



# THE PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER

## Special points of interest:

### Chapters of Instruction

- District A** May 10  
Valparaiso 10:00 am EST  
9:00 AM CST
- District B** June 7  
Mish/Osceola 9:00 AM EST  
Plymouth 1:00 PM EST
- District C** June 6  
Huntington 7:00 PM EST
- District D** May 14  
Logansport 7:00 PM EST
- District E** May 31  
Greencastle 2:00 PM EST
- District F** July 14  
Prather Dinner 6:00pm EST
- District G** May 16  
Anderson 7:00 PM EST
- District H** May 12  
Richmond 7:00 PM EST
- District I** June 7  
Bloomington 7:00 PM EST
- District J** May 3  
Eckerty 1:00 PM EST
- District K** May 3  
Corydon 7:00 PM EST
- District L** June 28th  
Versailles 9:00 am

## 163rd Convocation Held by Larry E. Gray PGHP, Grand Sec.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Gary A. Snyder, presided over the Convocation, which was attended by delegates from all chapters except two (Hacker 34 and Alexandria 99). Attendees from other jurisdictions including Illinois and Michigan, Massachusetts, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International. The in state guest included representatives from the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, Grand Commandery of

Knights Templar, York Rite Sovereign College of North America, Scottish Rite, and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Indiana.

Grand officers elected for the ensuing year include W. Kris Phillips, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Stephen T Oathout, Right Excellent Grand King, Phillip D Herthel, Right Excellent Grand Scribe, Phillip E fowler, PGHP, Right Excellent Grand Treasurer, Larry E Gray, PGHP, Right Excellent Grand Secre-

tary, James W Daugherty II, excellent grand captain of host, Jeffrey M. Jordan, Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner, David F Wood, Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain. Appointed officers are; James B. Coleman, GM of the 3rd Veil, Brian C. Lewis, GM of the 2nd Veil, William R Ward Sr., GM of the 1st Veil. John R Smiley Grand Lecturer, George P Weister, Grand Chaplain, Martin A. Evans, Grand Guard, John W. Logan, Grand Organist, and Steven K Robison, Grand Historian.

(continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

New Programs	2
Filling the Seats	4
Special Events	3
Membership	3
RARA	3
Instructional	2
Inside Story	6

## To the start of Something Great!

Welcome to the start of something great. Grand Chapter just held our 163td convocation and the ideas and programs presented represented a new beginning. Membership is equal to or above the death rate. Chapters that have not exalted any new members are doing work. Ideas on how to retain members re being worked out. It is a great

time to be a Mason.

Sounds like all is well. Companions is it? We can set back and talk about how bad off we are and how the greatest fraternity ever is going down the tubes or we can look at the important steps being taken to correct and expand our Royal Arch Masonry. I ask you as your Most Excellent Grand High Priest to

remember what made you want to be a Royal Arch Mason in the first place and remembering that feeling, step up and join the great rush to be better men, husbands, fathers and most importantly Masons.

I am inviting all masons, friends and family to join myself and the Companions of Greencastle Chapter #22 in celebrating our 150

anniversary followed by a reception and dinner in my honor. I look forward to seeing so many of my friends form across the state.

Remember we have something important: it's time we acted like it.

Fraternally,

W. Kris Phillips  
MEGHP

Royal Arch Deputies for  
2008—2009.

Carl D. Froedge

R. Daniel Gaby

F. Martin Donahue

Dennis J. Tuder

Marvin J. Ramsay

Joseph R. Haydock

Michael J. Smith

John T. Fleming

Jerald L. Miller

Michael T. Cumberworth

Charles M Huff

Steven J. Rayls

Joseph G Conniff will  
serve as Special Deputy

Thank you, for all the  
hard work that you do!

## THE PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER

### 163rd Convocation Held (continued from page 1)

Certificates of Merit were presented to the following Chapters for an increase in membership for the year 2007; Indianapolis #5 Laporte #15 Michigan City #25, East Central #30, Hacker #34, Lincoln #53, Grant County #55 Oceola #71, Versailles #113, Vermilion #125, Bloomington #127, Prather #157, Dubois County #168, and Isley #169. Certificates were presented by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International to East Cen-

tral #30, Hacker #34 and Prather #157 for 10% gains in membership in 2007. This is the fourth year in a row for Prather Chapter #157, to receive a 10% certificate from the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International. Prather #157 also received the W. Curtis Mahler Traveling Gavel for the most exaltations in 2007 with 47.

John R. Smiley of Clinton Chapter #82, was selected as the recipient of the General Grand Chapter

Distinguished Service Award and Bronze. R. Daniel Gaby, PHP, the Mishawaka/Osceola #83 was selected as High Priest of the Year for 2007 and John R Hylemon, of Rensselaer #150 was chosen Secretary of the Year.

The Executive Committee was eliminated, most of all resolutions were not approved or withdrawn. Resolution #17 did pass and the David W. Widmoyer Award will be presented next year.

### Chapter of Instruction Starts

The Chapter of Instruction this year is on the Royal Arch Degree.

This year's format is using an open book and spends more time on how to perform the ritual. The Grand Lecturer John Smiley is using this time to teach ritual work and floor work. The first chapters of instruction were held in Corydon, IN. and Eckerley, IN.



The Companions and Grand Chapter Officers had a great time. Also with these Instructionals, we're presenting a

membership retention and membership development program. Our Most Excellent Grand High Priest W. Kris Phillips finishes the meeting up and closes in ample form.



# Volume I, Issue I

## Special Events!

Companions,

We have had a real good time so far this caputular year, especially with the instructionals.

In September, the Grand Chapter will be sponsoring a Mark Master degree. It will be held in a quarry located in the Noblesville area (northeast Indianapolis). Details are still being worked out, but plan on a hog roast preceding the degree. There will be a charge for the meal, with the net proceeds to benefit RARA. More details will be forthcoming. Anyone who would like to assist, please let me know. We need cast, prop handlers, and people to help with the meal. I can be reached at (317)776-0307, or [jeffjdrn@comcast.net](mailto:jeffjdrn@comcast.net).

Jeff Jordan

E. Grand Principal Sojourner

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana

Cell (317)524-8087

Membership!!

**THE INDIANA GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE...**

**MEMBERSHIP 2009 WORKSHOP**

**TWO MEETINGS TO CHOOSE FROM:**

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at Oceola Chapter, Martinsville

And

Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at Huntington Chapter, Huntington

10:00 AM until 4:00 PM

**OPEN TO ALL HIGH PRIESTS, KINGS, SCRIBES AND SECRETARIES OF ALL CHAPTERS**

**OUR GOAL: EVERY CHAPTER IS REPRESENTED!**

**AT ONE OF THESE TWO MEETINGS!**

Learn New Skills! Refresh old Skills!

Get More Tools! Set Objectives for 2009!

Rekindle your Passion for York Rite Masonry!

Contact David Wood phone 574.286.5686

**“RARA:**  
*Indiana ranks 5th in the world, in contributions to the Royal Arch Research Assistance Program”*



Research brings results for individuals with auditory challenges

## RARA

“In a research study 38% of children seen at the Able Kids Foundation failed at least one grade level”



### Research:

The potential need for central auditory processing (CAP) assessment and management is great. Persons most likely to benefit from our research are those who have normal peripheral hearing acuity yet report significant difficulties processing information in the presence of competing background noise.

These persons number in the millions. Because central auditory processing disorders (CAPD) are associated with children and adults with other challenges such as traumatic brain injury, autism, learning disabilities, and ADD/ADHD, the incidence of CAPD is most likely underestimated.

For example, the incidence of

autism is 1 in every 500 births, and 200 million people a year have some degree of head injury.

Furthermore, 2 million children have been diagnosed with ADD/ADHD, and 1 in every 1600 individuals has multiple sclerosis. All of these population groups are at risk for CAPD.

Scientific research focusing on behavioral manifestations, incidence, etiologies, assessment and management of the central auditory nervous system function is an on-going program of the Able Kids Foundation, thanks to generous support from the Royal Arch Research Assistance, philanthropy of General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International.

## ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE - TOP TWENTY

**As of March 31, 2008**

1. California \$766,455.49
2. Colorado 565,445.04
3. Ohio 452,736.09
4. Florida 363,527.55
5. Georgia 352,767.21
6. Indiana 214,799.66

## GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS of INDIANA

OFFICE OF  
GRAND SECRETARY  
LARRY E. GRAY  
2250 E. 550 N.  
GREENFIELD, IN 46140-9007  
Telephone 317-326-3632  
Fax 317-326-7666  
E-mail Address - [Lgray56586@aol.com](mailto:Lgray56586@aol.com)



### The Keystone of Free Masonry..... The Royal Arch!



MEGHP  
W. Kris Phillips  
2008—2009

THE ARCH NEVER SLEEPS,  
WHEN THE ARCH HOLDS,  
ALL ELSE HOLDS,  
LOVE STANDS AND HANGS BY AN ARCH.  
THE RAINBOW IS AN ARCH.  
WHERE YOU FIND TRUTH, LOVE, HARMONY AND LASTING  
STRENGTH.  
AN ARCH BENDS AND CURVES OVER IT.  
AS A BLESSING AND AN OATH.  
UNITY, UNION,  
YOU GET ONLY WITH AN ARCH.  
HATE AND PRIDE BREAK ARCHES.  
LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING BUILD UNBREAKABLE ARCHES

Author Unknown. From RAM monitor.

We are on the Web at  
[http://www.yorkrite.com/  
gcramin/](http://www.yorkrite.com/gcramin/)

## Attendance - Retention

**Start a phone program.** An organized phone program is very effective because it is a direct contact. A personal invitation shows interest and caring. Written communication is also very important. Writing a note, shows that you took the time to care.

**Send birthday cards.** For some of the brothers, this may be the most important card they receive.

**Send Masonic recognition cards.** Recognize an honor that a brother recently received. Birthdays, wedding, community involvement etc.

**Send get well cards.**

**Send thank you notes.** If you appreciate the efforts of your workers, thank them. They will work again. Thank your members for continued support.

**Assist with arranging carpools.** As many lodge members age, they do

not like driving at night, form a carpool committee.

**Feed each member three times.** The number three alludes to providing your membership good ritual, a good program, and good food. Have rehearsals, practice is a good way for brothers to get together and practice fellowship and have fun. Good programs are essential to membership retention. Many times we promise our brothers Masonic education. We need to start to deliver on this promise! Table chapters and ladies programs are a good start.

**Table Chapters or Instructions;** if properly planned, this event can be the highlight of the year. This is the perfect opportunity to honor your workers and enjoy a good meal as well.

**Sponsor night:** honor those members who've sponsored a new companion in the previous year. What better way to think a brother for spreading the Masonic ideals! Don't take your sponsors for granted.

**Other ideas to consider:**

Historical sketch, dance party, Halloween party, Saint Patrick's Day party, New Year's Eve party; usher in the New Year with your brethren. This can be a safe and fun evening. Valentine's Day party, Masonic birthday party, awards ceremony. Class or group reunion for those members raised 5, 10, 15 years ago to be a guess at the chapter for dinner.

The lists can go on and on, it is up to you. Form a committee and energize your chapter.