



11/10/2008

# **The Royal Arch Penny**

*The Official Newsletter of The Grand Chapter State of New York  
State Royal Arch Masons*

<http://www.ny-royal-arch.org>

Vol. 01 - No. 05

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## **DDGM and AGL Application Deadline**

Each District has been given the District Deputy Grand High Priest and Assistant Grand Lecturer applications for the ensuing year. The deadline for the form is November 21, 2008 and are to be mailed directly to the Grand King.

Each District should have a district caucus. Even if those selected will be repeating for the next year, the forms must still be completed and sent to the Grand King. It is very important that this process be completed on time.

The District Deputy Grand High Priest selectees must also report to a mandatory training on December 13<sup>th</sup> in the Albany / Rotterdam area. This will be the only training prior to their appointment and will be the only opportunity to understand the Grand King's goals and objectives for the ensuing year.

## **The Mark Degree – Part Two**

As promised in issue number 3 of this newsletter, please find attached the second installment in a series of papers covering various aspects of the Mark, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Holy Royal Arch Degrees. They are being brought to you in an effort to provide "Further Light".

These papers have been written and compiled by R..E.. Piers A. Vaughn. Each paper examines aspects of a Degree which are not usually thought about, either during the conferral of the degree or in general conversations. The main purpose is to begin a dialog within the Lodge or Chapter, and encourage the members to participate and share their thoughts and ideas. It is by discussing and thinking about the Degrees that we really begin to appreciate what they are trying to tell us.

An additional note, we would love to hear feedback on this series. Have they sparked discussions? What do you think? Any responses? Observations? Additional points?

Do not forget to check out this and more information at the Grand Chapter Website:

<http://www.ny-royal-arch.org>

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*The  
NEW  
Capstone  
Course*

The new Capstone Course and Teaching Syllabus are fully downloadable from the Grand Chapter Website.

Just go to <http://www.ny-royal-arch.org>

Select the download tab, then download the RAM Handbook and Leadership Guide, then download the RA Leadership Course Lesson Plan.

**It's a Simple as that!**

Each District Deputy Grand High Priest or District Representative was given the "Capstone Course and the "Train the Trainer" orientation in August. The Grand High Priest (at the beginning of his term) requested that each DDGHP receive this training in the summer of 2008 and then they will schedule a Capstone Course within the district in the fall.

The Grand High Priest is requesting feedback from each District Deputy identifying when the Capstone Course will be given in your district.

Please e-mail your date to R..E.. Richard J. Kessler, Grand Sentinel, who has been tasked with collecting and summarizing the results. His e-mail address is [rj1179@gmail.com](mailto:rj1179@gmail.com)

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## **Getting to Know Those Who Serve**



R.:E.: Piers A. Vaughan became a Mason in England in 1979. He came to New York in 1992, and has since become an American citizen by naturalization. He has spent most of his life in the Financial Industry, working for a number of international banks, and currently serves as the Head of IT and Operations for a small international financial training company based in Manhattan.

Piers has been Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1, served twice as Assistant Grand Lecturer for the First Manhattan District, and also been the Chairman of the First Manhattan District Association. In his Lodge he chairs the Education Committee, has served as its Secretary, and was a member of the George Washington Inaugural Bible Committee.

In the Scottish Rite Piers is an active participant in the ritual and education of the Valley of New York City, holds the Meritorious Service Award (MSA) and is a Past Sovereign Master and Past Sovereign Prince.

In the York Rite Piers has served as High Priest of Ancient Chapter No. 1, Illustrious Master of Columbian Council No. 1 and Commander of Morton Commandery No. 4. In Grand Commandery he is the Grand Representative to the Philippines, and co-chairs the Historical Committee. Among his many other memberships Piers is a member of the York Rite College, KYCH and Red Cross of Constantine; as well as being a member of the High Council of the SRICF, Master of Novum Eboracum Chapel No. 51 of the Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon, and an officer in the Chevalier Bienfaisant de la Cité Sainte in the Great Priory of Belgium.

At large, Piers is known as a lecturer on Freemasonry and Esoteric subjects – and has spoken in many places outside of New York, including New Jersey, Massachusetts, Florida, Kansas, Oklahoma, California, Washington DC, Virginia, Toronto, London, Paris, Brussels and even Bucharest, Romania. He maintains membership in Masonic bodies in England, Canada and Belgium. He is also recognized as a translator of important Martinist works from French into English.

Piers currently serves our Grand Chapter as Grand Master of the Second Veil.

**Donations to  
All Royal Arch  
Masonic  
Charities  
Are Fully Tax  
Deductible**

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The Grand Chapter supports three Charities in New York State. Specific committees support each Charity, in addition to the Charities Committee itself which develops programs for general fundraising.

**The Royal Arch Scholarship Fund** of Grand Chapter grants \$500 and a few \$1000 scholarships to children and grandchildren of Royal Arch Masons. Money is raised by a Grand Chapter solicitation via mailings each year, by District and Chapter fundraising, and by sales of Royal Arch Seals.

All money raised by the Seals Program goes directly to Scholarships. Other donations can be designated to direct scholarships or to an endowment fund, or left to the discretions of the Grand High Priest. Two Committees are in place to support the Scholarship Program – one to support the Seals Program and one to administer the Scholarships.

**The Royal Arch Medical Research Foundation** was created to support charitable activity directed at the Masonic Medical Research Facility in Utica. Fundraising for the Foundation has more of a special project focus, and has been primarily responsible for the construction of a two floor Royal Arch Medical Research Wing. The foundation also donates money to the research labs for equipment and other requirements. Companions should consider the Foundation as part of their charitable giving each year. Grand Chapter solicits donations through direct mailings and focus campaigns. In some cases, District programs have also been initiated.

**The Assistance of Royal Arch Masons and Their Dependents with Respiratory and Chronic Diseases of the Lungs Fund** is no longer a fundraising target of the Grand Chapter since the endowment is at this point quiet large. Royal Arch Companions and their dependents may apply for aid if they suffer from any disease of the lungs including lung cancer. This aid is provided from the interest of the endowment fund.

The **Allocation of the Grand High Priest** will be distributed to those recognized Royal Arch Charities, which are in need of additional financial help. He may also give to Chapters in need due to natural disasters, special benelovent requests and any Masonic cause, which he deems worthy. You can be assured that he will use your gift in a manner most appropriate.

**New York  
Well  
Represented  
At the  
Sixty-Seventh  
Triennial  
Convocation  
August 28-30  
Indianapolis, IN**



*Picture from Left to Right Jeffrey M. Williamson, Lady Carla, Edmund D. Harrison, June Newsham, Edward S. Newsham*

**News Release**

**M.:E.: Edmund D. Harrison Elected Grand King at 2008 Indianapolis Triennial**

On August 29, 2008, Edmund (Ted) D. Harrison, who was the 2002 Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, State of New York, Royal Arch Masons, was elected and installed General Grand King of General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International. The proceedings were held in Indianapolis, Indiana at the sixty-seventh Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International. The General Grand Line is progressive in nature and in 2011 he will be elevated to the high office of General Grand High Priest. The same office that was held by Governor DeWitt Clinton who was General Grand High Priest from 1816-1829,

At the same gathering R.:E.: Jeffrey M. Williamson, who is the current Grand Scribe of Grand Chapter State of New York was appointed Ambassador to New York from the General Grand Chapter RAM International.

Also attending was M.:E.: Edward S. Newsham, who was Grand High Priest in 1998, and is currently serving Grand Lodge as a Director of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory who was there representing the MMRL.♦