



Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of West Virginia

Office of Edward E. Ball
M. E. Grand High Priest

September 1, 2024

Re: **September 2024 message**

Dear Companions,

September signals the end of the summer and the change of season to fall. Fall is my favorite season. I look forward to the cooler days of fall and the changing of the leaves that transforms the beautiful hills and mountains of our state with breathtaking color.

Fall also signals we are nearing the end of our Capitular year. The Grand Convocation (Oct. 25-26) information and forms are out to the Chapter secretaries and posted on our website ramwv.org. Make your reservations NOW. The hotel room block closes on September 25 and the deadline for meal reservations is October 4.

This month I will be visiting Wheeling Union #1 (9th) and Ronceverte (#21). I am looking forward to seeing the Companions in these Chapters. These two visits will fulfill my goal of visiting all 26 Chapters in the state. Grand High Priest visits to the Chapters is part of the Restoration Project we are working on.

I have no new information from the Grand Lecturer to share with you on his organizing efforts for another degree festival to occur in the latter half of September in the northern part of the State. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

Again, I ask all Companions redouble their efforts to restore vitality in our Chapters by:

- Attending meetings and practices
- Learning a ritual part in at least one of the degrees
- Mentoring a new Companion(s)
- Reaching out to Companions who don't participate to encourage them to do so
- Be welcoming, friendly and helpful to all who come to your Chapter
- Chapter Leaders - be in constant communication with the membership of your Chapter

Make every meeting one that everyone leaves feeling glad they came.

"Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters." — M. W. Bro. Ben Franklin