



TAU TIMES
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SHRIMP BOIL FUN WITH WARREN CHAPTER!

Warren Chapter No. 30 knocked it out of the park on Saturday, August 9th, 2025, with their amazing Shrimp Boil in world-famous Oquawka, IL! The event brought together all the teamwork, laughter, and fellowship our Companions are known for—while raising support for the Royal Arch Masons Charitable Foundation. A day of great food, great fun, and an even greater cause!



"Most Excellent Travels!"



MEGHP Lance J Welter stopped by the Skokie Masonic center where El Jaala Grotto & El Jaala Daughters of Mokanna were having a summer cookout! All were very surprised and happy with Lance's Most excellent attendance !



MEGHP Lance J Welter joined several other Masonic Leaders from Grand Lodge, Grand Council, Grand Commandery and Shrine supported our amazing Rainbow Girls at Glenview Temple during their Grand Line Reception.

“A Man Makes His Mark”

By Matthew R. Stolz, PHP of Macon Chapter No. 21, R.A.M and Grand Chapter Education Committee

As my hair turns white and I keep my sights on my next, ever-approaching, milestone birthday, I come to realize that I am now an elder Companion. My thoughts turn to my fellow Masons and their marks, specifically to the book of marks held in the archives of my Chapter.

I have perceived in my time as a Royal Arch Mason that many Companions find the task of making their mark a daunting one. Perhaps some fear that they will make a mistake, that they will choose a mark that they will later come to regret, like a bad tattoo, and they will, of course, be unable to change it. This fear seems to me unreasonable. That fear is based on an imagined future that does not yet exist and that may, in fact, never exist. As Michael Hutchins sang in the old INXS tune, “Need You Tonight”: “All you’ve got is this moment.” I would ask the Companion struggling to put his mark upon the page: Can you express the truth of who you are in the here and now and represent it symbolically upon the page in the book of marks? That is what is called for, no more, no less.

“A Man Makes His Mark”

Education Cont.

Beyond the world of Masonry, that is what I feel we all seek to do: to leave our Mark upon the world, to leave some evidence of the fact that we were here, that we lived. We wish to erect some monument to our earthly lives, to provide some proof of our existence. For far too many modern men, that monument is the stone that crowns our graves, hopefully to be visited by those who love and remember us, but ask yourself: For how many generations does such memory usually last? The true mark we leave upon the world, the one we are specifically called upon as Freemasons to leave, is in our deeds, in our acts of loving kindness.

It is in our attempts to make the world a better place, to care for those less fortunate than ourselves, and in our attempts to right the wrongs of the past. Often this will consist of learning how our parents were raised, realizing how we were raised, and, if possible, to do better in raising our own children. This is not to imply any disrespect to our parents and grandparents, but only to realize that as the world changes, so must our approach to the world change.

“A Man Makes His Mark”

Education Cont.

I personally can say of a certainty that the world which I was raised to occupy, one of phone books, atlases, and card catalogs, for instance, no longer exists. To raise my children the same as I was raised would be to do my children a grave disservice. It may well be that our parents and grandparents did a fine job. It is, however, not a sin for us to try to do to even better. Such perpetual improvement, after all, lies at the heart of Masonry.

These acts of loving kindness are, in truth, the eternal marks of man upon the Earth. In time, sadly, our names may be forgotten. However, the love we have shown to our family, to our fellow Freemasons, to our communities, and even to the strangers in our midst, outlives us. This love, remembered, can be passed on, from person to person and from generation to generation. As this love builds and accumulates over time, it can become a foundation, as strong as any stone, on which a better future may perpetually be built. One single act of altruism, of true charity, may echo throughout eternity and leave an everlasting mark, the mark of he who would build a better world.



REDEDICATION AND YORK RITE RECEPTION

175 years of history, one unforgettable day—join us
Sept. 21st in Springfield. Come Celebrate tradition.
Honor leadership. Be part of history.



You are cordially invited to the 175th Rededication of the
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. Immediately
Following will be the York Rite Reception Celebrating our
new leadership



LANCE J. WELTER. MEGHP



JEFFREY L. ESTES. MIGM



SEAN P. MCBRIDE . REGC

Sun Sept 21st, 2025

1130pm-1230pm Grand Chapter Rededication Ceremony

1pm-3pm Tri York Rite Brunch Banquet & Reception

The Northfield Inn & Suites
3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, IL 62702

Please RSVP at The Following Link (Rededication Ceremony is free to
attend. Banquet is \$45 Per Person)

<https://tinyurl.com/2025GYRreception>

If Interested in a room Sat Sept 20th, 2025 at a special block rate
please call (217) 523-7900 and mention "York Rite" When Booking

An amazing Night of Degree Work was recently put on by Champaign Chapter No. 50 with guests and Candidates from Ford Chapter No. 113. The Mark Master & Past Master Degrees were conferred. Everyone said Degree work was stellar and the candidates had a great time.



Summer Baseball Fun!



Gabriel Sanchez PHP of Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 281 was overjoyed to take his family to see the viral sensation “Savannah Bananas”



Companions of Keystone Chapter, Logan Chapter & Palatine Chapter enjoyed an Eastern Star outing seeing the Schaumburg Boomers play ball!

**Lincoln Park Chapter & Siloam
Council having an officer
meeting.....only thing on the Agenda
is World Domination, of course!!!!!!**



Upcoming Events

- 9/11 – Joliet Chapter 4th/5th Degrees
 - 730pm
 - 350 N Midland Ave, Joliet, IL 60435
- 9/20 – Nachusa Chapter Day
 - 8am
 - 1409 N Galena Ave, Dixon, IL 61021
- 9/21 – 175th Grand Chapter Re-dedication and Joint YR Reception
 - 11:30am–3pm
 - Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center, Springfield, IL 62704
- 10/4 – Euclid Chapter 4/5/6th Degrees
 - 8am
 - 34 W Jefferson Ave, Naperville, IL 60540
- 10/15 – Champaign Chapter 6th Degree
 - 7pm
 - 14 Bel Air Ct, Champaign, IL 61820
- 10/16 – Joliet Chapter 6/7th Degree
 - 730pm
 - 350 N Midland Ave, Joliet IL 60435
- 11/1 – Grand York Rite Day
 - 8am
 - 383 E Lake St, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

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!