

## Companions:

The next scheduled Convocation and Assembly of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter and Harris Council, Royal & Select Masters will be held on **Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.**

The order of opening will be:  
-Thomas Chapter  
-Harris Council

## Order of business:

Anything that may properly come before the bodies.  
Nomination/election of officers.

## Officers' dress: Suits.

## From the Clerk:

A long year is coming to an end. I'd like to take a moment and thank those that have stood by me and assisted where possible during a very challenging time for me. Thank you to each of you. As the dust has settled, next year will be much better for me, and as a result, will allow me to do this job with much greater effectiveness.

As part of the alluded assistance, Ex. Mike Kaulback has taken back over as Recorder of Jerusalem Commandery #19 effective with the May Conclave. The Commandery will also be reverting to its own notice as their meeting will also change to the Fourth Thursday. **As a reminder, Commandery will meet Thursday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M.**

I know that we are still looking for a few officers for Chapter and Commandery for next year. As of this writing, I think the only thing we need for Council is a Sentinel. If you'd like to take an office, please let me know, and I'll forward your interest to the appropriate man.

## Electronic notices:

As I've been mentioning off and on, I'm

hoping to move from paper to electronic notices over the next several months. I was planning on setting it up for September, but have found out that the Grand Bodies are re-writing the rules over the summer with a uniform set of guidelines. Until I know exactly what will be happening, I will not make a formal offer for e-notices. However, if you are interested in receiving your notice electronically, please send an e-Mail to [fitchburg\\_york\\_rite@yahoo.com](mailto:fitchburg_york_rite@yahoo.com) so I can start compiling a list and be ready to do it immediately once the final procedures are in place from Boston.

As a note, *all courtesy mailings unless specifically requested will go to e-notices*. I know there are a couple of courtesy recipients that don't have a computer and will continue to receive them by mail, as well as Grand Chapter and Council. If you are a courtesy mailing and I don't have your e-Mail address, please send an e-Mail to [fitchburg\\_york\\_rite@yahoo.com](mailto:fitchburg_york_rite@yahoo.com), so I'll have it. If you have any questions, please call me and I'll be happy to try and answer them.

I'm hoping this will be well-received so we can save the bodies what could be a substantial amount of money over the course of a year, literally several hundred dollars each. Those, of course, who don't have a computer or prefer a mailed notice will continue to receive such.

## Suspensions:

We will be voting on several Companions for suspension this month if you owe more than three years' dues. If, according to my records, your dues card for either Chapter or Council reads **2007 or earlier**, your name will be brought up for suspension. You will then receive a letter explaining what you can do to alleviate this problem and what to do if you think this is in error. This is probably the most unpleasant work in Masonry next to a Funeral Service, but is necessary. As many of you know, we must pay part of your dues to Grand Chapter or Council. When you don't pay, we still have to, which is why it becomes very costly.

As I've stated repeatedly, and will continue to do so, if you are experiencing major financial, medical or other problems and payment of dues is a hardship for you, please let me know. A variety of solutions are available, including payment plans, partial and full remits. We will help you, but you need to let us know what the problem is.

## A final reminder:

Effective September 1, 2010, Grand Chapter will raise its dues from \$10/year to \$20/year. After that, it will be going on a floating scale, similar to Grand Lodge's dues. I therefore recommend purchasing a life membership if you are interested and able to do so. Especially if you are younger, this will save you considerable expense over the next many years. I have the table available; you need to call or e-mail me prior to making out a check, as it's age-dependent.

**In order to do this, I will need your check for the full amount no later than August 21, 2010 to ensure everything is received in Boston in a timely manner. You may mail the checks directly to the Temple, and I will pick them up from there and mail them out. I'll be stopping in once every week or so to check the mail as a matter of principle, and will collect and forward checks as they come in (usually within 10-14 days of their date.)**

I hope that everyone has a fun, restful and enjoyable summer. We'll see you on **September 2, 2010**.

Fraternally,  
-Charlie

## From the High Priest:

Brethren, Chapter is winding down. This will be the last meeting until summer break. Hope to see some new faces on our last Chapter meeting. On May 6th, we did a Mark Degree. I would like to thank those brethren who filled in to make the degree a success. On May 13th, Lodge of Instruction at Mt Lebanon Chapter in Milford,

went well. Always learn something new. Our next Chapter meeting on June 3rd, there will be no degree work. Hopefully we will start up in September with the Past Master Degree. Hope your summer brings some enjoyable activities. See you in the Fall.

Ex. John A. Fritscher  
**From the Illustrious Master:**

Companions,

Our next meeting on June 3rd will be the last meeting before the summer recess. We did the Royal Master degree on Mark Lucia last month and will continue his work in September. He is not available to continue in June so we will NOT have any degree work for this meeting.

The weather should be fine so if you are able, please come and join your Companions for our business meeting and some socializing at the collation. We will be electing officers for the 2010/2011 year so any and all who are interested in joining the officers in the line and helping out with the degree work are welcome and invited to attend and make your interests known.

The Council degrees are unique in Masonry as the only time our candidates get to speak with GM Hiram Abiff. Council is a rewarding way to continue your education in Masonry, even if you are only joining the sidelines. Please come and share with us your company. Have a great summer and I look forward to greeting you in the Fall.

Fraternally,

William Galloway, IM

## As a reminder...

**Grand Chapter/Council/Commandery will be held on October 15-17 in West Springfield. Please call Rt. Ex. Bob Corr at the York Rite office at (617) 426-1973 for more information or to register. A flyer will be sent with the September notice.**

---

