



Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
Of Arkansas

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**Most Excellent Grand High Priest
William R. "Ronnie" Frizzell**

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Back to Life Back to Fraternity



Greetings Companions,
I hope the summer has been more favorable to you than what we have experienced in the first half of the year. The Corona Virus, its impact on our economy, and the shutdown of our usual lives and activities has certainly given us pause and an opportunity to reflect on what is really important in our lives.

Editor's Note: This Summer edition of "The Arkansas Royal Arch" was submitted to our national publisher on June 3, 2020. All dates in this publication were correct as of that date. Our Grand Sessions are currently scheduled to be held as on-line meetings on August 29, 2020. Look for a listing of other meetings as best we know them on page 4. And, remember, you can always check: www.aryorkrite.org for updated information. It is my hope that I will be able to report on AR Grand York Rite in the fall edition. TJH

Grand High Priest - Back to Fraternity

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During the time our Masonic activities were halted I gained a new perspective of how important our brotherly bonds and fellowship are to me. Since our activities resumed in June, I hope each of you have reconnected with a greater appreciation of what our fraternity offers and a greater love for each other. There is no doubting that 2020 will go down as a year of change. Our world going forward will be different and I hope we can continue to make positive changes to improve ourselves, communities, and nation. This is also true for Royal Arch Masonry in Arkansas. I hope that we will use the remainder of the year to focus on making RAM in Arkansas greater. As Grand High Priest I am open to new ideas and perspectives that will increase our presence in our fraternity and communities, grow and strengthen our Chapters, educate our fellow Masons, and spread the light of Masonry. In my last article I challenged each Chapter to hold a fund raiser for RARA. In addition, I would like to challenge each Chapter to consider holding a fundraiser or project to support our communities. If there is a community organization, project, or cause that could use our support, let's try to raise a little money to help them out or even give them a hand. I'm sure they will appreciate it.

Fraternally,
William R. Frizzell
Grand High Priest



A Three Fold Cord Is Not Easily Broken.

Jacob Davis, Hot Springs No. 47



Brothers, I hope you are all home safe, in good spirits, enjoying the weather, and the time with our families. As I sit here and reflect about the series of events the world is experiencing I can't help but think about how it must have been for our grand-parents and great grand-parents and the things they must have

seen and the struggles they must have endured. It is often taken for granted the peace and harmony that this great nation has. And it is hard for us today to believe a threat could ever come to our shores whether war or pandemic. This has not always been the case, even in the home of the brave and the land of the free. An example is in the following quote:

"Through the kindness of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, we are once more assembled in Triennial Meeting. Oh that it were in my power to say, as our Most Eminent Grand Master said three years ago. In peace and fraternal union. We meet, Sir Knights, at a place for distant from that at which this Grand Body was, three years ago, adjourned to meet; and why? Alas, Alas, because brother has drawn sword against brother, and Civil War is raging throughout this fair land. We cannot go to our Southern Brethren, and they cannot come to us; but, as it seemed to be wise dispensation of providence that this Grand Encampment should be placed in the keeping of those who are determined to preserve it, let us offer up our thanks to that providence for his kindness, in suffering so many of us to assemble here, and let us go on, earnestly and prayfully, to do our duty, always remembering that "He is good, and his MERCY endureth forever". These are the words of Grand Master Sir. Kt Benjamin French in the year 1862 in the mist of the Civil War. Also from the minutes for the General Grand Chapter we read in short:

"When, in Sept 1859 the General Grand Chapter closed its labors at Chicago, a resolution had been adopted that the next triennial convocation should be holden at the city of Memphis.

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Masonic Schedule

These dates are as best we know them on June 1, 2020

AR Grand York Rite Sessions:

Electronic "Zoom" meeting August 29, 2020

Order of High Priesthood:

Postponed until Grand YR Sessions in 2021

General Grand Chapter & General Grand Council
Triennial Sessions

September 24 - 29, 2020 Louisville, KY

Installation of ME Companion Steven G. Tiner as
General Grand High Priest

September 28, 2020, 3:00 PM

AR College SRICF - Live Meeting Oct. 10

AR 80, Knight Masons - Postponed until December 2020.

Gilchrist #26, A.M.D. - Postponed indefinitely.

St. Giles, Red Cross of Constantine - Postponed to Oct. 10

Contact your Secretary/Recorder if you have questions.

Or visit:

www.aryorkrite.org

Most Illustrious Grand Master

Charles H. Ferguson

2019-2021

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Working Through This

Companions of the Councils and
all York Rite Masons:

It has been a very difficult time
these last few Months, With the
COVID 19 Virus that has spread
across this great country our
United States of America and the
unrest of the communities with all

of the protest and uprisings that has occurred we can all agree
that we need the help of our Almighty GOD and through his
presence his will we as a Christian Nation will sustain.

As all of you know we have just celebrated the Declaration Of
our Independence on July 4th and as we Honor America as I
hope that you did on that day, I hope that you Thank God for
the Freedom that you celebrated, and hope that God will
continue to bless this Great Country.

All of you should know by now that the three of us: MEGHP
William (Ronnie) Frizzell, myself and REGC Ron Tucker along
with our Grand Recorder M W Dick Browning have had a
number of phone call meetings discussing how we could meet
and without a doubt adhering To Our Grand Master M W David
Bradley's Edict and also his recommendation on the reopening
of all Masonic Meetings within our Fraternity.

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MIGM - Working

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It has not been an easy task for we had scheduled and reschedule and rescheduled again as to when we will have a meeting of our Grand Session. It was decided that we will meet electronically thru a program called ZOOM. You will be asked to join on August 29th starting at 8:00 am. And I would ask that you mark your Calendar NOW on this date, to attend this very important Meeting of your Grand Session. I want to personally Thank our Grand Master David Bradley for approving our Dispensation to allow us to hold these electronic communications.

Companions, again I hope that your Councils will decide to make your contributions to our Council Charity CMMRF remember all dollars that you give helps promote health situation in research and you never know that one day it might help you or one of your Family members.

As I Close this article I want to THANK YOU for allowing me to serve as the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council Of Arkansas, Didn't know that it was going to be for (2) two years but it is what it is.so all I can say as of now is God Bless you and your Families continue to stay safe and hope to see all of you at our ZOOM meeting on August 29th 2020

Fraternally
Charles H Ferguson
Most Illustrious Grand Master



A Three Fold Cord Is Not Easily Broken.

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Before the appointed period of this reunion had arrived, our country found itself involved in a Frightful war, the consequences of the most stupendous rebellion that treason in any age or country has ever devised. All communication between the Northern and Southern portions of our common country were suspended by the intervention of lines of hostile armies." (Albert G Mackey GGHP 1865)

"We have had to contend with the effects of this most awful inhuman and ungodly war that shocked the world, and in addition, the ravages of the plague which swept over the world within the past year." (Grand Master Sir Kt Lee Smith 1919)



The words above give a great statement, of such a magnitude, that for us today it is hard to understand the true pain that these men and their families had to endure. Today we too are going through vicissitude. I'm not trying to say we are suffering to the degree of our forefathers but as with all changes, there will be discomfort and sacrifices. As of the writing of this in the interest of public welfare we must social distance and cannot feel the warm embrace of our brothers' hand upon greeting them after a period of not seeing them. The uncertainty of when our Lodges and Chapters will return to normal causes concern for us because we love this great fraternity. As you can see during the years of 1862-1865 all communication between the Northern and Southern states was suspended, but, if you continue reading in the minutes of the General Grand Chapter September 8th 1865 just four months after the end of the war, you see those present included Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee and in 1919 not only did our great rite survive, but grew.

You see, our great fraternity transcends all obstacles that may come our way. It matters not race, color, creed or pandemic. It matters not the obstacles that are put in front of us for the Great Architect of the Universe has provided us with the means to overcome the challenge.

So, the title of this is "A Three Fold Cord is not Easily Broken". Why? Because, through our perseverance, the help of our Brothers and Companions, and the Great Architect of the Universe we too will build a stronger and brighter tomorrow!

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A Three Fold Cord Is Not Easily Broken.

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Ecc 4:12 "And though one may be overpowered, two can resist. Moreover, a cord of three strands is not quickly broken." It is often in times of feeling overpowered that we feel alone, afraid, and helpless, but we are not any of those things. We have been given the road map to conquer our adversaries. Yes, today there is the threat of shortage of mask, medical supplies, vaccines, in areas certain foods, and loss of jobs, but these are not anything that our fathers and grandfathers haven't survived in the past. A Three Fold Cord is a metaphor, each strand representing a quality every Mason has, which is physical, mental, and spiritual strength. And when applied to the whole of the Masonic body; through our physical strength we shall rebuild. Through our mental we shall endure, and through our spiritual we shall overcome.

"We are going to be victorious because we are a free and united people. Victory will be ours because our cause is a righteous cause. Victory will be ours because free people, thinking freely, expressing freely, producing freely, can never be conquered." (Sir .Kt Dwight H Green Governor of Illinois 1943). These are the same qualities our grand-fathers and great grand-fathers had. They knew and understood that we are stronger together and these same qualities exist in us today. Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights there is an unbeatable power in unity. We are much like an engine, were you need oxygen, fuel, and fire to make it run. Without any one of these things the engine fails and while one alone is strong together we make motion. And when this pandemic ends, we shall have another momentous task to overcome, the task of reconstructing our Lodges and Chapters morale. It is up to us to pick up the ashlar and continue building to give hope to those that feel downtrodden. It is up to us to lead, guide and study so that we will be better enabled to give assistance when called upon. And when the day comes to pick up our tools and execute the task at hand we will dauntlessly carry out the designs upon the trestle board.



TOGETHER WE CAN!