

ROYAL ARCANUM
AN INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY PROVIDING FAMILY PROTECTION



Bulletin

Fall Edition 2022



105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION



Official Publication of the
**Supreme Council of the
Royal Arcanum**
.....
**Fraternal Services to Our
Members Since 1877**



A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Régente Suprême

Maria Bettina DiBartolo - Supreme Regent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am honored to have been elected as your Supreme Regent for the 2022-2024 term. I presented my program, INTO THE FUTURE at the Session and shared my hope for councils to keep up volunteer initiatives and charitable work. Officers and members who were not able to attend were truly missed. Among them was our Chairman of the Executive Committee, James O'Neill.

We proudly celebrated 145 years as a fraternal benefit society. Several awards - including well wishes to retiring officers James O'Neill and Peter Ferrara, DSA pins to recommenders, and a Trailblazer jacket to Louise Reynolds - were presented. It was my absolute pleasure to award Cindy Macon with the Shining Star Award. Cindy is a blessing to our organization and works tirelessly for our members.

Appreciation is sent to Nick Benoit for his assistance always and a warm welcome to the new members of the Executive Committee and new officers.

I also thank everyone who supported our Session charitable project with gifts and donations for the Ukrainian children.

As always, I encourage everyone to continue the good works with any project – big or small – that helps those in need. A few groceries, some clothing, a small monetary contribution, or even a few minutes to listen to someone's story; kind gestures can help someone's Future. I look forward to visiting the jurisdictions and participating with you; together we can help touch the lives of others.

Sincerely yours in V.M.C.,

Maria Bettina DiBartolo

Chers frères et sœurs,

Je suis honoré d'avoir été élu votre Régent Suprême pour le mandat 2022-2024.

J'ai présenté mon programme, INTO THE FUTURE lors de la session et j'ai partagé mon espoir pour les conseils de maintenir les initiatives bénévoles et le travail caritatif. Les officiers et les membres qui n'ont pas pu y assister ont vraiment manqué. Parmi eux se trouvait notre président du comité exécutif, James O'Neill.

Nous avons fièrement célébré 145 ans en tant que société de secours mutuel. Plusieurs récompenses - dont des vœux aux officiers sortants James O'Neill et Peter Ferrara, des épinglettes DSA aux recommandataires et une veste Trailblazer à Louise Reynolds - ont été décernées. Ce fut pour moi un plaisir absolu de décerner à Cindy Macon le Shining Star Award. Cindy est une bénédiction pour notre organisation et travaille sans relâche pour nos membres.

Des remerciements sont adressés à Nick Benoit pour son aide constante et un accueil chaleureux aux nouveaux membres du comité exécutif et aux nouveaux dirigeants.

Je remercie également tous ceux qui ont soutenu notre projet caritatif Session avec des cadeaux et des dons pour les enfants ukrainiens.

Comme toujours, j'encourage tout le monde à poursuivre le bon travail avec tout projet - grand ou petit - qui aide les personnes dans le besoin. Quelques courses, quelques vêtements, une petite contribution monétaire, ou même quelques minutes pour écouter l'histoire de quelqu'un ; des gestes gentils peuvent aider l'avenir de quelqu'un. J'ai hâte de visiter les juridictions et de participer avec vous; ensemble, nous pouvons aider à toucher la vie des autres.

Cordialement en V.M.C.,

Maria Bettina DiBartolo

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Bulletin Deadline

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Cover Caption

New York delegates celebrate the election of Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo.

A REUNION CELEBRATION AT THE 105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION



From August 21-25, 2022 Royal Arcanum officers, members, and friends met at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland for 105th Session of the Supreme Council. COVID-19 had caused the postponement of the event, so when plans were finally set and arrangements made with everyone's health and safety as priority, Arcanians were enthusiastic about attending. Fraternal spirit flourished as attendees from the United States and Canada convened for the business meeting, fraternal activities, and social programs. Sadly, lingering effects of the pandemic prevented several of the members who always are a part of the gatherings from attending; these brothers and sisters were truly missed.

The venue was inviting and comfortable and provided an uplifting experience for the travelers. Only minutes away from the harbor and area attractions, many attendees took the opportunity to venture around town during session free time.

Sister Jan Brazas organized the reception process; guests were welcomed by Credentials Committee members Christine Krzystofczyk and Antoinette Malone. Everyone received pocket agendas, informational packets and totes filled with tasty snacks for renewing energy while keeping 'on the go' in the days ahead.

The Welcome Dinner gave everyone the opportunity to mingle and 'catch up' with friends from other jurisdictions while savoring the chef's fine cuisine. Although some members experienced flight re-routing and delays on the tarmac, everyone arrived safely and all were happily greeted by the Arcanian family.

Bright eyed, enthusiastic attendees gathered each morning in the Queen Anne Dining Room to partake in a hearty breakfast buffet that featured traditional favorites and other early riser specialties, particularly enjoyed by those who made it to the gym or managed a vigorous run around the property before 6 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m. the Session Opening Ceremonies were conducted in the Arundel Room. Since Supreme Council Executive Chairman Jim O'Neill was afflicted with COVID a few days prior, it was not



Ruth Rupnik with a baby gift for the Session charitable project.



Memorial Flowers



Maria DiBartolo extends well wishes to Trailblazer Louise Reynolds.



Trailblazer Cindy Macon extols Sister Louise's Arcanian achievements.



New York celebrates in royal purple with the new Supreme Regent.



Newly elected Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo and her husband Freddy, New York Grand Regent



Visiting the Naval Academy

A REUNION CELEBRATION AT THE 105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION



Tree of Remembrance

possible for him and Joanie to travel from California. They sent their heartfelt regrets to the members, along with good wishes for a productive meeting. Brother O'Neill appointed Sitting Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto to preside as Supreme Regent for the proceedings, and Past Supreme Regent Cindy Macon to conduct the activity programs.

Members of the Color Guard – Antal Basa, Jr.,

Richard Macon, Mark Hefner and Andrew Basa – presented the flags of our nations. Supreme Chaplain Evelyn Magarban gave the opening prayer. Past Supreme Regent Cindy Macon instructed the new representatives: Andrew Basa, Nick Benoit, Carl Petlik, Geraldine Petlik, Jeannette Tagliareni, Gary Deleo, Matt D'Emilio, and Kaitlyn Lockaby. Chairperson of the Credentials Committee Antoinette Malone introduced Rosemary Wehbe, a member of Integrity Council, as a guest at the meetings.

Past Supreme Regents Cindy Macon, Herb Snyder, Carol Zavitz, Peter Ferrara, Carl Krzystofczyk, and Errica Conforto were each acknowledged for their presence and continued service to the Royal Arcanum as they were introduced by Supreme Vice Regent Maria DiBartolo and Supreme Orator Nicole Covelli.

The Report of the Executive Committee, in addition to distributed books, was given as a power point presentation by Nick Benoit, Matt D'Emilio, Cindy Macon, and Errica Conforto. Officer and Special Committee Reports followed in an efficient and organized manner, thanks to Supreme Secretary Peter Ferrara and Supreme Treasurer John Crisanti. The business schedule was kept on track and provided some welcomed leisure time for the officers and delegates.

In the afternoon, the Garden of Remembrance Service was conducted in tribute to the officers who passed away since the 104th Supreme Council meeting. The songs for the service were beautifully arranged by Christine Krzystofczyk; she also led the vocals at all of the event's special programs. The inspiring "Memorial Garden" commemorated the lives and service of seventeen officers who were stellar fraternalists in their Subordinate and



Sharon Bayliss and Gloria Donaldson with Christine Krzystofczyk at registration



Credentials Committee – Antoinette Malone and Christine Krzystofczyk



A Royal Welcome



Matt D'Emilio, Counsel and Presenter



Game Night Winners



The 'Losing' Winners at Game Night

A REUNION CELEBRATION AT THE 105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION



Grand Councils and in the Supreme Council. This year, in addition to remembering those lost in the service to their country, a tribute was made for all those who died because of the pandemic.

A highlight of the afternoon's proceedings was the investiture of Legion Of Honor (LOH) #61 Louise G. Reynolds as a recipient of the 1105 Royal Purple Achievement Award for her distinguished service in introducing new members to The Order. Since the award's origin in 1952, 35 members have attained the honor, with Louise becoming the 36th member at the Session. Sister Reynolds was presented with her Trailblazer jacket by LOH #84/ Trailblazer #34 Cindy Macon and LOH #93 Carl Krzystofczyk. LOH #97 Maria DiBartolo conveyed the greetings from the Trailblazer team members who were not able to attend the investiture but sent their congratulatory wishes for Louise's continued success and good health.

On Monday evening, guests visited the area's points of interest, many savoring a Maryland crab fest at the seafood specialty bayside restaurants.

Twenty-one participants rallied in the Prince George Room at the hotel for Game Night with BINGO, Let's Make a Deal, and Count 'em Up, demonstrating skill and good luck (we think) and producing many happy winners - and some honorable mentions, too.

A memorable feature of Tuesday's meeting was the presentation of awards by Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto and Executive Committee Member Jan Brazas. Royal Arcanum veteran pins for reaching milestone years of membership were presented to: Bob Galdon (60), Richard Macon (55), Carl Petlik (50), Geri Petlik (45) and Loretta Wehbe (45).

DSA pins were awarded to: Greg Hahn (LOH), Errica Conforto (20), Loretta Wehbe (19), Joseph Tedesco (19), Carol Zavitz (11) and Matt D'Emilio (8).

Supreme Council Life Membership Awards were presented to David Covelli/Illinois, Diane Calain/Florida and Cindy Macon/New Jersey



Roy Al celebrated his 7th birthday in Annapolis.



Versatility Council - LJD Award with **Matt D'Emilio**



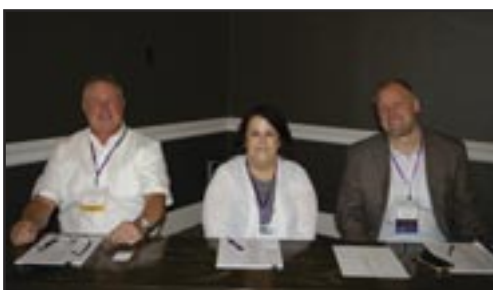
Life Member David Covelli with **Errica Conforto, Nicole Covelli and Joanne Covelli**



Ruth Rupnik with her mother - **Diane Calain, Life Member**



John Crisanti presents **10-year Service Award** to **Nick Benoit**.



Judge of Elections Nicole Covelli and **Tellers Mark Hefner and Nick Benoit**

A REUNION CELEBRATION AT THE 105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION

for 30 years of service in the Supreme Council. Also earning Life Membership was Carmen Rodia/Pennsylvania who was absent from the meeting who would receive his award at a PA council meeting.

COO Nick Benoit was recognized by the Supreme Council for completion of 10 years of service in senior management at the Boston Home Office. His steadfast commitment to the advancement of the business and fraternal initiatives of the Society is unparalleled and the Royal Arcanum is grateful for his leadership. A suitably inscribed award was presented to Nick by CFO John Crisanti.

Fraternal Director Cindy Macon was happy to recognize the members of Versatility Council #2501/New Jersey as the recipient of the 2021 Lorraine J. D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award for their project coordinated for the Felician School for Exceptional Children, Lodi. She also applauded the members of Claremont Council #1655/New York as the recipient of the 2021 Donald E. Ferry Jr. Spirit of Service Award for their project conducted for Children of Promise NYC, Bronx.

The Nomination of Officers for the 2022-2024 term followed, and by early afternoon all the Committee Reports had been presented and accepted by the Session body.

The Grand Regents and Deputy Supreme Regents participated in an interactive lunch forum where jurisdictional leaders outlined their creative plans for engaging members, promoting the Society, and for expanding volunteer and charitable initiatives in the coming year.

Tuesday evening's festivities began with a hospitality reception. Supreme Orator Nicole Covelli offered a 'Supreme Toast' to begin the Fraternal Celebration "Land and Sea" Dinner. A lovely setting, good food, and great company are the components of a terrific evening and this year's event did not disappoint. To commemorate the 145th birthday of the Royal Arcanum, ten winners won \$14.50 prizes by random drawing.

Supreme Council Executive Committee Members/Past Supreme Regents Jim O'Neill and Peter Ferrara were lauded for their exemplary service and for having reached age 75, they were "officially" retiring as board members. Carl Krzystofczyk presented an award of appreciation to



Herb Snyder, Louise Reynolds, and Richard Macon enjoying the Grand Regent-DSR lunch.



Some of the 400+ Tribute Sunflowers



RA Birthday Winners with the Fraternal Director



Carl Krzystofczyk presents Peter Ferrara with his executive service award.



Fraternal colleagues Maria DiBartolo, Errica Conforto, Cindy Macon, and Nick Benoit



Errica Conforto installs Maria DiBartolo as Supreme Regent.



Brother Ferrara, and since Brother O'Neill was not present, his award would be sent to him and presented during the Supreme Regent's visitation in California.

A "surprise" presentation of the Shining Star Award by Supreme Vice Regent Maria DiBartolo and COO Nick Benoit was made to Fraternal-Communications Director Cindy Macon. The award was given with the admiration of the Supreme Council for reaching the pinnacle of success in her dedication to the Royal Arcanum.

On Wednesday morning, the Election of Officers was conducted. Chair of Elections Cindy Macon appointed Nicole Covelli as judge and Mark Hefner and Nick Benoit as tellers. Sister Maria DiBartolo of Claremont Council #1655/New York was elected as Supreme Regent for 2022-2024. She was greeted with an enthusiastic and thunderous applause!

Following the election, the officers and committee members took the oath of office and were installed by Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto, with the assistance of Supreme Guide David Covelli. Many congratulatory telegrams and well wishes for the Supreme Regent were read. On behalf of the Supreme Council, Carl Krzystofczyk presented a lovely floral bouquet to Sister DiBartolo, along with a pledge of support from the officers for her new role as Supreme Regent.

Supreme Regent DiBartolo introduced the new campaign – **INTO THE FUTURE** – to an attentive audience, encouraging members to invite family and friends to enroll as members, volunteer together to conduct charitable and fraternal projects, and promote the Royal Arcanum in all jurisdictions. In doing so, the Society will move positively **INTO THE FUTURE!** The members were captivated by the campaign and offered many spirited wishes for its success.

After retiring the Colors and reading the closing prayer, the Supreme Regent adjourned the 105th Session at 11:00 a.m.



Carl Krzystofczyk presents a bouquet from the Supreme Council to Maria DiBartolo.



Lisa Kolek, Karen Lockaby, and Kaitlyn Lockaby represent Rhode Island.



Pennsylvania gives their cheer for the Supreme Regent.



Florida members are ready to assist the Supreme Regent.



Michigan rallies for the Supreme Regent.



Canada congratulates the Supreme Regent.

A REUNION CELEBRATION AT THE 105th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION

In the afternoon, members toured the US Naval Academy, cruised the Chesapeake Harbor, visited the sites, shopped for souvenirs and even savored an ice cream sundae or root beer float under Annapolis' sunny skies!

Later that evening, Arcanians arrived for the 'Seeing Purple' Theme Dinner in their favorite purple (the color of the Royal Arcanum's greatest attribute – Charity) attire. Everyone donned a splash of purple and there was purple, purple, everywhere! In honor of the Supreme Regent's roots, a delectable 'Little Italy Buffet' with favorite dishes from several Italian regions was featured.

The tradition of sponsoring a Supreme Council Session charitable gifting project proudly continued this year. The Fraternal Events Committee did a marvelous job - months ahead of the gathering - by inviting councils, members and friends to participate in a Friendship Baby and Toddler Shower for Ukrainian children. The generosity shown was immense, with 962 gifts, over \$4,000 in monetary donations, and 404 (\$2,120) 'Share Some Sunshine' tribute sunflowers offered for the children. The Royal Arcanum family is truly special and everyone's support and help to the committee was greatly appreciated.

The winner of the guessing contest was announced. Christine Krzystofczyk received her prize at the dinner for having the best entry in the sweet treat nugget mystery.

As we know, all good things come to an end. How quickly the time flew by! Our travels to Annapolis and the Supreme Council Session are now a summer memory. The Session Site Committee extends many thanks to Nick Benoit, John Crisanti, and the Boston Office associates for their assistance with preparations for this long-awaited event. Good health and happy days are wished for all. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next Supreme Council gathering.



Illinois salutes the Supreme Regent.



New Jersey's Royal Purple Welcome for the Supreme Regent.



The Executive Team

Till then... join Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo in sharing the good news of the Royal Arcanum today, tomorrow, and **INTO THE FUTURE.**



DETROIT DOINGS

On September 10, 2022, 64 golfers gathered at Carrington Golf Club in Monroe, Michigan to participate in the 38th Annual RA/LDS Lithuanian Duffers Scramble. The weather was very warm and sunny with everyone consuming lots of water and adult beverages! Following golf, everyone enjoyed dinner, a 50/50 raffle and an abundance of door prizes.



RA/LDS Members from Chicago attending the golf outing.

It was wonderful to have a large contingent of RA members join us from Chicago and spend some time visiting and catching up. Thank you, Chicago, for making the trip to join us and make our golf outing a true fraternal event. This outing would not be possible without Eric and Barb Kimmel; thank you for your hard work and hosting a great day!



Left: Eric Kimmel addressing golfers with rules before the start of golf.

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Submitted by: Jan Brazas,
Detroit Reporter*



All RA/LDS Team Jan Brazas, Paula Allen, John Brazas & Mark Hefner



First Place & All LDS Team Winners - Mike & Pam Hayes and Barb & Eric Kimmel



Left: Last Place Team - Bob & Pat Wozny and Floyd & Rayleen Lewandowski

Right: Past Royal Arcanum Scholarship Recipients Alison & Hannah Kimmel with their friends David Chung & Brad Baldwin.



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LJD AWARD PRESENTATION

Members of Versatility Council #2501 in Bayonne, New Jersey have partnered with the Felician Sisters for their many efforts dedicated to helping the underprivileged, particularly those that provide hope for children.

As this year's recipient of the Supreme Council's Lorraine J. D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award, council members presented the Supreme Council's donation of \$1000 to the Felician School for

Exceptional Children in Lodi, New Jersey that was founded in 1971 by Sr. Mary Ramona Borkowski, CSSF. The school's motto: 'Anchored in Love – Learning for Life' inspired Versatility's "Harvest Festival" for special needs children.

The Felician School's students range in age from 2 to 21 years, with additional programs tailored for young adults, 21 and over. The sisters, educators and staff provide



Sr. Rose Marie Smiglewski, CSSF, Executive Director of the Felician School thanks Versatility members Gen Macon and Evelyn Magarban for the Royal Arcanum's gift to the Felician School and for the council's ongoing support for children with special needs.

every student with a quality education through diverse curriculums and activities to prepare them for their own life's journey within a climate of acceptance and respect.

The Royal Arcanum's Award was named in honor of Sister Lorraine D'Emilio of Integrity Council #586/Pennsylvania. Lorraine's selfless volunteerism for furthering the cause of fraternalism and good will motivated countless members to become engaged and cheerfully share

their talents for charitable causes. Councils are invited each year to participate in the Legacy of Hope program as a special remembrance of Lorraine.

The Royal Arcanum congratulates Versatility Council for sponsoring another creative project and offers best wishes to everyone at the Felician School for continued success.

20 YEAR AWARD



I was recently awarded my 20 Year Service Award from the Royal Arcanum.

I want to relay my deep thanks to the Royal Arcanum for the kindness and comradery.

-Patrick Fitzgerald



SHARING SUNSHINE ACROSS THE MILES



As announced earlier, the Fraternal Events Committee members selected the Supreme Council Session's charitable gifting project to be a

Friendship Shower for Ukrainian babies and toddlers. When war was unjustly afflicted on Ukraine in late February, Royal Arcanum members saw the immediate need to help the Ukrainian people – those who fled to Poland and to neighboring countries, and those who had remained in Ukraine during a turbulent and tragic time.

Royal Arcanum councils, members, families, and friends generously supported the Fraternal Events Committee's efforts in Annapolis for the 105th Supreme Council Session. Donations for the project included 962 all-new beautiful baby and toddler gifts such as outfits and blankets and over \$4,000 in monetary contributions. Thanks to everyone's consideration, the donations pledged helped the committee to surpass project goals.

The committee also wished to commemorate the 145th Anniversary milestone of the Royal Arcanum in a special way. At the shower, the "Share Some Sunshine" facet of the project welcomed members and guests to offer sunflowers in someone's honor or memory or as a "Thinking of You" gesture. A total of 404 sunflowers raised an additional \$2,120 for the Ukrainian children. The funds were safely wired to Poland where mothers and their children and mothers-to-be are staying with

Sisters in their convents and in convents in neighboring countries. The sunflower dollars are helping with the purchases of diapers, formulas, strollers and bedding - items too weighty to be sent from the U.S.



A sample of the 900+ gifts that were wrapped and labeled by size before being packed for transport.

The Sisters have sent multiple messages to the Royal Arcanum, expressing their prayers of gratitude and deep appreciation for the remembrances. Together with the Ukrainian families who are now their "guests", they are truly thankful for the blessings of the RA fraternal family that are shared across the miles.

Many jurisdictions continue to support the cause and the Fraternal Director will see that all items and funds are delivered, with 100 percent of the gifts directly aiding the Ukrainian people. The generosity already extended will make it possible for some special treat totes to arrive in time for the early December holiday - St. Nicholas Day (a major feast that is celebrated throughout Europe).

Fraternal Director Cindy Macon extends sincere appreciation to the entire project committee and to everyone for their thoughtful response. Together, the Arcanians are a ray of sunshine to friends who are many miles away, providing them with a glimmer of hope and comfort. Knowing that someone cares does make a difference.

Arcanian 'Smiles' at the Friendship Shower for Ukraine



FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The world was silenced when news of Queen Elizabeth II's death was announced on September 8, 2022. Although views about the purpose of the monarchy may differ, most journalists share the same sentiment that the Queen was the last of her kind. She reigned for over 70 years and upheld tradition while adapting to change and modernizing the monarchy.

I've always enjoyed reading about the British Royal Family and since Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee celebration in June, I learned more about this amazing woman and distinguished leader who was probably one of the most recognizable figures around the globe. On her 21st birthday and while still an heir to the throne, Elizabeth pledged in a radio address that "...my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service." That promise was fulfilled in her life of unwavering service to the Commonwealth and its people.

Queen Elizabeth II has been described as steadfast, dutiful, tenacious and cheerful. She is remembered for seeking progress while valuing tradition. It's been noted that her perspective was not to discard things because we don't think we'll need them; their eternal values are important and we cannot abandon our founding values. Wow! As life can be fast-paced, sometimes things that really matter can go by the wayside. As members of the Royal Arcanum, we, too, have adapted to change while maintaining sound business principles, demonstrating quality performance in operations and remaining dedicated to the original mission of the organization – Service! The founding values of Virtue, Mercy and Charity are the underpinning of councils and prevail as an integral part of our service to members and to communities.

Many will mention The Royal's radiant and beautiful smile and her unending kindness. Although petite in physical stature, she was a giant in ability to work with people. It's been frequently conveyed that Queen Elizabeth II had a genuine interest in people. She had a 'special gift' to put them at ease and truly 'listened'. Those qualities can inspire all of us as fraternalists to volunteer together, seek the best in others, reach out to those in need, and

share ideas to further grow our Society with purpose and productivity. Fraternal programs are available to councils to acknowledge projects and assist their good works. It's the "human factor" that connects us as an extended family and is one to emulate from Queen Elizabeth.

It is my pleasure to congratulate our new Supreme Regent, Maria Bettina-DiBartolo and to extend the support of the Fraternal Department as she promotes the Supreme Council's campaign over the next two years. We wish her good luck and much success and look forward to volunteering with her **INTO THE FUTURE**. I



also thank Past Chairman of the Supreme Council Executive Committee, James O'Neill for his untiring service to the Royal Arcanum. Jim and I logged many miles together when he served as Supreme Regent and throughout the years his commitment to our Society, his friendship to our members, and his concern for charitable causes

always reflected the fraternal spirit in which our organization was established; eternal values which are important.

We'll soon be busy planning gatherings with loved ones. Take time to relax with a cup of tea or enjoy the pleasure of your pets (a favorite pastime of Queen Elizabeth) and be grateful for all of life's blessings.

I wish you and yours a blessed, healthy, and happy holiday season and New Year filled with promise and peace.

With gratitude for all you do,

Cindy Macon

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Cynthia A. Macon".



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NEW YORK HAPPENINGS

The summer dinner meeting for the Grand Council of New York was held on July 13, 2022 at the Calabria Mia Restaurant in Yonkers. The members were welcomed by Grand Regent Freddy DiBartolo who planned a festive reception for all who attended. Highlights of the supreme, grand, and subordinate councils were reported. The jurisdiction is always pleased to welcome new members and participate in the Society's fraternal, charitable, and social programs.

Past Grand Regent Errica Conforto and Maria DiBartolo gratefully accepted the many donations offered by council members and friends for the Supreme Council Session's charitable project for Ukrainian children. The outpouring of support for the gifting program was tremendous!

Several families of Claremont Council #1655 who are also members of the San Fratello Society in the Bronx, New York attended mass and helped prepare an outdoor procession on September 25th at St. Benedict's Church. The liturgical celebration is an annual event that recognizes St. Benedetto, the patron saint of the town of San Fratello in Sicily.

Years ago, the statue of St. Benedetto was brought to the United States from Italy. Before and after the procession, donations are offered at the statue. Reverend Nikolin Pergjini, Pastor of the church, thanked everyone for their presence and participation. The donations are intended for use with parish programs to help seniors and those in need.



Members and friends before the procession in the Bronx



Arcanians in New York at their summer dinner party

MASSACHUSETTS MEMBERS JOIN THE WALK

On October 1, 2022, members of Alpha-Agassiz Council participated in the Annual Walk for Hemophilia with the New England Hemophilia Association. The event raises monies for the association's support of a summer family camp in New Hampshire where children can have fun and learn how to factor themselves so they can lead a normal

life. (Factoring is how children learn to give themselves intravenous treatments). The day of the Walk was cold and rainy, but everyone had a fun-filled time.

Submitted by: Tony Basa



RA members are in the mass of umbrellas.

ILLINOIS VISITOR

Pictured here is "Jake", one of the friendly critters that makes a daily visit to Past Supreme Regent Carl and Christine Krzystofczyk's backyard where he enjoys lunch that our fraternalists happily provide. According to Jake, and his friends, too, the treats are always yummy!



NEW JERSEYANS CAN DO IT!



To kick off autumn and football season, Grand Regent Richard J.

Macon, FIC, rallied the New Jersey members with the call, "We can do it!" His request for donations of canned soup, boxed crackers, and disposable bowls and utensils prompted subordinate councils to participate and make the September project another team effort. He encouraged councils to contribute the food staples and supplies to regional food pantries that serve the poor and also provide assistance to senior meal programs. Having a great response, the Grand Council plans to have another 'Soup-er' project ahead of the Super Bowl.



Richard Macon sorts his contribution for the Can-Do-It project.

COO NICK BENOIT IN WASHINGTON, DC

COO Nick Benoit attended the American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit in Washington DC, from September 14th to the 16th. Nick, along with more than 40 fraternal executives, met with US Congressmen and Senators to request support of fraternal tax exemption bills H Conn. 65 & S Conn. 10 that would maintain the fraternal tax exemption.

Nick commented, "This event is extremely beneficial to introduce and remind DC of the impact fraternal have in communities throughout the United States and the importance this tax exemption has on our Societies' ability to do our work in the communities."



Nick and the other fraternal executives met with Congressmen from Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Of the legislators that they met, Congressman Mike Doyle from Pennsylvania was the only current sponsor of the bill. Nick hoped to change this record and increase overall sponsorship of the bills, which prior to the meeting had 79 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives and 23 co-sponsors in the Senate.

In addition to meeting with elected officials, Nick participated in the AFA board meeting where he was elected in 2021, and also took part in a variety of meetings to discuss the current state and future plans of fraternal societies in this ever-changing climate.

SAN JOSE COUNCIL # 2384

Nick Gore, a member of San Jose Council # 2384/California delivered plush animals for pediatric cancer patients at Valley Medical Center so that the children can have a comforting buddy with them during treatments.

As a teen, Nick joined Royal Arcanum members in projects for helping to feed the homeless and to provide them with clothing. He also shared his musical talents by playing guitar for residents at senior rest homes/nursing care centers.

Nick is a currently a senior at the University of Oregon/Eugene. In addition to studying long hours, he works two jobs to "make it all go."

The council thanks Nick for his fraternal volunteerism toward helping others. In the photo, Nick is welcomed by Christina Chandra, staff member of the Pediatric Department at Valley Medical Center.

*Submitted by:
Joanie Francis
Grand Regent of California*



HONORS IN NEW JERSEY

Stanley Skowronski, a member of Bayonne Council #695/New Jersey was honored on September 5, 2022 in Brick Township. Stanley and three other veterans were acknowledged for their service as merchant marines in World War II. During the war they had been stationed on ships run by civilian volunteers and would transport critical equipment and supplies.

The ceremony was hosted by the D.A.R. Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veterans, a nonprofit organization that works to gain recognition for the service's contributions to the country's protection, as well as to educate and encourage support of its veterans.

U.S. Representative Andy Kim attended as the keynote speaker and presented a Congressional Gold Medal and a certificate from his office in the U.S. House of Representatives to each of the four honorees.

Brother Skowronski shared reflections of his service and spoke of his pride, at age 95, to be able to partake in the activities of organizations of which he is a member.



Stanley Skowronski, recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal

TREASURE FROM OUR PAST

The Royal Arcanum takes great pride in maintaining the artifacts and memorabilia of the Society's 145-year fraternal history. Pictured is a membership pin that was presented to women when the Society welcomed ladies as members in 1958. Over the years, women have contributed to the growth and success of the organization; their service as officers, volunteer recommenders and advocates for fraternalism is appreciated throughout the entire Supreme Council jurisdiction.



QUOTABLES



Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it.
—Julia Child

Strength lies in differences, not in similarities.

—Stephen R. Covey

You are the storyteller of your own life, and you can create your own legend or not.

—Isabel Allende

You cannot be a leader and ask other people to follow you unless you know how to follow too.

—Sam Rayburn

IN MEMORIAM: ALICE MANGANO

The members of San Jose Council #2384 in California sadly announce the passing of Sister Alice Mangano on September 8, 2022. A Past Regent, Past Grand Regent and Supreme Council Representative, Sister Mangano was the gentle, quiet, humble leader who was "always there for everyone." Many members will recall Alice driving cross-country or traveling on AMTRAK (with multiple connections) to join the Royal Arcanum family at Supreme Council Sessions and mini vacations.

Without exception, Alice was one of the first members to volunteer for the Fraternal Events Committee and help organize our Society's charitable gifting projects. Her generous spirit and benevolent heart were reflected in the many activities for pediatric cancer patients, veterans, humane societies /pet shelters, people with disabilities, youth programs, cloistered religious, and so many more that she helped to coordinate. She was



Alice Mangano
1935-2022

dedicated beyond measure to the Royal Arcanum and to its mission of charitable service.

Alice was an active, engaging, and inspiring officer but one who was thrilled to let other members shine, as she humbly volunteered from the background. Recognizing this special quality, the Supreme Council honored Sister Mangano with the "Pillar of Fraternalism" award at the Supreme Council Session in 2012; a most deserving tribute for her countless voluntary endeavors. Alice faced challenges which she confronted with grace, and her upbeat spirit, selflessness, and supportive word for everyone she met always abounded.

The Royal Arcanum is grateful for Sister Mangano's unsung fraternal service and eternal friendship. May she rest in heavenly peace.

IN MEMORIAM: ANNETTE FERRARA



Annette Ferrara
1964-2022

Annette Ferrara Esq., a member of Integrity Council #586, Philadelphia, passed away on May 23, 2022.

Annette became a member of the Royal Arcanum in 1980. She was awarded the Edward E. Sedgley Scholarship to Temple University and graduated with Honors. She received her Law Degree from Widener University where she graduated Summa Cum Laude. As a dedicated member of our Society, Annette served as

Regent of Integrity Council and Grand Regent of Pennsylvania.

Annette was active in other organizations, including the Federalist Society and the Justinian Society. As Chancellor of the Justinians, she was instrumental in bringing then Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to Philadelphia to address the organization. Because of her love of animals, she was a charter member of the Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society and contributed regularly.

Annette loved the seashore and enjoyed boating and kayaking. At the beach, she also liked to run and read her favorite books.

Annette was the beloved daughter of Ralph and Anita Ferrara and cherished sister of Gilbert Ferrara.

"ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS"

THE BRANDON CASERTA LEGACY



We established the Brandon Caserta Foundation, named for our son, an Aviation Electrician 3rd Class who died by suicide while serving in the U.S. Navy. Following his death on June 25, 2018, we discovered that Brandon had been helping several others in his command not to die by suicide, so we decided to carry out

his mission and honor his memory by creating and advocating for The Brandon Act.

This law empowers U.S. service members worldwide to get mental health help without going through their chain of command or fearing retaliation. These two protections help remove the stigma of seeking and getting mental health care. President Biden signed The Brandon Act into law on December 27, 2021. Ironically, this is the same day the Brandon Caserta Foundation officially achieved nonprofit status.

Brandon was a Royal Arcanum Member for his entire life of 21 years; he was enrolled as a Junior into Integrity Council #586, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Brandon had a pure heart of gold. He had a smile that made you

automatically smile back. Our son was always there for everyone who needed him, no matter the day or hour. He was very athletic. Brandon always lived by his karate code words: Honor, Respect, Patience, and Kindness.

The Brandon Caserta Foundation is a 501(c)3; its mission

is to provide assistance, guidance, education, and resources to active-duty service members, veterans, and their families. The protection of the men and women who have selflessly volunteered and dedicated their lives to serve this great nation is desperately needed. We aim to protect the health and well-being of our military force and veterans through the early identification and intervention of problems they face daily. Every service member is entitled to the best mental health care without their command's permission or retaliation.

The foundation's website is:
www.brandoncasertafoundation.org

Submitted by: Teri Caserta



THREE SMART USES FOR RUBBING ALCOHOL

Rubbing alcohol has many uses for health and well-being. Check out these from the Healthgrades website:

- **Wounds and bites.** Use rubbing alcohol or alcohol pads for minor wounds that puncture the skin. Be careful, though; alcohol can slow skin healing, kill new cell growth, and dry out your skin. (It may also sting!)

- **Tick bites.** After removing the tick from your skin with tweezers, clean the site of the bite with rubbing alcohol (or soap and water). Place the tick in



alcohol or flush it down the toilet. Call your doctor if a rash or fever develops.

- **Swimmer's ear.** If your ear canal becomes inflamed, mix a solution of one part alcohol and one part vinegar. Apply a few drops to your ear. Again, call your doctor if the condition doesn't improve.

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER CORNER

We are well into the fall season with Thanksgiving approaching; it's important to think of all the things we should be thankful for each and every day. It was wonderful to greet our members at the 145th Supreme Council Session in Annapolis, MD. I was thankful for the opportunity to see members in-person, to reconnect with them, and to be able to talk about past experiences and plan for the future in an ever-challenging environment. To spend four days connecting with members and friends allowed me to rejuvenate our Royal Arcanum spirit and get excited for what our councils can accomplish going forward. I congratulate newly-elected Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo and wish her the best of luck with her program over the next two years. I also congratulate new Chairwoman of the Executive Committee Board Cindy Macon.

According to Medical Information Bureau (MIB), life insurance application volume is down approximately 6.5% compared to 2021, based on "total checks" on all life insurance applications. MIB is a source that life insurers use within the underwriting process. Royal Arcanum has been holding steady from an application volume standard, being down only 3% compared to 2021. Our operation is in the process of developing a new and improved e-application, partnering with a third-party vendor, which will streamline the DocuSign process that is currently in use. This will make the application process more efficient when completing an application electronically. It is vital that we continue to invest within our operation to sustain and develop relationships with new distribution partners who market our insurance products.

We've been undergoing a difficult situation with the Canadian regulators, "OSFI" over the last several years, leaving the Society subject to increased regulatory expenses. Effective January 1st 2023, an additional requirement, IFRS-17 is being enforced, creating an additional significant expense. Based on limited membership and few new enrollments, we have made a decision to complete a reinsurance assumption agreement with another fraternal society domiciled in Ontario - Teachers Life. Canadian members will still be Royal Arcanum members; however, insurance policies and annuity contracts will be administered by Teachers Life. There have been several communications with our members in Canada, and information packets outlining

the process were sent to them in the mail. This was a very difficult decision for the Executive Committee to make, but it was necessary for the greater good of our Society.

The 2023 College Scholarship application deadline is approaching on December 31, 2022. A

postcard was mailed out to potential high school graduates, age 16-18 during the month of September as a reminder of the programs. The scholarship and grant programs have also been promoted on the website, Facebook page and in this quarterly Bulletin. Be sure to

encourage RA friends and family members who are planning to attend college or a trade school to apply before the deadline.

I'm pleased to announce the creation of our own Royal Arcanum LinkedIn page which was created in October. The page is geared toward the professional community, providing insights into the latest happenings within our insurance operation and community.

I hope you are utilizing our "Royal Perks" member benefit; members saved nearly \$40,000 in 2022 with various discounts for monthly cell phone plans, special pricing on everyday items, plus hotel and car rental discounts. Information for this program can be found at <https://www.royalarcanum.com/benefits-perkspots.html>.

The Home Office continues to operate Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (EST). Should you have any questions or concerns, we ask that you call the office (888)-272-2686 or e-mail info@royalarcanum.com.

Stay Safe and Best Wishes,

Fraternally,



Nicholas G. Benoit
Chief Operations Officer
nbenoit@royalarcanum.com



BAKER'S BOX: COOKIES WITH APPLES

This recipe for delicious cookies is compliments of Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto. The cookies are a tasty confection any time of year but can be especially enjoyed with your autumn holiday desserts.

INGREDIENTS:

1 stick of butter at room temperature
½ cup granulated sugar
2 eggs
1 ½ cups flour
½ cup potato starch
1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
2 apples (preferably Granny Smith)
1 teaspoon cinnamon (optional)
Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 360 degrees.

In a bowl combine dry ingredients (flour, potato starch, baking powder, and cinnamon); set aside.

Using an electric mixer or stand-up mixer, combine butter and sugar and mix until creamy.

Add eggs one at the time and mix until soft.

Slowly add the dry ingredients, a little at a time. The dough will be sticky and you'll need to use a wooden spoon or spatula to mix in the remaining flour.

Peel the apples and dice into small pieces. Using spoon, thoroughly mix into the batter.

Using a spoon, drop batter onto a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Bake for 20 -25 minutes until lightly golden in color.

Remove from oven and cool.

Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar and cinnamon.



JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS AND VIEWS

Summer passed so quickly and in a blink of an eye the holidays will be here. Our Juniors are back to school, and for those high school seniors seeking Royal Arcanum scholarships, postal cards were mailed out the first week of September to remind them to apply. The deadline is December 31, 2022. Scholarship and grant applications can be downloaded from our website or by calling the Home Office (1-888-272-2686).

The Royal Arcanum website provides access to two helpful sites that are free to all qualified members: CHOICES EXPLORER and CHOICES PLANNER. These sites provide information to assist members with high school and college information and other available scholarships. If you need additional information regarding any of these benefits, contact the Home Office.

Juniors members taking a SAT, ACT, PSAT, or LSAT training program are eligible for up to a \$50.00 reimbursement by mailing a copy of a paid receipt to the Home Office.

We remind all of our scholarship winners to submit their tuition bill and to include their student ID each year for the award funds to be sent to their college. Scholarship winners must claim their award within six months of being notified and advise us of the school they will be attending. If not claimed in time, unfortunately, the award will be forfeited.

In the spring we introduced a new program for 2022, "YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD PROGRAM", aimed at recognizing our Junior members who distinguish themselves by volunteerism and leadership in their councils and in communities, with the opportunity to be awarded \$300. If a Royal Arcanum member wishes

to nominate a Junior for the award, the application form with rules and regulations can be found on our website. Submissions must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2022.

For Juniors who love to write poems or short stories, our writing contest is available; the program awards each Junior with a

certificate, trophy, and \$25 Amazon gift card for entries that are printed in our Bulletin.

If councils are hosting Christmas parties, gifts for Royal Arcanum Juniors will be available from the Home Office. Be sure to share your holiday activities and pictures with us.

Always remember to share blessings with those less fortunate by practicing our principles of Virtue, Mercy, and Charity and be kind to one another.

I wish you and your families a healthy, safe and joyous Holiday Season.

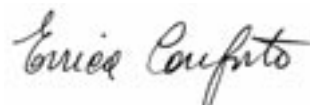


**Junior Department Director
Errica Conforto**



The poster features the Royal Arcanum logo at the top, followed by the text "JUNIOR DEPARTMENT Youth of the Year Award Program". Below this is an illustration of five stylized human figures in various colors. The main text of the poster reads: "The Royal Arcanum announces a new program for 2022 to recognize the volunteerism of our Junior members in their council and community as they continue the Society's fraternal mission of service. Members are encouraged to nominate a Royal Arcanum Junior member for the award. A recipient may receive the award **once** when eligible in each category. The award will be made to one recipient in each of the (2) categories— Category #1: Ages 12 - 14 Category #2: Ages 15 - 17". Below this, it lists nomination rules: "Nominee for the award may be made by any Royal Arcanum member in good standing; a member may nominate one Junior per category per year. Nominee must be a Royal Arcanum Junior member for at least (2) years. Volunteer work, service projects, community activity, etc. performed during the calendar year of 2022 **ONLY** will be evaluated. A photo of the nominee should be included with the nomination. Age category is based at the time application is received at the Royal Arcanum Office. Completed nominations must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2022. An independent panel of judges will determine the winners. Decisions are final. Winners will receive a \$300 award check and will be featured in the Royal Arcanum BULLETIN."

Sincerely yours in V.M.C.,



Errica Conforto
Junior Director

BAYONNE MEMBERS HELP COMMUNITY

Bayonne and Versatility Council members were busy throughout the summer months by making deliveries to local charities. The Community Service Committee led members and friends for the RA 'Get Involved' campaign that focuses on team-service initiatives.

Members contributed supplies and 'Wish List' items such as clothing articles, bedding, laundry aids, paper products, healthcare essentials and more to help neighbors in need. The donations were delivered to homeless and transitional shelters in Hudson, Bergen, and Essex

counties. Facility staff and volunteers were grateful to accept the useful gifts. They would replenish the shelves that been depleted since the beginning of the year when pandemic restrictions were in place.

The girls also made a jump start to holiday crafting with a 'Christmas in July' project by crocheting lap blankets and afghans; these gifts will be delivered to nursing care centers and senior homes in December.



Evelyn Magarban and Gen Macon packing shelter donations.



Roy Al lends his "paw" to complete one of the afghan gifts for seniors.

STAY HYDRATED WHEN YOU WORK OUT

Hydration is important to staying healthy, especially if you have an active lifestyle. U.S. News & World Report shares these tips for hydration before, during, and after your workout:

- **Start your workout well hydrated.** Drink water and other healthy fluids, and eat foods with lots of water, like fruits, vegetables, soup, and smoothies. This will help you with strength, speed, and stamina.
- **Get extra electrolytes.** Electrolytes can help prevent cramping in your muscles. Look



for drinks containing sodium, potassium, and calcium to boost your electrolyte levels. Adding some salt or soy sauce to your foods can also increase your intake.

- **Replace your sweat.** Your body can lose a lot of liquid when you exercise, so replace that with a bottle of water or a sports drink. This is in addition to your regular

hydration needs: about 11.5 cups of fluids for women (90 ounces) and 15.5 cups (125 ounces) for men every day.

FALL WORD SEARCH

Find animals in the picture and in the puzzle. Letters don't need to be in a row, just connected.

Squirrel
Bird

Deer
Hare

Hedgehog
Snake

Fox
Raccoon

Bear

H	E	D	G	E	R	A	C
F	O	X	E	H	A	R	D
R	I	B	C	O	C	C	E
S	A	E	S	G	B	O	E
Q	R	A	N	A	D	O	R
U	N	R	A	K	E	N	H
I	B	I	R	D	H	R	A
R	R	E	L	F	X	E	R



JUNIOR CONTEST RULES

Our rules provide that a Junior can win only one prize per issue of the Bulletin. Members from the same family can submit answers to same puzzles in order to win. Puzzle entrants are restricted to Juniors no older than 17 years 11 months. All entries must be received prior to distribution of the next Bulletin.

All Junior entrants can earn a \$10.00 gift certificate award from Amazon.com!



Junior Must Submit:

Name

Age

Council

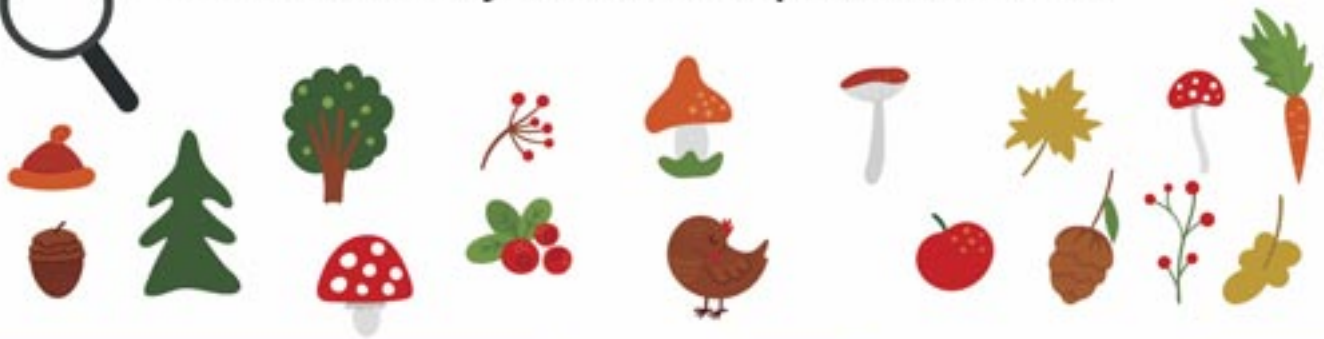
Email Address

**PLEASE SEND ALL ANSWERS TO:
JUNIOR DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARCANUM,
61 BATTERYMARCH ST., BOSTON, MA 02110-3208
OR EMAIL YOUR ENTRY AND ADDRESS TO
INFO@ROYALARCANUM.COM**

AUTUMN FOREST SEARCHING GAME



Find these objects in the picture below



JUNIOR FALL COLORING



THE POWER OF GRACE

For several years, Pawtucket Council #537 participated in the Race for Grace to raise money for Rett Syndrome. Rett Syndrome is a rare neurological disease affecting mostly girls. Grace Reddington was a beautiful child, who lost her battle to Rett syndrome in 2019 at the age of 14 years.



thought maybe this was a way of Grace saying “Go ahead Mom, buy that ticket.” So Tara bought the \$100 ticket. Buying that ticket made Tara feel closer to her daughter. Also, Big Sisters is a good cause and supports girls. This was the 34th year the raffle was held and 34 is the Reddington House number.

This past July, Grace’s mom, Tara, felt she received a clear message from Grace, who could never talk. Tara said she never buys raffle tickets, but this raffle, sponsored by Big Sisters of Boston, was for a purple car. Purple is the color associated with Rett syndrome and purple was Grace’s favorite color. Tara

what would’ve been Grace’s 18th birthday!

Remarkably, Tara won the purple BMW in July on

Submitted by: Judy Kolek

DIME A DAY DRIVE



The Royal Arcanum officers often hear from members who have moved and reside in an area where there is no formal subordinate council. They miss taking part in the good works routinely being done in the jurisdictions.

This invitation is extended to everyone who would like to participate in our **INTO THE FUTURE** savings campaign for the coming year:

The Fraternal Department recently introduced the “Dime a Day” drive; the program will run from November 1, 2022 through October 26, 2023 (350 days), with the objective of each participant “saving” \$35 in the eleven-month period. These savings will be converted into a check and then sent to the Royal Arcanum Office and added to those of the other participants. When tallied on November 16, 2023, the total amount collected will

be donated to I Honor Your Service to America; a 501 (c)(3) charity that was founded by a disabled veteran. The organization’s mission is to honor, support and encourage deployed troops with care packages from home. Laurie

Wise Simms, a member of Merritt Council #1974 and a US veteran, serves as secretary of the organization. A random drawing of all participant names will also be conducted at the RA Boston Office on November 16, 2023. Two winners will be selected, with each winner receiving a \$150 monetary award as an appreciation gift for taking part and helping to send holiday cheer to the troops.



A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Greetings! Brothers and Sisters,

I take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. My name is Antal Basa, Jr.; I often go by Tony. I've been married to my wonderful wife, Debra for 24 exciting years and we have three children together - Anthony (23), Andrew (21) and Grace (16); they keep us very busy and on our toes! I am retired from the US Army with over 21 years of service. I worked at the Royal Arcanum Home Office for 12 years, then moved into the Insurance field and am currently a Patient Educator with a Pharmaceutical Company that's based in Paramus, NJ.



It is an honor being elected as your Supreme Secretary.

While at the 105th Supreme Council Session in Annapolis, MD, one thing stood out to me: Royal Arcanum is one big family. It was wonderful to see all of the members that attended the Session. This was certainly a reunion for us to reconnect. But even while enjoying this reunion and reconnection, there was something else missing. The rest of you.

Since COVID started, we were all forced to stay in place and the normalcy of our lives had to stop. Recently, the world began working its way back to the new normal but that evolution can be a difficult and slow process. While we are still navigating this new way of life, my focus is on the reconnection of our members.

I have to say there is one thing I learned during this pandemic; there are many ways to connect. Social media platforms are one form. Most everyone has a cell phone or smart phone to text, email, FaceTime, Snapchat, Zoom or try any of the other programs that are too many to list here. You can also use a computer or iPad. In fact,

we began using our newfound Zoom capabilities to connect with our family in Nova Scotia, Canada every Friday night since COVID hit in 2020. We even learned how to connect our Zoom through our big screen TV so we can all sit comfortably in the living room.

So, let me get back to the point of my message; since we missed the rest of you at the Session, I want to make sure I place a large effort towards reconnecting with members of the Grand and Subordinate Councils. I challenge everyone to reach out to each other just to check in and

make sure everyone is doing o.k. All too often we get tied up in our own existence and forget to reach out and then have a pang of regret later. Well, that's no good for me or for our RA family. The lack of connections can

have undesired effects on anyone. I am hopeful that by reaching out to members in the Grand and Subordinate Councils, it will help everyone to reconnect and bring life back to normal.

I ask everyone who would like to reconnect to please send me an email or give me a call so that we all can stay in

touch. You'll find my contact information below. In the meantime, I will be looking forward to making plans to meet with you all very soon.

Stay Safe.

Yours in V.M.C.,

Tony Basa
Abasa@royalarcanum.com
617-429-8763 (cell)
508-297-2633 (home)





ROYAL ARCANUM

A Season of Colorful Savings

Jump into fall with new savings and great deals with Your Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum Discount Program. Save on back to school essentials, fall home decor, meal delivery kits, family fun adventures, and more.

Save on Fall



Movie
Tickets

FIVE STAR.
★★★★★

Sips by

Grove[®]
COLLABORATIVE

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