



Quincy Chapter No. 5 Hosts A Wonderful Chapter/Council Day!

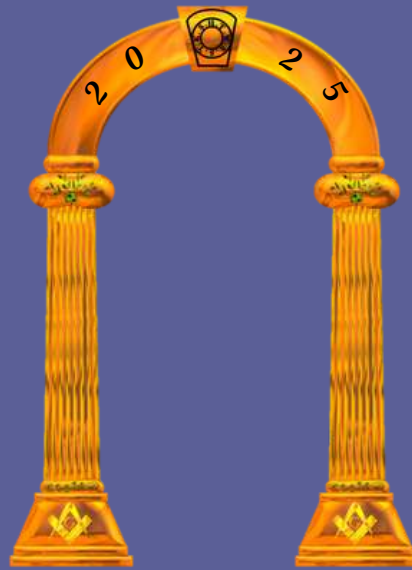


On January 4th, Quincy Chapter No. 5 hosted a combined Chapter/Council Day. 7 new Companions were Exalted as Royal Arch Masons and Greeted as Select Masters! Grand Officers, local members and Companions across the state participated in all 4 Capitular, and both Cryptic degrees.

In the middle of the busy day, members were served a wonderful chicken meal. The Grand Chapter appreciates everyone's hard work in getting this day done.



EDUCATION CORNER



We always approach the New Year with real optimism and good intentions and sadly by the end of January we fail in most of our resolutions and are back to square one. That is not always a bad thing for at least we had good intentions; it is just that we often set ourselves lofty tasks that we cannot complete. The failure often demoralizes us and that is when we get the January or post-Christmas blues.

To prevent this, I am trying something new this year; I learnt a new word recently and am introducing it into my mind set.

‘Suboptimal’ means something of less than or below the highest standard or quality, and I felt this year my approach to tasks, relationships and Freemasonry must never be suboptimal.

Freemasonry requires that we give our best to the tasks that life apportions us. Therefore if we accept, that this New Year, we will put forward our very best endeavors in all we are asked to do, then having done our best, to the highest level of our talents and capabilities, then we can do no more.

All the belief systems in the world encourage us to achieve our potential and striving to achieve our optimal level in all we do, will restore the feeling of achievement, raise our self-esteem and help us achieve the feeling of control and stewardship in our life.

Making A Daily Advancement

Mike Lawrence

MASONIC YOUTH UPDATE

Mon Jan 20th, 2025 Bloomingdale DeMolay's Squire Manor hosted an amazing Taco Tasting. There were 4 kinds of tacos to choose from: A Traditional Taco, Olive Lover Taco, Chick-Fil-A Inspired Taco and a special edition dessert taco! This event was made possible and supported by the Valley of Chicago. Several York Rite Masons from various Chapters & Councils were also present to explore this delicious and innovative night. DeMolay Squires is an organization providing boys (9-11) an opportunity to be a part of, and support, DeMolay and through collaborative efforts, plan its own program of activities. Master Squire Luke Biundo spearheaded this event through his amazing vision and support of his fellow Squires, DeMolay and DeMolay Sorority Members. After the event Master Squire Luke was quoted as saying, ***"Thank you for coming to the event and supporting us! It was really fun !"***



Chapter Spotlight

Bloomington Chapter No. 26

Bloomington Chapter No. 26 welcomed two new companions to our ranks – Brother Terry W. Harrison & Brother Jason E. Kriehauser. The night started off with pizza from a local favorite, Rosati's. We were honored to have the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Danny L. Gaddis, join us for the evening. The Chapter performed the Mark Master & Past Master Degree following the stated meeting. Visiting companions Ron Yarger, Ted Fultz, & Chuck Wood Jr. graciously assisted us in the Mark Master Degree. The degree was special for our Principal Sojourner Steve Wright as he was able to serve as Junior Deacon for his Brother-In-Law Terry Harrison. Quality degree work was shown, and our new Companions eagerly await gaining more light in Masonry by witnessing the Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch Degree. Bloomington Chapter has a long-standing history of serving the Grand Chapter in various capacities. Our current officers hold many current and former positions including:

- Robert H. Wright – Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest (2012–2013)
- Barry D. Weer – Right Excellent Grand Secretary, Honorary Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest
- Christopher J. Hathaway – Right Excellent Grand Treasurer
- Paul J. Dillow – Excellent Grand Steward
- Alvin R. Abbott Jr – Credentials
- Michael R. Fowler – York Rite Mason of the Year (2020)
- Jeffrey L. Estes – Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master (Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Illinois)



DDGHP Steve Devries Stays Dry While Crossing River Jordan – Used a Horse



Upcoming Events

- 1/31 – 2/1: Murphysboro Chapter/Council Day
 - 4&5 on 1/31 @7pm; 6&7, Royal & Select on 2/1 @9am
 - 1115 Chestnut Drive, Murphysboro, IL 62966
- 3/1 – Joint IL/IN Chapter Day
 - Coffee/Donuts @8am, Gavel @9am (EASTERN STANDARD TIME)
 - 900 S 14th St, Terre Haute, IN 47807
- 4/26 – RAMCF Wild Game Feed
 - 12pm – 5pm
 - Mama's Place, Oquawka, IL 61469
- 5/18 – Grand Chapter Re-Dedication/Steak Dinner
 - Ceremony @2pm, Dinner @3pm
 - 1020 Rickard Rd, Springfield, IL 62704

HAVE A NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION?

Write an email to IOrr@ram-il.org and MKwilosz@ram-il.org with your suggestion and we will work it into our future newsletters!