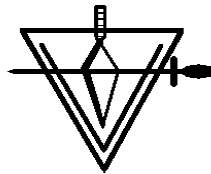


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**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS  
AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
TO BE CONSIDERED  
AT OUR  
ANNUAL GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION  
AND  
ANNUAL GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY  
TO BE HELD  
OCTOBER 8-9, 2007**

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**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT OUR
ANNUAL GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION -- OCTOBER 8-9, 2007**

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies* & Jurisprudence

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas:

Whereas, The Duties of the Board are listed in Chapter 14, Texas Masonic Retirement Center of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, Article 110, Duties of the Board of Directors,

Whereas, Article 110 was amended in 1993 by adding the last sentence of paragraph 3, which now reads:

"Under no circumstances shall a member of the Superintendent's immediate family hold the position of Assistant Superintendent or Assistant Administrator of the Clinic/Nursing Center. (Amended 1993)

Whereas, in the corporate and business rules and regulations regarding nepotism have become under scrutiny,

Therefore, be it resolved that this last sentence be amended to read as follows:

Under no circumstances shall a member of the Superintendent's, Assistant Superintendent, Administrator, Assistant Administrator, Director of Nurses, and the Head of any Department be employed by the Texas Masonic Retirement Center and or Clinic/Nursing Center. (Amended 1993, 2007)

Respectively submitted,
Jack L. Wright, PHP
Will N. Kidd Chapter 424, RAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies*, Jurisprudence, & Finance

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas:

Whereas, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest is required to sign all legal documents for the Texas Masonic Retirement Center,

Whereas, it is important that the Most Excellent Grand High Priest should attend all meetings of the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center,

Whereas, the cost of travel has risen very high and rapidly restricting the travel of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

Therefore be it resolved that Chapter 3, Grand High Priest, Article 23, Expenses, be amended by adding the following new paragraph:

"In addition to the above listed expenses, the Grand High Priest may be reimbursed by the Texas Masonic Retirement Center expenses for travel from his home to the Texas Masonic Retirement Center to attend the meetings of the Board of Directors as provided in Article 125 of the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Chapter.

Be it further resolved that Chapter 15, Texas Masonic Retirement Center, Article 125, No. Remuneration for Board which now reads:

"No Member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center shall at any time receive either directly, or indirectly, any remuneration for his services as a member of said Board except, that each member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center shall be reimbursed an amount,

as elected by the Board, not to exceed what is authorized by the Internal Revenue Service per mile both to and from his place of residence to the Texas Masonic Retirement Center in Arlington, to attend the Board meetings once a month or as many times as necessary. (Amended 1993, 2002)

Be amended by inserting the following phrase, "and the Grand High Priest" so that Article 125 would then read as follows:

"No Member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center shall at any time receive either directly, or indirectly, any remuneration for his services as a member of said Board except, that each member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center and the Grand High Priest shall be reimbursed an amount, as elected by the Board, not to exceed what is authorized by the Internal Revenue Service per mile both to and from his place of residence to the Texas Masonic Retirement Center in Arlington, to attend the Board meetings once a month or as many times as necessary. (Amended 1993, 2002, 2007)

Respectively submitted,
Jack L. Wright, PHP
Will N. Kidd Chapter No. 424, RAM

RESOLUTON NO. 3
Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies* and Jurisprudence

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas:

Be It Resolved:

Ninety days before any member who has not paid his dues and is about to go suspended, that the High Priest will appoint a committee to contact these Companions and encourage them to pay their dues. The High Priest may appoint as many members as he may deem necessary to fill this committee. The committee will report to the Chapter as to their findings, and in the event the Companion cannot pay his dues recommend that his dues be remitted, that he be suspended, or that he be encouraged to dimit.

Submitted,
Leonard L. Fitzgerald, III, P.H.P.
Dallas Chapter No. 47, RAM

RESOLUTON NO. 4
Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies* and Jurisprudence

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas:

Whereas Galena Park Chapter No. 490, Royal Arch Masons is no longer located in Galena Park, Texas and has been relocated to Cleveland, Texas,

Be it Resolved that at a Stated Convocation the Companions voted to change the name to Cleveland Chapter No. 490, Royal Arch Masons.

Submitted by,
Ronald J. Price, Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 5
Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies*, Jurisprudence & Finance

The history of Capitular and Cryptic Masonry in Texas, both past and present is characterized by glowing accounts of unselfish deeds and dedicated commitment to those principles and precepts taught in the lessons of our various degrees.

The present affords opportunity to reflect upon the past; and it has been the past from which we have drawn inspiration and purpose to assure our future. It is therefore both fitting and incumbent upon us, as we travel upon the path established by Companions of the past to recognize and honor those Capitular and Cryptic Masons who, while on our watch have demonstrated unselfish deeds and dedicated commitment to the advancement and preservation of the lessons of morality and commitment to all that is good.

Existing provisions of the Cornerstone Award of the subordinate Chapters and the Cryptic Triangle Award of the subordinate Councils are designed for special recognition by Chapters and Councils of Companions who demonstrate excellence of commitment to Capitular and Cryptic Masonry.

The Grand Royal Arch Golden Keystone Award is an annual presentation made by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and the Royal Purple Service Award is an annual presentation made by the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council. While both such awards are given in recognition of exceptional commitment to the principles and precepts of Capitular and Cryptic Masonry as demonstrated by the actions of those nominated for the award, it leaves a void for proper and merited recognition of some who might otherwise qualify for such recognition, but are disqualified by having previously served as an elective officer of either the Grand Chapter or the Grand Council.

Therefore, it is my recommendation that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas instruct the Committee on Awards and Recognitions to recommend amendments to the existing provisions of the laws of this Grand Chapter that will create and permit a special award to be known as "York Rite Lifetime Achievement Award" for recognition under the following guidelines:

- 1) The award may be presented twice within a three year period to any worthy Companion who has demonstrated unusual leadership his commitment and dedication to the progressive preservation of the principles and precepts of Capitular and Cryptic Masonry.
- 2) The award shall reflect the unanimous consensus of the Trustees of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, and nomination for same shall be made jointly by the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter and the Grand Master of the Grand Council, and shall be made at a joint open meeting of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council.

Fraternally submitted:

G. Clay Smith, PHP
George Washington Chapter No. 422

RESOLUTION NO. 6
Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies* and Jurisprudence

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas:

There has been a major decline over the past ten years in the number of Companions who are proficient in all or parts of the Texas Royal Arch Chapter Ritual, even including the basic Chapter Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Much of this appears to be related to the decision by this Grand Chapter to publish a "plain language ritual."

The intent of the plain language ritual was to make it easier for Companions to learn the work and to encourage them to do so. We now have the advantage of ten years of hindsight since publication of the first plain language ritual, and it is now clear that - unfortunately - just the reverse has occurred.

In retrospect, it probably should have been apparent to us that actually LEARNING the work is easier when people have to THINK about what they are reading as they read it. People using the old code book as "an aid to the memory" had to learn SOMETHING about the wording of the ritual in order to be able to recognize the codes. In our opinion, people used to learn more accidentally using the code book than most persons today learn intentionally from the plain language ritual.

There is no doubt in our minds that the plain language rituals - both the 1997 version and the 2001 revision - have turned out to be a huge liability to Texas Royal Arch Masons rather than an asset. Not having to think about what the words of the ritual are in order to read them has obviously created a significant disincentive to learn the work. A rapidly increasing number of Chapters cannot open or close without reading those simple ceremonies. Many Companions are not even bothering to learn how to pronounce the words in our Ritual, much less understand what they are reading.

We have complicated this situation for our members even more by publishing two different plain language rituals - both of which are recommended for use - together with a Monitor and a Lecture Book authorized for use during the ritual work. It would be so much simpler to return to a single code book that would actually be USEFUL to the Companions in learning the wording of the ritual and a single Monitor containing other information that would be USEFUL to Companions in conducting meetings and conferring degrees. In other words, it would be much better for our members to have to have only two books that would actually HELP them to learn and do the work instead of the current four books that appear to be providing little or no benefit.

With the current decline in ritualistic proficiency, Texas Royal Arch Masons are well on track to being unable to confer our beautiful and impressive degrees except in periodic regional festivals. It is imperative that we provide the tools that will make it EASIER for our members to learn to properly conduct their meetings and to confer our degrees individually and locally.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee on Work be directed by this Grand Chapter to develop and present to Grand Chapter in its Annual Convocation in October, 2008:

- 1) a determination as to which of the optional changes to the Ritual approved by this Grand Chapter during its Annual Convocation in December, 2001, have been useful to the Craft in conferring the Work, and a recommendation as to which of those changes should be retained; and
- 2) an orderly plan (including a proposed timetable) and any necessary changes to the Laws of this Grand Chapter to:
 - i) phase out publication of the Plain Language Ritual and to replace it with an updated Code Book. (The Committee on Work may consider recommending that approved Code Books be authorized for use in Chapter meetings for some reasonable specified period of time to allow Companions to once more become familiar with their use as an Aid to the Memory before returning to a practice of prohibiting their use by Officers in their stations); and
 - ii) update the Monitor. (The Committee may consider including in the Monitor the Chapter Procedure for Balloting, Introduction and Reception of Grand Chapter Officers, Presentation of 50-Yr. Awards, Installation Ceremony for Officers of Subordinate Chapters (Const & Law), and the Lectures in the current Chapter "Lecture Book.")

Submitted by The Committee on Work,
Russell Milliken, Chairman
Tim Towson
Dale Secor
Eldon Brooks
Allan W. (Skip) Dees

**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT OUR
ANNUAL GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY -- OCTOBER 8-9, 2007**

**RESOLUTON NO. 1
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies**

To the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas:

Be It Resolved:

Ninety days before any member who has not paid his dues and is about to go suspended, that the Thrice Illustrious Master will appoint a committee to contact these Companions and encourage them to pay their dues. The Thrice Illustrious Master may appoint as many members as he may deem necessary to fill this committee. The committee will report to the Council as to their findings, and in the event the Companion cannot pay his dues recommend that his dues be remitted, that he be suspended, or that he be encouraged to dimit.

Submitted,
Leonard L. Fitzgerald, III, P.T.I.M.
Dallas Council No. 18, R&SM

**RESOLUTON NO. 2
Referred to Committee on Jurisprudence**

To the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas:

Whereas Galena Park Council No. 405, Royal and Select Masters is no longer located in Galena Park, Texas and has been relocated to Cleveland, Texas,

Be it Resolved, that at a Stated Assembly the Companions voted to change the name to Cleveland Council No. 405, Royal and Select Masters.

Submitted by,
Ronald J. Price, Recorder

**RESOLUTON NO. 3
Referred to Committees on Jurisprudence* and Finance**

To the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas:

There has been a major decline over the past ten years in the number of Companions who are proficient in all or parts of the Texas Royal and Select Masters Council Ritual, even including the basic Council Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Much of this appears to be related to the decision by this Grand Council to publish a "plain language ritual."

The intent of the plain language ritual was to make it easier for Companions to learn the work and to encourage them to do so. We now have the advantage of ten years of hindsight since publication of the first plain language ritual, and it is now clear that - unfortunately - just the reverse has occurred.

In retrospect, it probably should have been apparent to us that actually LEARNING the work is easier when people have to THINK about what they are reading as they read it. People using the old code book as "an aid to the memory" had to learn SOMETHING about the wording of the ritual in order to be able to recognize the codes. In our opinion, people used to learn more accidentally using the code book than most persons today learn intentionally from the plain language ritual.

There is no doubt in our minds that the plain language rituals - both the 1997 version and the 2001 revision - have turned out to be a huge liability to Texas Royal and Select Masters rather than an

asset. Not having to think about what the words of the ritual are in order to read them has obviously created a significant disincentive to learn the work. A rapidly increasing number of Councils cannot open or close without reading those simple ceremonies. Many Companions are not even bothering to learn how to pronounce the words in our Ritual, much less understand what they are reading.

We have complicated this situation for our members even more by publishing two different plain language rituals - both of which are recommended for use - together with a Monitor and a Lecture Book authorized for use during the ritual work. It would be so much simpler to return to a single code book that would actually be USEFUL to the Companions in learning the wording of the ritual and a single Monitor containing other information that would be USEFUL to Companions in conducting meetings and conferring degrees. In other words, it would be much better for our members to have to have only two books that would actually HELP them to learn and do the work instead of the current four books that appear to be providing little or no benefit.

With the current decline in ritualistic proficiency, Texas Royal and Select Masters are well on track to being unable to confer our beautiful and impressive degrees except in periodic regional festivals. It is imperative that we provide the tools that will make it EASIER for our members to learn to properly conduct their meetings and to confer our degrees individually and locally.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee on Work be directed by this Grand Council to develop and present to Grand Council in its Annual Assembly in October, 2008:

3) a determination as to which of the optional changes to the Ritual approved by this Grand Council during its Annual Assembly in December, 2001, have been useful to the Craft in conferring the Work, and a recommendation as to which of those changes should be retained; and

4) an orderly plan (including a proposed timetable) and any necessary changes to the Laws of this Grand Council to:

i) phase out publication of the Plain Language Ritual and to replace it with an updated Code Book. (The Committee on Work may consider recommending that approved Code Books be authorized for use in Council meetings for some reasonable specified period of time to allow Companions to once more become familiar with their use as an Aid to the Memory before returning to a practice of prohibiting their use by Officers in their stations); and

ii) update the Monitor. (The Committee may consider including in the Monitor the Council Procedure for Balloting, Introduction and Reception of Grand Council Officers, Presentation of 50-Yr. Awards, Installation Ceremony for Officers of Subordinate Councils (Const & Law), and the Lectures in the current Council "Lecture Book.")

Submitted by The Committee on Work,
Russell Milliken, Chairman
Tim Towson
Dale Secor
Eldon Brooks
Allan W. (Skip) Dees

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
For E: Grand Scribe

TIMOTHY M. LA VERGNE, SR.

Bonham Chapter No. 52, RAM

Exalted on April 4, 1990
Excellent High Priest 1992 to 1995
Secretary 1995 to present
Endowed Member July 3, 1995
Cornerstone Award Recipient 2002
Sesquicentennial Committee Chairman 2004-2006
York Rite Liaison for Constantine Lodge No. 13 1995 to present
York Rite Webmaster 1997 to present
York Rite Newsletter Editor 2003 to present

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Order of the High Priesthood 1993
District Deputy Grand High Priest, District No. 52 in 1995
District Deputy Grand High Priest, District No. 12 in 1996, 2001
E: Grand Royal Arch Captain 2003
Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin 2003 to present
Grand Chapter Membership Committee, District 12 in 2005 to present
Grand Chapter State Region 1 Coordinator 2007
E: Grand Senior Steward 2007
Grand Chapter Planning Team for 2007-2008
District Deputy Planning Team for 2007-2008

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
For E: Grand Scribe

JERRY L. MANN

El Paso Chapter No. 157, RAM
Exalted on November 26, 1973
Most Excellent High Priest 1977-1978

Sam J. Helm Chapter No. 445, RAM
Affiliated May 10, 1990
Life Member

Greenville Chapter No. 114, RAM
Affiliated February 19, 2007

Southeast Texas Chapter No. 465, RAM
Affiliated February 15, 2007

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
Order of High Priesthood 1977
District Deputy Grand High Priest, District 35 in 1980
Served on several Committees including Chairman of Credentials
E: Royal Arch Captain 1984
Three Year Esoteric Certificate Holder since 1995

Honorary Member of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Arkansas

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
For E: Grand Scribe

RICHARD C. SHARP

Pasadena Chapter No. 455, RAM

Exalted May 16, 1970

Scribe 1993, 2003, 2004

King 1994

Excellent High Priest 1995-1996

Endowed Member July 2, 1996

Treasurer 2006

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Order of High Priesthood 1995

District Deputy Grand High Priest, District No. 9 in 2005

Grand Representative of Arizona 2006 to present

Chairman of Credentials Committee 2006

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
I: Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

LARRY G. CANADA

Love Field Council No. 396, R&SM
Greeted February 6, 1993
Thrice Illustrious Master 1995
Endowed Member June 14, 1995
Treasurer 1997 to present
Cryptic Triangle Award Recipient May 12, 2004

R. C. Buckner Council No. 67, R&SM
Affiliated September 24, 2002
Endowed Member December 15, 2002

Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Texas
Order of the Silver Trowel 1994
Super Excellent Masters Degree 1995
R:I: Grand Treasurer 2003 to 2006
I: Grand Marshal 2007
Investment Committee, Chairman 1997-1999
Finance Committee 2000-2001
Fraternal Correspondence Committee 2002
Jurisprudence Committee 2003
Grand Representative to Delaware 2003 to present
State Coordinator 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2007
Assistant State Coordinator 2006

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
I: Grand Principal Conductor of the Work

RAYMOND M. WHITE

Houston Council No. 1, R&SM
Greeted February 2, 1987
Endowed Member June 21, 1993

Austin Council No. 2, R&SM
Affiliated Member October 11, 1990
Thrice Illustrious Master 1998
Ritual Instructor 2002 to present

San Marcos Council No. 215, R&SM
Affiliated Member May 28, 1992
Thrice Illustrious Master 1994

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas
District Deputy Grand Master, Cryptic District No. 20 1996
York Rite Development Board of Directors 1999 to 2004
serving as Treasurer and Web Editor
I: Grand Sentinel 2007

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
Board of Directors, Texas Masonic Retirement Center

JAMES ROY ELLIOTT

Midlothian Chapter No. 211, RAM
Exalted August 20, 1990
Endowed Member June 1, 1994
Most Excellent High Priest 1997
Cornerstone Award Recipient 1998
Secretary 1992-1996, 1998 to present

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
Order of High Priesthood 1997
Grand Representative to Virginia 1998 to 2007
Grand Representative to Louisiana 2007
District Deputy Grand High Priest, Capitular District No. 15 in 2000
E: Grand Marshal 2002
Most Excellent Grand High Priest 2007

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
Board of Directors, Texas Masonic Retirement Center

JACK L. WRIGHT

Will N. Kidd Chapter No. 424, RAM

Exalted July 13, 1953
Most Excellent High Priest 1975-1976
Secretary 1981 to present
Endowed Member 1988

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

District Deputy Grand High Priest 1979
Acting Grand High Priest March 28, 1993 to December 1993
Most Excellent Grand High Priest December 1993 to December 1994
Chairman of By-Laws Committee from 1997 to 2003
5-Year Term on the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Ct 2000-05
Vice President of the Board of Directors 2000 to May 2005
President of the Board of Directors May 2005 to December 2005
Committee on Purposes & Policies 2006
Fifty-Year Service Award 2003
Grand Representative to the Grand Chapter of Tennessee 1988 to present
Member of the Law Review Committee 2005 to present