Grand Master’s Message

Happy Holidays to all of my brothers and your families! As we enjoy this Holiday season, Sam and I wish you a glorious Thanksgiving and Christmas. I have traveled the Commonwealth extensively over the last month and have had the opportunity to witness our Creator’s seasonal art displayed as the leaves begin to change colors and the crisp Autumn air brings a festive chill to the Bluegrass. This is a perfect time to reflect and be thankful for all of the gifts of love, laughter and hospitality we have experienced over the last month. It is also an opportune time to help others less fortunate than ourselves. We have many of our brothers who cannot come to lodge for various reasons, and all it would take to make their holiday a little more joyful would be a phone call or a card to let them know they are still in our hearts and prayers. A little encouragement through the holidays, can help so much.

Over the last month, I have had a wonderful time enjoying fellowship at many lodges and have experienced the profound honor of presenting several 70-year pins to brothers across the state. To be able to spend time with them; listen to their tales, and celebrate their longevity in our fraternity is a blessing I will never forget.

As we enter December, I look forward to seeing you all at the many Installation ceremonies I am scheduled to attend. This is the perfect opportunity to invite your families and share with them the joy we experience in our Masonic Lodges. I am certain that they are as proud of each of you being installed into your various positions as I am. As a reminder, once you’ve had your elections in December, notify the Grand Secretary’s Office of your new Officers. By doing this as soon as possible, we can compile the data needed to expedite the publishing of the new Masonic Directory.

As for our programs this year, the Grand Master’s Ark and Anchor is definitely on the move across the state, encouraging travel and fellowship. By the time of this publication, the Leadership Academy will be in full swing as we welcome so many Brothers learning to be leaders in our lodges, so don’t forget to sign up for the second session in February! The Grant Program has also received significant responses, and we are gearing up for the Educational Webinar in January.

The support for the First Lady’s program has been very humbling. To date, we are still being blessed by brothers and lodges reaching out to support this worthy cause that brings awareness to the horrors of human trafficking. Sam and I want to thank each of you for your love, generosity and support for the Grand Lodge Officers. We continue to travel across the state and appreciate your prayers for safe journeys. We look forward to seeing you in our travels and we continuously pray for Holiday blessings for you all. May each of you continue to be strong men of Character, Conduct and Commitment. “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” Luke 2:14

Fraternally Thine,
James H. Gibson
Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Kentucky F&AM
On September 29, Madisonville Masonic Lodge #143 presented a check for $2,000.00 to the Christian Food Bank of Hopkins County. The food bank is always in need of donations of money or food items to continue helping to feed the residents of Hopkins county that are in need. On a typical day the food bank provides around 58 deliveries of food to the residents that are in need. Madisonville Masonic Lodge #143 was proud to be able to do our part to help.
Vicco Lodge #929 F&AM with their 2021 proficiency award.

N H Shaw #608 presented PDDGM Brother William Dixon with a Barrel Head Plaque for his dedication and service to N H Shaw #608 and District 6.

These were presented on Tuesday, Oct. 19th, at the Stated Communication of Edmonton Lodge #931 F.&A.M.

Top Photo: Brothers Clarence E. Jessee and Douglas R. Anderson PM was presented their 40 years of Membership Pin and Certificate by Acting Master Nick Brewster.

Bottom Photo: Brother Tyler Bray was presented his MM proficiency by Acting Master Nick Brewster.
On September 18, 2021, Brother Christopher Williams, P.M. received his 25 year pin from his father, Brother Dan Williams, P.M., along with his cousin, Bro. David C. Howard, P.M. Howard Lodge 819 F&AM also passed three brothers to the F.C. Degree that evening.

Joppa Lodge 167 presented 50 year pins to Brothers Ronnie Patton and Benny Pinnegar. Brother Homer Barnett received his award for 60 years. Congratulations to these distinguished brothers for their service to Masonry.

Brother James Roll PM, Secretary for Jerusalem 9, met with Brother Charles Grimes at the Veterans Center, located in Hanson Ky, where he presented Brother Grimes with his 60 year pin. Brother Grimes was very appreciative for receiving his pin. His wife, Carol, was there for the presentation, along with Dena Stone. We talked about his 20 years serving our country in the Marines, his tour in Vietnam and his 20 years being an OTR truck driver. Brother Grimes had a photo on the wall of his truck that won the best in show at the 2005 Louisville truck show. It was an honor to meet with Brother Grimes and present him with his service pin.

Brother James J. “Jim” Bates Jr. of Jerusalem 9 met with James T. Roll, PM & current Secretary for Jerusalem 9 at James’s office on Friday October 15. James was able to present Brother Bates with his 65 year membership pin. It was an honor to present him with his pin for his many years of service to the fraternity. Brother Bates said that he would be unable to attend our Past Master / Service Pin Night on Monday October 25th and made arrangements to come by my office today to receive his pin.

Grand Lodge Officers
Districts 1, 2, & 3 Open Installations
January 15th 2022
MWGM Brother James Gibson, RWDGM Brother Darren Wilson, RWGSW Brother Dick Short, RWGJW Brother Mitchell May
District 3
Clinton Lodge # 82 Lite Breakfast at 9am cst.
110 Masonic Drive, Princeton Ky.
District 2
Folsomdale Lodge # 283 Lunch at 12:30PM. cst.
7100 State Rt. 1241, Folsomdale Ky.
District 1
Plain City Lodge # 449 Supper at, 4:00 PM cst.
308 Joe Clifton Drive, Paducah Ky.
Come join us in a great day of fellowship

On September 6, 2021 at a stated meeting of Fleming Lodge No.112, a pinning ceremony was held. Photos above, top left to right: Woodie Reeves, DDGM with Daniel Suit, 40 years, with Master, Brian Bowling; William M. Savey, 50 years; Marvin Suit, 65 years; Noah Logan, 70 years with wife, Faye. Not present: Eugene Jett, 65 years; Dennie Adams 40 years.
On Sunday, September the 26th, the Brothers of Pewee Valley 829 were honored to present Bro. Lindsay (T) Smith a 70 year service pin during the Past Masters and Widows luncheon. Brothers Roland T. Stayton and Howard Griffin received 65 year pins. Making the presentations were Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden Richard (Dick) Short, and Pewee Valley 829 Master John Adkins.

Once again a Brother Mason, having completed the designs written for him on life’s trestle board, has passed through the portals of Eternity and entered the Grand Lodge of the New Jerusalem and hath received as his reward, the white stone with the new name written thereon; and

WHEREAS, the all-wise and merciful Master of the Universe has called from labor to refreshment

WHEREAS, He having been a true and faithful brother of our Order, therefore be it;

RESOLVED, That Lodge No., F. & A.M. In testimony of her loss, be draped in mourning for thirty
days and that we tender to the family of our deceased brother our sincere condolence in their deep
affliction, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family.

CODY R. BUSING, MASTER
TROY S. GIBSON, SECRETARY
This December article is meant to reflect on the past month’s activities concerning your Scottish Rite. There have been several very successful Reunions and Educational Programs that have proved your Valley’s Leadership is doing a great job. I am sure this will lead into a good 2022.

Our Membership and their Clubs seem to be energized in supporting their Valley and working hard to meet the special needs in their communities. From Blessings in a Backpack to Scholarships, Student Appreciation Nights and supporting the area School System. These activities and the Valley’s Foundation sponsor children from age two thru five to treat non-surgical Language issues before they attend school. Just imagine hearing your Child or Grandchild saying Mommy, Daddy or Granny or Papaw for the first time. If that doesn’t hit you in the heart, nothing will.

Plans are being made to make next year even a bigger success. Being in January, 2022 your business meetings will be streamed via Zoom to your Laptop in your Home. If you have not downloaded the Zoom app, go to your app store and do so, it is free and your meeting will be free to watch. You will receive instructions from your Valley on how to logon to the meeting, but in order to do that, the Valley needs your email address. It is imperative that you do so. This will allow Brothers who live two or three hours away from their Valley to stay connected to the Scottish Rite and the happenings at the Consistory.

Let’s remember those we have lost and their Families. Check in on our senior members and ask them if you can be of assistance. If possible, take them to a meeting and stop on the way home and buy them a piece of pie and a cup of coffee. Maybe they need someone to talk to. Thank you all for what you do for the Scottish Rite in the Orient of Kentucky. Take care and may God Bless!

Fraternally,
Terry L. Bowman, PGM 33°
SGIG in Kentucky

At a recent meeting of Winchester Lodge #20, Carl W. Gibson, Secretary of the Valley of Lexington, A&ASR, with the assistance of Scottish Rite Brethren from District 24 presented William Standafer with his 50 Year Scottish Rite Patent and dues card.
An admonition that is familiar to us all. This particular phrase appears numerous times throughout scripture and to us as Scottish Rite Masons the admonition is repeated as both a caution and as a promise in the Fourth Degree of Secret Master.

What does it mean to gird up your loins? The most generally accepted interpretation of the phrase is “to prepare oneself for something difficult or challenging”. In the fourth degree of the Ancient And Accepted Scottish Rite that admonition was given as the candidate commences his path in the Rite. The journey through the Scottish Rite, as we are taught, is a self-guided journey. It is a path of learning, education, and of growth. The journey is not easy because we know that Freemasonry does not readily reveal her secrets. Rather, we learn the true meaning of our fraternity by research and by interaction with our informed brethren.

Along with that admonition we are also told in the Scottish Rite that the path to light leads to happiness and to the throne where truth and knowledge are enthroned. One of the greatest of the countless privileges that Freemasonry has afforded me is the privilege of presenting service awards to 25 and 50 Year Scottish Rite Masons. The pride that is exhibited when one of our esteemed members receives his service award for decades of membership assures me in a manner that written word can not convey that the path of knowledge and of learning does mean a great deal to a great many.

As we enter the time of year when we celebrate so much that we are thankful for I encourage you to join me in “girding up our loins” as we continue to carry out the mission of our Great And Noble Fraternity. The mission being to bind together the brotherhood of men under the fathership of Almighty God with the goal of taking good men and making them better.

Carl W. Gibson, Secretary/Registrar
Valley Of Lexington, Orient Of Kentucky
Eileen Gray was appointed a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1978 and Commander (CBE) in 1997.

Eileen Gray’s masonic career is equally impressive. In June, 2005 she was interviewed for a London radio program. “There’s only one thing more mysterious than Freemasons, and that’s women Freemasons. The controversial brotherhood is widely thought to be a male-only preserve, but sisters, or should that be “brothers”, are doing it for themselves”, so the program began.

The commentator resumed, “She is the head of The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons, one of the two orders of women Freemasons in this country. The fraternity has been around for nearly 100 years and has a membership in the region of 1,000 women. Its headquarters are in north London, and there are lodges all across the country and overseas too. The Freemasons here follow the same ceremonies and practices as their male counterparts, bizarrely even calling each other “brother”.

Eileen Gray quipped, “I know I don’t look like the Duke of Kent [her equivalent in male Freemasonry], but it’s the same sort of situation. We were formed from the men and we followed the men in practice, we use their ritual and it comes naturally to be brothers in a Fraternity”. She went on to say on radio, that women from all backgrounds belonged to the fraternity and “It means different things to different people. It broadens one’s outlook on life, and gives different interpretations. We see people come in who are not used to the business world, not used to learning the ritual, and as they learn the ritual, that gives them confidence in public speaking, and it’s really nice to see so many people blooming with their self-confidence.” Charity to good causes is also important to the lodge.

She then noted that women have been involved with masonry at least since 1277, when recorded that a women mason worked on the carvings of Strasbourg Cathedral. Gray followed with the story of Lady Elizabeth St. Leger (also known as Lady Aldworth), the lady mason of Cork County, Ireland, before the Grand Lodge era. She talked about women’s lodges in France in the early 18th century, and later when female lodges were established England in 1913.Eileen Gray then concluded, “We are not a secret society we are a society with secrets. People think that because something is secret there’s got to be something wrong with it. And it’s not particularly secret, but because it has its rituals within it, which are known to those that participate, it can sound weird to people”.

Women in Masonry are in general, fully recognized by Continental Masonic Lodges (Grand Orient) only. However In 1999, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) issued a statement acknowledging
the ‘regularity and sincerity’ of the women’s Freemasonry. Though not officially recognized by UGLE, and male members cannot participate, informal relations with the women lodges are cordial, with many of the women meeting in temples owned by their male counterparts. The UGLE has worked with the women in such things as charity projects and open houses in Freemasons Hall, to promote the two female groups.

So will this lead to full recognition? Probably not, as this would require a major change in UGLE by-laws which describes itself as a male organization open only to males, but congeniality definitely exists between them.

Please see the Masonic Home Journal for information on Ireland’s Lady Aldworth (Nov. 2018 Issue), and Kentucky’s Lady Mason (Dec. 2018 issue). For further study, author Karen Kidd’s books, On Holy Ground and Haunted Chambers, are available at the Covington Masonic Library. You can visit your MLMA – Covington and receive a free library card, any Wednesday, 6:00 to 8:00 pm or for an appointment, just email: Bill Lorenz, Librarian, library.covsr@outlook.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Brothers, 2021 has been an OUTSTANDING year for the Western Kentucky Scottish Rite. We were able to hold 2 reunions this year. This is because of the brothers having a yearning for more light in Masonry and the brothers of Western Kentucky Consistory coming together to confer the degrees. I am so pleased to see the growth in Western Kentucky, especially after the suffering we experienced in 2020.

I have decided our Consistory will be dark during the months of January 2022 and February 2022. We will resume our stated meetings on Thursday, March 17, 2022 with a meal being served at 6:00 PM.

Our Consistory is available to those District Deputies desiring to have a place for the Grand Lodge educational meetings or their District Meetings. As always, we desire to help ALL of the lodges in Western Kentucky in any way we can. If your lodge is interested in a Scottish Rite presentation, please contact us so we can schedule a time.

Fraternally,
Douglas W. Bunch,
32° KCCH Personal Representative
Western Kentucky Scottish Rite,
Valley of Madisonville
**BY-LAW NOTICE**

**HARLAN YORK RITE BODIES**
At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Harlan Chapter 165 RAM, Harlan Council 91 R&SM, and Duffield Commandery 42 K.T., will vote to amend its by-laws. This vote will be taken on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. All Companions and Sir Knights are encouraged to attend.

**ONEIDA LODGE #736**
At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Oneida Masonic Lodge #736 F&AM will be voting to amend its By-Laws in regards to meeting dates.

**HARTFORD LODGE #675**
At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Hartford Lodge #675 will be voting to amend its By-Laws.

**MT. OLIVET LODGE NO.291**
At the first stated meeting in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 291, F& A.M. will be voting on Bylaws changes. All Brothers are urged to attend.

**HUGH HARRIS LODGE #938**
Hugh Harris Lodge #938 would like to update our dues and bylaws. We will vote on this on January 11th 2022.

**LEDGETTER LODGE NO. 952**
At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Ledbetter Lodge No. 952 will be voting to amend its By-Laws concerning dues. All Brothers are urged to attend.

**OKOLONA LODGE NO. 853**
On December 1st, 2021, Okolona Lodge No. 853 will have a called meeting for the purpose of election of officers. Time of meeting will be at 7:30pm. All brothers are urged to attend.

**Lodge Articles and Submissions**
**To be included in The Masonic Home Journal**
**Are due by the 5th of the preceding month**

**Email your submissions to:**
masonichomejournal@grandlodgeofkentucky.org

**Call the Grand Lodge Office**
502-893-0192

**For additional information**

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**Veterans Corner**

The World War II Memorial is dedicated to Americans who served in the armed forces and as civilians during World War II.

**December – Key Military Dates**

- **December 1, 2021** - Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday
- **December 7, 2021** - Pearl Harbor Day
  "A day which will live in infamy" - On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor
- **December 13, 2021** - National Guard Birthday
- **December 16, 2021** - National Wreaths Across America ([Wreaths Across America](#))
  An annual laying of wreaths at veterans’ cemeteries across the nation
- **December 28, 2021** - Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Assistant/Religious Affairs Specialist
A family-owned funeral home with deep roots in the community.

We’ve been chosen by families who have lived here for generations – folks who have come to know and trust us over the years.

You see, unlike funeral homes owned by faraway corporations, we have a commitment to this community.

After all, our roots are here.
ORDERS OF THE EASTERN STAR ELECTION ELECTIVE OFFICERS 2021-2022

Mymi Lafoy ...................................................... Worthy Grand Matron
Linda Overfield ............................................. Associate Grand Matron
Alan Johnson ................................................... Associate Grand Patron
Deborah L. Hensley .......................................... Associate Grand Conductress
202 W. Washington St., La Grange, KY 40301 (502) 222-0248
Emie Davix ...................................................... Grand Treasurer
Grand Conductress
Stephanie Bruce .............................................. Associate Grand Conductress
Kevin Odum .................................................... Grand Sentinel

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR IN KENTUCKY

923 EASTERN STAR CT, LOUISVILLE, KY 40240-2277
PHONE: 502-858-9450 & FAX: 502-458-8565
ROBERT RIVERA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Harriet DeD. Matron
Elk Electroded and Directors
Melva Dukes .................................................. Vice President and Director
Marilyn Mitchell .............................................. Vice President and Director
Edward “Sonny” Johnson ................................... Treasurer
Janet Howard .................................................... Director
Karle Lohr ........................................................... Director
Nancy Prope .................................................... Director
Barbara Hockenbury ........................................ Director
Ray Barchette ................................................... Director

All applications for life care admission should be sent to
Wilma Phillips, Chairperson
Box 318, Greenville, KY 42345; 270-338-5317; rondockery@bellsouth.net

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Box 318, Greenville, KY 42345; 270-338-5317; rondockery@bellsouth.net
Grand Lodge of Kentucky F. & A. M.

Front row left to right: F. Keith Dreier, PGM, (163, 999), Grand Treasurer, Richard F. Short, (111, 997), Grand Senior Warden, E. Darren Wilson, (14,437,997), Deputy Grand Master, James H. Gibson, (255,491,997), Grand Master, Mitchell A. May, (928, 998), Grand Junior Warden, Donald H. Yankey, PGM, (586, 633), Grand Secretary