



Joint Illinois/Indiana Grand Chapter Day a Resounding Success!

On March 1st, the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Illinois and Indiana joined forces for a combined Chapter Day. This day was full of wonderful ritual that was performed "most excellently" by both states! Chapter members of both states were well represented with a great turnout. The day added extra fellowship between Companions of different jurisdictions. This day also exemplified the unity of the Companions of both states. The Grand Chapter Officers appreciate the assistance and attendance of Illinois and Indiana Companions alike, and, as always, welcome the new Companions of the Chapter!



MORE ILLINOIS & INDIANA BONDING!

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Joe Villareal recently decided to join Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 281 which meets at The Medinah Shrine in Addison, IL. On Joe's Most Excellent journey he visited a Keystone Royal Arch Meeting and had such a good time he put a petition in! Excellent High Priest Juan Guterrez traveled to the Indiana / Illinois joint day to present MEGHP Joe his Keystone Membership and welcome him to Illinois Capitular Masonry personally!



EDUCATION CORNER

Zerubbabel: A Symbol of Restoration and Divine Purpose

Zerubbabel, a descendant of King David and governor of Judah after the Babylonian exile, holds deep significance in both biblical history and Christian theology. Tasked with rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem (Haggai 1:1-2), he stands as a symbol of perseverance, faith, and divine restoration. His leadership, guided by the prophets Haggai and Zechariah, demonstrates how God empowers the faithful to overcome obstacles, as seen in the well-known declaration: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).

For Christians, Zerubbabel prefigures Christ as the chosen servant of God through whom the ultimate spiritual temple—the Church—is established. His place in Jesus' genealogy (Matthew 1:12) underscores his role in God's redemptive plan.

Within the Royal Arch tradition, Zerubbabel exemplifies steadfast dedication to divine purpose, reminding us that true strength comes not from earthly power, but through faith and obedience to God's will.



Excellent Grand Captain of the Host visits the quarries of Maryland! – Written by Excellent Companion Jeff Baine



On Tuesday, February 18, 2025, EGCoH Jeff Baine visited the Grand Lodge of Maryland in Cockeysville, Maryland and then visited Mt. Moriah Lodge # 116 A.F. & A.M. in Towson, Maryland. Companion Baine had contacted the Grand Lodge of Illinois who then contacted the Grand Lodge of Maryland to arrange for the visit.

The visit to the Grand Lodge was really good. The tour was given by Carl Michael. They have a Commandery room, a chapter room and the Grand Lodge room. They also have a museum, but Companion Baine was not able to visit due to time. The Grand Lodge sits on approximately 40 beautiful acres and includes an assisted living facility. Due to the extreme cold that day, no pictures were taken of the outside of the buildings. Mt. Moriah Lodge secretary Goodel (Goody) S. Tejano contacted Companion Baine and arranged for their 4-time past master Wayne Penley Sr. to meet him at the Peppermill Restaurant in Lutherville, Maryland, for dinner before the meeting. The food was top notch as well as the company.

After dinner they went to the lodge for their stated meeting and degree work. That evening they had 4 first degrees. While they are A.F. & A.M. there were differences in the work performed in Maryland compared to Illinois. If you wish to learn about how they perform a first degree, please ask Companion Baine. Companion Baine was very well received by Mt. Moriah Lodge. He was presented with a certificate of Appreciation from the lodge as well as a pin from the Grand Master of Maryland MWB Randall L. Watson, 2 different pins from Mt. Moriah Lodge, a challenge coin from their 160th installation and a tie from WM Raul Z. Marquez II.

The brothers of Mt. Moriah Lodge from WM Raul, SEC Goody, WB Wayne and the members of Mt Moriah Lodge were excellent hosts. Due to Uber cancelling his ride, WB Wayne gave him a ride back to his hotel which was about a 30-minute ride. If you ever get the opportunity to visit a lodge out of our jurisdiction, please do so as this is so much fun, educational and the fellowship is fantastic! On a side note, this was companion Baine's 3rd out of jurisdiction visit, having visited a lodge in Washington and witnessed a first degree in Minnesota.

Chapter Spotlight

Equality Chapter No. 6

Hello from the South, SOUTH east corner of the state, Companions. Equality Chapter No. 6 resides in Equality, IL, a village of 600 residents. Originally chartered as Shawneetown Chapter No. 6 from 1846 until 1867. In 2006 they petitioned to be able to use that number again as Shawneetown masonic bodies had consolidated into Equality in the early 2000s. Notable charter members are MEPGHP Bruce Rhinehart and MEPGHP Everett Campbell. We currently sit at right around 35 companions. We meet at the Equality Masonic lodge hall and have a great working relationship with them as well as a Rainbow chapter that meets there. You can find us cooking for their breakfast fundraisers, visiting blue lodges and holding bowling fundraisers. We are proud to be the home chapter of RE Companion Drew Morris, the Grand Scribe, and E Companion John Lane the DDGHP for the 15th district.



THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF
ILLINOIS CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO A
CELEBRATION OF OUR 175TH YEAR OF
CAPITULAR MASONRY



SUN MAY 18TH, 2025

1PM: THERE WILL BE A 175TH YEAR REDEDICATION
CEREMONY OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF ILLINOIS PERFORMED BY A TEAM OF MOST
EXCELLENT PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

230PM: THERE WILL BE A RIBEYE STEAK LUNCHEON
EXPERTLY PREPARED AND SERVED WITH TRADITIONAL
SIDES FOR A DONATION OF \$40. PROCEEDS FROM
THE LUNCHEON GO TO BENEFIT THE ROYAL ARCH
MASONS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION.

**DURING THE LUNCHEON THERE WILL BE VARIOUS REMARKS
AND PRESENTATIONS**

SPRINGFIELD MASONIC CENTER
1020 RICKARD RD, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704
PLEASE RSVP AT THE FOLLOWING LINK: XXXXXXXXXXXX
OR BY CALLING 630-640-5096

**WILD GAME
FEED**

PRESENTED BY THE ROYAL ARCH
MASONS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

LOCATION:
MAMA'S PLACE
1002 7TH ST. OQUAWKA, IL
61469

**LIVE MUSIC BY SHAWNEE, SILENT AUCTIONS
RAFFLES, DUCKY DERBY & MORE!**

APRIL 26, 2025 12:00PM - 6:00PM
\$10 PER PLATE

AUCTION FROM 11:00AM - 4:00PM
EATING AT 12:00PM

Upcoming Events

- 4/26 – RAMCF Wild Game Feed
 - 12pm – 6pm
 - Mama's Place, Oquawka, IL 61469
- 5/18 – Grand Chapter Re-Dedication/Steak Dinner
 - Ceremony @1pm, Dinner @230pm
 - 1020 Rickard Rd, Springfield, IL 62704
- 7/16-7/19 – York Rite Grand Sessions
 - Abraham Lincoln Springfield Hotel

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!