

# The Kentucky Keystone

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**ME Companion James H. King, Jr.  
Grand High Priest Message**

Companions,

I wish a happy Mother's Day to all the ladies of this Grand Chapter, and thank you for all your support. Spring is a beautiful time of year, as we enjoy this wonderful season let us renew our vows with the fraternity and pledge to attend a little more often, take more interest and be better Masons.

The Grand Commandery Easter Pilgrimage was a huge success our thanks Right Eminent Grand Commander George Brooks also Sir Knights William Ryan and Michael Yount for their hard work and support.

Companions our inspections are about done for this year and the Officers elections

are soon to come. Remember the decisions made in June will determine how your chapter functions during the next year. Look for those who will attend and take an interest in the business of the chapter. Being an elected officer is a commitment to serve and you may refuse to accept if you are unable perform the duties.

I am as always grateful for the opportunity to serve this Grand Chapter and the Companions of the Commonwealth.

Fraternally,

*James H. King, Jr.*

M.E. Grand High Priest

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## Grand High Priest Itinerary

May 3, 2012	Franklin Lodge # 28
May 7, 2012	Whitesburg Area makeup meeting
May 10, 2012	Ken-Ten Chapter # 148
May 15, 2012	Russellville Chapter # 8
May 17, 2012	Franklin Lodge # 28
May 20, 2012	Oleika Shrine Hospital Days
May 22, 2012	Western Star Chapter # 20
May 24, 2012	Temple Chapter # 172

## ***“How’s Membership”***

*-Editorial-*

At a gathering at any Masonic Officers in all bodies, inevitably one will ask, “How’s your attendance holding up?” It is, for the most part a rhetorical question.

The last substantial growth in the membership of the Masonic Bodies occurred well over forty years ago. Since then there have been countless reasons presented for the decline in attendance.

Members have moved away from the metropolitan area. Once they live in more rural areas they become accustomed to more leisure time, more holidays, and longer vacations. Some members have turned to service clubs, where the results of their participation may be more apparent. Others find that civic responsibilities take up their evening hours. Even others are involved in sports teams, civic events, etc...

The majority of members, however, do not attend simply because they choose not to attend. They are bored to tears with business meetings. Those who are not ritualist find little inspiration sitting on the sidelines listening to the same brethren perform the degree work and give the lectures time after time. Their contentions are real and cannot be brushed aside.

The presiding officers should strive to create an atmosphere for intellectual and spiritual growth so that the members know from experience they are missing something by not attending their Chapter.

Merely to suggest programs that others find helpful is only part of the answer. What may work for one Chapter may not necessarily work for another. Symbolic Lodge Masonry cries out for an enlightened membership responsive to the Master who carefully lays his designs upon the trestle board. The approach, therefore, includes preparing the members as well as the Master. There are no shortcuts. Good attendance is the natural result

of stimulated interest. Stimulated interest is the natural result of preparation, planning and execution.

First, the Candidate must be prepared to receive the benefits of Capitular Masonry. Second, the High Priest must be prepared to execute a year by planning intelligently, communicating effectively, and conducting meetings with dispatch, dignity, and diligence.

Continuity among dais officers is required to sustain an increase in attendance. Nothing kills momentum quicker than the failure to follow an up-tempo year with another up-tempo year. Regenerated enthusiasm becomes contagious. Word spreads about the enjoyment of returning to lodge. Increased attendance feeds on itself.

The East Central Past Master’s Society will confer the **Past Masters and Allegory Degree** on May 29, 2012 at Right Angle Lodge located at #1065 Trapp Goffs Coner Road, Winchester, KY 40391. All sitting and Past Masters are eligible. Meal at 6 pm degree at 7 pm. Please bring current dues card. Application fee is \$5.00 and annual dues are \$5.00 per year. Additional Information may be obtained by contacting Carl Victor at 606-356-2283 or by email at [cvictor@windstream.net](mailto:cvictor@windstream.net)

## ***One Day Festival Hopkinsville Kentucky July 21, 2012***

*The Hopkinsville York Rite Bodies will confer all of the degrees and orders of the York Rite on Saturday, July 21, at Hopkinsville Masonic Lodge #37, 103 Academy Drive, Hopkinsville, KY, beginning at 8:00 A.M. Coffee, juice and donuts will be available at 7:00, lunch will be served around noon, and the work should be completed around 5:00 P.M. All candidates from throughout the Commonwealth are welcome and any ritualist who would like to help may contact Secretary/Recorder Bobby Hayes at [bobby.hayes@att.net](mailto:bobby.hayes@att.net) or (270) 886-1694.*