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Spring 2022

Published Quarterly

**Most Excellent Grand High Priest**  
**Randall P. Gilless**  
2022-2023  
[ghp@aryorkrite.org](mailto:ghp@aryorkrite.org)



## Being Proud in '22

Companions:

I would first like to thank you companions for allowing me to serve you in this upcoming year. I would also like to thank MEGHP Mark Kalkbrenner for his mentorship and friendship and to congratulate him on a job well done. My thanks also goes out to our Grand Secretary Dick Browning. He has answered my questions with true patience and grace and believe me there have been many. I will continue to call on him throughout my year as he will attempt to

keep me in line. I would also like to thank the Grand Line officers for their support and travel. I would be remiss if I did not mention our Grand Treasurer and Editor of *The Royal Arch Mason Magazine*, T.J. Henwood. In my opinion our Grand Chapter would not be what it is today without T.J. and Dick.

My program this year is "Being Proud in 22". We should all feel PROUD to believe in the Supreme Architect of the Universe. We should all feel PROUD to be an American. We should all feel PROUD to be a Family man. We should all be PROUD to be a Mason.

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## **Grand High Priest - Being Proud**

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We should all be PROUD to be Royal Arch Mason. Our officers of the Grand Chapter are PROUD to be your officers and are PROUD to serve you.

I feel it is my responsibility and I will be PROUD to visit our Chapters throughout the state and I will be PROUD to visit each and every one this year. In addition to visiting our Chapters I am asking our officers to visit Blue Lodges this year. I am asking them to dress in their Chapter regalia and lay their apron at their side and explain it. I am asking them to let our Masonic Brothers know that the Royal Arch Degrees are a continuation of the Blue Lodge degrees. We only gain membership from the Blue Lodge so I also ask the every Companion to do the same. Let's be PROUD of our Grand Chapter and Grand York Rite. Get out and be PROUD to wear your RED!!!! Together we can make a difference in getting the word out about the York Rite. In my opinion we either take the initiative to get out in the lodges and been seen or we will continue to slowly dwindle into nothing. I am asking you to help me make our Grand Chapter and York Rite the best it has ever been. I believe we can do it if you are willing to help. I am not too PROUD to ask for help! I need it and YOUR York Rite needs it!!!!!!

I am asking that every Chapter have at least one Family night this year and consider making it an annual event. Have a dinner, go bowling, have a movie night, maybe a picnic. Invite your friends, neighbors, coworkers, relatives and don't forget your fellow Masons. An example would be a movie night. (FAMILY FRIENDLY MOVIE) Charge a small admission. Set up a ticket booth (Mark Master pay window) sell a ticket and have an usher seat the guests, have a concession stand set up and charge for hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, sodas, popcorn or candy. Get the kids involved. Put them in charge of selling tickets, ushering and the concession stand. They will have a blast doing it and will have a great feeling of being in charge. If you have access to DeMolay or Rainbow Girls invite them to help. Remember though it is not a charge but rather a donation for RARA. Explain to those present what RARA is and where that money goes and what it is used for. If you need information let me know. This can also be used as a fundraiser for each year. Encourage your Councils and Commanderys to do something similar. You are killing two birds with one stone. You are making the public aware of what we are doing (which might get us a few more petitions for blue lodge) and having a fun night to spend with your family, friends, and neighbors as well as making a little money for RARA. Make it a fun night that will be looked forward to from year to year or more often.

Remember the public is watching us. Make a positive impression.

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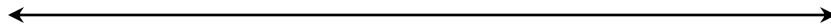
## Grand High Priest - Being Proud

*Continued from page 2*

Positive perception from the public will result in increased membership. Remember the public knows very little about us and they are curious about what we do. What they perceive is what they see. Squash the naysayers. Show them you are PROUD to be a Royal Arch Mason!!!!!!!  
I want all of us to be PROUD but pride is a good thing and a bad thing. Please do not be so PROUD that you ignore advice or are not willing to ask for help when you need it. I promise I will listen to your concerns and advice and just like now I will ask for your help. None of us is perfect and we all make mistakes. I know I will make some this year. But my mistakes will not be a result of a lack of effort to make our Grand Chapter and Grand York Rite something to be more PROUD of and ready to fight for. My contact information is on our website. Call me, text me, email me or more preferably shake my hand and tell your concerns or offer advice.

Thank you for your support of me. My Lady Jackie and I are PROUD of each and every one of YOU!!!!!!

Randy Gillless  
MEGHP



Gillless Honored by Knight Masons, USA

Just as the annual Arkansas York Rite awards banquet was getting underway, Grand High Priest elect Randy Gillless was called to the East. With the permission of the Knight Templar Grand Encampment officer present, he was invested with the jewel of the Knight Commander Zerubbabel award of the Knight Masons, USA.

ME Companion Gillless was recognized for his work as the Scribe (Secretary) of Arkansas Council No. 80 at Jonesboro.

Knight Masons is an honorary appendant body of the York Rite.

<http://www.aryorkrite.org/km80>



*More from the Grand Sessions - Pages 6-8*

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## **A “Golden” Opportunity in 2022**

**Any Companion/Sir Knight Suspended for Non-Payment**

**Will be Reinstated for only the 2022 Dues**

**Of His Local Bodies**

Immediately upon being installed into their respective offices, the heads of the Grand York Rite in Arkansas issued Edict No. 1 for the Grand Chapter and Council, and General Order No.1 in the Grand Commandery:

Every Chapter, Council, and Commandery is directed to waive all the usual reinstatement fees, requiring only the current year’s dues (2022) to reinstate any Companion or Sir Knight who has been suspended for non-payment.

If this applies to you, please consider this one-time opportunity to get back into the York Rite. This opportunity will expire at the end of 2022.

Keep in mind, that under normal circumstances, the Digests require the bodies to collect the back dues owed, and the current year’s dues, if a man has been suspended less than one year. After the first year, the amount required for reinstatement is usually the same, but can be all of the back dues not paid. So, you can see what a great opportunity this is.

Companions, do you know of a brother who is in this situation? Reach out to him today, and make him aware of this chance to “get right” with the York Rite.

See your local Secretary/Recorder for the specifics of this directive.

## **Most Illustrious Grand Master**

William Ronald Frizzell

2022-2023

igm@aryorkrite.org

### **Planning to Succeed**



Companions,

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your Grand Master for the 2022-23 Masonic year. I will try to do my best to preserve and promote the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Arkansas and ask for your support and prayers. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance. With your support, my goals for the year are to grow Cryptic Masonry in

Arkansas by strengthening our Councils, improving ritual proficiency, promoting Masonic education, and supporting our philanthropy CMMRF.

To start the year off, I would like to ask each Council to take some time at your next stated meeting to consider setting goals and make plans for the following: 1. Increasing fellowship by holding a social outing including non-members, 2. Increasing membership by a specific number (minimum of 5), 2. Retention of membership (contacting those who haven't attended lately), 3. Reinstating members (contact those who are NPD and ask them to come back), 4. Holding practice sessions and/or schools to improve ritual proficiency of the opening/closing and degrees, 5. Including a item of Masonic education at each meeting, and 6. Setting a target contribution amount to CMMRF (I would like to see each Council raise a minimum of \$500 each).

Fraternally,

William R. "Ronnie" Frizzell

M.: I.: Grand Master

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## The Grand Sessions

Knights of the Royal Arch  
Four Companions were recognized by the Grand Chapter for their work on behalf of Arkansas Capitular Masonry with the Rank and title of "Knight of the Royal Arch. Andy Morrison (right), Arthur Smith (Below-left) and Frank Kish.



### RARA Awards

Three chapters were recognized with Diamond pins for their donations to RARA.



Far West Chapter No. 1 and Lafayette Chapter No. 7 each received a diamond lapel pin for donations of at least \$500.00.

Union Chapter No. 2 got 2 pins, for their donation of over \$1000.00.

Jack Sharp Council and Arkansas Council of Knight Masons were also recognized for their donations of over \$500.00, each.

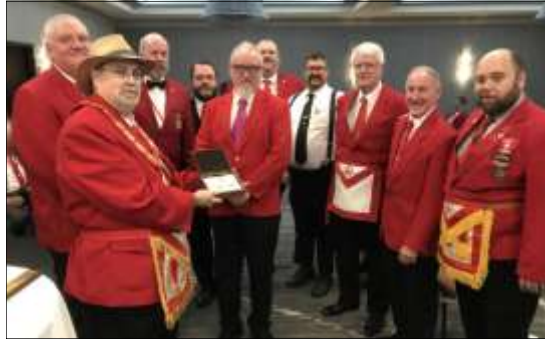


## The Hudson Square and Compasses



The Hudson Square & Compasses is a beautiful set, crafted of solid gold, donated by Companion Hudson to the Grand Chapter of Arkansas. For over 60 years it has been presented to the Chapter having the most

Exaltations in the preceding year; giving that Chapter the privilege of displaying it on their Altar during the succeeding year. This year, the award went to Far West Chapter, No.1.



## The Fay Hempstead Award



Named in honor of one of Arkansas' most honored Companions and Masons, Fay Hempstead, one of the three Poet Laureates of freemasonry, the award honors an Arkansas York Rite Mason who has made significant contributions to the York Rite, and Freemasonry. The 2022 award was given to Companion and Sir Knight William Paul Wilson.



## Honoring Our Ladies

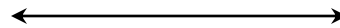


Two of Arkansas' premier Ladies of the York Rite were recognized in 2022 as "Sweethearts of the Chapter". Anita Wilson (left) and Sally Kalkbrenner (below)

received the General Grand Chapter Sweetheart award this year.



The General Grand Council also presents an award to ladies who support the work of Cryptic Masons. This year, Paula Henwood (left) received the "Lady of the Council" award.



### Other Awards

While not ladies, two other Companions were recognized for their devotion to the York Rite. Companion Thomas Flowers was named

the recipient of the General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal and Companion Mike Rushin, Jr., Executive Officer of DeMolay in AR, the General Grand Council Adult Leadership Award.