



# **THE PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER**

## **NEWS FOR THE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS IN INDIANA DECEMBER, 2014**

### **If Your Chapter Has Too Many Members – DO NOT READ THIS ARTICLE**

Excellent Companion Keith Spurgeon, GM 1<sup>st</sup> Veil



**THE MISSION OF INDIANA  
ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IS:**

**TO FULFILL THE PROMISE OF KING  
SOLOMON THAT FUTURE AGES  
WOULD FIND OUT THE RIGHT.**

**TO PRESERVE THE COMPLETE  
TRADITION OF THE CRAFT.**

**TO FURTHER THE INTIMATE  
CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BLUE  
LODGE AND THE ROYAL ARCH.**

**TO SPREAD MASONIC  
ENLIGHTENMENT AND  
FELLOWSHIP AMONG ALL  
BRETHREN.**

Indiana Royal Arch Masonry promotes these Essential Standards as keys to a complete understanding of the Masonic tradition and the perfection of the Royal Arch system.

- Extraordinary Masonic education and enlightenment of our craft in sublime and practical ways.
- Fellowship at its finest; in the chapters and in furthering our intimate connection with the Blue Lodge.
- Exceptional ritual development and delivery... always!... Thus preserving the time honored Masonic traditions of “the royal art.”
- Effectiveness and value in Royal Arch organizational processes, communications and finances.
- Continuous advancement of our charitable endeavors.

These Standards are the measuring sticks of our Mission’s progress!

Do you ever find that your Chapter meetings are being attended by the same group of companions? Wish you had more members from which you could draw upon for help and advice? Do you ever wish that there was a way you could grow membership and generate interest among Masons to become a member of your Chapter?

The good news is: There is! The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana allows local Chapters to conduct an “Open Door” program which is designed to generate interest in Chapter Masonry and hopefully bring in new members. I will explain a little about it and how one Chapter made it work for them.

The Open Door program allows local Chapters to present the Mark Master Degree, free of charge, to any current Blue Lodge member. This program, allowed by special dispensation from the Grand High Priest, is designed to give Masons a taste of what they are missing by not taking the Chapter degrees. It is hoped that once they see and learn a little more of the story of Hiram Abiff that recipients will want to learn more and continue their journey through the remaining degrees and on through the Council degrees and Commandery Orders.

How is this accomplished? Typically, the Open Door program is presented at a local Blue Lodge. The Chapter receives permission from the Worshipful Master to come into the Lodge and present the Mark Master Degree. However there are other ways to “carve that stone.” This past year Evansville Chapter #12 took a slightly different approach. They did not want to pick up and carry props and costumes to the 20+ Blue Lodges in the area. They decided to host a Mark Master Degree and invite all the members from the local Lodges to attend.

A little more than a month before the event, a letter was sent to all the Blue Lodge secretaries. A note was attached asking that it be read at their next stated meeting. The letter invited all Masons to attend a special event. It explained that the Mark Master would be presented, free of charge, to any and all interested Masons. A meal would also be provided. The letter explained a little about the degree as well as including details about time and place of the degree work.

Sending the letter and asking that it be read was very important. It “broke the ice” and allowed local members who were also Chapter members the opportunity to extend a personal invitation and to elaborate on what Masons would be experiencing at the Open Door program.

*(Continued on Next Page)*

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>JIM COLEMAN</b> 260.450.7856	<b>GRAND HIGH PRIEST</b> <a href="mailto:w9jbc@yahoo.com">w9jbc@yahoo.com</a>
<b>MARTY EVENS</b> 765.721.7800	<b>GRAND KING</b> <a href="mailto:marty@centuryconcrete.com">marty@centuryconcrete.com</a>
<b>CARL FROEDGE</b> 219.688.2215	<b>GRAND SCRIBE</b> <a href="mailto:carlfroedge@sbcglobal.net">carlfroedge@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>PHIL FOWLER</b> 317.784.3243	<b>GRAND TREASURER</b> <a href="mailto:fowler_e4384@sbcglobal.net">fowler_e4384@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>RICHARD LOCHNER</b> 574.772.4115	<b>GRAND SECRETARY</b> <a href="mailto:drlochner@gmail.com">drlochner@gmail.com</a>
<b>RAY WINDELL</b> 502.376.1260	<b>GRAND CAPT. of the HOST</b> <a href="mailto:Gunman218@aol.com">Gunman218@aol.com</a>
<b>DON OLVEY</b> 317.410.6498	<b>GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJNR.</b> <a href="mailto:don_olvey@yahoo.com">don_olvey@yahoo.com</a>
<b>ARCHIE SMALLWOOD</b> 502.422.1864	<b>GRAND R.A. CAPTAIN</b> <a href="mailto:arsmallwood@insightbb.com">arsmallwood@insightbb.com</a>
<b>STEVE ARLINGTON</b> 219.916.1946	<b>G.M. / 3<sup>RD</sup> VEIL</b> <a href="mailto:threelesserlights@gmail.com">threelesserlights@gmail.com</a>
<b>DEWAYNE RICHMOND</b> 765.212.0869	<b>G.M. / 2<sup>ND</sup> VEIL</b> <a href="mailto:drichmond@muncie.k12.in.us">drichmond@muncie.k12.in.us</a>
<b>KEITH SPURGEON</b> 812.774.0013	<b>G.M. 1<sup>ST</sup> VEIL</b> <a href="mailto:keithspu@aol.com">keithspu@aol.com</a>
<b>SEAN W. JONES</b> 317.658.8103	<b>GRAND LECTURER</b> <a href="mailto:diver978a@yahoo.com">diver978a@yahoo.com</a>
<b>JAMES DAVIS</b> 260-488-3881	<b>GRAND CHAPLAIN</b> <a href="mailto:jaleda58@aol.com">jaleda58@aol.com</a>
<b>KEITH HAMMONDS</b> 574.780.2951	<b>GRAND MARSHALL</b> <b>WEB MASTER</b> <a href="mailto:keith_b_h@comcast.net">keith_b_h@comcast.net</a>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER</b>	
<b>ARCHIE SMALLWOOD</b> 502.422.1864	<b>RARA DIRECTOR</b> <a href="mailto:arsmallwood@insightbb.com">arsmallwood@insightbb.com</a>
<b>TONY PETERSON</b> 317.946.1843	<b>HOSPITALER</b> <a href="mailto:monipaints4u@yahoo.com">monipaints4u@yahoo.com</a>
<b>JOHN COLEMAN</b> 260-414-0567	<b>GRAND GUARD</b> <a href="mailto:w9wn_01@yahoo.com">w9wn_01@yahoo.com</a>
<b>DON DECKER</b> 219.805.8405	<b>DEPUTY A</b>
<b>JOE VILLAREAL</b> 630.649.8255	<b>DEPUTY B</b> <a href="mailto:Villereal.Joseph@gmail.com">Villereal.Joseph@gmail.com</a>
<b>DON LAUDEMAN</b> 547.320.2242	<b>DEPUTY C</b> <a href="mailto:donandjill3@comcast.net">donandjill3@comcast.net</a>
<b>STEVE MAXWELL</b> 260.433.4885	<b>DEPUTY D</b> <a href="mailto:1530moguljr@gmail.com">1530moguljr@gmail.com</a>
<b>JEFF JORDAN</b> 317.650.1233	<b>DEPUTY E</b> <a href="mailto:jeffjdrn@gmail.com">jeffjdrn@gmail.com</a>
	<b>DEPUTY F</b>
<b>DAVID MAXEY</b> 317.319.3234	<b>DEPUTY G</b>
<b>DALE FOREMAN</b> 765-747-9367	<b>DEPUTY H</b> <a href="mailto:Dale_nancyforeman@comcast.net">Dale_nancyforeman@comcast.net</a>
	<b>DEPUTY I</b>
<b>DENNIS SCHRAEDER</b> 812-549-7762	<b>DEPUTY J</b> <a href="mailto:schraederdennis@hotmail.com">schraederdennis@hotmail.com</a>
<b>JOSEPH GROSS</b> 812.267.9169	<b>DEPUTY K</b> <a href="mailto:josephgross26@yahoo.com">josephgross26@yahoo.com</a>

*(Continued From First Page)*

Some Chapter members, myself included, can sometimes feel uneasy or even intimidated at standing up at a Blue Lodge stated meeting and “selling” their friends and neighbors on the idea of becoming a Chapter member. Sending the letter and asking for it to be read helped jumpstart the conversation. Offering Brothers the opportunity to receive the degree for free also helped make it more inviting.

The letter and the ensuing discussion generated much interest. Evansville #12 had so many interested that they had to give the degree on two separate nights over a couple of weeks. Twenty-three masons from all over the area participated in this special event. At the Open Door program, guests were not only treated to a fine presentation of the Mark Master Degree but they also learned a little about the other degrees of the Chapter, Council and Commandery Orders. No pressure was put upon any Brother to join. They were told that if they were interested in becoming a member, petitions were available for them to take or they could contact us later. Several asked for petitions that night.

The two evenings were deemed a huge success, with over 50% of those attending eventually presenting petitions for membership. It was the largest single membership increase for the Chapter in several years and it was decided that this would become an annual event for the Chapter.

If you are looking for something new and different to raise awareness of Royal Arch Masonry and perhaps spark an interest among other Masons to join your Chapter, then I suggest you consider presenting an Open Door program. If you would like to talk with me about it feel free to contact me by emailing me at [keithspu@aol.com](mailto:keithspu@aol.com) or by calling me at 812-838-2368. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. I can also give you a copy of the letter that was sent out as well as explain how a spreadsheet with information from the Indiana Masonic Directory was used to make the printing and mailing of letters relative easy.

Will it work for your Chapter? Maybe. If your Chapter has too many members, then this program is not for you. Otherwise, what have you got to lose?

***MOST EXCELLENT MASTER DEGREE  
AND  
ROYAL ARCH DEGREE  
TO BE CONFERRED  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>,  
INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER NO. 5  
525 NORTH ILLINOIS STREET  
7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
INDIANAPOLIS  
7:00 PM***

## IN THE QUARRY...

*Hail Companions! If you know of any Companion that is ill, has Entered the Celestial Lodge Above, has achieved some success or honor; or if there are special events or degree work planned by your Chapter ... please forward the details to the Editor of the Principal Sojourner at [dwood52281@aol.com](mailto:dwood52281@aol.com). Event pictures are also great; so please send them as well. We publish the Principal Sojourner every other month and will do our best to get the news out to you all!*

## OUTSIDE THE TABERNACLE



Excellent Companion Warren DeFerbrache of Mishawaka/Osceola No. 83, received his 50 year Award of Gold in Royal Arch Masonry on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, at the Mishawaka Lodge Hall. The award was presented by Most Excellent Grand High Priest James Coleman and PGHP Dave Wood. Warren was Exalted on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1964



**RIGHT:** PGHP Dave Wood, Excellent Companion Warren DeFerbrache and his lady, Rosemary, and Most Excellent Grand High Priest James Coleman. Excellent Companion Warren served the Grand Chapter for several years as Grand Master of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil.







Most Excellent Grand High Priest James Coleman installed the officers of New Albany No. 117 for the year 2015, on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.



***!! MARK YOUR CALENDAR !!***

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> AND SATURDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**THE 170<sup>TH</sup> GRAND CONVOCATION  
OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS**

**THE FORT WAYNE HILTON AND ANTHONY WAYNE CENTER  
IN DOWNTOWN FORT WAYNE!**

**WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE UPCOMING PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER**



**THE GRAND  
CHAPTER  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
AT THE JUNCTION  
BACK FORTY IN  
DECATUR, INDIANA!  
DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014**



**"This tastes like horsepuckey... but GOOOOD!"  
"I'm keeping my head down so I don't attract  
attention."**



**L to R: Mary Jane Evens, Sherri Coleman, Most  
Excellent Grand High Priest Jim Coleman, W. C.  
Fields and Rt. Ex. Grand King Marty Evens.**

## ***AN ESSAY ON THE MOST EXCELLENT MASTER DEGREE***

In order to properly understand the 6th Degree of Ancient Craft Masonry, it is important to understand a few historical and scriptural facts about the Temple of Solomon.

First ... the Tabernacle of Moses was considered by the Israelites to be the "tent of dwelling for God." It ... and the Ark of the Covenant and all its furnishings... was constructed by Moses, Bezaleel and Aholiab, under specific directions and plans from God; and was first used in the wilderness on the first anniversary after the Passover. It was constructed to be easily set up and torn down as the camp of the Israelites moved across the wilderness. The Levite priests managed the tabernacle and the worship, and it was always located in the center of the camp, with the twelve tribes camping around it in specific locations. The outer "walls" of the tabernacle were made of linen and other cloth and was about 150 feet long by 75 feet wide. There was only one entrance to the tabernacle ... in the eastern outer wall ... and it was 30 feet wide and covered with a veil of red, purple



and blue. The entrance was ... as you know from the entered apprentice degree to make use of the rays of the rising sun into the tabernacle; and according to Hebrew tradition ... “to turn their backs to worshipping the sun and focus on worshipping the one living and true God.”

The tabernacle itself was indeed a tent; probably 12 feet wide by 33 feet long and covered by animal hides, linen and other cloth fashioned by Aholiab. A veil inside separated the Ark of the Covenant from the rest of the tent, where the Golden Altar of Incense, the Table of Shewbread and the seven branched candlestick, the Menorah, were located.

This tabernacle was used as the official place of Hebrew worship from the time of Moses until just before the reign of King David, when it was located at Shiloh. Because of the unbelief of the Israelites, the tabernacle was raided by the Philistines, Shiloh was destroyed and the Ark of the Covenant was taken. The Israelites recovered the Ark and moved the tabernacle to Gibeon, where it remained until the Temple was built. The tabernacle of Moses was in use for nearly five hundred years!

King David had other plans ... he purchased the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite; located on what was ultimately to be the temple mount and built his own tabernacle for worship. Both tabernacles were in use at the same time; but the Ark was kept at Kiriath – Jearim and then moved to the House of Obed.

All of this was temporary ... God had selected this tabernacle for his dwelling ... and apparently was content there ... but as was previously said, David had other plans and convinced God that a permanent structure was needed. Scripture tells us why David was not allowed to build the temple ... but he had all the plans, materials and jewels to make it happen. King Solomon saw those plans executed and the Temple built!

Second ... the Gospel of John tells us that ... “In the beginning was the Word ... and the Word was with God ... and the Word was God.” Throughout the history of mankind, we have attempted to give a name to that awesome power, wisdom and strength of divinity. Indeed, many names have been ... over the years ... used to identify the creator of heaven and earth ... Eli ... Elohim ... el Shaddai ... Osee ... and many others; each used to describe a particular attribute of god. But his true name ... the Word ... was always veiled in mystery. Masonic tradition tells us that Enoch, the father of Methuselah and great grandfather of Noah, possessed the Word before the flood and buried it on Mt. Moriah under nine arches in the ground. Over the years, the Word passed to the Levite priests and ... ultimately to the High Priest, who only spoke the Word / Name of God on the Day of Atonement ... alone and in the Holy of Holies. Solomon, Hiram and Hiram Abif may ... as temporal royalty ... have been in possession of the Word; but, as we know, upon one death the Word was lost before it could be communicated to the craft. Solomon and Hiram never spoke the Word, however they had a backup plan!

Third ... the Feast of the Tabernacle or the Feast of Booths, called “Sukhot” in scripture, was a festival of harvest and thanksgiving. It was one of three scripturally required pilgrimages of the Israelites known as the “Shalosh Regalim.” It began in the Hebrew month of Tishri, right after the Day of Atonement, and lasted for seven days. Tishri corresponds to our months of September and October. The Feast of Tabernacles was to remind the Hebrews of their time in the wilderness and the families who participated lived in specifically designed “booths” or tents that they set up around the Temple, probably according to the order of the camps in the wilderness.

Finally ... let us look at the furnishings of the Temple. The Menorah, also called the “Golden Lampstand” or candlestick, stood at the left side of the holy place. It was hammered out of one piece of pure gold. Like the Laver, there were no specific instructions about the size of the Menorah, but the fact that it was fashioned out of one piece of pure gold may have limited its size.

The Menorah had a central branch from which three branches extended from each side, forming a total of seven branches. Seven lamps holding olive oil and wicks stood on top of the branches. Each branch looked

like that of an almond tree, containing buds, blossoms and flowers. The priests were instructed to keep the lamps burning continuously.

The Menorah was the only source of light in the holy place, so without it, the priests would have been moping around in the dark. The light shone upon the Table of Showbread and the Altar of Incense, enabling the priests to fellowship with God and intercede on behalf of God's people.

The Table of Shewbread was a small table made of acacia wood and overlaid with pure gold. It measured 3 feet by 1.5 feet and was 2 feet, 3 inches high. It stood on the right side of the holy place across from the lampstand and held 12 loaves of bread, representing the 12 Tribes of Israel. The priests baked the bread with fine flour and it remained on the table before the lord for a week; every Sabbath day the priests would remove it and eat it in the holy place, then put fresh bread on the table. Only priests could eat the bread, and it could only be eaten in the holy place, because it was holy.

The Shewbread also was called "Bread of the Presence" because it was to be always in the Lord's presence. The table and the bread were a picture of God's willingness to fellowship and communion (literally speaking, sharing something in common) with man. It was like an invitation to share a meal, an extension of friendship. Eating together often is an act of fellowship. God was willing for man to enter into his presence to fellowship with him, and this invitation was always open.

The Golden Altar of Incense, which is not to be confused with the Brazen Altar, sat in front of the curtain that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. This altar was smaller than the Brazen Altar. It was a square with each side measuring 1.5 feet and was 3 feet high. It was made of acacia wood and overlaid with pure gold. Four horns protruded from the four corners of the altar.

God commanded the priests to burn incense on the Golden Altar every morning and evening, the same time that the daily burnt offerings were made. The incense was to be left burning continually throughout the day and night as a pleasing aroma to the lord. It was made of an equal part of four precious spices (stacte, onycha, galbanum and frankincense) and was considered holy. God commanded the Israelites not to use the same formula outside the tabernacle to make perfume for their own consumption; otherwise, they were to be cut off from their people.

The incense was a symbol of the prayers and intercession of the people going up to God as a sweet fragrance. God wanted his dwelling to be a place where people could approach him and pray to him.

Within the Holy of Holies, shielded from the eye of the common man, was one piece of furniture comprising two parts: the Ark of the Covenant and the atonement cover (or "Mercy Seat") on top of it. The ark was a chest made of acacia wood, overlaid with pure gold inside and out. It was 3 feet, 9 inches long and 2 feet, 3 inches wide and high. God commanded Moses to put in the ark three items: a golden Pot of Manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the two stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written.

The atonement cover was the lid for the ark. On top of it stood two cherubim (angels) at the two ends, facing each other. The cherubim, symbols of God's divine presence and power, were facing downward toward the ark with outstretched wings that covered the atonement cover. The whole structure was beaten out of one piece of pure gold. The Mercy Seat was God's dwelling place in the tabernacle. It was His throne, flanked by angels.

Above the Ark and the Mercy Seat, God appeared in his glory in "unapproachable light". This light is sometimes referred to as the Shekinah Glory. The word Shekinah, although it does not appear in our English Bibles, has the same roots as the word for tabernacle in Hebrew and refers to the Presence of the Lord.

So ... Solomon's Temple, "so spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists" is complete. The keystone, "that stone which was set at naught of you builders, has become the chief stone of

the temple" ... is in its proper place. The vision the three Grand Masters of such a wonderful house of God, has been fulfilled in the finest manner. It is finished! All one hundred and fifty three thousand craftsmen are at rest. They have the substitute secret. Now they will be able to travel as master masons and work and receive wages as such. And as masters, they are enabled to dispense the light and wisdom of their craft.

All that is left for Solomon to do is to dedicate his magnificent structure to the one living and true God. The holy vessels are placed in the Sanctum Sanctorum. The Temple is dedicated. Solomon offers up his excellent prayer. The Shekinah ... the Glory of the Lord fills the house. God indeed does dwell with us on earth!

Deep, profound, spiritual implications. Have you "wrought in the quarries and exhibited specimens of your skill?" Do you practice your Masonic principles in your daily lives? Has your "living stone" been tried and tested by the master's square? Have you lovingly applied the cement of brotherly love and affection to bind yourself to your fellows? Have you found the keystone and placed it appropriately? Is your spiritual temple complete? Does God indeed dwell in your heart? Have you "shown yourself approved unto god, a workman who needeth not be ashamed; rightly dividing the word of Truth?"



**THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF INDIANA  
WISHES FOR ALL OF OUR COMPANIONS AND THEIR FAMILIES...**

***A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, A BLESSED HANUKKA  
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!***