



# York Rite of Vermont



*Sponsored by The Green Mountain York Rite College*

### Special points of interest:

- The Red Cross of Constantine.
- Remembering the color order of the veils.
- George Washington and Thanksgiving
- December 6: Commandery Inspection, Morrisville
- December 19: Commandery Inspection, Barre

## From the Governor

Companion Park was born in Exeter, NH on June 14, 1955. He grew up in Exeter and graduated from the Phillips Exeter Academy. Companion Park received his bachelor and doctoral degrees in biological Sciences from Dartmouth College.

Park has been employed at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center since 1978. Most of his career at DHMC has focused on clinical genetics. More recently, Dr. Park has also assumed the role of Manager of Clinical Pathology.

Companion Park has served on numerous professional boards including as director of the National Certification Agency, member of the College of American Pathologists and the American College of Medical Genetics Cytogenetics Committee, to name a few. Scientifically, Dr.

Park has published over 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Sir Knight Park married Linda Smith in 1980 and they have lived in the home they built in Norwich ever since. They have two children, Justin, an environmental attorney, and Hillary, a nurse practitioner. In 2004, Park was raised to the sublime degree of a master mason in Temple Lodge No. 54 in South Strafford, where he became Master in 2011.

Park joined the York Rite in 2005, and has served as High Priest of Mount Lebanon Chapter No. 13, as TIM of Barre Council No. 22, and as Commander of St. Aldemar Commandery No. 11. Park has served as Grand Master of the Grand Council, and is presently the Grand King in the Grand



Chapter. He is the Sovereign of St. Helena Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine and, of course, Governor of Green Mountain York Rite College. Park is the recipient of the General Grand Chapter Distinguished Service Award, the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award, the Companion of the Secret Vault and the Knights Templar Cross of Honor.

Fraternally,

Jonathan P. Park

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## Upcoming Events

Commandery Inspections are on the horizon—take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly!

The next several Inspections are as follows: December 6th, is the combined Inspection for the Commanderies of Mount

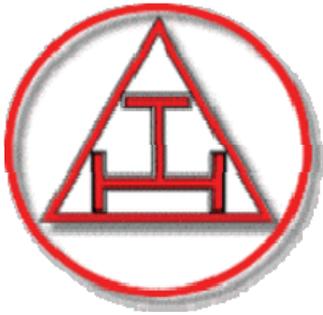
Zion #9 and Malta #10, in Morrisville. Opening at 10:00 AM, lunch immediately following and then the Order of the Temple.

December 19th is the Inspection for St. Aldemar Commandery #11. Social hour at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:30 PM and

opening at 7:30 PM.

Please send me any special dates for the next newsletter which I hope to send out near the end of January.

C.K. Sandy Karstens, Editor



## Grand Chapter—Grand High Priest

Douglas K. Boardman was born in Barre, VT on June 1, 1949, the first of seven children. He grew up in Chelsea where he attended elementary and high school. He has worked as a carpenter and mason and is employed by a Central Vermont commercial contractor where he has worked for over 32 years. Boardman married Joan Nichols in 1975 and from this union came two sons. His interests include horse shoes, fly fishing and snowmobiling and he is an avid Boston Red Sox

fan.

Boardman is a member of George Washington Lodge No. 51 in Chelsea where he served as Master in 2004-2006. Boardman joined the York Rite in 1996 and has served as High Priest of Granite Chapter No. 3 in 2003 and received the Order of High Priesthood. Boardman has served as Thrice Illustrious Master of Barre Council and District Deputy Grand Master of District #3. Companion Boardman was honored with the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award in

2002 and served as Grand Master of the Grand Council of Vermont in 2009. Sir Knight Boardman served as Commander of St. Aldemar Commandery and as Grand Commander of Vermont in 2012. Sir Knight Boardman is a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, Green Mountain York Rite College and Knights of the York Cross of Honor.

*“Chapter District Deputies are Josh Retchless (North) and John Haight (South). Council District Deputy is Roland Woodard.”*

## Grand Council—Grand Master

Companion Robert Bryant was born in Rutland, the youngest child of Timothy and Nancy Bryant. He was raised on his parents' farm in Pawlet and spent elementary and high school years working on this farm. After finishing high school, Bryant attended college in Reading, PA then moved to Houston, TX where he taught elementary school for several years. He then moved back to

Vermont to be closer to family, eventually becoming an EMT for the local rescue squad. This experience led him to nursing school at Castleton State College where he met his future wife, Michelle Carvey; they have two children. Bryant is a member of Morning Flower Lodge #71 in 2005 and served as Master from 2010-2012. Companion Bryant has presided over Davenport Chapter &

Council and Killington Commandery. Companion Bryant is also a member of the Knights of the York Cross of Honour.



## Grand Commandery—Grand Commander

Lawrence was born in Albany, NY on August 4, 1941, the middle of three siblings. He graduated from Schalmont HS (Schenectady) in 1959, and attended West Virginia Wesleyan College and Castleton State College and received an Associate of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Vermont Technical College in

1988. He served in the US Army for three years, stationed in Germany. In June 1967 he married Mary Ellen Woods of West Rutland, and they have two children, David and Laura. He is a member of the Federated Church of Castleton and has served on various boards and committees and presently serves as Treasurer. SK

Douglass is a member of Center Lodge #34. He has served as DDGM for District 4 and is a member of Cairo Shriners. Companion Larry has presided over Davenport Chapter and Council and Killington Commandery. He is also a member of the Green Mountain York Rite College and Knights of the York Cross of Honour.



## Education Corner

There is much to say about the symbolism of the veils and banners in our Royal Arch degree which I plan to talk about in future columns, but on the practical side, how do you remember what the order of the veil colors are, or even what the colors are, when you're busy setting them up? The following is a simple little mnemonic to help you remember. First, think about where you are coming from—namely, the Blue Lodge;

thus, the first veil color is Blue, the color of friendship. The second and third are a little tricky, but think about where you are headed—namely to the Red (Scarlet) of the Chapter; this is the third veil. The second veil is in between the first and third, or between Blue and Red. When you mix Blue and Red you get Purple, which is the color of the second veil. Although Purple is often associated with royalty, in this case it represents unity, in

that the Blue of Craft Masonry and the Red of York Rite Chapter, enjoy a close connection. Finally, the last veil represents cleansing of the soul, or of purity, hence this veil is White. I hope this helps the next time you have a stack of colored veils to sort out!

C.K. Sandy Karstens

I would like to receive submissions for future education columns; please contact me or send me your contributions!



## Books & Websites

In the Royal Arch Masons International Newsletter, which you can sign up for by just following the link on the front page of the General Grand Chapter website, there are usually links to newsletters from other jurisdictions. Check these out once in a while as they often contain some

ideas for our own jurisdiction and they can be simply informative. One newsletter from California, called The Workman, had a link to a website which I found to be a great resource for papers and archives of previous RAM International Newsletters. It can be found at: [http://](http://www.goldenstatechapter.org)

[www.goldenstatechapter.org](http://www.goldenstatechapter.org)

General Grand York Rite links:

<http://www.yorkrite.org/>

<http://www.ramint.org/>

<http://www.ggccmi.org/>

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*“This Thanksgiving, let us be both thankful for the blessings in our lives, and hopeful for what the coming year may hold for us.”*

## Special Column

In 1789, Bro. George Washington issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation, establishing an annual holiday for national thanksgiving in the United States. This legislative act institutionalized a tradition begun by the Continental Congress in 1777, whose origins date to the establishment of an English Settlement in 1619 at Berkley Hundred, Virginia and a feast of celebration and thanks held in 1621 at Plymouth Plantation. Washington's address expressed a (Masonic) hope that: "...we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler

of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all people...to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science... and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best." As Companions and Sir Knights, we labor to do our best at each of our stations—whether in the Lodge room, at work with

our colleagues, or at home with our friends and family. We approach our duties and obligations with a solemn pride, and always seek out further light that may be hidden in the lessons of science and our sacred texts. This Thanksgiving, let us be both thankful for the blessings in our lives, and hopeful for what the coming year may hold for us. As we gather in our homes, community centers, and places of worship, let us put aside our worries and focus on celebrating our loved ones—those people who make our lives whole. And, Companions, in a quiet moment, let us give

thanks for the York Rite of our Fraternity—for fellowship, for enlightenment, and for the opportunity it provides us each and every day to become better men for all.

Comp. Alex Lehning  
Burlington York Rite





*Sponsored by The Green  
Mountain York Rite College*

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<http://www.yrscna.org/139/>

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*The York Rite Sovereign College is an organization designed to foster unity among the membership of the York Rite bodies. The local College is headed by a Governor who leads a moving line. Membership in a College is by invitation only.*

- *To foster a spirit of cooperation and coordination among each of the bodies of the York Rite.*
- *To assist in worthy efforts to improve the ritualistic and dramatic presentation of York Rite work.*
- *To conduct an educational program in order to inculcate a greater appreciation of the principles and programs of York Rite Masonry.*
- *To strengthen York Rite Masonry in every possible manner.*
- *To build up a love of country, and to aid and support genuine patriotism.*
- *To reward outstanding service to York Rite Masonry.*

## Red Cross of Constantine

There is in our jurisdiction an invitational York Rite Body called the Red Cross of Constantine.

There are three "Conclaves" with membership ceilings. We meet three times a year, conferring three separate Orders as needed. We are known as Knight Companions.

In order to be extended an invitation, you must be a member in good standing within a Vermont Craft Lodge, an active member in a Royal Arch Chapter, and very importantly, a believer in the Christian Religion.

These Christian Orders are centered on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and

Constantine's conversion to Christianity as an emperor around 325 AD, and extend through the time of the "Holy Land Crusades." They are conferred in a most solemn and reverential manner.

We operate under the umbrella of the United Grand Imperial Council which directs regional assemblies around the United States and in many countries around the world. United Grand also has an annual assembly located in the home area of the Grand Sovereign.

Prior to 1997, Vermont Conclaves functioned independently of United Grand Imperial Council, electing their own Grand Sovereign, etc. Prior to

this date, the conferred Orders in Vermont were pretty much limited to the Ceremony of Installation of a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine. Since that time, all three Orders (Holy Sepulcher and St. John the Evangelist are the other two) have been conferred regularly by at least two of the three Conclaves.

Each Conclave elects their own Sovereign to preside. An Intendant General for each jurisdiction is appointed by the Grand Sovereign on a yearly basis, with a term of ten years. This I.G. is always a Past Sovereign, oversees the work, and is directly responsible to Grand Imperial. Your Intendant General for the

past eight years has been K.C. Belford A. Belles.

