

THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER

OF

HOLY ROYAL ARCH MASONS – PHA JURISDICTION OF PENNSYLVANIA The Mother Jurisdiction of all Holy Royal Arch Masons For the United States, Bahamas, and Nigeria

Acceptance Address

From

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest Kevin L. Aleem No. 6





To: The Most Worshipful Grand Master Paul A Hibner Right Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest Warren S. Montegue No.15 Right Excellent Grand King, Leroy T. Bunyon No. 28 Newly Elected Right Excellent Grand Scribe Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Right Excellent Elected and Appointed Grand Chapter Officers Most Excellent High Priest, Excellent Kings, Excellent Scribes, Past Most Excellent High Priest and My Beloved Companions All! Greetings!!!

Before undertaking any important task, it is vital that we invoke the aid of the Deity. Chaplains will you render us a prayer?

Again, Greetings Companions!

Holiness to the Lord! Holiness to the Lord! Holiness to the Lord!

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)

This has been a Blessed journey over the last 6 years, and I would be remiss if I didn't recognize some of the phenomenal men who set me on this path. Please forgive me if I neglect to call all of you by name but believe me you will be in my prayers.

To the "Elite Eleven!" Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Conley, Curry, Singleton, Benson, Hare, London, Parnell, Daniels, Sims, White, & Ivory, three of whom I had the privilege of serving with in the Council (Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Conley, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Curry, & Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Singleton), thank you to all, for the wisdom given and that yet to be given, as you molded me for this day! To Companion, PHP Edmond Davis Sr., who brought me back to Holy Royal Arch Masonry and nominated me for Right Excellent Grand Scribe, you jump started my journey to this day. To Past High Priest LeRoy Patience and Past High Priest Ronald Morris, who signed everyone of my petitions for the York Rite side of Masonry. Thank you and I will not betray your faith in me. To Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Jimmy Hare who gave me my first appointed office and Past Most Excellent High Priest Kyle R. Benson who retained me. You set expectations, and insured they were fulfilled for our organization, and I thank you. To our retained Right Excellent Grand Secretary Charlie A. Bishop and retiring Right Excellent Grand Treasurer Hubert Braxton, thank you for putting up with my constant questioning and prodding. Your efforts will be the basis of our financial stability in the future. To the all the Companions that I have had the opportunity to speak and /or interact with, and the ones I will be serving and interacting with, Thank you! And finally, to Companion and friend Daniel Baldwin may God rest his soul, to whom I lost my first attempt at an elected position. I will never forget the re-assuring words, the hug, and motivation you gave me, after defeating me. That Love and support will be the guiding force behind my efforts with this administration.

And the Lord answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. Habakkuk 2:2 (ESV)

Companions, I accept the position of Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania PHA! I thank you for the trust you have reposed in me! This acceptance is done with a clear eye on the future of Holy Royal Arch Masonry as a whole. I love being a Mason and especially a Holy Royal Arch Mason. With that love, I see a future that relies on the actions of leadership and leadership's ability to make hard decisions to support our organization today, tomorrow and ongoing! Remember, Holy Royal Arch Masons, are that future generation that discovered and brought the true Masonic word to light! We still have much work to do, and I pray that I will have each of you by my side as we take it on.

Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed. **Proverbs 15:22** (ESV) Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand. **Proverbs 19:21** (ESV)

Companions, we have had two Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Curry and Conley, lead us through the unprecedented times of the COVID 19 Pandemic. We thank them for their efforts and the safety provisions they implemented. We have lost many members during that time and many more have developed an understandable level of fear of what is being done to protect our membership now and into the future. We have heard you and will make sure you know that your safe participation with our organizations efforts is paramount and primary.

I would now like to announce the theme for this administration and a few goals that we will undertake-Our Theme will be the 3R'S

Renew our Spirit Restore our Purpose & Reclaim the Grandeur of being a Holy Royal Arch Mason

Goals-

- 1) Ensure a safe environment to conduct our business and Ritualist activities.
- 2) Be accountable to our membership. Communication will be a primary focus! This Grand Body will be responsive and proactive to support Companions. Please note that all communications will be in the best interest of Holy Royal Arch Masonry, its sustainability and longevity
- 3) Help aid and assist Chapters with maintaining or restoring their Ritualistic responsibilities. It is the responsibility of every Chapter to properly complete their Ritualistic responsibilities, and we will support all efforts to ensure this happens.
- 4) Help aid and assist Chapters with maintaining or restoring their fiscal stability. We will work hand in hand with each Chapter to ensure fiscal stability is established and maintained.
- 5) Continue to improve and expand our technological opportunities
- 6) Continue with our statewide charitable efforts
- 7) Provide clarity to approved updates of our Ritual and Constitution
- 8) Plan a major celebration for our 203rd Birthday in May 2023

When the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the returned exiles were building a temple to the LORD, the God of Israel, Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah and made them afraid to build⁵ and bribed counselors against them to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia. **Ezra 4: 1, 4-5** (ESV) So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. **James 4:17** (ESV)

Companions, with all that will be attempted in this administration, there will be tough/rough times as we take on this very ambitious plan. Some will disagree with our efforts, yet, I promise you here today that all decisions, no matter how difficult they may be, will be made with the best interest of Holy Royal Masonry and its future as the crux.

As a first order of business and to support continuity, all current Grand Chapter appointed officers will remain in place until 11/30/2022. On that date, an updated list of appointees will be distributed throughout the Commonwealth. Any current appointed Grand Chapter officer who wishes to continue service should schedule a time to meet with the Right Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest Warren Montegue and/or myself prior to November 28th, 2022. Also, any Companion that desires to become an appointed officer or to work with any committee, should schedule an appointment with my administrative/scheduling assistant PHP Greg Brown #9 or the Right Excellent Deputy

Grand High Priest Warren Montegue prior to November 28th, 2022. Meetings/interviews will be held both in person and via zoom as scheduled in the month of November. Remember many talented Companions throughout the Commonwealth are needed to run our fine organization, and you may be the member that allows us to excel!

Also, I remind each Companion that the deadline to register to vote in Pennsylvania is tomorrow 10/24/22 and election day is November 8th, 2022, and just like it is your duty to vote within this organization, it is your duty to vote in your community.

I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. **Philippians 4:2-3** (NIV)

Companions, let us not forget our Heroines of Jericho and all the women who have supported us and our organization throughout the years. We have an obligation to support them, and it would be good and proper for each Chapter to develop a relationship with at least one Court. Additionally, we should recognize our wives and all the significant women in our lives. who sacrifice and support us with our endeavors as Holy Royal Arch Masons. Strengthening and supporting our Homes and Courts will do nothing but excel our efforts!

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Romans 12:12 (улу)

As I begin to conclude this address, I want to send one final reminder-

This is the most Spiritual house in Masonry and prayer and devotion is a vital element! As you were asked when you entered Masonry, "Do you Believe in God?" You are reminded as a Holy Royal Arch Mason that God is the center of ALL! Stay in your devotions and let the wisdom of the Creator guide you as you work within this organization.

Finally, my dear Companions, I have ended almost all my reports or articles over the last 6 years, with the phrase, "Be happy!" This is the hope, the focus of my patience, and my shield from tribulation as we "Reclaim the Grandeur!" of a Holy Royal Arch Mason in this, the "Mother Jurisdiction!"

Given this day 23 October, The Year of our Lord 2022 AD, 23 October, The year of Light 6022 AL

God Bless! Yours 3x3

Kevin Ĺ. Aleem 97th Most Excellent Grand High Priest Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons Pennsylvania PHA

NOTES:

