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**Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter  
Holy Royal Arch Masons**

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**Most Excellent Grand High Priest  
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January 1, 2005

**PROCLAMATION**

**As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your love might be full. This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend. (John 15: 9 - 13)**

**Greetings and Happy New Year,**

It is a great pleasure to extend to all the best for 2005, for God has allowed us to see another New Year. May all the days of the years that God may have in store for us, be filled with joy, peace and happiness. And may the happiness of His presence be in our heart to stay. For in solitude do I humbly pray in thanks for each year, as it leaves; one more year of God's sweet care. Then too, I pray for strength, that I might do His will this coming year, and to try harder to be a friend to the friendless. I know it will be a successful year, for we have labored long and hard in the vineyard, and the trees are beginning to bear fruit.

**God Bless the Holy Royal Arch Masons of Florida.**

Now by the prerogative of this office and in conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws, governing the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter and its Subordinate Chapters of the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida and its Jurisdiction, I, Carl Finerson, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the State of Florida, do call all Grand Chapter Officers, Elected and Appointed, Past Grand High Priests, Honorary Grand High Priests, District Deputy Grand High Priests, Past and Present High Priests, Kings, Scribes, all Subordinate Chapters and Companions owing allegiance to the Most Excellent Union Grand

Chapter, to convene for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation of the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida and its Jurisdiction, beginning Wednesday April 20, 2005 at the Adams-Mark Hotel, 225 Coast Line Drive, East, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. All other meetings of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Communication will be held at the Grand Lodge Masonic Temple, 410 Broad Street.

**REGISTRATION:** Advance registration is \$50.00, after April 4, 2005, the registration will be \$60.00. The three principle officers, Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe of each Subordinate Chapter, are required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter, to register and attend the Grand Convocation. In addition, again conforming to the Grand Chapter Constitution and By-Laws, each Subordinate Chapter is required to pay the registration fee for the three principle officers, **whether they are in attendance or not.** This will be strictly enforced. Subordinate Chapters and Companions are requested to pre-register before the **cut-off date of April 4, 2005** and mail Subordinate Chapter Check and or Money Order to the Grand Secretary, Companion Earnest Daniels, P.O. Box 30239, Pensacola, Florida 32503-1239.

**HOTEL RESERVATION:** Lodging Accommodations will be at the Headquarter Hotel, Adams-Mark Hotel, 225 Coast Line Drive, East, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. **Room rates are \$79.00 plus taxes (singles, double or triple occupancy).** All attendees will make reservations directly with the hotel on an individual basis. Please identify yourselves as members of the Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge PHA. The Adams-Mark Hotel toll free number is 1-800-444-2326, the direct telephone number to the hotel's reservation office is 1 (904) 633-9095. The reservation cut-off date is March 15, 2005. Following the reservation cut-off date, guestrooms are subject to availability, and the hotel prevailing rates. **A Credit Card or Advance Deposit on or before the Cut-Off Date, March 15, 2005, must be submitted to guarantee all reservations.**

We are expecting a very large attendance, so please make your reservation early. You are again reminded that the **Guarantee Reservation Cut-Off Date is March 15, 2005. Do not delay in making your reservations. We are asking all Companions to stay at the Headquarters Hotel.**

**STATEWIDE EXALTATION:** A one time **Special Dispensation**, governing exaltations and reinstatements is forthcoming. This dispensation will allow individuals, Blue House members, to join the Royal Arch Family at a sub-normal fee, and those previous Royal Arch members to reinstate at or below the sub-normal fee.

**SOUVENIR JOURNAL:** Patience is the capability of bearing delays; it is a virtue. The Centennial Anniversary Souvenir Journal, the one in which we have long awaited for, two years in the making, will be available at this year's Annual Convocation. Chapters, Companions and Friends who still have a desire to be in this once of a lifetime souvenir journal may do so by taking out an ad in the various amounts of **\$100.00 full page, \$50.00 half page and \$25.00 quarter page. Send all ads and monies to the Grand Secretary. Cut-off date is Feb. 22, 2005.**

**KING'S CONTEST:** The Grand Chapter is again sponsoring its Annual King's Contest in conjunction with the Queen's Contest of the Heroines of Jericho on Thursday Night, April 21, 2005 at 7:30 P.M., at the Adams-Mark Hotel. The attire for this affair will be any combination of red and white.

**The District Deputy Grand High Priest is responsible for ensuring that his district has a representative for the King Contest. I am asking each Chapter to please support his district representative.** The names of the King Contestants are to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary on or before April 4, 2005. Please be reminded that all proceeds from our King Contest will be used to support our Annual Charity and Scholarship donations. We are requesting 100% Cooperation from each District Contestant. All funds are to be reported to our Grand King, Louis Thurston, on or before 8:00 P.M., Wednesday April 20, 2005. The winner will be announced and crowned at the Coronation Ceremonies, and will represent the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter at the 2005 General Conference of Grand Chapters Holy Royal Arch Masons, USA & Bahamas, which will be held in Orlando, Florida July 1 – 5, 2005 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel.

**BENEVOLENT FUND:** All Companions are eligible to become a member of the Benevolent Fund. The annual fee is \$12.00 per year. This is your Savings for the future, should you ever have a need to request assistance from the Fund. "It is better to be a member of the Fund and never need its assistance, then to need its assistance and not be a member of the Fund". Please contact your Excellent High Priest or your District Deputy Grand High Priest for additional information; or Companion Thomas L. Gary, Secretary of the Benevolent Fund to become a member.

**DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST REPORT:** The District Deputy Grand High Priest will prepare two copies of his Annual District Deputy Report, and forward one copy to the Grand Secretary and one copy to the Deputy Grand High Priest. Your Report will be given during the Deputy and High Priest Council Annual Meeting on Thursday Morning April 21, 2005.

**BY-LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND GRIEVANCES:** Any By-Laws, Resolutions and Grievances to be acted upon at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation must be received in the office of the Grand Secretary, Earnest Daniels, on or before April 4, 2005. Any changes to previously approved By-Laws to be considered, and a Copy of the previously approved By-Laws must accompany the newly prepared set, which must be submitted in two copies each to the Office of The Grand Secretary.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:** Committee Appointments will be given out at the Wednesday night Executive Board Meeting.

**ZERUBBABEL DAY OBSERVANCE:** Zerubbabel Day Services will be celebrated this year on Sunday April 24, 2005. The Heroines of Jericho, Master Masons, Eastern Stars, and all affiliated bodies of the Prince Hall Family, are to be extended an invitation to worship and celebrate with us, at this our Holy Day Observance. No other Masonic functions within the State should be in process at this time.

**Grand Chapter Website:** The Grand Chapter Website looks very good and is up to date. Check it out at <http://www.meugcfla.org>, the Proclamation, and the Grand High Priest Visitation Schedule are posted.

**This Proclamation it is to be read at each Chapter Meeting until the commencing of the 2005 Grand Convocation.**

Yours in the bond of 3 X 3,

Carl Finerson  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest

ATTESTED: Earnest Daniels  
Rt. Excellent Grand Secretary

CC: Most Worshipful Grand Master  
All Grand Department Heads  
All RAM Elected and Appointed Grand Officers  
Rt. Worshipful Deputy Grand Master  
Rt. Worshipful Senior Grand Warden  
Rt. Worshipful Junior Grand Warden  
Rt. Worshipful Grand Secretary  
All Past Most Excellent Grand High Priests  
All Honorary Past Grand High Priests  
All District Deputy Grand High Priests  
All Excellent High Priests  
All Subordinate Chapters Secretaries  
All Foreign Dignitaries

# TENEATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

## Wednesday April 20, 2005

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6:00 P.M.                    | Pickup Registration (Hotel)  |
| 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.             | Executive Board Meeting      |
| 9:00 – 10:30 P.M.<br>(Hotel) | HRAM & HOJ Joint Hospitality |

## Thursday April 21, 2005

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 7:00 - 8:30 A.M.   | Exaltation (Temple)                         |
| 8:00 A.M.          | Pickup Registration                         |
| 8:00 – 8:45 A.M.   | Deputies and High Priests Council Meeting   |
| 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.  | HRAM & HOJ Joint Memorial Service (TBA)     |
| 10:00 – 10:30 A.M. | Occasional Chapter Opening (Temple)         |
| 10:30 – 11:00 A.M. | Reception of MEGHP, Cabinet and Dignitaries |
| 11:00 – 11:30 A.M. | Official Opening                            |
| 11:30 – 12:00 P.M. | Greetings                                   |
| 12:00 – 12:10 P.M. | Remaining Committee Appointments            |
| 12:10 – 12:30 P.M. | Grand High Priest Address                   |
| 12:30 – 2:30P.M.   | Joint Luncheon with the HOJ (Hotel)         |
| 2:30 P.M.          | Afternoon Session Resume                    |
| 3:00 – 3:15 P. M.  | HRAM Delegation Visit to the HOJ            |
| 5:00 P.M.          | Adjourn                                     |
| 7:30 – 9:00 P.M.   | King and Queen Contest (Hotel)              |
| 9:00 P.M.          | HRAM and HOJ Social                         |

## FRIDAY APRIL 22, 2005

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:00 A.M.   | Annual Convocation Re-Convvene (Temple) |
| 10: 00 A.M. | Election of Officers and Closing        |