

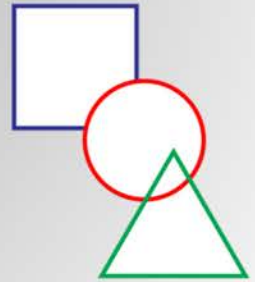
Council Chronicle

www.FLGYR.org



LOOKING FORWARD

Volume 2 is a must read filled with the latest news and insightful articles.



Ask your District Deputy or CMMRF Rep about the Gun Raffle benefiting CMMRF.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMPANIONS

FFREEMASONRY'S OLDEST DOCUMENT | Page 4

GIBLIM – WHAT IS IN A NAME? | Page 12

From The M.J. Grand Master

LEESBURG YORK RITE BODIES

As you have no doubt heard that someone broke into the Leesburg Lodge, the home of the Leesburg York Rite Bodies and set it on fire. Most everything was destroyed in this mean and hateful act. I am asking every Council to look in their "Robe Room" and if they have anything to spare, please send it to Eric Klienbach. I am asking him to be the point person for all help coming from the Councils. Regalia and props are very expensive and sometimes irreplaceable. So, anything you can do will be a great help. I know when Jacksonville York Rite Bodies was hit with all their damage, if it had not been for the aid received from all over the State, we would still be in trouble. If you are sending money, I would ask that you make these checks out to the Grand York Rite of Florida and put Leesburg in the memo section. That way we can keep track of it.

My Companions, I am getting well entrenched into the duties required of a Most Illustrious Grand Master. I have attended my first Area Meeting, signed a warrant, and approved a Dispensation. The Area meeting was for Districts 9 and 10 and was held at Jackson Lodge on June 3rd. What a great place to kick off my Area Meetings. The history in this building and Masonic history in general here in Tallahassee is incredible. The meeting started with a fantastic luncheon at noon. By 1:00 pm we had all adjourned to the main Lodge for our meetings. The Most Excellent High Priest went first, and his presentation was great, and I knew it would be hard to beat.

The things that impressed me the most about this gathering was the number of past Grands. Their support going forward will be essential to our having a successful year. The other thing was the number of Companions dedicated to making this year so special for them as well as for me. I want to make sure they realize I am appreciative of their support.

We had 33 members in attendance, and I reviewed with them my expectations for the ensuing year. We should have had more, but we changed the date of this meeting from the 10th to the 3rd. I did not realize a Festival was scheduled there for the 3rd. This was my fault for some of them not being able to attend. I will make it up to them somehow this year.



From The M.I. Grand Master



My goals in a nutshell are as follows: (A). 205 new members to join the various York Rite Bodies. Each Council will be given a quota. (B). \$52,105 to be raised for C.M.M.R.F. Each Council will be given a goal. (C). 10 to 15 Table Councils. The first one to schedule one is the Golden Triangle Council No. 28. They will be holding theirs on September 22, 2023. I plan on attending. I hope to have a full compliment of Grand Line officers there as well. If you have an opening in your schedule on that date, please plan of coming. The more the merrier. (D). I hope to have 25 Companions qualify for their “Blue Card” in proficiency. (E). At our last Grand Assembly, we had 162 voting members; my goal this year is to have 200 voting members present. We will be recognizing the Council with the most members in attendance.

My fund-raising initiatives for the year are as follows: Coin sales, Table Councils, Gun Raffle ticket Sales, Fishing trips, Poker Runs, and solicitation. I will be reporting on each of these areas in my next edition. Here, I will let you know how we are doing and what we need you to do to help us. The hardest one to do is the Poker-Run. This one is also the most lucrative. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Many of you have expressed an appreciation for this Council Chronicle. I hope to use this as a means of letting everyone know what is going on. I will be adding new things to this Chronicle as time goes on. There will be a section for Randy Chancey to hi-lite his saying and he will be hosting a “Did you Know” Here he will ask questions for you to ponder on and return a response. This section should be fun, hard, informative, and educational. WOW, all this in one place- Randy has his work cut out for himself; but he is up to the challenge.

Thomas Olsen

M.I. Grand Master, R&SM Florida



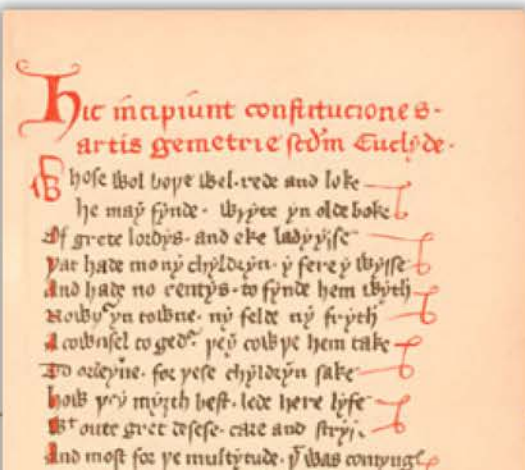
Freemasonry's Oldest Document

By Glenn E. Chandler, Sr.
M J Grand Historian

Freemasonry has many facts as well as many legends. One all important fact is that the oldest Masonic document in existence today is the Regius Manuscript or the Regius Poem dating from 1390 AD. It currently resides in the Library of the British Museum in London. It has also been referred to as the Halliwell Manuscript due to the fact that it was first discovered by James Orchard Halliwell, a non-Mason in 1839. It had been catalogued as "A Poem of Moral Duties," which aided in hiding its true character until Mr. Halliwell recognized it as a Masonic document. It had been in one library or another for nearly five hundred years. In the year 1840 he published the Regius Manuscript for sale to the public.

The original manuscript is beautifully hand written on sixty-four pages of fine vellum. The script is Chaucerian (Middle) English and many of the words are difficult for the non-antiquarian reader to understand. Bound in Russian Leather, it is about five and one half by four inches in size. The title is in Latin which, translated, reads: "Here Began the Constitutions of the Art of Geometry according to Euclid."

Everything about this old manuscript points to the conclusion that it was the work of a monk or priest not primarily interested in Freemasonry but rather in the production of some verse on morality and etiquette. Having found one of the early Gothic Constitutions, since lost to our view, and observing the moral tone of the charges and being attracted by the ancient legends, he put the contents into rhyme and added some rules of good conduct and probably, the legend of the Four Crowned Martyrs. It is not regarded as a Masonic record but as the work of an outsider about Masons. The author may be considered the first known speculative interpreter of Freemasonry and, therefore, our connection with Speculative Masonry dates as far as our documentary knowledge of the Operative.



Freemasonry's Oldest Document

The poem has, a legendary history of Masonry, a code of morals, a code of by-laws, and a manual of etiquette, consists of 794 lines and may be divided into six subjects as follows:

- (1) The legendary history of Geometry or Masonry.
- (2) Fifteen Articles for the Master and Fifteen Points for the Craftsmen.
- (3) An Ordinance relating to assemblies
- (4) The legend of the Four Crowned Martyrs
- (5) Rules of behavior in Church.
- (6) Rules of deportment and etiquette.

The Regius Manuscript relates how the Craft of Masonry was brought to England during the reign of King Athelstan (924-939 A.D.). It tells how all the Masons of the land came to the King for direction as to their own good governance, and how Athelstan together with the nobility and landed gentry forged the fifteen articles and fifteen points for their rule. This is followed by fifteen articles for the Master concerning both moral behavior (do not harbor thieves, do not take bribes, attend church regularly, etc.) and the operation of work on a building site (do not make your masons labour at night, teach apprentices properly, do not take on jobs that you cannot do etc.) There are then fifteen points for Craftsmen which follow a similar pattern. Warnings of punishment for those breaking the ordinances are followed by provision for annual assemblies. There follows the legend of the Four Crowned Martyrs, a series of moral maxims, and finally a blessing. The traditional date is given as 926 A.D. and occurs at York and is known as the York Legend.

The oldest words in our Ritual that can be proven are repeated at every meeting of a Lodge, Chapter, and Council. They are the closing words of the Regius Poem. "Amen, Amen, So Mote it be. So say we all for charity."

"The ultimate success of Masonry depends on the intelligence of her disciples." - Albert Mackey



C.M.M.R.F. Standings

1. Our CMMRF rep. for District 10 did an outstanding job in bringing our message to our members. His efforts will be hard to beat. Through his efforts, he was able to have in the Ft. Walton budget \$975.00 to donate to CMMRF. This represents a donation of \$15.00 per member for the Gulf Council No. 29. That is extraordinary; but he went one better. He sold \$300 worth of coins. He is now \$25.00 short of having a \$20.00 per man donation. I would bet that between now and the middle of December, they will donate more. With Table Councils, Fishing trips, and more coins; I feel they will top \$35 to \$40 per man. At this function, I was able to sell three hats for \$75.00. Every little bit helps.

2. Our CMMRF rep for District 7 attended the joint meeting of Palatka and St. Augustine and he presented checks to the \$1,500 to the Grand Master. I also sold 2 hats for \$50.00. Again, every little bit helps.

3. Our CMMRF rep for District 5 attended the meeting at Halifax Council No. 1 and indicated that he had presented his CMMRF information to his local doctor and that he is in complete agreement with the work being performed by the research team. We will be using this doctor in the future at other Masonic functions to raise awareness to CMMRF. He also collected a check for \$200.00 For CMMRF. At this function I was able to sell 4 ties for \$100.00.

I have already started receiving checks from the individual Grand Line Officers, DD's, DI's, and CMMRF reps. Each has been asked to donate \$100 to CMMRF in the name of their collective offices. I have commitments from about 60% of the 40 individuals and checks from 10. This is a great start to a program that should show the support of our leadership team and generate funds for CMMRF for years to come. By the way, Tennessee raised more than we did last year and said we should start getting used to being in 2nd place. Oh ya; I know we will collect more than they will this year.



Table Councils

We have the following Table Festivals on the schedule. I would like to ask if there is a Table Festival near you, please try to attend. Also please bring Blue Lodge Mason to this festival so he can see what we do. If Your district or Council is scheduling a Table Council, please let up know.

1. Leesburg (in the air now)
2. Tallahassee
3. Gainesville/Middleburg
4. Palatka/St. Augustine
5. Jacksonville/Fernandina Beach
6. Ormand Beach Halifax Council No. 1: October 13th, 2023. This will be a Halloween Theme. Should be a "Blast". Come and wear a costume. A prize to the winner.
7. Eureka North Shore Lodge; September 2nd, 2023.



Festivals

I know there are more than this one Festival, but no-one has let me know when and where. If you are having a Festival this year, I would like to be involved and put it in the Chronicle.

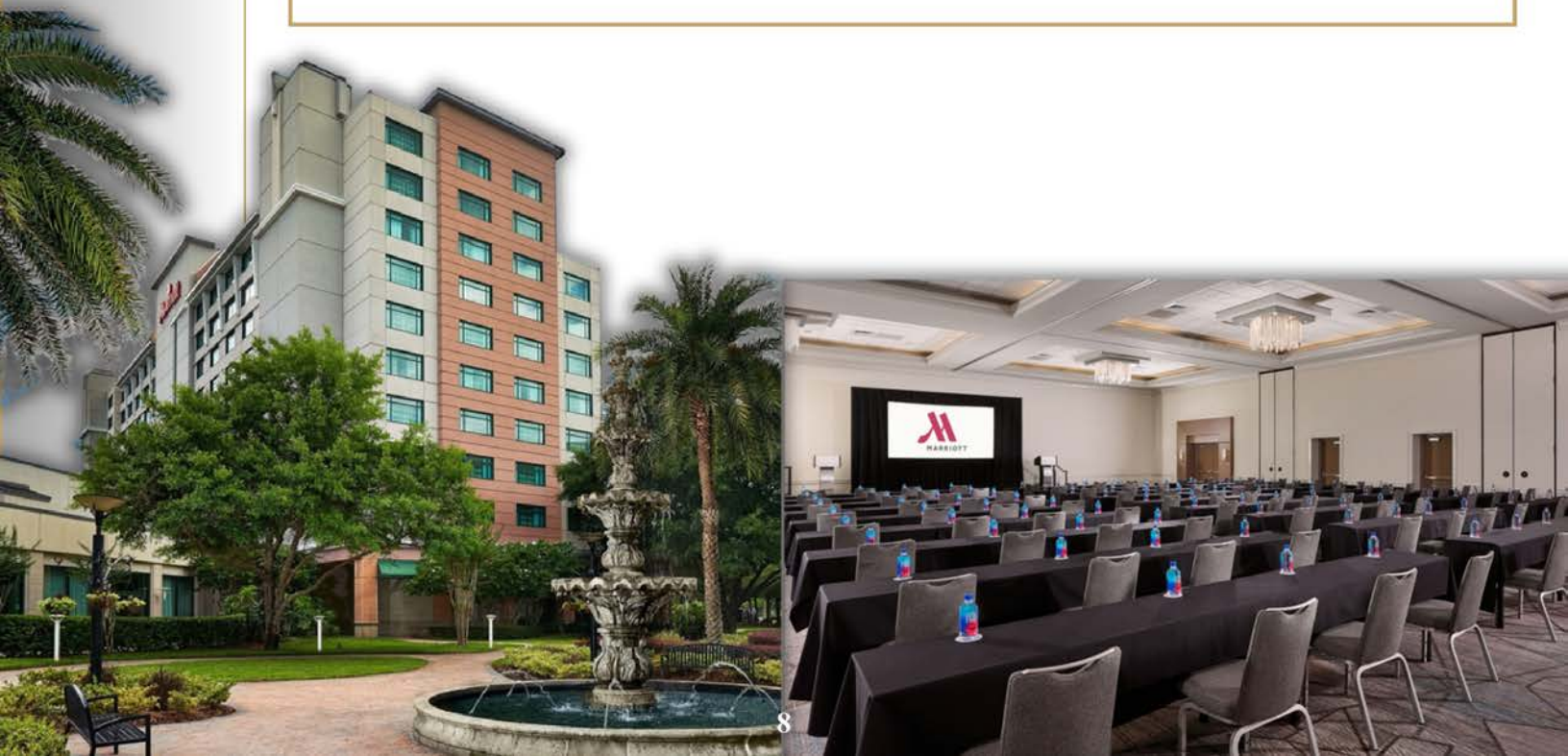
1. District 7 & 8 Joint Festival in Palatka Oct 21st & Jacksonville Oct 28th.



Next Year's Convention

I learned several things at last year's Convention that I would like to improve.

1. I would like to see more Ladies at the Convention. I have in my budget for Lady's programs \$1,500. My wife, Damon's wife, Ben's wife, and John's better half will be working on things for the Ladies to do. Such as a luncheon cruise on the St John's River, Jewelry making (real diamonds included), wine and cheese tasting, an English High Tea, and others. They have just started thinking of things to do. I you have ANY ideas, please let us know. I hope to SHAME the Chapter and the Council to donate some money to this endeavor. We'll see. Many of these activities can be done right in the Hotel. I would like the Ladies to have this room the entire time during their stay and a meeting room.
2. Awards should be done when the Ladies are able to come and participate. So next year, we will do the awards ceremony between the Convention and the Installation of Officers. I hope this will give the Awards Ceremony extra meaning.
3. To improve attendance at the Convention, I will be awarding the Council with the most members in attendance special recognition and seating within the convention. These numbers will be generated by the pre-registration form. Last year we had only 162 members attend. My goal is to have over 200. We need to start promoting the convention now to get the interest up.



Southeastern York Rite Conference

On June 16th through June 18th, 2023, our annual Southeastern York Rite Conference was held in Mobile Alabama. This conference was made up of York Rite Masons from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. This conference was one of the best attended conferences that I have seen in a long time. Florida was represented by the Grand Master, Deputy Master, Prin. Conductor of Work, Treasurer, and the Recorder. Unfortunately, all of the District Deputies and Grand line appointed officers did not make it to this convention. They missed a golden opportunity to hear firsthand how other States are doing, meeting Councilmen from around the Southeast, and even attending the many leadership opportunities afforded to those who attended. The purpose of this conference is to meet with members of our General Grand Council and tell them of our problems, needs, and successes.

Each Grand Master of every state addressed the group and discussed how things were progressing in their respective States. It was a fantastic opportunity for the members in attendance to hear what their problems were and how they were addressing them. I know we all came away with many ideas that we can use here in Florida; to make Florida even better.

By the way, the challenge is on. Tennessee was the leader in donations to CMMRF. Yes, they beat us and said that we should get used to being in second place for they intend to raise more than we will again this year. They are already ahead of us; but I am confident that we will, with all your help, prevail. I will be sending out much of this information received here at the Conference.

We also had a chance to hear from the many members of the Grand Council who are running for an office to be determined at the Triennial in Branson this August. Just a heads up; the next Southeastern Conference will probably be held in Knoxville. I hope to see better attendance from our Appointed Line, District Deputies, District Instructors, and CMMRF Reps. The intent of these Conferences is to help you become better informed and better leaders before to get into a Grand line or even serve in other capacities.





2023-2024

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GIBLIM – What is in a name?

**By: J. Jerry J. Miller
CMARC Chairman District 10**

Preceding a Gulf Council No. 29 of Royal and Select Masters meeting in 2019, I was advised that I would be assigned the station of Captain of the Guard. In preparing I determined that I would later seek to answer why the Captain of the Guard identified himself as Giblim.

Thus, I began the inquiry which began with the search of scripture. I first found in a handy version First Kings 5:17 and 18 “And the King commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, and hewed stones, to lay the foundation of the house. And Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders did hew them, and the stone-squarers: so, they prepared timber and stones to build the house.” I then found an earlier translation that used the term “Gilblim” in place of “squarers”.

Early in my junior year in high school, I met a new classmate at Choctawhatchee High School. He was introduced by his given name. Except for the teachers at roll call, I seldom heard that name again. It turns out that he moved to South Okaloosa County from Vero Beach, Florida. Another classmate thought Vero a funny word and assigned it to him as his call or nick name. It stuck. To this day if you should hear him called Vero, the caller was an old high school classmate.

Many English sur names refer to various trades or services: Miller, Porter, Wheeler, Plumber, Wheelwright, Smith. Others refer to locations of origin: York, London, Durham. These are all common to this day.

Tradition has it that substantially those employed during the building of King Solomon's Temple were especially qualified. These were Most Excellent Masters, a degree we recognize from the Royal Arch Chapter. These high-level workers were Giblimes. The Giblimes, or, as they are called in early Scripture, the Giblim, were inhabitants of the city and district of Gebal, in Phoenicia, near Mount Lebanon. They were under the dominion of the King of Tyre. The Phoenician word "gibal," or the plural "giblim", signifies a mason or stone squarer. The inhabitants of Gebal were seamen and builders, in fact Master Masons, who were to put the finishing work on Solomon's Temple."

GIBLIM – What is in a name?

Further tradition is, that when the temple was about completed, a day was set apart for the placing of the capstone. For this important event the whole craft was assembled, and the stone carried in procession and deposited in its proper place. All was done amidst the plaudits and rejoicings of the vast assemblage. King Solomon availed himself of this occasion to reward the skillful and meritorious craftsmen, with such marks of his favor and esteem as seemed best calculated to promote their interest for the future. New grades were established; among others that of Most Excellent Master, to which none but those who were distinguished for their superior merit and assiduity were promoted. These were especially authorized and commanded to instruct others in whatever part of the world they might travel in search of employment. Among this class were the Giblimes, as further proof of the estimation in which he held them, Solomon offered all of those who wished to remain within his jurisdiction ample employment.

In a later year it is recorded that one of the King's deputies that assisted in rebuilding Windsor Castle in the 18th century was called the "Master of the Ghiblim." Those referred to as Giblim or Giblimes were, therefore, stone-squarers or Master Masons during and long after the building of King Solomon's Temple.

We may then fairly conclude that that the name Giblim may have been a name as we use sur names today. I heretofore thought of it as a distinctive given name. It may not have been the name of the individual who now sits as our Captain of the Guard by which he was known to his family and friends, but rather a designation recognizing his high craft accomplishment. Even further perhaps not identifying an individual but representing a group of masters.

In our masonic pursuits we have been exposed to knowledge. It is important that we apply that knowledge meaningfully in our lives for that is the beginning of wisdom. And it is wisdom that we next seek and thereafter understanding. That is the ultimate challenge made to us from the word of God in Proverbs 4 Verse 7.





RAFFLE CONTEST

\$20 PER TICKET

60 TICKETS PER DISTRICT



GRAND PRIZE



WINNER'S CHOICE:

GLOCK 43 (9mm)

TAURUS 856 (38 Special)

MOSSBERG MAVERICK 88

The winning ticket will be drawn at random from all eligible raffle tickets received.
Need not be present to win

Proceeds are for the benefit of Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundations
Donations are not deductible as a charitable contribution.

Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (CMMRF) conducts research in pursuit of curing and / or alleviating medical conditions stemming from Vascular Diseases. CMMRF is a culmination of the finest medical professionals, Masonic charity managers and support staff. The result is a highly functional team that focuses on philanthropic endeavors to benefit humankind and improve medical knowledge.

www.cmmrf.org

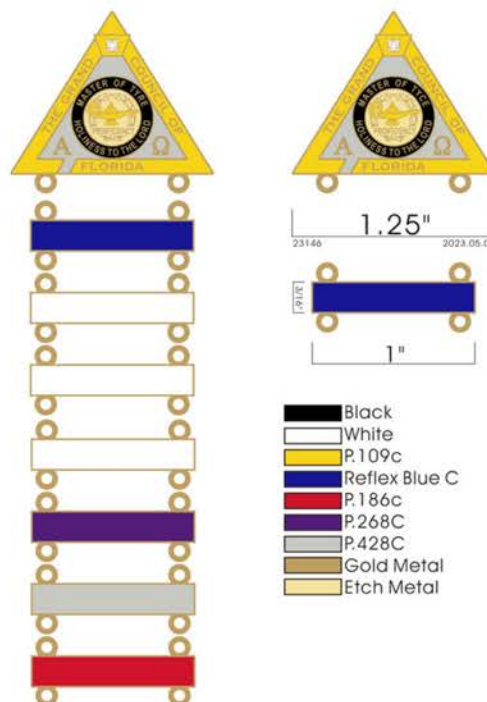


Proficiency Cards

A SPECIAL PLAQUE WILL BE GIVEN TO THE COUNCIL WITH THE MOST COUNCIL CARDS AND A SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR THE COMPANIONS WITH PROFICIENCY CARDS.



We have three already. Steve Meserve - the District Instructor for the 7th District, Randal Burkett - the Grand Sentinel. Steve has indicated that he will have three more in the next 90 days. What a great start. Currently the only Council that qualifies for the “E” on their Charter is Lawtey. Steve is working on getting Hallmark qualified and with his 3 or 4 Blue Card holder, Hallmark should have the “E” for the next three years. Support for this program is increasing at every Council I attend. If you are working on a Blue card, please let me know. To all the District Instructors, one of your responsibilities is to get Companions qualified for their Blue Card. You don’t have to have a Blue Card to test someone; although that would be nice.



Grand Council Awards



CRYPTIC MASON OF THE YEAR

A nomination form should be completed and sent to the Grand Master by January 15th. The Grand Master will then select one of the nominations and forward it to the General Grand Council. This is awarded to one outstanding Cryptic Mason of the Year.

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL YOUTH AWARD

There is no form for this award. Nominations should be written to the Grand Master by January 15th. The Grand Master will select one and forward his selection to the General Grand Council. This award is intended for a member who has devoted time and energy in helping Masonic Youth Groups.

BROKEN TRIANGLE PLAQUE

This award is decided by the Grand Recorder. The Council with the largest percentage of net gain in the past calendar year will win. There may be more than one winner if there is a tie.

GIBLIMITE PLAQUE:

The District Deputy Grand Masters have a form for grading the Councils as to their proficiency and other factors in qualifying for this award. They will inspect the Councils and send their reports to the Grand Master for selection according to the points and recommendations. The first year of winning a plaque is given; then a plate for the plaque.

TEN PERCENT CERTIFICATES

This award is decided by the General Grand Council to the Council or Councils with a ten percent or more net membership gain in the past calendar year. The Grand Recorder will provide this information to the General Grand Council.

ISH-SODI AWARD

The Grand Master may present up to six awards per year. The Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Principal Conductor of Work, and/or Constituent Council Illustrious Masters may submit recommendations; but the Grand Master will make the selections. This award is for Companions who have exhibited a continuing willingness to devote their time and ability for the good of Cryptic Masonry. A draft recommendation form is provided.

WALTER I STEVENSON GRAND MASTER'S MEDAL

This will be presented annually to the Companion selected by the Grand Master who has best demonstrated dedication to Cryptic Masonry.



Support Your Masonic Brothers

YOUR AD HERE
\$50 (goes to CMMRF)
EMAIL
bornsteinstemax@gmail.com

YOUR AD HERE
\$25 (goes to CMMRF)
EMAIL
bornsteinstemax@gmail.com

YOUR AD HERE
\$25 (goes to CMMRF)
EMAIL
bornsteinstemax@gmail.com

Living Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters



1992	ROBERT E. BURLESON
1996	PAUL W. FRIEND
2000	RICHARD S. AGSTER
2001	CHARLES L. HOLLINGER
2003	STEPHEN H. CLARK
2005	DONALD T. HARRIOTT
2006	LOUIS A. KING
2009	CARL E. GILMORE
2011	M. DANNY FULLWOOD
2012	LARRY R. GILLESPIE
2013	DAYLE L. SCHROCK
2014	H. WARREN ALMAND, JR.
2016	BENJAMIN J. HOLLAND
2017	ROBERT C. ST. JOHN, JR.
2018	GLENN E. CHANDLER, SNR.
2019	JOHN PICKFORD
2020	THOMAS J. RAWSTHORNE
2021	WILLIAM ALLEN SORBIE
2022	GENE A. LANCE

M.I. Grand Master Official Visits

Official Visit	District One	Council Name
Aug 21st, 2023	Palm Beach	Zabud Council No. 17
July 17th, 2023	Ft. Lauderdale	Lauderdale Council No. 24
Oct 16th, 2023	Miami	Adoniram Council No.10
	District Two	
Aug 8th, 2023	Fort Myers	Ft. Myers Council No. 25
Sept 13th, 2023	Manasota	Bradentown Council No. 9
	District Three	
Sept 4th, 2023	Tampa	Tampa Council No. 8
Sept 1st, 2023	St Petersburg	St Ptersburg Council No. 14
Oct 4th, 2023	Clearwater	Clearwater Council no 34
	District Four	
July 5th, 2023	Lakeland	Polk Council No.11
July 3rd, 2023	Plant city	Tyler Council No. 4
Sept 1st, 2023	Highlands	Heartland Council No. 43
	District Five	
June 8th, 2023	Daytona Beach	Halifax Council No.1
Aug 2nd, 2023	Lake/Sumter	Golden triangle Council No. 28
June 13th, 2023	Sanford	Sanford Council No. 30
Sept 14th, 2023	Orlando	Orlando Council No. 5
	District Six	
July 12th, 2023	Cocoa	Hiram Council No.13
July 13th, 2023	Melbourne	Melbourne Council No. 38
Oct 10th, 2023	Ft Pierce	Tyrian Council No.36
	District Seven	
June 12th, 2023	Jacksonville	Hallmark Council No. 3
To be determ	Fernandina	Athelstan Council No. 46
June 6th, 2023	St Augustine	St Augustine Council No. 15
June 6th, 2023	Palatka	Palatka Council No. 18
	District Eight	
July 11th, 2023	Lake City	Lake City Council No 35
To be determ	Middleburg	Laetey Council No. 39
July 18th, 2023	Gainesville	Gainesville Council No. 27
	District Nine	
Sept 21st, 2023	Tallahassee	Seminole Council No.30
July 6th, 2023	Marianna	Union Council No.31
Aug 28th, 2023	Panama City	Panama City Council No. 26
	District Ten	
Dec 6th, 2023	Fort Walton	Gulf Council No. 29
Sept 19th, 2023	Crestview	Crestview Council No. 33
Sept 11th, 2023	Pensacola	Inion Council No. 7



AREA MEETINGS

Districts 1 & 6

July 22, 2023 | Acacia Lodge No. 163; Stuart, Florida

(Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Marathon, Cocoa, Melbourne and Ft. Pierce York Rite Bodies)

Districts 2 & 3

August 26, 2023, at Tampa York Rite Temple; Tampa, Florida

(Naples, Ft. Myers, Sarasota/Bradenton, St. Petersburg, Tampa and Clearwater York Rite Bodies)

Districts 7 & 8

September 9, 2023, at Palatka, Florida

(Palatka, St. Augustine, Fernandina Beach, Jacksonville, Lake City, Middleburg, and Gainesville York Rite Bodies)

Districts 4 & 5

October 14, 2023, at Eola Lodge No. 207; Orlando, Florida

((Highlands, Plant City, Lakeland, Daytona Beach, Sanford, Lake/Sumter, and Orlando York Rite Bodies)

DAY OF RESEARCH



FLORIDA LODGE OF RESEARCH NO. 999



FLORIDA CHAPTER OF RESEARCH



FLORIDA PRIORY OF RESEARCH



TABLE CHAPTER DONATIONS FOR RARA

12 PM

\$15

CATERED MEAL

LOCATION: EUREKA NORTH SHORE LODGE

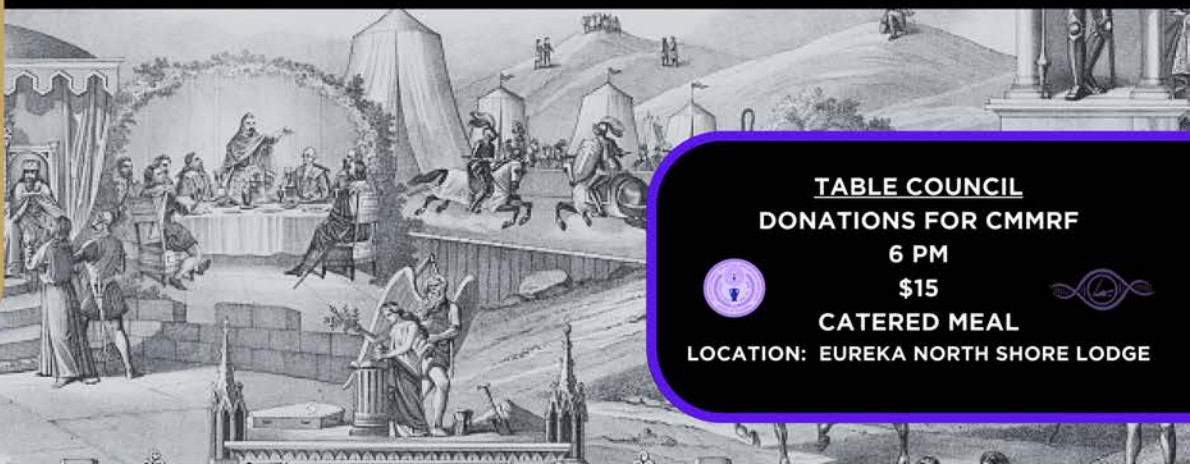


TABLE COUNCIL DONATIONS FOR CMMRF

6 PM

\$15

CATERED MEAL

LOCATION: EUREKA NORTH SHORE LODGE



Research Bodies of Florida | Day of Research | Table Chapter at 12 PM | Table Council at 6 PM



SATURDAY | SEPT 2, 2023 | MEETING AT TBD



Eureka North Shore Lodge No. 269 | 101 SE 1st Ave, Dania Beach, FL 33004



Normal Lodge Attire | Submit Papers To eurakanorthshore269@gmail.com



Learn more about Blue Lodge, Chapter, and Commandery



Share your ideas and suggestions

*RSVP to Garry Paxinos at garry@paxinos.com or 954-655-7453 by Wednesday, August 23rd



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