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Spring 2012

Published Quarterly

**Most Excellent Grand High Priest**  
**David T. Arnold**  
2012-2013



### **“Hope for RARA Pinned on You”**

I want to thank all the Companions in Arkansas for your support, encouragement, and confidence in me to be the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Arkansas. I promise that I will work hard to fulfill those duties, to encourage degree work at every Chapter, to encourage working together at Festivals, and to assist in every possible way. The other Grand

Chapter officers and District Deputy Grand High Priests have taken an oath to assist you in every way possible so that we can work together in unity for the betterment of Capitular Masonry.

Royal Arch Research Assistance (R.A.R.A.) is our charity. For almost 40 years, Companions have contributed generously to fund this Philanthropy to support research dedicated to helping children with Central Auditory Processing Disorders (CAPD). A combined \$1,783 was contributed in 2011 from seven of the Chapters. I hope that every Chapter will have a fundraiser to support our charity.

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## Grand High Priest - Pinning for RARA

*Continued from page 1*

A combined fundraiser to support all three York Rite Charities is quite acceptable. The announcement on September 10, 2011 to provide grants to the University of Connecticut, the Deafness Research Foundation, and Autism Speaks spoke clearly that we are continuing to support efforts in CAPD research, and anticipate more progress with their endeavors. For more information, visit the General Grand Chapter website at [www.ramint.org](http://www.ramint.org).

I also have a lapel pin that I want to give every Companion, Brother, or friend who will contribute a minimum of \$10 to the R.A.R.A. The subordinate Chapters will get credit for the donations received from their members through their High Priest or Secretary. This should make it easy for each Chapter in Arkansas to participate. The General Grand Chapter wholeheartedly supports the R.A.R.A., and they need Arkansas to be an integral part of their efforts. The pin was designed and procured by Houston Badge Company, owned and operated by Companion Gary W. Rowe



The accomplishments over the last two years have been outstanding. The Grand Chapter has increased in membership both years. We need to continue to talk about the York Rite and encourage our Blue Lodge Brothers to join us. If we will make the meetings interesting and involve the new Companions, our membership will grow. I would love to see all newly made Companions become officers (except maybe the Secretary and Treasurer), because when the new Royal Arch Mason takes an active role in the opening and closing ceremony, he will learn more and receive more light. Furthermore, we will not have to rely on Past High Priests to open and close the meeting. Recycling is very important in the world today, but not so when talking about Chapter Officers.

Finally, there are very few reasons not to have enough Companions to be able to open a stated Chapter meeting. Text, call, or E-mail members to remind them that a meeting is scheduled and you need them to attend. Ask a Grand Chapter Officer or nearby Chapter member to help if needed. Offer to bring an elderly Companion who doesn't want to drive at night. He just may be waiting for someone to call and ask.

I love Royal Arch Masonry, with all of the lessons and imagery contained in the degrees. Just ask for help if you need it; I am sure that it can be arranged.

Fraternally yours,

David T. Arnold, GHP

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Arkansas Section

## STAND AND DELIVER OR SIT BACK AND SUPPORT

Companions of Arkansas:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported me in my advancement over the past seven years through the Grand Line of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Arkansas. I got so close to being the Grand High Priest that I went out and bought me a brand new hat. When I put it on and looked in the mirror, I realized it didn't fit right. The size was ok, the hat was nice, but it was on the wrong head.

My decision to drop out of the Grand Line was a difficult one. I felt my age and some minor health problems could affect my ability to represent you, my companions, as you deserve to be represented.

To Brothers Labon Tompkins and Johnnie Savage; I owe a special thanks and I hope and pray you will understand my reason for stepping aside. I have often said a man should leave more behind other than an empty plate and a muddy foot print. To you, my Companions I leave this poem: I ASKED GOD

I asked God to send me his friends... He sent you.

I asked God to take away my pain. God said, "No, it is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up." I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, "No, his spirit is whole, his body is only temporary." I asked God to grant me patience. God said, "No, patience is a by-product of tribulations. It isn't granted, it is earned." I asked God to give me happiness. God said, "No, I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you." I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No, suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me." I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, "No, you must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful." I asked God for all things that I might enjoy in life. God said, "No, I will give you life so you may enjoy all things." I asked God to help me love others as much and He loves me. God said, "Finally...you have the idea." May God bless all of you and your families.

Fraternally,  
Lealon D. Helms

### Order of High-Priesthood - 2012



The Arkansas Order of High-Priesthood met on March 8, 2012 for the annual conferral. Nine past and/or current High Priests were anointed this year, including: Mike Dean, John Van Galder, Sheldon Gately, Newel "Mac" McManus, Mark

Kalkbrenner, John Ed Harris, Sean Berryman, Daniel White, and Adam McClung. Shown with David Arnold, MEP 2011-2012.

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### Grand Chapter Officers 2012-2013

ME Grand High Priest,  
David T. Arnold;  
RE Grand King,  
Samuel D. Lattin; RE  
Grand Scribe, George  
M. Coleman; RE  
Grand Treasurer,  
Joseph T. Clements,  
Jr.(PGHP); RE Grand  
Secretary, Royce H.  
Taylor (PGHP); Ex  
Grand Capt.o/t Host,  
George K. Coffman;  
Ex Grand Principal



Sojourner, Jarrod R. Adkisson; Ex Grand Royal Arch Capt., Michael  
P. Lockhart; Ex Grand Master o/t 3rd Veil, Charles H. Ferguson; Ex  
Grand Master  
o/t 2nd Veil, Darrell W. Gifford; Ex Grand Master o/t 1st Veil, Patrick  
Carr; Ex Grand Sentinel, Everitt R. Newman; Ex Grand Lecturer,  
W. Paul Wilson

### Grand Council Officers 2012-2013



MI Grand Master,  
Lee E. Stringfellow;  
RI Deputy Grand  
Master,  
Silas M. Wilson; RI  
Grand PCW, Jerry  
Eubanks; RI Grand  
Treasurer, Joseph T.  
Clements, Jr.(PMIGM);  
RI Grand Recorder,  
Royce H. Taylor  
(PMIGM); RI Grand  
Capt. o/t Guard, Samuel

D. Lattin; RI Grand Conductor o/t Council, W. Paul Wilson; RI  
Grand Marshal, Robert L. Jackson; RI Grand Steward, Dr. Joe  
Rouse; IL Grand Sentinel, Steven B. Gregory; RI Grand Chaplain,  
Ardis Dean.



## Most Illustrious Grand Master

Lee E. Stringfellow  
2012-2013

### No Earmarks for CMMRF Funding.

Greetings Companions:

A new beginning with each new Grand Master is typical and I do not want to make any drastic change from the norm. We're off! Look for your DDGM's to be a little more active this year. We have a large task ahead – defining the role of the Council in York Rite and Masonry in general.

The intention behind defining the Council is to educate our Companions on where we came from and how our degrees fit into the story of Masonry. This may not be an easy task but it is worthwhile; once the story is out members of the Council can only take pride in being a part of this. I would like the DDGM's to become the catalyst for the effort.

The other major emphasis will be placed on Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation and our relationship with Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine or as they are more often referred to a CMMRF and ICVBM. And of course we need to define CMMRF and ICVBM not by name but by deeds.

Our philanthropy (CMMRF) touches every single person in this county and I would venture to say in the world. It is the most under funded of all Masonic Charities yet it does more for the men and women of this Nation than any other. Can you think of a family that is not trouble by: 1) **Heart Disease**; 2) **Diabetes**; 3) **Blindness**; 4) **COPD/ Lung Disease**; 5) **Regenerative Medicine**; 6) **Peripheral Artery and Vascular Disease**; 7) **Wound Healing**; 8) **Erectile Dysfunction**; or 9) **Arthritis**. This is the work your contributions to CMMRF are applied to.

When funds are donated to institutions such as Indiana University, those funds are generally "earmarked" for used in specific research. Our donations to CMMRF and ultimately ICVBM are not "earmarked" which allows Dr. March and his staff to channel them to where they do the most good or have the chance of producing a greater return. *Cont. on page 6*

## MIGM, CMMRF

*Continued from page 5*

Dr. Keith March, MD, PHD has been the leader at ICVBM for a number of years; through his guidance and service many improvements in technology directed at upgrading patient care throughout the world. Here are some of his words; "I have had the privilege of creating or working collaboratively to create a range of new technologies, of which multiple have led to approaches or devices tested in patients." "The device that has likely had impact on the greatest number of patients is the Closer, a tool used to close the puncture wound in an artery following heart catheterization. This device allows a patient to "walk off the table" after a catheterization without requiring prolonged bedrest. The Closer approach has been used worldwide in more than 8,000,000 patients."

CMMRF funds the Chair occupied by Dr. March at Indiana University. We have made a huge difference in the lives of men and women through your generosity. This is the story that must be told and during this year will be told to not only Arkansas (which is now # 5 in the nation supporting CMMRF) but in all the States. Many of you already know but for those not aware of Arkansas' contributions to CMMRF – Dr. Joe Rouse, PTIM from Paul C. Bush Council #80 is also on the Board of Trustees for CMMRF; and I am the National Chairman of CMMRF fundraising Committee and a recipient of their technology.

Listed above are two major goals for this year; now let's take a short look at the other two goals. 1) Assist in anyway possible in the recruiting of MM to the York Rite. Tell the story and make it fun. 2) Continue growing in the Ritual. Many Councils open on the same night as does the Chapter & Commandery. These Bodies all need to be proficient in the opening and closing ritual. Find ways to practice those not opened on.

### **Your DDGM's for 2012 – 2013:**

District #1	District #2	District #3	District #4
Earl Barnett	Paul Craig	Steven Gregory	Larry Spradlin
(870) 273-4901	(870) 404-3870	(501) 681-5835	(501) 733-1168

District #5	District #6	District (At Large)
Patrick Carr	Mike Briscoe	M.:W.: Gene Warren, PGM
(479) 549-5058	(479) 970-8867	(501) 206-8596

With your assistance we will find new and sometime exciting ways to make this year in the Councils one that will mark a new Beginning for Cryptic Masonry in Arkansas.

Fraternally,

M.:I.: Lee E. Stringfellow, (479) 957-5818  
Most Illustrious Grand Master of  
The Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Arkansas

## General Grand Chapter Bronze Service Medal



Excellent Companion Dr. James Graham, PGM of Fay Hempstead Chapter #144 was recognized for his service to the Craft by being selected as the recipient of the General Grand Chapter Bronze Service Medal for Arkansas, 2012.

## General Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the Year Arkansas

Companion Dr. Joe Rouse was the recipient of the award for the most outstanding Cryptic Mason in Arkansas for 2010-2011. Dr. Rouse was elected to the Board of Directors for CMMRF at the last Triennial.



## General Grand Council Adult Leadership Award - Arkansas

Mrs. Adrian Carr, wife of Patrick Carr was selected to receive the Adult Leadership Award for her work with Rainbow in northwest Arkansas.

*Much more from the Grand Sessions in the Summer 2012 AR Insert. Ed.*  
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## Longevity of Service Recognized



Recently, two Companions (and Sir Knights) of long standing in the York Rite bodies were recognized for their faithful service. On behalf of the Grand Chapter, then Grand Scribe David Arnold, with Companion Mike

Briscoe, representing the Grand Council, and RE SK Aaron South, representing the Grand Commandery, traveled to the Pottsville, AR, home of Eugene Armstrong. Companion/Sir Knight Armstrong, who is 94 years young, was presented with his Fifty year pins from the Grand York Rite. RW Bro. Billy Joe Holder also presented him with his Grand Lodge Fifty year pin on that occasion.



On March 1st of 2012, Companion Frank Maier was presented with his Fifty year service pins on behalf of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Texas. Companion Maier is a faithful member of Ozark Lodge #79, having served as Secretary, and now Tyler. Accordingly, the

presentations were made at a Stated Communication of his Lodge by then RE Grand Scribe David Arnold for the Chapter and Companion Jack Buell for the Council.

