

Fall Edition 2017

SUPREME COUNCIL MINI-VACATION IN BALTIMORE



Official Publication of the

Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum

Fraternal Services to Our Members Since 1877

TEAM WORK

A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Regente Suprême

Errica Conforto - Supreme Regent

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Another summer has come and gone. I thank all of our members from the United States and Canada who attended the mini-vacation in Baltimore. I'm sure you had a wonderful time visiting the many attractions or just strolling around the harbor.

Congratulations to Joanie Francis from California on receiving the 2017 Royal Arcanum Fraternalist of the Year Award. She joins the list of wonderful brothers and sisters who have committed and dedicated themselves to helping others in need and promoting fraternalism and fellowship in the name of our Society.

Many thanks to our Fraternal Director Cindy Macon for organizing this year's summer gifting project for "FIDOS FOR FREEDOM". I am grateful to all our councils, members, families, and friends for their generous contributions and support of this worthy cause.

Thanks to all the recommenders and agent producers; close to 14 million dollars in adult and juniors protection was enrolled so far in 2017, and a 30% increase has been maintained to date.

From the business aspect, we are heading in a successful direction as we continue to grow and work together as a TEAM. We can ensure that the security and fraternalism of our Society, founded on the principles of Virtue, Mercy and Charity, will continue to expand as more recommenders introduce new members to our Society.

As I begin my second year as your Supreme Regent, I encourage all jurisdictions in the U.S. and Canada to be active in their community by coordinating donations to aid areas affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose, and Maria. There has been so much devastation in the paths of these severe storms; now is the time to make an impact and provide help.

I would like to see our TEAM WORK members make an extra effort to help others, especially throughout the winter months and during the holidays. Focus on those less fortunate who are unable to have what we may sometimes take for granted.

As the weather is beginning to change, we cannot deny that time is passing by quickly. We have already seen Christmas decorations in stores! Joe and I wish all our members a happy, healthy and prosperous Holiday Season.

Yours in V.M.C.

Errica Conforto Supreme Regent Chers frères et sœurs.

Un autre été est venu et disparu. Je remercie tous nos membres des États-Unis et du Canada qui ont assisté aux mini-vacances à

Baltimore. Je suis sûr que vous avez passé un merveilleux moment visiter les nombreuses attractions ou simplement se promener dans le port.

Félicitations à Joanie Francis, de Californie, en recevant le prix le 2017 Royal Arcanum Fraternaliste de l'année. Elle se joint à la liste des merveilleux frères et soeurs qui se sont engagés et se sont dévoués à aider les autres dans le besoin et à promouvoir le fraternalisme et la fraternité au nom de la Société.

Merci beaucoup à notre directrice fraternelle Cindy Macon d'avoir organisé le projet de cadeau d'été de cette année pour Fidos for Freedom. Je suis reconnaissant à tous nos conseils, membres, familles et amis pour leurs généreuses contributions et leur soutien à cette noble cause.

Merci à tous les recommandeurs et les producteurs d'agents; près de 14 millions de dollars de protection des adultes et des juniors ont été inscrits jusqu'à présent en 2017, et une augmentation de 30% a été maintenue à ce jour.

Du point de vue des affaires, nous nous dirigeons dans une direction réussie alors que nous continuons de croître et de travailler ensemble en équipe. Nous pouvons faire en sorte que la sécurité et le fraternalisme de notre Société, fondés sur les principes de la vertu, de la miséricorde et de la charité, continueront à s'étendre à mesure que de nouveaux conseillers introduiront de nouveaux membres dans notre société.

Au début de ma deuxième année en tant que régent suprême, j'encourage toutes les juridictions des États-Unis et du Canada à être actives dans leur communauté en coordonnant des dons pour aider les régions affectées par les ouragans Harvey, Irma, Jose et Maria. Il y a eu tant de dévastation dans les sentiers de ces violentes tempêtes; il est maintenant temps de faire un impact et de fournir de l'aide.

J'aimerais que nos membres du travail d'équipe fassent un effort supplémentaire pour aider les autres, en particulier pendant les mois d'hiver et pendant les vacances. Concentrez-vous sur les moins fortunés qui ne peuvent pas avoir ce que nous pouvons parfois tenir pour acquis.

Comme le temps commence à changer, nous ne pouvons nier que le temps passe rapidement. Nous avons déjà vu des décorations de Noël dans les magasins! Joe et moi souhaitons à tous nos membres une saison des Fêtes joyeuse, saine et prospère.

Bien à vous en V.M.C.

Erica Conforto

Erica Conforto Régent suprême



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Deceased Members Recently Deceased Members are reported on our web site on a monthly basis. Click "About Us" and "In Memoriam."

Bulletin Deadline

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The Historic Ships were a popular attraction.



Richard Macon and a baby stingray at the National Aquarium.



Nick Benoit updated members on operations in the Home Office.



Supreme Regent Errica Conforto recapped the year of the TEAM WORK program.



Gen Macon and Evelyn Magarban meet members of the Old Guard.



Part of the group ready for the TEAM WORK challenge.

ARCANIANS CELEBRATE '**TEAM WORK**' AT THE BALTIMORE MINIVACATION

The Charm City welcomed Royal Arcanum's families and friends for the Summer '17 Mini-Vacation at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel on August 6th for the start of four fabulous days of sun and fun!

With an express check-in, guests quickly headed to the RA registration desk and "Meet and Greet" social to plan their sightseeing excursions for the days ahead. Sunday evening's Welcome Dinner in the Pisces Room provided a majestic nighttime view of the harbor and surrounding area. Supreme Chaplain Richard Macon, FIC offered the opening prayer and Christine Krzystofczyk led the assemblage in the songs of patriotism.

Chairman Jim O'Neill was happy to welcome everyone to the dinner party and presented an overview of the many sites and events taking place in the area. Supreme Regent Errica Conforto offered her greetings and commended the jurisdictions being represented at the event. Junior Director Deborah Young was delighted to introduce the Junior Arcanians and outlined the activity program for their participation and enjoyment, including a scavenger hunt, water balloon games, and 'Dalmatian Puppy 's Mission to Brighten Someone's Day'.

A special part of the evening's festivities was the presentation of Royal Arcanum's annual gifting project; this year's recipient was Fidos for Freedom, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization which trains and provides service, therapy, and hearing dogs to individuals with mobility or hearing challenges and offers services with their trained canines in nursing homes, hospitals, cancer care settings, schools and for library reading programs, as well as community presentations on disability

awareness and the benefit of assistance and therapy dogs and their working role in helping others overcome disabilities.

Fraternal Director Cindy Macon thanked the Fraternal Events Committee for their year-long support for the gifting project and acknowledged the many councils, members and friends for their monetary donations and gifts for this worthy, all-volunteer organization which is providing hope and help to others. This was yet another example of fraternalism in action - a dedicated **TEAM** of willing volunteers makes great things happen!

We were happy to welcome Fidos for Freedom Board of Directors' representatives who included President Ronald McDade, Carole McDade, Vice President Diane Bernier, Secretary Rick Wilson, Joanie Wilson, and Moxie, the adorable and talented working-hearing dog. Mr. McDade explained the volunteer mission of Fidos for Freedom and shared heartwarming stories of children through elders who have been positively affected by the programs conducted by the organization and in particular, by being paired with a service-therapy dog. The Fraternal Events Committee was extremely happy to connect with Fidos and support their exemplary volunteer work. Mr. McDade offered the appreciation of the Fidos Team for the generosity and friendship extended to them, and in support of their volunteerism with the canine programs for the disabled and challenged.

In celebration of the RA's 140th Anniversary and Roy Al's birthday, 14 lucky attendees won greenbacks during a special raffle. In rallying for the Supreme Regent's campaign, the winners donated their prizes to add to the gift for Fidos; **TEAM WORK** at its very best!

The 'official' program was tailored to give everyone lots of free time to venture across Baltimore by foot, water taxi, the



Overlooking the Inner Harbor



Loretta Wehbe accepted the Women's Division Highest Recommender Award.



Greg Hahn accepted the Men's Division Highest Recommender Award.



Maria DiBartolo received her 19th DSA diamond.



Joanie Francis was conferred the honor of Royal Arcanum's 2017 Fraternalist of the Year.



Arcanians who received their RA veteran's pin for 25-60 years of membership

"Circulator", bike, or Segway. And there were many places to go and things to see! However, a short presentation, conducted by Supreme Regent Conforto, highlighted the past year's work and achievements of our society and our members. Director of Operations Nick Benoit spoke about industry news, the fraternal tax exemption and provided an overview of operations in the Home Office in Boston.

Greg Hahn and Loretta Wehbe were presented with the International Achievement Awards for highest production as recommenders.
Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Maria DiBartolo (19), Greg Hahn (13), Peter Ferrara (9), and James Boufford (3).

In recognition of the society's milestone anniversary, Royal Arcanum veteran pins were presented to many of the attendees for 25, 35, 45, 50, 55, and 60 years of membership in the Order. It was an impressive group of dedicated members whose service in our councils and organization exemplifies dedication to the fraternal attributes of Virtue, Mercy and Charity and their commitment towards volunteering for the continual growth and success of the society.

Joanie Francis of San Jose Council #2384 was presented with 2017 Royal Arcanum's Fraternalist of the Year Award in acknowledgment of her selfless volunteerism in the Royal Arcanum and in the community. A great organizer,



A view of the National Aquarium



Royal Arcanum's Fraternalists of the Year: 2011- Errica Conforto, 2012 - Debbie Young, 2017 - Joanie Francis, 2015 - Evelyn Magarban, and 2016 - Lillie Mae Panichelli



Diane Calain received her 60-year membership pin; she was one of the first Junior girls enrolled into the Royal Arcanum.



Debbie and Morgan Young of Ontario



Game Night Winners

leader, mentor, and teammate, Joanie has inspired others to become involved and make a positive difference.

Bayonne Council #695 was announced as the 2017 recipient of the Lorraine J. D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award for their inspiring project – 'Roy Al's International Luncheon for Special Needs Children.' The Felician School for Exceptional Children in Lodi, New Jersey, would receive a \$1,000 gift in Lorraine's memory from the Supreme Council.

Lucky recipients of the \$100 Sweepstakes were Florence Wire, Gloria Donaldson and Annette Ferrara.

The Grand Regents and Deputy Supreme Regents shared their program highlights and jurisdictional news with fellow officers; it was rewarding to learn about the great **TEAM** projects being conducted in the grand and subordinate councils to advance fraternalism in the community and to promote the Royal Arcanum's good works.

Taking advantage of the many area offerings, the guests made the most of their time with visits to the National Aquarium, Camden Yards, Fort McHenry Park – the home of the Star Spangled Banner, Port Discovery Children's Museum, Babe Ruth Museum, Maryland Zoo, the historic ships, Urban Pirates Ship Cruises, Little Italy, and even by taking a quick train trip to Washington, D.C. for a tour of the national monuments. Plus there was a



The Charm City under sunny skies



Bayonne Council #695 was awarded the 2017 LJD Legacy of Hope Award and members were congratulated by Paul D'Emilio and Supreme Regent Errica Conforto.



Chris Piscitelli and Richard Macon of New Jersey enjoyed a harbor cruise.



Donna and Greg Hahn, Joanne and David Covelli, and Florence and Bill Wire; representatives of Illinois.



Debbie Young, Loretta Wehbe, Morgan Young, Christine Krzystofczyk, and Carl Krzystofczyk "set sail" at the Anchors Aweigh! party.

multitude of shops, restaurants, sweet treat eateries and hobby venues where everyone could find their particular favorite.

The Farewell Theme Party was an 'Anchors Aweigh!' Sail-a-bration. The captains and crew were on deck in their finest nautical attire as Arcanians and friends enjoyed a hearty sea and shore dinner buffet and partied on the dance floor with the entertaining DI. Stars in the RA cruise lounge were headlining entertainers: Elvis Presley, the Tina Turner Trio, Sonny and Cher, and Al Bano and Romina Power who each gave a fabulous performance to find the guests giving standing ovations and cheering for more! Junior Arcanians Judy Lynn and Jessica Kolek followed with talented dance routines to some popular hits to later be joined on the dance floor with an energetic group of movers and shakers!

Peter Ferrara and Olivia O'Keefe took top prizes in the guessing contest for their best estimate of the number of colored pebbles.



Sea creature at the aquarium



The Supreme Council Executive Committee on the lookout for the Captain!



Bayonne, Versatility and Treasure Coast Council members joined the deck hands!



Coronation, Detroit, Claremont and Versatility members hailed, "Ship Ahoy!"



The Arcanians partied at the Ship and Shore celebration!

Supreme Regent Errica
Conforto thanked everyone
for their participation in the
mini-vacation and encouraged
members to introduce new
members to the Royal
Arcanum and to uphold our
mission of charitable service
through fraternal endeavors in
the jurisdictions. With **TEAM WORK**, the Royal Arcanum
will continue to have a
productive and successful
future.

As the sun went down over the tranquil and twinkling harbor, a lively exchange of well wishes and words of gratitude for celebrating together as a fraternal family filled the room. Baltimore's charm certainly prevailed at this mini-vacation where a happy, fun-loving **TEAM** of brothers, sisters, and friends created some treasured memories.

We're now setting our sights to the southeast in anticipation of the Supreme Council Session in Orlando next July. We hope to see you there!



Detroit Council members Keith Armbruster, Kathy Hefner, Mark Hefner and Jan Brazas cheered on the Tigers at Camden Yards, home of the Orioles.



Jessica Kolek of Pawtucket Council performed a "cheer" dance.



Judy Lynn Kolek of Pawtucket Council performed a dance routine.



Christine Krzystofczyk, Maria Di Bartolo, and Carl Krzystofczyk



Ralph, Anita and Annette Ferrara of Pennsylvania



Coronation Council members enjoyed the sea-faring theme night.

TEAM WORK MINI-VACATION PHOTO ALBUM



Nothing "crabby" about Baltimore. Cindy Macon and Evelyn Magarban found time for shopping.



At Port Discovery Children's Museum



New Jersey and Michigan Arcanians spent a day sightseeing.



Michigan Arcanians enjoyed a summer lunch between sightseeing stops.



Sal DiFranco of Claremont Council entertained with song.



There was lots to see and do at the Inner Harbor.



Captain Morgan greeted the royal passengers.



Paul D'Emilio and Nick Benoit congratulated Errica Conforto for a successful first year of the TEAM WORK program.



Sonny and Cher (a.k.a. Freddy and Maria Di Bartolo)



Chairman Jim O'Neill

TEAM WORK MINI-VACATION PHOTO ALBUM



Supreme Regent Errica Conforto and Nick Benoit ready for the Welcome Party.



Left: Matt D'Emilio received his 35year RA veterans pin.



Left: Supreme Regent Errica and Joe Conforto with grandchildren Alexandra and Logan Orr.



Bayonne members Gen Macon, Richard Macon, Evelyn Magarban, Christine Piscitelli, and Luke Piscitelli added steps to their pedometers by trekking the city on foot.



Logan and Alexandra Orr ready for the Anchors Aweigh! party



Our 'First Couple' in costume



Junior Director Debbie Young and the Juniors prepared a poem for the farewell party.



Elvis Presley (a.k.a. Sal Di Franco)



Gloria Donaldson, Keith Armbruster, Jan Brazas, and Sharon Bayliss "cruising" Baltimore at the theme party.



Louise Reynolds and Gen Macon at the sail-a-bration!

BAYONNE'S TEAM WORK REACHES THOSE IN NEED

Members of Bayonne Council's Community Service Committee packed and delivered donations for Hudson and Bergen County homeless shelters, veterans' programs, Felician Mission and the humane society throughout the summer. The project was organized in support of Supreme Regent Errica Conforto's

'TEAM WORK' program and 'The Time is Now' campaign of the New Jersey Grand Council. With an assist from the sisters of Versatility Council, the project provided goods, supplies and gifts for the local charitable organizations.





Versatility Council members Christine Piscitelli, Gen Macon, Evelyn Magarban, Carol LaRocca, Stella Rakowski, and Marie Baranowski prepared handcrafted shawls and blankets for community shelters sponsored by Catholic Charities.

Representing the Bayonne Arcanians were John Baranowski, Steve Durma, Bob Galdon, Anthony Giannuzzi, Joe Blicharz, and Joseph Macon, FICF.



A few of the boxes which the Bayonne Arcanian TEAM filled and delivered in support of the work being done by area charities.

ONE MINUTE A DAY MAY LEAD TO STRONGER BONES

Keeping your bones in good shape is vital to your health as you grow older, especially for women. Research reported on the Medical News Today website suggests that women may be able to keep their bones strong by running just one minute a day.

Examining data from more than 2,500 women, researchers found that women who participated in high-intensity, weight-bearing physical activity like running 60-120 seconds a

day had 4 percent better bone health than women who took part in less than a minute of physical activity. Women who performed more than two minutes of exercise had 6 percent better bone health.

The researchers cautioned, though, that they can't be sure whether high-intensity exercise leads to better bone health, or whether people with better bone health tend to exercise more.

GRAND COUNCIL OF NEW YORK AND CLAREMONT

At the Grand Council dinner meeting on September 7, 2017 we discussed the donations to be made to the Salvation Army for the destruction caused by Hurricanes Harvey in Texas and Irma in Florida.

We thank the Grand
Council and Claremont
Council for the donation
of \$400. We are grateful
to the members attending
the meeting for donating
an additional \$600. We
also thank the Supreme
Council for matching \$1,000.



Bettina Di Bartolo, Fran and Augie Magnotta, Errica Conforto, Peter J. Meaney, Database & Annual Appeal Manager, and Fred Di Bartolo at the Salvation Army.

Natural disasters strike without much warning, so the Salvation Army is ready to jump into action on short notice. The organization gathers donations, resources and volunteers in a predetermined staging area so they are ready to help as soon as the federal, state or local government declares the area safe to enter.

The Salvation Army's disaster assistance

includes providing food, water and shelter to victims, lending a hand with cleanup, and putting people in touch with their loved ones, including restoration and rebuilding initiatives, meeting basic needs, covering medical expenses, cutting funeral costs and distributing in-kind donations to help victims rebuild their lives.

Submitted by Frances Magnotta

On September 11, 2017, Errica Conforto, Fred and Bettina Di Bartolo and Augie and I delivered a check of \$2,000 to the Salvation Army at 14th Street in Manhattan which was presented to Peter J. Meaney, Database and Appeal Manager, which was divided \$1,000 for the floods and destruction caused by Harvey in Texas and \$1,000 for destruction caused by Irma in Florida.

NAP TIME

A first grade teacher had a habit of dozing while his students did their afternoon lessons. He tried to conceal it by holding his head over an opened book on his desk. It was only a matter of time before one of the children asked, "Why do you always go to sleep in the afternoon?"

"I travel to dreamland," the teacher retorted. As an afterthought he added, "To consult with the ancient sages."

One day, the teacher awoke from his nap to find a few of the students asleep at their desks. He dropped his book on the floor creating a loud thud



that roused the kids from their slumber.

"What do you think you're doing?" he bellowed.

"I needed your help so I went to dreamland to find you," one boy said. "I looked everywhere, but you weren't there."

"Really?" The teacher's cheeks reddened.

"Yes," another boy added. "We met the sages, too. I asked them where we could find you, but they didn't know who you were."

CORONATION COUNCIL 2224 - FARM BASH 2017

Once again, Coronation Council moseyed on down to the annual FARM BASH 17. This family friendly weekend of camping, musical and recreational events included lots of games and entertainment for all ages. It's designed for people of the community to come and enjoy the country atmosphere. This free event encouraged guests to bring non-perishable food donations to help support Street Help, a local organization that is focused on helping out the homeless.

Coronation Council #2224 presented a cheque for \$1500.00 to help support Farm Bash in their efforts. The two-day event collected over \$4800 for Street Help. It's a win / win situation for all of us. We're all paying it forward.





Deborah Young introduced Coronation Council #2224 Regent Jim Boufford for the cheque presentation

Jim Boufford and members of Coronation Council and volunteers of Street Help celebrated a great night

START FINANCIAL LITERACY EARLY

Teaching children to save money when they're young can help them deal with financial emergencies when they're older. Here's how to get them started:

• Encourage kids to save something. Whether you've got a 10-year-old stashing away a dollar or a teenager opening a savings or checking account, get your children in the habit of saving no

matter how small the amount.

• Help kids balance treats and sacrifices. Work with your kids to set and meet some goals. Once those goals are met, allow them a little withdrawal to buy something for themselves.

• Put loose change into an emergency fund. Loose change can add up, so don't let kids discard pennies or leave them lying in the parking lot.

• **Set an example.** Children don't miss much. If they don't see you saving, they might wonder why they have to save.

Keep kids away from credit as long as possible.
 Credit card companies expend lots of effort on marketing to teenagers. Make sure your kids understand what credit pitfalls could lie ahead.

• Schedule money meetings. Meet with your child at regular intervals to discuss their emergency account, answer questions, and discuss money issues he or she might encounter.

• Help kids set up a real budget.

The earlier kids learn to manage a budget, the easier things will be down the line. Younger kids can start learning by jotting their pluses and minuses down on a piece of paper, while older kids can be introduced to budgeting on software and apps.

CORONATION COUNCIL 2224 - SUMMER BBQ



A little rain didn't stop
Coronation Council #2224 from
celebrating a great day of fun.
Deborah and Morgan Young
hosted members and their
families with great food, musical
entertainment, games and
activities.

Our thanks again to our hosts who always put on an enjoyable day for our members and their families. Although it was filled with lots of laughter, noticeably absent was past organizer of many summer gatherings, our dear friend Tom Bayliss who no doubt was watching from above.

Submitted by Elly McMillan



A great turn out included some of our friends from Michigan Council #21A



The Music Makers entertained with karaoke.



A Junior member takes cover from the rain.



Fun around the pool



Sharon Bayliss was the winner of the "Guess how many Jelly Beans" contest.



One of our Juniors did a Hawaiian dance for the group.



The sun finally came out just in time for our Junior members to receive their cuddly Royal plush dogs.

Looks like one of the Dads joined in on the fun.

CLAREMONT COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Members of Claremont Council #1655 and the New York Grand Council delivered a large donation of paper goods to the St. Anthony Soup Kitchen in the Bronx. Founded by Reverend James Coy Sheehan Jr., the kitchen doors were opened to serve the community in February 1993, and throughout the years have expanded services to accommodate the growing number of people in need.

Today, volunteers prepare and serve more than 300 hot lunches each week at St. Anthony's and at three local shelters to provide a nutritional meal to the poor and

homeless in the community. City Harvest and local businesses supply most of the food, but essentials such as paper plates, hot and cold cups, bowls, napkins, paper towels, and other disposable items are always in need.

The New York **TEAM WORK** members were happy to jump in and contribute to such a wonderful community cause.

Submitted by Errica Conforto



Fred, Bettina and Daniella Di Bartolo; Gary De Leo; Fr. Luis Anderson, Administrator of St. Anthony Church; Maria Sanchez, Soup Kitchen Coordinator; Augie and Frances Magnotta; Errica and Joe Conforto and grandson Luca Conforto.

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SUPREME REGENT VISITS PENNSYLVANIA



Supreme Regent Errica Conforto invited everyone to participate in the TEAM WORK campaign.

Pennsylvania Grand Council, under the leadership of their Grand Regent Annette Ferrara, was honored to welcome Supreme Regent Errica Conforto to Philadelphia, the "city of brotherly love and sisterly affection," on September 25th. In the spirit of love and affection, Grand Regent Annette presented Supreme Regent Errica with a stunning floral arrangement.

After the Invocation by Jay R. Newlin and the enjoyment of a luscious food buffet, Grand Regent Annette opened the meeting and introduced the Supreme Regent and her husband, Joseph, and Supreme Vice Regent Deborah Young and her husband, Morgan Young.

In her presentation on "**TEAM WORK**," the Supreme Regent challenged those attending to embrace "the **team**" by engaging in charitable work, inviting non members to events, and stressing the many different kinds of certificates and benefits offered by the Royal Arcanum.

Travel Cases were given as prizes to the winners in the drawing by Supreme Regent Errica, and every lucky guy and girl in attendance went home with an exquisite travel garment bag.

In accordance with the charitable emphasis of the evening, Barbra Pignatelli of "Philadelphia Reads" gave a brief presentation on the work her volunteer group does in providing reading programs, books, and other school supplies to children in the Philadelphia Public School system. A check for \$500.00 was presented to Philadelphia Reads, along with the many school supplies those attending brought to the meeting as their personal part in the important work.

There was a lot of chatter and socializing at the end of the meeting, and folks were soon on their way home, proud of what their Royal Arcanum stands for and does charitably and educationally.



Pennsylvania members and visiting Arcanian officers were happy to contribute school supplies for the TEAM WORK project.



Barbra Pignatelli spoke about the programs of Philadelphia Reads.



Annette Ferrara presented flowers on behalf of the Grand Council to Supreme Regent Errica Conforto.



HARRISBURG COUNCIL ANNUAL PICNIC



Judie Marcus and Rick Rubin helped reserve the picnic at Fort Hunter on the most beautiful day! Thanks Judie and Rick!

The weather couldn't have been better for our first annual picnic in a long, long time. We missed our annual Christmas show, due to the closing of Allenberry Playhouse, so we decided to get together for a good old-fashioned family picnic. Well, the usual faces showed up. It was good to see families gather together before school started. We managed to have a scavenger hunt for the Juniors, in addition to other games and activities to occupy their time, but nothing was more exciting

than the piñata! When the piñata broke, one Junior screamed, "It's Halloween"! Even the adults reached down to help gather candy. It was a fun time.

We are all thankful for joining such a family oriented organization. Harrisburg Council #499 wishes all the students going back to school a safe and healthy year. God bless.

Paulina P. Thomas, Secretary



Philip Thomas is preparing to begin the games with Dmitri and Matej Belicic.



Former Junior
Lauren Thomas
Blahusch introduced
her new husband,
Michael to the group.



Treasurer, Mary Karl shows off her granddaughter, Charolette Karl.



Secretary Paulina Thomas with son, former Junior Philip and girlfriend, Nikki joined the picnic.



The highlight of the picnic ... gathering the candy from piñata ... even for the adults!



Autumn DeJesus is ready to hit the piñata!



Natalie Karl loved her Royal Arcanum puppy. She wouldn't let it leave her side.



It was good seeing Harold and Mary Ann Harshbarger, Kaitlyn Mentzer and the delightful Autumn Delesus at the picnic.



Kaitlyn Mentzer, Autumn
DeJesus and Carey DeJesus
are starting to do the
Scavenger Hunt!

NEW JERSEY ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY EVENTS



Members in Bayonne met Bishop Manuel A. Cruz, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark and discussed charitable projects being coordinated by the councils. At the Mt. Carmel Rosary Society's Centennial Celebration, Past Regents of Versatility Council, Mary Ann Decha and Evelyn Magarban were honored as President and Life Member of the organization, respectively. Bayonne Mayor James Davis (in photo fifth from right) participated in the celebration. Sons of Poland Council Regent Dayle Vander Sande provided the music and vocals for the ceremony and Fraternal Director Cindy Macon served as Chairperson of the



New Jersey members and Roy Al marched in the 80th Pulaski Day Parade in Manhattan on October 1st. The annual event commemorates the life and service of General Casimir Pulaski of Poland. Revolutionary War Hero and Father of the American Cavalry. Marchers from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut took part in the festivities as a start to Polish Heritage Month celebrations across the U.S.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BICYCLE HELMET

Riding a bike is good exercise, but you must take care of your helmet if you want to protect your head in case of an accident. Consumer Reports

offers this advice:

• Find the right fit. Your helmet should be snug enough to fit your head but not uncomfortably tight.

• Store it appropriately.

Keep it somewhere cool and dry in your house or garage. Don't leave it in your car-the heat could degrade the foam or compromise the helmet's structure.

• Keep it clean. Use soap and water, not harsh detergents like ammonia or bleach, which can also damage a helmet's

integrity.

• Watch for dents. Even a small dent can mean your helmet will offer less protection in a crash.

• Replace after an impact. Even if the damage seems minimal, get a new helmet after any crash.

LORRAINE J. D'EMILIO FOUNDATION

On July 7, 2017 the Lorraine J. D'Emilio Foundation held its annual Phillies Game event. Fourteen ladies, of all ages, with Gynecologic Cancers and their guests were treated to an evening of fun, food and frolic at Citizens Bank Park. It was fireworks night. The picture was taken during a rain delay. The Phillies lost, but neither that nor the rain could put a damper on the good time.

The foundation is also in the process of creating a oneon-one program. Many women like the yoga, massage and mindfulness therapy but cannot afford to do it on a oneone basis with the instructor. In this pilot program, we will select 12 ladies with gynecologic cancers who will be given six certificates to the providers for one-on-one yoga, mindfulness or massage therapy free of charge. Several providers of these services have agreed to participate. The cost will be picked up by the foundation.



LJD Foundation sponsored another great evening at the Phillies in association with the Cancer Support Community of Greater Philadelphia. So many grateful families!

LET DAD DO THE COOKING!

The first Thursday in November is National Men Make Dinner Day...

Grandpas, dads, husbands, brothers, nephews, boyfriends, fellas ... it's your turn to take over in the kitchen. The first Thursday in November is National Men Make Dinner Day. Here are some guidelines to follow so you can make a sincere and successful effort:

• No barbecue. We know that you know that we know you're the grill master. Step up your game and show us what else you can do.

• The main dish. Your recipe must include at least four ingredients and be something that your family doesn't always eat for dinner. Hint: Homemade pizza is not an option, but savory crepes stuffed with chicken and vegetables could be.

• Learn a new skill. You can grate, spiralize, whisk, fold, sift, blend, puree,

etc. with the wonderful tools and gadgets that make prepping easy and efficient. Use them. You might discover you have a flair for the culinary arts.

• Go old school. Boil water with a kettle. Warm, melt, and heat ingredients on the stove, or let them reach room temperature by allowing them to sit out.

Translation: The microwave is off-limits to melt or heat anything.

You and you alone are responsible. This is your night to prove how awesome you are. Planning the menu, doing the grocery shopping, food prep and chopping, cooking, the setting of the dinner table, plating and serving, clearing away of dishes, and the cleanup are on you. No delegating tasks or consulting with household members for advice or help. Your lifelines on this evening are the internet and other men in your predicament.

COUNSELORS' CORNER

What is a 501(c)(8)?

We have all heard of a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit company, but what is a 501(c)(8) organization? It is a not-for-profit Fraternal Benefit Society. That is the federal tax code section under which a fraternal benefit society gets its non-for-profit status. To be exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 501(c)(8), a fraternal beneficiary society, order or association must meet the

following requirements:



Matthew P. D'Emilio, Esq., Assistant General Counsel

- I. It must have a fraternal purpose. An organization has a fraternal purpose if membership is based on a common tie or the pursuit of a common object. The organization must also have a substantial program of fraternal activities.
- 2. It must operate under the lodge system or for the exclusive benefit of the members of a

fraternal itself operating under the lodge system.

3. It must provide for the payment of life, sick, accident, or other benefits to the members of such society, order or association or their dependents.

There are about 76 operating fraternal benefit societies in the US including the Royal Arcanum. They range in size from 85 billion dollars to 1 million dollars. The impact of these Societies on their communities is significant. In 2016, members of fraternal benefit societies logged over 90 million hours of community service, 17

million hours of fraternal support, and hundreds of millions of dollars in community, scholarship and fraternal expenditures. The benefits of fraternal benefit societies span the entire country. Pennsylvania has the largest number of societies with 20. Illinois has the second most societies with 13. Ohio has 9, Texas has 5, Wisconsin has 4, and Michigan, Minnesota, and New York all have 3. Nebraska, Massachusetts, Iowa, Tennessee, Connecticut, Alabama, Delaware, and Missouri have 1 or 2.

So why is the federal tax exemption so important now? Simply stated, politics. We have heard the calls for tax reform. Legislators will be looking for sources of income, but taking away the tax exemption for fraternal benefit societies would be devastating. So tell your federal and state legislators to leave the federal tax exemption for fraternal benefit societies in



Paul F. D'Emilio, Esq., General Counsel

place, and ask them to sign on to the resolutions in the House and Senate (H. CON. RES. 10 and S. CON. RES. 7) protecting that tax exemption. The resolutions express "... the sense of the Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically and continue to provide critical benefits to Americans and United States communities"

Paul F. D'Emilio Esq. General Counsel Matthew P. D'Emilio, Esq. Assistant General Counsel

DRIVERLESS CARS COMING TO A STREET NEAR YOU?

Drivers can't wait for self-driving cars, according to a survey by Bosch Mobility Solutions. Out of 1,000 U.S.-based new car buyers 18 years or older, 52 percent said they expect to own a self-driving vehicle within the next 10 years. Only 14 percent said they'd never buy a self-driving car, and 14 percent were undecided.

Although 72 percent of survey participants signaled worries about lack of control in a vehicle they don't drive themselves, 61 percent said they believe self-driving cars could lead to a decrease in traffic accidents, and 55 percent highlighted more free time and less stress as a benefit to driverless cars.



ROYAL ARCANUM'S SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

This year Royal Arcanum's "Joseph E. Hallinan Memorial Scholarship Award" was given to Zachary Gauvin of Pawtucket Council #537. Zachary recently graduated from Prout High School in Narragansett, Rl. He was a National Merit Scholar and a member of both the National and Rhode Island honor societies. He played hockey, lacrosse and baseball in high school and earned division honors in hockey and lacrosse. Zach will study Aerospace Engineering at Georgia Tech.

On July 9, 2017, Zachary Gauvin received his Scholarship Award Certificate from Ken Kolek, Supreme Secretary Emeritus, at the Dunes Club in Narragansett, Rhode Island,



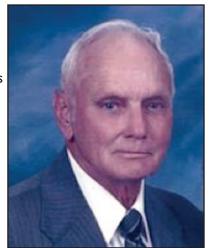
Zachary Gauvin and his parents, Richard and Sandy Gauvin were congratulated by Kenneth Kolek (r).

IN MEMORIAM: HAROLD E. ESTES

1928-2017

A member of Peach Council #2466 in Fort Valley, Georgia, Brother Harold Evans Estes served our society in many offices; most notably as Regent, Grand Regent, Supreme Committeeman, and Deputy Supreme Regent. Throughout the years, Brother Estes mentored many members and was a catalyst for the expansion of Arcanian councils throughout the southeast.

Harold proudly served in the Army
National Guard where he attained the rank of Master
Sergeant. For more than 38 years he was a dedicated
volunteer fireman for the Fort Valley Fire Department.
Harold was a very active member of the Fort Valley
United Methodist Church. He owned and operated Estes
Electrical & Plumbing and was an avid Atlanta Braves fan.



A distinguished service award member, Harold was a recipient of the Supreme Council Fraternal Legacy Award for his inspiring and untiring service to our society and members. He and his beloved wife, Wynelle, chaired various committees for the Supreme Council Session meetings and graced the parties and receptions with their talents in dancing.

Preceded in death by Wynelle in 2016, Harold passed away on July 30, 2017. He is survived by his daughter Karen (Roy) Giles, granddaughter Jessica (Blayne)

Coleman, and a host of family members and friends in the Royal Arcanum.

Harold's selfless service, benevolent spirit, and genuine friendship will not be forgotten; we were blessed to call him "brother"

May he rest in eternal peace.

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Friends,

I've always had an interest in the attention given to the Royal Family in Great Britain. There's usually something in the news each week about what the "Royals" are up to and one can only imagine what life must be like in the palace! I am particularly impressed by how Princess Diana's legacy of kindness remains strong and admired by royal watchers everywhere.

"Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you." These words spoken by Princess Diana have not only inspired her sons and the

people of the UK, but for twenty years since her death, continue to touch people around the world and echo her example of compassion and understanding. As a leader and perhaps more importantly, as a **TEAM** member, her passion to help the suffering was exemplified in volunteering for the most critical causes.

We, too, can be inspirited by Diana's legacy to help improve the lives of others as we continue the Royal Arcanum's mission of service. Kind, simple gestures can ignite great things!

Supreme Regent Errica Conforto's motivational campaign, **TEAM WORK** is our blueprint for a productive year. Many councils have increased their charitable initiatives with members volunteering together to make a positive imprint in their jurisdictions. In this 140th Anniversary Year of the Royal Arcanum, I encourage all Grand and Subordinate Councils to complete an International Fraternal Service Project for a charitable cause. A special message of thanks is offered to all councils for their support to aid national and community efforts following the recent hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters.

Congratulations are extended to Royal Arcanum's 2017 Fraternalist of the Year, Joanie Francis of San Jose Council #2384, CA. We are thankful for Joanie's untiring volunteer labors to share fraternalism and good will.

I'm also happy to acknowledge Bayonne Council #695, NJ on being this year's recipient of the LJD Legacy of Hope Award for creating the **TEAM** project, Roy Al's International Lunch with Special Needs Children.

benefitted Fidos for Freedom and was another successful **TEAM** activity. As a 501 (c)(3) charity, the programs at Fidos provide help and hope for others, particularly those with mobility or hearing impairments. We were happy to welcome Fidos representatives at the minivacation and learn how compassion and kindness is rooted in their volunteer service to others.





With so many good things being accomplished by the Arcanian **TEAM**, now is an ideal time to invite family and friends who may be unacquainted with the Royal Arcanum to learn more about us and consider enrolling as members. Our life insurance and annuities are solid products and we take pride in being a family fraternal. Create the living legacy now and have the entire family participating in the fraternal, social, and charitable activities coordinated in your council.

Don't forget to share your news for our Bulletin, RA web site and Facebook page. Take Roy Al along on your ventures; he's a superb "Royal", too and makes new friends wherever he travels!

I wish you and yours a Blessed, Healthy, and Happy Holiday Season. Being thankful for the plentiful blessings of family, friends, warm clothes, bounteous food, a roof above, and life of freedom, let us make some time in the coming weeks, as Princess Diana would do, to carry out a random act of kindness with a grateful heart for being able to do so.

In friendship,

Cynthia a. Macon

Cindy Macon
Fraternal-Communications Director

TEAM WORK SPIRIT IN VERSATILITY

Members of Versatility Council conducted their summer service project for the benefit of the Felician Sisters' Mission in Jacmel, Haiti. The effort was chaired by Past Regents Gen Macon and Evelyn Magarban in support of the sisters' work and their Water with Blessings program. The Sisters are offering a hopeful future, caring support, and spiritual sustenance to Haitian children and families and are aiding in establishing schools, chapels, a health clinic, and other essential facilities. Clothes, school



Some of the gifts which comprised Versatility's project for the Felician Mission.

supplies, healthcare basics, and other home goods filled the council members' shopping carts and were later sorted and packaged for shipment. The Sisters were most appreciative of the generosity extended by the Arcanian Family to help brighten the lives of the poor they serve.



Roy Al and Evelyn Magarban were happy to tell Sister Marta Zielinska, CSSF about the TEAM efforts in Bayonne.

SAN JOSE COUNCIL #2384 DONATES TO HOUSTON

San Jose Council #2384 made a donation to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals-Houston to help pet victims of Hurricane Harvey. Mikey, Maggie, and Molly agreed that the council's gift, organized by Joanie Francis, was a great way to help their friends.



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DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS CORNER

I have to say October is one of the finest months of the year to live in New England. The weather is beautiful and since it's not too hot or too cold, you can be comfortable leaving the house with a light sweater to enjoy the crisp autumn days. As the

leaves begin to change, the colors portrayed are out of this world. That's one of the reasons why many tourists come to

New England and look forward to seeing such wonderful sights. This

year has continued to be an exciting year for Royal Arcanum inside and outside of the Home Office. I've seen the personal, selfless acts of councils and members who have contributed time and resources to help the individuals and animals affected by the recent floods and hurricanes. I was proud to communicate with Congressional members regarding our efforts and those of other fraternal societies as well.

Our Life Insurance operation has continued to keep the Home Office busy, particularly in the New Business area and in issuing new policies. We have been increasing our presence across the country and have been able to welcome many new members in states where we formerly had limited membership. I would love for some of this production to result in an increase in fraternal activity. A main focus of the sales force appointment process is for the agents to understand what Royal Arcanum is about and the reason why we exist as a fraternal benefit society.

I've continued to be involved in conversations in

Washington DC regarding tax reform, in particular for our House Bill, HCR-10 to maintain the current fraternal society tax exemption status. The bill has been sponsored by over 60 house

representatives. This is an increase

of over 10 house representatives since last quarter. The bill in the Senate, SCR 7 also continues to gain traction with sponsorship by 15 senators thus far. As previously mentioned, this tax exemption allows us to create and maintain several of our fraternal programs and member benefits.



Our Investment Bill in the Massachusetts State House Legislation, H-3661 is still in House and pending a hearing date, I will be traveling to the State House to testify on its behalf. I anticipate a hearing date this fall, which I'm confident will be successful and allow fraternal benefit societies domiciled in the state of Massachusetts to invest up to 50% of surplus in the market. The current law restricts investing more than 25% of surplus in the market.

Today is a perfect day to make a difference in somebody's life.

Please take some time to visit our website, www.royalarcanum.com for overall information about our Society to share with friends and family who may be interested in becoming involved. Please also consider reviewing our Facebook page and "Like Us" if you're on Facebook!

Sincerely,

Nicholas G. Benoit
Director of Operations
nbenoit@royalarcanum.com

ARCANIAN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS IN NEW JERSEY

The officers and members of the Grand Council of New Jersey were happy to welcome the 2017 Royal Arcanum scholarship winners at their annual summer statewide meeting in June. They were congratulated by Grand Regent Richard J. Macon, FIC, who commended



New Jersey's scholarship winners with their awards.

them on their achievements, extracurricular activities, and community service initiatives. Each of the young fraternalists spoke about their academic

plans and aspirations for the future and acknowledged the Royal Arcanum for being selected as a recipient of the scholarship award. Those who were not able to attend were sent their award but also recognized at the event. The Grand Council wishes

happiness and success to all the graduates as they continue their studies and embark on new journeys.



Veronica Jakubowski with her mother Anna Jakubowski and grandmother Romualda Konaszewska; Grand Regent Richard Macon, FIC; Sons of Poland Council Regent Dayle Vander Sande; and Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon.



Jared Berger with his parents, Marcie and Mark Berger; sister, Elissa; grandmother and Past Grand Regent Rosella Berger; Grand Regent Richard Macon, FIC; and Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon.



Nicolette Troglio with her grandmother, Carol LaRocca, mother, Teresa Troglio; Grand Regent Richard Macon, FIC; Versatility Council Past Regent Christine Piscitelli; and Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon



Anthony Giurintano with his parents James and Joanne Giurintano; sister Jaclyn, brother Justin; Grand Regent Richard Macon, FIC; Sons of Poland Council Regent Dayle Vander Sande; and Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon.

FALL JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS AND VIEWS

It is that time of year that we ask that the names and college addresses of students be sent to the Home Office in Boston so that we can send something special out to them.

Older juniors who are planning on going to college or career training in September 2018 should now be applying for your College Scholarships and Grants. Go online to www.royalarcanum.com and fill out the appropriate application form and email to the Home Office.

High School students who are taking SAT, ACT, PSAT or LSAT Exams this year in order to get into college can submit their receipts for any training they get to help improve their scores and the Royal Arcanum will reimburse up to \$50.00.

We have a subscription to a couple of resources, titled Choices Planner and Choices Explorer, which provide great information to assist members with all kinds of college and career related things including finding other available college scholarships. Go to www.royalarcanum.com, and under the Benefits heading, click on College & Careers. At the bottom of this page is where you find the links to Choices Planner and Choices Explorer. Click on one of these links and it will take you to a page which you have to enter the Site ID - 0090138, Password - sunshine. Change to your own password when you set up your portfolio. There is a section for Students, Parents and Educators. You are now ready to start everything from choosing course plans, career

planning, choosing a college, finding available scholarships, making a resume and job interview practice. If you require any further assistance with this, contact Donald Ferry Jr. at the Home Office.

If your jurisdiction is planning a Junior Christmas event be sure to have the person in charge request some gifts from the Home Office.



Junior Department
Director
Deborah Young

Time is running out for your council's chance to earn \$1,600.00. With **Team Work** it is not too difficult to produce Junior policies with total face amount of \$160,000.00.
These need to be signed up and submitted before December 31, 2017.

"When we feel love and kindness towards others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace." Dalai Lama XIV

Fraternally yours in V.M.C.,

Deborah Z. young

Deborah Young



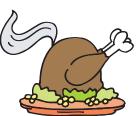
JUNIOR PUZZLES

FALL WORD SEARCH

ACORN APPLE AUTUMN CORN **FALL HALLOWEEN HARVESTMOON HAYRIDE LEAVES NOVEMBER OCTOBER** PIE **PILGRIM PUMPKIN SCARECROW SQUASH THANKSGIVING TURKEY**









PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL GAMES AND COLORING. IF YOU HAVE ANY RIDDLES, GAMES, OR ARTICLES YOU WOULD LIKE PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE,
PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO: PFITZGERALD@ROYALARCANUM.COM

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	М	ust	Sul	bmit:
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Name

Age

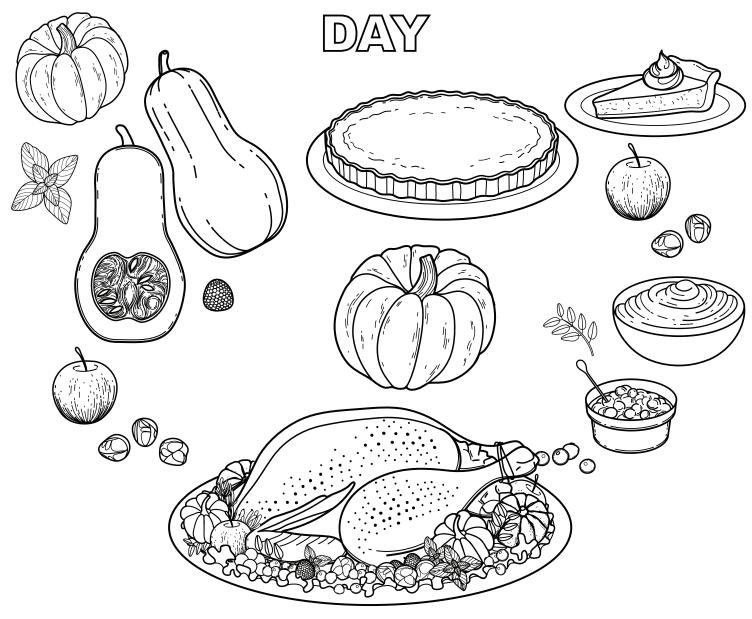
Council

Email Address

PLEASE SEND ALL ANSWERS TO:
JUNIOR DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARCANUM,
61 BATTERYMARCH ST., BOSTON, MA 02110-3208

JUNIOR FALL COLORING





ROYAL ARCANUM 104TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION



CARIBE ROYALE ALL-SUITE HOTEL - ORLANDO, FLORIDA - JULY 22 - 26, 2018

Cost Per Person

Points for Free Trip

U.S. / Canadian	<u>Occupancy</u>	U.S. / Canadian			
\$540.00 / \$720.00 \$465.00 / \$620.00 \$850.00 / \$1,133.00	Double Triple Single	771 / 1,029 664 / 886 1,214 / 1,619			
Please enter my reservation for the 104 th Supreme Council Session at the Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel, 8101 World Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32821. (Phone: 407-238-8000)					
My party will consist of the following persons: (type or print only)					
M		Council No			
Address					
Phone #	E	Email:			
Spouse (please enter first name)					
Children (enter names & ages)					
Room Type (circle):	Queen Double	King Standard			
Have you earned a prize	trip? [] Yes	[] No [] No. of trips			
Package includes: Sunday Welcome Dinner, Tuesday Hospitality-Banquet & Dance, Wednesday Dinner Buffet - Farewell Theme Party and Dance, Daily Breakfast Buffet at the Tropicale Restaurant. Guest rooms furnished with flat screen television, mini refrigerator, microwave, coffeemaker, iron, ironing board, climate control, and full bath amenities. In room Wi-Fi standard service, two device package.					
Arrangements for members available) can be made for a		stay at the Caribe Royale Orlando (if rooms are			
Arrival date	Departure	Date			
Signature		Date			

IMPORTANT: Home address of individuals with different names must be supplied. Guest rooms will be available after 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, 2018. Departures will be on Thursday, July 26, 2018.

A Deposit of \$200.00 per Adult and \$50.00 per Junior is required with each reservation.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ROYAL ARCANUM

Mail to: ROYAL ARCANUM Supreme Treasurer John Crisanti 61 Batterymarch Street Boston, MA 02110

Phone: 1-888-272-2686

A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

With the fall season underway, I would like to take the opportunity to share some tips to prepare your homes for the winter. Most of the info comes from DIY sites and some from Consumer Reports. The data will be more relevant to those of us who live in the Eastern part of the US or in cold climates. While each property is going to have special requirements unique to itself, there are a few projects that all homeowners should consider.



If you have a fireplace, please contact a professional to give the flue a thorough cleaning to remove any creosote buildup. If your fireplace uses gas instead of wood, have someone check the chimney to make sure that bird's nests or any other debris that could block smoke's pathway have been removed. You should at the same time check all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

The main focus is to protect your property from cold induced damage. Inspect your driveway for

cracks before the temperature drops. Ice can fill in cracks, causing them to expand. You cannot seal a driveway once night temperatures drop below 50 degrees. Crack fill products can be purchased from your local hardware store.

If your exterior including any decks - needs any paint touchups, now is

the time to do that as cooler temperatures prevent moisture from evaporating quickly which can cause damage. If any of your windows need to be recaulked, now is the time to do it. Warm air helps the caulk settle and stick to surfaces without swelling or cracking and will be more effective in preventing the cold from seeping through.

Don't forget about cleaning out your gutters and downspouts. Failure to remove leaves could result in your gutters pulling away from the roof as they absorb water. When water freezes, it expands further, pushing gutters away from the house even more.

Finally, replace air filters on your furnaces. It will help eliminate allergens from circulating and

> recirculating around your home and will overall improve the air quality.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members who attended the minivacation at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. I hope everyone had a great time; we had a great venue, close to many attractions,

great restaurants

and the weather cooperated. Sadly due to increasing costs and lack of attendance, the Executive Committee has made the decision to not organize mini-vacations for the foreseeable future.

Yours in V.M.C.

Peter D Ferrara

Pete Ferrara Supreme Secretary

Come join us at the Caribe Royale in

ORLANDO



FLORIDA

for the

104th Supreme Council Session



Sunday, July 22 through Thursday, July 26, 2018