeting was held at the Live Oak Shrine Club. The Grand Master placed the G.H.P. in his party for reception and introduction.

Oct. 28 I made an Official visit to Duval Chapter No. 48, R.A.M.. I was pleased to present plaques and pay honor to R.E. Larry Howell on his longevity of membership and his proficiency of the ritual.

Oct. 30 I Attended and participated in the conferral of the Entered Apprentice Degree at R.T. Schafer Lodge No. 350.

Nov. 3-6 I attended the Triennial sessions of the General Grand Chapter R.A.M. International and General Grand Council in Asheville, North Carolina.

Nov. 7 I attended the stated Communication of R.T. Schafer Lodge.

Nov. 9 I Attended Manatee River Chapter No. 18 R.A.M. in Palmetto for their conferral of a One Day Class of the York Rite. A class of 45 Companions were Exalted and Knighted on that special occasion.

Nov. 11 I visited Bay County Chapter No. 39 R.A.M. in Panama City. I was received in proper form and presented a message.

Nov. 14-16 I attended Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia at Williamsburg. I received honorary membership in the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia and was made Honorary Thrice Illustrious Master. I was honored to meet my D.D.G.H.P. Bill Eubank at Williamsburg where he was well known at the Grand Chapter of Virginia. I was also pleased to meet R.E. Companion Charles Wagner, Past Grand Officer of Florida and St.Petersburg, Florida, lately of Virginia.

Nov. 18 I attended the Board of Directors meeting of the Gainesville Crescent Foundation. Charities were discussed.

Nov. 19 I made my Official Visit to St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 R.A.M. Dinner was served to a good turnout of Companions. I was properly received. I was presented an Honorary Membership.

Nov. 20 I attended Franklin C. Smith High 12 Club in Interlachen. I was Introduced as Past President and M.E. Grand High Priest. I enjoyed visiting with friends including Mrs. Virginia Smith, widow of M.E. & M.W. Franklin Smith.

Nov. 21 I attended the Stated Communication of R.T. Schafer Lodge.

Nov. 23 I attended a District Meeting of the 8th Capitular District called by the D.D.G.H.P., Troy Thompson at R.T. Schafer Lodge to discuss plans for the 150th Celebration in Tallahassee.

Nov. 23 I attended and participated in Memorial Funeral Services and Masonic Service conducted by Schafer Lodge at Faith United Methodist Church in Gainesville for Charles Corbin, Grand Organist R.A.M. of Florida.

Nov. 30 I attended a One Day York Rite Class in Pensacola Honoring M. W. Michael A. Padron, Grand Master. Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6 was host. It included a Banquet in the evening after the Commandery Orders. I was presented an Honorary Membership in Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6 and the Pensacola Bodies. I was also presented a framed and autographed picture of the Blue Angels.

Nov. 30 At midday I was pleased to be honored by the Grand Master and the Pensacola York Rite Bodies and asked to participate in the Official Ground breaking Ceremonies and Masonic Dedication presided over by the M.W. Grand Master, Mike Padron.

Dec. 3 I attended as Recorder the stated Conclave of Pilgrim Commandery No. 7, Knights Templar. Election and other business was handled.

Dec. 5 I attended the Stated Communication of R.T. Schafer Lodge No. 350. Elections were held.



Dec. 6-7 I attended the 150th Anniversary Celebrations and Parade honoring Escambia Lodge No. 15, Free and Accepted Masons in Pensacola. The historical relationship of the Royal Arch and the Lodge was brought out, even reaching to the 1770s and the original Lodge there Chartered by Scotland. Portions of the celebration were held at the Shrine Temple, the Lodge and the streets of the historic district of Pensacola. The Grand High Priest received many honors.

Dec. 13 I attended Wesley C. Harter Council No. 302 A.M.D. in Tallahassee. Dinner with the ladies was enjoyed. Business of the Annual Meeting was conducted. Election was held and Installation of officers followed. Dell Sanders of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 was Installed in the chair. I was the Installing Marshal.

Dec. 15 I attended the Knight Templar Christmas service of Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 at the Asylum.

Dec. 16 I attended the Board of Directors meeting of The Gainesville Crescent Foundation. Business and charities were discussed. The annual election of Directors and officers was held.

Dec. 17 Stated Convocation of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. and Assembly of Gainesville Council No. 27 R & S.M. Business and Elections were handled in both.

Dec. 18 I attended Franklin C. Smith High 12 Club No. 607 in Interlachen where I was called on to Install the Officers.

Dec. 21 I attended meeting of Northeast Florida York Rite College No. 114 in Jacksonville.

Dec. 27 I attended the Installation of Jackson Lodge No. 1 in Tallahassee where I was asked to give the Charge. Brother and Companion James Jackson was Installed Worshipful Master.

Jan. 7, 1997 I installed the Officers of the Gainesville York Rite Bodies.

Jan. 9 As the Excellent Chief I presided over a called meeting of Gateway Council No. 51 Knight Masons in Jacksonville. The meeting was for balloting on petitions only.

Jan. 9 I visited Jacksonville Chapter No.12 R.A.M. I enjoyed dinner with the Companions. I was properly received in the Convocation.

Jan. 11 I attended Installation of Officers at Hawthorne Lodge No. 103 in Hawthorne. I was pleased to be invited to give the Charge to the Craft. R.E. Companion Kenneth Walker was Installed as Worshipful Master.

Jan. 14 I attended Installation of Officers at Carlton Lodge No. 46 in Trenton. I was asked to speak briefly on Royal Arch Masonry.

Jan. 16 I met with Committee members at the Tallahassee Civic Center to formalize plans for 150th Anniv. Celebration of Grand Chapter.

Jan. 16 I attended the Stated Communication of R.T. Schafer Lodge. I was asked to welcome the guest speaker and old friend at the family night supper, Ms. Sadie Darnell, Captain of Detectives at the Gainesville Police Department.

Jan. 17 I attended Installation of Officers of the Gainesville Shrine Club. Julia and I were given seats of honor and introduced as Grand High Priest at the occasion.

Jan. 20 I attended the Board of Directors Meeting of the Gainesville Crescent Foundation as a Board Member. Business and charitable endeavors were discussed. Donations of \$500.00 each were made to R.A.R.A.; C.M.M.R.F.; K.T.E.F. and the Scottish Rite Foundation.

Jan. 21 I attended the stated Convocation/ Assembly of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M. and Gainesville Council No. 27 R. & S.M. I performed Secretarial and Recorder duties.

Jan. 22 I attended a practice of the Master Mason Degree at Schafer Lodge. I assisted Harvey Ward, Jr. learn to confer the East in both sections.

Jan. 25 I attended Miami Conclave Red Cross of Constantine and Miami Priory No. 10. Knights of the York Cross of Honor meetings in Bartow. There was an Installation of Officers in the R.C.C..

Jan. 27 I attended a Fellowcraft Proficiency and a Master Mason Practice at R.T. Schafer Lodge.



Jan. 30 I attended the Master Mason Degree at Schafer Lodge. Harvey L. Ward Jr. conferred the East, I was the third ruffian. Three good men were Raised in proper ceremonies.

Jan. 31 I attended Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 1 in Tallahassee where the beginning festivities of the 150th Anniversary Celebration of this M.E. Grand Chapter were held. A good Bar-B-Que Supper was fed to 358 plus people.

Feb. 1 I attended the Sesquicentennial Celebration Ceremonies of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida. The festivities were resumed at 7:00 a.m. with breakfast at the Tallahassee - Leon County Civic Center followed immediately with the Conferral of the Sesquicentennial Class of Royal Arch Masons. The day was capped off with a Banquet. (See Sesquicentennial Celebration Report for details.)

Feb. 4 I attended Stated Conclave Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 as Recorder.

Feb. 6 I attended the stated Communication of Schafer Lodge.

Feb. 8 I attended and participated in the Dais Officers / Budget and Finance Meeting of this Grand Chapter, at NorthsideLodge in St. Petersburg.

Feb. 8 I attended the first meeting of the Masonic Council of Florida at the Masonic Home. The meeting was called by the Grand Master and looked after by the Junior Grand Warden, R.W. and M. Ill.. Keith Dean. Attending were the elected presiding officers or appointed titular heads of the Masonic bodies of Florida. A plan was made with a main impetus of setting a calendar throughout Masonry in the state that allowed as few scheduling conflicts as possible. It was agreed not to conflict with the Grand Master in a geographic area. After the meeting Dinner was enjoyed with The Grand Master in the Masonic Home Dining Room.

Feb. 9 I was pleased to be at the Masonic Fun Day at the Masonic Home. All organizations of Freemasonry in Florida were invited to be present and to participate in a morning worship service and attend the Board meeting at the Home. Then participate in a Parade for several blocks in front of the Home. After these activities a meal was served under a tent to all present. The Grand Chapter R.A.M. was properly represented.

Feb. 12 Julia and I traveled to Daytona Beach to check the Ramada Inn Hotel where the convention is to be held. We met the new administration and solidified plans.

Feb. 12 I presided over the Winter meeting of Gateway Council No. 51 Knight Masons in Jacksonville. We inducted a class of candidates including my son.

Feb. 17 I attended the Board Meeting of the Gainesville Crescent Foundation. Business and charitable matters were handled.

Feb. 18 I attended and assisted at the conferral of the Cryptic Degrees of the Council at Gainesville No. 27.

Feb. 21 I attended the regular meeting of the Gainesville Shrine Club.

Feb. 22 I attended and assisted at the conferral of the Commandery Orders by Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. in Gainesville.

Feb. 23-25 I attended the Grand Chapter of Alabama at Huntsville. I was made an Honorary member the Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Alabama.

March 4 I attended the stated Conclave of Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. as Recorder and attended to those duties.

March 6 I attended the Stated Communication of Schafer Lodge.

March 9-11 I attended the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Carolina at Myrtle Beach. I was made an honorary member of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina.

March 13 I attended Jacksonville Chapter No.12 for their first Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation. It was presided over by E.H.P. Walter Hammond and well attended by many distinguished Royal Arch Masons.

March 14 I attended a Stated Convocation of Highlands Chapter, U.D. in Avon Park. The Chapter opened in proper form. The Chapter handled business and received the G.H.P. and his party in due and proper form. It then recessed and conferred the Mark Master Degree excellently well. The E.H.P. then rejoined labor in the Royal Arch Degree. The Chapter and cast received accolades from the

Companions present. The Chapter was closed in due and proper form. All this with no rituals.

March 17 I attended the Board Meeting of the Gainesville Crescent Foundation. We discussed business and charitable endeavors.

March 18 I attended a Special Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 R.A.M.. The G.H.P. was properly received with his party. It was well attended and the G.H.P. presided at the request of the E.H.P.

March 20 I attended the stated Communication of Schafer Lodge. Official visit of D.D.G.M. James Chesnut, in his party was "Uncle Charlie" the Grand Sword Bearer.

March 22 I attended a Special One Day York Rite Class in Orlando honoring the M. W. Grand Master, Mike Padron. There were 49 R.A.M. Exalted that day with a total of 78 being Knighted that day.

March 27 I attended James Yeager Chapter No. 62 R.A.M. in Lawtey. I was received properly in a joint visit with Ex. Virgil Brown, Grand Principal Sojourner. We were all well fed prior to departure.

March 29 I attended a work day of Schafer Lodge and the York Bodies. We cleaned the grounds and storage rooms completely.

April 1 I attended the stated Conclave of Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K.T. as Recorder.

April 3 I attended the stated Communication of Schafer Lodge.

April 6 I attended a reception honoring R.W. and Companion James Chesnut, D.D.G.M. of the 14th Masonic District at Archer Lodge. I was introduced as the M.E.G.H.P.

April 9 I attended Masonic Legislative Appreciation Breakfast at Jackson Lodge No. 1 in Tallahassee with the M. W. Grand Master, Mike Padron. At the invitation of the Grand Master I made brief comments relating to the affairs at hand. After the Breakfast I was pleased to be in the company of the Grand Master and others including P.G.H.P. Bill Cogburn. We traveled to the Capitol where we were received as guests in the Senate Chamber and greeted by the President of the

Senate. We enjoyed a picture session with her. Following that we were received into the Governors Office where we were afforded another picture session. We then went to the House of Representatives where the Grand Master and his party were recognized in the East Gallery. At Noon the House adopted a Resolution favoring the Freemasons of Florida.

April 12 I attended the Spring Festival at Jacksonville Chapter No. 12 R.A.M. They conferred the Capitular Degrees on a class of five. Due to the absence of the Captain of the Host, I confer that part of the Work. I was pleased to introduce to the Craft, Ex.Companion Glen Chandler. His singular efforts have resulted in his being the Top Line Signer of 33 petitions in the past 16 months. He has produced twenty since last May. I consider that to be very outstanding.

April 15 Attended Gainesville Chp No 2, Convocation. They voted to sponsor a new DeMolay Chapter in conjunction with R.T. Schafer Lodge.

April 17 Attended RTS No. 350 regular Communication.

April 19 Attended induction Ceremony of DeMolay Hall Of Fame members including Harry Rosenthal, P.G.C. and Michael A. Padron, Jr., Grand Master at Clearwater York Rite Temple.

April 20-22 Attended the Grand Chapter Convocation and Grand Council Assembly of Georgia in Macon.

April 23 Attended RTS 350 Called Communication. Assisted as Senior Warden in Fellowcraft Degree. My son, Harvey Jr. acted as Worshipful Master and Conferred the Degree.

April 24-26 Traveled to Marathon Key via San Mateo and Titusville picking up Committee members to travel with me to observe and examine the Setting to Work of Island Chapter U.D. R.A.M. and the performance of their ritualistic Work.

May 1 Attended regular Communication of RTS 350. Also attended the initial meeting of the Advisory Council of Gainesville Chapter Order DeMolay.

May 4 Attended practice with Gainesville Chapter No. 2 for opening Grand Chapter.

May 6 Attended Pilgrim Commandery No. 7 K. T. as Recorder.

May 15 Attended Regular Communication of RTS 350.

May 16 Traveled to Daytona Beach Ramada Resort Oceanfront Hotel for Grand York Rite Convention.

Harvey L. Ward, Grand High Priest

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Freemasonry teaches that there is one GOD, The Supreme Architec of the Universe, the Father of all men, and

WHEREAS, We as Capitular Masons acknowledge GOD, the Great Architec of the Universe, as the One Supreme Being, and

WHEREAS, We as Royal Arch Masons identify the Lost Word with the Ineffable Name, emphasizing the fact that GOD and TRUTH are one and inseperable, and

WHEREAS, Royal Arch Masons are taught a due reverence for His Great and Holy Name, and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Ward, Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, do **PROCLAIM** that all Royal Arch Masons and their familes, within this Grand Jurisdiction, assemble and conduct one **RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION SERVICE** during the month of October 1996. The time and place shall be chosen by the High Priest of each Constituent Chapter for the convenience of the majority of the members of that Chapter.

FURTHER, It shall be the duty of each Chapter Secretary to report the attendance or participation on the prescribed form to the Grand Scribe, Right Excellent Companion Leslie H. Scott, Jr., Chairman of Religious Affirmation Day, 4409 Shiloh Lane, Jacksonville, FL 32210. Not later than December 1, 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and seal on this 20th day of May 1996 A.D., 2526 A.I.

Harvey L. Ward, Most Excellent Grand High Priest

**REPORT OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST
ON THE
SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

This Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was born in Tallahassee on January 24, 1847, according to our charter. The published Proceedings of the first Grand Convocation however, tell us that there was no quorum present on that day and the Convocation was postponed and held on February 1. The Proceedings do not elaborate as to why. We are left to wonder, were the civilized folk of that area under Indian attack and fighting for their lives and property, or were they under siege from the terrific cold that sometimes invades the territory, later known in our history as "the Girls' School".

Whatever the reason, we celebrated our 150th Anniversary in Tallahassee on Friday evening January 31 and Saturday February 1, 1997. Early planning revealed that those dates would be most convenient for the Grand Chapter this year.

The Indian uprising that occasionally still occurs in the Winter around "the Girls' School" was completely squashed (52-20) by "The Boys from Old Florida" in early January of 1997. Peace and Harmony prevailed not only among the Craft but among the University system of this great state. The Florida Gators of Gainesville representing the Flagship of the university system in Florida resoundingly trounced the Seminoles of our number 2 school. The Gators are the undisputed champions of college football in this whole country. (To those Companions who do not care, you have my sympathy. To the rest I will say that to the winner go the spoils and the opportunity to write the history. Enjoy it my fellow Gator fans. (M.E. Companion Earl) It has been a long time coming.)

On Friday afternoon January 31 I opened an Emergent Convocation of this Grand Chapter at the Civic Center in Tallahassee for the purpose of Installing Excellent Companion Charles R. Denman of Cocoa as Grand Organist of this Grand Chapter. He will fill that position due to the untimely death of Companion Charles Corbin in November. The Emergent Convocation was closed and a short rehearsal for the next days activities was accomplished. Excellent Companion Denman presented outstanding work at the organ for the 150th Anniversary Celebration. His expertise at making music for the enjoyment of the Companions was well appreciated.

On Friday January 31, 1997, Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 1 in Tallahassee, the birthplace of this Grand Chapter hosted the beginning festivities of the 150th Anniversary Celebration of this M.E. Grand Chapter. A good Bar-B-Que Supper was fed to more than 358 people.



This was over 100 more people than had made reservations and the seating was in short supply as was the food. More of both were soon brought in. A live professional band made up of Freemasons from the Lodge at Quincy played enjoyable music to the standing room only crowd. The Grand Master, Mike Padron and his lady Sally were present along with R.W. Keith Dean, the Junior Grand Warden and M.W. George Hayes, P.G.M. and Lady Wilma, and M. W. J. Roy Crowther, P.G.M., Grand Treasurer and his lady Frances. We were pleased to have M.W. and M.E. Joe Bracken, Past Grand presiding officer of all four Grand Bodies of Ancient Craft Masonry in Alabama and his lady Shirley. M.E. Companion Murray Cooke, General Grand High Priest R.A.M. International and lady Marge traveled from California to be with us. M. E. Companion William Schoene, Jr. General Grand King R.A.M. International, and Lady Toni were with us from New Jersey. M. E. Companion Benny Allen, General Grand Scribe R.A.M. International, and Lady Ruenelle traveled from Georgia to celebrate with us. M. P. Orville Wessler, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council Royal And Select Masters was present with us from Kansas. These along with hundreds of other distinguished and important guests helped us celebrate the occasion. The DeMolays and Rainbow Girls assisted in serving the meals. A very good time was enjoyed by all who attended. The mixing and very apparent enjoyment of this social gathering continued for over six hours. The current Worshipful Master of Jackson Lodge, Companion James Jackson remarked that the Lodge building had never been so full.

Saturday February 1, 1997 Sesquicentennial Celebration Ceremonies of the M. E. Grand Chapter R. A.M. of Florida were resumed at 7:00 a.m. with breakfast at the Tallahassee Leon County Civic Center followed immediately with the Conferral of the Capitular Degrees of Freemasonry upon the Sesquicentennial Class of Royal Arch Masons. The class contained 37 candidates. Distinguished guests were introduced at appropriate times. The casts were composed of outstanding ritualists from many parts of the state. Quite a large crowd filled the sidelines throughout the day.

In the evening the Civic Center again was the place to be. Royal Arch Masons and their guests gathered for a Banquet to cap the festivities. Approximately 300 people shared the festivities of the evening hearing from the Master of Ceremonies, M.E. Vernon Miller, M. P. Orville Wessler, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council Royal and Select Masters Intn'l, M.E. Jacque Sweeney of Tennessee, S. E. Deputy General Grand Chapter R.A.M. Intn'l, M.E. Murray Cooke, General Grand High Priest R.A.M. Intn'l, The Grand Master, M. W. Michael Padron, with M.E. Joseph Bracken delivering the main speech. I made brief comments dismissing all with a toast from our Table Chapter Ritual, to All Freemasons Wheresoever Dispersed.

finances were superbly handled by R.E. Companion J. D. Moffitt and his lady Peggy. They performed outstandingly well. The entire team including those not named here earned their Masonic wages

Zealously submitted,

Harvey L. Ward, G.H.P.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Your Committee on the Grand Representatives Program distributed a brief questionnaire to those Grand Representatives of other jurisdictions who are "near" our Grand Chapter, or Grand Council or Grand Commandery. The purpose was to provide another report of their activities during the past 12 months which might benefit that jurisdiction who gave them a commission after a recommendation had come from Florida.

ACTIVITY OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FLORIDA 1996-97

Body	No Grand Rep's	No. of Replies	Activity			
			3+	1	2	0
Grand Chapter	81	29	2	7	10	8
Grand Council	58	17	1	2	5	7
Grand Commandery	48	15	1	3	4	7
TOTALS	187	62	4	10	19	22

These figures are similar to those in the preceding 3 years as well. With only one third replying to the questionnaire, one could assume that the others were not very proud of their work. Frustration from no feedback contributes to the lack of enthusiasm, and reduces one's desire to persevere. The jurisdiction which 90% are representing here in Florida are not helping the jurisdiction who commissioned them, and certainly are not deriving much "honor".

Your Committee recognizes the frustration, and makes this proposal: That a workshop be scheduled during our annual meeting in 1998 for the purpose of more clearly defining the position, and the many techniques that are available to do a better job. The KEY word in Capitular Masonry is EXCELLENCE. We can do better. We must do better. Your Committee believes we all can do better as a Grand Representative.

Walter H. Winchester,
William L. Buck, Jr.

A. A. Pete Bennett,
Richard J. Carr

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

Our office has now completed the development of a single Record on each active member of the York Rite in Florida as furnished by the Chapter Secretaries. With the help of the Chapter secretaries we have purged our records and have about 95% accuracy. The 69,000 plus records previously reported have been reduced to approx. 30,000 records and will be reduced to approx. 20,000 records when we are able to consolidate the members who died, demitted, or are NPDED in the computer. The first four action items in last year's report are now between 90 and 95% complete. The remaining items should be completed in 1998. Our overall goal is approx. 80% complete.

Response time for information has been reduced from days to minutes in most cases. Our overall response time has been reduced to an average of one week. This will be improved in the future.

Due to the deteriorating condition of our former office; rumors of a rent increase; safety hazards; and neighborhood condition, it was agreed upon by our 1995-96 presiding officers and the incoming 1996-97 Officers that we should find a better place for our Office. We did locate a better facility and at a lower cost for rent. Two hundred fifty dollars a month instead of \$275 (Cost for Chapter \$83.33 per month). With the help of many of our Companions we moved to 400 Julia St. in Titusville. Those who have visited us will tell you that it is a better location and much better facility. The people who built the place must have been a Royal Arch Mason as there are Keystones over the windows and two arches plus two wooden columns in one of the arches.

We have started a program of reducing expenses by closing the Post Office Box, getting rid of the Postal Meter, making up more forms and printing them in the office instead of going out to Commercial Printers, etc. and will continue to cut cost where possible, without cutting efficiency.

Our present problem is a copier that we obtained 10 years ago. It does not have the capability of Duplexing, Collating, or Auto - feed, preventing us from doing more in house printing. Last year it cost us \$ 973.71 for maintenance and the quality of printouts has gone down. This past year we have copied 40,000 papers. Our maintenance man indicated that we should start thinking about a new one. We have looked at three different copiers that also have the capability of printing on both sides and collating. An in-house study indicated that we could purchase a newer copier and pay it off with saving in two years. By printing our Constitutions and Bylaws; Chapter red books; Council rituals; Commandery rituals; Directories; forms; etc. we could reduce the average booklet cost from \$ 4.00 each to 1.00 per copy. This should

give us a saving of more than \$ 1500.00 the first year. Read our printing report showing the dollars spent for printing. We would still have our Proceedings printed at the Printers. This has been recommended to the Budget and Finance committee.

EMERGENT CONVOCATIONS

October 6, 1996

On October 5, 1996 at 8:45 AM the degrees of Royal Arch Masons were conferred on 13 candidates at Poinciana Lodge # 227 F & AM, 939 West Main St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Lunch was at 12:10 PM and the Royal Arch degree was started at 1 PM and completed at 3:20 PM. Grand Photographer was William Eubanks.

Then an Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Florida was opened by M.E. Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward, at 3:40 PM. Filing in for Grand Line Officers that were missing were Captain of the Host - Roy C. Wright; 1st Vail - Walter Winchester; 2nd Veil - William Walker; 3rd Veil - Russell Hammond; Chaplain - Joe K. West; and Marshall - Duane B. Young.

The Grand Chapter was opened for the purpose of Instituting Highland Chapter UD R.A.M. at Avon Park, Florida. The Officers for the UD Chapter were installed and the Chapter was set to work. After introductions and a discussion on the 150th Year Anniversary the meeting was closed at 4:55 PM.

January 31, 1997

An Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. was opened by M.E. Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward at the practice of the cast for the Conferral of the Work at the Anniversary Class at the Tallahassee Civic Center. It was for the purpose of installing Companion Charles Denman as Grand Organist of the Grand Chapter of RAM of Florida.

After a few words by our Grand High Priest and Grand Organist the meeting was closed at 5:10 PM.

March 18, 1997

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward, opened an Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter of RAM of Florida by declaration, at 7:00 PM, at the Gainesville Shrine Club. It was opened for the purpose of installing Excellent Companion Charles Middleton of Nassau Chapter No.49 as District Deputy Grand

High Priest for the 7th Capitular District. He will fill the un-expired term left by the regretted resignation of Right Excellent Companion William E. Eubank, due to medical problems that will take him out of state for treatment. I would ask that our prayers follow him in his time of distress.

The Grand Chaplain Offered Prayer. Right Excellent Virgil Brown, Acting Grand Marshall presented Excellent Companion Middleton West of the Alter where he assumed the obligation of Office before Almighty God and the witnesses there assembled. The Grand Marshall made the Proclamation. Prayer was offered by Grand Chaplain. R.E. Companion Middleton made brief comments. The Grand Chapter was closed at 7:14 PM.

The Following Companions occupied the stations:

G.H.P.	Harvey L. Ward	R.A.C.	Raymond D. Harris
G.K.	Quinnie Williams	M 3rd Veil	David Nicholson
G.S.	Frederick Piascik	M 2nd Veil	George Dreer
G.Tr.	Ed Jones Jr.	M 1st Veil	James G Carr, III
G. Sec	Burt Maguire	G. Chaplain	William Buck, PGHP
G.C.H.	Dell Sanders	G. Sentinel	Harvey L. Ward, Jr.
G. Pr Soj. & G. Mar	Virgil Brown		

The Convocation was opened just prior to a Special Antient Craft Table Chapter Convocation of Gainesville Chapter No. 2 RAM. A Complete list of the 31 Companions present is on the minutes of Gainesville No. 2 for that date.

Wm. Robert Young

GRAND TREASURERS REPORT

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASON OF FLORIDA

INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

4/30/97

Bank Balance	3/31/97	\$ 27,030.03
Outstanding Checks	1341 1351 1352	- 128.50
Checkbook Balance	3/31/97	26,901.53
Income: Deposit	4959.18+SPL 3292.82	Int. 51.63
	Other (CD Int) 1245.96 + DW 6,135.00	+ 15,684.59
TOTAL		42,586.12
Expenses	5/01/96 To 4/30/97	48,191.11
Expenses	5/01/96 To 3/31/97	42,357.35
	Expenses	5,833.76
Out Of Budget Exp.	2/01/96 To 4/30/97	5,856.06

150th Anniv.	SPL Correction	+ 3,292.82
		= 9,148.88
2/01/96 To 4/30/97	Expenses this Month	- 9,106.38 42.50
Checkbook Balance	4/30/97	36,709.86
Outstanding Checks	1341, 51, 65, 66, 67, 69 - 74,	+ 3,826.83
Bank Balance	4/30/97	\$ 40,536.69

GRAND CHAPTER BUDGET 4/30/96 - 4/30/97

Item	Budgeted	Spent	Percent	Balance
10001 Grand Secretary Salary	2,800.00	2,800.00	100.00	0.00
10001A GS Payroll Tax	200.00	221.85	110.93	- 21.85
10002 Grand Secretary Asst	2,800.00	2,800.00	100.00	0.00
10002A GSA Payroll Tax	200.00	221.85	110.93	- 21.85
10003 Office Assistant	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.00	0.00
10003A OA Payroll Tax	200.00	178.50	89.25	21.50
10004 GYR Payroll Tax	600.00	622.20	103.70	- 22.20
10005 FED Unemployment tax	70.00	64.80	92.57	5.20
10006 FLA Unemployment Comp	70.00	63.54	90.77	6.46
10010 Grand High Priest	3,000.00	3,000.00	100.00	0.00
10011 Grand King	800.00	800.00	100.00	0.00
10012 District Deputies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10015 Grand Treasurer Exp.	1,200.00	1,200.00	100.00	0.00
10020 Accountant & Audit	300.00	300.00	100.00	0.00
10030 Grand Secretary Exp.	600.00	600.00	100.00	0.00
10031 Grand Sec. Asst Allow	200.00	200.00	100.00	0.00
10040 Chmn. Charity Comm	250.00	250.00	100.00	0.00
10045 Committee on Work	200.00	154.87	77.44	45.13
10050 Delegates Per Diem	9,000.00	9,106.76	101.19	- 106.76
10051 Distinguished Guest	2,000.00	1,746.11	87.31	253.89
10060 S.E. Conference	300.00	200.00	66.67	100.00
10065 Triennial	900.00	828.90	92.10	71.10
10070 Library Committee	500.00	500.00	100.00	0.00
10075 Area Meetings	600.00	400.00	66.67	200.00
10080 February Meeting	300.00	152.89	50.96	147.11
10090 Masonic Youth	300.00	300.00	100.00	0.00
10095 Masonic Home	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00	0.00
Grand Secretary's Office				
10100 Miscellaneous	600.00	662.73	110.46	- 62.73
10105 Postage	700.00	700.00	100.00	0.00
10110 Rent	1,100.00	1,032.72	93.88	67.28

10120 Telephone	400.00	700.00	175.00	- 300.00
10130 Electric	200.00	200.00	100.00	0.00
10140 Computer Expense	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
10160 Maintenance	300.00	300.00	100.00	0.00
Miscellaneous				
10200 Printing	500.00	490.25	98.05	9.75
10225 Summer Assembly	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
10250 Proceedings	1,500.00	1,330.00	88.67	170.00
10300 Y.R. Publications	3,500.00	4,511.52	128.90	1,011.52
10350 Education & Training	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
10425 Corporate Fee	65.00	61.25	94.23	3.75
10450 Per Capita Tax	4,000.00	3,730.05	93.25	269.95
10460 Reimbursables	700.00	1,502.21	214.60	- 802.21
10465 Awards	1,000.00	934.59	93.46	65.41
10470 Insurance	800.00	522.67	65.33	277.33
10500 Plaques & Markers	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
10550 Jewel, Apron, Case	500.00	576.05	115.21	- 76.05
10600 Contingencies	1,000.00	1,024.80	102.48	- 24.80
TOTALS	48,755.00	48,191.11	98.84	563.89
10999 Out of Budget Acc't	20,000.00	5,856.06	29.28	14,807.99 for 150th Anniv Feb. 1996 - 1997

GRAND TREASURERS CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Acct.	4/30/96 Balance	Interest + Income	+ Deposits	- Expenses	4/30/97 = Balance
GF	28,655.50	8,471.25	**55,396.34	*55,813.23	36,709.86
SAV	502.80	—	—	—	502.80
INV	190,000.00	—	—	20,000.00	170,000.00
CHF	6,603.13	110.89	—	—	6,714.02
CVF	2,200.56	108.20	—	—	2,308.76
TRF	2,494.43	42.93	828.90	3,325.00	41.26
	230,456.42	8,733.27	**56,225.24	*79,138.23	216,276.70

** Includes \$20,000.00 Principal From 3013023536CD

* Includes \$ 7,622.12 Expended During 1996/97 Toward Out of Budget Exp for 150th Anniv.

CHAPTER INTEREST INCOME DETAIL 1996 - 1997

Gen Fund	127481	044855-070	3013023536	Total
285.80	1,245.96	6,135.00	804.49	8,471.25

CHAPTER INCOME DETAIL 1996 - 1997

Per Capita	Reimb	Convention	Sales	Other	Total
25,898.00	860.08	1,765.25	6,938.07	19,934.94	55,396.34

GRAND CHAPTER INVESTMENTS AS OF 4/30/97

INV #	Int. Rate	Inv Date	Maturity	Term	Amount
60407554	4.33%	1/24/97	6/24/97	5M	20,000.00
044855-070	(V)	4/10/92	4/10/97	60M	30,000.00
044855-070	(V)	10/7/92	10/7/97	60M	60,000.00
044855-070	(V)	4/22/93	4/22/03	120M	60,000.00
				TOTAL	\$170,000.00

CHAPTER BUDGET 4/30/97 - 4/30/98

ACCT #	ITEM	BUDGETED
10001	Grand Secretary Salary	2,800.00
10001A	Grand Secretary Payroll Tax	200.00
10002	Grand Secretary Assistant	4,000.00
10002A	Grand Secretary Asst. Payroll Tax	350.00
10003	Office Assistant	Deleted
10003A	Office Asst. Payroll Tax	Deleted
10004	GYR Payroll Tax	600.00
10005	FED Unemployment Tax	70.00
10006	FLA Unemployment Tax	70.00
	ALLOWANCES	
10010	Grand High Priest	3,000.00
10011	Grand King	800.00
10012	District Deputies	0.00
10015	Grand Treasurers	1,200.00
10020	Accountant & Audit	300.00
10030	Grand Secretary	600.00
10031	Grand Secretary Assistant	200.00
10040	Chariman Charity Committee	250.00
10045	Committee On Work	200.00
10045A	Membership Development	1,000.00

10050	Delegates Per Diem	9,000.00
10051	Distinguished Guests	2,000.00
10060	S. E. Conference	300.00
10065	Triennial	900.00
10070	Library Committee	1,000.00
10075	Area Meetings	800.00
10080	February Meeting	300.00
10090	Masonic Youth	300.00
10095	Masonic Home	1,000.00
	GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE	
10100	Miscellaneous	600.00
10105	Postage	800.00
10110	Rent	1,000.00
10120	Telephone	800.00
10130	Electric	400.00
10140	Computer Expense	100.00
10160	Maintenance	300.00
	OTHER ACCOUNTS	
10200	Printing	500.00
10225	Summer Assembly	100.00
10250	Proceedings	1,500.00
10300	Y.R. Publications	3,500.00
10350	Education & Training	1,000.00
10425	Corporate Fee	65.00
10450	Per Capita Tax	4,000.00
10460	Reimbursables	700.00
10465	Awards	1,000.00
10470	Insurance	800.00
10500	Plaques and Markers	300.00
10550	Jewel, Apron, Case	500.00
10600	Contingencies	1,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 52,505.00
Off Budget	York Rite Office Copier	1,370.00
Off Budget	Denslow Library Expansion	3,000.00

Duane B. Young

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HISTORY COMMITTEE

Another year has passed and this Committee is still seeking the proceedings of 1872 and 1873 to make up a complete set of Royal Arch Proceedings for the Grand Chapter of Florida. If you have these two volumes or know where I can borrow them, it would be greatly appreciated.

During this past year, Florida did participate in writing Florida Royal Arch History for inclusion in a History Book being printed by the General Grand Chapter. This is a worthwhile history and may be purchased, for \$25.00, from General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International, P.O. Box 489, Danville, Ky. 40423.

In the printing of this volume, sixteen words which were included in the author's original manuscript, were omitted by the printers. The second paragraph of the Florida History, on page 260, should read:

"Before organization of the Grand Lodge of Florida in 1830, Royal Arch Masonry had already became a part of the society in this virgin territory. Florida Royal Arch Chapter No. 32 had been chartered by the Grand Chapter of Virginia in 1827. Florida Royal Arch Chapter No. 4 was chartered in 1844 by the Grand Chapter of South Carolina and Magnolia Royal Arch Chapter No. 16 on April 15, 1845 by the Grand Chapter of Virginia." The sixteen words, underscored above, were omitted by the printers and this makes a big difference in our Fla. History. On page 263, we make reference to our fifty third Annual Convocation on "May 9-10, 1899." The printers showed "May 9-10, 189", omitting the second nine in the year 1899.

Our sincere appreciation to our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward, for allowing us the privilege of serving.

J. Roy Crowther Clarence N. Gruber

JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

The Jurisprudence Committee reviewed the report of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion Harvey L. Ward, Sr.. We find the Grand High Priest acted judiciously within the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Chapter, and within the prerogatives of his office.

We reviewed six requests for dispensation and 14 requests for amendments to Chapter By-Laws. The actions to grant approval for each of the six dispensations and 12 By-Law amendments was proper. Two amendments were denied for good and valid reasons together with explanation and instructions for resubmission.



The Committee reviewed legislation proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee for Constitution Revision and Up-date for consideration and adoption at this Grand Convocation. Proposed legislation for adoption of an "Eternal Membership Program" was also reviewed. Each proposed legislation was found to be proper for presentation and consideration.

The Committee reviewed the resolution distributed by the Grand Secretary's Office, which proposed a \$ 1.00 assessment on each member, and to invest such funds in a manner to guarantee the future financial health of this Grand Chapter. The resolution was found to be flawed in that:

1. It could not be implemented during 1997,
2. It would warp the Autonomous power and authority of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida

We recommend this proposed resolution be rejected at this time and prepared to eliminate the flaws.

The proposed amendment # 1, distributed by the Grand Secretary's Office, relative to Chapter 31.01 - Eligibility of Petitioners; Chapter 33.01 - Reception of Petitions; and Chapter 34.01 - Balloting (Chapter to be open); was found to be in conflict with the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry and this Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Florida. The Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry set the Fraternity apart from other social or service organizations. We recommend this proposed amendment not be considered.

The Proposed amendment # 2, distributed by the Grand Secretary's Office, relative to Article XIV - Officers of the Chapter, Section 2, Election & Appointment, was withdrawn by the proposer.

Two Requests for Dispensation to institute two Royal Arch Chapters within this Grand Jurisdiction were reviewed. The dispensations granted and the By-Laws for Highland Chapter UD., Royal Arch Masons, Avon Park, FL, and Island Chapter UD, Royal Arch Masons, Marathon, FL., were in accord with the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Chapter. Therefore each of the Chapters are lawfully eligible to be granted a Charter.

The records for the consolidation and merger of Cabal Chapter No. 61, R.A.M. with Jericho Chapter No. 11, R.A.M. were reviewed. It was noted that this merger had been pending for a few years. Although the record reveals the administration and cooperation for executing the merger were less than desirable at best, the leadership and tenacity displayed by the Grand High Priest assured the completion of the dissolution of Cabal Chapter and consolidation of members and property in a lawful manner.

The Grand High Priest represented well this Grand Chapter at the 1996 South East Regional Conference; The Triennial Convocation of General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International and those several foreign jurisdictions wherein he traveled.

This Committee commends M.E. Companion Ward for the diligent, prudent, deliberate, tireless and decisive manner with which he executed the affairs for this Grand Royal Arch Chapter. His service and dedication to the Craft and Capitular Masonry were evident in the broad and varied range of initiatives, undertakings and accomplishments enumerated in the Grand High Priests' final report.

Particularly noteworthy was the continuous communication between the Grand High Priest, Grand Officers and Committees. His frequent consultation with the "Grand Family" on matters of Capitular Law/Regulations, procedures and projects status permitted well founded plans for action and decisions. We commend him for such extensive measures.

This Committee continues to take cognizance of errors-of-fact and significant omissions existed in the Proceedings published for this Grand Chapter. It is here reiterated that the proceedings of Grand Convocations are the official, adopted, historical and lawful record of this Grand viable enduring institution. Therefore, care must be taken in the recording, preparation, review and printing of this vital record if it is to be useful by the present Craft and a reflection for our successors.

Each member of this Jurisprudence Committee expresses his personal gratitude for the distinct privilege of serving this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Vernon H. Miller, R. Earl Shiver, Roy R. Wright,
William O. Walker, J. Russell Hammond

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Your committee of legal advisors is pleased to report that no legal matters pertaining to this GRAND Chapter have been submitted to this committee for consideration during this Capitular year.

We wish to thank you for the privilege of serving this Grand Chapter during this year.

Earl G. Nicholson Richard S. Agster Gary Moody Anthony Salzman



LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The committee is pleased to report the Ray V. Denslow Library has proven to be a valuable tool. This year request for research material has been received from Hot Springs, Arkansas. The request centered around Greenwood Chapter # 15 Royal Arch Masons of Florida, The chapter was located at Greenwood near Marianna and is now defunct, It was however a very vibrant and active chapter during the 1860's producing several Grand Chapter officers,

Again the General Grand Chapter International library has lived up to its name. An international request has been tendered for any possible information regarding a particular persons participation surrounding the activities at the battle of Yorktown. We are pleased to report progress, but we have more research to do.

We hope everyone read the excellent article regarding the Grand Chapter of Florida's stewardship of the General Grand Chapter R.A.M. library which appeared in the winter issue of the Royal Arch Mason magazine. The Denslow Library was originally purchased by the General Grand Chapter R.A.M. International several years ago from William R. Denslow PGHP and son of Ray V. Denslow Past GGHP R.A.M. International.

After the article appeared in the magazine there has been an ever increasing interest in the library shown from all areas of the country; including some donations from outside the state.

Recently Mrs. William Denslow was visiting friends in Sarasota, during her brief stay in Florida members of the committee had the privilege of escorting her on a tour of the library.

This library is already one of the largest Masonic libraries in the southeast, and has been the recipient of books from appendant and allied organizations as well as from individuals and private collectors.

With no additional shelf space available the library must be enlarged. With that in mind plans are being considered for expansion, As previously reported a "library that does not grow will surely die".

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, members of the committee were privileged to attend recently the " Florida Antiquarian Book Show". The committee was fortunate to purchase several rare and out of print books for the library.

Last year the committee reported they were redesigning book plates and hoped to have them within a few months. My companions, with all the activity this year, your committee has not yet been able to undertake that portion of the work.

Ultimately it is hoped some day in the future duplicate volumes within the library may be available for short term lending. Until then the library continues to be available for research the evenings of the first and third Wednesday and the fourth Thursday of each month while at labor. It is also available by special appointment.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the committee wishes to thank you for allowing us to serve on this committee.

Ralph O Sheppard Marvin Gerhard Walter H Winchester Gordon
Goodman Robert E Burleson

LIFE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Life memberships have increased during the past year, and I am happy to report that interest rates have shown a slight increase. Participation as of Dec. 31, 1996 is as follows:

NO	CHAPTER	Life Mbr	Tot Inv 12/31/96	** % Returned	Dollars Returned
1	Florida	24	1790.8	0.012721	116.05
3	Tampa-Cushing	124	7249.74	0.049867	454.93
4	St. Johns	20	828.67	0.0058865	53.70
5	Halifax	4	300.3	0.0021332	19.46
6	Mt. Horeb	87	3640.53	0.0253799	231.54
7	EurekaTampa	48	3143.1	0.0218796	199.60
9	Putman	30	1128.6	0.008017	73.14
12	Jacksonville	57	2695.8	0.0180198	164.39
16	Plant City	3	205.	0.0014562	13.28
17	St. Augustine	6	432.	0.0022281	20.33
18	Manatee	7	547.1	0.003019	27.54
20	Keystone	3	355.1	0.002287	20.86

NO	CHAPTER	Life Mbr	Tot Inv 12/31/96	** % Returned	Dollars Returned
22	Thomas Brown	4	244.	0.0017333	15.81
24	Palm Beach	26	1242.	0.0086468	78.88
25	Live Oak	1	46.5	0.0003303	3.01
27	Indian River	15	593.83	0.0037657	34.35
28	Joppa	5	312.	0.0022163	20.22
29	Lakeland	30	20.17	0.0135938	124.01
31	St. Petersburg	66	3457.2	0.0233495	213.01
32	Jackson	3	218.9	0.001555	14.19
33	Eustis	5	286.4	0.0020345	18.56
35	Sarasota	9	709.2	0.0050378	45.96
38	Lake City	4	185.4	0.001317	12.01
40	Crestview	12	486.	0.0034523	31.49
41	Winter Haven	106	5509.6	0.0391372	357.04
45	Clearwater	16	1443.5	0.0102539	93.54
48	Duval	10	514.6	0.0036526	33.32
50	Poinciana	33	1889.6	0.0134228	122.45
59	Melbourne	20	1336.5	0.0094939	86.61
62	James Yeager	9	291.5	0.0020707	18.89
63	Eden	12	1204.95	0.0085594	78.09
	TOTALS	799	44334.97	0.3065172	2796.30

** The percent of return is calculated on the number of months that the investment draws interest.

The investment of funds of the Grand York Life Membership Fund as of Dec. 31, 1996 and the resultant income was as follows:

Bank Name CD # M Date / IntRate	NAV 1/96	NAV 1/97	NAV 1/15/97	1996 Interest	1996 Int with- drawn
Crown 001-3084744 6/16/98 - 5.55%	8459.39	8457.18	8,000.00	457.18	457.18
Crown 001-3082359 3/31/98 - 5.55%	10574.76	10571.48	10,000.00	571.48	571.48
Crown 001-3101233 3/24/99 - 5.35%	24,689.74	24,687.69	23,400.00	1287.69	1287.69
Crown 001-3111547 1/26/00 - 7.042	23,215.42	24,909.01	23,215.42	1,693.59	0
CG/1st Union 82-12-600860-2 5/6/97 - 8 %	2,560.97	2,777.76	2,560.97	216.79	0
Meritor 99-19850406 no date - 7.04 %	70,325.39	74,596.64	70,325.39	4,21.25	0
Citrus/Chemical 29025309 11/14/01 - 6 %	74,596.64	75,157.84	0	561.20	561.20
SA/1st Union 60024167 Passbook- 1.65%	4,795.50	7,379.67	-57.31	63.65	6,245.28
TOTALS	144,621.17	153,940.63	137,444.47	9,122.83	9,122.83

The Committee wishes to thank the Grand Presiding Officers for the privilege of serving these Grand Bodies.

John B. Fletcher, Jr. Duane B. Young

LONG RANGE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, your committee for "Long Range Finance" has not performed any duties relative to finances or investment of monies belonging to this Grand Chapter during this Capitular year.

We have however, in discussions with the Grand Treasurer and at his invitation, have been asked to participate in future decisions regarding the investments of the surplus funds of this Grand Chapter. In the future this committee will act in this capacity and in other long range finance questions. It is the recommendation of this committee that the Grand Treasurer be made a member of this committee.

Roy R. Wright Vernon Miller R. Earl Shiver

MASONIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Your Committee on Masonic Relations notes with pleasure that our masonic relations with our sister Masonic organizations within the State of Florida have been and continue to be harmonious, exhibiting true brotherhood.

Your Committee recognizes that this requires all members of the fraternity to remember and recall to their use all the precepts that have marked the progress of fraternalism in Florida.

On behalf of the committee, I express their high esteem for the manner in which you have carried out the duties as the leader of The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Florida.

We thank you for the privilege of serving this Grand Chapter during "your year of leadership."

George Hayes, Michael Padron, John Thomas, Walter H. Winchester

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Committee understands its task to be that of "membership development" rather than, for a lack of a better word, "recruitment."

The Committee congratulates the Grand Chapter of Florida in its successful year of exalting Master Masons and the formation of new Chapters. An increasing and, more importantly, actively participating membership is surely a sign of progress.

The Committee rather focused its attention to the problem of, first of all, office leadership development, and secondly, which follows fast upon the first, activating the membership. No better comments could be made than that received by the chairman from one of the committee members, Companion Robert E. Burleson:

(This is a paraphrase.) Freemasonry has lagged behind the times. Rather than bemoaning the causes, it would be more useful to look at solutions.

1. Leadership begins by example. After proper and complete training on presentation skills, most of the program of the Grand Chapter could be presented by the DDGHP on their official visits. At the District meetings the Grand Line could hold an informal discussion session on what makes a good leader. Among those characteristics are:

- Vision - What does Freemasonry want to accomplish?
- Inspire and motivate - Positive attitudes leading to positive action. Read positive books like, The Power of Positive Thinking, by Rev. (Bro.) Norman Vincent Peale.

'Persuasion - We must be prepared to change. Give reasons why change is necessary. Don't dwell on increasing the membership. "We need to change because we're not as good as we should be and this is how we can improve."

' Knowledge - We must know what we want to teach and how we are going to present it in a way that the members will receive and act upon it. What kind of time commitment do we, (Grand Line; Chapters; DDGHPs), want to make? We must respect the members' time and not waste it but we must give them enough to use.

"A good leader will recruit and train his successor." - Search out the leaders. Go to the Blue Lodges and seek those who can make a positive contribution. Not everyone is able and interested in ritual work but there is so much more that needs to be done as well. There is more to leading and managing a lodge than being a good ritualist, as essential as that is to an active lodge. Mentor those who you enlist. Encourage them when they encounter resistance.

"Running a Chapter poorly leads to poor attendance which leads to fewer prospects of filling officer stations which leads to poor leadership, etc., etc., etc."

2. The Committee recommends the following:

- * The Grand Chapter emphasize leadership and management.
- * Funds be budgeted for leadership training.

* District (Area) meetings focus on helping the Chapter officers in leading their Chapters and let the DDGHPs present the GHP's program in detail on their visits after they have been trained to properly do so.

* Send a personal letter to all Chapter officers telling them what they will gain by attending District meetings; how this will help them in their year.

* Investigate using existing materials of the Grand Lodge of Florida and the General Grand Chapter.

The undersigned Committee members thank Most Excellent Companion, Harvey Ward, Grand High Priest, for the privilege of being named to this committee and congratulate him on the accomplishments of 1996-7.

Myron C. Boice Robert E. Burleson D. P. Caldwell Jim Rudman
Robert G. Stearns David C. Wilkinson

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM

Your Budget and Finance Committee recommends per diem for this convention to be at the rate of \$55.00 per day and mileage at the rate of 24 cents per mile one way. Delegates and others entitled to per diem shall be paid for one day by each Grand Body represented.

The committeemen for the February Budget and Finance Committee meeting be paid according to the formula established and published in the 1987 Grand Chapter Proceeding on page 23.

The total mileage and per diem paid for 96/97 Convocation was \$ 9,780.67.

Randal E. Shiver, George A. Chipouras, Keith W. Dean

MUSEUM and MEMORABILIA COMMITTEE

The committee is pleased to report a third showcase has been donated to the museum. Each showcase received was in need of glasswork. Two cases required new sliding glass doors, the third needed glass on the top. The cases requiring doors each have three, so a total of six was needed.

We were fortunate to have a person say he would make the doors, and when they were almost finished he suffered a heart attack. When he has recovered sufficiently he will complete the doors.

Your committee however has been working. During the year items donated have been identified to the best of the committee's ability and knowledge, numbered, and then recorded. Copies of the items are being forwarded to the Grand York Rite Office, and will be updated as warranted.

The committee expresses their appreciation to the Grand Presiding officers for the opportunity of serving the Craft.

Marvin W. Gerhard Walter H. Winchester Ralph O Sheppard
G Gordon Goodman Robert E Burleson

NECROLOGY

We all regret that the supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth called our beloved M. E. Past Grand High Priest, M.I. Past Grand Master and R. E. Grand Commander, Wilbur W. Masters, Jr., and also our Excellent Grand Organist, Charles Corbin, home this year. We rejoice that in his Grace and Mercy Almighty God has spared our Most Excellent Grand High Priest and the rest of the Grand Line.

Besides Companions Masters and Corbin, 272 other Companions were called upon to lay down their working tools of this Life to enter that All-Perfect, Glorious, and Celestial Lodge above. We are saddened, and will miss all these wonderful Companions, but know that they are in the Hands of our loving Creator, who doeth all things well.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, R.A.M., INTERNATIONAL

Harold F. Yaeger, M.E. General Grand High Priest 1990-93 3-8-26 to 12-2-96
William R. Selby, Sr., General Grand Secretary (See Kentucky)

CANADA (Province of Ontario)

William H. Sproule, Grand First Principal 1976-78 7-18-18 to 9-29-96

KENTUCKY

O. Gilbert Weed, M.E. Grand High Priest 1994-95	7-10-21 to 6-6-96
William R. Shelby, Sr., M.E. Grand High Priest 1983-84	9-5-22 to 10-13-96
Grand Secretary, 1986 - 1996	
Virgil K. Ballard, M.E. Grand High Priest 1978-79	8-1-35 to 1-16-97

SOUTH CAROLINA

Robert C. Hopple, Grand Secretary 3-4-28 to 1-22-97

William L. Buck, Jr.

*We cannot think of them as dead,
Who walk with us no more,
Along the path of life we tread,
they have gone before.*

In Memoriam

Wilbur W. Masters, Jr.

M. E. Grand High Priest - 1953

M. I. Grand Master - 1972

R. E. Grand Commander - 1980

M. W. Grand Master - 1971



Born - April 28, 1907

Died - September 27, 1996

Jacksonville, FL

*Fading away like stars in the morning
Losing their light in the glorious sun,
So do we pass from the earth and its toiling,
Only remembered by what we have done.*

In Memoriam

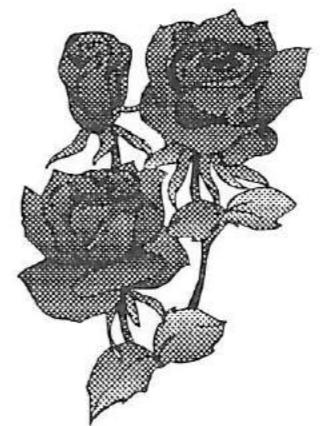
*Charles Junior Corbin
Excellent Grand Organist - 1996
Grand Chapter R.A.M.
of Florida*



*Born - June 26, 1928
Died - November 19, 1996
Gainesville, Florida*

*In Memory of Companions
of this and other
Grand Jurisdictions*

*Who have passed on to that Eternal
Reward in
1996 - 1997*



*This Page we
Fraternally Dedicate*

PATRIOTIC, CIVIC & RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The constituent Royal Arch Masonic Chapters and the members thereof continue to be active supporters of patriotic, civic and religious activities throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. The collective and individual participation is often cloaked under the banners of the Grand Lodge and our various sister and allied Masonic Bodies to which Royal Arch Masons also affiliate. It is well that such active participation demonstrates the effect of unity within the Masonic community.

It is also known that many Royal Arch Masons are active participants in their church organizations, civic organizations and military veterans' fraternities which share and practice similar virtues and objectives. While the effect of such participation is not evaluated, it is known that the presence of Masons in general, and hopefully Royal Arch Masons, has a positive influence upon our society.

During this capricular year, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter Officers, in their regalia, joined with constituent members to celebrate significant events before the public:

On October 11, 1996, at the Annual Homecoming for the University of Florida, The Grand High Priest and members of Gainesville Chapter No. 2, R.A.M, participated with R. T. Shafer Lodge No. 350. The Lodge entered a float in the Homecoming parade on which were the Worshipful Master, The Grand High Priest, RAM of FL, M.W. George Hayes, Past Grand Master of Masons in FL; Representatives of The Grand Lodge, F & AM in FL, Youth groups and Allied/Appendant Masonic Bodies. Freemasonry was in the public eye and received good response from a crowd of several thousand.

On December 6 and 7, 1997 The Grand High Priest and constituent Royal Arch Masons participated in the celebration of the 150th anniversary for Escambia Lodge No. 15, F & AM in Pensacola FL. Capitular Masonry was represented publicly in a parade though downtown and the historical district of Pensacola.

On January 31 and February 1, 1997, the Sesquicentennial Anniversary for the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of FL, was celebrated at Tallahassee, FL, the home of Florida Chapter No. 1, R.A.M. The ceremonies and celebrations were conducted at Jackson Lodge No. 1, F & AM, and the Tallahassee/ Leon County Civic Center. With exception of the conferral of the Royal Arch Degrees, the celebration and the more than 350 participants were in public view.

On February 9, 1997, The Grand High Priest and Officers with constituent members participated in the public parade and "Fun Day" at the Masonic Home in St. Pete, FL.

A review of activities around this Grand Jurisdiction reveals only a few activities outside the Royal Arch Masonic Chapter rooms are conducted solely under the Royal Arch Masonic Banner. There are numerous projects within the tenets of Freemasonry and the Holy Royal Arch which are begging for the attention of and active participation by constituent Royal Arch Chapters in their local communities. The initiation of such projects would certainly improve the visibility and enhance the image of Royal Arch Masonry while concurrently providing further valuable service within their community.

Vernon H. Miller, William G. Norrie, Richard J. Carr,
R. Cliff Lydia, Robert A. Niles

PHOTOGRAPHY AND AUDIO COMMITTEE

Photographs and video recording were made as required or requested and as appropriate for all Convention activities. All usual pictures were made available to members and wives from our committee. We thank the appointing authority for this opportunity to serve. We would also like to thank Companion Quinny R. Williams, Sr. for his assistance, due to the unavailability of some members during the Convocation.

E. L. Lank Green, Daniel Fitch, E. Tom Thurmond

PRINTING COMMITTEE

CC	ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL
10100	Office Printing	0.00	460.23
10200	Printing	500.00	490.25
10250	Proceedings	1,000.00	1,330.00
10300	Publications	3,500.00	4,511.52
10350	Ed/Training	1,000.00	0.00
10460	Reimbursable	700.00	1,595.21
		6,700.00	8,387.21

The Grand Secretary has recommended that we purchase a newer Copier, which will allow him to produce more Rituals, etc in the office reducing future cost while upgrading our office.

The present Copier has been heavily used for many years; operating costs have increased, and it is not able to perform the type of work required. Last year the

Maintenance cost the Chapter \$ 324.57 (Total Cost \$973.71). A study has been performed that indicates the savings obtained by purchasing a newer Model would pay for itself in less than two years.

It is recommended that a newer and up-to-date Copier be purchased.

Harvey L Ward Paul W Friend Guy E Waltman W. Robert Young

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES COMMITTEE

We, the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, are pleased to report that nothing has come before this Committee for its consideration. Peace, Harmony and Unity continue to prevail within the Grand Jurisdiction.

Ewell J. Langdale, Jr. Leonard E. Whitehead Charles E. Palmour

RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION DAY REPORT

In Accordance with the Proclamation issued on May 20, 1996 by Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward the following Chapters participated in the Religious Affirmation Program:

NO.	CHAPTER	Members	Guests	Total
1	Florida	4	5	10
2	Gainesville	11	2	13
4	St. Johns	15	15	30
5	Halifax	17	0	17
6	Mount Horeb	18	16	34
7	Eureka	11	64	75
8	Dade City	10	6	16
9	Putman	11	8	19
12	Jacksonville	18	0	18
15	Monroe	8	5	13
17	St. Augustine	6	3	9
18	Manatee River	13	30	43

22	Thomas Brown	7	18	25
27	Indian River	4	3	7
28	Joppa	9	13	22
29	Lakeland	7	18	25
31	St. Petersburg	14	2	16
32	Jackson	8	6	14
33	Crestview	7	6	13
35	Sarasota	12	4	16
39	Bay County	13	3	16
41	Winter Haven	6	13	19
50	Poinciana	14	6	20
59	Melbourne	5	3	8
62	James Yeager	13	5	18
63	Eden	21	12	33
	TOTALS	282	266	548

One Chapter reported that they did not hold a Religious Affirmation Service. Thirteen Chapters failed to respond at all despite the fact that the District Deputies were notified in November, 1996 of the Chapters in their Districts who had failed to report. Through their efforts, several additional Chapters reported after November.

It is recommended the Religious Affirmation Program be continued by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida.

Leslie H. Scott, Jr.

RITUALISTIC MATERIAL REPORT

The members of the Ritualistic Material Committee are pleased to report that we have furnished Ritualistic materials as requested. Should there arise a need for Ritualistic material in the future, for a Chapter, please let it be known and your need will be furnished.

Woodrow Cash Wayne Parks

ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

This is the report of activities and progress of the Royal Arch Research Assistance Program for the year 1996 - 1997. The companions of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida, continue their support of the philanthropy of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International. The Companions of this grand jurisdiction have completed their twentieth year of support of this great charity. Although membership has decreased our Companions have given excellent support to the efforts made in behalf of the charity.

During this reporting period thirty-seven chapters, five honorary bodies and several York Rite Ladies Groups have contributed to the effort and have supported the charity in the amount of \$11,098.18 of which \$ 10,463.18 was for general contributions and \$ 635.00 for memorial contributions. This resulted in an average contribution of \$ 1.38 per member. The Companions can be proud of the results they have attained for this year. Much of the credit for the fine showing can be attributed to the efforts of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Companion Harvey L. Ward and his different committees, one of which was headed by his lovely wife, Julia Ward. Through a pencil program a total of \$ 500.00 was raised as an honorarium for our Grand High Priest. Through his efforts, M.E. Companion Ward involved many people in our charitable effort. His program was to have "Total Involvement" which is the secret to success. We still have several chapters that have not contributed during this reported period. The Grand High Priest made the Royal Arch Research Assistance a special item for all his officers and the officers of the constituent chapters. We commend Most Excellent Harvey L. Ward and all his helpers for their excellent efforts on behalf of our charity and give our thanks for the wonderful support and cooperation we have received. We also wish to thank all the ladies groups who have worked so hard in supporting the Royal Arch Research Assistance. We also thank many Companions who have participated in this program and who by their efforts have made sure that The Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida continued to maintain a high profile in this great philanthropic effort.

Through these efforts we are rated sixth in general contributions and fifth in memorial contributions in comparison to other grand jurisdictions in International Ratings.

Listed below are the results attained by each chapter or organization:

CHAPTER	No	General	Memorial	TOTAL
Florida	1	300.00		300.00
Gainesville	2	1579.50		1579.50
Tampa	3	654.00		654.00
St. John's	4	200.00		200.00
Halifax	5	424.00		424.00
Mt. Horeb	6	740.30	125.00	865.30
Eureka	7	222.00	25.00	247.00
Dade City	8	100.00		100.00
Palatka	9	179.00		179.00
Jericho	11	548.80	110.00	658.80
Jacksonville	12	301.25		301.25
Ocala	13	25.00		25.00
Monroe	15	120.00		120.00
Plant City	16	60.00		60.00
St. Augustine	17	100.00		100.00
Manatee River	18	144.00		144.00
Keystone	20	100.00		100.00
Thomas Brown	22	100.00		100.00
Palm Beach	24	185.00		185.00
Live Oak	25	31.00		31.00
Indian River	27	275.00		275.00
Joppa	28	25.00		25.00
Lakeland	29	137.00		137.00
St. Petersburg	31	189.00		189.00
Jackson	32	213.00	60.00	273.00
Eustis	33	78.00		78.00

Sarasota	35	198.00	90.00	288.00
Lake City	38			
Bay County	39	260.00	50.00	310.00
Crestview	40	215.00		215.00
Winter Haven	41	320.00		320.00
Clearwater	45	500.00		500.00
Duval	48	180.00	25.00	205.00
Nassau	49	75.00		75.00
Poinciana	50	280.00		280.00
Surf	57	100.00		100.00
Melbourne	59	120.00		120.00
James D. Yeager	62			
Eden	63	60.00		60.00
Grand Chapter RAM	FL	187.33		187.33
Florida Priory	60	50.00		50.00
Miami Conclave RCC		400.00		400.00
Miami Priory	10		100.00	100.00
Labrum Conclave RCC			50.00	50.00
Ladies Boutique		500.00		500.00
TOTALS		\$ 10,476.18	\$ 635.00	\$ 11,161.18

Several chapters and organizations did an outstanding job for our charitable effort. Of the thirty-eight chapters, twenty-nine that are listed below qualified for **100% Participation Certificates** by contributing sufficient funds that equal at least \$ 1.00 per member.

Florida No. 1	Gainesville No. 2	Tampa-Cushing No. 3
St. Johns No. 4	Halifax No. 5	Mt. Horeb No. 6
Dade City No. 8	Jericho No. 11	Monroe No. 15
Plant City No. 16	St. Augustine No. 17	Manatee No. 18
Thomas Brown No. 22	Palm Beach No. 24	Indian River No. 27

Lakeland No. 29	St. Petersburg No. 31	Jackson No. 32
Eustis No. 33	Sarasota No. 35	Bay County No. 39
Crestview No. 40	Winter Haven No. 41	Clearwater No. 45
Duval No. 48	Nassau No. 49	Poinciana No. 50
Melbourne No. 59	Eden No. 63	

In addition to the above the following individuals, chapters or organization are entitled to a General Grand Chapter High Priest Pin with diamond chip or additional chips to existing pins.

Gainesville Crescent Foundation Harvey L. Ward

Tampa Cushing No. 3 Mt. Horeb No. 6 Clearwater No. 45

We urge each chapter to contact the State Executive Officer and schedule a period of time to use either the film or vhs tape of "THE LONELY WORLD". We have exalted many Royal Arch Masons in the past several years who have not had an opportunity to see the film. I know that these Royal Arch Masons would find the production concerning the Auditory Perception Problems and the research being done very informative and interesting. I will be happy to make more copies of the tape which will allow each chapter to retain the tape for as long a period as necessary to present it to many organizations in their area.

We thank all the Companions, Chapter Chairmen, and especially the ladies for all their untiring efforts on behalf of our charity. We also thank and commend Dr. Arnold Lambe for the work he has done to keep our Companions in the panhandle area of Florida informed on the Royal Arch Research Assistance. Through the efforts of these dedicated people we have been able to maintain a very High Profile for our charity.

I wish to thank our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Harvey L. Ward for appointing me to this office and for permitting me to serve our Grand Chapter and Capitular Masonry during the past year.

George A. Chipouras, State Executive Officer

COMMITTEE ON THANKS

The 150th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida expresses its thanks to The York Rite Bodies of the Fifth District for their service to our Fraternity by hosting us; The Convention Committee, again chaired by Gordon

L. Anderson, for its tremendous expenditure of time and energy that made it possible for us all to be together at this time and in this place.

Our Distinguished Guests, Official Representatives, and the Grand Line Officers of the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Florida for their support and for the fellowship we have enjoyed with them.

Charles R. Denman for the life his music lent to our proceedings. Our Ladies, as always, for the hospitality they extend to all so willingly and for their hard, almost year-long, work at the bazaar for the benefit of our York Rite Charities, but mostly for being here and sharing with us this Grand Convocation, rather than being Masonic widows at home and we being Masonic widowers here.

All those who had a part in the Sesquicentennial Celebration of Royal Arch Masonry in Florida, which turned out so well and was a once-in-a-lifetime and not to be forgotten experience for us all;

M. E. Grand High Priest Harvey L. Ward for a most memorable Capitular year, highlighted by the 150th Anniversary of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, and to his fellow Grand Heads, Paul W. Friend, M. I. Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters, Guy E. Waltman, R. E. Grand Commander of Knights Templar, and Most Worshipful Michael A. Padron, Jr. Grand Master of Masons in Florida, for their help in perpetuating unity and oneness of purpose in York Rite Masonry in Florida.

H. Warren Almand Jr., Francis L Dancy, Hugh F Moore, Robert Hendren

TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE

Your Time and Place Committee is pleased to report the 151st Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Florida will be held at the Camberley Plaza, Sabal Park, 10221 Princess Palm Ave., Tampa, FL from Friday, May 15th to Wednesday, May 20, 1998. The Grand Chapter of R.A.M. will convene on May 20, 1998. This is certainly a prime location and our thanks go out to the Convention Committee for their efforts in procuring such a fine setting for our Annual Convocation.

Frederick R. Young Daniel E. Dale Carl E. Gilmore

REPORT OF THE TRIENNIAL COMMITTEE.

The 1996 Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International was held at the Grove Park Inn and Resort in Asheville, N. C. from November 3rd to 6th, 1996. One of the highlights of the General Grand Convocation was the election of M. E. Companion Murray E. Cooke of Santa Monica, California as General Grand High Priest; Comp. William Schoene, Jr. of Short Hills, N. J. as General Grand King, and Comp. J. Benny Allen of Blairsville, GA as General Grand Scribe. Filling out the elective officers were Arnold M. Ashley of Dover, N. H. as General Grand Treasurer, John F. Kirby of Kentucky as General Grand Secretary. M.E. Companion William O. Walker was appointed Ambassador to Florida from General Grand Chapter. The traditional banquet was held at the Asheville Civic Center and had as a theme, Appalachian Pig Pickin, and was enjoyed by all. The 64th Triennial of the General Grand Chapter International will be held in Wichita, KS, from Oct 31 to Nov 3rd, 1999.

Frederick R. Young Leslie H. Scott, Jr. David C. Wilkinson

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We, the Committee on Unfinished Business, have examined the proceedings of the 149th Annual Grand Convocation and find no unfinished business carried over.

George E. Malone, John O'Donnell, Donald T. Harriott

COMMITTEE ON WORK

We are pleased to report that by the efforts of the District Deputies we were privileged to have instruction periods in their respective districts and we greatly appreciate their giving their time and efforts for that purpose. It is our opinion that the companions, but more so the officers of the constituent chapters are interested in improving their floor work and conferral of the degrees, and in so doing less rituals are being used in open chapter, and there has been much improvement in floor work. The companions are also becoming more familiar with the contents of the Red Book, thus having less confusion between it and the ritual.

We had the privilege and pleasure of assisting in the preparation of the conferral of the Degrees at the Grand Chapter's 150th Anniversary by selecting a companion to have charge of a degree and selecting his team. We were happy to assist these companions by giving instruction when needed. We commend all who participated in this event and we thank all of you.

Another pleasant duty of this committee was to assist Highlands Chapter U. D. in preparing for Chapter business and conferral of the degrees, and we thank R. E. Companion Joe K. West, D. D. G. H. P. of the 4th district for his able assistance. After several periods of instruction a Chapter meeting was held at Avon Park on March 14, 1997, at which time the Chapter opened, received the M. E. Grand High Priest and other Grand Line Officers, together with other distinguished guests, conferred the Mark Master Degree and closed the Chapter, all in a very proficient manner and we commend them for that and recommend that this Grand Chapter grant them a charter that they might continue their good work.

On April 25th, 1997 some members of this committee traveled to Marathon and had the pleasure of joining some Grand Chapter Officers and the companions of Island Chapter U. D. in fellowship and brotherly love. The companions of Island Chapter U. D. show great interest in Royal Arch Masonry and proceeded to open chapter, receive Distinguished Guest, confer the Past Master Degree in full form and close the chapter, all being exemplified with great proficiency and with no rituals exposed in the Chapter except the prompter.

This committee commends these companions for their excellent work and urgently recommends that this Grand Chapter grant them a charter providing they have complied with all other regulations of this Grand Chapter.

* The Following change to the "Red Book" is proposed for consideration and adoption:

Section 6.1.3 ADD this last sentence:

"At the conclusion of the obligation and removal of hood-winks, the cable tows are also removed by order of the Captain of the Host."

**Accepted by Grand Convocation.

Again we would be amiss if we did not thank all companions, the District Deputies for their assistance, and our thanks to M.E. Companion Ward for granting us the privilege and pleasure of serving this Grand Chapter,

J. W. Mac Donald, Duane B. Young, Vernon H. Miller,

Richard I. Lanier, Raul A. Reyes

YORK RITE PUBLICATIONS

Before their installations as Grand Presiding Officers of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida, M. E. Companion Harvey L. Ward, Most Excellent Grand High Priest; M. I. Companion Paul W. Friend, Most Illustrious Grand Master; Sir Knight Guy E. Waltman, Right Eminent Grand Commander, expressed that one of their collective goals during their term in office was the "re-publication" of "*The Florida York Rite Light*" whose publication had been "on-again, off-again" since its inception in 1962. In that respect, they asked Companion and Sir Knight Bob Burleson to spearhead this effort and to serve as Editor, under the terms of a mutually agreed upon contract.

Although 5 issues were originally planned, professional opinion (and persuasion) together with budget consideration narrowed that number down to 4 (with the recommendation to publish on a quarterly basis from May grand convention time frame). Following some annoying and exasperating exchanges with the U.S. Postal Service and its seemingly bottomless pit of regulations, the re-inaugural issue was published and distributed in June 1996. The first issue was generally well-received (although a few diehards and curmudgeons muttered something along the line: Oh, that thing again, Hrumpf!). Few things in life are so challenging as communications!

As the deadline for the second issue approached, word was received that the Grand Lodge of Florida was planning to publish "*The Florida Mason*" again. It was suggested that the Grand York Rite purchase four advertising pages and published the *York Rite Light* as a supplement in the Grand Lodge publication. Efforts by *The Florida Mason*, Business Manager, Brother Companion and Sir Knight Jim Rudman, and others to offer a reduced price to all allied and appendant Masonic bodies for advertising pages was instrumental in the Grand York Rite's decision to buy space in Grand Lodge's publication.

The difference between what it cost the Grand York Rite to publish and distribute on its own and what it cost to buy space and have *The Florida Mason* publish and distribute was not appreciably more, considering the significantly larger circulation base it would provide for our publication. On a "per reader basis," the cost was dramatically reduced while our audience was dramatically increased. [For example, if it costs \$3,500 to reach 10,000 readers, the cost-per-reader is \$.35. If it costs \$4,000 to reach 65,000 readers, the cost-per-reader is \$.06]. In the long-run, we believe this will be potentially beneficial to the York Rite in Florida.

Difficulties between reconciling our mailing list and that of Grand Lodge's (dealing with Florida York Rite members not belonging to Florida lodges) continues to be worked between our Grand Secretary/Recorder and Grand Lodge's Grand Secretary.

Subsequent issues of *The Florida York Rite Light* were published in *The Florida Mason* as follows:

- * The second (Oct. 1996) appeared in the Fall 1996 edition
- * The third (Jan. 1997) was published in the Winter 1997 edition
- * The fourth (May 1997) was included in the Spring 1997 edition

Whether or not we continue to publish in this manner will depend on what transpires at the Grand Lodge Communication in June. Your Right Excellent Grand King, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, and Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander have indicated that *The Florida York Rite Light* will continue to be published next year, and, if necessary, we can do so using our mailing permit.

One of the concerns of any Editor is having more "stuff" than needed to fill the space allotted. With any new publication, this build-up process usually takes time and education. Since we don't publish on a more frequent basis (i.e., monthly), some material becomes outdated even before it arrives, although every bit of information is read and its "timeliness" ascertained. This process should not deter York Rite Bodies and members from sending in material for publication, however. We won't know what's happened (or happening) unless you tell us. And those who did just that this past year, my gratitude (with special thanks to Companion and Sir Knight Warren Almand for his insight and continued flow of "stuff" of interest).

We believe we have a quality publication which is well-rounded in news content and provides a "vehicle" from which the Grand Presiding Officers can expand on their programs and reports on their progress. It is the art of communication which enables "the body" to talk with "the parts." Common sense tells us that the more we communicate, the more we become knowledgeable. And the more knowledgeable we are, the better our decisions, the greater our successes, and the greater the pride in ourselves.

I thank Most Excellent Companion Harvey, Most Illustrious Companion Paul, and Sir Knight Guy for their understanding and appreciation of what is required to publish a quality statewide publication. I thank them for their trust in my professional abilities and for their support in seeing an idea become reality. To see that happen and to be a part of it is an opportunity for which I will always be grateful.

And to you, our readers, we trust that our work has merited your interest, gained your respect, and warranted your continued support. If we have accomplished those goals, our efforts, by any standard, by every measure, have been successful.

Robert E. Burleson, Editor Harvey L. Ward, Paul W. Friend,
Guy E. Waltman, H. Warren Almand, Jr., M. Charles Boice, Keith W. Dean



YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The Grand Chapter's Walter M. Schirra, Jr. Astronaut Trophy for Leadership Correspondence Courses for 1996 was won by George Ulce Lord Chapter of DeMolay in Niceville.

It is noted with great pride that another Senior DeMolay has been elected to lead the Craft in Florida. Most Worshipful Michael A. Padron, Jr. is a Senior DeMolay of Robert J. Perry Chapter of Key West. The Chapter was later renamed Fernando E. Camus on the death of Brother Camus, who was the second State Master Councilor in Florida.

We recommend that the Grand Chapter continue its long standing annual contribution to the Masonic Youth Association of Florida, Inc.

Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr. Quinnie R. Williams Frederick L. Piasecki
Vernon Adams

FROM THE LIGHTER SIDE OF MASONRY

TO THAT UNDISCOVERED FROM WHOSE BOURNE

"I dreamed death came last night and Heaven's gates swung wide.
With kindly grace an angel ushered me inside.
And there to my astonishment stood folks I'd known on earth.
Some I'd known and labeled as 'Unfit' or 'of Little Worth'.
Indignant words rose to my lips but never were set free.
For every face showed stunned surprise.
No one expected me."

The Oklahoma Mason



FREDERICK R. YOUNG
MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA
1997 - 1998

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF
FREDERICK R. YOUNG
MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF ROYAL ARCH
MASONS
OF FLORIDA 1997 - 1998

Personnal History:

Born September 7, 1918 in Everett, Massachusetts. Graduated from Quincy High School in 1935. Graduated from Bryant & Stratton Business School in Boston, 1948.

Married Miss Mildred M. Pforr in 1944. We have two sons, Roger and Michael Young. We also have Five Grandchildren!

Enlisted U.S.Navy, 1941. Served overseas in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and North Africa. Honorable discharge September, 1945. Served in Naval Reserve from 1946 until retirement in 1971. Employed by the Veterans Administration in 1961 serving at Milwaukee, WI; Sioux Falls, SD; Newington, CT; Manila, Philippines; Wichita, KS; and Lakeside Hospital, Chicago, IL retiring as Financial Management Officer in 1979.

Member of First United Methodist Church, Deland, serving as Head Usher for 5 yrs.

Masonic History:

Blue Lodge: Initiated Entered Apprentice, June 9, 1944, Bunker Hill Lodge # 683, Bunker Hill, IN; Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, June 16, 1944; Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, June 23, 1944. Demitted to Lafayette Lodge # 265, Milwaukee, WI, in 1952. Dual and Life member of Manila - Mt. Lebanon Lodge # 1, Manila, Rep. of the Philippines. Demitted to St. Johns Lodge No 37, Deland, FL. In 1983. Currently serving as Treasurer. Received 50 Year Pin & Certificate, June 1994.

York Rite: Exalted in Calumet Chapter No. 73, R.A.M. Milwaukee, WI, Nov. 7, 1958. High Priest in 1965. Transferred to St. Johns Chapter No. 4 Deland, FL in 1983, High Priest in 1988. Greeted in Kilbourn Council No. 9, R & SM, Milwaukee, WI, April 25, 1959. Transferred to Alpha Council No. 1, Sioux Falls, S.D., served as Illustrious Master in 1969. Transferred to St. Johns Council No. 37, Deland, FL, served as Illustrious Master in 1989. Knighted in Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24, Milwaukee, WI, Dec. 17, 1959. Transferred to Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, Deland, serving as Commander in 1990. Order of High Priesthood, May 1988. Order of Anointed Kings, May 1989. Knight Crusader of the Cross, May 1991. Gold Key Award in 1989. Secretary/Recorder of Deland Bodies from 1990 to 1997.

Plural member of Eustis Chapter # 3, RAM and Golden Triangle Council No. 28, Eustis, FL. Grand Chapter Representative of the Philippines. John B. Phelps York Rite College, No. 31 of Orlando, FL. Selected to receive the Order of the Purple Cross in 1998.

Other Orders:

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite: Joined and Life Member of Luzon Bodies, Manila, Philippines.

Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine: Member of Tripoli Shrine, AAONMS, Milwaukee, WI.

Red Cross of Constantine: Labarum Conclave, Orlando, FL
Deltona High Twelve Club

Winter Haven Council No. 115, Allied Masonic Degrees.

Deland Lodge No. 1463, Benevolent Protective order of the Elks
Deland Post No. 6, American Legion

Dickinson-Tompkins Post No. 2380, Veterans of Foreign Wars.
B. Duke Woody Branch No. 147, Fleet Reserve Association.

ELECTION & INSTALLATION 1997-1998 OFFICERS

Routine business was set aside at 11:00 A.M. and the M. E. Grand High Priest called for election of Officers. Grand Chapter Dais Officers elected were Frederick R. Young, M.E. Grand High Priest, Leslie H. Scott, R. E. Grand King, David C. Wilkinson R.E. Grand Scribe. Wm. Robert Young, Grand Secretary and Duane B. Young, Grand Treasurer were reelected. After the election Grand Chapter regular business resumed.

Added to the Grand Line were Ex. Companion Robert F. Scott, Grand Chaplain; Ex. Companion Robert G. Stearns, Grand Sentinel.

Installing Officers were:

Grand High Priest
Grand Marshall
Grand Chaplain

R. Earl Shiver, MEPGHP
Vernon Miller, MEPGHP
William O. Walker, MEPGHP



**THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASON OF FLORIDA
GRAND LINE OFFICERS FOR 1997 - 1998**

Frederick R. Young (4) Mildred ----- ME Grand High Priest
623 Cherry Tree Lane, DeLand 32724-7504 904/736-7410

Leslie H. Scott Jr (12) Betty ----- RE Grand King
4409 Shiloh Lane Jacksonville 32210 904/771-5186

David C. Wilkinson (9) Kay ----- RE Grand Scribe
P.O. Box 161 East Palatka 32131 904/328-6432

Duane B. Young (29) Norma ----- RE Grand Treasurer
141 Shadow Lane, Lakeland 33813-3594 941/646-6695

Wm. Robert Young (27) Jean ----- RE Grand Secretary
3845 Catalina St Titusville 32796 407/267-4556

Robert F. Scott (12) Pauline -----	Ex Grand Chaplain
P.O. Box 37524, Jacksonville 32236-7524	904/388-5093
Virgil P. Brown Jr (27) Lorraine -----	Ex Grand Captain of the Host
2360 Bal Harbour Terrace, Titusville 32780	407/269-5969
Wayne E. Parks (7) Donna -----	Ex Grand Principal Sojourner
1004 Nin Street, Orlando, 32835	Work- 407/292-1700
Steven Q. Steele (11)-----	Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain
750 Wren Ave. Miami Springs 33166	305/889-0977
Myron C. Boice (6) Charlotte -----	Ex Grand Master of 3rd Veil
8509 Winding Lane Pensacola 32514	904/478-9671
H Warren Almand, Jr. (32) Lydia -----	Ex Grand Master of 2nd Veil
4980 Flynt Drive Marianna 32446-6385	904/482-4809
Luther Bodiford, III (1) Anne -----	Ex Grand Master of 1st Veil
2605 Nez Perce Trail, Tallahassee 32303	904/562-3148
Robert G. Stearns (24)-----	Ex Grand Sentinel
74 Akron Road, Lake Worth 33467	561/965-5087
Charles R. Denman (13) Joan -----	Ex Grand Organist
2520 Friday Road, Cocoa 32926	407/632-7806

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS EMERITI

Roy R. Wright Jr (15) Polly ----- RE Grand Treasurer Emeritus

Howard P. Bennett (27) Pauline ----- RE Grand Secretary Emeritus

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS
(Chapters in the district)

DISTRICT NO. 1	DISTRICT NO. 6
(11, 20, 24, 64)	(27, 28, 59)
Adrian "Ray" Kinser	Franklin L. Glenn
13111 - 165th Road North	1621 Cocoa Bay Blvd.
Jupiter, Fl 33478	Cocoa, FL 32926-4703
(407) 746-2759	(407) 632-6806

DISTRICT NO. 2	DISTRICT NO. 7
(18, 35, 50)	(9, 12, 17, 48)
William M. Miller	Glenn E. Chandler
3713 Highland Ave. W.	5360 Redrac St.
Bradenton, FL 34205-2032	Jacksonville, FL 32205
(941) 758-6727	(904) 781-7263
DISTRICT NO. 3	DISTRICT NO. 8
(3, 31, 45, 63)	(2, 13, 25, 38, 62)
Donald T. Harriott	Ronnie K. Griffis
17715 Gulf Blvd #830	P.O. Box 125
Redington Shores, FL 33708	Raiford, FL 32083
(813) 393-7963	(904) 431-1126
DISTRICT NO. 4	DISTRICT NO. 9
(8, 16, 22, 29, 41, 65)	(1, 32, 39)
William F. Wyllie	Martin Reiser
2404 Cleveland Heights Blvd	18034 Rakestraw Dr.
Lakeland, FL 33803	Tallahassee, FL 32310
(941) 687-4654	(904) 575-0892
DISTRICT NO. 5	DISTRICT NO. 10
(4, 5, 7, 15, 33)	(6, 40, 57)
Gerald H. Favor	James E. Brown
4995 Tangerine Avenue	1262 Sexton Drive
Winter Park, FL 32792-7125	Baker, FL 32531
(407) 671-9866	(904) 537-2781

GRAND CHAPTER COMMITTEES

(First Name Listed is Chairman)

AUDITING:

David C. Wilkinson (9) - Columbus Webb (9)
Robert W. Moyer (27) - Charles R. Denman (27) (Chief Auditor)

BENEVOLENCE:

Ewell J. Langdale, Jr. (12)
William A. Cogburn (1) - J Russell Hammond (15)

BLUE LODGE REPRESENTATIVES & MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

Steven Q. Steele (11) - Jack Rickles (41) - Wilbur R. Allen (22)
M. Charles Boice (6) - Robert G. Stearns (24)

BUDGET & FINANCE: Leslie H. Scott, Jr. (12) - J. Russell Hammond (15)
Keith W. Dean (3) - William O. Walker (15) Grand Treasurer & Grand Secretary

CHARTERS, DISPENSATIONS & BY-LAWS:
Virgil P Brown (27) - Robert A Niles (9)

CONSTITUTION, INDEX & UPDATE:
Vernon E. Miller (39) - Harvey L. Ward (2) - Wm Robert Young (27)

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: Walter Hammond (12) - Gordon L Anderson (5)
Allan Graulick (5) - Grand Secretary - Grand Treasurer (Ex-Of)
George Malone (27) - James MacDonald (28) - Wendell D. Harrington (29)

CUSTODIAN OF RITULISTIC MATERIAL:
Wayne E. Parks (7) - J Russell Hammond (15)

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS: Duane B Young (29)
William O Walker (15) - John B Fletcher Jr (7)

DISTRIBUTION: Richard I Lanier (12)
Edwin B Moore, III (5) - Frederick W Schuetz (4)

FINANCE (Long Range): Roy R. Wright (15)
Vernon H Miller (39) - J. Russell Hammond (15)

FOREIGN RELATIONS: Robert E. Burleson (7)
Frederick M. Morris (7) - Bernard G. Cole (4)

GRAND HIGH PRIEST AWARD: Frederick R Young (4)
Leslie H Scott, Jr. (12) - David C Wilkinson (9)

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM: Walter H. Winchester (45)
William L. Buck, Jr. (9)

HISTORIAN: J Roy Crowther (12)

JURISPRUDENCE: Ewell J. Langdale, Jr. (12) - Vernon H Miller (39)
William L Buck Jr (9) - J Russell Hammond (15) - William O Walker (15)

LEGAL ADVISORS: Richard S Agster (3) - Albert B Russ (12)

LIBRARY: Marvin W. Gerhard (45) - Ralph O. Shephard (45)
Walter H. Winchester (45) - G. Gordon Goodman (45)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP/PERPETUAL:
Duane B. Young (29) - Roy R. Wright, Jr. (15)

MASONIC RELATIONS: William L. Buck, Jr. (9) - Richard E. Lynn (11)

MILEAGE & PER DIEM: Wendell D. Harrington (12) - George Malone (27)
Gordon L. Anderson (5) - Walter M Hammond (12) - Allan Graulick (5)

MUSEUM & MEMORABILIA: Marvin W. Gerhard (45)
Ralph O. Shephard (45) - Walter H. Winchester (45) - G. Gordon Goodman (45)

NECROLOGY: Robert F. Scott, Jr. (12)

PHOTOGRAPHY: Daniel Fitch (27) - E. L. "Lank" Green (27)
E. Tom Thurmond (11)

PATRIOTIC/CIVIC/RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES: Vernon H. Miller (39)
Richard J. Carr (7) - Paul W. Friend (28)

PRINTING: Frederick R. Young (4) - Daniel E. Dale (18) - Carl E. Gilmore (45)

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES: Ewell J Langdale Jr. (12)
William Schuck (4)

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Robert E. Burleson (7)

RETURNS & CREDENTIALS: James W. MacDonald (29) - Allan Graulick (5)
Wendell D. Harrington (12) - George E. Malone (27) - Walter Hammond (12)
Gordon L. Anderson (5)

RARA: George A. Chipouras (11)

THANKS: Robert G. Stearns (32) - Robert C. Wilson (28)

TIME & PLACE: Leslie H. Scott, Jr (12)
John W. Carroll (7) - W. Ronald Taylor (62)

TRIENNIAL: Leslie H. Scott (12)
David C. Wilkinson (9) - Virgil P. Brown (27)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Harvey L. Ward (2)
 Harry R. Davis (39) - Donald T. Harriott (31)

YORK RITE PUBLICATION:

Frederick R. Young (4)
 Daniel E. Dale (18) - Carl E. Gilmore (45) - Keith W. Dean (3)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Harry A. Rosenthal Jr (5) - Quinnie R. Williams (49)
 Vernon E. Adams (12)

COMMITTEE ON WORK:

James W. MacDonald (29) - Vernon H. Miller (39)
 Duane B. Young (29) - Richard I. Lanier (12) - Steven Q. Steele (11)

M. E. PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS -LIVING

1965	Roy R. Wright Jr	-----	Sanford
1967	James W. MacDonald	-----	Merritt Island
1971	Walter Winchester	-----	Dunedin
1972	Woodrow W. Cash	-----	Sanford
1974	Earl G. Nicholson	-----	Palatka
1975	Richard I. Lanier	-----	Jacksonville
1976	James W. Oder	-----	Tallahassee
1977	Joseph C. LeSuer	-----	Panama City
1978	Duane B. Young	-----	Lakeland
1979	J. Fred Wilson	-----	Ft. Myers
1980	Henry C. Bengel	-----	San Antonio TX
1981	Thomas E. McGowan	-----	Maggie Valley, NC
1982	Wendell D. Harrington	-----	Jacksonville
1983	William A. Cogburn	-----	Tallahassee
1985	Floyd Ziegler	-----	Lakeland
1986	Gary Brent Cull	-----	Titusville
1987	J. Russell Hammond	-----	Casselberry
1988	Vernon H. Miller	-----	Panama City
1989	R. Earl Shiver	-----	Englewood
1991	William G. Norrie	-----	Pulaski, TN
1992	Ewell J. Langdale Jr	-----	Jacksonville
1993	William L. Buck Jr	-----	Palatka
1994	William O. Walker	-----	Deltona
1995	Harry R. Bob Davis	-----	Panama City
1996	Harvey L. Ward	-----	Gainesville

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS - DECEASED

1847	Thomas Douglas	1848	John P. Duval
1849	Issac H. Bronson	1850	Harry R. Taylor
1851	R. A. Shine	1852	Thomas Brown
1853	Samuel Boardman	1854/5	J. Wayels Baker
1856	Thomas Hayward	1857	Gad Humphreys
1858	Thomas Hayward	1859	D. P. Holland
1860	Thomas Y. Henry	1861-4	George F. Baltzell
1865-7	David Jones	1868	James Ellenwood
1869-1	D.C. Dawkins	1872	William Morrill
1873-4	Michael Bowes	1875	Henry W. Long
1876-7	John S. Driggs	1878	Enos Wasgate
1879/8	Robert J. Perry	1881-2	William A. McLean
1883	George S. Hallmark	1884-5	William E. Anderson
1886-7	Angus Patterson	1888-9	Marcus Endel
1890	J.W. Boyd	1891	T. S. Wilmarth
1892	Irving E. Webster	1893	Silas B. Wright
1894	William M. MacIntosh	1895	John H. Stevens
1896	William H. Jewell	1897	Warren Tyler
1898	Wilbur T. Webster	1899	James Carnell
1900	E. E. Haskell	1901	A. M. Cushman
1902	J.R. Wetherell	1903	T. G. Hutchinson
1904	Louis C. Massey	1905	Olin S. Wright
1906	Joseph R. Keller	1907	William S. Ware
1908	John H. Weddell	1909	Samuel Pasco
1910	T. Picton Warlow	1911	F. B. Stoneman
1912	Robert McClellan	1913	H. N. Sweeting
1914	John M. Cadwell	1915	Will C. Andress
1916	William R. O'Neal	1917	D. B. Palmer
1918	Charles H. Ketchum	1919	W. V. Carter
1920	Henry O. Snow	1921	John L. Hall
1922	Ralph J. Kishbaugh	1923	Ely P. Hubbell
1924	Earl L. Wirt	1925	T. T. Todd
1926	E. L. Shear	1927	Carey B. Fish
1928	Riley J. McMaster	1929	John Pasco
1930	Stafford Caldwell	1931	Alex B. Steuart
1932	William B. Greer	1933	R. P. Buckmaster
1934	Archie Aitchison	1935	George A. Dame
1936	Cleveland R. Horne	1937	J. Lloyd Head
1938	John B. Phelps	1939	Jessie C. Clark
1940	Dorsey H. Rutter	1941	Frederie A. Riegel

1942	William L. Marshall	1943	J. E. Herring
1944-5	George A. Lambe	1946	Harry R. Thompson
1947	Loren L. Dilger	1948	David M. Winans
1949	Leslie C. Bortle	1950	Carl H. Papier
1951	Orville A. Clark	1952	Richard Houghton
1953	Wilbur W. Masters, Jr.	1954	Thomas E. Dickenson
1955	A. C. Blount	1956	Herman J. Wendland
1957	William J. Abram	1958	Charles W. Arnold
1959	J. Robert Moore	1960	L. Earl Curry
1961	James A. Winfield	1962	Ray H. Schmidt
1963	Martin N. Gerhard	1964	Henry A. Brosnahan
1966	Loftin D. Chiles	1967	Russell W. Houston
1968	Harold L. Beals	1969	Floyd M. Crippen
1970	William J. Hofheinz	1973	Edward H. Baxter
1984	Franklin C. Smith	1990	Russell W. Wells

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER of ROYAL ARCH MASONs
INTERNATIONAL**

Murray E. Cooke -----	General Grand High Priest 1345 Pacific Street, Santa Monica CA 90405
William Schoene Jr. -----	General Grand King 303 Old Short Hills Rd Short Hills NJ 07078
J. Benny Allen -----	General Grand Scribe P.O. Box 1702, Blairsville GA 30512
Arnold M. Ashley -----	General Grand Treasurer P.O. Box 246, Dover, NH 03820-0246
John F. Kirby -----	General Grand Secretary P.O. Box 489, Danville KY 40423-0489 (606) 236-0757
Kenneth M. Neuschwander -----	General Grand Captain of Host 1040 South Davis Blvd., Bountiful, Utah 84010
Wallace A. Tachentien -----	General Grand Principal Sojourner 6593 Urban Street, Arvada, CO 80004
Ernest C. Belmont, Jr. -----	General Grand Royal Arch Captain 1512 Lynnette Drvie, Metairie, LA 70003

Henry S. Greenwalt ----- General Grand Master of the Third Veil
4211 M. Street, Lincoln, NE 86510-1739

J. Jacques Sweeney ----- General Grand Master of the Second Veil
524 Briar Park Lane, Hixson, TN. 37343

John A. Sainz ----- General Grand Master of the First Veil
P.O. Box 610, Glen Falls, New York 12801-0610

Larry E. Gray ----- General Grand Sentinel
2250 East 550 North, Greenfield, IN. 46140-9007

Willard F. Bond, Jr. ----- General Grand Custodian of the Work
20 Roslyn Circle, Aiken, SC. 29801

Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert E. Halliwell, II ----- General Grand Chaplain
12640 Euclid St. # 104, Garden Grove, CA. 92640

Lawrence F. Jenni ----- General Grand Organist
Rt. 2 Box 78, Lewistown, MT 59457

Frederick W. Von Son ----- Deputy General Grand High Priest Latin America
3160 Bonita Road, Apt 225, Chula Vista, CA 91910

Edelhard A. Hoffmann ----- Deputy General Grand High Priest Europe
Bismarckstrasse 42, 6780 Pirmasens, Germany

Theodore L. Way ----- Deputy General Grand High Priest Far East
2403-A Ritz Tower, Ayala Ave, Makati Metro Manila, Philippines

SE REGION DEPUTY GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIEST

J. Jacques Sweeney, MEPGHIP
524 Briar Park Lane, Hixson TN 37343

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wayne E. Turton ----- 31000 Ridgeway, Farmington Hills, Mi 48018
Paul C. Holbrook ----- RT. 1, Box 543, Wilksboro, NC 18697
Jerry R. Korstad ----- 207 21st St. SW, Rochester, MN 55902

DIRECTOR ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE, INC.

James B. Wall ----- P.O. Box 58070, Louisville, KY 40263-0070

PAST GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIESTS - LIVING

Calvin A. Behle (1969-1972) ----- 1855 27th Street, Ogden, UT 84403
 J.W. Vandall (1978-1981) ----- 1135 McClung Ave., Barboursville, WV 25504
 A. J. Lewis (1981-1984) --- 100 James Blvd., Apt S-508, Signal Mtn, TN 37377
 Walter H. Winchester (1984-1987) ----- 241 Scotland St., Dunedin, FL 34698
 R. Glenn Capps (1993-1996) ----- 334 DeVane St., Fayetteville, NC 28305

**THE SIXTY-FOURTH TRIENNIAL CONVOCATION
WILL BE HELD**

IN
WICHITA, KANSAS
 October 30 - November 3, 1999

FLORIDA CHAPTERS**FLORIDA No. 1 (District # 9) (Tallahassee)**

(HP) Martin H Reiser (SEC) Luther Bodiford III
 (King) Jonathan W Adams (Scribe) James Jackson
 Meets: 2nd Monday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 656-2406
 Tallahassee Lodge, 2636 Capital Circle S.E., Tallahassee

GAINESVILLE No. 2 (District # 8)

(HP) Raymond D. Harris (SEC) Harvey L. Ward
 (King) J. Wm. Mathis (Scribe) Nelson L. Mathis, Jr.
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday Monthly at 8:00 PM (352) 372-9200
 R.T. Schafer Lodge, 2505 N.E. 9th Street, Gainesville

TAMPA-CUSHING No. 3 (District # 3)

(HP) Roger W. Myers (SEC) Jose J. Camara
 (King) Robert I Moore (Scribe) William H Stedham
 Meets: 4th Friday Monthly at 7:30 PM (813) 831-5406
 Tampa Lodge, 4210 W. Oklahoma Ave., Tampa

ST. JOHNS No. 4 (District # 5) (Deland)

(HP) William Schuck (SEC) Bernard G. Cole
 (King) John A Combs (Scribe) Peter Van Ness
 Meets: 1st Tuesday Odd No Months & Dec at 7:30PM (904)734-9827
 Saint Johns Lodge, 2557 N Spring Garden Ave., Deland

HALIFAX No. 5 (District # 5) (Daytona Beach)

(HP) Elmer Geralds (SEC) S. Ray Stephney
 (King) Harry U Criss (Scribe) Peter V. Filippello
 Meets: 2nd Thursdays Odd No Months & Dec at 7:30PM (904)677-5005
 Ormond Bch Mas Tem., 270 Kenilworth Ave., Ormond Bch

MOUNT HOORB No 6 (District # 10) (Pensacola)

(HP) David E Bailey, Jr. (SEC) Drexel P. Caldwell
 (King) Charles Edward Green (Scribe) Gregory D. Smith
 Meets: 2nd Monday Jan., Feb., May, Aug., Nov., Dec. at 7:00 PM
 East Hill Lodge, 1090 Scenic Hwy, Pensacola (904)438-0390

EUREKA No. 7 (District # 5) (Orlando)

(HP) George T. Collier (SEC) John B. Fletcher, Jr.
 (King) Virgil D. Albright (Scribe) Freddy G. McNabb
 Meets: 2nd Thursday Monthly at 7:30pm (odd mos) & 8:30PM (even mos)
 Eola Lodge, 3813 Wyldewood Ln, Orlando (407) 898-3200

DADE CITY No. 8 (District # 4)

(HP) Steve Dieckober (SEC) Charles B. Scharch
 (King) Tommy Jordan Jr (Scribe) Ronald F. Edgerton
 Meets: 1st Wednesday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904)567-5321
 Dade City York Rite, 13642 21st Street, Dade City

PUTMAN No. 9 (District 7) (Palatka)

(HP) Grady B. Law (SEC) William L Buck Jr
 (King) Ernest C. Lord (Scribe) Thomas Stephenson
 Meets: 2nd Thursday Jan., April, July, Oct., Dec. at 7:30 PM
 Palatka Lodge, 1334 Crill Ave., Palatka (904) 325-5755

JERICHO No. 11 (District # 1) (Miami)

(HP) Blas Pellon (SEC) F. William Collard
 (King) John H. Easton, Sr. (Scribe) George A Chipouras
 Meets: 1st Friday Monthly at 7:30 P.M. (305) 325-0889
 Miami York Rite Tem., 1690 N.W. North River Dr., Miami

JACKSONVILLE No. 12 (District # 7)

(HP) Walter M. Hammond (SEC) Vernon E. Adams
 (King) William Ferrell (Scribe) Albert B. Russ Jr
 Meets: 2nd Thursday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 389-0792
 Jacksonville York Rite Temple, 1237 S. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville

OCALA No. 13 (District # 8) (Belleview)

(HP) Albin W. DiPascia (SEC) William J. Freund
 (King) Durward W. Eastman (Scribe) James A. Smith
 Meets: 1st Friday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 245-6468
 Belleview Lodge, 5871 Baseline Road, Belleview

MONROE No. 15 (District # 5) (Sanford)

(HP) Sol Wallace (SEC) Roy R. Wright Jr
 (King) Floyd E. Stage (Scribe) David Brown
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 P.M. (407) 322-2616
 Sanford Masonic Temple, 212 North Park Avenue, Sanford

PLANT CITY No. 16 (District # 4)

(HP) Timothy L. Surreny (SEC) John E. Hancock
 (King) Donald Carnley (Scribe) Eugene J. Marcotte
 Meets: 2nd Monday Jan., Mar., May, Sept., Nov., at 7:30 P.M.
 Orlin Wright Lodge, 100 Acacia St, Plant City (813)752-8061

ST. AUGUSTINE No 17 (District # 7)

(HP) Reuben L. Owens (SEC) Burt F. Maguire
 (King) Robert P. Harry Jr (Scribe) Leonard Prentiss
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 829-8800
 Ashlar Lodge, 105 King Street, St. Augustine

MANATEE RIVER No. 18 (District # 2) (Palmetto)

(HP) James K. Redmond (SEC) William M. Miller
 (King) William C. Hamilton (Scribe) Calvin A. Bonnett
 Meets: 3rd Thursday Feb., April, June, Oct., Dec., at 7:00 P.M.
 Palmetto Lodge, 404 10th Ave W, Palmetto (941) 722-1719

KEYSTONE No. 20 (District # 1)

(HP) Cyril 'Mike' Shortle (SEC) William D. Spiker
 (King) Paul Moyer (Scribe) William Spiker
 Meets: 1st Thursday Monthly at 7:30 PM (954) 524-7306
 Seminole Lodge, 401 SE 15th Street, Ft. Lauderdale

THOMAS BROWN No. 22 (District # 4) (Bartow)

(HP) Robert W. Porterfield (SEC) Joe K. West
 (King) Robert Herrault (Scribe) Timothy P. Moore
 Meets: 1st Thursday Monthly at 7:30 PM (941) 533-2971
 Tuscan Lodge, 3205 South Florida Avenue, Bartow

PALM BEACH No24 (West Palm Beach)

(HP) Allen Simmons (SEC) Wes Dickman
 (King) Herbert Briggs (Scribe) James Worth
 Meets: 3rd Monday Odd Numbered Months at 7:30 PM (561) 622-0297
 Garden Lodge, 9463 Roan Lane, Palm Beach Gardens

LIVE OAK No. 25 (District # 8) (Mayo)

(HP) Carl Williams Sr (SEC) James S. Foster
 (King) Donald Mock (Scribe) Bernard Prunier
 Meets: 1st Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 P.M. (No Phone)
 Mayo Lodge, US 27 & SR 51(across from High School) Mayo

INDIAN RIVER No.27 (District # 6) (Cocoa)

(HP) Daniel Fitch (SEC) Robert W. Moyer
 (King) George James (Scribe) Barry Shaffer
 Meets: 2nd Wednesday Odd Number Months at 7:30 P.M.
 Brevard Lodge, 40 Carmalt Street, Cocoa (407) 636-4785

JOPPA No. 28 (District # 6) (Fort Pierce/Stuart)

(HP) Robert E Phelps Jr (SEC) Paul W. Friend
 (King) Calvin C. Whitehead (Scribe) Sandy Sanders
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday Jan, Mar, May, Sept., Nov., at 7:30 PM
 Temporary Meeting Place - Acacia Lodge, SE 20 Oceola St., Stuart

LAKELAND No. 29 (District # 4)

(HP) Robert B. Histed Sr. (SEC) Neal E. Perfect
 (King) Charles R. Lanier Sr. (Scribe) Jack E. Shoemaker
 Meets: 2nd Friday Monthly at 7:30P.M. (941) 683-3699
 Lakeland York Rite Temple, 1106 E Main Street, Lakeland

ST. PETERSBURG No. 31 (District # 3)

(HP) George W. Clinton (SEC) Donald T. Harriott
 (King) William R. McKee (Scribe) Ralph Vaughan
 Meets: 1st Friday Monthly - Exp July & Aug at 7:30PM (813) 822-3517
 St Petersburg Lodge, 114 4th Street S, St. Petersburg

JACKSON No. 32 (District # 9) (Marianna)

(HP) Francis D. Tompkins (SEC) H. Warren Almand, Jr.
 (King) Raymond H. Harris (Scribe) Deward Besczeznski
 Meets: 2nd Monday Monthly at 7:30 PM (850) 482-3729
 Harmony Lodge, 3024 Jefferson St. Marianna

EUSTIS No. 33 (District # 5)
 (HP) James L. Moore (SEC) Russell Bauer
 (King) Stuart T. Sadler (Scribe) Charles Cole
 Meets: 1st Friday Monthly at 7:30 P.M. (352) 357-7698
 Eustis Masonic Lodge, 128 North Bay Street, Eustis

SARASOTA No. 35 (Venice)
 (HP) B. John Ross (SEC) Malcolm B. Ryder
 (King) Stephen H Clark (Scribe) Melvin S. Yoe
 Meets: 3rd Friday Feb, April, June, Oct, Dec, at 7:00P.M.
 Venice Lodge, 118 E Venice Ave, Venice (941) 484-0311

LAKE CITY No. 38 (District # 8)
 (HP) Russell D. Lewis (SEC) Hugh F. Moore
 (King) Warren Minter (Scribe) Stan Steinhause
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 752-2339
 Lake City Lodge, 2585 McFarlane Avenue, Lake City

BAY COUNTY No. 39 (District # 9) (Panama City)
 (HP) Raymond L. Miller (SEC) Richard E. Foreman
 (King) Donald L. Heaton (Scribe) Alfred D Thomas
 Meets: 2nd Monday Monthly at 7:00 PM (904) 763-7094
 York Rite Temple, 2700 West 10th Street, Panama City

CRESTVIEW No. 40 (District # 10)
 (HP) Eddy C. Whobrey (SEC) Robert V. Erdman
 (King) Richard Kupfer (Scribe) Fred Turner
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov. At 7:00 PM
 Crestview York Rite Tem., 110 N Garden St, (904)682-1297

WINTER HAVEN No 41 (District # 4)
 (HP) Charles F. Niles, Jr (SEC) Arnold R. Kramer
 (King) Norman L Hilt (Scribe) B. Holloway Rollins III
 Meets: 2nd Thursday Monthly at 7:30 P. M. (941) 294-2005
 Winter Haven Lodge, 375 Avenue "A" SE, Winter Haven

CLEARWATER No. 45 (District # 3)
 (HP) Jack G. Stabler (SEC) Ralph O. Sheppard
 (King) Michael Bennett (Scribe) Grover D. Kinsley
 Meets: 1st Wednesday Monthly - Exp July & Aug at 7:30 PM
 Clearwater Lodge, 407 N Belcher Rd., (813) 799-1665

DUVAL No. 48 (District # 7) (Jacksonville)
 (HP) Gustave O. Rappold (SEC) Richard A. Barger
 (King) Jerry E. Walding (Scribe) Billy Newton Rogers
 Meets: 3rd Monday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 737-1900
 Duval Lodge, 2620 Dean Road, Jacksonville

NASSAU No. 49 (District # 7) (Fernandina Beach)
 (HP) Ed O'Rourke (SEC) Quinny Williams, Sr.
 (King) Marshall D. Fullwood (Scribe) John Pugliese
 Mts: 2nd & 4th Thursday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 261-3917
 Amelia Lodge, 1101 S. 14th Street, Fernandina Beach

POINCIANA No. 50 (Fort Myers)
 (HP) Larry Cole (SEC) Guy E. Waltman
 (King) Wallace Bateman (Scribe) Lewis Fish
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 P.M. (941) 466-6363
 Ft. Myers Beach Lodge, 17625 Pine Ridge Rd, Ft Myers Beach

SURF No. 57 (District # 10) (Ft Walton Beach)
 (HP) Robert Melvin (SEC) William A. Howard
 (King) William L. Allmon (Scribe) Burton Davis
 Meets: 1st Monday Monthly at 7:00 PM (904) 243-8051
 Alpha Lodge, 133 Brooks Street, Fort Walton Beach

MELBOURNE No. 59 (District # 6)
 (HP) Richard E. Pettit (SEC) Vern H. Sipe
 (King) Jon F. Egerton (Scribe) William G. Stacey
 Meets: 2nd Thursday Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov at 7:30PM
 Harbor City Lodge, 1715 Avocado Ave, Melbourne (407) 254-3456

JAMES YEAGER No. 62 (District # 8) (Lawtey)
 (HP) Herbert M. Slate (SEC) Daniel F. Somma
 (King) Howard A. Roser (Scribe) Robert L. Holder
 Meets: 4th Thursday Monthly at 7:30 PM (904) 782-1141
 Lawtey Lodge, North Grove and Jefferson Streets, Lawtey

EDEN No. 63 (New Port Richey) (District # 3)
 (HP) Donald M. King (SEC) H. John Shinn
 (King) Charles B. O'Dena (Scribe) Nicola J. Panichi
 Meets: 4th Tuesday Monthly at 7:30 PM (813) 849-4122
 Pearl of the West Lodge, 6319 Louisania Ave, New Port Richey

HIGHLANDS NO 64 (District # 4) (Avon Park)
 (HP) Frank Whittam (SEC) William L. Peters
 (King) Paige O. Brown (Scribe) Gregory Fisher
 Meets: 3rd Friday Monthly at 7:30 PM (941) 453-4439
 Poinciana Masonic Temple, 939 West Main St, Avon Park

ISLAND No. 65 (District 1) (Marathon)
 (HP) Jorge Aladro (SEC) Samuel Holton
 (King) Michael Padron, Jr. (Scribe) John Boone
 Meets: 2nd Wednesday Monthly at 7:30 P.M.
 Marathon Lodge, 7 89th Street, Ocean (305) 852-6179

CHARTERS (Arrested, Surrendered, Restored, Merged)
 Kissimmee 10 Arrested 1936 Providence 38 Arrested 1939
 Inverness 14 Arrested 1936 Melbourne 41 Arrested 1939
 Island 21 Arrested 1918 Perry 44 Arrested 1933
 Chipley 23 Surrendered 1931 Okeechobee 46 Surrendered 1932
 Jefferson 26 Arrested 1966 Dade 47 Surrendered 1930
 Leesburg 34 Surrendered 1991 New Smyrna 51 Arrested 1936
 Arcadia 36 Arrested 1932 Orange 52 Surrendered 1930
 Walton 37 Surrendered 1928 Delray 53 Surrendered 1932

Lake Butler 19 Merged w/Lake City 1967
 Gadsden 30 Merged w/ Florida # 1 1967
 Bay County 39 Arrested 1933 - Restored 1945
 Highlands 42 Merged w/ Winter Haven # 41 1978
 Nassau 49 Arrested 1935 - Restored 1945
 M. D. Cushing 54 Merged as Tampa Cushing # 3 1967
 Hill City 55 Merged with Dade City # 8 1971
 St. Joseph 56 Merged with Bay County # 39 1981
 Canaveral 62 Merged with Indian River # 27 1967
 Hiram 60 Merged with Miami as Jericho # 11 1965
 Cabal 61 Merged with Jericho # 11 1996

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

MAY 20, 1997
 DAYTONA BEACH, FL

President James W. MacDonald asked the Officers to take their stations at appx. 10:45 PM. The Stewards station was vacant. The President ask Comp. Warren Almand to fill the vacancy.

The Secretary then called the roll of Officers to confirm that all stations were properly filled.

President	James W. MacDonald
Vice President	Duane B. Young
Chaplain	Walter H. Winchester
Sec.-Treas.	Joe C. LeSuer
Master of Ceremonies	Vernon H. Miller
Conductor	R. Earl Shiver
Herald	Roy R. Wright
Steward	Warren Almand, Jr. Pro-Tem
Sentinel	Richard I. Lanier

Chaplain Winchester gave the opening prayer.

The President called for any business.

The Secretary offered a motion that the minutes of the previous meeting as printed and distributed in the 1996 proceeding be adopted. The motion was adopted.

The Treasurer gave his report:

RECEIPTS:	
Balance as of May 1, 1996	\$ 2,193.62
Candidates fee 24 @ \$30.00	720.00
Bank Interest	<u>76.65</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,990.27

DISBURSEMENTS:

Heirloom Bibles	\$ 525.52
Secretary Expense	<u>35.00</u>
TOTAL	560.52

April 12, 1997 BALANCE \$ 2,429.75

The Treasurer made a motion that the report be accepted. The Motion prevailed.

The Secretary read the bills for payment.

Heirloom Bibles for 15 Bibles	\$ 321.94
Secretary Expenses	<u>35.00</u>
Total	\$ 356.94

A motion prevailed to pay the bills.

The secretary announced that several Candidates had asked that their fee be returned, due to the late hour, but there were 14 past or present Excellent High Priest present to receive the Order.

The President stated that if there were no objections the following list of candidates would be elected, anointed and consecrated in the Order of High Priesthood.

Name	Chapter	Yr HP
Herbert M. Slate	James Yeager	# 62 97
William R. Johnson	Crestview	# 40 96
George T. Collier	Eureka	# 7 97
Steven R. Dieckober	Dade City	# 8 97
Carl R. Williams, Sr.	Live Oak	# 25 97
Charles F. Niles	Winter Haven	# 41 97
Ronnie K. Griffis	James Yeager	# 62 68
C. Michael Shortle	Keystone	# 20 97
William W. Green	Keystone	# 20 -
Ray Harris	Gainesville	# 2 97
Blas Pellon	Jericho	# 11 97
Gustav A. Rappolo	Duval	# 48 97
Thomas C. Anderson	Halifax	# 5 89
Nathaniel G. Lundrigan	Florida	# 1 90

The Order was closed in full form at approximately 12:45 AM.

James W. MacDonald, President

Joe C. LeSuer, Secr/Treas.

GRAND SECRETARIES AND GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Grand Secretary	Our Representative	Their Representative
<u>ALABAMA</u>		
Arthur C. Harding P.O. Box 320262 Birmingham AL 35232	Howard E. Hayes 540 Camelia Road Birmingham, AL 35215	Paul W. Friend 361 S.W. Fairway Ave. Port St Lucie FL 34983
<u>ALASKA</u>		
David A. Hunt P.O. Box 100641 Anchorage AK 99510A	James L. Oliver, Sr. P.O. Box 175 Anchorage, AK 99510	Steven Q. Steele 750 Wren Avenue Miami, FL 33166
<u>ALBERTA</u>		
Lyle C. Dowdell 7619 Hunterburn Hill NW Calgary ALB T2K 4S6	H. C. Hildebrandt 2204 - 6th Street NE Calgary ALB T2E 3Z1	Woodrow W. Cash P.O. Box 258 Sanford, FL 32771
<u>ARGENTINA</u>		
Gran Capitulo RA De Arg M. Bogado, G.E. "E" Presidents Peron 1242 1038, Capital Federal	Eric J. Seward R44 21, Paseo Colon Buenos Aires, Argentina	Joe K. West Bartow, FL 33830
<u>ARIZONA</u>		
Gilbert J. Eno 2340 E. University #23 Tempe, AZ 85281-4733	Archie E. Tucker P.O. Box 1531 Chine Valley, AZ 86323	Richard J. Carr 210 S. Embrey St. Casselberry, FL 32707
<u>ARKANSAS</u>		
Wayne E. St. John P.O. Box 7653 Little Rock, Ar 72217	Tony H. Vernich 5917 Maureen Little Rock, AR 72209	Luther Bodiford, III 2605 Nez Perce Trail Tallahassee, FL 32303
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>		
Alexander S. Rollo 103 - 1495 W. 8th Ave. Vancouver BC V6H 1C9	Denis S. Carriere 2455 Parkerest Ave. Kamloops BC V2B 4Y4	Robert E. Burleson 12157 Delaware Wds Ln Orlando, FL 32824
<u>CALIFORNIA</u>		
Kenneth G. Hope 801 Elm Avenue Long Beach, CA 90813	Xavier A. "Sam" Pitassi 10041 Hayvenhurst Ave. North Hills, CA 91343	William B. Porter 1316 Lake Parker Drive Lakeland, FL 33801

CANADA (ONTARIO)

Melvyn J. Duke Alan F. Walker Richard I. Lanier
 361 King St. W. 29 Blackcombe Dr., RR 21 4041 College Street
 Hamilton ONT L8P 1B4 Coldwater, ON LOK IEO Jacksonville, FL 32205
 905/ 522-5775

COLORADO

Gilbert W. Carlton Paul L. Bailey Thomas E. McGowan
 1614 Welton Street # 503 3640 Windjammer Drive P.O. Box 994
 Denver, CO 80202 Colorado Sprgs CO 80920 Maggie Valley NC 28951

CONNECTICUT

Charles B. Fowler Herbert H.N. Bachelder Sr. Virgil P. Brown Jr.
 35 Elaine Mary Drive 42 Dubois Road 2360 Bal Harbour Ter.
 Windsor CT 06095-1714 Uncasville CT 06382 Titusville FL 32780

DELAWARE

Donald D. Thomas Walter F. Lokey Arnold R. Lambe
 208 Sypherd Drive 1305 Dewson Lane, OH 3488 Spring Hollow Dr
 Newark, DE 19711-3627 Wilmington, DE 1980 Marianna, FL 32446

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Scott M. Applebee Howard J. Gross Earl G. Nicholson
 3012 O'Hara Place 9706 Holmhurst Rd. 114 West Oakhill Dr.
 Olney, MD 20832-1451 Bethesda, MD 20817 Palatka, FL 32178

FINLAND

Eric Rissanen Rolf Kristoffersson Daniel E. Dale
 Kasarmikatu 16-D Kasarmikatu 16D 00130 601 14th Avenue W
 Helsinki 13 Finland 00130 Helsinki Puhelin 175 766 Palmetto FL34221-4522

FRANCE

Y. Trestourel Max Decruex H. Warren Almand, Jr.
 65 Blvd., Bineau 92200 2009 Blvd., Periere 4980 Flynt Drive
 Neuillu-Sur-Seine, France Paris 172 France Marianna FL32446-6358

GEORGIA

James E. Moseley Bobby Joe Townsend William O. Walker
 811 Mulberry Street 6630 Starling Place 339 Drake Court
 Macon, GA 31298 Mableton, GA 30059 Deltona, FL 32725

GERMANY

Robert C. Simpson Robert C. Simpson Deneil R. Smith
 Hauptstrasse 1 C Hauptstrasse 1 C 2913 Joyee Drive
 D-66978 Clausen/ Ger. D-66978 Clausen, Ger. Tallahassee, FL 32303

GREECE

George Apostolopoulos Eustace H. Liakopoulos Richard E. Foreman
 P.O. Box 31068 21Likavtou Street P.O. Box 15058
 100.35, Athens, Greece 106.72, Athens, Greece Panama Cty FL32406-5058

HAWAII

John B. Connell J. Owen Edgerton Walter H. Winchester
 1227 Makiki St. 16338 6th Avenue 241 Scotland Street
 Honolulu, HI 96814 Honolulu, HI 96816 Dunedin, FL 33528

IDAHO

M. William Echo Joe F. Kudelka Rodger L. Craig, Sr.
 P.O. Box 50536 815 - 5th Street 204 Sunset Ave Bx 683
 Idaho Falls, ID 83405 Rupert, ID 83350 Laurel, FL 34272

ILLINOIS

Ronald E. Fullerlove Edward E. Derry Harry W. Seibert
 P.O. Box 157 2302 Tazwell Road 7630 Sandy Creek Ct.
 Moline, IL 61266-0157 Pekin, IL 61554 Pensacola FL33506-5996

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Marion K. Crum Peter T. Zivanovich William R. Stevenson
 6954 E. Georgetown Rd. 8049 Spruce Street 3220 - 12th Street
 Nashville, IN 47448-8584 Highland, IN 46322 Vero Beach, FL 32960

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 P.O. Box 107 2305 Camelot Ave. NW Route 1, Box 4346
 Grand Junction IA 50107 Cedar Rapids IA52405-2058 Palatka, FL 32177

IRELAND

Michael W. Walker Frank Johnston Howard P. Bennett
 17 Molesworth St. 25 Dunlady Rd. Glenvale 2805 Matthew Drive
 Dublin 2, Ireland Dundonald BT16 OTT Rockledge, FL 32955

ISRAEL

Charles Judah Jay Rosen Ralph A. Jones, Jr.
 P.O. Box 2582 11 Sweden Street 1612 Beth Drive
 Haifa 31025 Israel Hod Harcarmel HAIFA34980 Green Cove Spgs FL32043

ITALY

Dr. Filippo Alfano Franco Allegri Jorge Aladro
 Via Aidi Bonaiuto N24 Strade V. D'Aglie 23/3 105 Coconut Lane
 50143 Firenze - Italy 10132 Torino L., Italy Islamorada, FL 33036

KANSAS

Halbert G. Horton Thaine A. Clark Jacob J. Krawiec
 P.O. Box 1217 P.O. Box 602 11454 - 84th Ave. N.
 Topeka, KS 66601-1217 Hays, KS 67601 Seminole FL 33542

KENTUCKY

John F. Kirby Harvey D. Reynolds Robert F. Scott, Jr.
 P.O. Box 489 P.O. Box 11605 P.O. Box 37524
 Danville, KY 40423-0489 Lexington, KY 40576 Jacksonville FL32236-7524

LOUISIANA

Chris E. Fristoe Finly S. Stanly J. Russell Hammond
 720 Iberville Street P.O. Box 1423 348 E. Evergreen Ave.
 Lake Charles, LA 70605 Leesville, LA 71446 Longwood FL32750-5550

MAINE

Charles S. Brown Rev. David E. Wigley, Sr. Wayne E. Parks
 Masonic Temple, Box 588 15 Old Blue Point Road 1004 Nin Street
 Belfast, ME 04915 Scarborough, ME 04074 Orlando, FL 32835

MANITOBA

Stan J. Payne Passed Away Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr.
 Box 69003, Tuxedo Pk PO awaiting 329 Braddock Avenue
 2025 Corydon Ave. New apt Daytona Bch FL32118-4613
 Winnipeg MB CAN R3P 2G9

MARYLAND

William G. Gulley Donald Maynard Miller James W. MacDonald
 486 Williamsburg Lane 7705 E. Baltimore St. 220 Cardoba Circle
 Odenton, MD 21113 Baltimore, MD. 21224 Merritt Island 32953-2931

MASSACHUSETTS

Bob Rudy Homberg Richard L. Elliott James W. Dalzell
 186 Tremont Street 106 Roosevelt Ave. 2836 Holly Ridge Drive
 Boston, MA 02111-1096 Westfield, MA 01085 Orange Park, FL 32073

MEXICO

Alejandro Reyes Bravo William Webber William A. Cogburn
 Apartado Postal M-7431 Aparrado 9151 2020 Angos Street
 Palacio Pil Centro Historico Zmrcivo F.G., Mexico Tallahassee, FL 32301
 Mexico, 6000, D.F.

MICHIGAN

Ralph W. Raiford, Jr. Charles C. Rademaker Earl R. Allan
 3330 Alpine Drive 361 Second Street 13926 Allanton Rd.
 Ann Arbor, MI 48108-1704 Manistee, MI 49660 Panama City, FL 32404

MINNESOTA

Robert R. Anderson, Sr. George E. Mokler Clarence N. Gruber
 P.O. Box 66 1164 Xene Lane 3305 Carlsbad Trail
 Belle Plaine, MN 56011 N Plymouth MN55447-3116 Jacksonville, FL 32223

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Fred F. Bean Billy F. Knox Gordon L. Anderson
 P.O. Box 1030 P.O. Box 368 P.O. Box 957
 Meridian, MS 39302-1030 Crenshaw, MS 38261 Ormond Beach FL 32175

MISSOURI

Ronald E. Wood George R. Johnson William L. Buck, Jr.
 300 S Belt Hwy PO Bx 6456 110 S. Fairview 602 S. 14th Street
 St. Joseph, MO. 64506-0456 Liberty, MO 64068 Palatka, FL 32077

MONTANA

C. Thomas Bersuch Francis D. Hess Duane B. Young
 P.O. Box 955 Route I 141 Shadow Lane
 Lewiston, MT 59457 Denton, MT 59430 Lakeland, FL 33803

NEBRASKA

Jay H. Speck Emmett L. Scott George A. Chipouras
 P.O. Box 292 1016 W. Nobles Avenue 19460 SW 87th Ave
 Fremont, NE 68026 York, NE 68467 Miami, FL 33157

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Fluwelen Burgwal 22
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Otis C. Llarden
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--	--	--

QUEENSLAND

W. F. Sugars P.O. Box 425 Brinsbane 40001 QUE	Edwin N. H. Zillman 17 Jales Street Sunnybank Hills 4105 QUE	Roy R. Wright Jr. 711 East 1st St. # 14 S Sanford FL 32771
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RHODE ISLAND

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--	---	---

SASKATCHEWAN

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---	---	--

SCOTLAND

Grahame J. Smith 23 St. John Street Edinburgh EH8 8DG Scotland PH - 0131-556-6687	John Mitchell 32 Brewland St. Galston, Ayrshire, KA4 8DR Scotland	William A. Howard 195 DeLuna Road Ft Walton Bch FL 32548
--	--	---

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Noel D. Fairweather Box 19, Rundelmall Adelaide, So. Aust. 5000	Alan L. Lindley 35/33 Sylvan Way Grange, So. Aust. 5022	Harry R. 'Bob' Davis 1612 Foster Avenue Panama City FL 32405
---	---	--

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Richard C. Geib 609 Wayside Drive Rapid City SD 57702	Robert Webb 1725 South 1st St. Aberdeen SD 57401	Robert G. Stearns 74 Akron Road Lake Worth, FL 33467
---	--	--

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--	--	--

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---	--	--

TEXAS

Eldon L. Brooks P.O. Box 296 Waco TX 76703	John C. Elkinton 5015 Groveton Pearland TX 77584	Wendell D. Harrington 11135 Bridges Road Jacksonville FL 32218
--	--	--

UTAH

Horace A. Thomas 650 E. South Temple St. Salt Lake City UT 84102	Henry S. Hammill 1976 Millbrook Dr. Salt Lake City UT 84106	Columbus Webb P.O. Box 636 Palatka FL 32078
--	---	---

VENEZUELA

Jose D. Arzola-Cortes P.O. Box 754 Caracas 1010A Venezuela	Jairo Mantilla C/O Grand Secretary	Raul A. Reyes 3418 Ivy St. Tampa FL 33607
--	---------------------------------------	---

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Donald C. Brown R.R. #3, Box 6742 B Barre, VT 05641-8611	Russell D. Goslant R.D. #3 Box 4190 Montpelier VT 05602	Wm. Robert Young 3845 Catalina Street Titusville FL 32796
--	---	---

VICTORIA

Wayne L. Smith 300 Albert Street E. Melbourne 3002 Aust	Bryan Chipperfield 8 Queens Ave. St Amaud 3478 Aust.	Willis D. Porter 17 Alexander Place Ft Walton Bch FL32548
---	--	---

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---	--	--

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--	--	--

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--	--	---

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

R. L. Pries P.O. Box 6002 Pert 6000, West Australia	R. L. Pries Same As Secretary	Frederick M. Morris 514 Baker Street. Orlando FL 32806
---	----------------------------------	--

WISCONSIN

Milton Gregory 36275 Sunset Drive Dousman WI 53118	Elroy J. Buth 1900 E. Bennett Ave. Milwaukee WI 53207	Joseph J. Johnson 1110 E 13th St. Jacksonville FL 32206
--	---	---

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Kenneth S. Watts 506 W. Park Avenue Riverton WY 82501	Olin E. Rose P.O. Box 212 Big Horn WY 82833	Hugh F. Moore P.O. Box 844 Lake City FL 32055
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NO. & NAME	STATISTICS OF FLORIDA CHAPTERS					
	1996		R	A	A	S
	M	E	I	F	D	S U B
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	M	A	T	I	T M	D
	B	L	A	A	M	T
	E	T	T	T	E	I
NO. & NAME	R	E	E	E	N	A
	S	D	D	D	T	L
						D
01 Florida	294			1	2	297
02 Gainesville	186	11	2		1	200
03 Tampa-Cushing	561	14	1	1		577
04 St Johns	96	1		3		100
05 Halifax	198	6			5	209
06 Mt Horeb	611	23	4			638
07 Eureka	369	2		1	0	372
08 Dade City	92				1	93
09 Palatka	271	3				274
11 Jericho	350	14	4			368
12 Jacksonville	637	23	9			669
13 Ocala	174	2	1	2		179
15 Monroe	126	7		1		134
16 Plant City	69	5			2	76
17 St Augustine	88	4	1		2	95
18 Manatee River	138	15	1	2	5	161
20 Keystone	283	6			0	289
22 Thomas Brown	86	13				99
24 Palm Beach	188		1			189
25 Live Oak	114	2			5	121
27 Indian River	252	15	1	2		270
28 Joppa	228	1	7	1	1	238
29 Lakeland	131	8	2	3		144
31 St Petersburg	211	4		1		216
32 Jackson	92	5		1		98
33 Eustis	74	6		2	1	83
35 Sarasota	207	20	0	2		229
38 Lake City	192	4	2	1		199
39 Bay County	252	4	3		30	289
40 Crestview	219	5	1			225
41 Winter Haven	162	1	3	1		167
45 Clearwater	262	3			9	274
48 Duval	141	3	2		7	153
49 Nassau	71					71
50 Poninciana	278	3			7	288
57 Surf	237	1		1		239
59 Melbourne	118	3		2	9	132
62 James Yeager	131					131
63 Eden	53	3				56
Statistical Totals		240	45	28	87	400
GRAND TOTALS	8242					8642
SUMMARY						
Membership	DECEMBER 31, 1995				8242	
Exalted	240	Died			272	
Reinstated	45	Dimitted			74	
Affiliated	28	Suspended			234	580 los
Adjustment	87	Adjustment			116	
Sub-Total	400	Sub-Total			696	180