

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH
MASONS OF MARYLAND



SEMI-ANNUAL
CONVOCAATION

MAY 6, 2023
ORIENTAL ROOM
Hunt Valley, Maryland



**Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland
Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Maryland
Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland**



**Call Letter for Semi-Annual Meetings,
and
Special Grand Assembly for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree
Annual Council of Anointed High Priests**

Companions & Sir Knights

By order of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, ME Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, Most Illustrious Grand Master, MI Comp. William C. Hare, Jr, Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK John H. Austin, and Most Excellent President Randolph S. Disney, an official notice is hereby given for:

**The Semi-Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland,
The Semi-Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland,
The Semi-Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, and
The Annual Meeting Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland**

The Grand Chapter will meet in Grand Convocation **Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 10:00 am.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Convocation. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2024 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary.

The dress is Tuxedo with Red Jacket, Apron & Jewels for Officers, Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Chapter Apron.

Location: Oriental Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD

The Grand Council will meet in Grand Assembly on **Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 10:00 am.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Assembly. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2024 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary.

The dress is Tuxedo, Apron & Jewels for Officers, Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Council Apron.

Location: Oriental Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD.

The Grand Commandery will meet in Grand Conclave **Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7:30 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave. Agenda to include Finance & Budget, Election of 2024 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports as necessary. The dress is Full Templar Uniform, Chapeau & Sword.

Location: Gothic Room, Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink, Cockeysville, MD

Fraternally & Respectfully,

ME Comp William C. Eppig
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Maryland

R.I.C. Vernon H. Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Council of Maryland

SK Vernon H. Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of K.T. in
M.D.

Proposed Constitution change to be voted on at the Semi-Annual Meeting of the
Grand Chapter of Maryland on May 6, 2023
Proposed by Robert Lumbert, P.G.H.P.

Article XII, Section 3

Make the current Section 3 part (a) and make the following part (b):

(b) Each Chapter shall report on its annual report every year the location of its financial assets by providing, for each account and any safety deposit box: (1) the type of account, (2) the institution at which the account is held, (3) the name on the account, and (4) the names of the Companions having access to the account (at least two). No account will be held in the name of an individual. No Chapter funds will be co-mingled with the funds of another organization.

The Annual Meeting Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland
April 29, 2023
Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink
Cockeysville, Maryland

9:00 am - GRAND CHAPTER LAW SCHOOL for qualified MEHP's-Elect is ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED for the C.A.H.P. Degree. Assemble in the Main Lobby of Freemason Hall.

9:00 am – 10:00 am - Oriental Room - COUNCIL OF ANOINTED HIGH PRIESTS Set up and Rehearsal (Officers Only)

10:00 am - Oriental Room - COUNCIL OF ANOINTED HIGH PRIESTS will hold its annual meeting and confer its Degree upon qualified candidates. This meeting is restricted to PHP's and current M.E.H.P.'s and qualified MEHP's-Elect. The Application Form is on the Grand Secretary's page of the Grand Chapter of Maryland (YORKRITEMARYLAND.ORG). No Fee is Required. The dress is Tux for Candidates and Officers. No Aprons or jewels are required; traditionally, Masonic jewels and pins are not worn at this meeting. *Chapters having candidates are especially encouraged to attend for the benefit of the candidates.*

The Grand Council will conferral the T.I.M. Degree on May 13, 2023, at 9:00 am at Freemason Hall, Bonnie Blink Cockeysville, Maryland, following the 8:00 am Law School.

Fraternally & Respectfully,

ME Comp William C.
Eppig Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of
Maryland

RI Comp Vernon H.
Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Council of Maryland

Ex Comp Vernon
Huebschman
Excellent Secretary
Council of Anointed High
Priests
of Maryland

SK Vernon
Huebschman
Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of
K.T. in M.D.

Ex Comp Dennis Ewing
Grand Lecturer

M.I.P.G.M. Randolph S.
Disney, Grand Lecturer

Agenda
Grand Chapter Semi-Annual Convocation
May 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Oriental Room Hunt Valley, Maryland

Agenda:

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Opening of Grand Chapter | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 1a | Preliminary Conference Report -by Roll-Call | Vernon Huebschman, P.G.H.P. |
| 2 | Reception of Past Grand High Priests | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 3 | Proceedings of 2020 Annual Grand Convocation | William Eppig, R.E.G. Sec. |
| 4 | Report of the Grand Secretary | William Eppig, R.E.G. Sec. |
| 5 | Report of the Grand Treasurer & Trustees | John Lister, R.E.G. Treas. |
| 6 | Report of the Committee on Accounts & Finance | Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K. |
| 7 | Report of the Grand High Priest | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 8 | Final Roll Call - Committee on Conference | Vernon Huebschman, P.G.H.P. |
| 9 | Nominations & Election of Officers for the 23 – 24 Capitulur Year | John Maclay, P.G.H.P. |
| 10 | Report of the Grand Lecturer & Committee on Work | Dennis Ewing, Grand Lecturer |
| 11 | Report of the Committee on Youth Relations & Scholarships | Richard Naegele, P.G.H.P. Chair. |
| 12 | Report of the Committee on Royal Arch Research Assistance | Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 13 | Report of the Committee on Time & Place | Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K. Chair. |
| 14 | Report of the Committee on Sessions Planning & Activities | Darryl Smith, Chairman |
| 15 | Report of the Committee on the Triennium 2023 | Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K. |
| 16 | Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence & Constitution | Randall L. Watson, P.G.H.P. |
| 17 | Report of Committed on Awards & Recognition | Randall L. Watson, P.G.H.P. |
| 18 | Report of Committee on Grievance | Randall L. Watson, P.G.H.P. |
| 19 | Committee on Long Range Planning | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 20 | Committee on Membership | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 21 | Reports to be received and published, requiring no action | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 22 | Events Committee | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 23 | Unfinished Business from Prior Grand Convocation | John Maclay, P.G.H.P. |
| 24 | New Business introduced at this Grand Convocation | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 25 | Introduction of Distinguished Visitors | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 26 | Announcements & Schedule Items | As required. |
| 27 | Voluntary Remarks | Companions in attendance |
| 28 | Official Remarks | Distinguished Visitors |
| 29 | Installation of Officers | N/A |
| 30 | Final Remarks: M.E.G.H.P. | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |
| 31 | Closing of Grand Chapter | G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P. |

1. Opening of Grand Chapter

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion G. Andrew Martinez, called the Grand Chapter to order with the following Grand Chapter Officers. No substitutes seated:

Grand High Priest: M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez

Grand King: R.E. Comp. Dennis W. Ewing - **Excused**

Grand Scribe: R.E. Comp. Rafael Rodriguez

Grand Secretary: M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P.

Grand Treasurer: R.E. Comp. John M. Lister

Grand Captain of the Host: Ex. Comp. William E. F. Miller III

Grand Principal Sojourner: Ex. Comp. Randolph Disney - **Passed**

Grand Royal Arch Captain: Ex. Comp. Darryl Smith

Grand Master of the Third Veil: Ex. Comp. Dirk Wilker - **Excused**

Grand Master of the Second Veil: Ex. Comp. Robert Reynolds – **Excused**

Grand Master of the First Veil: Ex. Comp. Gordon Munholland

Grand Chaplain: Ex. Comp. A. Dean Burt

Grand Sentinel: Andrew Wilson – **Excused**

Grand Lecturer: Ex. Comp. Dennis W. Ewing – **Excused**

Deputy Grand Lecturer: M.E. Comp. Bruce G. Colburn

The Grand Chaplain offered the opening prayer.

The M.E.G.H.P. led the Pledge of Allegiance and directed that the Lights be set.

The Grand Chapter was then declared Open in Ample Form at 10:15 am.

Full Report of the Committee on Conference: Complete Attendance

Concordia Royal Arch Chapter No.1: 3	Bruce G. Colburn, P.G.H.P. Robert B. Lumbert, P.G.H.P. Gordon Munholland	Phoenix Royal Arch Chapter No. 7: 2	William Miller William Wickham
Chesapeake Royal Arch Chapter No. 17: 0	Not Represented	Salem Royal Arch Chapter No. 18: 1	Kenneth Robertson
Talbot Royal Arch Chapter No. 22: 0	Not Represented	Adoniram Royal Arch Chapter No. 21: 1	Louis Romeo, Jr.
		Enoch Royal Arch Chapter No. 23: 1	Michael Shrank
Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 25: 3	John M. Lister, REGTreas George Martinez, R.E.G.K. Rafael Rodriquez	Hayward Royal Arch Chapter No. 29: 0	Not Represented
Druid Royal Arch Chapter No. 28: 2	William E. Eppig, P.G.H.P. Robert W. Chase, P.G.H.P.	Carroll Royal Arch Chapter No. 31: 0	Not Represented
		Edenton Royal Arch Chapter No. 36: 3	Dean Burt Vern Huebschman, PGHP Clifton Friel, P.G.H.P.
James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33: 1	James Kinnear	York Royal Arch Chapter No. 44: 0	Not Represented
Tuscan Royal Arch Chapter No. 42: 3	Darryl Smith John Maclay, PGHP Gary Norman *Lambros Venetos*		
*= Non-voting Comp's.			#= added by GrScrt'y

1a. Preliminary Report on Conference

R. E. William Eppig, Gr Sec

Attendance of Voting Members was taken by P.G.H.P. Vernon H. Huebschman by calling the Roll of all qualified voting members. This was due to issues with social distancing and reducing health risks.

M.E.G.H.P.,

- The register shows the following:
- 10 Chapters represented of 15.
- 20 Voting Members were present.
- 1 Non-Voting members were present.

2. Reception of Past Grand High Priests

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. Martinez presented and welcomed the following Past Grand High Priest in attendance:

Year Elected	Past Grand High Priest
1996	Clifton R. Friel
2004	Vernon H. Huebschman
2010 – 2011	Robert B. Lumbert
2012	John B. Maclay
2018	William C. Eppig
2019	Bruce G. Colburn
2021	Robert W. Chase

Grand Honors were given to the assembled Past Grand High Priests led by the M.E.G.H.P. and assembled Companions. M.E. Comp. Friel responded for the assembled P.G.H.P.'s.

3. Annual Proceedings

R.E. Comp. William Eppig, Gr. Sec.

M.E.G.H.P.,

The Proceedings of the 2022 Annual Grand Convocation have been available on the Grand Chapter website since November 2022. As the 2022 Proceeding has been available for inspection and review and will continue to be so, I move that they be accepted as posted, subject to further correction should any cause be found.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report, passed unanimously.

4. Report of the Grand Secretary

R.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, G. Sec.

M.E.G.H.P.,

Congratulations to you and the officers on a successful first half of the term. You and your officers have been very busy during the first half of the term, and It has been a pleasure working with you this year.

Annual Reports: The Annual Reports for 2023 will be due at the end of September. The next few months would be an excellent time to prepare for them. An updated Annual Report form will be generated depending on the outcome today. The form is located on the Grand Secretary page on the website. It has a change that should be a big help for the secretaries. The tabulation page at the end will now do it for you. This should help take care of any math mistakes.

990N: A yellow banner on the gateway page of yorkritemaryland.org links to the most expeditious route to the I.R.S. 990N submission page. Though the I.R.S. requires this form to be completed every two years, The Grand Chapter needs them completed every year. Yearly filing helps prevent a failure to report, primarily if a change in secretaries occurs. If this happens, you may lose your tax status and E.I.N. #.

The School for Secretaries, Recorders, and Treasurers: The 2023 school took place on March 18, 2023. We had 20+ in attendance. I want to thank all those who attended. We had to change the date from February due to conflicts. The new date had its problems, but we could hold the school, and I hope the information was helpful for those in attendance. Big Thank you to John Rafine for his assistance and his informative presentations.

Lifetime Achievement: The Lifetime Achievement Award is an honor presented by the Grand Chapter to members who have distinguished themselves by continuous and meritorious service to their respective Chapters, the Grand Chapter, Masonry in general, or the Community. The regalia was originally to be a Sash worn across the body but has seemed to be gone by the wayside, and a certificate seems to be the only recognition given.

Comp. Vern and I discussed replacing the sash and presenting something more substantial than a certificate. We devised a Breast Star to be worn on a jacket's right or left breast. I submitted the design and cost to the Awards committee to evaluate and propose a vote. I would recommend this change.

Membership Management System: I have received numerous inquiries from our secretaries concerning our membership Management system or lack thereof. I have looked into a few, and Grandview offers the most options and is geared to the masonic bodies. Cost is still a concern, and I would recommend a committee be appointed for a feasibility review.

Ritual Books: We have 25 white ritual books left and will need more shortly. A few meetings ago, the Grand Lecture, with a committee, was to review the book and make necessary corrections and additions. Not sure of the status, but once this is done, we can send it to a printer.

Service Pins: 25 and 50-year Service pins have been given to many deserving Royal Arch members over the last two years. I thank P.G.H.P. Robert Chase for ownership of this program. He has worked extremely hard to locate and present these pins, which the recipients greatly appreciate. We ask the chapters to continue to assist him in this endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted and move acceptance of this report.

William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P., Grand Secretary

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Report of the Grand Treasurer

R.E. Comp. John Lister, R.E.G.T.

G. Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.,

The report of the Grand Treasurer is that the Grand Chapter is in good financial condition. The Treasurers Final Report for 2022 is attached. Although the report shows the year being short \$4,951 in income, we spent \$5,857 less than budgeted and stayed in the black.

The Semi-Annual Treasurers Report for 2023, as of May 3, 2023, is attached, along with the 2023 Interim Report for the Trustees Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund report shows the status of the account as of March 31, 2023.

The value of the account and its investments as of that date was \$505,503.70, that's a 7% increase since November 1st. The geo-political environment and world events have caused a lot of market volatility, but nothing changed in the fundamentals of these companies, the market has and will stabilize. The best advice for long-term investing is still to stay the course.

Also attached as reviewed by the Accounts and Finance committee is the proposed budget for 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Lister
Grand Treasurer

It was moved and seconded to accept the report, passed unanimously.

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2022
11/1/2021 through 10/31/2022 Using 2022 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 26,437.00	\$ 31,400.00	\$ (4,951.00)
Council Anointed Hig Priests	\$ 588.00	\$ 600.00	\$ (12.00)
Exaltations	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (800.00)
Invest Inc	\$ 615.22	\$ 3,600.00	\$ (2,984.78)
Other Inc	\$ 115.46	\$ -	\$ 115.46
Per Capita	\$ 12,518.32	\$ 13,800.00	\$ (1,281.68)
Transfer Income	\$ 12,400.00	\$ 12,400.00	\$ -
EXPENSES	\$ 25,542.61	\$ 31,400.00	\$ 5,857.39
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 150.00
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
1.4 - Grand Sentinel	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
1.5 - Grand Organist	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
2 - Personal Expenses	\$ 4,430.90	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 1,169.10
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$ 3,999.90	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.10
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$ 3,499.90	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 0.10
2.1.2 - Grand King Personal Expenses	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
2.1.3 - Grand Scribe Personal Expenses	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
2.2 - Expenses N. E. Region	\$ 373.04	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 876.96
2.3 - Regional Meetings	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$ 57.96	\$ 250.00	\$ 192.04
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$ 6,389.89	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 310.11
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$ 3,458.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 142.00
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$ 2,831.89	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 168.11
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
3.4 - Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 5,698.51	\$ 4,550.00	\$ (1,148.51)
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$ 473.59	\$ 450.00	\$ (23.59)
4.02 - Printing Ritual Books	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$ 351.27	\$ 400.00	\$ 48.73
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$ 45.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 55.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$ 413.84	\$ 500.00	\$ 86.16
4.07 - Memorials	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
4.08 - Membership Program	\$ 1,253.05	\$ 500.00	\$ (753.05)
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$ 125.76	\$ 400.00	\$ 274.24
4.12 - Miscelaneous Expense	\$ 196.25	\$ 100.00	\$ (96.25)
4.13 - Awards	\$ 2,739.75	\$ 850.00	\$ (1,889.75)
5 - Service Contracts	\$ 2,731.34	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 1,368.66
5.1 - Office Rent	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Final Report - 2022
11/1/2021 through 10/31/2022 Using 2022 Grand Chapter

5.3 - Insurance	\$ 1,978.34	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 21.66
5.4 - Web Site	\$ 153.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 947.00
5.5 - Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -
6 - Grand Sessions	\$ 2,091.97	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 8.03
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 264.18	\$ 300.00	\$ 35.82
6.2 - Luncheons (Members & Ladies)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$ 1,827.79	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (27.79)
7 - Charity	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -
7.2 - RARA	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Other 7 - Charity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Grand Chapter RAM D Ross VanSant Fund Final Report 2022
11/1/2021 through 10/31/2022 Using 2022 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 4,352.48	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 852.48
Invest Inc	\$ 2,848.67	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (651.33)
Donations Received	\$ 1,499.56	\$ -	\$ 1,499.56
_IntInc	\$ 4.25	\$ -	\$ 4.25
EXPENSES	\$ 4,175.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (175.00)
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 175.00	\$ -	\$ (175.00)
Scholarships	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2023
11/1/2022 through 5/3/2023 Using 2023 Grand Chapter

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	\$ 6,029.57	\$ 35,700.00	\$ (29,670.43)
_DivInc	\$ 1,814.34	\$ -	\$ 1,814.34
_IntInc	\$ 1.67	\$ -	\$ 1.67
_Rlzd Gain	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Donations Received	\$ 1,664.56	\$ -	\$ 1,664.56
Council Anointed High Priest	\$ 40.00	\$ 600.00	\$ (560.00)
Exaltations	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
Invest Inc	\$ -	\$ 3,600.00	\$ (3,600.00)
Other Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Per Capita	\$ 2,509.00	\$ 13,800.00	\$ (11,291.00)
Transfer Income	\$ -	\$ 16,700.00	\$ (16,700.00)
EXPENSES	\$ 10,093.64	\$ 35,700.00	\$ 25,606.36
1 - Grand Officers and Related Items	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 1,850.00
1.1 - Grand Secretary	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
1.2 - Grand Lecturer	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00
1.3 - Grand Treasurer	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
1.4 - Grand Sentinel	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
15 - Grand Organist	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
2 - Personal Expenses	\$ 2,579.81	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 3,020.19
2.1 - Expenses In Out State	\$ 2,579.81	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,420.19
2.1.1 - GHP Personal Expenses	\$ 2,329.81	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,170.19
2.1.2 - Grand King Personal Expenses	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00
2.1.3 - Grand Scribe Personal Expenses	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00
2.2 - Expenses N. E. Region	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
2.3 - Regional Meetings	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
2.4 - Degree Team Expenses	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
3 - General Grand Chapter	\$ 3,750.25	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 7,749.75
3.1 - Dues General Grand Chapter	\$ 3,069.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 531.00
3.2 - Royal Arch Magazine for Members	\$ 681.25	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,318.75
3.3 - RAM Editor Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
3.4 -Triennial Expenses	\$ -	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
4 - Office Expenses	\$ 93.04	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 3,956.96
4.01 - Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
4.02 - Printing Ritual Books	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4.03 - Printing Annual Proceedings	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.04 - Postage and Delivery Expense	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
4.05 - Past GHP Jewel and Engraving	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.06 - GHP Apron & Case	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4.07 - Memorials	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
4.08 - Membership Program	\$ 7.95	\$ 500.00	\$ 492.05
4.10 - Equipment Fund	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
4.11 - Dues Cards	\$ 77.09	\$ 400.00	\$ 322.91
4.12 - Miscelaneous Expense	\$ 8.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 92.00
4.13 - Awards	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Other 4 - Office Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Semi-Annual Report - 2023

11/1/2022 through 5/3/2023 Using 2023 Grand Chapter

5 - Service Contracts	\$	1,970.54	\$	4,100.00	\$	2,129.46
5.1 - Office Rent	\$	-	\$	400.00	\$	400.00
5.3 - Insurance	\$	1,817.54	\$	2,000.00	\$	182.46
5.4 - Web Site	\$	153.00	\$	1,100.00	\$	947.00
5.5 - Council Anointed High Priests	\$	-	\$	600.00	\$	600.00
6 - Grand Sessions	\$	-	\$	2,100.00	\$	2,100.00
6.1 - Hotel Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$	-	\$	300.00	\$	300.00
6.3 - Distinguished Guests Meals & Enter	\$	-	\$	1,800.00	\$	1,800.00
7 - Charity	\$	-	\$	4,800.00	\$	4,800.00
7.1 - Masonic Youth	\$	-	\$	600.00	\$	600.00
7.2 - RARA	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	100.00
7.3 - Grand Lodge	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	100.00
7.4 - Scholarships	\$	-	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,000.00

Printed: 5/2/2023

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of MD Trustees Reserve Fund 2022-23

	Total Value Last Period	Credits / Debits	Change in Value	Total Value this Period
November-22	\$ 470,038.76	\$ 821.03	\$ 19,888.25	\$ 490,748.04
December-22	\$ 490,748.04	\$ 1,440.21	\$ (15,719.58)	\$ 476,468.67
January-23	\$ 476,468.67	\$ 98.06	\$ 15,060.14	\$ 491,626.87
February-23	\$ 491,626.87	\$ 995.56	\$ (5,289.12)	\$ 487,333.31
March-23	\$ 487,333.31	\$ 1,438.71	\$ 16,731.68	\$ 505,503.70
April-23	\$ 505,503.70	\$ (71,285.48)	\$ (434,218.22)	\$ -
May-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
June-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
July-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
August-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
September-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
October-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Value as of November 1, 2020	\$ 470,038.76
Value as of March 31, 2023	\$ 505,503.70
Total Gains (Realized & Unrealized)	\$ 35,464.94
	7.55%

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Randall Watson	2022-2025
John Maclay	2021-2024
John A. Rafine	2020-2023

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland 2023
Semi-Annual Convocation

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland			
2024 BUDGET PREPARATION			
Acct #	Description	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
		Nov 1 - Oct 31 2022-2023	Nov 1 - Oct 31 2023-2024
1.0	Grand Officers Expenses & Related Items		
1.1	Grand Secretary	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
1.2	Grand Lecturer	\$ 400	\$ 400
1.3	Grand Treasurer	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
1.4	Grand Sentinel	\$ 50	\$ 50
1.5	Grand Organist	\$ 100	\$ 100
	Sub-Total	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,550
2.0	Personal Expenses		
2.1	Expenses GHP I/O State	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	Expenses Grand King	\$ 250	\$ 250
	Expenses Grand Scribe	\$ 250	\$ 250
2.2	Expenses N.E. Region	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250
2.3	Regional Meetings	\$ -	\$ -
2.3.1	Grand Lecturer Instruction Mtgs	\$ 100	\$ 100
2.4	Degree Team Expenses	\$ 250	\$ 250
	sub-Total	\$ 5,600	\$ 5,600
3.0	General Grand Chapter		
3.1	Dues General Grand Chapter (PC)	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
3.2	Royal Arch Mag for Members	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
3.3	RAM Editor Expense	\$ 100	\$ 100
3.4	Triennial Expenses	\$ 4,800	\$ -
	Sub Total	\$ 11,500	\$ 6,700
4.0	Office Expenses		
4.1	Office Supplies	\$ 450	\$ 450
4.2	Printing: Proceedings	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.3	Printing: Ritual Books	\$ -	\$ -
4.4	Postage	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.5	Past GHP Jewel & Engraving	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.6	GHP Apron & Case	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.7	Memorials	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.8	Membership Program	\$ 500	\$ 500
4.10	Equipment Fund	\$ 650	\$ 650
4.11	Dues Cards	\$ 400	\$ 400
4.12	Miscelleaneous	\$ 100	\$ 100
4.13	Awards	\$ 350	\$ 350
	SubTotal	\$ 4,050	\$ 4,050
5.0	Service Contracts		
5.1	Office Rent	\$ 400	\$ 400
5.2	Telephones		
5.3	Insurance	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
5.4	Social Media	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
5.5	Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 600	\$ 600
	Sub-Total	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland **2023**
Semi-Annual Convocation

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Maryland			
2024 BUDGET PREPARATION			
Acct #	Description	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
		Nov 1 - Oct 31 2022-2023	Nov 1 - Oct 31 2023-2024
6.0	Grand Sessions		
6.1	Hotel: Guest Rooms & Svcs	\$ 300	\$ 300
6.3	Distinguished Guests:Meals & Entertainment	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
	Sub-Total	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,100
7.0	Charity		
7.1	Masonic Youth	\$ 600	\$ 600
7.2	RARA	\$ 100	\$ 100
7.3	Grand Lodge	\$ 100	\$ 100
7.4	Scholarships	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
	Sub-Total	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800
	Grand Total	\$ 35,700	\$ 30,900
	Income		
	Council Anointed High Priests	\$ 600	\$ 600
	Per Capita	\$ 13,800	\$ 13,800
	Investments	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
	Transfers	\$ 16,700	\$ 11,900
	Exaltations	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
	Total Income	\$ 35,700	\$ 30,900
	1200 x \$11.50 =	\$ 11.50	
		\$ 2.50	RAGMAG
		\$ 9.00	
		\$ 3.00	GGC PER CAPITA
		\$ 6.00	MD GCRA

6. Report on Committee of Accounts and Finance

R.E. Comp. Rafael Rodriguez, R.E.G.K.

The M.E.G.H.P. and REGS reviewed the finances of the Grand Chapter with R.E. Grand Treasurer John Lister via Zoom and found that our finances are in good shape and aligned with what has been budgeted. Companion Lister presented his budget for the upcoming year, and I ask the Convocation to approve and accept the budget.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rafael Rodriguez, REGS

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and after discussion, the report and 2024 Budget was approved.

During the discussion of the budget, an inquiry was made into how many White Ritual books were left and will new books be printed. The Grand Secretary reported that 29 books are in his procession. The G.H.P. reported that he is in the process of inquiring about printing and will report at the Grand Session in October. It was agreed to take up this issue at that time.

M.E.G.H.P. G. Andrew Martinez calls on Ex. Comp, Raphael Rodriguez, Grand Scribe, to assume the East to preside over the meeting to deliver the Report of the Grand High Priest.

7. Report of the Grand High Priest

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

What a fast six months! I've managed to visit all of our Chapters in some fashion or other, with the exception of Tuscan, Phoenix, and James F. Allen, which are scheduled for May and June, respectively. I have been able to see and participate in some great ritual around the state as well as quite a few Installations of Officers. We've successfully brought back the Kings Bowling event with the DeMolay, and what a fun-filled day that was!

The ups this year have been tempered with the downs, and our Grand Chapter lost two of our finest. We lost M.E.P.G.H.P. Urban "Pete" Peters on March 12 and our Grand Principal Sojourner and Deputy Grand Lecturer, Randy Disney, on April 1. We will now have a prayer and then a moment of silence for these two Grand Companions and for all Companions we have lost so far this year. (*) I will not be appointing and new Grand Principal Sojourner for the rest of this Capitular year. We will fly the "missing man" in honor of Companion Randy, who did so much for our Grand Chapter and our York Rite as a whole. I am pleased to report that M.E.P.G.H.P. Bruce Colburn has offered to take up the mantle of Deputy Grand Lecturer so that part of our line has been made whole again. M.E.P.G.H.P. Colburn, thank you for this and for all that you do for Freemasonry.

The Keystone is back up and running, and feedback from our Companions is helping to deliver information back to them via this newsletter that they can use. Recently I was asked how to talk

about York Rite masonry to a new Brother - why should they become a York Rite mason. The answer is simple: "When the two rival Grand Lodges were united in 1813 into the United Grand Lodge of England, it absorbed the old 1705 Grand Lodge of All England of York, as the Constitution of the 1813 United Grand Lodge included the Constitution of the 1705 York Grand Lodge, stating:

"That pure Ancient Craft Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, those of Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Royal Arch." It says it right there,

that the blue lodge journey is not complete without the Royal Arch. Grand Chaplain Dean Burt wrote a fantastic presentation on this (which is where I took that quote) that can be found on the Grand Secretary's page under Forms and Information. I suggest every Companion get acquainted with Companion Dean's work and work your elevator speech when discussing the York Rite.

I will continue to work in the quarries for you, my Companions, doing the work you are asking for. Your agenda is my agenda. Together we will strengthen Capitular freemasonry, as I firmly believe by the aforementioned statement on the degrees of masonry, that every Freemason should be a Royal Arch Freemason. Travel Bright and Be the Light the World Needs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Passed unanimously.

M.E. Comp. Martinez resumed in the East to continue with the meeting.

8. Committee on Conference, Final Report

R.E. William C. Eppig, G. Sec.

The register shows the following:

10 Chapters represented of 15.

21 Voting Members were present.

1 Non-Voting members were present.

9. Nominations and Elections:

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. Chase presided over the nominations and Elections of the Officers of the Grand Chapter for the 2023 – 2024 Capitular Year. Comp. Maclay, P.G.H.P. made the following nominations.

R.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, Most Excellent Grand High Priest
R.E. Comp. Dennis Ewing Right Excellent Grand King
R.E. Comp. Raphael Rodriquez Right Excellent Grand Scribe
R.E. Comp. John M. Lister Right Excellent Grand Treasurer
M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig Right Excellent Grand Secretary

The outgoing Trustee was identified as Comp. John Rafine, P.H.P. Rafine, was re-nominated to an additional three-year term.

There being no further nominations, the ballot was closed, and the Grand Secretary was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for the above Companions.

10. Report of the Committee of Work

R.E. Comp. Dennis Ewing, REGS

No written or verbal report was received.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

11. Youth and Scholarships Report

ME. Comp. Richard Naegele, P.G.H.P.

Your Committee for the D. Ross VanSant Scholarship submits the following report.

This year we lost Companion James Morgan. His family had the D. Ross Van Sant Scholarship as one of the charities requested for donations. We received a total of \$150.00 from four individuals: Elva Goss, Donnie Saine, Mark Hartz, and Julie Glushakow. We thank Companion Jim's family for thinking of this scholarship fund. We know Jim was close to the three Youth Groups. The following submitted application for 2023 Scholarships:

Aisa Wrights (2nd year) current GPA 3.625

506 Rose Hill Ave.

Cumberland, MD 21502

Affiliation: Daughter of Billy Joes Wrights Member Salem Royal Arch Chapter No. 18 Frostburg State University

Ava Ciabattoni current GPA 4.1667

38038 W. Edinview Ct.

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Affiliation: Job's Daughter Bethel #42 Cynthia Sirk, Bethel Guardian 240-298-6819
University of Maryland College Park

Marko Rodriguez current GPA 3.15

12618 Blackwell Ln

Bowie, MD 20715

Affiliation: Son of Rafael Rodriguez III, member of Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 25; Bowie Collington Chapter Past State Master Councilor DeMolay Prince George's Community College

Alexa Wiker current GPA 4.48

244 Mill Church Rd.

Arnold, MD 21012

Affiliation: Daughter of Steven Dirk Wiker Member Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 25 Michigan State University

Rylie Berzinski current GPA 4.71

203 Polaris Ct.

Walkersville, MD 21793

Affiliation: Niece of John Austin, member of James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33 West Virginia University

Magdaleine Woodring current GPA 3.7

1204 2nd Rd

Middle River, MD 21221

Affiliation: Daughter of William Woodring, member of Adoniram Royal Arch Chapter No. 21; Job's Daughter Bethel #16 Karen Woodring, Bethel Guardian 443-254-7078 Duquesne University

Natalie Kinnear (2nd year) current GPA 3.18

20420 Cabana Dr.

Germantown, MD 20876

Affiliation: Daughter of James Kinnear Member of James F. Allen Royal Arch Chapter No. 33 Towson University

Each is well qualified with excellent G.P.A.'s. The Committee recommends that each recipient receive a scholarship. Based on the funds available, we have ranked them based on community/school/leadership involvement; academics; recommendations; and completeness of applications. The top four should receive scholarships, and hopefully, the others will also.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Alexa Wiker | 5 | Magdaleine Woodring |
| 2 | Rylie Berzinski | 6 | Marko Rodriguez |
| 3 | Ava Ciabattoni | 7 | Natalie Kinnear |
| 4 | Asia Wrights | | |

Again, this year we are unaware of the amount available. Also, one scholarship from 2022 was never received by the student, even though granted. We believe a change needs to be made to solve this problem.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the Grand Chapter and thank all who donated for the betterment of our youth.

Fraternally,
Richard P. Naegele, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

Discussion proceeded as to how much scholarship money should be awarded for each or limit the number of recipients. After thorough debate, M.E. Comp. Robert Chase made the motion to award all seven recipients \$1000.00 each. The motion was seconded and passed.

12. Report of the R.A.R.A. Committee

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

A special edition of The Keystone went out in April highlighting what R.A.R.A. is, does, and the many ways our Companions can participate. You can help this year's fundraiser by purchasing one of the Grand Chapter challenge coins. These coins are a limited minting, and for 2023 only 100 have been pressed. The front is a nod to M.E.P.G.H.P. Carl Wisner's coin from 1963-64 with the addition of the Ark of the Covenant. The reverse is something special, as the coin is in imitation of part of the Mark Master obligation, immediately recognizable by every Mark Master, making this challenge coin a functional component when participating in the Mark Master degree. The cost per coin is \$20, and **100% of the proceeds** from this coin will go to R.A.R.A.

It is hoped our individual Chapters and Companions will continue to contribute to this worthy cause, and as always, if you need materials on for R.A.R.A., don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Passed unanimously.

13. Report of the Time and Place Committee

R.E. Dennis Ewing, E.G.K.

M.E.G.H.P.,

The proposed hotel for the 2023-24 Annual Session was the Clarion Hotel, 5400 Holiday Drive, Frederick, Maryland, along with the Conference Center. However, due to a change in management of the conference center, this option is no longer available.

The Committee spoke with Companion Bob England, who is currently assisting in finding an alternate site for the Annual Conference. Companion England has investigated hotels in Ocean City, Maryland, including the Grand and Holiday Inn. The Committee will continue to investigate options for the event.

Respectively submitted,

Dennis Ewing, Grand King
John Austin

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

Since the location of the 2024 Annual session has not been secured and to fulfill the Grand Chapter Constitutional requirement, M.E. Comp. Vernon Huebschman motioned to lock in the dates for the 2024 Grand Session for October 25-26, 2024. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

14. Report of Sessions Planning and Activities

E. Comp. Darryl Smith

On 3/29/23, Committee members, along with representatives of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland and The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland, met with the staff of the Clarion Hotel in Frederick, Maryland.

At that time, we discussed with Clarion staff the menu choices, room rates, hospitality suites and banquet rooms, and meeting spaces. We also discussed space for the Lady's program.

Going forward, the Committee will continue to work with the Council and Commandery to

- develop the meeting schedule,
- formulate the necessary menus,
- ensure that needed meeting space is provided and arrange the meeting dates and times,
- Contact the appropriate contact persons in the Chapter, Council, and Commandery to determine what materials and equipment will be needed for the meetings, including the Lady's programming,
- Organize appropriate personnel for any setup and clean-up and ensure the proper equipment is provided.
- Attend the final meeting with Clarion staff to ensure that all rooms, menus, and meeting schedules are communicated and provided.

Respectfully Submitted,
Darryl Smith, GRAC., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

15. 2023 Triennium Report

R.E. Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K.

The 72nd Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International is scheduled for August 12th-15th, 2023, in Branson, Missouri. The event is held at the Chateau on the Lake Resort and Convention Center. There will also be abundant activities and entertainment planned not only for members but also for their families. For more

information, including event registration and hotel reservations, please visit the Triennial website <https://triennial.org/> if you are interested in attending.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Ewing, R.E.G.K.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report. Passed unanimously.

16. Report of Jurisprudence & Constitution

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, PGHP

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

No issues have been referred to your Committee on Jurisprudence & Constitution since the Annual Grand Convocation.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

Grand Secretary Eppig noted that he sent the proposed Amendment change to the Committee for review and was not included in this report. He had received verbal confirmation the Amendment was in due form. Since this was left off the official report, M.E.G.H.P. asked M.E. Comp Bruce Colburn, P.G.H.P., a Jurisprudence committee member, to review and make an official report for the present meeting. M.E. Comp Colburn reviewed and found the proposed Amendment in due form.

The updated report was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

17. Report of Awards and Recognition

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, P.G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

The committee report will be submitted at the Annual Grand Convocation in October.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

At this time, Grand Secretary Eppig discussed replacing the sash for the Lifetime Achievement Award and presenting something more substantial than a certificate. A Breast Star has been devised to be worn on a jacket's right or left breast. The cost would run \$28 each (a minimum of 12 need to be ordered), and we would need 13 for the current recipients still with us and another 12 to have on hand.

Comp Eppig moved to set aside \$800.00 to cover the cost of this item.

It was seconded and passed unanimously.

18. Report on Grievance

M.E. Comp. Randall L Watson, P.G.H.P.

M.E.G.H.P. and Companions,

One issue was referred to your Committee on Grievance on May 4, 2022, regarding Concordia Chapter #1. The resolution has not yet been issued to the parties, so it will be addressed in the committee report to be submitted at the Annual Grand Convocation in October.

Randall Watson, M.E.P.G.H.P., Chairman

The Grand High Priest directed the Grand Secretary to inform the Grievance Committee to settle this grievance by the Annual Convocation in October 2023.

9. Report Long-Range Committee

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

All action on long-range planning to date has been working to ensure our Chapters can do our ritual with a current focus on the Mark Master and Past Master degrees. Our Chapters are the front line of the York Rite, and we need to be able to get Brothers in the door and participating if we are going to keep our York Rite thriving. To that end, the Grand Chapter is planning to hold a least one joint planning session with the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery on how we can strengthen the York Rite in Maryland as a whole. Our collective planning will hopefully lay

some unified groundwork so that future leaders of our Grand Bodies will have a solid foundation to stand on a solid framework with which to work. We still need to get the York Rite more marketed, and we are slowly solving this with The Keystone newsletter.

We still need to buttress our declining number of ritualists. However, we are seeing another year of new Most Excellent High Priests, and there also looks to be an uptick of new Companions. Our Grand Chapter long-range planning for the remainder of 2023 will continue to focus on ritual

work at the Chapter level as we are solidly focused on preserving the front line. If needed, we will regionalize our ritual work to help struggling Chapters until more home-grown ritualists can be anointed.

I am still an advocate of ritual schools, though perhaps a more surgical approach will be necessary in future years. I wish to thank Grand Lecturer Dennis Ewing for all that he does in the trenches, seemingly every night, getting Companions ready to assume the Red East. I also wish to acknowledge all the work our departed Deputy Grand Lecturer Randy Disney did and all the work M.E.P.G.H.P. Bruce Colburn is setting out to do. My hat's off to these three Companions. And, as always, if you have ideas for long-range planning, just send me a note.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

20. Report Membership Committee

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

To date, our membership seems to be doing very well, holding about 1050 Companions. There were (2) new Most Excellent High Priests anointed this year. Some Chapters have been receiving a steady flow of petitions, so we will jump on that work to get those new members into the fold. Those Chapters that need assistance with their ritual are actively being addressed by the Grand Chapter. Again, our membership growth looks positive. An updated membership trend report will be delivered at the Annual Session in October 2023 once the Chapter's annual reporting completes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

21. Reports Received and Published requiring no action M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez

None

22. Events Committee Report M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

The Kings Bowling event with the DeMolay was a great success, and hopefully, more social events like this can be planned for the near future. There are some ideas in the works. As to upcoming events:

- Grand Council Royal and Select Masters Semi-Annual Communication. Saturday, May 13, 2023, starting at 10 am. Oriental Room, Grand Lodge of Maryland.
- Grand Commandery Semi-Annual Communication. Monday, May 15, 2023, starting at 7:30 pm. Gothic Room, Grand Lodge of Maryland. Sat., September 16, 2023, at starting 11:00 am (lunch), noon (degrees) – M.E.P.G.H.P. Louis Bandell Memorial Low Vale. Phoenix #7 will confer the Mark Master and Past Master degrees on all Worthy Candidates (from any Chapter). Location: Havre De Grace police firing range, James E. Walker, Jr. Drive, Havre De Grace, RSVP to Comp. Barry Noe, Secretary at drnoe1@aol.com, so they can prepare enough food. Donations for the food will be appreciated and accepted.
- The Mid-Atlantic Multi-Jurisdictional will be Saturday, October 7, 2023, after Harvest Home Day (after 10 am) has concluded at Grand Lodge so as to not interfere with that sacrosanct event. If you want to see degree work as done by D.C., Virginia, Delaware, and

Maryland in one day, it is not an event to be missed. Similarly, if you know someone who wishes to become a York Rite Mason and receive all four degrees in one day, have them contact their local Chapter so we can get them in the pipeline for this event that only happens in Maryland every four years. Notices to the Chapters will be going out shortly.

As always, if you have upcoming events you want to be publicized in The Keystone, just let me know.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Martinez, M.E.G.H.P.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

23. Report on Unfinished Business

M.E. Comp. John B. Maclay, Jr., P.G.H.P.

The Committee has identified the following items of unfinished business for this Convocation:

- Disposition of Hayward Chapter.
- A follow-up report by the Grievance Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

John B. Maclay, Jr., P.G.H.P., Chair

It was moved and seconded to accept the report and passed unanimously.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest addressed the following unfished business items:

Hayward Chapter had requested a merger with Talbot Chapter. Both Chapters agree and began the merging process. The merger must be completed by September 31, 2023. The M.E.G.H.P. moved that the Grand Chapter approve the merger and the motion passed unanimously.

24. New Business Introduced at this Grand Convocation

MEGHP Martinez introduced the proposed Amendment to Article XII, Section 3 of the Grand Chapter Constitution. PGHP Lumbert, who offered the amendment read the change and gave the reason behind the change. The amendment passed by 2/3 vote of the members present.

During the amendment discussion, a question arose for those few Chapters that use a York Rite clearing account to receive dues. These accounts occur when a Chapter, Council, and Commandery meet in the same building and share membership. A yearly dues bill that includes all three bodies is sent to their membership, and one dues check is written. These checks are deposited in a particular York Rite account and distributed to the proper organization. The main concern is who has control and authority over the account and what requirements should be in place. The GHP will talk with the Jurisprudence committee, MIGM, and EGC of Maryland for their insights. The MEGHP will make a report at the Session in October 2023.

25. Introduction of Distinguished Visitors

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

MEGHP Martinez introduce Robert Lumbert, PGHP and President of the Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland.

John Maclay, PGHP, Grand Governor of the York Rite Sovereign College.

26. Announcements and Scheduled items

Announcements were made during the Events Report and to visit the website for visitation schedule.

27. Voluntary Remarks

ME Comp. Colburn, PGHP invited everyone to his UGL of England presentation at Glen Burnie Lodge on June 2nd.

Robert Chase, PGHP reminded everyone about the Royal Arch Service Awards.

Comp. Romeo, Invited everyone to Adoniram's Installation on May 17th.

ME Comp. Huebschman, PGHP reminded everyone that Adoniram is a Day Light Chapter which is good for our older members that do not travel at night.

Comp Roberts, announce they have been sending Letters to the surrounding lodges and the Scottish Rite in the Cumberland area.

28. Official Remarks Distinguished Guests

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

Robert Lumbert, PGHP and President of the Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland let everyone know that the Council will be celebration its 250th Anniversary next year. The Council plan to do several things to honor the achievement.

29. Installation

Grand Chapter Installation will be held in October 2023.

30. Final Remarks of the Grand High Priest

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

Thank everyone for their attendance and to continue to think "Out-side the Box" to grow and to share the Royal Arch Experience

31. Closing of the Grand Chapter

M.E. Comp. G. Andrew Martinez, G.H.P.

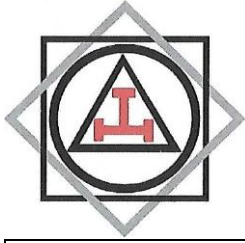
The Grand Chaplain offered a closing prayer.

The M.E.G.H.P. directed that the Lights be broken and declared the Semi-Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland closed at 1:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wil C. Eppig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'W' and 'E'.

M.E. Comp. William C. Eppig, P.G.H.P.
Grand Secretary



Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland Founded May 27, 1824

<p>Officers 2021 - 2023</p> <p>Comp. Randolph S. Disney Most Excellent President</p> <p>Comp. Robert B Lumbert Excellent Vice President</p> <p>Comp. A. Dean Burt III, P.P. Excellent Chaplain</p> <p>Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman Excellent Secretary</p> <p>Comp. John M. Lister Excellent Treasurer</p> <p>Comp. Spyridon G. Treklas Excellent Master of Ceremonies</p> <p>Comp. Christian E. Jensen Excellent Conductor</p>	<p>Minutes on the scheduled April 29, 2023 Convocation</p> <p>Due to passing of our beloved Companion and Most Excellent President Randolph S. Disney, Excellent Companion Robert B. Lumbert assumed the East. M.E. Comp. Randall L. Watson sat as Vice President for the Opening Ceremonies. All other Officers were in their proper places, save Ex Comp. John M. Lister who was unavoidably detained in W.V. by car problems.</p> <p>The 199th Annual Convocation of the Council of Anointed High Priest of Maryland was opened at 10:00 a.m. in Due Form by Acting Most Excellent President Robert B. Lumbert, who then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country. The Opening Prayer, and all other prayers, was offered by Ex. Chaplain Dean Burt III.</p> <p>Before any business was undertaken, the Acting President asked for a moment of prayer by the Chaplain and of quiet reflection on the many contributions and accomplishments of our late M.E. Companion, Randolph S. Disney</p> <p>A motion was made by Comp. Huebschman that as the minutes of the 2022 Convocation had been printed in the 2022 Semi-Annual Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, that the minutes be accepted as printed. Seconded by Comp. Darryl Smith and approved unanimously.</p> <p>There were eighteen Companions, and three Candidates present. Ex Master of Ceremonies Spyridon Treklas read the names of Comp. Gordon A. Munholland – Concordia RAC No. 1 Comp. George Christoff – Druid RAC No. 28 Comp. Stephen R. Twomey II – Edenton R.A.C. No.36 as candidates for this Council. The Secretary called a Roll Call Ballot which was unanimous.</p> <p>The Most Excellent President called M.E. Past President Randall L. Watson to the East, as Comp Lumbert retired to the Vice President’s chair, and as such proceeded to confer the Degree upon all candidates present.</p>
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Comp. William C. Eppig
Excellent Herald

Comp. Christian Miele- A.B.S.
Excellent Steward

Comp. John B. Maclay
Excellent Sentinel

**Annual Conventions
The Last Saturday
in April**

Following the conferral, Ex. Chaplain Burt presented our new members with their Bibles and admonished them with his memorable words of caution and inspiration. The new members then signed the Bylaws. Their words of gratitude were simple and sincere.

During the preceding year, there were several members lost to death, whose names are affixed to the succeeding page. Ex Chaplain Burt offered a prayer in their memory.

The Most Excellent President greeted M.E.G.H.P. G. Andrew Martinez and R.E.G.K. Dennis Ewing, and R.W.D.G.M. Randall L. Watson.

The Excellent Secretary called the Roll of Past Presidents, finding the following present: Clifton R. Friel Alexander Dean Burt III, Gordon A. Davids , and Randall L. Watson. The ME President extended his thanks for the assistance of all the Past Presidents and greeted those present.

Expenditures were as noted with a motion by the Ex. Secretary, seconded by the Ex Vice-President and passed:

Warrant Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Description
23-01	4/30/22	Vernon Huebschman	\$ 848.00	PP Jewel: Nusinov
23-02	4/30/22	G.L.M.D.	\$ 100.00	Donation: Bonnie Blink Endowment
23-03	4/30/22	S.J. Ponzillo Library	\$ 100.00	Donation" Library Endowment

On October 14, 2021, the Operating Account held at M&T Bank was closed at the Denton Branch, and a Cashier’s Check in the amount of \$ 7,933.43 was made payable to the GRAND CHAPTER of ROYAL ARCH MASONS of MARYLAND. The Check was transmitted to the Grand Treasurer RE Comp. John M. Lister for deposit in the Grand Chapter investment funds. During 2022, The Grand Chapter of Maryland contributed \$600.00 to the Operating Fund of the C.A.H.P. per the Constitution of the Grand Chapter for the support of this Masonic Body.

M.E. Past President Comp. Randall L. Watson presided over the election of officers for the 2023-2025 term. A motion was made to advance the existing Line of Officers one chair, and that the Secretary and Treasurer be retained by Comp. Gordon A. Davids, MEPP. Seconded by Comp. Clifton R. Friel, M.E.P.P. There being no further nomination upon being thrice asked, Comp. Watson declared the nomination closed and directed the Ex. Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for all those so nominated.

The Officers of this Council of Anointed High Priest were then installed with the addition of Comp. Dennis Ewing as the Excellent Steward.

Most Excellent President, Comp. Robert B. Lumbert, read remarks he had prepared for this occasion.

This led to a spirited discussion of the preparations of the upcoming 200th anniversary of this Council. Suggestions were made for a dinner event, a token or keepsake of the occasion, perhaps a challenge coin, and the cleaning and inscribing of the communion set also noting the 200th Anniversary.

There being no further business to claim the attention of this Council of Anointed High Priests, Most Excellent President Lumber closed the Council in due form.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernon H. Huebschman
Excellent Secretary

Deceased Report since the 2022 Council of Anointed High Priests

Name	Title	Chapter	Date of Death Reported
George Wagner	PHP	Adoniram R.A.C. No. 21	12/1/2021
Harold Jolle	PHP	Concordia R.A.C. No. 1	4/21/2021
Marion Rickard	P.G.H.P.	Druid R.A.C. No. 28	3/30/2021
Howard Culver, Jr.	PHP	Mt. Vernon R.A.C. No. 25	1/16/21
William Parsons	PHP	Edenton R.A.C. No. 36	12/18/2020
Millard Keller Jr.	PHP	Tuscan R.A.C. No. 42	11/17/2020
William Pindell, Jr.	PHP	York R.A.C. No. 44	8/23/2003