



Grand York Rite of Idaho Newsletter



Volume 2 Issue 4

April 2024

To better serve the Idaho York Rite Bodies, this newsletter will be used for local activities and newsworthy items to share. If you have items to share, please send them to the Grand Recorder, grndyri1@gmail.com.



April Happenings

<u>When</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
18-20 April	Grand York Rite Annual Sessions	Burley, ID

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Step 1 - Set Goals

To identify goals for a long-range plan, answer the following questions:

1. What do we do best? What is our core competency?
2. What are our strengths and weaknesses? SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) is a widely used element of strategic planning
3. What challenges do we need to overcome?
4. Where do we want our organization to be one year from now? Five years? Ten?
5. Do we have the personnel and resources to go there?
6. What does our existing and potential members want? Are any current or developing niches in our target market not being exploited?

Be careful to be specific and set goals that truly reflect the organization's mission. Goals should be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound).

A MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF IDAHO YORK RITE

The following is an excerpt from the Most Illustrious Grand Master William Wallins' address in the Grand Council Proceedings of 1936 held at Boise, Idaho:

WHERE ARE WE?

Looking back over the year, your Grand Master is unable to discern any record-breaking activity in our Councils. Contrary to our expectations a year ago, we have not experienced any great growth. There is no way to account for it with any degree of accuracy; perhaps the unprecedented chase for the dollar has had its influence; perhaps the influence of so many counter attractions of the radio, movies, autos, and parties have led us away from the finer things of doing something for the general cause of Cryptic Masonry has held its own, and advanced in our jurisdiction; we are gradually strengthening our foundations upon which we will eventually build "an house not made with sand, eternal in the Heavens." We need only another Council or two in the northern part of the State and perhaps one more in the most prominent city in the south not now blessed with a Council, to have a Grand Council that will adequately spread the opportunity for the council degrees to those who are qualified to receive them. We are on the way. To those who have assisted in any way to achieve what has been accomplished we extend our most profound thanks and expressions of gratitude.

A little verse by Lawrence Hawthorne was given me by a friend:

*America today needs men
Of Courage, and with vision clear,
To bring into our lives again
The spirit of the Pioneer*

*America needs men of might
And character, to fight their way
Across the wilderness of night
And win for us a better day.*

MY VISION OF THE TEMPLE

In conclusion, I would like to leave a thought with you, my Companions, and I can think of nothing better than My Vision of the Temple. A short time ago I

received from Brother Curtis F. Pike, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Idaho, and Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Education, a bulletin containing an article written by Brother J. L. Cowie, of New South Wales, and printed in *The New Age*. Brother Pike designates it as a “good paper to be read in lodge,” and I maintain that it is a good paper to be read in any gathering of Masons. The paper is rather lengthy, and I take the liberty of quoting only the portions that pertain especially to *My Vision of the Temple*:

“There is the story of the visitor who accompanied Sir Christopher Wren on a tour of inspection when that great architect was building St. Paul’s Cathedral in London over 150 years ago. Approaching a workman engaged in fashioning a stone to be part of the cathedral, the visitor asked the stone mason what he was doing and received the casual reply, ‘Just trimming these stones.’ Turning to a second workman and asking the same question, he received the hollow reply, ‘Just my wages.’ The third workman, however, in reply to the same question, said with great pride, ‘Why, I am helping to build a great cathedral.’

‘I am helping to build a great cathedral.’ He was only a common workman like his companions. Truly he was working for wages, and in all probability receiving the same as his fellow workmen, but he saw beyond the quarry and its stones, rough and unshapen, to the wonderful monument of architecture in the finished Cathedral. That was the difference between him and his companions; he had an ideal, a vision, a soul. He had character; he appreciated the importance of his job. He realized the dignity and nobility of work. He was a real Mason.

This is the vision and the ideal we must have if we are to be Real Masons. We must realize that as units, even in the humblest capacity, we are assisting in the building of a great cathedral, the cathedral of human character. We must never forget that just as surely and silently as our ancient brethren built the great Temple over three thousand years ago, each doing his part, hewing timbers in the forest of Lebanon, or fashioning the stones in the quarries, or casting the great columns on the plains of Jordan, so you and I are surely and silently building the temple of Character.

There may be a difference between reputation and character. Character is what you really are; reputation is what your neighbors think you are. There often is a difference. The great objective of Masonry is to build character.

Remember, my Brethren, that no matter how small or apparently insignificant may be your part, it is an essential part of the great Cathedral of Character you are building, and it must be done well. If this is your vision, your ideal your purpose

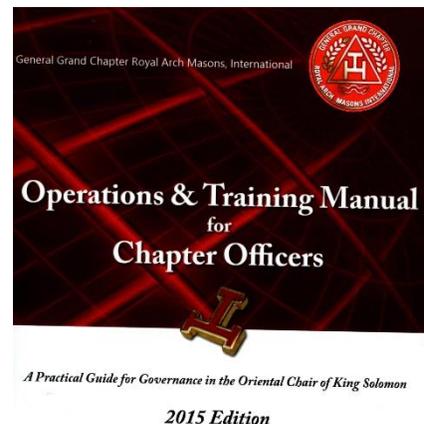
in life, then you are building a Cathedral that time shall never destroy but that may live on through the ages of eternity.

A quarter of a century ago when I sought “further light” in the Royal Arch Chapter, and later when I was greeted in the Council – ‘the circle of perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry’ – the Vision of the Temple came to me – I was a builder of the Temple of Character, the Temple of Good Citizenship. We are often asked why the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry do not come in sequence to more clearly develop the building, completion, destruction, and rebuilding of the Temple. My answer would be, ‘they did not grow that way.’ It is easy to assign them their proper place if we keep fresh in mind the Vision of the temple – we are builders of the Temple from the first step to the end, in search for Truth, which is the reward for all our labors so richly bestowed ‘neath the Royal Arch. We should always bear in mind our responsibilities as members of this great fraternity – some ‘kid’ is watching us from the side lines with eyes wide open. I have enjoyed great satisfaction that way off in New South Wales another brother has caught the vision of the building of the temple.

My Companions, I thank you.

General Grand Chapter Operations & Training Manual for Chapter Officers

This book is extremely valuable in providing a foundation for running your Chapter, Council or Commandery. Although it was designed for Chapters, all of the information can apply to Council and Commandery. Please check it out. You can purchase a copy through General Grand Chapter RAM.





Lewiston Chapter #4, Royal Arch Masons conferred the Mark Master Degree upon 9 candidates on 27 March at the Moscow Masonic Lodge. Well done!



ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!!

GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS 18 TO 20 April 2024

Registration is online at idyorkrite.org.

Deadline to register for rooms and meals is 1 April.

Be there or be square.

It is a privilege to attend.