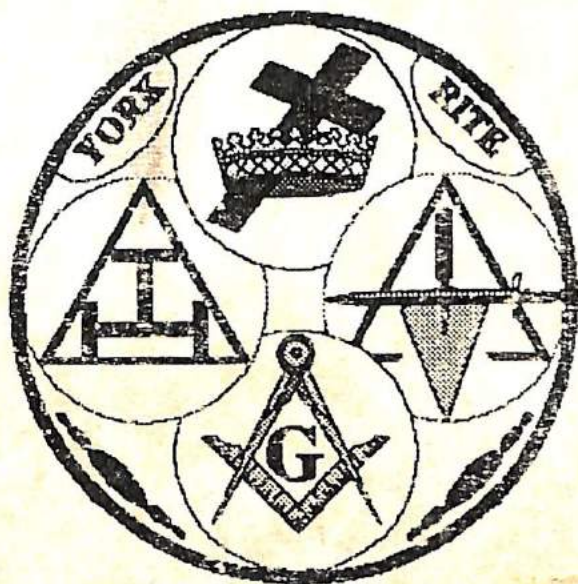


THE YORK RITE
of
FREEMASONRY
of
FLORIDA



1998

GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS
GRAND COUNCIL, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

MASONIC DIRECTORY OF FLORIDA

GRAND LODGE F&AM of Florida
Roy Sheppard, PGM Gr. Secretary
P.O. Box 1020, Jacksonville 32201

GRAND YORK RITE of Florida
Wm. Robert Young - Gr Sec/Rec
400-C Julia St., Titusville 32796

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE
Joseph C. LeSuer
1409 Buena Vista Blvd.
Panama City 32401

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND
Earl H. Robinson
1012 Dunrobin Drive
Palm Harbor 34684

K.Y.C.H. - Miami Priory # 10
George A. Chipouras
19460 SW 87th Ave., Miami 33157

K.Y.C.H. - Florida Priory # 60
Hugh F. Moore
P.O. Box 844, Lake City 32056

K.Y.C.H. - Panama City Priory # 72
Harry R. "Bob" Davis
2817 Woodmere Dr.,
LeHigh Acres 33792

YORK RITE COLLEGES of Florida
Richard J. Carr
210 S. Embrey St. Casselberry 32707

H.R.A.K.T.P. - Kings of Kings #XXV
Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr.
329 Braddock Ave.
Daytona Beach 32018

H.R.A.K.T.P. - Spirit of Truth # LXXI
William A. Howard
195 DeLuna Rd.,
Ft. Walton Beach 32548

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS
Richard J. Carr
210 S Embrey St., Casselberry 32707

SCOTTISH RITE S.J. in Florida
Robert L. Goldsmith
P.O. Box 361277, Melbourne 32936

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES
Duane B. Young
141 Shadow Ln., Lakeland 33813

A.A.O.N.M.S. -SHRINE
Jack Jones
2900 Rocky Point, Tampa 33607

MOVPER - GROTTTO
J. H. Livingston
2017 Saddlebrook Dr. Pensacola 32526

TALL CEDARS
Joe Abrams
3106 Whispering Blvd. Deland 32724

DeMOLAY
William A. Marti
5509 Van Buren St. Hollywood 33021

EASTERN STAR
Grace Spivey
P.O. Box 617367, Orlando 32681

WHITE SHRINE OF JERUSALEM
Helen Piechulis # 203
3395 Wedgewood Dr. N.E.
Palm Bay 32905

AMARANTH
Kenneth Lavine
212 Robert Ave., Lehigh Acres 33936

RAINBOW GIRLS of Florida
Dorothy Brillhardt
204 Cypress Road, Perry 32347

HIGH TWELVE
Joseph H. Richardson
719 122nd St. N., Seminole 34642

MASONIC HOME: 3201 1st St. N.E., St. Petersburg, FL 33704 (813) 822-3499

CHRONOLOGY

Titles of Meetings and Dates of Bodies Composed Exclusively for Masons

The ordinary Calendar, or vulgar era, is not generally used by Freemasons in dating their official documents. They have one peculiar to themselves, differing according to their various Rites.

Ancient Craft Masons in all parts of the World, add 4,000 years to the Christian era, calling it Anno Lucis - Year of Light; abbreviated A.L. (This fact has a symbolic reference, not because they believe Freemasonry is, but that the principles and light of the institution are coeval with the creation.) AF & AM Lodges hold "Communications."

Royal Arch Masons date from the building of the second Temple - 530 B.C. Their style is, therefore, Anno Inventionis - A. Inv. - in the year of the discovery. Royal Arch Chapters hold "Convocations."

Cryptic Masons date from the completion of Solomon's Temple 1000 B.C.. Their style is Anno Depositionis - A. Dep. - in the year of Deposit. Royal and Select Councils hold "Assemblies."

Knights Templar date from the organization of the Order in 1118 A.D. Their style is, therefore, Anno Ordinis - A.O. - in the year of the Order. Knights Templar Commandries hold "Conclaves."

Order of the High Priesthood dates from the blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchizedak, which occurred 1914 B.C. Their style is Anno Benedictionis - A.B. - in the year of the Blessing. Councils of Anointed High Priest "Convocations."

Scottish Rite differs from the Ancient Craft in that they use the Jewish chronology, ANNO MUNDI (A.M.) "In the Year of the World".

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONS - Add 4,000 years.

Thus: 1998 + 4,000 = A.L. 5998

Royal Arch Masons - Add 530 years

Thus: 1998 + 530 = A. Inv. 2528

Royal and Select Masters - Add 1,000 years.

Thus: 1998 + 1,000 = A. Dep. 2998

Knights Templar - Subtract 1,118 years.

Thus: 1998 - 1,118 = A.O. 880

Order of High Priesthood - Add 1,913 years.

Thus: 1998 + 1,913 = A.B. 3911

Scottish Rite - Add 3760 years.

Thus 1998 and 3760 = A.M. 5758

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Saturday, 16 May 1998

The Pre-Convention activities got under way on Saturday. Several Committees met on Saturday and Sunday preceding the Grand Bodies. As is the custom of Miami Priory No. 10 K.Y.C.H and Miami Conclave Red Cross of Constantine each met on Saturday afternoon with a good number of members and guests attending. The evening culminated with the usual combined Banquet of the two organizations. The meetings assist in setting the proper frame for the coming business of York Masonry.



SUNDAY, 17 MAY 1998



RELIGIOUS SERVICE

On Sunday morning a devotional service was held in the Convention room. Lady Roselyn Langdale played the organ while songs were offered up as praise to the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe. A collection of \$98.00 to be equally divided among the three principal charities of the Grand Chapter, Council and Commandery was received.

GRAND YORK RITE DIVINE & MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Joint York Rite Divine Service was combined with a Memorial Service held at 4:00 P.M. The offering of \$ 388.73 was equally divided among the three principal charities of the Grand Chapter, Council and Commandery. The Divine/Memorial Service, jointly planned by the three Grand York Rite Bodies, included traditional ceremonies by Companions/Sir Knights. R. E. Grand Commander Carl E. Gilmore was the Master of Ceremonies. The Rev. Michael H. Faust and Rev. David J. Nixon each delivered a sermon. A report on the Holy Land Pilgrimage was given by S.K. John I. Hendricks, Grand Prelate. The Memorial part of the service included the three Chaplains and the Grand Presiding Officers presenting memorials in memory of our deceased Companions/Sir Knights. Taps were sounded. The Benediction was given and the service was closed with the traditional Recessional Hymn. We wish to thank Lady Roselyn Langdale our Guest Organist.

GRAND YORK RITE BANQUET

The Grand York Rite Bodies held their combined Banquet on Sunday at 7:00 P.M., R. E. Grand Commander Carl E. Gilmore was the Master of Ceremonies. An excellent dinner of, Pork Roast or Chicken, Seasoned Vegetables, Potatoes and Carrot Cake for desert, was enjoyed by all. After dinner there were several awards presented. A special thanks to David Meade, Grand Musician for the Grand Lodge of Florida, for providing Beautiful Music on the piano, for the Banquet.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

An Ice Cream Social was held on Monday Night for All York Rite Members and Guest. There was a really good turn out and a pleasant evening was had by all.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons



of
Florida

1998

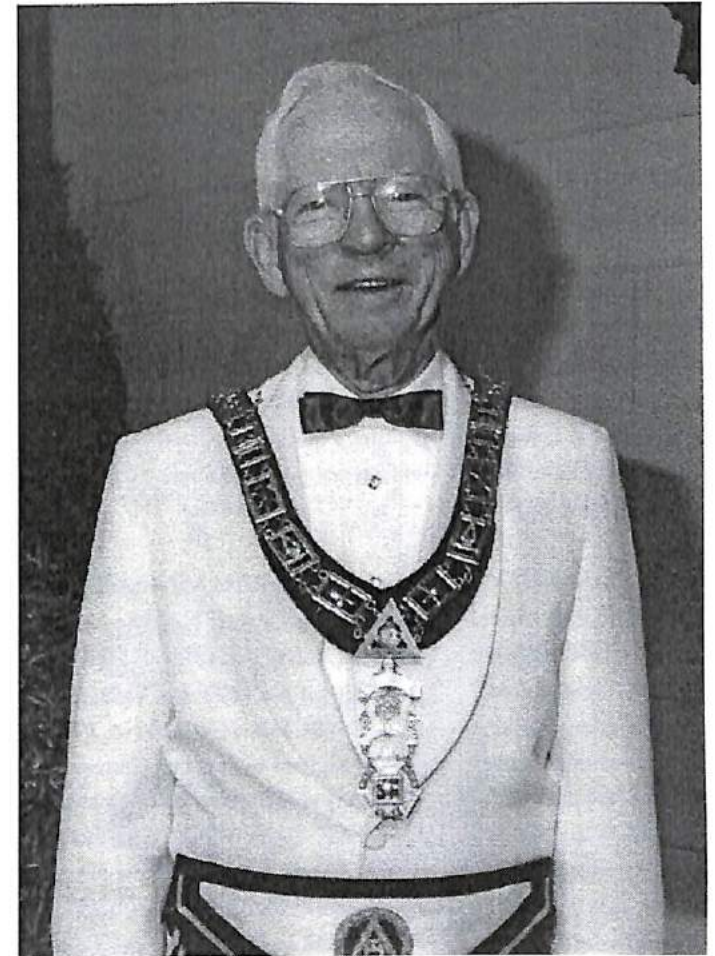
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF
FLORIDA

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIRST
ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION

FREDERICK R. YOUNG
Presiding

LESLIE H. SCOTT, JR.
Elected

Held at Tampa, Florida
20 May 1998 A. I. 2528



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

Personal History:

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

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

Enlisted U.S. Navy, 1941. Served overseas in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and North Africa. Honorably discharged Sept., 1945. In the Naval Reserve from 1946 until retirement in 1971. Employed by the Veterans Administration in 1961 serving at Milwaukee, WI; Sioux Falls, SD; Newington, CT; Manila, Philippines; Wichita, KS; and Lakeside Hospital, Chicago, IL. Retired as Financial Management Officer in 1979. Member First United Methodist Church, DeLand, served as Head Usher for 5yrs.

Masonic History: Blue Lodge: Initiated Entered Apprentice, 6 - 9 - 44, Bunker Hill Lodge # 683, Bunker Hill, IN; Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, 6 - 16 - 44; Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, 6 - 23 - 44. Demitted to Lafayette Lodge # 265, Milwaukee, WI. in 1952. Dual and Life member of Manila - Mt. Lebanon Lodge # 1, Manila, Rep. of the Philippines. Demitted to St. Johns Lodge No 37, DeLand, FL. in 1983. Currently serving as Treasurer. Received 50 Year Pin & Certificate, June 1994.

York Rite: Exalted in Calumet Chapter No. 73, RAM Milwaukee, WI., 11 - 7 - 58. High Priest in 1965. Transferred to St. Johns Chapter No. 4 DeLand, FL in 1983, High Priest in 1988. Greeted in Kilbourn Council No. 9, R & SM, Milwaukee, WI., 4 - 25 - 59. Transferred to Alpha Council No. 1, Sioux Falls, S.D., served as Illustrious Master in 1969. Transferred to St. Johns Council No. 37, DeLand, FL., served as Illustrious Master in 1989. Knighted in Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24, Milwaukee, WI., 12 - 17 - 59. Transferred to Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, DeLand, serving as Commander in 1990. Order of High Priesthood, May 1988. Order of Anointed Kings, May 1989. Knight Crusader of the Cross, May 1991. Gold Key Award in 1989. Secretary/Recorder of DeLand Bodies from 1990 to 1997. Plural member of Eustis Chapter #33, RAM and Golden Triangle Council No. 28, Eustis, FL. Grand Chapter Representative of the Philippines. John B. Phelps York Rite College, No. 31 of Orlando, FL. Selected to receive the Order of the Purple Cross in 1998.

Other Orders: Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite: Joined and Life Member of Luzon Bodies, Manila, Philippines.
 Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine: Member of Tripoli Shrine, AAONMS, Milwaukee, WI.
 Red Cross of Constantine: Labarum Conclave, Orlando, FL
 Deltona High Twelve Club
 Winter Haven Council No. 115, Allied Masonic Degrees.
 DeLand Lodge No. 1463, Benevolent Protective order of the Elks
 DeLand Post No. 6, American Legion
 Dickinson-Tompkins Post No. 2380, Veterans of Foreign Wars.
 B. Duke Woody Branch No. 147, Fleet Reserve Association.



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

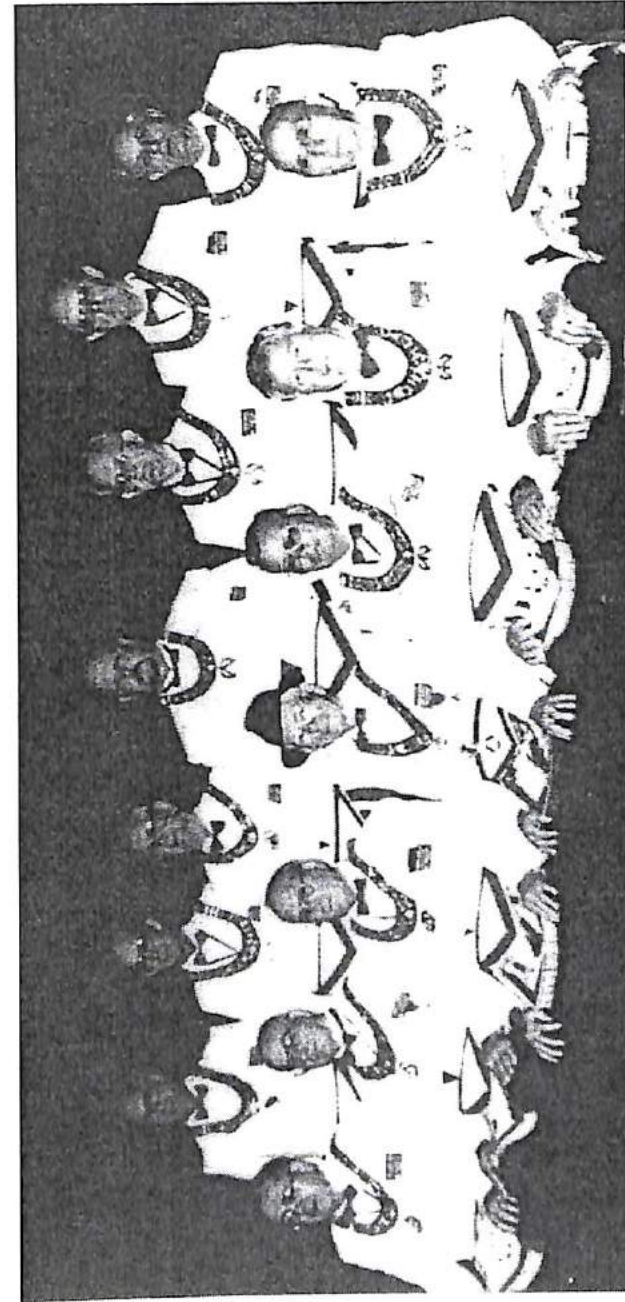
Back Row: Charles R. Denman, Robert G. Stearns, Robert F. Scott, Luther Bodiford, III, H. Warren Almand, Jr., Myron C. Boice, Steven Q. Steele
 Front Row: Wm. Robert Young, Virgil P. Brown, Jr., Leslie H. Scott, Jr., Frederick R. Young, David C. Wilkinson, Wayne E. Parks, Duane B. Young

Enlisted U.S. Navy, 1941. Served overseas in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and North Africa. Honorably discharged Sept., 1945. In the Naval Reserve from 1946 until retirement in 1971. Employed by the Veterans Administration in 1961 serving at Milwaukee, WI; Sioux Falls, SD; Newington, CT; Manila, Philippines; Wichita, KS; and Lakeside Hospital, Chicago, IL. Retired as Financial Management Officer in 1979. Member First United Methodist Church, DeLand, served as Head Usher for 5 yrs.

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 Red Cross of Constantine: Labarum Conclave, Orlando, FL
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 B. Duke Woody Branch No. 147, Fleet Reserve Association.



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

Back Row: Charles R. Denman, Robert G. Stearns, Robert F. Scott, Luther Bodiford, III, H. Warren Almand, Jr., Myron C. Boice, Steven Q. Steele
 Front Row: Wm. Robert Young, Virgil P. Brown, Jr., Leslie H. Scott, Jr., Frederick R. Young, David C. Wilkinson, Wayne E. Parks, Duane B. Young

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

- Frederick R. Young (4) Mildred M. Ex. Grand High Priest
623 Cherry Tree Lane, DeLand 32724-7504 904/736-7410
- Leslie H. Scott, Jr. (12) Betty R. Ex. Grand King
4409 Shiloh Lane, Jacksonville 32210 904/771-5186
- David C. Wilkinson (9) Kay R. Ex. Grand Scribe
P.O. Box 161, East Palatka 32131 904/328-6432
- Duane B. Young (29) Norma R. Ex. Grand Treasurer
141 Shadow Lane, Lakeland 33813-3594 941/646-6695
- Wm. Robert Young (27) Jean R. Ex. Grand Secretary
3845 Catalina St., Titusville 32796 407/267-4556
- Robert F. Scott, Jr. (12) Pauline Ex. Grand Chaplain
P.O. Box 37524, Jacksonville 32236-7524 904/388-5093
- Virgil P. Brown, Jr. (27) Lorraine Ex Grand Captain of the Host
2360 Bal Harbour Terrace, Titusville 32780 407/269-5969
- Wayne E. Parks (7) Donna Ex. Grand Principal Sojourner
1004 Nin Street, Orlando 32835 Work- 407/292-1700
- Steven Q. Steele (11) Ex Grand Royal Arch Captain
750 Wren Ave., Miami Springs 33166 305/889-0977
- Myron C. Boice (6) Charlotte (Resigned) Ex. Grand Master of Third Veil
- H. Warren Almand, Jr. (32) Lydia Ex. Grand Master of Third Veil
4980 Flynt Drive, Marianna 32446-6385 904/482-4809
- Luther Bodiford, III (1) Anne Ex. Grand Master of the Second Veil
2605 Nez Perce Trail, Tallahassee 32303 904/562-3148
- Robert G. Stearns (24) Ex. Grand Master of the First Veil
74 Akron Road, Lake Worth 33467 561/965-5087

- Glenn E. Chandler (12) Janet Ex. Grand Sentinel
5360 Redrac St., Jacksonville 32205-9603 941/687-4654
- Charles R. Denman (13) Joan Ex. Grand Organist
2520 Friday Road, Cocoa 32926 407/632-7806

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS EMERITI

- Roy R. Wright, Jr. (15) Polly R. Ex. Grand Treasurer Emeritus
711 E. First St., Sanford 32771 407/322-1503
- Howard P. Bennett (27) Pauline R. Ex. Grand Secretary Emeritus
2805 Matthew Dr., Rockledge 32955-3815 407/636-0668

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION
MAY 20, 1998**

Frederick R. Young, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, opened the Grand Chapter by proclamation at 8:00 AM. The Grand Chaplain offered Prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's Flag. The Grand High Priest seated the Grand Chapter Officers and declared the One Hundred Fifty-First Annual Grand Convocation open for business.

ROLLS WERE CALLED

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Frederick R. Young | M. Ex. Grand High Priest |
| Leslie H. Scott, Jr. | R. Ex. Grand King |
| David C. Wilkinson | R. Ex. Grand Scribe |
| Duane B. Young | R. Ex. Grand Treasurer |
| Wm. Robert Young | R. Ex. Grand Secretary |
| Robert F. Scott, Jr. | Ex. Grand Chaplain |
| Virgil P. Brown | Ex. Grand Captain of the Host |
| Wayne E. Parks | Ex. Grand Principal Sojourner |
| Steven Q. Steele | Ex. Grand Royal Arch Captain |
| H. Warren Almand, Jr. | Ex. Grand Master of the 3rd Veil |
| Luther Bodiford, III | Ex. Grand Master of the 2nd Veil |
| Robert G. Stearns | Ex. Grand Master of the 1st Veil |
| Glenn E. Chandler | Ex. Grand Sentinel |
| Charles R. Denman | Ex. Grand Organist |
| Roy R. Wright, Jr. | R. Ex. Grand Treasurer Emeritus |
| Howard P. Bennett | R. Ex. Grand Secretary Emeritus |

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS PRESENT

Roy R. Wright, Jr.	1965	James W. MacDonald	1967
Walter H. Winchester	1971	Richard I. Lanier	1975
Joseph C. LeSuer	1977	Duane B. Young	1978
Wendell D. Harrington	1982	William A. Cogburn	1983
Vernon H. Miller	1988	R. Earl Shiver	1989
William G. Norrie	1991	Ewell J. Langdale, Jr.	1992
William L. Buck, Jr.	1993	William O. Walker	1994
Harry R. "Bob" Davis	1995	Harvey L. Ward, Sr.	1996

SILVER DISTINGUISHED MEDAL HOLDER

Marvin W. Gerhard

BRONZE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL HOLDERS LIVING

Joseph J. Johnson	1969**	Howard P. Bennett	1986**
Wallace P. Dix	1970	George A. Chipouras	1987**
Orville W. Cassidy	1972	Roy R. Wright, Jr.	1988**
Harold F. Enter	1976	Charles E. Palmour	1989**
Frank J. Busbey	1977	Lawrence L. Howell	1990**
Ralph A. Jones	1979**	William E. Eubanks	1993
C. Allen Pattison	1980**	Frederick M. Morris	1994**
Wallace C. Stich	1982	Quinnie R. Williams, Sr.	1996**
Willis M. Lewis	1985	J. D. Moffitt	1997**

(** Denotes Present)

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Adrian "Ray" Kinser | 2. William M. Miller |
| 3. Donald T. Harriott | 4. William F. Wyllie |
| 5. Gerald H. Favor | 6. Franklin L. Glenn |
| 7. Walter M. Hammond | 8. Hugh F. Moore |
| 9. Martin Reiser | 10. James E. Brown |

GRAND CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

AL	Paul W. Friend	AK	Steven Q. Steele
ARG	Joe Ken West	AZ	Richard J. Carr
AR	Luther Bodiford, III	BC	Robert E. Burluson
CAN-On	Richard I. Lanier	CT	Virgil P. Brown, Jr.
FIN	Daniel E. Dale	FR	H. Warren Almand, Jr.
GA	William O. Walker	GER	Dencil R. Smith
HI	Walter H. Winchester	ID	Rodger L. Craig, Sr.

IA	David C. Wilkinson	IRE	Howard P. Bennett
IS	Ralph A. Jones, Jr.	KS	Jacob J. Krawiec
KY	Robert F. Scott, Jr.	LA	J. Russell Hammond
ME	Wayne E. Parks	MB	Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr.
MD	James W. MacDonald	MA	James W. Dalzell
MEX	William A. Cogburn	MI	Earl R. Allan
MN	Clarence N. Gruber	MS	Gordon L. Anderson
MO	William L. Buck, Jr.	MT	Duane B. Young
NE	George A. Chipouras	NETH	Leonard E. Whitehead
NV	Richard A. Young	NH	Addison A. Bennett
NSW	James B. Vanders	NY	Marvin W. Gerhard
NZ	Quinnie R. Williams	NWFLD	George Lundrigan
NS	Robert A. Niles	OH	Vernon H. Miller
OK	C. Allen Pattison	OR	R. Earl Shiver
PAN	Ralph O. Sheppard	PI	Frederick R. Young
QUE	Leslie H. Scott, Jr.	AUS	Roy R. Wright, Jr.
RI	George E. Malonc	SASK	Jack P. Rickels
SCOT	William A. Howard	S/AUS	Harry R. Davis
SC	Robert C. Wilson	SD	Robert G. Stearns
TN	William G. Norrie	TX	Wendell D. Harrington
UT	Columbus Webb	VT	Wm. Robert Young
VA	Harvey L. Ward, Sr.	WA	Ewell J. Langdale, Jr.
W/AUS	Frederick M. Morris	WI	Joseph J. Johnson
WY	Hugh F. Moore		

REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Florida	No. 1	Joseph D. Moffitt	Proxy
		James Jackson	King
		Orman Van Ardsale	Proxy
Gainesville	No. 2	Harvey L. Ward, Jr.	HP
		Harvey L. Ward, Sr.	Proxy
		William Sanderson	Scribe
Tampa - Cushing	No. 3	Robert Moore	HP
		William Stedham	King
		Ernest Fry	Scribe
St. Johns	No. 4	Ronald Fritch	Proxy
		William Schuck	King
Halifax	No. 5	Elmer Geraldts	HP
		Harry U. Criss	King
		Edwin B. Moore, III	Proxy

Mt. Horeb	No. 6	Charles Green	HP
		Harry Seibert	Proxy
		Edward Bush	Proxy
Eureka	No. 7	Douglas Noden	HP
		Virgil D. Albright	King
		John Fletcher, Jr.	Proxy
Dade City	No. 8	Steven R. Dieckober	Proxy
		Louie King	King
Putman	No. 9	Jack Hawkins	Proxy
		Robert Niles	Proxy
		William Buck	Proxy
Jericho	No. 11	George A. Chipouras	Proxy
		George A. Chipouras	Proxy
		Leroy Fackler	Proxy
Jacksonville	No. 12	William Ferrell	HP
		Albert Russ Jr.	King
Ocala	No. 13	James Rudman	HP
		Durward W. Eastman	King
Monroe	No. 15	David Brown	HP
Plant City	No. 16	Donald Carnley	HP
		John Hancock	Proxy
		Timothy Surrency	Proxy
St. Augustine	No. 17	Frederick Shone	HP
		Burt Maguire	Proxy
		Reuben Owens	Proxy
Manatee River	No. 18	Jesse Johnson	HP
		Robert Ramich	Scribe
Keystone	No. 20	Cyril M. Shortle	Scribe
Thomas Brown	No. 22	Timothy Moore	HP
		Jack Hacker	King
		Robert Herrault	Scribe
Palm Beach	No. 24	Robert Stearns	Proxy
		James Worth	King
Live Oak	No. 25	Donald Mock	Scribe
Indian River	No. 27	George H. James	HP
		Edward Campbell	Scribe
Joppa	No. 28	Paul W. Friend	Proxy
Lakeland	No. 29	Tom Pruitt	HP
		William Wyllie	King

St. Petersburg	No. 31	William Green	HP
		Ralph Vaughn	King
		Ronald Wybrow	Scribe
Jackson	No. 32	Oscar Cullizer	Proxy
		H. Warren Almand	Proxy
Eustis	No. 33	Stuart Sadler	HP
		Charles Cole	King
Sarasota	No. 35	Calvin Bonnett	HP
		Malcom Ryder	Proxy
		C. Allen Pattison	Proxy
Lake City	No. 38	Charles Beecher	HP
Bay County	No. 39	Larry Layton	Proxy
Crestview	No. 40	James E. Brown	Proxy
		James E. Brown	Proxy
		James E. Brown	Proxy
Winter Haven	No. 41	Norman L. Hilt	HP
		Holloway Rollins III	King
		Jack Shoemaker	Scribe
Clearwater	No. 45	Michael Bennett	HP
Duval	No. 48	Jerry Walding	HP
Nassau	No. 49	John Pugliese	HP
		Danny Fullwood	King
Poinciana	No. 50	Lewis Fish	HP
		Guy Waltman	Proxy
Surf	No. 57	Robert G. Melvin	HP
		Don Pettit	King
Melbourne	No. 59	Jon F. Egerton	HP
		Ted Ferris	Proxy
James Yeager	No. 62	Daniel Somma	Proxy
		Ernest Beeman	Scribe
Eden	No. 63	Luke DeRoberts	HP
Highlands	No. 64	Frank Whittam	HP
Island	No. 65	Michael A. Padron, Jr.	HP
Challenger	UD	J.C. Merritt	HP
		Wm. Robert Young	Proxy
		George Neven	Scribe

RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We find that the Grand Officers and Representatives of Chartered Chapters furnished by the Grand Recorder at the roll call to be correct, with all having made and paid per capita. Further we find there to be 176 votes present on the floor. This constitutes a simple majority as 89 votes and a 2/3's majority as 118 votes. We further find that all Chartered Chapters are represented.

Gordon Anderson	J.W. MacDonald	Walter Hammond
Wendell Harrington	George Malone	A.J. Graulich

GRAND CHAPTER AWARDS FOR 1997 - 98**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
BRONZE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

Charles B. Curry
Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22

GOLD KEY AWARDS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Chap # - Dist #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Chap # - Dist #</u>
John H. Eason	11 1	Malcolm B. Ryder	35 2
Kenneth E. Rudolph	3 3	Joseph Mirabella	7 5
William G. Stacey	59 6	Reuben L. Owens	17 7
Charles D. Valerius	15 5	Walter Breyer	4 5
Danny Fullwood	49 7	Charles E. Green, Sr.	6 10

GRAND HIGH PRIEST AWARD

St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31, District No. 3

TRIPLE TAU AWARD

Nassau Chapter No. 49, District No. 7

KEYSTONE PLAQUE

Plant City Chapter No. 16, District No. 4

TOP LINE SIGNER AWARDS**5 TO 9 PETITIONS**

District No. 1	Jericho	No. 11	George A. Chipouras
District No. 7	Nassau	No. 49	M. Daniel Fullwood

3 TO 4 PETITIONS

District No. 5	St. Johns	No. 4	Frederick R. Young
	Monroe	No. 15	Roy R. Wright, Jr.
District No. 6	Indian River	No. 27	Franklin L. Glenn
District No. 7	Putman	No. 9	Grady B. Law
			David C. Wilkinson
	Duval	No. 48	Cecil L. Wright
District No. 8	Gainesville	No. 2	James L. Campbell

There were 105 Top Line Signers of 1 to 2 Petitions added to the above awardee's. There was a Grand Total of 137 Top Line Signers.

FIFTY YEAR PIN AND CERTIFICATE

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Frederick R. Young, was very pleased to present a 50 Year Pin and Certificate to Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest Joseph C. LeSuer. The M. Ex. Grand High Priest then caused the Grand Honors to be rendered to our Most Excellent Companion. The M. Ex. Grand High Priest made appropriate comments, M. E. Companion Joseph E. LeSuer was deeply moved. Many congratulations were given from the Craft.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

On May 15, 1998, the Audit Committee, consisting of Charles R. Denman, Chief Auditor; Columbus Webb and Robert Moyer, met with Duane B. Young, R. Ex. Grand Treasurer, and Wm. Robert Young, R. Ex. Grand Secretary, at the office of the Grand Secretary/Recorder in Titusville, Florida.

At the beginning of the meeting, the R. Ex. Grand Secretary advised the committee that legislation had been submitted to change the fiscal year from April 30th to May 31st of each year. He had been requested to obtain opinions from various committees, including the Audit Committee. Discussion followed in which the following points were made:

1. This change would permit end of year and the Grand Session expenses to be charged to the proper year.

2. It would permit the Audit Committee to perform a more in-depth audit, as the time between the end of the year and the Grand Session is very short.

3. It would prevent the Audit Committee report from being presented to the craft during the annual session as the audit would not take place until June. The report would be included in the proceedings.

The Audit Committee is in favor of this change.

The R. Ex. Grand Secretary's and the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer's records were reviewed. All financial records were found to be in proper order.

Charles R. Denman

Columbus Webb

Robert W. Moyer

David C. Wilkinson

A summary report follows:

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS

INCOME

Per Capita Tax & Fees	\$ 24,451.00
150th Reimbursement (999)	64.00
Reimbursements (460)	555.79
Convention Committee	1,336.46
Interest Income	15,290.34
Other	1,182.89
Total Income	\$ 42,880.48

DISBURSEMENTS

General

Grand Secretary's Salary	\$ 2,799.96
Grand Secretary's Assistant	3,999.96
Grand York Rite Payroll Tax	1,025.10
Federal Unemployment Tax	52.27
Florida Unemployment Tax	76.91
Grand High Priest	2,500.00
Grand King	800.00
District Deputies	0.00
Grand Treasurer Expense	1,200.00
Accountant & Audit Committee	100.00

Grand Secretary Expense	600.00
Grand Secretary's Assistant Allowance	200.00
Chairman Charity Committee	250.00
Committee on Work	118.36
Delegate's Per Diem	9,762.43
Distinguished Guests	1,068.81
S. E. Conference	200.00
Library Committee	300.00
District Meetings	485.75
February Meeting	0.00
Masonic Youth	240.00
Masonic Home	1,000.00

Grand Secretary's Office

Miscellaneous	600.00
Postage	800.00
Rent	1,000.00
Telephone	800.00
Electric	400.00
Computer Expense	100.00
Maintenance	300.00

Miscellaneous

Printing	1,108.99
Summer Assembly	100.00
Proceedings	1,873.80
YR Publications	1,133.33
Education & Training	0.00
Corporate Fee	61.25
Per Capita Tax	3,575.70
Reimbursables	1,177.76
Awards	162.77
Insurance	526.66
Plaques and Markers	0.00
Jewel, Apron & Case	755.45
Contingencies	680.00
Out of Budget - Copier	1,452.20
Out of Budget - 150th Anniversary.	5,334.87
Depreciation	403.84

Total Disbursements	\$ 49,126.17
GAIN	(\$ 6,245.69)

BALANCE SHEET**ASSETS**

General Fund	\$ 29,228.11
Savings Account	0.00
Certificates of Deposit	171,000.00
Charity Fund	6,865.87
Convention Fund	2,339.78
Triennial Fund	820.91
Library Fund	598.41
Grand High Priest's Jewel	4,000.00

DEPRECIABLE ASSETS

Office Equipment	\$ 9,450.79
Paraphernalia	11,061.25
Total	20,512.04
Accrued Depreciation	19,011.23
Net Depreciable Assets	1,500.81

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 216,353.89

LIABILITIES AND Liabilities \$ 0.00

NET WORTH Net Worth \$ 216,353.89

Total Liabilities & Net Worth \$ 216,353.89

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

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

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

**BLUE LODGE REPRESENTATIVES & MEMBERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

An examination of the membership list report for 1996-1997 again shows a loss of membership. This committee feels that this loss could have been greatly reduced if not eliminated if personal contact had been made with those members who were delinquent in their dues. While we cannot control losses from death and demit to other jurisdiction, loss of membership through NPD is an area we can influence. Let

us see if we cannot instill such a sense of pride that the loss of one's membership would be unthinkable. Membership development concerns the education of our officers as well as instilling a sense of pride and desire to maintain membership. One way to accomplish this is through education of our membership in the history, principles and benevolence of the Rite.

On a happier note there is an increase in making the York Rite more accessible to the Masons of Florida. Three new chapters have been formed in the last eighteen months and planning is in progress for the formation of another new chapter in the near future. An assumption is that we have gotten better at selling our Rite to other Masons. Let's keep up the good work.

There seems to be a trend back to some of the "old" ways, and it is showing positive results. A number of our York Rite Bodies have been experimenting with "slow" classes and festivals spread over several weekends. Both have yielded candidates in numbers that would surprise those who say that modern men do not have the time to sit through several days of degree work. Our newest chapter in the Florida Keys has begun a slow class. The Mark Master Degree was conferred on nineteen candidates at the end of February. The results of the "word" getting out was an additional ten petitions. At this time they are planning to confer both the Mark Master and Past Masters Degree during the month of April. Good work is generating good results.

The Blue Lodge Representative Program is still a vital link in the recruitment of new members. A strong, self motivated and well-educated member, active in the day to day business of our Blue Lodges is our best asset. A continued emphasis on this program as well as development of better sales methods and materials, needs to be an ongoing effort of the Grand Chapter.

Your Committee wishes to thank the Grand High Priest for the opportunity to serve on this committee. We hope we have served the craft well.

Steven Q. Steele
Wilbur R. Allen

Jack Rickles
Charles Boice

W. Ronald Taylor
Robert G. Stearns

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget and Finance committee met and several changes in the budget were made, there were a few increases, but mostly decreases. There was money added for 10003 Office assistant (part time). The budget was decreased From \$49,605.00 to

\$37,920.00, a decrease of \$ 11,685.00. A special thanks to Leslie Scott for reducing the Grand High Priest allowance from \$3,000 to \$1,000.

The new budget may be found in the Grand Treasurer's Report. There will be a final meeting at the Grand Convocation for final review of the budget.

Leslie H. Scott, Jr.	R. Earl Shiver	Keith W. Dean
William O. Walker	Duane B. Young	Wm. Robert Young

CHARTERS, DISPENSATIONS & BY-LAWS

On 19 February, 1998 several Royal Arch Companions met to discuss, organize and petition to form a Royal Arch Chapter in Mims, Florida. The petition was submitted with 28 signatures. All forms and documentation accompanying the petition were in proper order.

The petition was granted and Challenger Chapter UD was set to work by the M. E. Grand High Priest, Frederick R. Young, on 5 March 1998. This Chapter will meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Gateway Lodge # 384, in Mims.

The Chapter has demonstrated its ability to open and close the Chapter, receive distinguished visitors, and confer the Mark Master Degree to the satisfaction of the Committee on Work; and its ability to properly administer the affairs of the Chapter to the Grand Secretary.

On May 1, 1998, a petition for charter was submitted to the Grand Secretary. The by-laws, and all forms and other documentation were found to be in order by this committee.

The Committee on Work, the Grand Secretary, and this Committee have concurred that Challenger Chapter UD is ready to be granted a charter. Therefore, the Committee on Charters, Dispensations and By-Laws recommends that Challenger UD be granted a charter, hereafter to be known as Challenger No. 66, Royal Arch Masons of Florida.

This Committee wishes to thank the M. E. Grand High Priest for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter RAM.

Virgil P. Brown, Jr.

Robert A. Niles

PETITION FOR CHARTER

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, Greetings:

We, the undersigned Officers and members, all regular and lawful Companion Royal Arch Masons, of that certain Royal Arch Chapter working Under Dispensation dated March 5, 1998 and on that date Set to Labor in the City of Mims, Brevard County of Florida under the Style and Title of Challenger Chapter UD Royal Arch Masons, by these presents, declare that this UD Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons has met or exceeded the primary requirements as set forth by the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, to which we hold our allegiance.

Therefore, be it known to the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Right Excellent Grand King and the Right Excellent Grand Scribe, along with the other officers and members of this sovereign Grand Chapter that We, the members of Challenger Chapter UD, Royal Arch Masons do petition and Pray that the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida at its Annual Grand Convocation in the City of Tampa on May 20, AD 1998 AI 2528, grant our beloved Chapter a Charter and assign it a number so that it may be recognized as a Regular Chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction of Florida.

This Petition is accompanied by the payment of the fee as prescribed in Chapter 17.03 of the Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Chapter.

This Petition For Charter made and dated this 1st day of May, AD 1998, AI 2528.

J. C. Merritt, Excellent High Priest	D. Lamar Surrency, King
George Neven, Scribe	Warren M. Young, Treasurer
	Wm. Robert Young, Secretary

COMMITTEE ON THANKS

The 151st Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida is deeply indebted to the Officers and Members of the Third District's York Rite Bodies who have invested so much time and labor to host this successful Annual Convention.

To the Convention Committee, consisting of Walter M. Hammond, Alan J. Graulich, and Gordon Anderson, who keep tying all the loose ends of this Convention together, and they are a tremendous study in stamina, patience, and perseverance.

To the Ladies, both here and at home, who have supported and encouraged our members to participate and be active. You have always been the catalyst that makes this session and the local meetings a memorable success. We have been to many District Meetings and local activities around the state, and your presence, has made a difference as stark as night and day. Thank you, also, for your fund raising efforts, not only this week, but all year long, for they are deeply appreciated by each of us and by the eventual recipients.

To Our Distinguished Guests, who have joined us from outside this Grand Jurisdiction, and the Officers and Representatives of the Grand Lodge of Florida, F. & A.M. Your attendance and continuing assistance has given a deeper sense of purpose to this Grand Convocation and encourages us in promoting our day-to-day programs and events.

To the Family of R.E.C. Ronnie K. Griffis, P.D.D.G.H.P. (Dist. 8), for sharing him with us; his involvement and hard work strengthened our Fraternity. We truly feel a loss with his passing and want you to know that we are here if you need us.

To our Grand presiding officers, M.W. Samuel E. Cowan, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Florida, M.E. Grand High Priest Frederick R. Young, M.I. Grand Master Daniel E. Dale, and S.K. Carl E. Gilmore, R.E. Grand Commander, for their extensive efforts in promoting and guiding the Craft this past year. Most notably, they demonstrated and emphasized unity, charity, and fellowship.

Robert G. Stearns

Francis L. Dancy

COMMITTEE ON WORK

It is our pleasure to report that by the efforts and cooperation of the District Deputies and Presiding Officers of the constituent chapters we were privileged to have instruction periods in their districts, and for this we are indeed grateful and thank them for their assistance.

In the past there has been confusion concerning the REDBOOK and the RITUAL, but it is now our opinion that having replaced the REDBOOK with APPENDIX "D", that much of the confusion has been eliminated and the Companions have a clearer understanding of the changes prescribed by this committee and approved by this Grand Chapter.

We have observed growing interest by the Companions to improve floor work and conferral of the degrees, and endeavoring to eliminate the use of rituals, except that of the prompter, and we are grateful for this.

A member of this committee had the pleasure of being present and enjoyed the fellowship of the companions of Challenger Chapter UD when they were set to work by our M.E. Grand High Priest and to assist them in preparing for inspection required by this committee prior to granting a charter. We thank all Companions of Challenger Chapter UD for their assistance and cooperation, and our special thanks to E. Companion Virgil Brown and R.E. Companion Robert Young for their time and efforts.

On Feb. 24th a member of this committee again met with these companions and observed them showing great interest in chapter work. They showed great proficiency in opening the Chapter, reception of distinguished guests, closing the Chapter and conferral of the Mark Master Degree on four Master Masons.

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

We wish to thank all Companions for their cooperation and all District Deputies for their able assistance, and to M.E. Companion Frederick R. Young for granting us the privilege and pleasure of serving this Grand Chapter.

J. W. MacDonald

Duane B. Young

Vernon H. Miller

Richard I. Lanier

Steven Q. Steele

CONSTITUTION, INDEX & UPDATE COMMITTEE

The Constitution Review Committee received twelve resolutions or proposals to amend the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida. This Committee assigned numbers to each proposed amendment for identification and reference purposes only. (Refer to Report of Jurisprudence Committee for amendment identification.)

In addition to the twelve proposed amendments listed elsewhere, one proposed amendment entitled "Eternal Membership" was presented as unfinished business from the 1997 Grand Convocation.

Ten of the twelve proposed amendments were properly received and distributed by the Grand Secretary in accord with Article XXI, Amendments, Section 2, Filing. Two proposed amendments and the "Eternal Membership" amendment were not received and distributed in the prescribed manner. However, this Committee is grateful to the R.E. Grand Commander, S.K. Carl Gilmore, for permitting us to distributed those proposals during the Grand Commandery Conclave, thereby allowing action by the Companion Delegates in accord with Article XXI, Amendments, Section 4, Exception to Notice Required.

This Committee reviewed each proposed amendment for applicability, appropriateness, completeness and legality. In coordination with the Jurisprudence Committee, each proposed amendment was further reviewed and evaluated. The coordinated recommendations for each proposed amendment is stated in the adopted Report of Jurisprudence Committee.

During the course of the review process, proposed Amendment No. 4 was withdrawn by the proposer.

This Committee presented the following proposed amendments to the Companion Delegates at the Grand Convocation session:
(Refer to Report of Jurisprudence Committee for identification)

The Chairman of this Committee presented the proposed amendment entitled "Eternal Membership" and moved its adoption. The motion was duly seconded. Substantial discussion, pro and con, by several distinguished delegates ensued. The vote on the motion by the delegates failed the two-thirds majority required. The proposed amendment was thereby rejected.

The Chairman of this Committee, moved that the recommendations and/or review findings, as stated in the Report of Jurisprudence Committee, for proposed amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 be adopted. Motion was duly seconded and passed by more than a two-thirds majority.

The Chairman of this Committee presented the following proposed amendments to the Companion Delegates for adoption:

Amendment No. 6 proposed to amend Chapter 12, Section 10.01, Laws, Rules and Regulations for this Grand Chapter to read:

"Chapter Twelve – Grand Convocations and Proceedings"

12.01 Convocation and Proceedings.

The Grand Convocations of this Grand Chapter shall be holden as provided in its Constitution and these Regulations, and its proceedings recorded and published in accord therewith. All business of the Grand Chapter, including the conferral of the Order of High Priesthood, and with the exception of necessary work by Committees, shall be completed on the day of the Grand Convocation. (Effective May 20, 1998).

Amendment duly adopted by more than two-thirds majority.

Amendment No. 8 proposed to amend Chapter 13, Section 13.04 b, Laws, Rules and Regulations for this Grand Chapter to read:

"Chapter Thirteen – Grand Chapter Committees and Convention Board (General Provisions)"

13.04 York Rite Convention Board

b. Election and Term.

The Board shall consist of one member from each Grand York Rite Body plus the Grand Secretary. (Effective May 20, 1998).

Amendment duly adopted by more than two-thirds majority.

Amendment No. 11 proposed to amend Chapter 30, Laws, Rules and Regulations for this Grand Chapter to read:

"Chapter Thirty - Chapter Returns And Reports to Grand Chapter"

30.01 Annual Returns

The Per Capita Tax levied against constituent Chapters and paid with their Returns not later than 15 February each year shall be Four Dollars (\$4.00). This amendment becomes effective December 28, 1999.

30.03 Grand Chapter Levies.

Every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall pay into the Treasury of the Grand Chapter, at such times as may be provided for by the Regulations the following fees and dues: For every Exaltation, Ten Dollars; For every member of the Chapter who has Membership during the

Capitular year, the sum of Four Dollars (\$4.00); and, until such returns are made, no Chapter shall be entitled to representation in this Grand Chapter. Provided, however, that Members exempt from payment of dues by provisions of the Constitution and Regulations shall not be included and accounted for in the returns; Provided further, that the Members who have Membership in more than one Chapter during the year shall only be accounted for by the Chapter wherein such Members had a Membership during the year, except in the case of newly-chartered Chapters. Members whose names appear upon the returns of the Chapter of which they were former Members and also upon the returns of newly-chartered Chapters shall be accounted for by such newly-chartered Chapters only. This amendment becomes effective December 28, 1999.

Amendment duly adopted by more than two-thirds majority.

Amendment No. 12 proposed to formally adopt Appendix "D" (Instructions and Guidelines for conferral of Royal Arch Degrees and Ceremonies), to the Constitution of this Grand Chapter as revised May 20, 1997; and as published and distributed during the 1997 Capitular Year.

Amendment No. 12 further proposed that Page D-1, Appendix "D", be corrected to delete: "There will be a resolution submitted in 1998 for adoption of this Appendix"; and add "Adopted May 20, 1998."

Appendix "D" and the proposed corrections were formally adopted by more than two-thirds majority.

This Committee expresses their appreciation for the opportunity to serve this Grand Chapter.

Vernon H. Miller

Harvey L. Ward, Sr.

Wm. Robert Young

PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Companions on behalf of the Convention Committee let me welcome you to Tampa for the 151st Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida. It has been some time since we have been on the west coast, and we hope that you have enjoyed their hospitality along with attending to the Grand Chapter business.

Let me preface this report with a statement of actuality. As you can surely tell over the last few years, we, meaning the Grand Presiding Officers and this committee, have experimented with the format of the convention. Things such as moving the banquet, changing degree times, having a bar-b-que, even an ice cream social which you will be enjoying this evening. It is vital to us to have your input on these changes. Please let this committee, or a Grand Line Officer know. This is your convention, and all of us are trying to make this event as interesting and enjoyable as possible.

This year we have 320 Companions in attendance along with 154 of their ladies. Last night we enjoyed an outstanding banquet with 308 Companions and guests present. The level of fellowship was extremely high and this committee has received no complaints at all. In fact, all of the comments were extremely favorable. The attendance at our mens lunch was outstanding with 168 Sir Knights enjoying the brotherhood. At the ladies lunch, we had 132 of our ladies enjoy the fellowship along with an excellent fashion show.

Companions, let me address a problem which confronted us this year. Procrastination. This year the registration packets went out approximately 3 months before the convention. There were some companions who were turned away by the hotel because they did not get their room reservations in before the deadline. Further, we received 129 of the 308 banquet ticket requests within the ten day period prior to the convention. That is 41% of the total banquet attendance. These delays cause extreme problems both for this committee and the hotel we are utilizing. Next year please send in your registration forms in a timely manner. Also, it is convention committee policy that if you should register and pay your fees, and it later turns out that you are unable to attend, your money will be refunded.

Again let me welcome you to Tampa, and we hope that you have a rich and rewarding stay.

Gordon Anderson
Wendell Harrington

J.W. MacDonald
George Malone

Walter Hammond
A.J. Graulich

FINAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Income:	Beginning Balance	\$ 724.00
	Advertising Income	7,278.00
	Registration	2,890.00
	Banquet	5,773.00
	Ladies Luncheon	812.00
	Mens Luncheon	1,948.87

Total Income:		\$ 19,425.87
Expenses:	Program Expense	\$ 3,297.00
	Fruit Baskets	293.30
	Hospitality	82.50
	Banquet, Men & Ladies Lunch	7,551.00
	Ice Cream Social	1,056.25
	Office Supplies	181.16
	Postage	310.18
	Telephone	47.00
	Miscellaneous	5.00
Total Expenses:		\$ 12,823.39
Balance remaining in checking		\$ 500.00
Net for 1998 Convention		\$ 6,102.48

This year it was the choice of the Grand Presiding Officers, and the Convention Committee that we venture to the west coast of Florida for our annual convention. We chose the Camberly Plaza in Tampa. Even though it was sold just ten days before our convention and became a Radisson, we were treated to an outstanding convention, held at an outstanding facility. The Management and staff really opened their arms wide for us and as far as we are aware the event was enjoyed by all.

Before we examine the cold facts about the convention, we would be remiss if we did not thank Anne Taylor and her crew for another marvelous bazaar. Each year it seems to get better and better. Thanks for all your hard work. Further, we are all well aware of the importance of coffee and food at any Masonic function. This year's hospitality room was handled by Rita Moore and Linda Makal. Superlatives are insufficient to describe the praise we heard this year from the Companions and Sir Knights. All of these ladies deserve the gratefulness not only of this committee but every York Rite Mason in attendance. When you get an opportunity, be sure to thank them.

The attendance of our ladies was down this year from the previous year and thus the attendance at the ladies lunch was down slightly. Those attending were treated to a fantastic time of fellowship along with a fashion show.

We have heard nothing but praise for the Mens Lunch, the Companions and Sir Knights enjoyed the Lasagna along with the excellent service provided by the hotel.

We are in an innovative period with our convention. Over the course of the next several years we, the Grand lines and the convention committee, will be

experimenting with several ideas on how to improve the convention, on how to make the convention more enjoyable to all, and on reducing the cost of the convention. We do not know if all of these innovations will work, but we will be trying them slowly to see how each of you likes them. This year the major innovation was moving the banquet to Sunday night. We sold 309 banquet tickets and it was one of our best attended banquets in recent memory. From the input we have received from the Companions and Sir Knights, they seemed to agree that this was a good idea.

Florida Graphics was once again the low bidder for our souvenir program. They did an outstanding job again this year and deserve our thanks. It would be timely to remind you that our souvenir program is an excellent representation of York Rite in Florida. Each year, however, we struggle to get ads for it. It is imperative that the Grand Lines and the District Deputies get started in selling the ads early, not just to the Masonic Family, but to all with whom we come in contact.

Another innovation that occurred this year was adding Returns and Credentials documentation. We had 11 companions and Sir Knights attempt to register for mileage and per diem without registering at the convention. This year the number jumped to 23. First, this means a loss of \$230.00 to the Grand Bodies. Second, we find it hard to believe that these Companions and Sir Knights did not realize that they had to register with the convention. 18 of these Gentlemen had been to at least three conventions in the past. Finally, since we have the new system of cross checking, when we identify these Brothers we have to send someone out to find them. We do not have the manpower to continually be tracking down these Companions and Sir Knights. Please take the time to follow the convention registration procedures.

Preregistration is critical to our convention. The Grand Secretary utilizes the convention packets to distribute the new directories and legislative packets. By preregistering you are insuring that you get this vital information and that we do not run out.

Speaking of our Grand Secretary, let me take the time to thank Comp/Sir Knight Robert Young for his assistance and especially thank Chris Dixon for her outstanding work.

Finally, special thanks need to go to Mrs. Shirley Anderson and Mrs. Elaine Graulich for their help and assistance in manning the registration desk. Without their help, we would be unable to provide each of you with the services that we do.

Gordon Anderson	Walter Hammond	James W. MacDonald
George Malone	Wendell Harrington	A. J. Graulich

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

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

Junior Past Grand Commander Carl E. Gilmore, and Junior Past Illustrious Grand Master Daniel E. Dale, were introduced and joined the Most Excellent Grand High Priest Frederick R. Young, in the following receptions.

Visiting Grand High Priests introduced were:

M.E. Companion Calvin C. Snow	Grand High Priest AL.
M.E. Companion L.S. "Sam" Lee III	Grand High Priest GA.
M.E. Companion W. Berry Rigdon	Grand High Priest NC.
M.E. Companion Rawl J. Scheibler	Grand High Priest SC.

Other visiting Grand/Past Grand Officers were introduced:

- M.E. Companion Luther Lee, Past Grand High Priest, Ala.
- M.E. Companion G. Gordon Goodman, Past Grand Illustrious Master, MI.
- M.E. Companion Stephen Piner, Past Grand High Priest, Conn.
- M.E. Companion Alan F. Walker, Past M.E. Grand First Principal, Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Canada in Ontario and Grand Representative of Florida near Canada.
- R.E. Companion Everett Campbell Deputy Grand High Priest, Ill.
- R.E. Companion Robert C. Simpson, Grand Secretary Germany and Grand Representative of Florida near Germany.
- R.E. Companion Johnnie T. Morris, Grand Secretary R.A.M., SC
- R.E. Companion Charles Wagner, Personal representative of M.E.G.H.P. Clifton Whitlock of Virginia.
- R.E. Companion David C. Foster, Grand Rep. Of Florida near Michigan.
- R.E. Companion Richard J. Carr, P.D.D.G.H.P. Fla and Right Eminently Distinguished Grand Governor of Florida for the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

The following Past Grand High Priests of Grand Chapter of Florida were introduced:

M.E.C. Roy Richardson Wright, Jr.	1965-66
M.E.C. James Wesley MacDonald	1967-68

M.E.C. Walter Henry Winchester	1971-72
General Grand High Priest, General Grand Chapter R.A.M. Intl. - 1985-87	
M.E.C. Richard Ivey Lanier	1975-76
M.E.C. Joseph Cyrus LeSuer	1977-78
& Current Intendant General Red Cross of Constantine	
M.E.C. Duane Blondell Young	1978-79
M.E.C. Wendell Debril Harrington	1982-83
M.E.C. William Addison Cogburn, Jr.	1983-84
M.E.C. Vernon Howard Miller	1988-89
M.E.C. Randal Earl Shiver	1989-90
M.E.C. William Galbraith Norrie	1991-92
M.E.C. Ewell Juan Langdale, Jr.	1992-93
M.E.C. William L. Buck, Jr.	1993-94
M.E.C. William Orville Walker	1994-95
M.E.C. Harvey LaGrande Ward, Sr.	1996-97

The following representatives of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of FL. were introduced:

- Right Worshipful Keith W. Dean, Senior Grand Warden
- Right Worshipful Louie King, Junior Grand Warden
- Most Worshipful Michael A. Padron, Jr., Past Grand Master
- Worshipful C. Allen Pattison, Grand Tyler Emeritus

Current Officers of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Mason International were introduced as follows:

- M.E.C. William O. Walker, General Grand Ambassador to Florida.
- M.E.C. Ralph O. Sheppard, P.G.H.P. of Panama and General Grand Chapter Permanent Ambassador.
- M.E.C. J. Jacques Sweeney, P.G.H.P. of Tennessee, and SouthEastern Regional Deputy General Grand High Priest (also General Grand Master of the 2nd Veil).
- M.E.C. Murray E. Cooke, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International.

Your Committee was pleased to have the opportunity to introduce these distinguished guests.

Duane B. Young	John B. Fletcher, Jr.	William O. Walker
	assisted by E. C. Jonathan Monroe	

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S REPORT

To the Officers, District Deputies, Past Grand High Priests, Distinguished Guests, and members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida.

It is indeed a pleasure and an honor to welcome each of you to the One Hundred Fifty-First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida. We are pleased and honored to have you in attendance. We trust that you have been properly received and that your accommodations are satisfactory. To our distinguished guests from other jurisdictions we extend a most cordial greeting; and to the members of this Grand Chapter, we are happy to have you present to attend to its business.

State of the Craft

Capitular Masonry and the York Rite are alive and more than well in Florida. During this year we returned to the system of District Meetings and held one meeting in each Capitular District, all of which were enthusiastically attended. Growth in another area was evident as we were able to institute and set to work another new Chapter, Challenger Chapter U.D., meeting at Gateway Lodge No. 384 in Mims, Brevard County. I was able to visit the two Chapters instituted in 1996-97 and was most impressed by the progress made therein. Island Chapter No. 65 in Marathon, Monroe County, has more than thirty petitions being processed.

There are some problems that continue to plague several of our Chapters, mainly loss of membership due to NPD's. We can overcome deaths with new exaltations, but NPD's, which on many occasions can be prevented, remain a continuing problem. We advise all constituent Chapters to follow the procedures outlined in Chapter 27.01 of our Constitution in connection with suspension for non-payment of dues. This procedure is **mandatory**, although frequently not followed. Overall Capitular Masonry continues to exhibit growth potential, and only needs occasional infusions of strong leadership to continue established growth patterns.

During the past year the Grand Master of the Third Veil resigned and that vacancy was filled by advancing Ex. Comp. H. Warren Almand, Jr. to Grand Master of the Third Veil; advancing Ex. Comp. Luther Bodiford, III to Grand Master of the Second Veil; advancing Ex. Comp. Robert G. Stearns to Grand Master of the First Veil; by appointing Rt. Ex. Dist. Deputy G.H.P. Glenn E. Chandler to Grand Sentinel. The ensuing vacancy in District 7 was filled by appointing Ex. Comp. Walter Hammond as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the 7th District. All of these Companions

were installed at an impressive ceremony at St. Johns Chapter No. 4 in DeLand on January 24, 1998. I later appointed Rt. Ex. Comp. Hugh F. Moore to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of Rt. Ex. Comp. Ronnie K. Griffis in District No. 8. Rt. Ex. Comp. Moore was subsequently installed in proper fashion.

Necrology

We are thankful that our Grand Line remained intact, with the exception of the previously reported resignation of the Grand Master of the Third Veil. However, one of our District Deputy Grand High Priests, Rt. Excellent Companion Ronnie K. Griffis was called home by the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth. He was truly a Royal Arch Mason who lived respected and died regretted. He is sorely missed by family, friends and Masonic Brethren and Companions. We also pause to pay tribute to the 224 other Companions of this Grand Chapter who relinquished their working tools and passed to their reward.

Come away, for Life and Thought
Here no longer dwell,
But in a city glorious -
A great and distant city - have bought
A mansion incorruptible.
Would they could have stayed with us!

Ex. Companion Chaplain, will you please offer up a prayer for the souls of our departed Companions.

Out Of State Visitations

Grand York Rite of Alabama, Birmingham, AL	Feb 22-24, 1998
Grand York Rite of So. Carolina, Myrtle Beach, SC	Mar. 8-10, 1998
Grand Chapter of Georgia, Macon, GA	Apr. 19-21, 1998

Out Of State Visitations Declined

Grand Chapter of Italy, declined due to distance and expense
Grand York Rite Bodies of Delaware, declined due to conflict in schedule.
Supreme Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Germany, declined due to distance and expense.
York Rite Grand Bodies of Arkansas, declined due to conflict in schedule.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Tennessee, declined due to conflict in schedule.

Grand York Rite Masonic Bodies of NC, declined due to conflict in schedule.

Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Portugal, declined due to time and distance.

Grand Chapter and Grand Council Annual Assembly of Mississippi, declined due to prior commitment.

My out-of-state visitations to Grand Chapters of Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia were especially interesting and rewarding with renewal of old friendships and establishment of new ones. I only regret that time and distance parameters prevented me from accepting many other invitations.

Official Visits and Masonic Activities - 1997-98

1997

- May 20 Elected and Installed M.E. Grand High Priest, Daytona Beach
 May 21 Formal opening of Grand Amaranth, Orlando Hilton North
 May 27 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.
 June 3 Stated Assembly, St. Johns Council No. 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
 June 15 Grand Lodge F.&A.M., Tampa - Banquet
 June 16 Grand Lodge F.&A.M. business session; Grand Master M.A. Padron's Reception, Egypt Temple.
 June 17 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, K.T. - DeLand
 June 20-22 Southeast Regional York Rite Conference, Chattanooga, TN
 June 24 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37 F.&A.M. - Treas.
 June 28 Grand Assembly, Int'l. Order of Rainbow for Girls - Clearwater
 June 29 Memorial Service for Ralph Weed, K.Y.C.H. - St. Johns Lodge, DeLand
 July 7 Official visit to Live Oak Chapter No. 25, R.A.M. - Mayo
 July 10 Official visit to Putnam Chapter No. 9, R.A.M. - Palatka
 July 17 Grand Master Cowan Official Visit to 16th Masonic Dist.
 July 18 Winter Haven Council No. 31, A.M.D. - Lakeland
 July 20 Planning session at Sanford Lodge for 5th District Fall Festival
 July 24 Official visit Nassau Chapter No. 49, R.A.M. - Fernandina Beach
 July 28 Formal opening of Florida DeMolay Association Annual Conclave - Gainesville University Center Hotel
 Aug. 11 Official visit Bay County Chapter No. 39, RAM - Panama City
 Aug. 12 Official visit to Lake City Chapter No. 38, R.A.M. - Lake City
 Aug. 14 Stated Assembly, Halifax Council No. 1 R.&S.M. - Ormond Beach
 Aug. 19 Official visit to St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, R.A.M. - St. Augustine

- Sept. 2 Stated Convocation, St. Johns Chapter No.4, R.A.M. - DeLand
 Sept. 4 Official visit Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22, R.A.M. - Bartow
 Sept. 7 Orlando York Rite Bodies Bar-B-Que - Orlando
 Sept. 8 Official visit to Florida Chapter No. 1, R.A.M. - Tallahassee
 Sept. 9 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No 37 F.&A.M. Treas.
 Sept. 10 Official visit to Indian River Chapter No. 27, R.A.M. - Cocoa
 Sept. 11 Official visit to Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, R.A.M. - Jacksonville
 Sept. 12 Official visit to Lakeland Chapter No. 29, R.A.M. - Lakeland
 Sept. 13 Fifth District School of Instruction - Eola Lodge, Orlando
 Sept. 16 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, K.T. DeLand
 Sept. 19 District Meeting, Third District - St. Petersburg
 Sept. 20 District Meeting, Fourth District - Bartow
 Sept. 21 York Rite Day at Masonic Home - St. Petersburg
 Sept. 23 Met with Grand Secretary - Titusville
 Sept. 23 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.
 Sept. 26 Conferred Mark Master Degree at Okceehobee Lodge
 Sept. 27 Conferred Mark Master Degree at 5th Dist. Festival- Sanford
 Oct. 3 District Meeting, Ninth District - Marianna
 Oct. 4 District Meeting, Tenth District - Pensacola
 Oct. 7 Stated Assembly, St. Johns Council No. 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
 Oct. 9 Stated Assembly, Halifax Council No 1, R.&S.M. - Ormond Beach
 Oct. 10 Stated Conclave, Triangle Commandery No. 38, K.T. - Eustis
 Oct. 13 Stated Communication, Volusia Lodge No. 77, F&AM - Barberville
 Oct. 14 Official visit to Monroe Chapter No. 15, R.A.M. - Sanford
 Oct. 16 Official visit to Manatee River Chapter No. 18, R.A.M. - Palmetto
 Oct. 17 Official visit to Sarasota Chapter No. 35, R.A.M. - Venice
 Oct. 18 Super Excellent Master Degree at Winter Haven & Octoberfest. Presented 50-year Pin and Certificate to Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest James W. MacDonald.
 Oct. 21 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery, No. 36, K.T.-DeLand
 Oct. 23 Official visit James Yeager Chapter No. 62, R.A.M. - Lawtey
 Oct. 27 Official visit to Duval Chapter No. 48, R.A.M. - Jacksonville
 Oct. 28 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas
 Nov. 4 Official visit to St. Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. - DeLand
 Nov. 6 Official visit to Keystone Chapter No. 20, R.A.M. - Ft. Lauderdale
 Nov. 7 Official visit to Jericho Chapter No. 11, R.A.M. - Miami
 Nov. 10 Official visit to Plant City Chapter No. 16, R.A.M. -Plant City
 Nov. 11 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas
 Nov. 14 District Meeting, District 8 - Shrine Club, Lake City

- Nov. 15 District Meeting, District 7 - York Rite Temple, Jacksonville
Table Chapter, Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, R.A.M. - Jacksonville
- Nov. 18 Deltona Hi-12 Club - DeBary
Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, - DeLand
- Nov. 19 O.E.S. No. 16 Dinner at St. Johns Lodge No. 37
- Nov. 25 Official visit Eden Chapter No. 63, R.A.M. - New Port Richey
- Nov. 28 Official visit Tampa-Cushing Chapter No. 3, R.A.M. - Tampa
Presented 50-Yr. Pin and Certificate to Comp. Robert M. McDonald
- Dec. 2 Stated Convocation, St. Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. and
Stated Assembly, St. Johns Council No 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
- Dec. 3 Official visit to Dade City Chapter No. 8, R.A.M. - Dade City
- Dec. 4 Official visit to Winter Haven Chapter No. 41, R.A.M. Winter Haven
Winter Haven Council No. 31, A.M.D. - Lakeland
- Dec. 5 Christmas Parade as Grand High Priest - DeLand
- Dec. 6 Official visit to Eureka Chapter No. 7, R.A.M. - Orlando
- Dec. 11 District Meeting, District 6 - Harbor Lodge, Melbourne
- Dec. 12 District Meeting, District 1, Oleta Lodge, Miami
- Dec. 13 Stated Conclave, Oriental Commandery No. 9, Ormond Beach
- Dec. 18 Grand Secretary's Office - Titusville
- Dec. 19 Joint Christmas Observance - Emmanuel Commandery No. 36,
K.T. and Oriental Commandery No. 9, K.T. - Ormond Beach
- Dec. 21 Installation of Officers - Mt. Dora Lodge No. 238, F.&A.M.
Installation of Officers - St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. -
DeLand; Installed as Treasurer
- Dec. 29 Installed officers of Eureka Chapter No. 7, R.A.M. - Orlando
- 1998
- Jan. 3 Installation of officers Landmark Lodge No. 383, F.&A.M. -
Deltona; Part of Emmanuel Commandery No. 36 Honor Guard
- Jan. 6 Installed officers of St. Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. and also
St. Johns Council No. 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
- Jan. 9 Installed officers of Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - Eustis
- Jan. 10 Attended installation of officers, DeLand Assembly Rainbow
Participated in Funeral Service for Bro. Arch Prosser - DeLand
- Jan. 13 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.
- Jan. 14 Attended Installation of Officers, Cocoa York Rite Bodies - Cocoa
- Jan. 17 Labarum Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine - Orlando
- Jan. 19 Deltona Hi-12 Club, Installation of Officers - DeBary
- Jan. 20 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, K.T. - Capt. Gen.

- Jan. 24 District Meeting, District 5 - DeLand
Finance & Budget Committee meeting - DeLand
Emergent Convocation of Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida for
installation of new Grand Officers and D.D.G.H.P., Dist. 7 - DeLand.
- Jan. 27 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M.-Treas.
- Jan. 30 Funeral Service for D.D.G.H.P. Ronnie K. Griffis at New River
- Feb. 3 Stated Assembly, St. Johns Council No. 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
- Feb. 6 Official visit to St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31, R.A.M. -St. Petersburg
- Feb. 7 District Meeting, District 2 -Palmetto
Homecoming of M.I.G.M. Daniel E. Dale, Gr. Council - Bradenton.
- Feb. 10 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.
- Feb. 11 Official visit to Island Chapter No. 65, R.A.M. - Marathon.
- Feb. 12 DeLand Assembly No. 31, Rainbow for Girls
- Feb. 15 Masonic Parade and Picnic - Masonic Home, St. Petersburg
- Feb. 17 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36 K.T. - Capt. Gen.
- Feb. 20 Official visit to Highland Chapter No. 64, R.A.M. - Avon Park
- Feb. 22-24 Grand York Rite Bodies of Alabama - Birmingham, AL
- Mar. 3 Stated Convocation, St. Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. - DeLand
- Mar. 5 Instituted and set to work Challenger Chapter R.A.M., UD -
meeting at Gateway Lodge No. 384, F.&A.M., Mims
Winter Haven Council No. 31, A.M.D. - Lakeland
- Mar. 6 Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina - Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Mar. 8-10 Official visit Halifax Chapter No. 5, R.A.M. - Ormond Bch.
- Mar. 12 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, K.T. - Capt. Gen.
- Mar. 17 Homecoming for R.E.G.C. Carl E. Gilmore - Clearwater
- Mar. 21 York Rite Bodies- DeLand, Booth at Business & Home Show
- Mar. 22 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. -Treas.
- Mar. 24 DeLand Assembly No. 31, Rainbow for Girls - Notified of
election to receive Grand Cross of Color.
- Mar. 26 5th District York Rite Festival - DeLand - named in my honor.
Conferred Mark Master Degree on class of 12.
- Apr. 2 Attended institution of A.M.D. Council UD-Merritt Island Lodge
- Apr. 3 Official visit to Ocala Chapter No. 13, R.A.M. - Belleview
- Apr. 4 5th District York Rite Festival- Commandery Orders - DeLand
- Apr. 7 Stated Assembly, St. Johns Council No. 37, R.&S.M. - DeLand
- Apr. 14 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas
- Apr 19-21 Grand Chapter R.A.M. & Grand Council R.&S.M. of Georgia
at Macon, GA.
- Apr. 21 Stated Conclave, Emmanuel Commandery No. 36, K.T. - Capt. Gen
- Apr. 28 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.

- May 1 Official visit to Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - Eustis
 May 5 Stated Convocation St. Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. - DeLand
 May 12 Stated Communication, St. Johns Lodge No. 37, F.&A.M. - Treas.
 May 16-20 Grand York Rite Convention - Camberly Plaza Hotel - Tampa
 May 17 Announced recipient of General Grand Chapter International Distinguished Service Award - Ex. Companion Charles B. Curry
 May 20 One Hundred Fifty-First Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Frederick R. Young, Presiding.

Dispensations Granted

- July 30 To Gainesville Chapter No. 2, R.A.M. - to hold Antient Craft Table Chapter on 8-19-97 at the Shrine Club, Gainesville.
 Sept 26 To Ft. Pierce Chapter No. 28, R.A.M. to move charter to Okcechobee for conferral of Capitular degrees on 9/26 & 9/27.
 Oct 21 To Sarasota Chapter No. 13, R.A.M. to hold joint installation with Manatee Chapter No. 18, R.A.M. at Palmetto.
 Jan. 31 To Gainesville Chapter No. 2, R.A.M. to hold Antient Craft Table Chapter in Tyled room, at the Rebel House Restaurant, on 3/17/98
 Feb 11 To Island Chapter No. 65, R.A.M. to move charter to Dr. Felix Varele Lodge No. 64, Key West, on 2/20/98 for the purpose of conferring the Mark Master Degree.
 Feb. 25 To form new Royal Arch Chapter, CHALLENGER CHAPTER, U.D., meeting at Gateway Lodge No. 384, F. & A. M., Mims, FL.
 April 1 To Sarasota Chapter No. 35, R.A.M., to receive and ballot on petitions on 4/25/98 prior to conferring Chapter Degrees.
 April 21 To Manatee Chapter No. 18 to receive and ballot on petitions on 4/25/98 prior to conferring Chapter Degrees.

Denied

- April 9 To Palm Beach Chapter No. 24, R.A.M. - to elect High Priest due to removal from area of H.P. - not in proper form. Advised of proper form in Constitution, Art. XIV, Sect. 6.
 April 10 Rejected Manatee Chapter No. 18 - request for dispensation due to "by direction" signature not being acceptable.

By-Law Changes Approved

- July 7 Poinciana Chapter No. 50, R.A.M. - change in meeting place.
 July 21 Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - change in dues and fees.
 Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - change in duties of Sec. & Treas.
 Aug 4 Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - to clarify duties of Secretary.
 Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - to clarify duties of Treasurer.
 Eustis Chapter No. 33, R.A.M. - to clarify dues structure.
 Nov 25 Poinciana Chapter No. 50, R.A.M. - change to every-other-month meeting (i.e. Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov., and Dec.).
 Nov 26 Eden Chapter No. 63, R.A.M. - change dues to \$25 per annum.
 Dec. 8 St Johns Chapter No. 4, R.A.M. - to add fee for affiliation.
 Dec. 8 Plant City Chapter No. 16, R.A.M. - change day of meeting, change fee for degrees, and change annual dues to \$7.00
 Jan 7 James Yeager Chapter No. 62, R.A.M. - change dues to \$7.50.

Rejected

- June 18 Plant City Chapter No. 16, R.A.M. - did not comply with Grand Chapter Constitution, Art. XIV, Sect. 2, election of officers.
 Oct 1 Eden Chapter No. 63, R.A.M. - change not laid over to next month
 Oct 29 Poinciana Chapter No. 50 - Incorrect date and no provision for election of officers in December.

Proclamations Issued

- May 20 Requiring each Chapter to conduct RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION SERVICE, and report same to Grand Scribe.
 July 20 Proclaiming the month of October to be celebrated as 200TH ANNIVERSARY of General Grand Chapter International.

Grand Representatives Appointed

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Comp. P. John Dariniski | Wisconsin |
| Comp. David C. Foster | Michigan |
| Comp. Robert C. Simpson | Germany |
| Comp. Gilbert L. Martin | South Carolina |
| Comp. Manuel Flores Flores | Mexico |

Grand Representatives Nominated

Comp. Dencil R. Smith	Germany
Comp. Harvey L. Ward	Virginia
Comp. Vernon E. Adams	Philippines

Honorary Memberships Received

Fort Pierce York Rite Bodies, Fort Pierce, FL
 Lawtey York Rite of Freemasonry, Lawtey, FL
 Sarasota Chapter No. 35, R.A.M., Venice, FL
 Grand York Rite of Freemasonry of Alabama, Birmingham, AL
 Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina, Myrtle Beach, SC
 Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Georgia, Macon, GA

Vouchers Signed

No. 2 through 109 totaling \$45,898.49. (Voucher No. 1, was inadvertently signed by my predecessor.)

Recommendations

1. I reiterate a recommendation of MEPGHP Wm. Norric, that a study be made as to feasibility of shortening the Grand York Rite Convention to two or three days, thereby reducing costs. Many sister jurisdictions have already made such an adjustment. It is not fair to ask a visiting Grand Officer to attend our banquet on Sunday evening, and then remain until Wednesday to be received. We cannot afford to continue meeting for 4 or 5 days while we are spending annually more than we realize as income.
2. That an Ad Hoc Committee be appointed to study the possibility of opening a Constituent Chapter with a lesser number of Royal Arch Masons than nine, as is presently required. The symbolic lodges can be opened with only three Master Masons in attendance.
3. That the same Committee be charged with a review of the implications of reducing the length of the progressive Grand Chapter Line. Possibly a training period of six years, with more attention paid to developing our future leaders.

4. That more emphasis be placed on the Blue Lodge Representative Program. (Our support of Symbolic Lodges is a necessity in order to make York Rite Masonry visible to non-members.)

5. That the feasibility of taping the degree lectures be studied, since fewer and fewer people are taking the trouble to learn our work.

Appreciation

I will be forever grateful to Most Ex. Companion R. Earl Shiver, Past Grand High Priest, for giving me the opportunity to serve this Grand Chapter as Grand High Priest, by appointing me to the bottom of the line in 1989. Through the intervening years he has been most supportive, and has always offered an attentive ear. The Companions of St. Johns Chapter No. 4 and Eustis Chapter No. 33, my *home base*, have always been at hand to offer much help and assistance this year and in prior years. To the Grand Line Officers and District Deputies who have been outstanding in their support of my programs and endeavors. To the Grand Secretary, "Bob" Young and his staff, Chris and Ginny, who have gone the extra mile in answering my many inquiries, and requests for service. To our past Grand High Priests who were always on hand to offer advice and support. And a special "thank you" to Ex. Gr. King, Les Scott, who went far beyond the requirements of his office to keep me on the straight and narrow: and last, but certainly not least, to my beloved wife of 53 plus years, Mildred, without whose constant support my task would have been much more difficult. I will never forget my year as your Grand High Priest, and trust that the Great I Am will continue to watch over me and thee.

Frederick R. Young, G.H.P.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

The following action items were taken to reduce operating cost:

1. Telephone service was changed from AT&T at 25 cents a minute to 12 cents per minute.
2. Using our new copier to print many 460 account items as well as the up dating of the Constitution & By-Laws has saved us over \$ 1,000.00.

3. We now have found a new source for making pins at a considerable savings, the pins we were paying \$4.50 each are now being purchased for between \$1.00 - \$1.50. Thanks to our Office Secretary, Chris Dixon. She even designs them for us.

4. We now have 25 & 50 year pins for each body separately. They are now available at the cost of \$1.00

5. We also now have separate patents for each body, these can be used when someone does not enter all three bodies, etc. We still have the Joint patent.

6. We are also issuing a new monthly report form that should save our secretaries time and postage.

7. We now have an E-Mail address, GYRFlorida@aol.com and it is being used. Our web page is <http://members.aol.com/YorkRiteFM/Florida.html>. It should help reduce the cost of postage.

8. Thanks to Quinnie Williams and George Neven for making Video tapes of the business portions of our Session this past year, giving us a good backup of our reports, discussions, etc. for a permanent record.

We apologize for not having the final Audit Report in the Chapter Proceedings. We did not receive a copy of it with the Council & Commandery Audit Reports and didn't realize it until it was too late. The Auditor had left for a long vacation in Europe. There will be copies available at the convention, of the updated pages, to be glued into the books.

Work on our backlog has been very slow. Unfortunately, our incoming work load has not allowed us to spend very much time on our backlog. We have reduced the 1500 members delta between our records and the Chapters to approximately 150 members with the assistance of the Chapter Secretaries.

I have examined all the records of the Challenger Chapter UD, Mims, Florida and found them to be in proper order. I, therefore, recommend that Challenger UD be given their Charter.

We would like to thank our three Grand Presiding Officers for their visits to our Office and their support this year, plus many others who have given us a helping hand.

Emergent Convocation

On January 24, 1998 a Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida was opened at 2:50 pm in DeLand, Florida, by Ex. Comp. Frederick R. Young, MEGHP, for the purpose of installation of Officers. There were over 100 in attendance and the following Companions occupied the stations:

Grand High Priest	Frederick R. Young	
Grand King	J. Russell Hammond	- Acting
Grand Scribe	Duane B. Young	- Acting
Grand Treasurer	Duane B. Young	
Grand Secretary	Wm. Robert Young	
Grand Chaplain	Robert F. Scott, Jr.	
Grand Captain of the Host	Virgil P. Brown	
Grand Principal Sojourner	Wayne E. Parks	
Grand Royal Arch Captain	Steven Q. Steele	
Grand Master of 3rd Veil	Walter Breyer	- Acting
Grand Master of 2nd Veil	Frederick Schuetz	- Acting
Grand Master of 1st Veil	William Schuck	- Acting
Grand Sentinel	Murray Day	- Acting
Grand Organist	Absent	
Official Photographer	William Eubanks	

Our Grand High Priest then declared the Convocation at ease and invited the Ladies and other guests into the Chapter. Labor was then resumed at 3:10 pm and the Grand Marshall R.E. Companion Leslie H. Scott lined up the appointed officers west of the Altar. Then the Grand Chaplain R.E. Robert F. Scott, Jr. offered up prayer.

Our Grand High Priest then installed:

H. Warren Almand, Jr.	Ex. Grand Master of 3rd Veil
Luther Bodiford, III	Ex. Grand Master of 2nd Veil
Robert G. Stearns	Ex. Grand Master of 1st Veil
Glenn E. Chandler	Ex. Grand Sentinel
Walter M. Hammond	Rt. Ex. District Deputy G.H.P. 7th District

Each newly installed officer introduced his Lady and made some remarks.

The Grand High Priest then requested all that were not Royal Arch Masons to retire so that Grand Chapter could be properly closed.

Emergent Convocation of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida was closed in due form at 3:30pm.

Wm. Robert Young, Grand Secretary

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA Income and Expense Report 4/30/97

Bank Balance 3/31/98		\$ 25,044.25	
Outstanding Checks Too Many to List - see 3/31/98		- 3,734.19	
Checkbook Balance 3/31/98		21,310.06	
Income: Deposit	\$ 3,055.35	Int.	51.63
Other (Late deposit \$5,000.00 + 917.00)		+ 8,010.16	
TOTAL		29,820.22	
Expenses 5/01/97 To 4/30/98		42,713.96	
Expenses 5/01/97 To 3/31/98		42,121.85	
	Expenses	592.11	- 592.11
Checkbook Balance 4/30/98		29,228.11	
Outstanding Checks 1341, 1457, 1492, 1494, 1522		+ 420.74	
Bank Balance 5/10/98		\$ 29,648.85	

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

Item	Budgeted	Spent	Percent	Balance
10001 Grand Secretary Salary	2,800.00	2,799.00	100.00	0.04
10001A GS Payroll Tax	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
10002 Grand Secretary Asst	4,000.00	3,999.96	100.00	0.04
10002A GSA Payroll Tax	350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
10003 Office Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10003A OA Payroll Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10004 GYR Payroll Tax	600.00	1,025.10	170.85	- 425.10
10005 FED Unemployment tax	70.00	52.27	74.67	17.73
10006 FLA Unemployment Comp	70.00	76.91	109.87	- 6.91
10010 Grand High Priest	3,000.00	2,500.00	83.33	500.00
10011 Grand King	800.00	800.00	100.00	0.00
10012 District Deputies	0.00	0.00		0.00
10015 Grand Treasurer Exp.	1,200.00	1,200.00	100.00	0.00

10020 Accountant & Audit	300.00	100.00	33.33	200.00
10030 Grand Secretary Exp.	600.00	600.00	100.00	00.00
10031 Grand Sec. Asst Allow	200.00	200.00	100.00	00.00
10040 Chmn. Charity Comm	250.00	250.00	100.00	0.00
10045 Committee on Work	600.00	118.36	19.73	481.64
10050 Delegates Per Diem	9,000.00	9,762.43	108.47	- 762.43
10051 Distinguished Guest	2,000.00	1,068.81	53.44	931.19
10060 S.E. Conference	300.00	200.00	66.67	100.00
10065 Triennial	900.00	778.70	86.52	121.30
10070 Library Committee	1,000.00	300.00	30.00	700.00
10075 Area Meetings	800.00	485.75	60.72	314.25
10080 February Meeting	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
10090 Masonic Youth	300.00	240.00	80.00	60.00
10095 Masonic Home	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00	0.00

Grand Secretary's Office

10100 Miscellaneous	600.00	600.00	100.00	0.00
10105 Postage	800.00	800.00	100.00	0.00
10110 Rent	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00	0.00
10120 Telephone	800.00	800.00	100.00	0.00
10130 Electric	400.00	400.00	100.00	0.00
10140 Computer Expense	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
10160 Maintenance	300.00	300.00	100.00	0.00

Miscellaneous

10200 Printing	500.00	1,108.99	221.80	- 608.99
10225 Summer Assembly	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
10250 Proceedings	1,500.00	1,873.80	124.92	- 373.80
10300 Y.R. Publications	3,500.00	1,133.33	32.38	2,366.67
10350 Education & Training	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
10425 Corporate Fee	65.00	61.25	94.23	3.75
10450 Per Capita Tax	4,000.00	3,575.70	89.39	424.30
10460 Reimbursables	700.00	1,177.76	168.25	- 477.76
10465 Awards	1,000.00	162.77	16.28	837.23
10470 Insurance	800.00	526.66	65.83	273.34
10500 Plaques & Markers	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
10550 Jewel, Apron, Case	500.00	755.45	151.09	- 255.45
10600 Contingencies	1,000.00	680.00	68.00	- 320.00
TOTALS	49,605.00	42,713.96	86.11	6,891.04
Out of Budget-Copier	1,452.20	1,452.20	0.00	0.00
10999 Out of Budget Acc't for 150th Anniv Feb. 1996 - 1997	20,000.00	5,334.87	Final	

GRAND TREASURERS CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Acct.	4/30/97	Interest		4/30/98	
	Balance	+ Income	+ Deposits		- Expenses
GF	36,709.86	* 9,179.56	27,504.85	44,166.16	29,228.11
SAV	502.80	232.52	—	735.32	0.00
INV	170,000.00	** 5,375.46	1,000.00	0.00	176,375.46
CHF	6,714.02	151.85	—	—	6,865.87
CVF	2,308.76	31.02	—	—	2,339.78
LIBF	0.00	1,198.41	3,300.00	3,900.00	598.41
TRF	41.26	.95	778.70	0.00	820.91
	216,276.70	16,169.77	32,583.55	48,801.48	216,228.54

CHAPTER INTEREST INCOME DETAIL 1997 - 1998

** Invested		* General Fund			
07-7871	07-4916	044855-070	Savings	GenFund	Total
1,070.07	4,305.39	8,782.79	235.32	396.77	14,790.34

CHAPTER GENERAL FUND DETAIL 1997 - 1998

Per Capita	999Reim.	Conven.	460Reim	Other	Saving	Fred	Total
24,451.00	860.08	1,336.46	555.79	97.60	500.00	500.00	27,504.85

GRAND CHAPTER INVESTMENTS AS OF 4/30/98

INV #	Int. Rate	Inv Date	Maturity	Term	Amount
07130267871	6.50%apy	7/30/97	5/03/99	22M	20,000.00
07130274916	6.30%apy	8/29/97	6/20/99	660DA	100,000.00
044855-070	(V)	4/22/93	4/22/03	120M	51,000.00
			TOTAL		\$171,000.00

CHAPTER BUDGET 4/30/98 - 4/30/99

ACCT #	ITEM	BUDGETED
10001	Grand Secretary Salary	2,800.00
10001A	Grand Secretary Payroll Tax	200.00
10002	Grand Secretary Assistant	4,300.00
10002A	Grand Secretary Asst. Payroll Tax	400.00
10003	Office Assistant	500.00
10003A	Office Asst. Payroll Tax	60.00

10004	GYR Payroll Tax	600.00
10005	FED Unemployment Tax	70.00
10006	FLA Unemployment Tax	25.00
	ALLOWANCES	
10010	Grand High Priest	1,000.00
10011	Grand King	800.00
10012	District Deputies	0.00
10015	Grand Treasurer	1,200.00
10020	Accountant & Audit	200.00
10030	Grand Secretary	600.00
10031	Grand Secretary Assistant	200.00
10040	Chariman Charity Committee	250.00
10045	Committee On Work	100.00
10050	Delegates Per Diem	6,000.00
10051	Distinguished Guests	1,000.00
10060	S. E. Conference	300.00
10065	Triennial	900.00
10070	Library Committee	750.00
10075	Area Meetings	500.00
10080	February Meeting	0.00
10090	Masonic Youth	200.00
10095	Masonic Home	0.00
	GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE	
10100	Miscellaneous	600.00
10105	Postage	800.00
10110	Rent	1,000.00
10120	Telephone	800.00
10130	Electric	400.00
10140	Computer Expense	100.00
10160	Maintenance	300.00
	OTHER ACCOUNTS	
10200	Printing	500.00
10225	Summer Assembly	100.00
10250	Proceedings	1,400.00
10300	Y.R. Publications	1,500.00
10350	Education & Training	100.00
10425	Corporate Fee	65.00
10450	Per Capita Tax	3,500.00
10460	Reimbursables	700.00
10465	Awards	700.00

10470	Insurance	600.00
10500	Plaques and Markers	300.00
10550	Jewel, Apron, Case	500.00
10600	Contingencies	1,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 37,920.00

Duane B. Young

SUPPLEMENT TO GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

The following donations were received at the Grand Convention at the Radisson:

From the Divine Service \$388.73, which I personally rounded to \$392.00. This money was to be divided four ways—the three major charities and the Holy Land Pilgrimage fund. As such they are to receive \$98.00 each.

From the Bazaar, a total of \$1,227.45 which was directed to the three major charities, therefore, they each receive \$409.15

The following disbursements were made:

To Royal Arch Research Assistance	\$409.15 + \$98.00	=	\$507.15
To Cryptic Masons Medical Research	\$409.15 + \$98.00	=	\$507.15
To Knights Templar Eye Foundation	\$409.15 + \$98.00	=	\$507.15
Deposited to Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund			\$98.00
			\$1,619.45

Duane B. Young

HISTORY COMMITTEE

During this past year I have succeeded in getting Volume Four of our "History of the Grand Lodge of Florida" to the printers for printing and expect to have these Volumes at Grand Lodge, June, 1998, for sale to the Brethren.

In this Volume I have included a chapter on York Rite History. This chapter is a brief history of the organizations and beginning days of each of our three bodies.

J. Roy Crowther

JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

The Jurisprudence Committee received the report of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Ex. Companion Frederick R. Young. We find the Grand High Priest acted judiciously within the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Chapter, and within the prerogatives of his office.

We examined seven requests for dispensations and eleven Amendments were proper. The Grand High Priest denied three amendments for good and valid reasons.

The Committee took cognizance of five recommendations in the Grand High Priest's Report and further recommend each one he referred for follow-up action:

1. The recommendation to Study the feasibility of "shortening The Grand York Rite convention to two or three days" to the incoming Grand High Priest.
2. The recommendation to study the possibility of "Opening a Constituent Chapter with a lesser number than nine" to the Committee on Work.
3. The recommendation to review the implications of "reducing the length of the Progressive Grand Chapter Line" to the incoming Grand High Priest, cognizance is taken of the fact that the appointed Grand Line serves at the pleasure of the Grand High Priest.
4. The recommendation to place more emphasis on the "Blue Lodge Representative Program" to the incoming Grand High Priest.
5. The recommendation to "study the feasibility of taping the degree lectures" to the Committee on Work.

Our Dispensations to form Challenger Chapter (UD) Royal Arch Masons, at Mims, Brevard County, Florida, was received. The dispensation granted and the by-laws for the chapter were in accord with the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Chapter, therefore, Challenger Chapter (UD) is lawfully eligible to be granted a Charter.

Twelve resolutions or proposals to amend the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations for the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida, adopted May 20, 1997, were examined in coordination with the Constitution Revision Committee.

The Resolution entitled "Eternal Membership" is presented as unfinished business from the 1997 Grand Convocation. This committee finds the resolution to be in proper form and lawful for presentation to the delegates for ballot at this 1998 Grand Convocation.

Amendment # 1: proposed to change Article XII, Section 1, C, powers & duties of the Grand Officers was found to be unnecessary as the Grand High Priest has the power and authority within budget limitations.

Amendment # 2: proposed to change Article XII, section 1, E, Duties of Grand High Priest, was found to lack justification for the change.

Amendment # 3: relative to Treasurer's duties. Recommend the proposed amendment be set aside for rewrite and submission if, in fact, it is deemed necessary.

Amendment # 4: was withdrawn by the Proposer.

Amendment # 5: proposed to change Article XXI, Section 3, Publication Chapters. It was found to be superfluous in that the subject matter is adequately covered in other sections of the Constitution.

Amendment # 6: proposed to change Chapter 12, Section 12.01 Laws, Rules, and Regulations, Grand Convocations & Proceedings, to add an additional sentence. It is recommended for adoption.

Amendment # 7: proposed to change Chapter 12, Section 12.02 A(2) Laws, Rules and Regulations, was found to be unnecessary as the Grand High Priest has the power and authority within budget limitations.

Amendment # 8: proposed to change Chapter 13, Section 13.04 B, Laws, Rules and Regulations, York Rite Convention Board, to add the Grand Secretary to the Convention Board. It is recommended for adoption.

Amendment # 9: proposed to change Chapter 13, Section 13.05, Laws, Rules and Regulations, York Rite Convention Board, by adding a Ladies Activities Sub-Committee to the Convention Board. This amendment is deemed unnecessary as the Grand High Priest has the authority to appoint assistants to all Committees and Boards.

Amendment # 10: proposed to add Section 14.02 Laws, Rules & Regulations, to establish an Administrative Endowment Fund for the Grand Chapter. It is recommended this Amendment be referred to the Grand Council of the Grand Chapter, Grand Treasurer and Long Range Finance Committee for study relative to source of funds, purpose and management of the proposed Fund.

Amendment # 11: proposed change to Chapter 30, sections 30.01 & 30.03 to increase per capita tax from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per members per annum. It is recommended that the effective date for the proposed change and per capita tax increase be December 28, 1999; and that it is proper for ballot at the Grand Convocation.

Amendment # 12: proposed to adopt appendix "D" (Instructions & Guidelines for the Royal Arch Ceremonies) to the Constitution, Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Florida; and, to revise the cover page thereto. The Amendment is proposed for ballot.

The Grand High Priest represented well this Grand Chapter at the 1997, Southeast Regional York Rite Conference and the several foreign jurisdictions wherein he officially visited. He is commended for the number of visitations to constituent Chapters and allied Masonic organizations.

This Committee commends M.E. Companion Young for the prudent and deliberate manner with which he executed the affairs for this Grand Royal Arch Chapter during his term of Office. Each member of this Jurisprudence Committee expresses his personal gratitude for the distinct privilege of serving this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Ewell J. Langdale, Jr. Vernon H. Miller William L. Buck, Jr.
J. Russell Hammond William O. Walker

LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE

Various matters were referred to the committee by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and all matters have been researched and responded to. The Committee wishes to thank the Grand High Priest for his confidence in this Committee.

Richard S. Agster Albert B. Russ, Jr.

LIBRARY REPORT

The Committee is pleased to report on the Ray V. Denslow General Grand Chapter Library housed at the York Rite Masonic Temple, 407 No. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, Florida.

This year we have some good news and not so good news to report. The good news: It is currently one of the largest Masonic libraries in the Southeast, but it needs to grow to remain alive and vibrant. During this year the library did grow at a small but steady pace. Books were received from several Grand and past Grand Officers, as well as Companions from within and without the state of Florida. We especially wish to thank M.E. Roy Wright and M.I. Dan Dale for their contributions as well Lois Yeager, widow of M.E. Harold Yeager, P.G.G.H.P. R.A.M. International.

Although plans for expansion have been completed by a certified architect, the Committee is optimistically cautious before proceeding with the actual expansion. The library definitely needs more space, but all aspects must be examined before the go ahead is given.

Now for the not so good news. As you already know, the weather this year has certainly been unpredictable. Excessive rainfall created many problems for a lot of people. The problem extended to the York Rite Temple at Clearwater. During one of the several storms a leak developed in the roof immediately over the library. The leak was of such a nature several books got wet. Realizing the severity of the storm could cause damage to the temple, G. Gordon Goodman P.G.H.P. and Bruce Davis P.H.P. checked on the temple. Finding the leaking roof, they immediately took steps to reduce the water damage. After the storm subsided, the roof was repaired, and thus far no additional problem has been detected. The committee has spent several hours checking on all the books and we are pleased that only a few suffered water damage. If the water was not enough of a problem, it seems quite by coincidence the humidifier in the library died. A new humidifier was purchased and installed. As everyone knows, it is essential that any humidity in a library be kept low or else the books would be ruined.

In March of this year Committee members again attended the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair held annually at St. Petersburg, Florida. After several hours perusing the several thousand books valuable information was obtained whereby the committee possibly will find more about certain members of Greenwood Chapter (now Defunct) as reported last year.

Finally we are pleased to report many Companions have visited the library this year and expressed favorable comments.

The Committee is pleased to have been able to serve the Most Excellent Grand Chapter and for that opportunity we Thank You.

Marvin W. Gerhard, PGC
Ralph O. Sheppard, PGHP

Walter H. Winchester, PGHP
G. Gordon Goodman, PGHP

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Memberships have increased very slightly during the past year while interest rate of return has decreased slightly.

Participation for 1997 is as follows:

No.	Chapter Name	Life Mbr	Tot Inv 12/31/97	** % Returned	Dollars Return'd
1	Florida	24	1790.8	0.0119286	107.24
3	Tampa Cushing	125	7513.6	0.048645	437.36
4	St. Johns	20	828.67	0.0055198	49.62
5	Halifax	6	454.3	0.0021713	19.52
6	Mt. Horeb	87	3640.5	0.0242497	218.01
7	Eureka	52	3594.9	0.0214538	192.88
9	Putman	31	1259.9	0.008319	74.79
12	Jacksonville	59	3063.2	0.0197979	177.97
16	Plant City	3	205	0.0013655	12.28
17	St. Augustine	6	432	0.0028776	25.87
18	Manatee	7	547.1	0.0036442	32.76
20	Keystone	3	355.1	0.0023653	21.27
22	Thomas Brown	4	244	0.0016253	14.61
24	Palm Beach	26	1242	0.008273	74.38

25	Live Oak	1	46.5	0.0003097	2.78
27	Indian River	16	665.83	0.0040355	36.28
28	Joppa	7	410.4	0.0026244	23.59
29	Lakeland	33	2420	0.0145249	130.59
31	St. Petersburg	67	3632.2	0.0240971	216.64
32	Jackson	3	218.9	0.0014581	13.11
33	Eustis	5	286.4	0.0019077	17.15
35	Sarasota	10	841.2	0.0052369	47.08
38	Lake City	4	185.4	0.001235	11.10
40	Crestview	12	486	0.0032373	29.10
41	Winter Haven	105	5509.6	0.0366993	329.94
45	Clearwater	18	2058.5	0.0131816	118.51
48	Duval	10	514.2	0.0034251	30.79
50	Poinciana	33	1889.6	0.0125867	113.16
59	Melbourne	20	1336.5	0.0089025	80.04
62	James Yeager	9	291.5	0.0019417	17.46
63	Eden	14	1605.45	0.0097473	87.63
	TOTALS	820	47569.25	0.3073868	2763.51

** The Percent Returned is calculated on the number of months the investment draws interest.

The investment of funds of the Grand York Life Membership Fund as of Dec. 31, 1997 and the resultant income was as follows:

Bank Name CD # M Date / IntRate	Net Asset Value 1-97	Net Asset Value 1-98	Net Asset Value 1/15/98	1997 Interest	1997 Int withdraw
Crown 001-3084744 6/16/98 - 5.55%	8000.00	8458.42	8458.42	458.42	0

Crown 001-3082359 3/31/98 - 5.55%	10000.00	10573.04	10,573.04	573.04	0
Crown 001-3101233 3/24/99 - 5.35%	23,400.00	24,691.06	24,691.06	1291.06	0
Crown 001-3111547 1/26/00 - 7.042	24,909.01	26,726.16	26,726.16	1,817.15	0
CG/1st Union 82-12-600860-2 5/6/97 - 8 %	2,777.76	2,929.42	2,929.42	151.66	0
Citrus/Chemical 29025309 11/14/01 - 6 %	75,157.84	79,750.74	79750.74	4592.90	0
SA/1st Union 60024167 Passbook- 1.65%	1,134.39	11,330.43	2340.09	106.11	8990.34
TOTALS	145,379.00	164,459.27	155,468.93	8,990.34	8,990.34

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

John B. Fletcher, Jr.

Duane B. Young

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM COMMITTEE

Your Budget and Finance Committee has recommended that the per diem rate for this convention be \$40.00 and that mileage be paid at a rate of 20 cents per mile one way.

Delegates and others entitled to per diem shall be paid for one day for each body represented.

The committeemen for the Spring Budget and Finance Committee meeting shall be paid according to the formula established in the 1987 Grand Proceedings.

Gordon Anderson
Wendell Harrington

J.W. MacDonald
George Malone

Walter Hammond
A.J. Graulich

MUSEUM AND MEMORABILIA REPORT

The Committee is extremely pleased to report this year the museum and memorabilia of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida is beginning to look like a museum.

Six additional matching glass showcases that can be lighted have been purchased at a very favorable price. The acquisition of the six cases brings the total cases to nine (9). Currently five (5) showcases have a wide assortment of memorabilia displayed. Some of the items being displayed include lapel pins, officer's jewels (past), medals coins, glassware, dishware, pictures, projectors, past presiding officers aprons, district deputy's aprons, Knights Templar aprons with baldric and dagger, past Grand Commander's paraphernalia (fatigue cap, gauntlet gloves) and much more.

The four remaining showcases allow for growth and expansion. Items received are cataloged, and placed on computer. Periodically an updated copy is forwarded to the Grand Secretary-Recorder's office for filing and also to act as a backup copy.

The committee thanks each of the officers of the Grand York Rite of Florida for allowing us to serve this year.

Marvin W. Gerhard, P.G.C.

Walter H. Winchester, P.G.H.P.

Ralph O. Sheppard, P.G.H.P.G.

Gordon Goodman, P.G.H.P.

NECROLOGY COMMITTEE

The initial report moved that the Memorial Service of Sunday, May 17, 1998, be adopted as the report of the Necrology Committee.

My report is amended as follows: We are saddened by the following known losses in other grand jurisdictions:

State of Arizona:

Most Excellent Companion Cedric Nash Willis

State of Pennsylvania:

Most Excellent Companion Raymond E. Adams

Most Excellent Companion Max C. Harwick

Right Excellent Companion Winfield P. Kraft, R.E.P.G. Sec.

State of Ohio:

Most Excellent Companion Wilbur J. Doren

State of New Jersey:

Most Excellent Companion Richard R. Holmes

State of Tennessee:

Most Excellent Companion David Hollis Vaughn

State of Michigan:

Most Excellent Companion William J. Inwood

State of Illinois:

Most Excellent Companion Chester McMullen

State of Israel

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Israel: REC Harris Feinberg, Grand Scribe Ezra Holy Land Royal Arch Chapter No. 8.

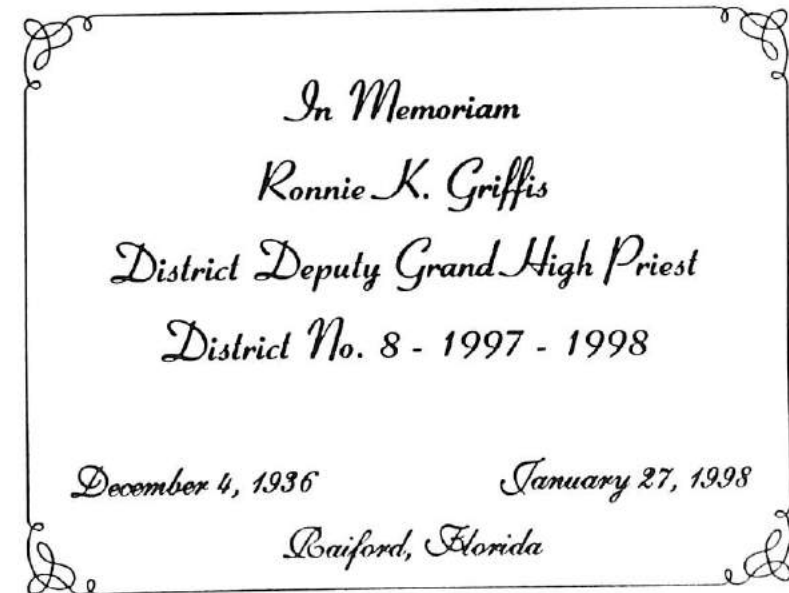
Australia

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria, East Melbourne, Australia:

Most Eminent First Grand Principal, Alexander George Dolphin

The progressive Grand Line of our Grand Chapter remained unbroken this term. For this we give praise to the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth. However, our Most Excellent Grand High Priest lost one of his District Deputy Grand High Priests. Right Excellent Companion Ronnie K. Griffis, District Deputy Grand High Priest of the 8th Caputular District was called to his heavenly home January 27, 1998. He was known, respected and loved for his arduous labors in the vineyard of District No. 8. He will be sorely missed by all the Companions.

Robert F. Scott, Jr.



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

*Who have passed on to that Eternal
Reward in
1997 - 1998*



*This Page we
Fraternally Dedicate*

PATRIOTIC, CIVIC & RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

During the 1997-1998 Masonic Year, the Constituent Royal Arch Masonic Chapters and their Members continued to actively support Patriotic, Civic and Religious activities in their respective Communities throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. Although the collective and individual participation is often cloaked under the banners of the Grand Lodge, Shrinedom, and the several sister, allied and appendant Masonic Bodies to which Royal Arch Masons also affiliate, such active participation demonstrates the unity of purpose within the Masonic community.

Communications with many Royal Arch Masons reveal they enjoy their active participation in the church, civic organizations, and veterans' fraternities. Companions and Brothers who practice the tenets of the Holy Royal Arch and Freemasonry have a positive influence on those institutions where similar virtues prevail.

There were many activities in this Grand Jurisdiction in which Brothers and Companions participated without fanfare or public attention. A few examples which symbolize those activities are:

On October 11, 1997, a Masonic Unity Parade and picnic was held in Jacksonville. The York Rite Bodies of Jacksonville entered a float in the parade along with other Masonic Bodies on display in public view.

On February 15, 1998, The Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter Officers and Constituent Royal Arch Masons played an active role in the public parade and "Fun Day" at the Masonic Home in St. Petersburg.

It is noted that Masonic Youth Groups and Lodges are actively participating in the "Adopt-a-Highway" program. Masonry is visible by placing their Lodge or group name on the respective signposts.

In Jacksonville, the child I.D. program is underway by one of the most distinguished lodges. As Companions and Brothers video-tape any child age 15 or under, the tape is given to the parents for use if the child becomes missing.

A number of Royal Arch Masons in particular and York Rite Masons generally participated in charitable assistance and relief to victims suffering losses in the areas of severe tornadoes during March 1998.

Illiteracy is yet another area that is begging attention. A program initiative by Constituent Chapters to provide tutors for those desiring to escape this handicap would be a significant humanitarian contribution.

There continues to be numerous projects, patriotic, civic or Religious in nature within the tenets of Freemasonry and the Holy Royal Arch which beg for attention and participation by the Constituent Royal Arch Chapters and the York Rite Bodies. The initiation of such projects would serve to improve the visibility and enhance the image of Royal Arch Masonry while concurrently providing valuable service to the community. The domino effect for improving ourselves in Masonry while achieving worthwhile objectives is endless.

Vernon H. Miller Richard J. Carr Paul W. Friend

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs and a video recording were made as required or requested and as appropriate for all Convention activities. All usual pictures were made available to members and wives from our committee. We thank the appointing authority for this opportunity to serve.

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

PRINTING

CC	ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL
10101	Office Printing	0.00	460.23
10200	Printing	500.00	1,788.99
10250	Proceedings	1,500.00	1,873.80
10300	Publications	3,500.00	1,133.33
10350	Education/Training	500.00	0.00
10460	Reimbursable	700.00	727.76
	TOTALS	\$6,700.00	\$ 5,984.11

Due to the purchase of the new copier this year we were able to print some of our Account '460' items as well as our Constitution & By-Laws in house with savings of over \$1,000.00. The Constitution & By -Laws had not been updated since 1988 and required a complete new edition, costing \$ 1,533.00.

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

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES

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

Ewell J. Langdale, Jr. Leonard E. Whitehead

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND YORK RITE PUBLICATIONS

The primary goal of this committee this year was to continue publishing *The Florida York Rite Light* as a supplement to our Grand Lodge publication, *The Florida Mason*. We published one issue. It is our understanding that severe budget constraints will prevent further issues of *The York Rite Light* in its present form. This is unfortunate. Common sense tells us that the more we communicate, the more we become knowledgeable. And the more knowledgeable we are, the better our decisions, the greater our successes, and the greater the pride in ourselves. We believe that *The York Rite Light* is and will continue to be the best, most cost-effective way to reach our intended audience.

Public relations involves developing the confidence, respect, understanding, and continued participation of your clients. We believe our clients to be not only every Florida York Rite Mason, but every Freemason in this Grand Jurisdiction. And it includes those outside our Fraternity who should know about us, about who we are and what we believe in. This is a continual process of education, encouragement, and constant presence. The old adage, "out of sight, out of mind" is a truism all too familiar to failure. We cannot afford to embrace that risk. Your committee believes that some measure of financial support needs to be developed to ensure that the Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida, through its publication, remain leaders, by example, in our great fraternity. No other public relations activities are reported.

We thank the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, the M. Ill. Grand Master, and the R. Em. Grand Commander for this opportunity to serve the Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida. Our thanks, also, to Companion/Sir Knight Jim Rudman for his steady, unswerving encouragement. And to you, our readers, we trust that our work has merited your interest, gained your respect, and warranted your continued support. If we have accomplished those goals, our efforts, by any standard, by every measure, have been successful.

Robert E. Burleson

Robert B. Phelps, Jr.

RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION DAY REPORT

In accordance with the proclamation issued on May 20, 1997 by Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Frederick R. Young the following Chapters participated in the Religious Affirmation Program:

NO.	CHAPTER	MEMBERS	GUESTS	TOTAL
1	Florida	8	0	8
2	Gainesville	10	8	18
3	Tampa-Cushing	28	21	49
4	St. Johns	14	23	37
5	Halifax	10	5	15
7	Eureka	8	6	14
9	Putman	21	10	31
11	Jericho	0	0	0
12	Jacksonville	4	4	8
13	Ocala	0	0	0
15	Monroe	13	11	24
17	St. Augustine	11	2	13
18	Manatee River	0	0	0
20	Keystone	6	0	6
24	Palm Beach	6	5	11
25	Live Oak	0	0	0
27	Indian River	16	5	21
29	Lakeland	5	14	19
31	St. Petersburg	2	2	4
32	Jackson	9	6	15
33	Eustis	17	7	24
35	Sarasota	20	11	31
40	Crestview	1	1	2
41	Winter Haven	8	8	16
45	Clearwater	16	0	16
48	Duval	2	2	4
50	Poinciana	20	11	31
57	Surf	5	5	10
62	James Yeager	16	6	22
63	Eden	0	0	0
	TOTALS	276	173	449

Thirty Chapters reported of which five had no program. I did not receive a report from nine Chapters. I hope they held a program and just failed to report.

It is recommended that our Religious Affirmation Program be continued. Perhaps the Grand Chapter could furnish a format to be used by Chapters who wish to hold this service in their Chapter room or Lodge room.

David C. Wilkinson

TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE

We are pleased to report that the 152nd Annual Grand Convocation of R.A.M. of Florida will be held at the Sunspree Holiday Inn, Daytona Beach, Florida, May 23rd through May 26th, 1999. The Grand Chapter will be convened on Monday, May 24th.

John W. Carroll

Leslie H. Scott, Jr.

W. Ronald Taylor

TRIENNIAL COMMITTEE

We are pleased to report that the 64th Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International will be held in Wichita, KS., from October 31 to November 3, 1999, with Most Excellent Companion Murray E. Cooke, General Grand High Priest presiding. He will be assisted by Most Excellent Companions William Schone, Jr., General Grand King and J. Benny Allen, General Grand Scribe.

Our appreciation to the Grand High Priest for the privilege of serving this Grand Chapter.

Leslie H. Scott, Jr.

David C. Wilkinson

Virgil P. Brown, Jr.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Unfinished Business, have examined the proceedings of the 1997 Annual Grand Convocation of Royal Arch Masons of Florida that was held in Daytona Beach, Florida, May 20, 1997. We find that there are apparently deletions in the Proceedings from matters that were considered by the Craft on the floor of the Grand Convocation. We refer especially to the proposed legislation entitled "Eternal Membership". There was a lengthy and animated discussion of this legislation. The

records of this committee indicate that the matter was to be reconsidered at the 1998 Grand Convocation. The 1997 Proceedings make no mention whatsoever of this important legislation and we believe such procedures must be corrected in the future for the sake of accurate historical records.

We find that in the Proceedings on page 13 under the "Audit Committee Report FY Ending 30 April, 1997" an explanation that a supplementary report would be prepared and included in the 1997 Proceedings that would supply the missing data marked there with a "*".

A supplementary report was in fact made and presented to the Grand Secretary in time to be placed into the Proceedings. However, through error that supplement was not included in the 1997 Proceedings. That supplement is rather lengthy and in the interest of brevity and correctness we here copy portions of the information from the supplemental report of Excellent Companion Charles R. Denman, Chief Auditor:

Page 13 - Income	at Per Capita Tax and Fees replace * with	\$25,898.00
	at Sundry replace * with	6,938.07
Page 14	at Reimbursements replace * with	860.08
	at Convention Committee replace * with	1,765.25
	at Interest Income replace * with	8,471.25
	at Total Income replace * with	43,932.65
Page 15 - Balance Sheet Assets		
	at Gain replace * with	(10,227.65)
	at Savings Account replace * with	502.80
	at Certificates of Deposit replace * with	170,000.00
	at Charity Fund replace * with	6,714.02
	at Convention Fund replace * with	2,308.76
	at Triennial Fund replace * with	41.26
	at Total Assets replace * with	220,729.25
Liabilities & Net Worth		
	at Liabilities replace * with	00.00
	at Net Worth replace * with	220,729.25
	at Total Liabilities/Net Worth * with	\$220,729.25

The following quotation comes from Ex. Companion Denman's Supplemental Report:

"To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida: This is a supplement to the report accepted at Grand Chapter to include the audit of the Grand Treasurer's records. All records were found to be in order and a complete summary report follows:"

Following that are six pages of further reports including the 990 tax reports and Grand Chapter Officers. In all, the supplemental report is ten (10) pages long. It contains more detail in its entirety than is needed for the Proceedings.

In order for the correct, right and proper record to be maintained, it is recommended that:

1. The correct numbers contained on the first three pages of the supplemental report (as printed in this report) needed to replace the "*" should be placed correctly.
2. The corrected pages then be reproduced and sent to the holders of each of the distributed 1997 Proceedings.
3. Instruct and request that the new pages be glued onto the existing but incorrect pages 13, 14, 15.

As for the business of recognition of Grand Chapters in Belgium and Greece, this Committee is of the impression that they are under study in the proper committee.

We are pleased that the unfinished business of GROWTH of this Grand Chapter is being attended to. We are pleased to learn of the U.D. Chapter at Mims, Florida and pray that it will continue to grow and prosper. We look forward to it obtaining a charter this coming May 20th.

Move that this be adopted and that the 1997 Proceedings be adopted as corrected herein where applicable.

We, the members of this committee thank the Grand High Priest for the opportunity to serve the Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida.

Harvey L. Ward, Sr.

Harry R. Bob Davis

Donald T. Harriott

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

This year it is noted with great pride that not one but TWO Senior DeMolays have been elected as Masonic leaders in Florida. Most Illustrious Daniel E. Dale, a Senior DeMolay from Palmetto Chapter, is Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal & Select Masters of Florida and Excellent Companion Phillip Edwin Mofsses, a Senior DeMolay of John M. Cheney Chapter, is President of the Florida State Grotto Association.

The Grand Chapter's Walter M. Schirra, Jr. Astronaut Trophy for Leadership Correspondence Courses for 1997 was won by George Ulee Lord DeMolay Chapter in Niceville.

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

Harry A. Rosenthal, Jr.

Quinnie R. Williams

Vernon E. Adams

"The Lighter Side of Masonry"

New Math

Past Grand Master George Pushard of Maine is said to have told this story about his lovely wife, Anne. It seems that when the census taker asked her age, she came up with this bit of logic "Well, let me figure it out. I was 18 when I married George and he was thirty. Now he is 60 or twice as old as he was then, so I am now 36."



LESLIE H. SCOTT, JR.
MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA
 1998 - 1999

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF LESLIE H. SCOTT, JR.

Personal:

Born July 22, 1924, Jacksonville, Florida. Graduated Robert E. Lee High School, 1942. Enlisted in U.S. Navy 1943 till 1945. Served on aircraft carrier U.S.S. Wasp. Married Betty King on July 15, 1972. They have three Sons and two Daughters. Retired from (Atlantic Coast Line Railroad) CSX Transportation after 40 years as a Vice President. Member of Murray Hill United Methodist Church, served as Chairman of Administrative Board, Sunday School Teacher and other committees.