

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS**



**OF FLORIDA 2024 – 2025**

**One Hundred Seventy Eighth  
Annual Grand Convocation**

***Corey D. Kosciuszko***  
***Presiding***

Held at Lake Mary, FL  
May 20, 2025  
A.I. 2555



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# Grand Chapter of RAM – Most Excellent High Priest Photo & Resume

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons Corey D. Kosciuszko  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest  
2024-2025



Corey D. Kosciuszko Masonic Resume

## Symbolic Lodge – Orange Park Lodge No. 267

- Initiated An Entered Apprentice – October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006
- Passed To The Degree Of Fellow Craft – February 17<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Raised To The Sublime Degree Of Master Mason – March 12<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Life Member Of the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association March 2007
- Entered Apprentice Catechism Proficiency – May 7<sup>th</sup> 2007

- Fellow Craft Catechism Proficiency – May 21<sup>st</sup> 2007
- Master Mason Catechism Proficiency – June 4<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Silver Proficiency Card (Catechism Instructor) – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Appointed Junior Steward – December 27<sup>th</sup> 2007
- White Proficiency Card (All Esoteric Work In The EA Degree) – May 24<sup>th</sup> 2008
- Appointed Senior Steward - December 27<sup>th</sup> 2008
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Senior Steward) – May 2008
- Appointed Junior Deacon – June 2009
- Green Proficiency Card (All Esoteric Work In The FC Degree) – June 26<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Honorary Blue Lodge 4<sup>th</sup> Degree – September 2009
- Blue Proficiency Card (All Esoteric Work In The MM Degree) – November 16<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Appointed Senior Deacon - December 27<sup>th</sup> 2009
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Senior Warden) – May 2009
- Elected & Installed Junior Warden - December 27<sup>th</sup> 2010
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Worshipful Master) – May 2010
- Appointed District 12 Grand Master’s Charity Committee Man by Right Worshipful Jeri Austin DDGM
- Perpetual Membership In Orange Park Lodge #267 – June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Worshipful Master) – May 2011
- Appointed As District Instructor Of The 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District by Most Worshipful Jim J Harris Grand Master Of Masons In Florida – June 1<sup>st</sup> 2011
- Elected & Installed Senior Warden December 27<sup>th</sup> 2011
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Worshipful Master) – May 2012
- Appointed As District Instructor Of The 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District by Most Worshipful George L. Aladro Grand Master Of Masons In Florida – May 30<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Elected & Installed Vice Chairman of the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association December 19<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Elected & Installed Worshipful Master of Orange Park Lodge #267 December 27<sup>th</sup> 2012

- 12<sup>th</sup> District 2012 Mason Of The Year Awarded by the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association February 20<sup>th</sup> 2013
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place State Ritual Team Competition (Worshipful Master) – May 2013
- Appointed As District Instructor Of The 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District by Most Worshipful Danny R Griffith Grand Master Of Masons In Florida – May 30<sup>th</sup> 2013
- Elected & Installed Chairman of the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association December 2013
- Appointed As District Instructor Of The 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District by Most Worshipful James W Ford Grand Master Of Masons In Florida – May 30<sup>th</sup> 2014
- Appointed As District Deputy Grand Master Of The 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District by Most Worshipful Steven P Boring Grand Master Of Masons In Florida – May 30<sup>th</sup> 2015

#### Scottish Rite – Valley Of Jacksonville

- Knighted a 32<sup>o</sup> Master Of The Royal Secret As Part of the 231<sup>st</sup> Spring Reunion - March 28<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Appointed As Aide To The Personal Representative, Illustrious Roy Connor Sheppard for Orange Park Lodge #267 – August 19<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Appointed Expert in The Consistory - September 2009
- Appointed Master Of Ceremonies In The Consistory – January 2010
- Elected & Installed Minister Of State In The Consistory – January 2011
- Knighted As A Knight Of The Double Eagle – February 2010
- Knight Of The Double Eagle Red, White, & Blue Bars – May 2010
- Elected & Installed Chancellor In The Consistory – January 2012
- Knight Of The Double Eagle Gold Bar – March 2012
- Elected & Installed Preceptor In The Consistory – January 2013
- Elected & Installed Prior In The Consistory – January 2014
- Appointed Chairman Committee On Work, Valley Of Jacksonville By Illustrious Sam Cowan, Personal Representative – 2014
- Elected & Installed Master Of Kadosh In The Consistory – January 2015

- Appointed Director Of Work, Valley Of Jacksonville By Illustrious Robert Beaty – 2015 through 2024
- Invested Knight Commander Court of Honor November 7, 2015
- Coronated 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Inspector General Honorary November 11<sup>th</sup> 2023
- Appointed Almoner By Honorable Bill Crime, Personal Representative - 2024

#### Scottish Rite Guard – Valley Of Jacksonville

- Probationary Member – April 2009
- Full Member – July 2010
- Appointed Membership Chairman – December 2010
- Elected & Installed Jr. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – December 2011
- Elected & Installed 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – December 2012
- Elected & Installed 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant – December 2013
- Elected & Installed Captain Of The Guard – December 2014
- Appointed Guard Commander By Honorable Bill Crime Personal Representative – January 2025

#### Royal Arch – Jacksonville Chapter No. 12

- Exalted To The Most Sublime Degree Of The Royal Arch – October 20<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Appointed Master Of The Second Veil – January 2009
- Appointed Principal Sojourner – January 2010
- Jacksonville Chapter No. 12 York Rite Mason Of The Year - December 2010
- DDGHP Award For Capitular Excellence Awarded By Right Excellent Companion Bill Goldwire District Deputy Grand High Priest & Most Excellent Companion Tony Marotta Grand High Priest Of The Most Excellent Grand Chapter Of Royal Arch Masons Of Florida – December 2010
- Appointed Captain Of The Host – January 2011
- Gold Key Award Presented By Most Excellent Companion Tony Marotta Grand High Priest Of The Most Excellent Grand Chapter Of Royal Arch Masons Of Florida – April 2011
- Elected & Installed King – January 5<sup>th</sup> 2012

- Elected & Installed High Priest of Jacksonville Chapter #12 – January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013
- Anointed Order Of The High Priesthood – May 2013
- Appointed District Deputy Grand High Priest by Most Excellent Companion William Jacobs, Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Of Florida – May 2015
- Appointed Excellent Grand Master Of The First Veil by Most Excellent Companion Charles Cooper, Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Of Florida – May 2016
- Appointed Excellent Grand Master Of The Second Veil by Most Excellent Companion Ronald Newton, Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Of Florida – May 2017
- Appointed Excellent Grand Master Of The Third Veil by Most Excellent Companion Harry Eisenberg, Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Of Florida – May 2018
- Appointed Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain by Most Excellent Companion James Green, Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Of Florida – May 2019
- Appointed Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner by Most Excellent Companion Arthur Ahrens III – May 2020
- Appointed Excellent Grand Captain Of The Host by Most Excellent Companion James Robertson – May 2021
- Elected and Installed Right Excellent Grand Scribe – Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Of Florida – May 2022
- Elected and Installed Right Excellent Grand King – Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Of Florida – May 2023
- Elected and Installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest Of The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Of Florida May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

Council Of Royal And Select Members – Hallmark Council No. 3

- Greeted As A Royal & Select Master – October 26<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Super Excellent Master – November 10<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Appointed Chaplain – January 2009
- Appointed Conductor Of The Council January 2010
- Appointed Captain Of The Guard – January 2011
- Elected & Installed Illustrious Master – January 5<sup>th</sup> 2012

- Initiated Order Of Anointed Kings State of Florida (Order of the Silver Trowel) – April 24<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Blue Proficiency Card (Opening & Closing All Parts) – April 25<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Appointed District Deputy Grand Master by Most Illustrious Companion Dayle Schrock, Grand Master Of The Grand Council Of Florida – May 2013
- Appointed District Instructor by Most Illustrious Companion Warren Almand, Grand Master Of The Grand Council Of Florida – May 2014
- Awarded Cryptic Mason Of The Year For Florida By The General Grand Council Of Cryptic Masonry International and Most Illustrious Companion Larry Gillespie, Grand Master Of The Grand Council Of Florida – May 2013

#### Commandery – Damascus Commandery No. 2

- Knighted A Knight Templar – November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007
- Appointed Guard – January 2008
- Appointed Sentinel – January 2009
- Appointed Standard Bearer – January 2010
- Appointed Senior Warden – January 2011
- Elected & Installed Captain General – January 5<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Elected & Installed Generalissimo – January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013
- Elected & Installed Eminent Commander – January 2014
- Knighted Knight Crusader Of The Cross – May 2015
- Appointed District Leader by Right Eminent Grand Commander Paul Friend – May 2015
- Appointed District Deputy Grand Commander by Right Eminent Grand Commander Fred Gerdom – May 2016

#### Knight York Cross Of Honor – Florida Priory No. 60

- Invested Knight York Cross Of Honor – October 2016
- Appointed Council Lecturer 2019 - 2022

#### Knight York Cross Of Honor – Door To Virtue Priory No. 87

- Charter Member - June 2020
- Appointed Prelate – June 2020
- Appointed Warder – June 2021

- Elected Deputy Prior – June 2022
- Elected and Installed Prior – June 2023
- Awarded KYGCH with Red Quadrant – June 2024

Knight Masons – Gateway Council No. 51

- Installed As A Cousin – November 6<sup>th</sup> 2010
- Appointed Director of Ceremonies - November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012
- Currently the Conductor Of Ceremonies / Conductor for the three degrees.
- Elected & Installed Excellent Chief – November 2016

Allied Masonic Degrees – Wilbur W. Masters Council No. 322

- Initiated – November 6<sup>th</sup> 2010
- Appointed Senior Deacon – November 5<sup>th</sup> 2011
- Elected & Installed Junior Warden – November 17<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Elected & Installed Senior Warden – November 2013
- Elected & Installed Sovereign Master – November 17<sup>th</sup> 2014
- Knight Commander Of The Red Branch Of Eri – December 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine – Saint Honore Conclave

- Initiated – January 14<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Appointed Herald – January 2019
- Elected and Installed Puissant Sovereign – January 2023

York Rite Sovereign College – Northeast Florida York Rite College No. 114

- Initiated – May 5<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Appointed Sentinel – May 5<sup>th</sup> 2012
- Appointed Seneschal – May 4<sup>th</sup> 2013
- Elected & Installed Preeminent Governor – May 2016
- Lecturer – 2016 - Present

Grand Brotherhood Of District Deputies – Florida

- Initiated – May 2019

Tall Cedars Of Lebanon – River City Forest No. 198

- Initiated – September 2009
- Appointed Guide – December 2009

- Appointed Preceptor – December 2010
- Elected & Installed Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar – December 16<sup>th</sup> 2011
- Elected & Installed Grand Tall Cedar – December 14<sup>th</sup> 2012

Order Of St. Thomas Of Acon – Crusader Chapel No. XIII

- Knighted - May 2020
- Appointed Cellar May 2023
- Appointed Cellar May 2024

Grand Court Of The Masonic Order Of Athelstan – Florida Court No. 131

- Initiated September 2023

Societas Rosicruciana In Cibitatibus Foederatis – Florida College

- Initiated September 7, 2024
- Grade I – Zelator September 7<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Grade II - Theoricus September 7<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Grade III – Practicus November 9<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Grade IV – Philosophus February 1<sup>st</sup> 2025

## Grand Chapter RAM of Florida – Grand Officers

<u><i>Officer</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>
Most Excellent Grand High Priest	Corey D. Kosciuszko
Right Excellent Grand King	Charles G. Harper II
Right Excellent Grand Scribe	Garry M. Paxinos
R Ex Grand Treasurer	Robert C. St. John, Jr.
R Ex Grand Secretary	Larry R. Gillespie
Ex Grand Chaplain	Rev. Brian R. Poole
Ex Grand Historian	Glenn E. Chandler, Snr.
Ex Asst Grand Historian	Todd Connor
Ex Grand Captain of the Host	Jeffrey T. Sklet
Ex Grand Principal Sojourner	Kenneth Tutor
Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain	Joshua W. Schutts
Ex Grand Master of the 3rd Veil	John H. Donohoo
Ex Grand Master of the 2nd Veil	Robert L. Taylor
Ex Grand Master of the 1st Veil	Frank E. Kiefer
Ex Grand Sentinel	Eric G. Cole
Ex Grand Organist	Dana K. Oldenberg

### Grand High Priest Report

Companions of the Grand Chapter of Florida,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Grand High Priest for the Grand Chapter of Florida's 178<sup>th</sup> year since being instituted. I was appointed to the bottom of the Grand Chapter's line by my friend and mentor Most Excellent Companion Charles Robert Cooper, whom I miss greatly, and have had the opportunity to serve the Craft in this line for the last nine years.

As I traveled the state, we held workshops on retention for current members and, as groups, discussed what should happen in a Chapter meeting and how important each of our Companions are.

Sometimes God places people in our path who need our help, and other times he places people in front of us who have a message that we need to hear. I'd like to share a couple of those stories with you.

Last year, before our installation began, one of the Companions to whom I had given an appointment came up to thank me for the appointment he had gotten. He proceeded to tell me how he was pulling through a devastating season of his life and that someone believing in him just a small amount made a huge impact in his life especially at a time when he felt he had so little. While it's a private story and I can't share the details, we talked at length about the confidence his local brothers had in him and that God was always at his side. After a long hug, I can't lie, we both had to wipe the tears from our eyes.

It was a reminder that it's important to tell the person sitting next to you how you feel about them every time you see them, to stay and talk just a little longer, and not to forget that handshake or brotherly hug.

Second, at our installation last year, I talked about the importance of our Charity, Royal Arch Research Assistance, and helping those in need. The next day in the lobby I came across one of your wives who stopped to talk with me for a moment. She proceeded to tell me how she and her husband were retired and on fixed incomes. She said I don't have anything to give to the Chapter's Charity right now but will put back a little every month and make a donation at the end of the year.

Companions, I'm here to tell you that Companion and his wife gave more to our Grand Chapter this year than any of us combined. You see, she was giving all she could. She gave from her heart just like the poor widow in Luke 21:1-4.

The lesson I learned was that while hope may end in fruition, it really ends in taking action. Taking action each and every day.

### **State Of The Craft**

While traveling to the various Districts and Chapters, I've seen Chapters that are thriving and some that are working hard to get back to where they once were. The Chapters that are doing the best have the following common denominators. They are a close group of brothers, meaning if someone is missing, before the

night is over, one or more brothers are calling to check on their missing friend. They regularly attend their blue lodge, more specifically they mostly attend the same blue lodge or have large groups of blue lodge members from the same lodges. The Past High Priests are present and participate. The newest member is just as important as the oldest. Chapter meetings contain Fellowship, Charity, Integration with their Community, and Religion is discussed including the context in our degrees. However, what has been told to me by the Craft in general is that what they crave the most is Education with great breadth and depth.

### **Necrology**

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of Most Excellent Companion Harry R "Bob" Davis. He joined the Lord September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at the age of 95. Most Excellent Bob Davis served as Most Excellent Grand High Priest for this Grand Chapter in 1995 - 1996.

### **Events Attended**

Along with regular Chapter visits I attended the following Events representing the Grand Chapter of Florida.

#### **Grand Sessions**

Grand Lodge Of Florida Annual Communication  
International Order Of Rainbow Girls Annual Grand Assembly  
DeMolay Boys International Annual Grand Conclave  
Grand York Rite Of South Carolina  
Grand York Rite Of Georgia

#### **Area Meetings**

Districts 1 & 6  
Districts 4 & 5  
Districts 7 & 8  
Districts 9 & 10

District 2 & 3 – Cancelled due to multiple hurricanes. Some of our companions are still not back in their homes due to the storm damage. Continue to keep them in your prayers.

## **Festivals**

Tallahassee (District 9) – Hosted by Florida Chapter No 1

Stuart (District 6) – Hosted by Joppa Chapter No 28

Palatka – (Districts 7 & 8) Fall – Hosted by Putnam Chapter No 9

Palatka – (Districts 7 & 8) Spring – Hosted by Putnam Chapter No 9

Tampa – (Districts 2 & 3) – Hosted by Tampa-Cushing Chapter No. 3

Pensacola – (District 10) – Hosted by Mt. Horeb Chapter No 6

## **Installations**

Crestview Chapter No 40

Jacksonville Chapter No 12

Nassau Chapter No 49

Surf Chapter No 57

## **Table Chapters**

Gainesville No 2 and Putnam Chapter No 9 Joint Event

## **Other Events**

Hallmark Council No 3 – State Wide Super Excellent Master Degree

James Yeager Chapter No 62 – Family Night

## **Grand High Priest Actions**

### **Directives**

Directive No. 1 - Religious Affirmation

Directive No. 2 - Passing Of Most Excellent Harry R "Bob" Davis

### **Dispensation**

Putnam Chapter No 9 – Called Communication For Degree Conferral

Putnam Chapter No 9 – Move Stated Communication from September 4 to September 6 for conducting a table chapter.

Gainesville No 2 – Hold a table chapter in Palatka on September 6

### **Warrants**

2024-01 – Annual Return \$7,896.00

2024-02 – Area Meetings \$1,000

2024-03 – SE Conference - \$834.00

2024-04 – Q1 – Secretary & Printing - \$6,256

2024-05 – GHP, King, Scribe Stipend and RARA - \$3,125

2024-06 – Q2 Secretary, Printing, Q1 Treasurer - \$6,756

2024-07 – GHP, King, Scribe Stipend, Q3 Seretary, Printing, Q2 Treasurer - \$9,381

2024-08 – Q4 Secretary, Printing – GHP Reimbursement Collar , Apron Case, and Jewel - \$8,611.60

### **Bylaw Amendments**

Plant City No 16 – Move Location and time

Gainesville No 2 – Change Stated Meeting Dates

Palm Beach No 24 – Change Meeting Location

Palm Beach No 24 – Change Dues

### **Appreciation**

To my lord and Savior Jesus Christ I offer my humble thanks for the many blessings and opportunities he has provided me in my life and especially during this year while serving as your Grand High Priest.

### **To my mentors and supporters:**

1. Charles Robert Cooper, MEGHP (2016) – Bob was a close friend and mentor and appointed me to the bottom of the line. Bob and his wife, Claire, took my wife and I in and made us feel like part of their family. I only wish he was here today to share this occasion with us.
2. Darryl D’Angina, MEPGP (2010) – Thank you for being one of my constant supporters. You helped me to progress through the line and prepare me for this year. I will forever cherish our friendship.
3. Glenn E. Chandler, MEPGHP (2004) – Thank you for being a constant role model and a supporter of our great fraternity. All while being humble and never needing the spotlight.
4. Jacksonville Chapter No 12 for its continued support over the years and for opening the 178<sup>th</sup> Grand Convocation.
5. All of the companions of the companions of the Grand Jurisdiction of Florida who have been supportive of our goals of Charity and Brotherly love this year.

6. To my Daughter Elizabeth Kosciuszko, whom for the first three years of her life, helped to teach me to slow down and enjoy the blessings in my life.
  
7. Finally, my loving wife of twenty-six years Melissa. Thank you for your love and support. I couldn't have made it through this line without you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Corey D. Kosciuszko  
Most Excellent  
Grand High Priest of Florida  
2024 – 2025

## Minutes of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida 178<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida was opened by Jacksonville Chapter No. 12 in full form at 7:30 am on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at The Orlando Marriott at Lake Mary located in Lake Mary, Florida.

The Grand Chapter officers were escorted in. MEGHP Corey Kosciuszko asked the Grand Officers to take their stations. All Grand Chapter Officers were introduced.

MEGHP Corey Kosciuszko declared Jacksonville Chapter No. 12 closed, and the 178<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter Convocation open for business.

Introductions made by Steven Q. Steele. Public Grand Honors were extended to MIGM Ben Geiger and VEGC Eric Andersen. The MEPGHP of Florida was extended Capitular Grand Honors. Public Grand Honors were extended to Allied & Appendant Body Officers; Grand Chapter Officers, MEGHP, and MEPGHP of other jurisdictions; General Grand Chapter Officers; and Grand Lodge Officers. Private Grand Lodge Honors were extended to the Grand Lodge of Florida Officers that were present. All visitors were made members of the Grand Chapter Of Florida.

Roll Call of Grand Chapter Officers and Grand Representatives was conducted by the Grand Secretary and MEGHP.

Preliminary Returns and Credentials report was presented. All Chapters were present, except Lakeland-Winter Haven No 29 and 97 Companions were eligible to vote. A quorum was certified by the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary made a motion that the minutes of the 177<sup>th</sup> Grand Convocation be accepted as printed and distributed in the 2023-2024 proceedings, motion seconded, motion carried.

A motion was made to accept all pre-printed reports, with the exception of the budget and jurisprudence, as distributed in the convention packet, motion seconded, motion carried.

MEGHP Corey Kosciuszko presented his report (full report included in proceedings document). He presented his report and motioned that it be accepted, motion seconded, motion carried.

Steven Steele, MEPGHP, presented the preliminary Jurisprudence report. Motion was made to accept the preliminary Jurisprudence report, motion seconded, motion carried.

Companion Harry Eisenberg gave the Royal Arch Research Assistance (RARA) report. Companion Jerry Miller and District Representatives spoke about the new program. Awards were given out. Motion made to accept RARA report, motion seconded, motion carried.

Committee on Work report given by Thomas Metcalfe and Joshua Schutts. Report was included in the packet distributed. Motion made, motion seconded, motion carried.

Joshua Schutts presented the Signet Program Report. Motion made, motion seconded, motion carried.

Awards were presented as listed in the “Awards” section to follow.

Assistant Grand Historian Todd Connor delivered his first paper to be included in the proceedings.

Motion made to elevate Glenn Chandler to Grand Historian Emeritus. Motion made, motion seconded, motion carried.

Distinguished Guests were invited to share remarks.

Charles Harper presented the proposed Budget for the 2025-2026 year with Signet program of \$2,500. Motion was made to accept the proposed budget, motion seconded, motion carried.

The Final Returns and Credentials report was presented by Companion A.W. Thurman. All Chapters were represented. Total Companions eligible to vote were 99. A motion was made to accept the final returns and credentials report, motion seconded, motion carried.

The floor was opened for 2025-2026 Election of Officers. The following officers were nominated and elected by a unanimous ballot. The appointments were announced.

<u><i>Officer</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>
Most Excellent Grand High Priest	Charles G. Harper II
Right Excellent Grand King	Garry M. Paxinos
Right Excellent Grand Scribe	Jeffrey Sklet
R Ex Grand Treasurer	Robert C. St. John, Jr.
R Ex Grand Secretary	Larry R. Gillespie
<u><i>Appointments</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>
Ex Grand Chaplain	C. Craig Frazier
Ex Grand Historian	Todd Connor
Ex Grand Captain of the Host	Kenneth Tutor
Ex Grand Principal Sojourner	Joshua W. Schutts
Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain	John H. Donohoo
Ex Grand Master of the 3rd Veil	Frank E. Kiefer
Ex Grand Master of the 2nd Veil	Eric Cole
Ex Grand Master of the 1st Veil	Manuel (Manny) Lozada
Ex Grand Sentinel	Carlos Correa
Ex Grand Organist	Dana K. Oldenberg

Charles Harper presented the time and place report for the 2026 Grand Convocation: Monday, May 18, 2026, at the Orlando Marriott at Lake Mary in Lake Mary, Florida.

MEGHP offered thanks to officers, REDDGM, DI & Companions for a great year and support.

Remarks shared from SEDHP Mark Bradley.

Grand Chapter recessed, then resumed with the presentation of gifts and the installation of officers.

Newly installed MEGHP Charles Harper, declared the 178th Grand Convocation of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida closed.

# Roll Call

## Grand Chapter Grand Line

<b><u>Grand Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Most Excellent Grand High Priest	Corey D. Kosciuszko	X
Right Excellent Grand King	Charles G. Harper II	X
Right Excellent Grand Scribe	Garry M. Paxinos	X
R Ex Grand Treasurer	Robert C. St. John, Jr.	X
R Ex Grand Secretary	Larry R. Gillespie	X
Ex Grand Chaplain	Rev. Brian R. Poole	X
Ex Grand Historian	Glenn E. Chandler, Snr.	
Ex Grand Captain of the Host	Jeffrey T. Sklet	X
Ex Grand Principal Sojourner	Kenneth Tutor	X
Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain	Joshua W. Schutts	X
Ex Grand Master of the 3rd Veil	John H. Donohoo	X
Ex Grand Master of the 2nd Veil	Robert L. Taylor	
Ex Grand Master of the 1st Veil	Frank E. Kiefer	X
Ex Grand Sentinel	Eric G. Cole	X
Ex Grand Organist	Dana K. Oldenberg	X

## District Deputy Grand High Priests

<b><u>District</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
1	Max Bornstein	X
2	Gene F. Sims	X
3	William C. Sundquist	X
4	Thomas J. Simpson	X
5	Manuel E. Lozada	X
6	Joseph A. Schoonover	
7	Steve Urban, Jr.	
8	Michael LeeBove	X
9	Neils H. Hesse	X
10	James Draeving	X

### District Instructors

<u><i>District</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>	<u><i>Present</i></u>
1	Harry Bonet	
2	Jonas Seda	X
3	Cory Underwood	
4	A. Randy Chancey	X
5	Brian Zeppa	X
6	Matthew S. Green	
7	Todd M. Connor	X
8	Thomas E. Metcalfe, Jr.	X
9	Hector Guillion-Rivera	
10	Jerry J. Miller	X

### Most Excellent Past Grand High Priests

<u><i>Year</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>	<u><i>Present</i></u>
1983	William A. Cogburn	
1986	Gary Brent Cull	
1996	Harvey L. Ward, Sr.	
2001	Wayne E. Parks	X
2002	Steven Q. Steele	X
2004	Glenn E. Chandler, Sr.	
2005	William F. Wyllie	
2009	Darryl A. D'Angina	X
2011	Robert G. Kirkpatrick	
2012/2013	John F. Werman	X
2014	William R. "Billy" Jacobs	X
2015	Richard A. Wolfe	X
2016	Richard S. Agster (Honorary)	X
2017	Ronald C. Newton	X
2018	Harry V. Eisenberg	X
2019	James A. Green	X
2020	Arther J. Ahrens III	X
2021	James F. Robertson	
2022	John I. Gray	X
2023	Henry A. Adams	X

## Grand Representatives

<u><i>State/Country</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>	<u><i>Present</i></u>
Alabama	Paul W. Friend	X
Alaska	Steven Q. Steele	X
Albania	Alban Hoti	
Alberta, Canada	Dayle Schrock	X
Argentina	Richard Ayers	
Arizona	James Robertson	X
Arkansas	John I. Gray	X
Austria	Larry Gillespie	X
Belgium	Eric Cole	X
British Columbia/Yukon Canada	Brian Poole	X
Brazil	Edward Mayfield, Jr.	X
Calgary – Canada	Jeff Sklet	X
California	James A. Green	X
Central America	Paul Ritchie	X
Colorado	Kenneth Tutor	X
Connecticut	Thomas Olsen	X
Croatia	Stephen C. Nelson	X
Cyprus	John Donohoo	X
Delaware	Charles Hollinger	X
District of Columbia	Henry A. Adams	X
England	Joshua W. Schutts	X
Finland		
France	Eric Klienbach	X
Georgia	Arthur J. LaRose	X
Germany	John Lewis	X
Greece	Garry Paxinos	X
Hawaii	Frank E. Kiefer	X
Idaho	Rodger Craig	X
Illinois	Charles Bailey	X
India	David Felty	X
Indiana	Edward Smallwood	X
Iowa	Dennis Barbarisi	X
Ireland	Glenn Chandler, Snr	
Israel	Harry Eisenberg	X
Italy	John A. Kraniou	X
Kansas	Max Bornstein	X
Kentucky	Albert Kimball	X
Lebanon	Gene Sims	X
Louisiana	Ronald Newton	X

Madagascar	William Sundquist	X
Maine	Demetrios Kirkiles	X
Manitoba, Canada	Brett Gordon	X
Maryland	Kurt Morauer Sr	X
Massachusetts	Scott Schwartzberg	X
Mexico	Sheldon Arpad	X
Michigan	Ronald Naumowicz	X
Minnesota	Erik Andersen	X
Mississippi	Carl Gilmore	X
Missouri	Rusty Ludlam	X
Montana	Earl Ray	X
Nebraska	Thomas Simpson	X
Netherlands	Dana K. Oldenburg	X
Nevada	James Draeving	X
Newfoundland, Canada	Robert Stearns	X
New Brunswick, Canada	Charles C. Cicero	
New Hampshire	James Dickenson	X
New Jersey	Anthony Griffon	
New Mexico	Donald L. Rice	X
New S. Wales, Australia	Harry Bonnet	
New York	William Thomas	X
New Zealand	Manuel Lozada	X
North Australia	Harold Ritchie	X
North Carolina	Corey D. Kosciuszko	X
North Dakota	Darryl D'Angina	X
Nova Scotia, Canada	Jeffery Lawrence	X
Ohio	Corey D. Kosciuszko	X
Oklahoma	Joseph Schoonover	X
Ontario, Canada	Richard Bradley	X
Oregon	Adam Bryan	X
Panama	Robert L. Taylor	X
Paraguay	Jonas Seda	X
Pennsylvania	Richard Allen	X
Peru	Cory Underwood	X
Philippines	James Billberry	X
Portugal	Brian Zeppa	X
Quebec, Canada	Matthew Green	X
Queensland, Australia	Hector Guilont	X
Rhode Island	TK Krumenacker	X
Romania	James Hogg	X
Saskatchewan, Canada	Jerry Miller	X
Scotland	Robert C. St. John	X

Slovenia	Dr. Hector Mirabile	X
South Australia	Todd Meschelle	X
South Carolina	William Jacobs	X
South Dakota	John Pickford	X
Spain	Charles Harper II	X
Taiwan	Wiley Wiloughby II	X
Tennessee	John Wermann	X
Texas	Gene Lance	X
Togo	Robert Eisenhardt	X
Tokyo, Japan	Thomas E. Metcalfe, Jr.	X
Utah		
Venezuela	Randy Chancey	X
Vermont	Stephen Meserve	X
Victoria, Australia	Scott A. Schwartzberg	X
Virginia	A.J. Aherns III	X
Washington	Todd Connor	X
West Australia	Benjamin Geiger	X
West Virginia	E. Randy Spradling	X
Wisconsin	Ronald Parks	X
Wyoming	Michael Leebove	X

### Awards

<b>Ephraim Kirby Award</b>	<b>Distinguished Service Medal In Bronze</b>	<b>Lady Of York</b>
Larry Gillespie	Stephen Nelson	Melissa Kosciuszko

<b>Gold Key Awards</b>	
Albert Kimble	Gainesville No 2
Brett A. Gordon	Jericho No 11
Conrad (Pearce) Dreadin	Lakeland No 29
Cory Underwood	Clearwater No 45
Dwight A. Wilson	Mt Horeb No 6
Eduardo Sanchez	Ponciana No 50
Justin "Judd" Broome	Sarasota No 35
Mark Balester	Jacksonville No 12
Robert C. St. John	Tampa-Cusing No 3
Todd Connor	Jacksonville No 12

Yari Gaeta	Eureka No 7
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<b>Four Veils Award</b>
Eustis No 33
Gainesville No 2
Jacksonville No 12
Mt Horeb No 6
Plant City No 16
Poinciana No 50
Putnam No 9
Sarasota No 35
Tampa-Cushing No 3

<b>Crystal Chalice Award</b>
Jericho No 11

<b>Grand Representative Appointees 2024 – 2025</b>	
<b><u>State/Country</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>
Argentina	Richard Ayers
Austria	Larry Gillespie
British Columbia/Yukon Canada	Brian Poole
Calgary – Canada	Jeff Sklet
Colorado	Kenneth Tutor
Cyprus	John Donohoo
England	Joshua W. Schutts
Finland	Carl Thorwart
Hawaii	Frank E. Kiefer
Kansas	Max Bornstein
Lebanon	Gene Sims
Madagascar	William Sundquist
Maryland	Kurt Morauer Sr.
Nebraska	Thomas Simpson
New S. Wales, Australia	Harry Bonnet
North Australia	Harold Ritchie
North Carolina	Stephen Meserve
Ohio	Mark Balester
Oklahoma	Joseph Schoonover
Paraguay	Jonas Seda

Peru	Corey Underwood
Philippines	James Billberry
Portugal	Brian Zeppa
Quebec, Canada	Matthew Green
Queensland – Australia	Hector Guilont
Rhode Island	TK Krumenacker
Saskatchewan, Canada	Jerry Miller
Slovenia	Dr. Hector Mirabile
Taiwan	Wiley Wiloughby II
Tokyo – Japan	Thomas E. Metcalfe Jr.
Venezuela	Randy Chancey
Vermont	Todd Connor
Victoria, Australia	Scott A. Schwartzberg
Washington	Corey Kosciuszko
West Australia	Benjamin Geiger

### Preliminary Treasurer’s Report

This is my preliminary report on the financial status of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery for the 2025 Grand Convention. The attached balance sheets and income-expenses statements reflect transactions through the end of April. Final reports will be included in the Proceedings which will reflect the fiscal year’s activities through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Notes relating to the three Grand bodies reports will be included. Each of the presiding officers has submitted proper warrants for all expenses.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Robert C St John, Grand Treasurer

**Grand Chapter Account Balances - As of 4/30/2025**

**Bank Accounts**

Grand Chapter Checking	\$	23,275.23
Grand Chapter Savings	\$	35,124.86
<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>58,400.09</b>

**Asset Accounts**

Admin Fund Investment Acct	\$	614,133.46
Life-Perp Fund Investment Acct.	\$	577,981.83
<b>TOTAL Asset Accounts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,192,115.29</b>

**Liability Accounts**

40040 Triennial Escrow Fund	\$	(5,834.00)
40051 Collected Advance Per Capita	\$	(33,721.00)
40054 Collected Per Capita for Future	\$	(30,423.50)
<b>TOTAL Liability Accounts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(69,978.50)</b>

<b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,180,536.88</b>
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## Grand Chapter Approved Budget vs Actual - FY 2024-2025

				<b>Actual</b>
<b>40000 INCOME</b>				
40000 Annual Per Capita	\$	33,939.00	\$	33,939.00
40011 Other Interest			\$	3.23
40012 Other Income:Admin Invest. Fund Allowance	\$	12,454.90		
40012 Other Income:Donations				
40012 Other Income:Incorrect Payee			\$	420.00
40024 Annual Convention	\$	4,383.41		1,533.21
40021 Grand Office Return			\$	8,847.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>50,777.31</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>44,742.44</b>
<b>10010 ALLOWANCES</b>				
10011 Grand High Priest	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00
10012 Grand King	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
10014 Jewel Apron & Case	\$	1,000.00	\$	800.00
10015 Grand Treasurer	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,500.00
10016 Grand Scribe	\$	750.00	\$	750.00
<b>Total Allowances</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,250.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,550.00</b>
<b>10020 CHARITIES</b>				
10022 Youth Charities:DeMolay	\$	300.00		
10022 Youth Charities:Rainbow	\$	300.00		
10022 Youth Charities:Job's Daughters	\$	300.00		
10023 Masonic Home				
10024 Donation to GHP Charity (RARA)	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
<b>Total Charities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,400.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>10030 MEETINGS</b>				
10031 Triennial	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
10032 District Meetings	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
10033 Summer Assembly	\$	250.00		
10034 GHP SE Conference	\$	250.00	\$	250.00
10035 Grand King SE Conference	\$	250.00	\$	250.00
10036 Grand Scribe SE Conference	\$	250.00	\$	250.00
10037 Grand Secretary SE Conference	\$	84.00	\$	84.00
<b>Total Meetings</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,084.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,834.00</b>
<b>10040 GRAND CONVOCATION</b>				
10044 Distinguished Visitors	\$	500.00	\$	3,318.74
<b>Total Grand Convocation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,318.74</b>
<b>10050 OFFICE EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>
<b>10060 PRINTING</b>				
<b>Total Printing</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>825.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>824.00</b>
<b>10070 SALARYS &amp; STIPENDS</b>				
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Stipends</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,200.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,200.00</b>
<b>10080 TAXES</b>				
10081 Florida Corporation Tax	\$	61.25	\$	61.25
10082 General Grand Chapter Per Capita	\$	8,500.00	\$	7,896.00

	<b>Total Taxes</b>	\$	8,561.25	\$	7,957.25
	<b>10090 SUNDRY</b>				
10090	Transfer to Correct Payee			\$	420.00
10091	Education & Training	\$	350.00		
10092	Awards	\$	950.00		
10093	Membership Services (MMS Fee)	\$	998.22	\$	994.35
10095	Insurance	\$	1,000.00		
10096	Contingencies	\$	1,459.09		
	<b>Total Sundry</b>	\$	4,757.31	\$	1,414.35
	<b>10100 Miscellaneous</b>				
10102	Bank Service Charges				
10110	Reserves	\$	199.75		
	<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	\$	199.75		
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$	51,777.31	\$	48,598.34
	<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	\$	(1,000.00)	\$	(3,855.90)

## Grand Chapter Income Expense Statement

### INCOME

40000 Annual per Capita	\$	30,423.50
40011 Other Interest	\$	3.23
40012A Other Income		
40012A Other Income:Incorrect Payee	\$	420.00
TOTAL 40012A Other Income	\$	420.00
40014 Grand Office -Unused Expenses	\$	8,847.00
40020 Annual Convention Income	\$	1,533.21
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,226.94</b>

### EXPENSES

10010 Allowances		
10010 Allowances:10011 Grand High Priest	\$	3,000.00
10010 Allowances:10012 Grand King	\$	1,500.00
10010 Allowances:10014 Jewel, Apron & Case	\$	800.00
10010 Allowances:10015 Grand Treasurer	\$	1,500.00
10010 Allowances:10016 Grand Scribe	\$	750.00
TOTAL 10010 Allowances	\$	7,550.00
10020 Charities		
10020 Charities:10024 Donation to GHP Charity	\$	500.00
TOTAL 10020 Charities	\$	500.00
10030 Meetings		
10030 Meetings:10031 Triennial	\$	1,000.00
10030 Meetings:10032 District Meetings	\$	1,000.00
10030 Meetings:10034 GHP SE Conference	\$	250.00
10030 Meetings:10035 Grand King SE Conference	\$	250.00
10030 Meetings:10036 Grand Scribe SE Conference	\$	250.00
10030 Meetings:10037 Gr. Sec'y SE Conf.	\$	84.00
TOTAL 10030 Meetings	\$	2,834.00
10050 Office Expenses	\$	8,000.00
10060 Printing	\$	824.00
10070 Salaries, Stipends, Payroll Taxes	\$	16,200.00
10080 Taxes		
10080 Taxes:10081 Florida Corp. Tax	\$	61.25
10080 Taxes:10082 Gen. Grand Chapter per Capita	\$	7,896.00
TOTAL 10080 Taxes	\$	7,957.25
10090 Sundry		
10090 Sundry:10093 Membership Services	\$	994.35
10090 Sundry:10096 Contigencies	\$	-
10090 Sundry:10100 Incorrect Payee	\$	420.00
TOTAL 10090 Sundry	\$	1,414.35
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>45,279.60</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(4,052.66)</b>

## Notes to Accompany the Grand Chapter Statements

### 1. Account Balances:

- a. The bank account and investment account information are self-explanatory.
- b. The liability accounts require further information:
  - a. Triennial – this account reports the funds currently set aside to pay the stipends to those who attend the triennial. The approved budgets have allocated \$1000 per year added to residual funds after the previous triennial. The Constitution sets a maximum stipend, but the actual payment is determined by the amount available divided by the number of attendees. If there are funds remaining after the payout, they are retained for the next cycle.
  - b. Collected Advance Per Capita – this account reports the per capita collected last year and represents the balance available for the upcoming fiscal year budget. This is unique to the Grand Chapter since several years ago, the Grand officers agreed to forgo 20% of their available per capita so that after five years the full per capita collected would be available for the budget.
  - c. Per Capita for Future Use – as noted above, per capita collected during this fiscal year is held over for a year and then becomes the budget amount for per capita income. This allows the incoming MEGHP to know his exact income.
- c. The Constitution allows the incoming MEGHP to draw up to 75% of the previous calendar year's earnings of the Administrative Investment account when budgeting his income. The cash available for the Grand Chapter (checking and savings) has been sufficient to cover all the expenditures so the Administrative Investment account earnings have not been used. Thus, between the unused investment earnings, the savings and checking accounts we have sufficient funds to cover all the liabilities shown.

### 2. Income Expense Statement: This report is a cash basis report and thus some entries are shown which do not transfer to the budget versus actual report. Those variances will be noted in these remarks.

- a. Annual Per Capita – This shows the amount of per capita received during the current accounting year and is not transferred to the budget versus actual report as discussed under liabilities above.

- b. Incorrect Payee - Occasionally, checks are made payable to the Grand Chapter which should be payable to a different account. Typically, this happens with payments made for perpetual membership. When this happens, the funds are deposited and show as income; an expense is created when the funds are transferred to the proper account.
  - c. Grand Office Unused Income – This is calculated in arrears and returned proportionally to the Grand Chapter after the end of each fiscal year.
  - d. Annual Convention Income – This is calculated in arrears and returned proportionally to the Grand Chapter after the convention expenses are paid.
  - e. Distinguished Visitors – This is calculated in arrears and charged to the Grand Chapter after the convention. The entry in the budget versus actual report is the actual charge for the previous year’s convention and will typically vary from the amount budgeted for the current year’s convention.
  - f. Net Income (Loss) – This entry properly shows the net income (loss) based on cash flow for the current fiscal year but doesn’t transfer to the budget versus actual report due to the variances already discussed.
3. Budget versus Actual: This report is a blend of cash-based entries and budget entries and therefore shows an incomplete picture of the Grand Chapter’s financial activities.
- a. Annual Per Capita – As discussed above, this is the amount collected one year ago that was held as a liability until this year.
  - b. Investment – This is the amount allowed to be withdrawn but not used unless needed to cover current expenses. If added to the actual column, it would more than cover the shortfall reported.

## Grand Secretary/Recorder’s Report

To the Delegates of the 2025 Grand York Rite Convention:

This is the report of the Grand Secretary/Recorder for the fiscal year of June 1, 2024, through May 30, 2025.

The Office remains organized and has successfully completed all the required tasks.

Dues cards with individual members' names preprinted for the Chapter Secretaries and the Council Recorders were produced locally. This service is intended to make things easier for the local Secretary/Recorders and feedback is both desirable and requested from the membership as to its helpfulness.

Proposed Grand Commandery Resolutions were posted on the GYR website, with notice to the Recorders. The same was done for proposed Resolutions for Grand Chapter and Grand Council. I was late in getting them posted within the cut off dates in February and March 2025.

Per capita statements were sent out in a timely fashion just after the start of 2025. Collection of payments from the local Bodies was faithfully made and passed over to the Grand Treasurer.

Following the change of Officers in local Bodies at the start of 2025, a new Directory, a document of some 60 pages, was not able to be assembled and produced. There have been a lot of changes in meeting locations and time of meetings and not all information, including updated officer lists, has been updated in the MMS database by the Secretary/Recorders. A draft Directory is available for review at the registration table to ensure correct information is reflected. The information will be updated and a 2025 – 2026 Directory will be produced after the convention. Each of the Delegates here at the Convention will receive a copy of the Directory at a later date.

In March of 2025, a joint meeting of all Committee members was held for the purpose of both Audit and next year's Budgeting. The results of both sets of Committees are published separately. However, the books were found to be properly kept and expenses valid.

Flyers for the Convention Souvenir program were distributed, payments were received and faithfully turned over to the Grand Treasurer.

Registration documents for the Convention were placed on the web site for Registration. There were some issues with the PayPal processing. Registration and payments were received and recorded, with payments turned over to the Grand Treasurer. Paper booklets showing proposed Resolutions, Budgets and Committee reports were produced and distributed at registration.

Based upon registration, arrangements for meals, event schedule and meeting room assignments were made with the Hotel and published to the local Bodies.

Throughout the year, assistance was rendered to the Grand Presiding Officers, to the local Secretaries and Recorders and to Members, as needed with respect to MMS, change of local Officers, purchase of Rituals, Perpetual Membership, Dispensations and Changes of Bylaws, etc.

Finally, as the fiscal year comes to its conclusion, the expenses of the Grand York Rite Office are within the Budget approved by the Craft in May of 2024 and in fact were below budget allowances. As was clearly announced at the 2024 Convention, Carl Gilmore stepped down from the office of Grand Secretary/Recorder. I wish to Thank RI Gilmore for always being a great mentor and leader to me and all the Companions and Sir Knights. R I Gilmore and R I St. John have greatly helped in the transition of myself as the new Grand Secretary/Recorder of the Grand York Rite Office.

*Fraternally and sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Gillespie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Larry R. Gillespie, KYGCH  
Grand Secretary/Recorder*

## Audit Committee Report

The records of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for the 2023-2024 Capitular year were reviewed at the Grand York Rite Office in Tampa on Saturday, March 15, 2025.

Our committee conducted a thorough examination of each warrant and the corresponding financial entries for the Grand Chapter. We verified all checks and EFT transactions against the bank statements, ensuring that every transaction was properly recorded. After completing our review, we found the records of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary to be accurate and in full

compliance. No discrepancies were noted, and all funds were properly accounted for.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the Most Excellent Grand High Priest for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter in this capacity. It has been an honor to contribute to the integrity and transparency of our financial records.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Garry M. Paxinos  
Grand Scribe

### Benevolent Committee Report

There were no requests made of the Grand Chapter Benevolent Committee during the 2024-2025 Capitular Year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Donohoo, Chairman

### Charters, Dispensations and By-Laws Committee Report

Your Committee for the Capitular year 2024-2025 has had no matters referred to it during this term of office and therefore reports its actions are complete.

The Committee is pleased to thank you for your confidence in us to assist in this portion of the work of our Most Excellent Grand Chapter. We were pleased to serve the Grand Chapter and you.

Zealously submitted by your humble and obedient servants,  
Darryl A. D'Angina, PGHP  
William R. Jacobs, PGHP  
Joshua W. Schutts, Ex-GRAC

## Committee on Thanks

On behalf of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest Corey Kosciuszko and the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest Henry Adams for his outstanding leadership and dedication over the past year. His commitment and service have been invaluable to our fraternity.

We also express our gratitude to the Management and Staff of the Orlando Marriott at Lake Mary for their hospitality and professionalism in making our Grand Convocation a truly enjoyable and memorable experience.

A special thank you goes to the Convention Committee, as well as all the Companions and their Ladies who graciously volunteered their time and effort to ensure that every aspect of this event ran smoothly and efficiently. Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and we deeply appreciate your contributions. To our Distinguished Guests, we are honored by your presence. Your support and camaraderie helped make this Grand Convocation a truly special occasion, and we are grateful for the time and effort you took to be with us.

We also recognize and thank the Elected and Appointed Officers of the Grand Chapter Line for their hard work and commitment in carrying out their duties with diligence and dedication.

Most importantly, we offer our sincere appreciation to our wives and significant others. Their constant support, patience, and encouragement play a vital role in all that we do. Whether behind the scenes or standing beside us, their kindness and dedication are invaluable, and we are truly grateful for their love and support.

Finally, on behalf of the Committee on Thanks, I extend my appreciation to M.E. Corey Kosciuszko for the opportunity to serve our Grand Chapter in this capacity. It has been an honor to contribute to this esteemed fraternity.

R.E.C. Garry M. Paxinos  
Committee Chairman

## Committee on Work

### Committee on Work and District Instructors Activity Reports:

District instructors reported that 12 district schools of instruction performed this year. Areas covered in these schools included:

- Peculiar Stone
- Chapter Opening and Closing
- Four Veils Information
- Reception of Dignitaries
- Saluting the High Priest
- Appropriate Chapter Room Setup
- And more!

These schools were well received by those Districts that participated.

Unfortunately, not every district presented a school of instruction in the previous year, and incoming instructors are reminded that this is required as per the Constitution for the District Deputy Grand High Priests and District Instructors to implement during the program year.

### Reports on Fervency & Zeal Presentations:

At least seven Fervency & Zeal Presentations were recorded this year. Orlando York Rite Bodies presented four!! Well done, companions!!!

### Questions proposed to the Committee on Work:

None

### Legislation and changes to the Work considered by the Committee on Work:

Committee on Work and Proficiency Resolutions from REC Tom Metcalfe, Jr.

### Proficiency Cards Issued:

White Proficiency Cards (Opening and Closing of Chapter):

- Cory Underwood – Clearwater No. 45
- Jonas Seda – Poinciana No. 50
- Richard McGlew – Gainesville No. 2

Red Card with One White Stripe (Mark Master Degree):

- Albert L. Kimball – Gainesville No. 2

On behalf of our Vice Chairman, R.E. Companion Joshua Schutts, PhD and committee members R.E. Companions Rusty Ludlam, Thomas Metcalfe, and myself, I want to thank M.E. Comp. Corey Kosciuszko, Grand High Priest for this appointment and the ability to serve the Grand Chapter for this year.

Fraternally Submitted,  
Charles R. (Chas) Jordan, KYCH – Chairman  
Joshua Schutts, KYCH – Vice Chairman  
Rusty Ludlam, KYCH  
Thomas Metcalf, KYCH

## Convention Report

The 2025 Grand Convention was a success. The hotel provided a tasty banquet on Sunday, the three Grand presiding officers ran efficient meetings, the ladies had a special program, and everyone had a good time. Our REGC, Ron Naumowicz, was unable to attend due to medical issues; his Deputy did well with the short notice. It was good practice for him for next year's Grand Commandery Conclave.

I have attached an income and expense report for the convention. A few comments about that report.

First, the online registrations and meals payments that were deposited into PayPal were added as a lump sum in the registration line item (\$8938.37). Second, the other income line includes a donation from Milford Commandery as one of our vendors (\$250) and a reconciliation adjustment (\$80) needed to correct an entry error. Our other vendor purchased an ad in the Program book as his donation. The program book again helped substantially with funding the convention showing a net income of \$6787.72.

The payment to the hotel was about \$3000 more than last year, which significantly reduced the balance available to distribute to the Grand bodies (\$417.87). Each Grand body received \$139.29.

Thank you to all donors, participants, our elected officers and the hotel staff for making this a fun week.

Robert C St John, Grand Treasurer

<b>Income/Expense Statement - GYR Convention Account</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>	
40021 Convention Registration	\$ 13,422.37
40022 Convention Meals	\$ 2,180.00
40023 Convention Program Ads	\$ 8,955.00
40026 Other Income	\$ 330.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 24,887.37</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
50041 Convention Site Billing	\$ 11,672.86
50042 Convention Program Ad Printing	\$ 2,167.28
50045 Convention Food	\$ 10,485.58
50046 Convention Sundry	\$ 143.78
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 24,469.50</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ 417.87</b>

### Grand York Rite Office Report

The Grand York Rite Office was well managed financially by the Grand Secretary/Recorder. Although he worked essentially alone and was learning the job as he worked, office business was completed successfully.

The Grand Office financial reports are included as attachments. The account balance report reflects the holdings in our three asset accounts at the end of the Fiscal year; the office has no liability accounts. The income expense report shows summary amounts for all the transactions this year. The actual column shows our

cash-based activities for the year. The modified column shows only the income contributed by the three Grand bodies for the operation of the office and does not include any of the other revenue received. It also shows all the expenditures except for the “transfer to correct accounts” expense which balanced income received that should have gone to other accounts. As an example, a donation received as a check payable to the Grand Office was deposited and then the funds were transferred to the Grand Commandery accounts. The excess shown in the modified column will be returned to the three Grand bodies in proportion to the amount each contributed. The three Grand bodies will receive about \$4000.

It has been an honor to work with Larry.

Robert St John, Grand Treasurer

## Income/Expense by Category - FY 2024-25

INCOME	Actual	Modified
40000 Income from Grand Bodies	\$ 73,872.00	\$ 73,872.00
40000 Income from Grand Bodies:40001 Reimbursement From Grand Body	\$ 183.75	
<b>TOTAL 40000 Income from Grand Bodies</b>	<b>\$ 74,055.75</b>	<b>\$ 73,872.00</b>
<b>40010 Return to Grand Bodies-Return to Grand Bodies</b>	<b>\$(25,798.00)</b>	
40012 Other Income (Business)		
40012 Other Income (Business):40011 Interest Earned	\$ 0.48	
40012 Other Income (Business):40014 Longevity Awards	\$ 15.00	
40016 Incorrect Payee Checks-Checks for other accounts	\$ 6,756.00	
40012 Other Income (Business):40017 Non-ritual Sales	\$ 225.00	
<b>TOTAL 40012 Other Income (Business)</b>	<b>\$ 6,996.48</b>	
40030 Ritual Sales	\$ 1,040.00	
40030 Ritual Sales:40031 Ritual Sales-Chapter	\$ 1,050.00	
40030 Ritual Sales:40032 Ritual Sales-Council	\$ 280.00	
40030 Ritual Sales:40033 Ritual Sales-Commandery	\$ 560.00	
<b>TOTAL 40030 Ritual Sales</b>	<b>\$ 2,930.00</b>	
<b>Express Checkout Payment</b>	<b>\$ 7,942.35</b>	
<b>Fee</b>	<b>\$ (332.84)</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 65,793.74</b>	<b>\$ 73,872.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
50050 Office Expenses		
50050 Office Expenses:50051 Office Supplies	\$ 415.43	\$ 415.43
50050 Office Expenses:50051 Office Supplies:Awards	\$ 329.94	\$ 329.94
<b>TOTAL 50050 Office Expenses:50051 Office Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 745.37</b>	<b>\$ 745.37</b>
50050 Office Expenses:50052 Postage	\$ 448.53	\$ 448.53
50050 Office Expenses:50053 Rent	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,500.00
50050 Office Expenses:50054 Telephone	\$ 299.28	\$ 299.28
50050 Office Expenses:50055 Utilities	\$ 454.22	\$ 454.22
50050 Office Expenses:50056 Computer Expenses	\$ 1,560.67	\$ 1,560.67
50050 Office Expenses:50057 Computer Maintenance	\$ 108.35	\$ 108.35
50050 Office Expenses:Corporation Fee	\$ 183.75	\$ 183.75
50050 Office Expenses:Insurance	\$ 1,179.32	\$ 1,179.32
50050 Office Expenses:Sundry	\$ 4,142.00	\$ 4,142.00
<b>50050 Office Expenses:Transfer To Correct Account</b>	<b>\$ 15,204.37</b>	
<b>TOTAL 50050 Office Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 40,825.86</b>	<b>\$ 25,621.49</b>
50060 Printing		
50060 Printing:50061 General Printing Expenses	\$ 591.25	\$ 591.25
50060 Printing:50064 Rituals-Council	\$ 145.13	\$ 145.13
50060 Printing:50065 Rituals-Commandery	\$ 755.15	\$ 755.15
50060 Printing:50067 Copier Maintenance	\$ 351.63	\$ 351.63
<b>TOTAL 50060 Printing</b>	<b>\$ 1,843.16</b>	<b>\$ 1,843.16</b>
50070 Salaries-Stipends-Payroll Taxes		
50072 Office Staff-Stipend to Grand Sec/Rec	\$ 33,450.00	\$ 33,450.00
<b>TOTAL 50070 Salaries-Stipends-Payroll Taxes</b>	<b>\$ 33,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 33,450.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 76,119.02</b>	<b>\$ 60,914.65</b>
<b>Net Income (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$(10,325.28)</b>	<b>\$ 12,957.35</b>

### Account Balances - As of 5/31/2025

<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
MidFla Office Checking	\$ 55,884.12
MidFla Office Savings	\$ 5,102.96
PayPal	\$ 1,493.31
<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 62,480.39</b>
<b>Asset Accounts</b>	
<b>TOTAL Asset Accounts</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>	<b>\$ 62,480.39</b>

### Insurance and Investment Committee Report

The investments under the oversight of the Investment Committee are maintained by our investment advisers at Edward Jones & Co., and presently total \$1,192,115.19 as of 30 April 2025, up from \$1,134,921.91 one year ago, and \$979,954 two years ago. This represents a 05.04% NET annual return on Grand Chapter invested assets, - after the required 5.00% payouts on Perpetual membership funds, and after the market volatility suffered during the past two years. There are two major portfolios:

Administrative Account - The first portfolio is the Administrative Account, also sometimes referred to as the General Fund. As of 30 April 2025, the total value was \$614,133 – vs. \$596,610 a year ago, for an increase of \$17,523, or 2.94%. This account has a target investment mix of 60% equities, and 40% bonds and other fixed instruments.

At 31 December 2024, the total value of this account was \$622,709, vs. \$568,202 at 31 December 2023, for an increase of \$54,507, or a 9.59% investment return. Since our governing documents allow 75% of any annual increase to be included in the Budget for the following year, the 2024

gain in value will allow up to \$40,880 of these funds to be available for charitable and necessary operating expenditures during 2025.

The original primary goal of the Administrative Account was to put the Grand Chapter in a position to be able to place less reliance upon Per Capita dues increases in the future, as this Fund grew. Instead, the funds have been allowed to accumulate. During the past several years, a total of \$Zero has been paid out of this Fund account.

Life and Perpetual Account – The second portfolio is the Life and Perpetual Account, often referred to as the Sacred Fund. As of 30 April 2025, the total value was \$577,982 – vs. \$528,225 one year ago (and \$455,739 two years ago), for an increase of \$49,757 (i.e., 9.42%), and after the payout of the 5.0% annual perpetual payments to constituent Chapters. This account has a target investment mix of 50% equities, and 50% bonds and other fixed instruments.

At 31 December 2024, the total value of this account was \$573,413 – vs. \$508,356 one year ago (and \$426,666 at 31 December 2022), for an increase of \$65,057, or a 12.80% NET investment annual increase in value over the past year, after the required 5% perpetual fund payout.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and the other members of the Investment Committee to thank the Most Excellent Corey D. Kosciuszko, MEGHP, for allowing us to serve the Grand Chapter this past year.

Courteously and Fraternally,  
Wm. Lee Popham Sr., PHP  
Wade Atchison, Chairman  
RE Grand Treasurer Robert C St John, Jr, Ex-Officio

### Jurisprudence Committee

The Jurisprudence Committee met to review the actions pertaining to the rulings and dispensations acted upon by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Corey Kosciuszko, during his 2024-2025 year.

The actions taken by our Grand High Priest were closely examined and determined to be within the purview of his office.

The Committee determined that all actions taken by the Grand High Priest were acted upon in a timely manner, each properly received and bearing the official stamps as required.

No resolutions were acted upon due to the fact that they were not provided by the Grand Secretary within the required timeframe.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven Q. Steele

### Legal Advisory Committee Report

Nothing has been referred to this committee for action for the Capitular Year 2024-25, therefore, there is nothing to report.

Respectfully submitted,  
James W. Hogg, PGHP-Alaska, Chairman  
Dennis A Barbarisi  
Demetrios Kirkiles

### Life & Perpetual Membership

The Life-Perpetual account report is attached. I have provided an itemized report of the new fees received for each of the bodies and the payouts for each of the bodies. The summary page shows that more was paid out than was received but this is normal. I withdrew funds from each of the Life-Perpetual investment accounts to cover the actual payout requirements. I expect this trend to continue as our new participant fees are typically insufficient to cover the outgoing cash requirements. Our investment managers are doing a good job growing the accounts for our future.

The withdrawals from the Life-Perpetual investment accounts for this year were: Chapter - \$5000.00, Council - \$4000.00, and Commandery - \$4000.00.

It has been an honor to manage these accounts with the assistance of the Investment committees, and I expect the positive trends to continue, especially if we continue to add new perpetual members.

Rob St John, Grand Treasurer

## LIFE AND PERPETUAL ACCOUNT INCOME STATEMENT

<b>Opening Balance - Perpetual Checking Account</b>	<b>\$ 26,128.35</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Chapter Appl Fee	\$ 9,955.00
Chapter Life-Perp Fund Transfer	\$ 5,000.00
Commandery Appl Fee	\$ 11,270.00
Commandery Life-Perp Fund Transfer	\$ 4,000.00
Council Appl Fee	\$ 9,980.00
Council Life-Perp Fund Transfer	\$ 4,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 44,205.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Chapter Annual Pay Out	\$ 15,898.25
Commandery Annual Payout	\$ 18,052.71
Council Annual Payout	\$ 14,967.67
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 48,918.63</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ (4,713.63)</b>
<b>Ending Balance - Perpetual Checking Account</b>	<b>\$ 21,414.72</b>

### Masonic Relations and Blue Lodge Representatives

Freemasonry and the Holy Royal Arch are closely connected, with the latter considered an extension of the former. In traditional Craft Freemasonry, a Mason progresses through three degrees: Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason. These degrees form the foundation of Masonic knowledge, focusing on moral teachings, symbolism, and personal development.

The Holy Royal Arch is often seen as the completion or culmination of the third degree. While the Master Mason degree alludes to the loss of ancient knowledge, the Royal Arch ritual symbolizes its rediscovery. This makes the Royal Arch significant for those seeking a deeper understanding of Masonic allegory and spiritual enlightenment.

In the English Masonic tradition (under the United Grand Lodge of England), the Holy Royal Arch is regarded as the “supreme degree” and the natural next step after becoming a Master Mason. It is governed separately but closely aligned with Craft Masonry. In contrast, in the American (York Rite) system, the Royal Arch is part of the Capitular Degrees and is necessary for progression through the York Rite.

Membership in the Holy Royal Arch is only open to Master Masons, and candidates must be in good standing. Its rituals introduce new symbols and narratives, expanding on the themes introduced in the Craft degrees—particularly the rebuilding of the Temple and the rediscovery of the divine name.

In essence, while Freemasonry provides the foundation, the Holy Royal Arch offers a more complete philosophical and spiritual insight into its teachings.

I humbly challenge each Royal Arch Mason to integrate himself within the education process of the Blue Lodge so he can make a positive impact on a fellow Brother, becoming mentors, thus inspiring the next generation of Royal Arch Masons.

Zealously submitted,  
Jeffrey T. Sklet, Grand Captain of the Host  
Committee Chairman

## Membership

During the current 2024 year the new companions greeted totaled 83. The membership year extends from December 28, 2023 to December 27, 2024.

Concerns are still apparent in that several secretaries are still not accurately reporting their deaths, suspensions, demits and new members to the Grand Secretary. This makes it difficult to keep accurate numbers.

Beginning Number from 2023	2,685
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Total Number Exalted Number from above	83
Total Number Affiliated	49
<u>Total Number Reinstated</u>	<u>32</u>
Gain	164
Total Number of Deaths	72
Total Number of Suspended	87
<u>Total Number of Demitted</u>	<u>66</u>
Loss	225
Final Number 2024	2,624

Zealously,  
 Jeffrey T. Sklet, Grand Captain of the Host  
 Committee Chairman

### Necrology Report

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Distinguished East, Elected and Appointed Grand Officers Past MEGHP's and my Companions. The Capitular Masons of the state of Florida had 70 Companions who laid down their earthly working tools to go be with the Grand High Priest of all that is, was, and shall ever be. These 70 Companions include PMIGM, PREGC Robert Burlson, PGM, PMIGM Louis A King and PMIGM Donald T. Harriot. These Companions will be dearly missed in our local Chapters and Please continue to keep their families in your prayers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Brian R. Poole  
 Grand Chaplain  
 2024-2025

### Royal Arch Research Assistance

Total contributions were \$51,455.05 for the 2024-25 year. Our goal at the year's beginning was \$50,000 so this was a successful campaign. I wish to thank all the

companions and Chapters who worked hard with their time and donations to make this happen. Looking forward to the future I know our incoming Grand High Priest is again making this a priority of his so we will aim to be even more successful in the coming year. This we can do if everyone who made a donation this past year repeat what you gave and companions and chapters who did not participate do so. The goal of \$5 per member should not be a burden and most of our Chapters are far exceeding it already. Hopefully the rest of you will be working towards that goal.

Twenty-six of our thirty-one chapters contributed or 84%. This was down from 93% last year. There is no reason that every chapter should not contribute something, no matter how small. I won't name the Chapters that did not support our charity this year but I would ask that you do some soul searching. With the new standard of \$5/member, 19 chapters were at 100%, or 61%. Again down from last year. As we get used to the new standards hopefully more chapters will strive to attain this goal. Even so Florida was first in donations by far in the Eastern section of the country and now ranks second overall of all jurisdictions internationally. We should be proud of this. Anyway this is the new reality and we need to look to new and better ways to raise money for RARA. Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) are significant life challenges for the individuals affected and Autism Speaks and The Hearing Health Foundation, which are giving multiple research grants to study and treat these problems, depend on the funds we raise for them. RARA has committed to \$250,000 between the two charities so we have our work cut out for us. RARA has also taken on another challenge as we are now contributing to Veterans with service related hearing loss.

The following chapters donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$1.00 per member:

Florida No. 1

The following chapters donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$2.00 per member:

Putnam No. 9

Indian River No. 27

Highlands No. 64

The following chapters donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$3.00 per member:

Joppa No. 28

Lakeland No. 29

The following chapters donated or had donated in its name a minimum of \$4.00 per member:

James Yeager No. 62

The following chapters donated or had donated in its name a minimum of \$6.00 per member:

Plant City No. 16

Palm Beach No. 24

The following chapters donated or had donated in its name a minimum of \$8.00 per member:

Nassau No. 49

The following chapters donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$10.00 per member:

Keystone No. 20

The following chapters donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$11.00 per member:

Mt. Horeb No. 6

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$13.00 per member:

Jericho No. 11

Sarasota No. 35

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$14.00 per member:

Tampa/Cushing No. 3

Eureka No. 7

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$22.00 per member:

Eustis No. 33

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$25.00 per member:

- Jacksonville No. 12
- Crestview No. 40

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$26.00 per member:

- Gainesville No. 2

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$27.00 per member:

- Poinciana No. 50

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$29.00 per member:

- Melbourne No. 59

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$49.00 per member:

- St. Petersburg No. 31

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$53.00 per member:

- Monroe No. 15

The following chapter donated or had donated in their name a minimum of \$74.00 per member:

- Clearwater No. 45
- Surf No. 57

Contributions were received from the following organizations and individuals: (over \$500)

Florida Grand Chapter	\$900
Richard Brooks Estate	\$7,000
Eric Cole	\$500
Jeffrey Sklet	\$650
A.J. Ahrens	\$575

John Kraniou	\$1,000
Ed Mayfield	\$700
Carlos Correa	\$1,000
Brett Gordon	\$1,000
Jerry Miller	\$2,264
Robert St. John	\$1,112
Steven Q. Steele	\$1,000
Raymond Patrick Jacob	\$500
Charles Harper II	\$1,500
Robert Dean Sever	\$3,000
Luis Quesada	\$500
Henry Adams	\$500
Hector Mirabile	\$1,000
Corey Kosciuszko	\$1,000
Jonas Seda	\$1,000
Grand Lodge of Florida F&AM	\$1,000
Ed Ghiglieri	\$2,500
Richard Ayers	\$1,000
Mark Balester	\$1,000
Elicer Mesa	\$500

The following chapters have contributed 100% for a number of consecutive years. (Number of years in parentheses)

- Crestview No. 40 (21)
- Eureka No. 7 (28)
- Gainesville No. 2 (32)
- Jericho No. 11 (7)
- Melbourne No. 59 (12)
- Mt Horeb No. 6 (26)
- Sarasota No. 35 (37)
- Eustis No. 33 (9)

Remember gifts are tax deductible as we are a 501 (c) 3 organization. Also please consider RARA in your estate planning. All donations should be sent to me directly and I will forward them on so that you and your chapter will get the proper credit. If I have omitted giving credit to anyone or made mistakes I apologize in advance, as I try to keep as accurate records as I can so as not to offend anyone or group. If corrections need to be made please contact me. I wish

to thank Most Excellent Corey Kosciuszko for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harry V. Eisenberg, M.D.  
Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest, RAM of Florida  
Past Deputy General Grand High Priest Royal Arch Masons International  
Southeast Region  
State Chairman RARA  
Dr. Joshua Schutts  
Jerry Miller  
Ed Ghiglieri

### Religious Affirmation

The reports from the local Chapters were received by the Grand Scribe, with the following results:

Out of Florida's ten districts, seven had at least one Chapter comply with the directive to hold a religious affirmation event during the year, preferably in October or November. Three districts—District 5, District 6, and District 10—had two Chapters submit reports. Unfortunately, no reports were received from Districts 4, 7, and 9.

Of the 30 Royal Arch Chapters in Florida, only nine submitted reports and held a religious affirmation event. I know we can do better. Our goal should always be full participation, as this is a significant and meaningful tradition within Royal Arch Freemasonry.

Looking ahead, I strongly encourage all Chapters to conduct their religious affirmation events within a religious institution. Doing so not only reinforces our Masonic values but also provides an opportunity to showcase Royal Arch Masonry in a positive and public way within our communities. I understand that some Chapters faced challenges in making this happen, but I truly appreciate their efforts and dedication in ensuring their Religious Affirmation was a meaningful experience for their members.

I would also like to recognize the following Chapters for their exceptional participation:

- District 6 – Joppa No. 28 (32 participants)
- District 8 – James Yeager N. 62 (20 participants)
- District 10 – Mt Horeb No. 6 (15 participants)
- District 1 – Keystone No. 20 (14 participants)

To those Chapters that submitted reports, I sincerely appreciate your efforts and commitment. To those that have yet to participate, I challenge you to make this event a priority. Let's work together to ensure that every Chapter holds at least one Religious Affirmation during the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Garry M. Paxinos  
Grand Scribe

## Souvenir Program Committee Report

The committee thanks our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Corey D. Kosciuszko; our Most Illustrious Grand Master, O. Benjamin Geiger II; and our Right Eminent Grand Commander Ronald A. Naumowicz for the honor to serve our fellow Companions and Sir Knights on this committee.

Most of our ads this year came from individuals and York Rite organizations throughout the state, and their hard work and patience are greatly appreciated. The committee has an especial appreciation for S.K. David Aponte, R. Em P.G.C., for the wonderful cover-page artwork. The committee also appreciates the dedication and assistance from Companion and S.K. Michael LeeBove.

We used the youth ads from last year as no new ads were submitted for this year's program. The Gold Supporters lack state-wide support as most of the supporters are from North and West Florida. The Platinum Supporters improved greatly with 18 supporters, again from North and West Florida.

### 2025 Sales Summary

Full Page Ads	39
Half Page Ads	6
Quarter Page Ads	4
Non-Masonic Ads	3
Gold Supporters	27
Platinum Supporters	18
Youth Group Ads	2

The above ads generated a gross total of \$10,045 for the Grand York Rite Convention. The final cost of printing was \$2,035 for 200 programs. The realized net profit is \$8,010. As an added note, most of the money was sent into the Grand York Rite office in Tampa, and the committee is not fully aware of the money received for the ads.

The committee recognizes the following that adds to the success of the program:

1. The assistance of several Companions and Sir Knights throughout the state is essential.
2. The fine quality and wide distribution of past Souvenir Programs – one look and people want to be a part.
3. The Souvenir Program is now available for download on our Grand York Rite website. This should allow much better visibility and encourage more participation.
4. We need to improve the youth participation, and we need to improve the Gold and Platinum Supporter programs throughout the state.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Craft on this committee and we thank you for the opportunity. Respectfully submitted by the Committee on the Convention Souvenir Program.

Fraternally and zealously submitted,

Companions

John Lewis

David Aponte, REPGC

Michael LeeBove

Eric Klienbach

Carlos Correa

Our Grand Line Officers and their District Deputies

## Technology Committee Report

It has been an honor and privilege to have served as the webmaster of the Grand York Rite website <https://flgyr.org> since 2018.

Looking forward to seeing what the future brings for the site and the Grand York Rite as a whole.

Zealously submitted,  
Arthur J. Ahrens, III, MEPGHP, Chairman

### Time & Place

The 2026 Grand York Rite Convocation will be held at Lake Mary, FL on the following dates:

Chapter Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>  
Council on Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>  
Commandery Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup>

### Youth

Each one of our Masonic Youth Organizations play a specifically special role. Notwithstanding, all have faced recruitment / membership challenges. The leadership of our Masonic Youth Groups' Leadership and Members have consistently extended ardent efforts to overcome the challenges faced.

Factors, such as distance to the nearest applicable youth event, scheduling / parenting concerns have played a part in the new membership skeem.

Today's young people are also surrounded with an array of other community / educational based extracurricular activities.

These points aside, Masonic Youth Organizations offer unique exposure to a broad range of unparalleled patriotic, moral, civil concepts.

The Masonic Youth Groups are as follows. On the whole, York Rite Masons are familiar with these, therefore there is no need to get into a special description of each.

Job's Daughters

Rainbow Girls

Order of the De Molay.

Respectfully Submitted ,

Frank Edward Kiefer.

Master of the First Veil

## Final Grand Treasurer's Report

The MEGHP processed all warrants for expenses in a timely manner. The income expense statement shows the transactions which were processed during the period June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025. This report shows expenses exceeding income by about \$3,200. The budget included an income entry of 75% of the administrative fund earnings from the previous year of about \$12,400 which was not transferred but was retained in the investment account. The cash in the checking account was sufficient to cover all checks written, so the investment funds were retained to grow for future requirements. Additionally, the per capita income entry shows funds which will be used as income in the 2026-2027 budgeting year as income.

The budget versus actual report is also misleading; the income and expenses reflect a cash basis report and as discussed above need to be "modified" to give a more accurate picture. If we include the administrative allowance, we will have a positive balance at the end of the year of about \$7,700. There are a couple items of income and expenses which were not completed before the end of the fiscal year, these include the fourth quarter allowance for the Treasurer, the convention income and expenses, and the return of the unused share of the office contributions, if any.

I am honored to have the privilege of serving as the Grand Treasurer and will continue to keep close tabs on our financial situation.

Robert C St John, Grand Treasurer

**Grand Chapter Income Expense Statement - Cash Basis**

	FY 2024-25	FY 2023-24	Difference
<b>INCOME</b>			
40000 Annual per Capita	\$ 30,423.50	\$ 33,721.00	\$ (3,297.50)
40011 Other Interest	\$ 3.53	\$ 3.90	\$ (0.37)
40012A Other Income			
40012A Other Income:Donations	\$ 29.00		\$ 29.00
40012A Other Income:Incorrect Payee	\$ 420.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ (1,480.00)
40012A Other Income:Insurance Refund		\$ 65.00	\$ (65.00)
TOTAL 40012A Other Income	\$ 449.00	\$ 1,965.00	
40014 Grand Office Unused Income	\$ 8,847.00	\$ 417.20	\$ 8,429.80
40020 Annual Convention Income	\$ 1,533.21	\$ 4,383.41	\$ (2,850.20)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 41,256.24</b>	<b>\$ 40,490.51</b>	<b>\$ 765.73</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
10010 Allowances			
10010 Allowances:10011 Grand High Priest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
10010 Allowances:10012 Grand King	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
10010 Allowances:10014 Jewel, Apron & Case	\$ 800.00	\$ 253.50	\$ 546.50
10010 Allowances:10013 Grand Secretary		\$ 4,200.00	\$ (4,200.00)
10010 Allowances:10015 Grand Treasurer	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (500.00)
10010 Allowances:10016 Grand Scribe	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ -
TOTAL 10010 Allowances	\$ 7,550.00	\$ 11,703.50	\$ (4,153.50)
10020 Charities			
10020 Charities:10022 Youth Charities	\$ 900.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00
10020 Charities:10024 Donation to GHP Charity	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 100.00
TOTAL 10020 Charities	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.00
10030 Meetings			
10030 Meetings:10031 Triennial	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ (3,500.00)
10030 Meetings:10032 District Meetings	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
10030 Meetings:10034 GHP SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
10030 Meetings:10035 Grand King SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
10030 Meetings:10036 Grand Scribe SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
10030 Meetings:10037 Gr. Sec'y SE Conf.	\$ 84.00	\$ 84.00	\$ -
TOTAL 10030 Meetings	\$ 2,834.00	\$ 6,334.00	\$ (3,500.00)
10040 Convention Expenses			
10044 Distinguished Visitors		\$ 1,170.77	\$ (1,170.77)
Total 10040 Convention Expenses		\$ 1,170.77	\$ (1,170.77)
10050 Office Expenses	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -
10060 Printing	\$ 824.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ (276.00)
10070 Salaries, Stipends, Payroll Taxes	\$ 16,200.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,200.00
10080 Taxes			
10080 Taxes:10081 Florida Corp. Tax	\$ 61.25	\$ 61.25	\$ -
10080 Taxes:10082 Gen. Grand Chapter per Capita	\$ 7,896.00	\$ 8,121.00	\$ (225.00)
TOTAL 10080 Taxes	\$ 7,957.25	\$ 8,182.25	\$ (225.00)
10090 Sundry			
10090 Sundry:10093 Membership Services	\$ 994.35	\$ 998.22	\$ (3.87)
10090 Sundry:10096 Contingencies	\$ -		
10090 Sundry:10100 Incorrect Payee	\$ 420.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ (1,480.00)
TOTAL 10090 Sundry	\$ 1,414.35	\$ 2,898.22	\$ (1,483.87)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 46,179.60</b>	<b>\$ 52,388.74</b>	<b>\$ (6,209.14)</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ (4,923.36)</b>	<b>\$ (11,898.23)</b>	<b>\$ 6,974.87</b>

**Grand Chapter Account Balances**

	As of 5/31/2025	As of 5/31/2024	Difference
<b>Bank Accounts</b>			
Grand Chapter Checking	\$ 22,504.23	\$ 26,331.12	\$ (3,826.89)
Grand Chapter Savings	\$ 35,125.16	\$ 35,121.63	\$ 3.53
<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 57,629.39</b>	<b>\$ 61,452.75</b>	<b>\$ (3,823.36)</b>
<b>Asset Accounts</b>			
Admin Fund Investment Acct	\$ 643,067.59	\$ 593,775.76	\$ 49,291.83
Life-Perp Fund Investment Acct.	\$ 612,554.17	\$ 540,179.62	\$ 72,374.55
<b>TOTAL Asset Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 1,255,621.76</b>	<b>\$ 1,133,955.38</b>	<b>\$ 121,666.38</b>
<b>Liability Accounts</b>			
40040 Triennial Escrow Fund	\$ (5,834.00)	\$ (4,834.00)	\$ (1,000.00)
40051 Collected Advance Per Capita	\$ (33,721.00)	\$ (33,939.00)	\$ 218.00
40054 Collected Per Capita for Future	\$ (30,423.50)	\$ (33,721.00)	\$ 3,297.50
<b>TOTAL Liability Accounts</b>	<b>\$ (69,978.50)</b>	<b>\$ (72,494.00)</b>	<b>\$ 2,515.50</b>
<b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>	<b>\$ 1,243,272.65</b>	<b>\$ 1,122,914.13</b>	<b>\$ 120,358.52</b>

## Grand Chapter Approved Budget vs Actual - FY 2024-2025

40000 INCOME		Actual
40000 Annual Per Capita	\$ 33,939.00	\$ 33,939.00
40011 Other Interest		\$ 3.53
40012 Other Income:Admin Invest. Fund Allowance	\$ 12,454.90	
40012 Other Income:Donations		\$ 29.00
40012 Other Income:Incorrect Payee		\$ 420.00
40024 Annual Convention	\$ 4,383.41	\$ 1,533.21
40021 Grand Office Return		\$ 8,847.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 50,777.31</b>	<b>\$ 44,771.74</b>
10010 ALLOWANCES		
10011 Grand High Priest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
10012 Grand King	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
10014 Jewel Apron & Case	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 800.00
10015 Grand Treasurer	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
10016 Grand Scribe	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
<b>Total Allowances</b>	<b>\$ 8,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,550.00</b>
10020 CHARITIES		
10022 Youth Charities:DeMolay	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
10022 Youth Charities:Rainbow	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
10022 Youth Charities:Job's Daughters	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
10023 Masonic Home		
10024 Donation to GHP Charity (RARA)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Total Charities</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>
10030 MEETINGS		
10031 Triennial	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
10032 District Meetings	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
10033 Summer Assembly	\$ 250.00	
10034 GHP SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
10035 Grand King SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
10036 Grand Scribe SE Conference	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
10037 Grand Secretary SE Conference	\$ 84.00	\$ 84.00
<b>Total Meetings</b>	<b>\$ 3,084.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,834.00</b>
10040 GRAND CONVOCATION		
10044 Distinguished Visitors	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,318.74
<b>Total Grand Convocation</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,318.74</b>

<b>10050 OFFICE EXPENSES</b>		
	<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	\$ 8,000.00 \$ 8,000.00
<b>10060 PRINTING</b>		
	<b>Total Printing</b>	\$ 825.00 \$ 824.00
<b>10070 SALARYS &amp; STIPENDS</b>		
	<b>Total Salaries &amp; Stipends</b>	\$ 16,200.00 \$ 16,200.00
<b>10080 TAXES</b>		
10081	Florida Corporation Tax	\$ 61.25 \$ 61.25
10082	General Grand Chapter Per Capita	\$ 8,500.00 \$ 7,896.00
	<b>Total Taxes</b>	\$ 8,561.25 \$ 7,957.25
<b>10090 SUNDRY</b>		
10090	Transfer to Correct Payee	\$ 420.00
10091	Education & Training	\$ 350.00
10092	Awards	\$ 950.00
10093	Membership Services (MMS Fee)	\$ 998.22 \$ 994.35
10095	Insurance	\$ 1,000.00
10096	Contingencies	\$ 1,459.09
	<b>Total Sundry</b>	\$ 4,757.31 \$ 1,414.35
<b>10100 Miscellaneous</b>		
10102	Bank Service Charges	
10110	Reserves	\$ 199.75
	<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	\$ 199.75
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$ 51,777.31 \$ 49,498.34
	<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	\$ (1,000.00) \$ (4,726.60)

## Grand Historian Address



Grand Chapter Address – 2025

Alchemy in the Chapter Degrees

Todd Connor

V1.0

April 2025

## The Alchemists

The alchemists of the 12<sup>th</sup> century onward are often thought to be the progenitors of Freemasonry, or at least emissaries or adjuncts to what Masonry is today. Those alchemists are often celebrated for their reputed ability to transmute lead or base metals to gold. Now, I'm not a renowned expert on all of the supposed accomplishments of this very secretive group – but I'm pretty confident that despite their reputation, there was no athanor or oven that they could just throw their lead into where \*poof\* it would become gold – but the prevalence of this myth throughout the ages lends some measure of credence to these legends that were ascribed to them.

We can examine the books and scrolls of alchemy – which were usually in written in a specialized argot or mystical jargon – and with a trained eye, we can observe that they traced the transmutation of base metals to spiritual gold through stages that are described at a very high level as follows:

- First: dissolution, sometimes called the “nigredo” or black stage, where impure substances in the raw input materials are killed or removed by fire with the remaining matter dissolved in the *prima materia* to form a black salt. Often referred to as putrefaction, this is the death and decay of the raw matter which is to be transmuted.
- The next stage is referred to as the albedo or white stage, where the product resulting from the nigredo stage is calcined and separated to purify the alchemical salt. At this point, the salt is now cleansed of the

impure elements that were once integrated within its former form and consists of only the pure essence of the foundational matter.

- Also during the nigredo and albedo stages, the alchemist will extract spagyric tinctures and niter from the raw materials. The term “spagyric tincture” refers to concentrated essential oils that capture the characteristic essence – a.k.a. the “alchemical sulfur” of the material. The term “niter” refers to alchemical mercury – or life-essence - which is derived from other raw materials, typically red wine, distilled into pure alcohol. The alchemists used red wine because it was perceived to be a corollary to blood, or the fluid of life.
- Now that the alchemist has produced these three pure elements, the final stage is known as the rubedo or red stage, where the purified alchemical salt, sulfur, and mercury that have been collected are reunited to “resurrect” or transmute them into spiritual gold (a.k.a. – perfection)<sup>1</sup>.
- The legendary Emerald Tablet of Hermes<sup>2</sup> was an inspiration to the alchemists and provided a recipe, so to speak, of how to create the Philosopher’s Stone. It instructs us to “separate the earth from the fire, the subtle from the gross, with great industry. It ascends from the earth

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<sup>1</sup> William S. Burkle, Ph.D., *The Art and Science of Alchemy*, (Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, 2016), p 15

<sup>2</sup> Ma’ati Smith, Dr. Jane, *The Emerald Tablet of Hermes and The Kyballion*, (Mockingbird Press, Lexington, KY, 2008) p 13

to the heaven and again it descends to the earth and receives the force of things superior and inferior.” The alchemists summarized this process simply as “Solve et Coagula,” with “solve” representing the nigredo and albedo stages, where the materials were manipulated to separate the subtle from the gross, and the rubedo stage indicated “coagula,” or material reformed in purity<sup>3</sup>. The entire process is sometimes collectively represented by the Phoenix, a mythical bird which suffers a metaphorical death and resurrection, representing the shedding of old identities and conditions, paving the way for new growth and enlightenment<sup>4</sup>.

To summarize what we’ve covered so far:

- Alchemical salt represents the purified earthly body component
- Mercury represents the Divine spark or animating life-force
- And sulfur represents the soul, or the qualities and character of the subject of their work.
- By volatilizing and coagulating these three elements, they are purified and recombined to produce the Philosopher’s Stone or spiritual gold.

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<sup>3</sup> Mark Stavish, *The Path of Alchemy*, (Llewellyn Publications, Woodbury, Minnesota, 2018) p 21-22

<sup>4</sup> Online article: *The Phoenix in Alchemy: The Symbol of Transformation and the Philosopher’s Stone*, <https://mythologyworldwide.com/the-phoenix-in-alchemy-the-symbol-of-transformation-and-the-philosophers-stone/>, accessed February 4, 2025

## **The Royal Arch**

While the alchemists may have been brilliant practitioners in the production of spiritual gold, they were never given the moniker of “poet.” Theirs is a language of cold and dissociated scientific jargon. Thankfully, our Craft takes their doctrines and weaves them into a beautiful fabric of depth with untold layers of complexity.

At this point, let us compare the alchemists’ process of transmutation and compare those steps to facets of our Chapter Degrees. As we’ve observed, the first step an alchemist must perform in order to create gold is to gather the raw materials: the substances which he will volatilize and coagulate into his product. In the symbolic Degrees leading up to and including the Most Excellent Master Degree, the Mason is gathering the working tools of the Craft and symbolically building and completing his earthly Temple. This goal of this first temple is ultimately to incorporate a sanctum sanctorum wherein Deity may reside, furnished with the finest furniture and adornments that the Mason is able to craft. The lecture of the Most Excellent Master Degree illustrates this with the following passage:

You have seen the foundations of the Temple laid deep and strong. As a Master workman, you have watched with unceasing care the wondrous beauties of the temple increase under the skillful hands of the widow’s son; and now you have at length seen the object of our hopes completed and the last arch bound together by the rejected, though

priceless keystone. If we have erected the temple of our inner life by Square, Plumb-line, and Rule, its foundations shall never fail, and its fabric shall never crumble nor decay<sup>5</sup>.

Alas, however, even when the keystone is placed and the Shekinah fills the house, we have still been unable to obtain perfection and are only able to perceive a mere glimmer of the Divine Light, or shall we say, we have only been able to obtain a substitute for the Master's Word. In our imperfect world, this is the most we can hope to achieve within our lifetime. Recall from the lecture the line, "It's fabric shall never crumble or decay." Although the earthly temple is destroyed, the treasures of our inner temple persist forever.

At this point symbolically, the alchemist has gathered all of the foundational adjuncts that we've cultivated within our temple to this point and must begin the process of dissolution and distillation. Accordingly in our liturgy, Nebuchadnezzar conquers and destroys the Temple of Solomon, and takes the Jews into bondage, thus thrusting us into the nigredo phase.

After many years of captivity in Babylon, Zerubbabel emerges and commences the process of clearing the foundation of the first temple and the building of the second temple. This marks the transition from the nigredo stage to the albedo stage. It is at this stage that our sojourning companions of the Royal Arch drama recover the pot of manna, rod of Aaron, and Book of the Law from the

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<sup>5</sup> Chas Jordan – Chairman of Florida Grand Chapter Committee on Work (2022-2024), *Florida Capitular Ritual Monitor*, First Edition, (Florida Grand York Rite Chapter, 2024), p 147

ruins of the first temple. These artifacts represent the alchemical sulfur: the treasures that we gathered in the first temple. A distilled elixir comprised of our soul, our faith in God, and our good character that has been developed and implanted within the Secret Vault of our hearts. Lastly, by freeing the Jews, Cyrus symbolically infuses the purified alchemical salt and sulfur with mercury. At this point in the process, the alchemist has dissolved, distilled, and coagulated the tria prima, or the three primary alchemical elements of salt, sulfur, and mercury, and united them, yielding the product of his labors: spiritual gold. In our Royal Arch Degree, we signify that we have shed the impurities of the earthly temple and achieved perfection in our second temple. No longer must we use the substitute Word, but rather we are bestowed with the True name of Deity and finally achieve freedom from the captivity that we endured within our imperfect first temple.

My own personal style of writing would align more closely with the alchemists and perhaps put many of you to sleep – which already may have happened, but York Rite scholar Albert Mackey seems to relate the same alchemical process represented in the Chapter Degrees in a much more beautiful, poetic, and allegorical manner, as he states:

Knowledge of divine truth is never thoroughly attained in life; the corruptions of mortality, which encumber and cloud the human intellect, hide it as with a thick veil from mortal eyes. It is only beyond the tomb and when released from the burden of life, that man is capable

fully of receiving and appreciating the revelation. Hence, when we figuratively speak of its discovery in the Royal Arch degree, we mean to intimate that the sublime portion of the Masonic system is a symbolic representation of the state after death. The vanities and follies of life are now supposed to be passed away—the first temple which we had erected with such consummate labor and apparent skill, for the reception of the Deity, has proved an imperfect and a transitory edifice; decay and desolation have fallen upon it, and from its ruins, deep beneath its foundations, and in the profound abyss of the grave, we find that mighty truth, in the search for which, life was spent in vain, and the mystic key to which death only could supply, when, having passed the portals of the grave, we shall begin to occupy that second temple, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.<sup>6</sup>

There is a resurrection of that which has been buried—a discovery of that which had been lost—an exchange of that which, like the body, the earthly tenement, was temporary, for that which, like the soul, is intended to be permanent. The life which we pass on earth is but a substitute for that glorious one which we are to spend in eternity.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Albert G. Mackey, *The Book of the Chapter or Monitorial Instructions in the Degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master and the Holy Royal Arch*, Fourth Edition, Clark & Maynard Publishers, 1870, p 94-95

<sup>7</sup>Albert G. Mackey, *The Book of the Chapter or Monitorial Instructions in the Degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master and the Holy Royal Arch*, Fourth Edition, Clark & Maynard Publishers, 1870, p 164-165

To wrap this entire concept together, we can consider the drama of the Royal Arch Degree. You'll recall the portion of the degree where the three sojourners descend into the vault of the demolished temple, bring up treasures, and carry them past the four veils bearing upon them the images of a Lion, Ox, Man, and Eagle. Astrologically speaking, these symbols represent the alchemical elements of fire, earth, air, and water from the Zodiacal signs of Leo, Taurus, Aquarius, and Scorpio, respectively. The treasures are then carried into the sanctum sanctorum and presented for examination by the High Priest, King, and Scribe. To look at this allegorically, as our earthly body dissolves, those eternal treasures must pass through the veils of the earthly elements to the triune Deity residing on the heavenly plane, where our works may there be judged and our qualities determined.

I doubt that any of us in this room are practical alchemists who are engaged in transmutation of lead to gold – except maybe Right Eminent Naumowicz... but let these symbols of our degrees be a reminder, companions, that our labors here are not in vain. May we continue to use what's left of our mercury to actively gather and purify our salt and sulfur and enable us to create that spiritual gold that will assure passage to the Holy of Holies above.



*Image credit: John Harris, 1844, derived from materials supporting the Companion Adept of the Temple program from York Rite Sovereign College of North America, <https://companionadept.wixsite.com/companionadept>*

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Mark Stavish, *The Path of Alchemy*, (Llewellyn Publications, Woodbury, Minnesota, 2018)

# Council of Anointed High Priests of Florida

## Council of Anointed High Priests of Florida

John F. Wermann, President  
 5371 Kent Road  
 Venice, Florida 34293  
 941-492-2284  
 MEGHP2013@verizon.net



2025



2026

Ken Tutor, Recorder  
 4503 Stonehenge Road  
 Tampa, Florida 33624  
 813-924-6682  
 KenTutor@yahoo.com

Convocation held  
 Monday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 A.:2555  
 Lake Mary, Florida

The Council of Anointed High Priests of Florida was called to Order at 3:30 PM and opened in full ritualistic form by Most Excellent President, M.:E.: John F. Wermann at 3:35 PM. All Officers were in their stations.

President	ME John Wermann PGHP	Mast of Cer.	ME Arthur Ahrens PGHP
Vice Pres	RE Jeff Sklet - Grand Scribe	Conductor	ME Billy Jacobs PGHP
Chaplain	RE Joshua Schutts Gr Princ Sjr	Herald	ME Jim Green PGHP
Treasurer	ME Harry Eisenberg PGHP	Steward	ME Darryl D'Angina PGHP
Recorder	E Ken Tutor Gr Capt of Host	Sentinel	ME John Gray PGHP

After the forming of the Triangle and the communication of the "Sacred Word" (GA), all were welcomed by the ME President. There were 24 members in attendance.

The Order of Past High Priest hood was conferred upon these honored Companions by the Officers listed below:

President	RE Joshua Schutts Gr Prin Sjr	Master of Cer.	ME Arthur Ahrens PGHP
Vice Pres	RE Jeff Sklet – Grand Scribe	Conductor	ME Billy Jacobs PGHP
Chaplain	ME John Gray PGHP	Herald	ME Jim Green PGHP
Treasurer	ME Harry Eisenberg PGHP	Steward	ME Darryl D'Angina PGHP
Recorder	E Ken Tutor Gr Capt of Host	Sentinel	ME Corey Kosciuszko PGHP

A motion was made, properly seconded and passed to Anoint, Consecrate and Set Apart the 15 below listed Companions through the Degree of "Order of High Priesthood." Motions passed unanimously

James Joyner  
 Jeffrey Mutz  
 Paul F. Ritchie  
 Randall Brocius  
 Mark Balester

Andrew J. Olshausky  
 Alan B. Cox  
 Donald Pardue  
 Ravi Sonny  
 Steve Rizza

Julio A. Sanchez  
 Joel Burkley  
 Wiley Willoughby  
 Ken Rodriguez  
 Hector Mirabile

At 5:04 PM, having completed the degree, the President requested the officers return to their normal officer chairs.

Business meeting:

Sickness and Distress:

The following were added to our sickness and distress list: PEGC Carl Gilmores' wife is under hospice care, ME Glen Chandler PGHP, ME James "Robby" Robertson, Sr., Steve Irvin, a family member with breast cancer, PGIM Tom Olson (knee), Robert Taylor, Jr. and PGC Ron Parks

Minutes: The minutes of previous meeting held May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 were electronically submitted and approved. They were read with no additions or corrections.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence

Receipts: Received: New Member fees \$ 720 given to the Council Treasurer (including \$45 from Donald Seals who was not present for the degree), RARA Collection \$275, Anointed High Priest Pins and Ritual Books sold during meeting. Totals to be on next Treasurer report.

Expenses: It was moved, seconded and passed to send RARA a donation of \$500 which includes \$275 from collected donations and \$225 from general fund.

Treasurer: Balance May 24<sup>st</sup>, 2024 \$2,435.86 plus Deposits \$1,040 (Degree fees \$875 and Pins \$165) less withdrawals of \$1,193 for various degree supplies detailed on Treasurers Report, leaving a balance of \$2,282.86 as of May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Our CD deposit for \$3,000 increased to \$3,074.41 (2.5% APR)

Old Business:

- RE Tom Metcalf to purchase a flag pole for the Council banner. It is here today.
- A motion was made and approved that the 50% of the annual interest from the CD be donated to the RARA annually. It was completed and reported by Treasurer
- As tradition shows Officers of the Council of Anointed High Priests remain in their Office until they no longer are available to serve.

New Business:

- All candidates were presented with the new Pin, bible and membership cards.
- ME John Gray volunteered to find or purchase new flag pole and stand for the American Flag.
- The Recorder asked the Treasurer to look for a better investment account due to the CD having such a low return.

Good of the Order:

- Note to remember – Invite the sentinel into the lodge at next meeting.
- Note to remember – Print 10 copies of agenda for next meeting in 2026

With all business having been regularly brought before the Council of Anointed High Priests of Florida and proper action taken. The Most Excellent President, M.:E.: John F. Wermann closed tis Council in full ritualistic/Ample form including the Communicating of the "Sacred Word" (J) at 5:30 PM

Peace and Harmony prevailed

Most Zealously and Most Fraternally Submitted  
Communion



Ken Trutor  
Grand Captain of the Host, Council Recorder

Florida Chapter of Research  
 Florida Chapter of Research



Agenda Minutes Convocation No. 10

Held May 19th, 2025 A.D. 2555 A.L.

At Grand Convention at Lake Mary, Florida

The tenth Convocation of the Florida Chapter of Research was called to order by the Excellent High Priest Manny Lozada at 6:00 PM and welcomed all members and visitors.

The following Officers were in attendance:

Mannel "Manny" Lozada	Right Excellent High Priest
Charles G. Harper	Right Excellent King
	Right Excellent Scribe
Joshua Schutts	Right Excellent Treasurer
John F. Wermann	Most Excellent Secretary

Attendance as per sign in sheet....total Companions present 24

<b>SPECIAL RECOGNITION</b>			
5	KYGCH	3	Past High Priests of the Florida Chapter of Research
12	KYCH	14	Gold Key Recipients
5	ALL Heads Y/R Bodies inc. Blue Lodge	2	Order of the Purple Cross
4	All Current District Deputies	2	Grand Brotherhood PDDGM's
4	All Current Instructors	3	Scottish Rite 33 Degree
4	All Grand Line Officers	1	Distinguished Bronze Service Award

3 Past Right Excellent High Priests of the Florida Chapter of Research

**MINUTES:** The minutes from the prior ninth Convocation held at Eureka North Shore Masonic Lodge #269 in September **had not** been electronically distributed to the members and were thus held over for adoption at the next Convocation. No Treasurer’s report is distributed electronically only given at Convocations.

**Correspondence:** none

**Warrants:** none

**Sickness and distress:** Joseph Cuum has prostate cancer

**Receipts:** none

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Josh Schutts presented the Treasurer’s report. it was moved, properly seconded and approved as presented and a copy given to the Secretary for audit. Checking Balance reconciled through May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 \$2,035.23

**Old Business:**

- Manny Lopez will administer the archiving of Florida Chapter of Research Presentations on GYRFL.org web site.

**New Business:**

- Most Excellent Charles G. Harper will not be available next year to serve as Right Excellent High Priest for the Florida Chapter of Research. We need to fill our Officers line with those who will be active and hold meetings and encourage presentations.
- It was Moved, properly seconded and passed to wave all dues for all Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest
- It was moved, properly seconded and passed to authorize the Treasurer, Manny Lopez, to purchase ½ page add in the Grand York Rite Souvenir Program.
- “GYRFL.org” will be hosting the Florida Chapter in Research

**Good of the Order:** Excellent High Priest Thomas Metcalfe

- The following Officers for the 2025-26 year were then Elected by unanimous ballot:

Ken Rodriguez	Right Excellent High Priest
Brian Zeppa	Right Excellent King
Joshua Schutts	Right Excellent Scribe
Many Lozada	Right Excellent Treasurer
John F. Wermann	Most Excellent Secretary

**Good of the Order Continued:**

- Treasurer with Josh Schutts to determine what aprons need to be ordered.
- CD matures July 14<sup>th</sup> \$3,145.14. It was moved, properly seconded and passed to be renewed at the best rate possible.
- A copy of these minutes to be submitted to our Grand Secretary to be used as the FLoF R Annual Report.

**Announcements:**

- Lodges will be encouraged to host a FI Chapter of Research Meeting including presentation of papers. If esoteric work Royal Arch Masons only.
- September 20 there will be a ay of Research..details to follow

**Presentations:**

- Craig Fiazier; The order of degrees is not necessarily the order of which they are presented.
- Brett Gordon Solving the mysteries of Masonry. The symbolic value of ½ shekel of silver. The answer to this and other questions
- Ken Rodriguez; Working tools of the Royal Arch Mason. He also told a personal experience using these working tools.
- Josh Schutts added that the new Ritual Book explains the working tools also.

These presentations we well received and enjoyed

**All presentations will be archived on the GYRFL.org ..By our Treasurer Manny Lopez**

With all business being brought before the Chapter and being properly addressed the Excellent High Priest, Manny Lozada closed the Convocation at 7:10 PM

Peace and Harmony prevailed.

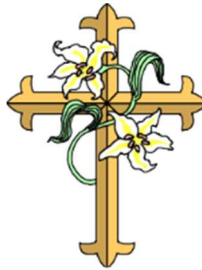
Fraternally and Zealously submitted.

M.: E.: John F. Wermann MEPGHP, KYGCH, OPC  
Proud to serve this Chapter of Research as your Secretary

In Memoriam



*Of this and other Grand Jurisdictions who have passed  
on to the Eternal Reward in 2024 – 2025*



We remember

Most Excellent Companion Harry R. "Bob" Davis  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest – 1995 – 1996  
and the 71 Companions who entered eternal rest.

We Fraternaly Dedicate This Page

Past Presiding Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch  
Masons of Florida

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	J Wayels Baker*
1855	J Wayels Baker*	1856	Thomas Hayward*
1857	Gad Humphreys*	1858	Thomas Hayward*
1859	D P Holland*	1860	Thomas Y Henry*
1861	George F Baltzell*	1862	George F Baltzell*
1863	George F Baltzell*	1864	George F Baltzell*
1865	David Jones*	1866	David Jones*
1867	David Jones*	1868	James Ellenwood*
1869	D C Dawkins*	1870	D C Dawkins*
1871	D C Dawkins*	1872	William Morrill*
1873	Michael Bowes*	1874	Michael Bowes*
1875	Henry W Long*	1876	John S Driggs*
1877	John S Driggs*	1878	Enos Wasgate*
1879	Robert J Perry*	1880	Robert J Perry*
1881	William A McLean*	1882	William A McLean*
1883	George S Hallmark*	1884	William E Anderson*
1885	William E Anderson*	1886	Angus Patterson*
1887	Angus Patterson*	1888	Marcus Endel*
1889	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 Kishpaugh*
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	Frederic A Riegel*	1942	William L Marshall*
1943	J E Herring*	1944	George A Lambe*
1945	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 Brosnaham*
1965	Roy R Wright, Jr.*	1966	Loftin D Chiles*
	Russell W Houston*		
1967	James W MacDonald*	1968	Harold L Beals*
1969	Floyd M Crippen*	1970	William J Hofheinz*
1971	Walter Winchester*	1972	Woodrow W Cash*
1973	Edward H Baxter*	1974	Earl G Nicholson*
1975	Richard I Lanier*	1976	James W Oder*
1977	Joseph C LeSuer*	1978	Duane B Young*
1979	J Fred Wilson*	1980	Henry C Bengel*
1981	Thomas E McGowan*	1982	Wendell D Harrington*
1983	William A Cogburn	1984	Franklin C Smith*
1985	Floyd Zeigler*	1986	Gary Brent Cull
1987	J Russell Hammond*	1988	Vernon H Miller*
1989	R Earl Shiver*	1990	Russell W Wells*
1991	William G Norrie*	1992	Ewell J Langdale, Jr.*
1993	William L Buck, Jr.*	1994	William O Walker*
1995	Harry R Davis	1996	Harvey L Ward, Sr.
1997	Frederick R Young*	1998	Leslie H Scott, Jr.*
1999	David C Wilkinson*	2000	Virgil P Brown, Jr.*
2001	Wayne E Parks	2002	Steven Q Steele
2003	H Warren Almand, Jr.*	2004	Glenn E Chandler, Sr.
2005	William F Wyllie	2006	Michael A Padron, Jr.
2007	Daniel E Dale*	2008	James P Rudman*
2009	Darryl A. D'Angina	2010	Anthony J Marotta, Jr.**
			John G. Allen *
2011	Robert G Kirkpatrick	2012	John F Wermann
2013	John F Wermann	2014	William R Jacobs

2015	Richard A Wolfe	2015	Luther Bodiford ++*
2016	Charles Robert Cooper	2016	Richard S Agster ++
2017	Ronald C Newton	2018	Harry V Eisenberg
2019	James A. Green	2020	Arthur J. Ahrens
2021	James F. Robertson	2022	John I. Gray
2023	Henry A. Adams		

\*Denotes Deceased

++ Denotes Honorary

\*\* Denotes Resigned

At the 1967 Election of Officers, a motion was made and carried by unanimous ballot that Russell Wilson Houston be elected ME Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida. After ME Companion Houston was installed, he called for another election and RE Companion James Wesley MacDonald, Grand King, was elected ME Grand High Priest.

ME Companion John Garland Allen, MEGHP, died in office, June 23, 2012. RE Companion John Francis Wermann, Grand King, was installed as ME Grand High Priest on June 23, 2012 and served the remainder of the 2012–2013 term. ME Companion Wermann was re-elected and served as MEGHP for the 2013-2014 term.

## Defunct Chapter Listing

CHAPTER	NO	CHARTER	SURRENDER	ARREST	RESTORE	MERGE
ST. JOHNS	4	1884	2007			HALIFAX #5
DADE CITY	8					
KISSIMMEE	10			1936		
OCALA	13		2018			
INVERNESS	14			1936		
MANATEE RIVER	18		2018			SARASOTA #35
LAKE BUTLER	19		1969			LAKE CITY # 38
ISLAND	21			1918		
THOMAS BROWN	22	1871				
CHIPLEY	23		1932			
JEFFERSON	26			1966		
GADSDEN	30		1967			FLORIDA # 1
LEESBURG	34		1991			
ARCADIA	36			1932		
WALTON	37		1928			
PROVIDENCE	38			1939		
BAY COUNTY	39			1933	1945	
WINTER HAVEN	41	1922				
HIGHLANDS	42		1978			WINTER HAVEN #41
MELBOURNE UNION	43			1936		
PERRY	44			1933		
OKEECHOBEE	46		1932			
DADE (Homestead)	47		1930			
DUVAL	48	1922	2017			JAX #12
NASSAU	49	1901		1935	1943	
NEW SMYRNA	51			1936		
ORANGE (Winter Garden)	52	1930	1930			
DELRAY	53		1932			
MD CUSHING	54		1967			TAMPA #3 BECAME TAMPA-CUSHING #3
HILL CITY	55		1971			DADE CITY #8,
ST. JOSEPH	56		1981			BAY COUNTY #39
HIRAM (Miami Shores)	58			1959		U.D. in 1954, (1959 Proc)
SHOWN AS # 60	60		1965			JERICO #11
CANAVERAL	62		1967			INDIAN RIVER #27
EDEN	63					
CHALLENGER	66	1986				
EVERGLADE	67	1998	2018			
ISLAND	65	2006	2021			
ST. AUGUSTINE	17		2024			PUTNAM #9

2025 – 2026 Grand Chapter of RAM – Most Excellent Grand High Priest Photo & Resume



**CHARLES (CHUCK) G. HARPER II**  
**MASONIC**

Oviedo Lodge No. 243, Worshipful Master 2009, (Perpetual Member)  
Sandford Lodge No. 62, Worshipful Master 2018, (Perpetual Member)

**Orlando York Rite Bodies** (Perpetual Member)

- Chapter - 2007
- Council – 2007
- Commandery – 2008

**Sanford York Rite Bodies** 2012 (Perpetual Member)

- Monroe Chapter No. 15, Excellent High Priest 2015
  - Order of High Priesthood
- District Deputy Grand High Priest 2016 (District 5)
- Sanford Council No. 20, Illustrious Master 2014
  - Thrice Illustrious Master
- District Deputy Grand Master 2015 (District 5)

- Taylor Commandery No. 28, Eminent Commander 2018
- Knight Crusader of the Cross

**Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida**

- Excellent Grand Sentinel 2018
- Excellent Grand Master of the First Veil 2019
- Excellent Grand Master of the Second Veil 2020
- Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain 2021
- Excellent Grand Captain of the Host 2022
- Right Excellent Grand Scribe 2023
- Right Excellent Grand King 2024

**Grand Council of Knight Masons**

- Space Coast No. 32 (Life Member) 2014
- Portae Lucis Council No.139 (Charter Member & Life Member)

**Allied Masonic Degrees**

- Space Coast Council No. 366, 2017
  - Sovereign Master 2020
- Logos Council No. 590, (Charter Member & Life Member) 2023
  - Royal Order of the Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord 2024
  - Red Branch of Erie 2024

**Knights of the York Cross of Honor (KYCH), Priory No. 60, 2022**

**Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine**

- Labarum Conclave, 2025

**The Masonic Order of Athelstan, Provincial Grand Court of the United States of America**

- Florida Court No. 131, 2023

**The Grand College of Rights of the United States of America, 2023**

**The Masonic Order of Pilgrim Preceptors**

- Mayflower Conclave No. 8, 2025

**The Philalethes Society International, 2024 (Life Member)**

**Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (SRICF) 2015**

- Florida College, Celebrant 2024

**York Rite Sovereign College of North America**

- John Bridges Phelps No. 31, Orlando, Florida, 2014 (Life Member)

**Florida Lodge of Research No. 999**

**The Masonic Order of the Bath in the United States of America, 2024**

**The Ancient and Sacred Order of Stonecutters, 2025**

**The Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, (Perpetual Member)**

- Valley of Orlando, 2006
- Knights of St. Andrew, 2006

**Royal Order of Scotland (Perpetual Member)**

- Provincial Grand Lodge, U.S.A., 2018

**The Ancient Arabic Order of the Noble Mystic Shrine**

- Bahia Shrine – 2006 (Life Member)
- Roadrunner Unit – President 2012
- Chief Aide – 2013

**Grotto International**

- Ormazd Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R, 2021 (Life Member)

**NON-MASONIC**

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE)**

- Winter Park Elks Lodge No. 1830, 2011

## **Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity**

- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Epsilon Pi Chapter (Charter Member/Founder Father & Officer), 1983

## **PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND**

### **Virginia State Police (VSP) 1985-1997**

- State Trooper 8 years
- Special Agent, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Violent Crimes Unit, 4 years working primarily homicide investigations and Class 1,2,& 3 felonies.

### **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) 1997-2019**

- Counterterrorism – Orlando, FL. Nov. 2016 – 2019

I was reassigned to the newly established Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) after the Orlando Pulse Massacre responsible for terrorism investigations, intelligence and domainawareness to mitigate threats to Central Florida by working cooperatively with multiple agencies in Central Florida and throughout the U.S. intelligence community. (I was the first Primary Relief/Acting Supervisor for this squad.)

- White Collar Crime – Orlando, FL. July 2015 – Nov. 2016

Primary Relief Supervisor/Acting Supervisor and assigned to the Complex Financial Crimes Unit responsible for investigating complex financial fraud matters in Central Florida. Emphasized investigative efforts on international crime which had an impact on the Central Florida area.

- Field Intelligence – Orlando, FL. March 2009 – July 2015 (Primary Relief/Acting Supervisor)
- Counterintelligence – Orlando, FL. April 2006 – March 2009
- Counterterrorism – Orlando, FL. Sept. 2001 – April 2006
- Organized Crime – Orlando, FL. Nov. 1998 – Sept. 2001
- Bank Robbery/Fugitive March 1998 – Nov. 1998

After completion of the New Agents Training in Quantico, Virginia, I was assigned to the Tampa Division/Orlando RA (Field Office) Bank Robbery Unit

responsible for investigating bank robberies and other violent crimes within the Orlando area. At the time of assignment, the Tampa Division/Orlando RA was ranked second in the nation per capita of people behind Los Angeles for bank robberies.

I have successfully completed many training schools during my tenure as an FBI Special Agent to include, but not limited to, the following:

- Adjunct Faculty member at Quantico, Virginia under the Directorate of Intelligence
- Primary Firearms Instructor for all Orlando FBI agents and taught New Agent Training in Quantico, Virginia
- Primary Defensive Tactics Instructor – Orlando, FL.

In the Counterterrorism and the Directorate of Intelligence divisions, I traveled to Europe for presentations to foreign government officials regarding investigative matters of mutual concern in the interest of public safety to aid in the mitigation of potential threats to their citizens. I was later selected by the FBI to conduct joint training with certain Israeli government agencies in Tel Aviv, Israel.

## **EDUCATION**

Virginia Commonwealth University, B.S. Business Administration & Management

## 2025 – 2026 Grand Line Officers

<u><i>Officer</i></u>	<u><i>Name</i></u>
Most Excellent Grand High Priest	Charles G. Harper II
Right Excellent Grand King	Garry M. Paxinos
Right Excellent Grand Scribe	Jeffrey T. Sklet
R Ex Grand Treasurer	Robert C. St. John, Jr.
R Ex Grand Secretary	Larry R. Gillespie
Ex Grand Chaplain	C. Craig Frazier
Ex Grand Historian	Todd Connor
Ex Grand Captain of the Host	Kenneth Tutor
Ex Grand Principal Sojourner	Joshua W. Schutts
Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain	John H. Donohoo
Ex Grand Master of the 3rd Veil	Frank E. Kiefer
Ex Grand Master of the 2nd Veil	Eric G. Cole
Ex Grand Master of the 1st Veil	Manuel (Manny) Lozada
Ex Grand Sentinel	Carlos Correa
Ex Grand Organist	Dana K. Oldenberg

## 2025 – 2026 District Deputy Grand High Priests

<i><b>District</b></i>	<i><b>Name</b></i>
1	Ramon Ramirez
2	Eduardo Sanchez Jr.
3	Charles Bailey
4	Randy Chancey
5	Brian J. Zeppa
6	Julio Sanchez
7	Tom Olsen
8	Michael LeeBove
9	Adrian Dillon
10	Jerry Miller

2025 – 2026 District Instructors

<i><b>District</b></i>	<i><b>Name</b></i>
1	Alex Mirea
2	Gene Sims
3	Jeff Mutz
4	Richard A. Vogt
5	Franklin Suco
6	Joseph Schoonover
7	Stephen Meserve
8	Thomas E. Metcalfe, Jr.
9	Don Goss
10	Wiley Willoughby

**2025 – 2026 Approved Budget**  
**Grand Chapter Proposed Budget - FY 2025-2026**

<b>40000 INCOME</b>		
40000 Annual Per Capita	\$	33,721.00
40011 Other Interest		
40012 Other Income:Admin Invest. Fund Allowance	\$	16,292.00
40012 Other Income:Donations		
40024 Annual Convention	\$	1,533.21
40021 Grand Office Return		
Signet Program - Income		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>51,546.21</b>

<b>10010 ALLOWANCES</b>		
10011 Grand High Priest	\$	3,000.00
10012 Grand King	\$	1,500.00
10014 Jewel Apron & Case	\$	1,000.00
10015 Grand Treasurer	\$	2,000.00
10016 Grand Scribe	\$	750.00
<b>Total Allowances</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,250.00</b>

<b>10020 CHARITIES</b>		
10022 Youth Charities:DeMolay	\$	300.00
10022 Youth Charities:Rainbow	\$	300.00
10022 Youth Charities:Job's Daughters	\$	300.00
10023 Masonic Home		
10024 Donation to GHP Charity (RARA)	\$	500.00
<b>Total Charities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,400.00</b>

<b>10030 MEETINGS</b>		
10031 Triennial	\$	1,000.00
10032 District Meetings	\$	1,000.00
10033 Summer Assembly	\$	250.00
10034 GHP SE Conference	\$	250.00
10035 Grand King SE Conference	\$	250.00
10036 Grand Scribe SE Conference	\$	250.00
10037 Grand Secretary SE Conference	\$	84.00
<b>Total Meetings</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,084.00</b>

<b>10040 GRAND CONVOCATION</b>		
10044 Distinguished Visitors	\$	500.00
<b>Total Grand Convocation</b>	\$	500.00
<b>10050 OFFICE EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	\$	8,000.00
<b>10060 PRINTING</b>		
<b>Total Printing</b>	\$	825.00
<b>10070 SALARYS &amp; STIPENDS</b>		
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Stipends</b>	\$	16,200.00
<b>10080 TAXES</b>		
10081 Florida Corporation Tax	\$	61.25
10082 General Grand Chapter Per Capita	\$	8,500.00
<b>Total Taxes</b>	\$	8,561.25
<b>10090 SUNDRY</b>		
10091 Education & Training	\$	350.00
10092 Awards	\$	950.00
10093 Membership Services (MMS Fee)	\$	1,000.00
10095 Insurance	\$	1,000.00
10096 Contingencies	\$	1,225.96
Signet Program - Expenses	\$	2,500.00
<b>Total Sundry</b>	\$	7,025.96
<b>10100 Miscellaneous</b>		
10102 Bank Service Charges		
10110 Reserves	\$	200.00
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	\$	200.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$	54,046.21
<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	\$	(2,500.00)