

Bulletin

Spring Edition 2025



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

Nicole M. Covelli - Supreme Regent



Dear Members,

Spring is in the air and I've begun visiting our jurisdictions! My first visit was to the Grand Council of Rhode Island. I received a very warm welcome from Grand Regent Lynn Kolek, Supreme Vice Regent Karen Lockaby, Supreme Secretary Emeritus Ken Kolek, his wife Judy, and many members. I was also lucky to have in attendance the Chairwoman of the Executive Committee Cindy Macon.

Representatives from the Shriners Children's Hospital were there to discuss the work of the Shriners Charitable Trust and accept a donation from the council. A lovely young girl who received assistance from the hospital shared her story with us. She was a true inspiration to everyone.

The next day I visited the Grand Council of Massachusetts. Grand Regent Anthony Basa and his father, Supreme Secretary Antal welcomed us. I met many members, including two adorable twin girls. They are the future I envision for the Royal Arcanum. The council collected food for a local food pantry; the contributions were very much appreciated by their representative. Also in attendance was Lora Leigh Baker, the new Director of Insurance and Home Office Operations. I enjoyed meeting Lora and believe she will be a great asset to the Royal Arcanum.

As I continue my visitations, I hope we will welcome new members into our Society this year. We also look forward to some great summer activities being planned by our councils.

Warm Regards in VMC,

Nicole Marie Covelli
Supreme Regent

Chers membres,

Le printemps est arrivé et j'ai commencé à visiter nos juridictions ! Ma première visite s'est déroulée au Grand Conseil du Rhode Island. J'ai reçu un accueil chaleureux de la part de la Grande Régente Lynn Kolek, de la Vice-régente suprême Karen Lockaby, du Secrétaire suprême émérite Ken Kolek, de son épouse Judy et de nombreux membres. J'ai également eu la chance d'accueillir la présidente du comité exécutif, Cindy Macon.

Des représentants de l'Hôpital pour enfants Shriners étaient présents pour discuter du travail du Shriners Charitable Trust et recevoir un don du conseil. Une charmante jeune fille, bénéficiaire de l'aide de l'hôpital, nous a raconté son histoire. Elle a été une véritable source d'inspiration pour tous.

Le lendemain, j'ai visité le Grand Conseil du Massachusetts. Le Grand Régent Anthony Basa et son père, le Secrétaire suprême Antal, nous ont accueillis. J'ai rencontré de nombreux membres, dont deux adorables jumelles. Elles représentent l'avenir que je rêve du Royal Arcanum. Le conseil a collecté des denrées alimentaires pour une banque alimentaire locale ; leurs contributions ont été très appréciées par leur représentant. Était également présente Lora Leigh Baker, nouvelle directrice des assurances et des opérations du siège social. J'ai été ravie de la rencontrer et je suis convaincue qu'elle sera un atout précieux pour le Royal Arcanum.

Alors que je poursuis mes visites, j'espère que nous accueillerons de nouveaux membres au sein de notre Société cette année. Nous nous réjouissons également des formidables activités estivales prévues par nos conseils.

Cordialement, VMC,

Nicole Marie Covelli
Régente suprême

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**Bulletin
Deadline**

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Gardening is an excellent way to relieve stress, and there are several reasons why it works so well for calming the mind and body:

1. Connection with Nature: Spending time in nature has been shown to reduce stress. Gardening allows you to connect with the earth, plants, and natural surroundings, which can have a calming effect on your mood. Nature promotes feelings of tranquility and balance.

2. Mindfulness: Gardening encourages you to be present in the moment. The act of planting, watering, and tending to plants requires focus and attention, which can help take your mind off worries and promote mindfulness—an effective technique for reducing anxiety.

3. Physical Activity:

Gardening involves light physical exercise, such as digging, planting, weeding, and watering. Physical activity boosts endorphin levels, which are natural mood enhancers. It also helps reduce tension in the body, which is often a physical manifestation of stress.

4. Sense of Accomplishment:

Watching plants grow and thrive because of your care can be deeply satisfying. The process of nurturing something and seeing it succeed fosters a sense of accomplishment and purpose, which can be uplifting and reduce feelings of stress or anxiety.

5. Creative Outlet:

Gardening provides a creative outlet that allows you to express yourself. Whether you're designing a beautiful garden or experimenting with different plants, gardening encourages creativity and can offer a therapeutic escape from everyday pressures.

6. Grounding:

The term "grounding" refers to the practice of connecting with the earth to improve physical and emotional well-being.



When you garden, you're literally getting your hands in the soil, which can promote relaxation and feelings of calm.

7. Reduction of Mental Fatigue:

Studies show that spending time in nature can reduce mental fatigue and improve cognitive function. Gardening offers a way to disconnect from the constant mental noise that often comes with modern life, allowing your mind to rest and reset.

Overall, gardening is a holistic stress reliever that taps into both the mind and body, creating a sense of balance and



well-being.

Have you tried gardening for stress relief?

LORA LEIGH BAKER

The Supreme Council Executive Committee welcomes Lora Leigh Baker as the Royal Arcanum's new Director of Insurance and Home Office Operations.

A Warm Hello!

I'm excited to introduce myself to the Royal Arcanum members! With over 20 years of leadership experience in financial services, spanning both investment and insurance industries, much of my career has been spent in large public companies. But I was looking for something different, an organization that aligned more closely with my personal and family values, where I could feel truly connected to a core mission. I've been married to my husband, Paul, for 24 years (we're high school sweethearts!), and we have two sons, Andrew and Benjamin.

The mission of service is what drew me to the Royal Arcanum. What you have here is unique and special, a refreshing change for me from the corporate landscapes.

In a world so focused on technology and profit, there's something deeply meaningful about being part of a society that prioritizes community, service, and connection. I'm looking forward to growing with the company and supporting the incredible work already being done. I also see the dedication and heart that exists within the Home Office and across our councils.



I truly believe the world is shifting; people are searching for real connection, for ways to be part of something bigger than themselves. And fraternal benefit societies, like the Royal Arcanum, offer that in such a special way. I'm looking forward to the journey ahead!

INSPIRE - QUARTERLY CHARITABLE CHALLENGE



As a member of one of America's oldest fraternal societies, we are all tasked with helping our communities. Be it big or small, any act of

kindness can make our world a better place. However, it is true that life gets really busy and sometimes charitable acts can take a back seat. For those looking for ideas, we hope to INSPIRE you with great Springtime ideas for getting out there and doing your part.

1. Community Cleanups:

Organize or participate in a local cleanup event for parks, beaches, or streets.

2. Tree Planting:

You can join local environmental groups or even start a tree-planting initiative in your neighborhood.

3. Food Drives:

You can collect canned goods or fresh produce and donate to your local food pantry.

4. Volunteer at a Shelter:

You could volunteer your time at a homeless shelter, women's shelter, or animal rescue organization.

5. Clothing Drives:

Spring cleaning is a perfect time to collect gently used clothing. Organize a clothing drive for homeless shelters or individuals in need.

6. Help the Elderly:

Many elderly people may need assistance with spring-related chores, such as yard work or getting their homes ready for the warmer weather. Offering your time or organizing a volunteer group to help can make a big difference.

7. Pet Adoption Drives:

Many animal shelters work hard in the spring to find homes for pets that were abandoned or taken in over the winter. Volunteering at or organizing an adoption event for local shelters can help animals find loving homes.

I hope that this list of ideas can INSPIRE some of our brothers and sisters, who are new to charity, to try to make a difference. If you reach out to your local council, sometimes they can assist with funds to help your cause. Whatever you do, please don't forget to snap some photos, write down what you did and send it to me for the next Bulletin.

Submitted by: Patrick Fitzgerald

A Salute to Distinguished Service

This issue is dedicated to the many members of the Society who have given their service to help the Royal Arcanum grow and prosper. We feature here our Brothers and Sisters who have distinguished themselves by introducing new members to the Order over the past years.

The highest award is given to the members who have earned the Founders' Ring of Distinction Award. The second highest level of achievement is the '1105' Royal Purple Achievement Award, followed by the Legion of Honor. Other members who have earned between one and twenty diamonds are awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

The Royal Arcanum is pleased to recognize the distinguished service of all our award recipients.*

** Does not include production from current campaign*

FOUNDERS' RING OF DISTINCTION AWARD



August Magnotta
Claremont CI
New York
(Center Diamond)
(L. of H. Circle-6)

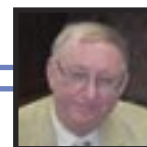


Cynthia A. Macon
Versatility CI
New Jersey
(Founders' Ring W/Diamond)
(Center Diamond)
(L. of H. Circle-10) Bar-I

'1105' ROYAL PURPLE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Joseph R. Macon
Bayonne CI
New Jersey
(L. of H.-10)



Kenneth J. Kolek
Pawtucket CI
Rhode Island
(L. of H.-10)
(L. of H. Center Diamond)

LEGION OF HONOR AWARD



Peter D. Young
Coronation CI
Ontario
(L. of H.-4)



Genevieve A. Macon
Versatility CI
New Jersey
(L. of H.-1)



Marie Cavallo
Claremont CI
New York
(L. of H.-2)



Deborah L. Young
Coronation CI
Ontario
(L. of H.-10)



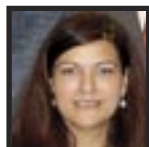
Carl Krzystofczyk
Medora CI
Illinois
(L. of H.-5)



Ralph Ferrara
Integrity CI
Pennsylvania
(L. of H.-10)



David Hryniewicz
Alpha-Agassiz CI
Massachusetts
(L. of H.-10)



Maria DiBartolo
Claremont CI
New York
(L. of H.-8)



Gregory Hahn
Medora CI
Illinois
(L. of H.-5)



A Salute to Distinguished Service

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



TWENTY DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Errica Conforto	Claremont	New York	Carmen Rodia	Integrity	Pennsylvania
John Crisanti	Alpha-Agassiz	Massachusetts	Lillie Mae Panichelli	Integrity	Pennsylvania (deceased)

NINETEEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Joe Tedesco	Integrity	Pennsylvania	Loretta Wehbe	Integrity	Pennsylvania

SIXTEEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Antal Basa, Jr.	Alpha-Agassiz	Massachusetts

FIFTEEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Carmen Toma	Alpha-Agassiz	Massachusetts

FOURTEEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Ellen Phillips	Railroad	Colorado

TWELVE DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Joyce A. Crawford	Germantown	Pennsylvania	Loretta DiGianivittorio	Integrity	Pennsylvania

ELEVEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Ivan Snyder	Integrity	Pennsylvania	Carol Zavitz	Coronation	Ontario

TEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Dotti Pagnani	Alpha-Agassiz	Massachusetts			

NINE DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Peter Ferrara	Integrity	Pennsylvania	Ethel Reitsema	Merritt	New Jersey
Andrew Madonna	Williamsbridge	New York			

EIGHT DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Charlotte Brill	Treasure Coast	Florida			
Matthew D'Emilio	Integrity	Pennsylvania			

SEVEN DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Herbert J. Snyder	Integrity	Pennsylvania			



A Salute to Distinguished Service

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



SIX DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Rosella Berger David Covelli	Woodside Ft. Dearborn	New Jersey Illinois	Raymond Raniszewski	Bayonne	New Jersey

FIVE DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Richard J. Macon	Bayonne	New Jersey			

FOUR DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Richard H. Blase James Donati Jane Merrill	Dependable Rhododendron Rhododendron	Massachusetts Carolinas Carolinas	Gerard Pelletier Arlayne Skridulis	Maisonneuve Mattatuck	Québec Connecticut

THREE DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
James Boufford Inge Huber Richard Phillips	Coronation Claremont Railroad	Ontario New York Colorado	Michele N. Rhode Robert W. Rowlands	Ft. Dearborn Hoboken	Illinois New Jersey (deceased)

TWO DIAMONDS

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
Ann Antuzzi Sharon Bayliss Janice Brazas Elizabeth Delgado Gloria Donaldson Kathleen Doyle Grace Gavin	San Jose Coronation Detroit Claremont Coronation Mattatuck Versatility	California Ontario Michigan New York Ontario Connecticut New Jersey	Randolph P. Kriz Thomas H. McGruddy John B. Opitz III Kevin Power Patrecia Tindell Marjorie Trout Harry Uberroth Jr.	Coronation Integrity Merritt Alpha-Agassiz Railroad Harrisburg Germantown	Ontario Pennsylvania New Jersey Massachusetts Colorado Pennsylvania Pennsylvania

ONE DIAMOND

NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL	NAME	COUNCIL	GRAND COUNCIL
George Arseneault Arlene Baker Nicholas Benoit Heidi L. Bonness Margaret Cameron Glenda Cole Madeline Dumouchelle Mary Ann Emrick Alan S. Foote Robert Galdon, Jr. Robert Koval Jeannette Murray Robert Musso Chris O'Neil James E. O'Neill	Dependable Regina Alpha-Agassiz Lakewood Coronation Catawba Coronation Detroit Merritt Bayonne Bayonne Milette Bayonne Coronation San Jose	Massachusetts Ontario Massachusetts Ohio Ontario Carolinas Ontario Michigan New Jersey New Jersey New Jersey New Hampshire New Jersey Ontario California	Walter J. Pagurek John Parris Carl Petlik Stella Pettinelli Babette Quinn Judith Relovsky Ann Rescigno Rosalie Rinaldi Leonard Rowlands F.B. Seeley Robert Shea Pauline Thomas Alan White Eleanore Yelenovsky	Bayonne Rhododendron Bayonne Penn Laurel Horsetooth Versatility Claremont Mattatuck Metuchen Royal York B.H. Webb Harrisburg Coronation Versatility	New Jersey Carolinas New Jersey Pennsylvania Colorado New Jersey New York Connecticut New Jersey Ontario Connecticut Pennsylvania Ontario New Jersey

SUPREME REGENT VISITS MASSACHUSETTS

On March 16, 2025, the Grand Council of Massachusetts welcomed our Supreme Regent, Nicole Covelli, to their jurisdiction. The event began with a wonderful buffet-style breakfast that all the participants enjoyed. According to Grace Basa, the French toast was especially delicious. After breakfast, Sister Nicole introduced the **REVIVE** program and along with Grand Regent, Anthony Basa, encouraged the members to think of ways to **REVIVE** things in the jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

As part of Sister Nicole's presentation, she held a raffle for two lucky members of the Grand Council; she enlisted the help of two Junior members (Luna & Lily) to pick the winning names.

A food drive for the Canton Food Pantry located in Canton, Massachusetts was also conducted that day. Mary, the representative from the food pantry, was not expecting such a wonderful donation from the Royal Arcanum family and was eager to get the items stocked in the pantry and ready for distribution to those in need.

Everyone had a wonderful time reconnecting at the event. The members are already planning more charitable events and potentially new and **REVIVED** ways to partner with our community.

Submitted by:

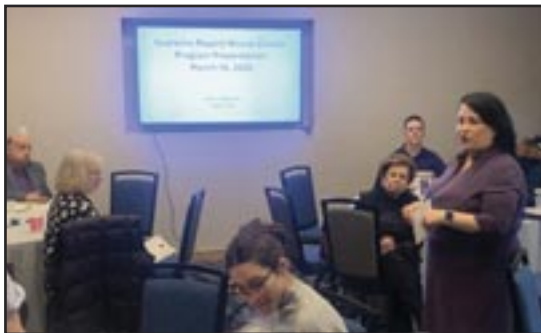
Tony Basa

Grand Secretary

Grand Council of Massachusetts



**What a lovely combination:
Royal Arcanum Brochures
and cereal**



**Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli begins
her *REVIVE* presentation to the
members of the Grand Council of
Massachusetts.**



Feeling the *REVIVE* bug in the room!!!!



**Grand Regent Anthony
and Grace help the
Junior members Lily &
Luna pick the winning
names from Nicole's
raffle.**



**Members and guests listening to the
Supreme Regent's presentation (and
staring at the camera...)**



**Supreme Regent Covelli with SVR
Karen Lockaby, GR Anthony Basa and
Mary, the Canton Food Pantry
representative.**



**Supreme Regent Nicole
Covelli with Liz (left)
and Risca (right), the
winners of the raffle!**

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1. Conditions Apply

Rhode Island's Royal Arcanum members held a meeting at Chelo's Restaurant in East Providence, R.I. on Saturday, March 15, 2025. Grand Regent, Lynn Kolek welcomed Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli and her mother Joanne Covelli, from Illinois. Sister Lynn also welcomed Royal Arcanum's Executive Committee Chairperson Cindy Macon and Supreme Chaplain Evelyn Magarban. Supreme Vice Regent Karen Lockaby was also introduced.

Also present were representatives from the Shriners Charitable Trust and a nine-year-old girl, Tessa, who benefited medically from Shriners and her mother, Sherry. Shriners was chosen as a joint endeavor between Rhode Island and North Carolina for the Fraternal Department's "Buddy Program".

After the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem, members enjoyed a delicious buffet. Sister Nicole then presented her program, **REVIVE** and encouraged members to strive to bring in a new member. She introduced her book program and encouraged members to collect books for worthy causes.

Sister Cindy spoke about the benefits of Royal Arcanum membership and commended the fraternalists for their support of the Society's charitable projects. She called



Supreme Secretary Emeritus Ken Kolek to the podium and surprised him with a 50-year membership certificate as Sister Nicole presented his RA veteran's pin. Cindy was happy to highlight Brother Kolek's service to the Society and his untiring endeavors for the success of its insurance and fraternal operations.

Representatives from the Shriners, also a fraternal benefit society, spoke about the pediatric care the Shriners offer to children with their 22 hospitals worldwide. The facilities specialize in care for children with orthopedic conditions, spinal cord injuries, burns, cleft palates and more. As mentioned previously, a young girl, Tessa, received much-needed medical help from the Shriners.

Members and guests then took part in a drawing for door prizes provided by the

Grand Council and the Supreme Regent while partaking in tasty desserts.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Sister Lynn thanked everyone for attending, for their donations to the Shriners Charitable Trust, and then distributed beautiful gifts sent from the Home Office to promote the Supreme Regent's campaign.

*Submitted by:
Ken Kolek*



FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Feeding the pigeons is one of the earliest memories of time happily spent with my paternal grandfather. I fondly recall stopping at the local grocery shop where he'd purchase a sack of peanuts before we headed off to the county park. As a toddler it was a big thrill for me to hold my hand open to nest the treats while my grandfather did the shelling. Within a matter of seconds, a flock descended, strutting about while bobbing their heads and with expectations of getting a nibble or two. We were ready for them and the "simple activity" created a fun time (for us and I think for the pigeons, too!).

Recently I was looking over photos taken during vacations and was amazed to see how many times I've captured pigeons on camera! From town squares in European cities to fountains in stately gardens to peaks of lofty landmarks, pigeons may be found to the delight or dismay of the traveler. (I'm in the first group.)

Long wings and powerful flight muscles make pigeons strong, swift fliers. The homing pigeon is selectively bred for its ability to find its way home over extremely long distances and because of this skill, homing pigeons were used to carry messages. When used during wars, they were called "war pigeons" and they have been credited for their gallantry and bravery in saving human lives with their actions. During World War II, homing pigeons were airdropped into northwest Europe to serve as intelligence vectors for local resistance agents. They had a crucial function in the Invasion of Normandy; radios could not be used for fear of vital information being intercepted by the enemy. Throughout history, whether they flew a few yards or hundreds of miles, homing pigeons were reliable and effective couriers.

In a few weeks, our fraternal benefit society will begin its 148th year of service to members and to communities.

Always evolving to provide the best as a fraternal insurer for families, the Royal Arcanum's financial products of permanent life insurance plans and annuity options, member benefits, charitable support and volunteer service initiatives indicate that the organization has stood the test of time.

We have a great message that can be delivered to our families and friends to introduce them

to the Royal Arcanum and invite them to consider enrolling as members.



Advancing our Society's mission of service and dedication to its founding attributes of Virtue, Mercy, and Charity continues to be demonstrated by the Royal Arcanum's good work. Whether giving support to a local charity or helping volunteers who are thousands of miles from home, members and councils are messengers of hope and good will, making a positive difference for others each and every day!

Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli presents a great opportunity for us to promote the Royal Arcanum and be fraternal messengers in community this year by participating in her campaign's "Book Drive". It's an ideal way to help children

foster a love for reading. With a willing spirit and a bit of effort, let's spread our "wings" to achieve 100 percent jurisdictional participation in this endeavor.

As warm weather arrives in many parts of the country, council rosters will soon fill with outdoor activities and projects for the Royal Arcanum family and friends. You may even be surprised if a few pigeons drop by for a visit, so have the peanuts ready and enjoy the good times!

In friendship,

Cynthia A. Macon

Cindy Macon
Fraternal-Communications Director

LORRAINE J. D'EMILIO AWARD



Sister Lorraine D'Emilio

The Supreme Council Fraternal Department is pleased to announce that Versatility Council #2501, New Jersey is the recipient of the Lorraine J. D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award for 2025.

The Royal Arcanum's award was named in honor of Sister Lorraine J. D'Emilio of Integrity Council #586, Pennsylvania. Lorraine's selfless volunteerism for

in Lodi, New Jersey and Ukrainian children being helped by the sisters at their convent in Przemyśl, Poland as war continues in their homeland, "joined hands" for Saint Nicholas Day. The children festively decorated traditional gingerbread cookie "mitten ornaments" that would later adorn their classroom trees to welcome the Christmas season. A spirit of wonder, joy, and hope was shared across the ocean as "real time" photos were made to exchange first looks of the uniquely designed cookies. The magic of the season gave the kids across the ocean a chance to enjoy just being kids and for a short time have no worries about the war while making new friends with kids in the U.S. that are challenged, too, not due to war but by a physical or developmental difficulty.

furthering the cause of fraternalism and goodwill motivated countless members to engage in council initiatives and cheerfully share their talents for charitable causes. Each year, Councils are invited to participate in the Legacy of Hope program as a special remembrance of Lorraine. The program's objective focuses on the creativity and teamwork of fraternalists as they endeavor to provide a measure of hope for the beneficiaries of a volunteer-sponsored project.

Versatility Council's project, "A Holiday of Hope – Hands Together" was conducted with children in the care of the Felician Sisters. Students with special needs at the Felician School for Exceptional Children



Youngsters decorating cookies in Przemyśl

As this year's beneficiary of the LJD Award, the Felician School for Exceptional Children received a \$1,000 donation from the Supreme Council. Additional donations for the Ukrainian children are being sent through the Royal Arcanum's ongoing Ukrainian project as part of the fraternal department's service programs.

The Royal Arcanum commends

Versatility Council for sponsoring this holiday project with admiration and remembrance of a stellar fraternalist - Sister Lorraine D'Emilio - and for furthering her legacy of compassionate and exemplary volunteerism.

PET-FRIENDLY PROJECT IN BAYONNE

The members of Bayonne Council #695, New Jersey continue demonstrating their animal-friendly spirit by their ongoing efforts for the benefit of animals that are residing in shelters and humane societies while they await adoption and for some, a second chance at a better life. Sadly, many shelters have reached capacity with animals in need

of a home. It's becoming more expensive to care for pets and for this reason, some seniors and families have had to make a tough decision to surrender their longtime loyal companions to animal care centers.

The Arcanians actively support organizations with a mission to rescue, shelter, rehabilitate, provide medical care and find adoptive homes for pets brought to their doors. Basic supplies are always put to good use and donations are much appreciated by



Community Outreach Committee members Gen Macon and Evelyn Magarban with one of the twenty cartons prepared for the animal shelter.

staff who compassionately care for the animals.

The Bayonne members prepared for springtime kitten season by supplying new and “almost new” towels, blankets, bedding and other supplies. The members contributed twenty boxes filled with pet items and laundry aids.

The council supported the project with additional cartons of pet food, treats, collars, harnesses, and leashes that were donated to the Bergen County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center in Teterboro.

The fraternalists are hopeful that there will be many happy “tales” of the dogs and kitties being adopted and welcomed into their fur-ever homes very soon.

THANK YOU

THANK
YOU!

The Supreme Council acknowledges the following additional donations made as a tribute to Sister Frances Magnotta through “Operation Holiday Chest 2024”:

Medora Council #1648 - Greater Chicago Food Depository
Rhododendron Council #701 - Grace Tabernacle Community Service Ministry

TEACHING OUR CHILD

Teaching your kids responsibility is an essential part of their development and sets them up for success in the future. Here are some effective ways to teach responsibility to your children:

1. Model Responsibility

Kids learn a lot by observing their parents, so be a role model. Show them how you handle tasks, commitments, and challenges. When they see you taking responsibility in your daily life, they're more likely to do the same.

2. Start with Small Tasks

Give your child simple, age-appropriate responsibilities to help them build a sense of accomplishment and pride. The duties can be things like setting the table, feeding a pet, or making their bed. Gradually increase the difficulty as they grow older.

3. Give Them Choices

Allowing your child to make decisions teaches them accountability. Giving kids choices helps them understand that their actions have consequences. For example, ask if they want to clean their room in the morning or after school, so they feel empowered in managing their time.

4. Use Natural Consequences

If your child doesn't complete a task or forgets something (like a lunchbox or school assignment), allow them to face the natural consequences. For example, if they forget to pack their homework, they might get a lower grade, and the outcome will help them realize the importance of responsibility in schoolwork.

5. Teach Time Management

Help your kids learn how to manage their time by setting schedules and routines. Encourage them to use calendars or planners, and help them break big tasks into smaller, more manageable steps. Time management is a crucial part of being responsible.

6. Provide Praise and Positive Reinforcement

When your child takes responsibility, make sure to praise their efforts. Positive reinforcement will encourage them to continue taking responsibility for their actions. For example, "I'm proud of how you took care of your chores today!"

7. Assign Household Chores

Chores are a great way to teach responsibility and teamwork. Make sure the tasks are appropriate for their age, and ensure that everyone in the family has duties. Doing so will also show them that everyone contributes to the well-being of the household.





CHILDREN RESPONSIBILITY

8. Hold Them Accountable

Don't simply overlook your child's mistakes or forgotten responsibilities. Hold them accountable in a constructive way. Help them understand what went wrong and how they can do better next time. This teaches them the importance of following through on commitments.

9. Encourage Problem-Solving

Instead of always solving problems for them, encourage your child to come up with solutions on their own. If they lose something or break something, help them think of ways to fix the issue or prevent it from happening again.

10. Allow for Mistakes

Responsibility doesn't mean being perfect, and it's important to teach your child that making mistakes is part of the learning process. When they make an error, work with them to figure out what went wrong and how to avoid repeating the mistake.

11. Teach Financial Responsibility

Give your child an allowance or money for completing tasks and help them budget their spending. Teach them about saving, budgeting, and spending wisely. This will help them understand financial responsibility from a young age.

12. Promote Self-Discipline

Encourage your child to manage their behavior and actions, especially in challenging situations. These tasks can involve setting personal goals, following rules, or keeping promises. The more they practice self-discipline, the more responsible they will become.

13. Set Clear Expectations

Make sure your child understands what is expected of them. Whether it's chores, homework, or daily routines, being clear about your expectations helps them take responsibility for their actions.

14. Let Them Experience the Benefits of Responsibility

When your child successfully manages their responsibilities, highlight the positive outcomes, like feeling proud of their work or earning a reward. The positive reinforcement helps them understand how responsibility benefits them and others.

15. Give Them Opportunities for Leadership

Encourage your kids to take on leadership roles in group settings, whether it's in family activities, sports, or school projects. This will help them develop confidence and responsibility in guiding others.

By consistently practicing these strategies, your child will gradually develop a strong sense of responsibility that will serve them well throughout their lives. It's all about helping them understand that their actions have consequences and that they have control over their choices.

CUPID'S CUPBOARD PROJECT

A large assortment of coffees, teas, cocoas, and sweeteners, plus cookies and cereal bars, along with a

The fraternalists plan to continue their efforts for the shelters as the seasons change; next up will be collecting flip-flops and body wash for the shower programs.

**Deputy Supreme
Regent Gen
Macon sorts
donations for the
shelter warming
program.**



IN MEMORIAM: MARY FELICIA (DUDEK) RADECKI



The jurisdiction of Maryland sadly reports that Sister Mary Radecki passed away on March 23, 2025. A member of Carrollton Council #257 in Baltimore, Sister Radecki participated with family in activities sponsored by the jurisdiction of Maryland-D.C.-Virginia.

enjoyed gardening and was fond of all things related to The Wizard of Oz, Disney, and giraffes. Mary shared an immense joy for traveling with her husband, Stanley. Visits to National Parks and ventures across the United States and into Alaska provided them with many wonderful memories.

Mary is survived by her loving family, including her husband Stanley, son Anthony, daughter-in-law Caron, five grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son Stanley Jr.

May she rest in eternal peace.

Mary was an active parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church, Parkton. A talented seamstress, she also

IN MEMORIAM: LILLIE MAE PANICHELLI



The Grand Council of Pennsylvania sadly reports the passing of Sister Lillie Mae Panichelli on February 14, 2025.

Lillie Mae worked as a registered nurse for more than 30 years,

with 18 of them as an employee at Methodist Hospital in South Philadelphia prior to her retirement.

Lillie Mae enrolled in Royal Arcanum's Penn Laurel Council #2488 in 1981 and later became a member of Integrity Council #586. She was an enthusiastic fraternalist and active officer who notably served as Regent, Grand Regent of Pennsylvania, and Representative to the Supreme Council. She served as Supreme Committeewoman from 2022 through 2024 as a member of the Appeals Committee.

Dedicated to the Society's values of Virtue, Mercy, and Charity, Lillie Mae introduced family and friends to our fraternal benefit society and earned the Distinguished Service Award with 20 diamonds for her volunteer production efforts. Five generations of her family were enrolled into the Royal Arcanum.

She will long be remembered for her unwavering support to the Junior Committee; she organized parties, outings, and other special occasions which were immensely enjoyed by the youth and "seasoned" participants. Lillie Mae spearheaded a host of International Fraternal Service

Projects on behalf of the council, many for the benefit of underprivileged, disabled, and hospitalized children.

Lillie Mae's infectious smile and positivity lit up council gatherings each time the Arcanian family met. She was a great organizer as a leader and teammate who volunteered with the Fraternal Events Committee to conduct the Society's national gifting projects at sessions and mini vacations. Her generosity of heart motivated others to volunteer for charitable causes, locally and for the community at large. Lillie Mae and Chuck, her husband, looked forward to the Supreme Council vacations for the opportunity to reconnect with the extended Arcanian family from across the country and visit some beautiful areas of the U.S.

The Supreme Council was proud to recognize Lillie Mae with the Royal Arcanum's National Fraternalist of the Year Award in 2016; a gracious and humble individual, Lillie Mae's steadfast example and accomplishment in providing outstanding volunteer service to our Society and to the community motivated a host of members to engage in the council and advance the fraternal mission.

In her "free time", Lillie Mae enjoyed playing cards with friends, crocheting gifts for family, friends and various charities, and she delighted in the company of her kitty cat, Freddy.

Lillie Mae is survived by her beloved husband, Carmen "Chuck", her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchild, along with many good friends in the Royal Arcanum. She had been a genuine inspiration as a "fraternal sister" and her legacy will be carried forth in the continued good works of the Arcanian councils.

May she rest in eternal peace.

HISTORICAL IN MEMORIAMs

For those interested in a complete list by year of our dearly departed, you can visit our website, click on "About Us" and then "In Memoriam"



Claremont Council #1655 members continued its support of Children of Promise NYC, New York by providing donations of clothing articles, books, puzzles, and toys, plus boxes of cereal that were delivered to the Bronx facility.

Founded in 2009, Children of Promise is the first and only after-school program and summer day camp specifically designed to meet the needs, interests and concerns of children left behind by a parent serving time in prison. The organization strives to have the children succeed and achieve their human potential. On-site help is available 5 days a week from a team of psychiatrists, social workers, creative arts therapists and volunteers. One-to-one mentoring is also part of the programs for the youth that provide them with every opportunity to obtain the knowledge and love of learning that will allow them to succeed in school and beyond.

The cereals were provided for the children so that they would have nutritious snacks to enjoy at home. Many of the youth may have only one substantial

meal per day and the anytime-of-day food staple would help them overcome feeling hungry.

In partnering with the Supreme Council, Claremont Council also participated in the International Fraternal Service program during the visit by making a \$1,000 donation to Children of Promise NYC.

Special thanks are extended to Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto, Grand Regent Maria

DiBartolo, and Claremont Council officers Dennis Deleo and Theresa DiBartolo for coordinating the project.

Children of Promise representative Monique Newton was delighted to welcome the fraternalists at the Bronx facility and to extend gratitude for the council's generosity and community partnership.



Monique Newton (second from left) accepts gifts from Claremont Council members during their visit to Children of Promise.



The children are thrilled to receive their favorite cereal varieties.

BAKER'S BOX: ORANGE CRANBERRY BISCOTTI WITH PISTACHIO

Enjoy this recipe submitted by Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto. The classic confection is a complement to any meal or as a stand-alone treat!

Ingredients :

2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 large eggs
1/3 cup unsalted butter, melted
zest of 2 oranges
1 cup dried cranberries
1 cup shelled pistachios, chopped



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. [Baking time 25-30 minutes, plus 8-10 additional minutes after the biscotti are cut].

In a large bowl, whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder and salt.

In a separate bowl, beat eggs and then add the melted butter and the orange zest. Mix well. Gradually add the wet ingredients to the dry, stirring until just combined. Fold in cranberries and chopped pistachios until evenly distributed in the dough.

Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper.

Divide dough in half. Shape each piece into a 12 x 2-inch log. (Dough may be sticky; dust hands with flour to handle more easily.)

Place each log on a cookie sheet and bake in the preheated oven until logs are light brown (25-30 minutes).

Remove from oven and set aside to cool for 10 minutes. Cut logs into thick slices. (An electric knife works well). Place cookies cut-side down on the cookie sheet and return to the oven to bake until dry, 8 to 10 minutes more. Then remove from oven. Cool. Enjoy!



JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Youth of the Year Award Program



The Royal Arcanum announces a great program for 2025 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

Nomination 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 2025 **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, 2025 .

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.



2025 YOUTH VOLUNTEER AWARD APPLICATION

Please print or type

Royal Arcanum Junior's Name: _____ Council: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City/State-Province/Zip: _____

Civic (non-school) Activities*: _____

Royal Arcanum/Council Activities*: _____

***Information can be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Please type or print.**

=====

**THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY ROYAL ARCANUM MEMBER
MAKING JUNIOR NOMINATION**

Royal Arcanum Member Signature

Royal Arcanum Member Name (please print)

Phone #: _____

Council: _____

=====

+Send completed application/information and photo to:

**Royal Arcanum
Errica Conforto, Junior Director
61 Batterymarch St.
Boston, MA 02110**

+ MUST BE POSTMARKED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2025

LEADING WITH READING

The members of Versatility Council #2501, New Jersey took an early lead in support of Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli's campaign project of donating books for a charitable cause. The objective of encouraging youngsters to foster a love for reading was embraced by the fraternalists. From January 1 (the first day of the new year) through March 20 (the first day of spring), members were invited to read books of their choice; for every book completed, the council would donate a "sensory" book for special-needs children.

The readers did a great job with several book swaps taking place during the read-a-thon. Mysteries, novels,



The team of Versatility's leading readers for children.

adventure stories and others intrigued the readers in their quest to reach the goal of 100 books so that \$1,000 would be gifted for the Felician ministry children's libraries. The council is thrilled to report that

the members surpassed the goal. They read a total of 118 books!

The Arcanians anticipate continuing the project and are certain to tote along a book or two to enjoy at the park, beach, or even on the front porch, as warm weather now welcomes everyone to spend more time outdoors.

TOP ALL TIME READS FOR CHILDREN

Here's a list of some of the top children's books of all time—the ones that have captivated generations of readers and remain popular today!

1. "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak

2. "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" by J.K. Rowling

3. "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle

4. "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White

5. "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown

6. "The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss

7. "Matilda" by Roald Dahl

8. "The Chronicles of Narnia" series by C.S. Lewis



9. "Winnie-the-Pooh" by A.A. Milne

10. "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll

11. "The Tale of Peter Rabbit" by Beatrix Potter

12. "Anne of Green Gables" by L.M. Montgomery

13. "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats

14. "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein

15. "Pippi Longstocking" by Astrid Lindgren

Each of these books offers something special—whether it's a lesson, an adventure, or a sense of wonder. Many of them have had a lasting impact, shaping childhood experiences around the world. Do you have a favorite among these?

Spring is finally here!

Congratulations and good luck to all our high school seniors, especially those who have applied for the Royal Arcanum scholarships and grants. As always, an independent judge not affiliated with the Royal Arcanum is responsible for reviewing the applications and choosing the winners. The names of this year's scholarship winners will be announced by the end of May, and the Home Office in Boston will notify the recipients.

Every year our organization awards more than \$65,000 in scholarships and grants to the eligible winners to help our members spring forward with their education. I hope that our Junior members

take advantage of this opportunity and the benefits of membership and remember to apply for the scholarships next year to help them pursue their dreams.

Remember that the Royal Arcanum provides up to \$100 in reimbursement towards classes to improve your SAT and other test scores. Please send the receipts to the Home Office to be reimbursed.



**Junior Department
Director
Errica Conforto**

If you are a college student, please send us your name and mailing address. You will receive a little something to let you know that we care and are thinking about you and are wishing you a wonderfully successful semester.

Don't forget that we have coloring pages and puzzles available in the Bulletin. Juniors who submit completed coloring pages and puzzles receive a \$10 Amazon gift card from our Junior Department.

I wish all the members a blessed Mother's Day and a wonderful spring. As Memorial Day approaches, I salute all of our men and women who have served and fought to protect our country and freedom.

Sincerely in VMC,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Errica Conforto".

Errica Conforto

Junior Director



SPRING WORD SEARCH

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):



This is zigzag word search puzzle. Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle. There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.



APRIL
BIRDHOUSE
BLOSSOM
BLUE SKY
FRESHNESS
GARDEN
GREEN GRASS

MARCH
MAY
NESTLINGS
SEEDS
SOWING
SUNLIGHT
YOUNG GROWTH



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**

SPRING MAZE

HELP THE BOY MOW THE PATH TO THE HOUSE

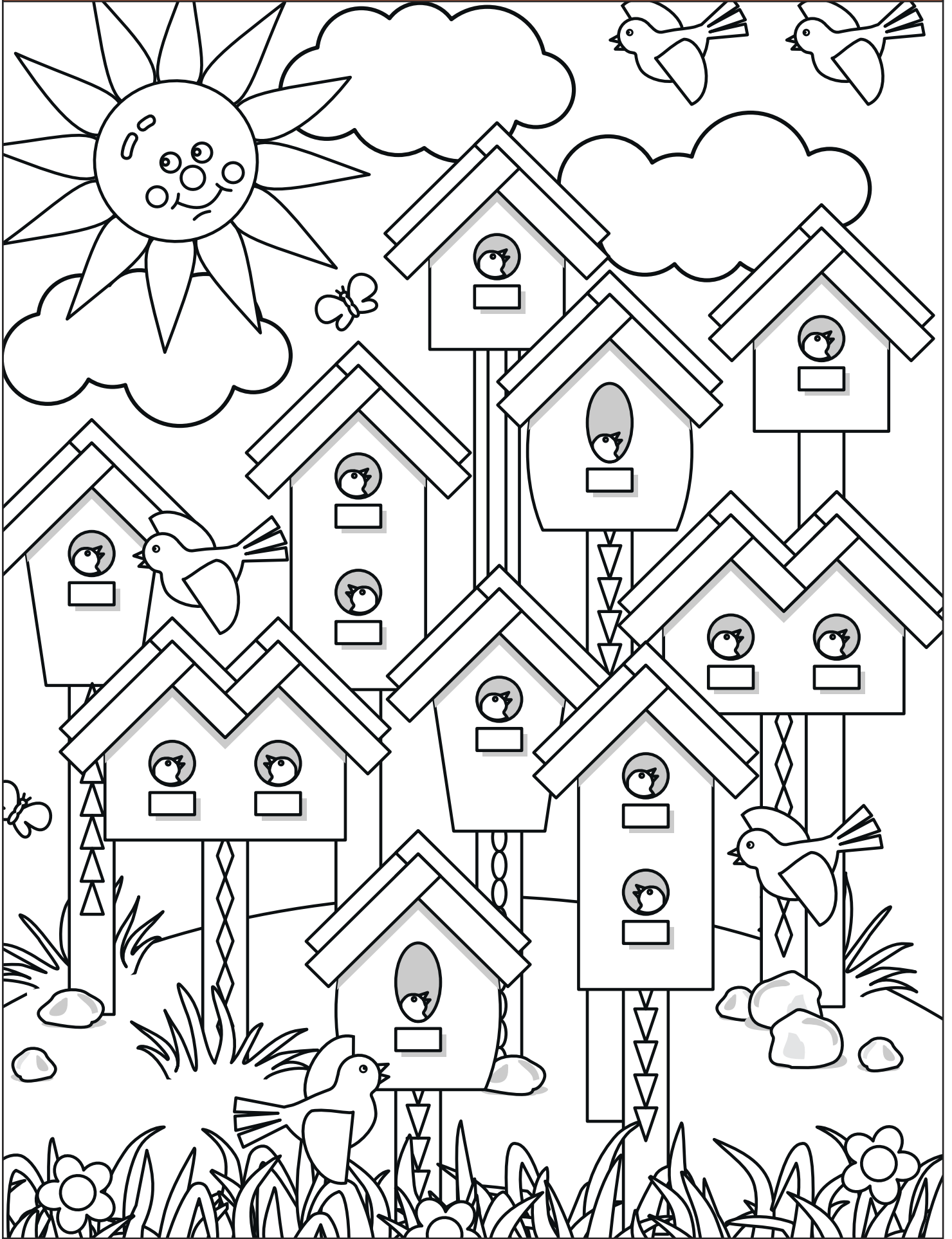


JUNIOR SPRING PUZZLE

FIND FIVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PICTURES



JUNIOR SPRING COLORING



ALPHA-AGASSIZ HOOPS

Junior member Teddy Benoit of Alpha-Agassiz Council #1, Massachusetts, capped off a 2024/2025 State Basketball Championship in Rhode Island over the March 14-16 weekend! Teddy's team, Plymouth South United finished the season with a 23-1 record! Highlights of the season included the opening Hoops with Hearts Memorial Tournament and finals for the

State Championship. The team was well-balanced, with each of the 12 players contributing throughout the season.

Congratulations to the entire team!



TREASURE FROM THE PAST

Pictured is a souvenir disc of the Supreme Council's membership campaign from more than fifty years ago. Jurisdictions competed for new enrollments of members in the "Building Living Monuments through the Royal Arcanum" program. The focus of engaging members and

promoting the message of the Society was embraced by councils and led the fraternalists to provide "monumental" service to members and communities with the organization's products and charitable work.



A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I hope that this edition of the Royal Arcanum Bulletin finds you well and safe. As our clocks jumped forward, we must also jump forward to keep up with the times. In my house, as our children get older, they tell us more and more about technology and current trends. They mostly do this by telling us how old we are... In this token, we are blessed with passing the metaphorical torch down the line and allowing the younger generation to adapt our cause to the current times.

This brings me to Sister Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli. Her program, **REVIVE** discusses how we can bring more young people in and get the Royal Arcanum back to where it used to be. My daughter recently told me that the events she remembers from her childhood were filled with so much love and happiness; we must strive to achieve that again. One of those times was when the Royal Arcanum held its mini vacation in Tennessee and Grace was all decked out in pink (from her cowgirl hat to her little pink boots). It is memories like this that make the Royal Arcanum what it is today and without everyone's help it would not have been possible.

We are the past, present and future of our fraternal benefit society. The past... We have a rich and wonderful past. 1909-1912 Vice President James S. Sherman was a member of Imperial Council in Utica, New York. Theodor Seuss Geisel, the renowned children's book author Dr. Seuss, was a member from California. James Kilsheimer was a member of the legal team at the Nuremberg trials, from November 20, 1945 to October 1, 1946.

The present... This is us. We can continue to grow and **REVIVE** the Royal Arcanum through our charitable work for others. Let it be food drives,



the Jimmy Fund Walk, United Walks for Hemophilia, feeding the hungry, checking in on neighbors - anything you do to make someone's life better.

The future... This is a tough one since no one can predict the future or what is going to happen. However, we can guide and direct the path of our Society by helping others and looking to further grow our membership. It starts by talking

to your friends and family. You may know someone who recently had a baby or a grandparent who is looking to start some type of savings for their

grandchild. This is what we can do to guide our future in the right direction to **REVIVE** the Royal Arcanum.

I can keep going on about the wonderful things the Royal Arcanum has done and can continue to do; all it takes is a team effort. I challenge ALL Grand Councils and

Subordinate Councils to do at least two works of charity and notify me with your results.

Massachusetts, my jurisdiction, had the honor of welcoming Supreme Regent Nicole Covelli for her **REVIVE** presentation and after she left, members of the Grand Council started to talk about what we can do going forward. I will be reaching out to all the councils to see what we can do together to **REVIVE** the Royal Arcanum.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Yours in VMC,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Antal Basa, Jr.".

Antal Basa, Jr.
Supreme Secretary
abasa@royalarcanum.com
617-429-8763



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