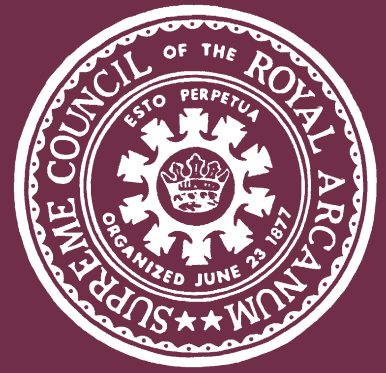


ROYAL ARCANUM
AN INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY PROVIDING FAMILY PROTECTION



Bulletin

Fall Edition



Official Publication of the
**Supreme Council of the
Royal Arcanum**

.....
**Fraternal Services to Our
Members Since 1877**

A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Régente Suprême

Maria Bettina DiBartolo - Supreme Regent



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Fall to all of you!

The Supreme Council Executive Committee met in Rhode Island for a productive meeting. Our new "Buddy Program" was recently introduced for jurisdictions to team up in support of a charitable cause; I'm happy that councils are already making plans, together!

I presented the "Into the Future" program to the members and Juniors in Rhode Island and was grateful to take part in a donation of cereal, groceries, and monetary contributions for the Pawtucket Food Pantry. I was also welcomed in Massachusetts for my presentation where the members also donated food for the community food banks. I was delighted to be introduced by 6-year old Junior member, Harrison Benoit. One day he'll be a great fraternal leader to continue the Society's good work Into the Future! Grand Regent Anthony Basa is leading the jurisdiction today. I remember Anthony being a Junior and enjoying several RA Session activities with my kids.

I received a warm welcome in Michigan by a small but mighty group of Arcanum members. My husband, Freddy and I enjoyed the company of these fraternalists who also supported the Penrickton Center for Blind Children as part of their charitable gifting project.

I'll be visiting several more jurisdictions in the coming weeks and sharing the fraternal news of the Royal Arcanum with our members.

I wish you and your families a happy holiday season and the very best for the new year and Into the Future!

Fraternally in VMC,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Bettina DiBartolo".

Maria-Bettina DiBartolo
Supreme Regent

Chers frères et sœurs,

Joyeux automne à vous tous!

Le Comité exécutif du Conseil suprême s'est réuni à Rhode Island pour une réunion productive. Notre nouveau « Programme de jumelage » a récemment été lancé pour permettre aux juridictions de s'associer pour soutenir une cause caritative et je suis heureux que les conseils élaborent déjà des plans ensemble!

J'ai présenté le programme « Vers le futur » aux membres et aux juniors du Rhode Island et j'ai été reconnaissant de participer à un don de céréales, de produits d'épicerie et de contributions monétaires pour le Pawtucket Food Pantry. J'ai également été accueilli au Massachusetts pour ma présentation où les membres ont également fait don de nourriture aux banques alimentaires communautaires. J'ai été ravi d'être présenté par Harrison Benoit, membre junior de 6 ans. Un jour, il sera un grand leader fraternel pour poursuivre le bon travail de la Société vers l'avenir ! Le grand régente Anthony Basa dirige aujourd'hui la juridiction. Je me souviens qu'Anthony était un junior et qu'il profitait de plusieurs activités de session RA avec mes enfants.

J'ai reçu un accueil chaleureux dans le Michigan par un petit mais puissant groupe de membres d'Arcanum. Mon mari, Freddy et moi avons apprécié la compagnie de ces fraternalistes qui ont également soutenu le Centre Penrickton pour enfants aveugles dans le cadre de leur projet de dons caritatifs.

Je visiterai plusieurs autres juridictions dans les semaines à venir et partagerai l'actualité fraternelle de Royal Arcanum avec nos membres.

Je vous souhaite, à vous et à vos familles, de joyeuses fêtes de fin d'année et le meilleur pour la nouvelle année et vers l'avenir!

Fraternellement en VMC,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Bettina DiBartolo".

Maria-Bettina Di Bartolo
Régente suprême

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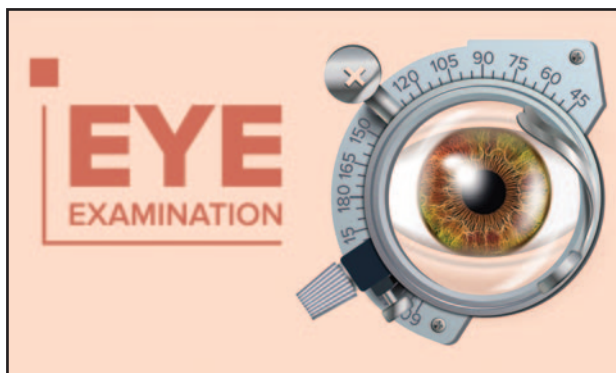
The Benois apple picking on a beautiful fall day.

Bulletin Deadline

Articles and photos must be in the editorial office by January 15, 2024. Mail to the Royal Arcanum Bulletin, Home Office, 61 Batterymarch Street, Boston, MA 02110-3208.
Next Publication Date: February 17, 2024

BUDDY PROJECT: MASSACHUSETTS – FLORIDA – OHIO

The Grand Councils of Massachusetts and Florida have started things in motion. Both jurisdictions are working with the Lions Club to help with vision screening for children in their areas. I am working with Ohio to bring them back and join us in this great



opportunity to help the children in our jurisdictions. More to follow in the upcoming Bulletins.

*Submitted by:
Antal Basa, Jr.
Supreme Secretary
Grand Secretary of
Massachusetts*

GRAND COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS

Members of Alpha-Agazzi Council #1 supported the New England Hemophilia Association with their annual walk held on September 30, 2023 in Canton, MA. It was a rainy and cold day for the event, but that did not stop about 600 event-goers from completing the 14th annual walk and enjoying a wonderful barbeque lunch, petting zoo, reptile animals, games, and everything in between. The

proceeds from the walk help with Family Camp, an emergency fund, research and all the training it takes to help individuals with hemophilia live a normal life.

*Submitted by:
Antal Basa, Jr.
Grand Secretary
Grand Council of MA*



Grand Regent Anthony Basa receives his pie in the face. Anthony is a Lead Councilor for the New England Hemophilia Association and some of his campers delivered him his pie.



Grand Regent Anthony Basa with Executive Director Richard Pezzillo during a highlight of the walk, Pie in the Face.



Junior Member Grace Basa was at home playing with the farm animals. Here she is holding a hedgehog, and no - it did not come home with her.

ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Royal Arcanum awarded \$60,000 in
scholarships and grants in 2023.

Apply today!!

Our competitive scholarships: based on merit and membership

(Two) \$10,000 scholarships awarded at \$2,500 per year for four years

(Two) \$8,000 scholarships awarded at \$2,000 per year for four years

(Two) \$5,000 scholarships awarded at \$1,250 per year for four years

(Ten) \$2,000 scholarships awarded at \$500 per year for four years

Our noncompetitive college grants: based on membership

(Six) Continuing Education Grants • \$1,200 each

(Five) Grants • \$600 each for high school seniors

Applications for the 2024 awards must be received at the Royal
Arcanum Home Office by December 31, 2023

All Junior Members age 18 and below taking a SAT, ACT, PSAT, or LSAT training program are eligible for up to a \$50 reimbursement.

For more information, please contact the Home Office or visit our website,
www.royalarcanum.com

GRAND COUNCIL OF RHODE ISLAND

Royal Arcanum members of Rhode Island attended a Grand Council meeting on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at Chelo's Restaurant in Providence. Grand Regent Lynn Kolek welcomed everyone and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag and our National Anthem. She then introduced Supreme Regent Maria-Bettina DiBartolo from New York.

Maria shared her background and explained why she is so enthusiastic about the Royal Arcanum. She gave a wonderful presentation of her program, "**Into the Future**". Maria encouraged young members bound for college to apply for the Royal Arcanum's scholarships and grants. The programs that the Society provides for Junior members are outstanding.

Judy Kolek gave the benediction prior to everyone enjoying a delicious buffet luncheon. As a wonderful treat, the Supreme Regent gave each attendee a beautiful Royal Arcanum tote bag, an insulated cup and a pen to promote her campaign. A raffle was held that had Peter Rodolewicz and John Ball as winners.



Donations for the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen

Everyone brought non-perishable food items, including boxes of cereal, plus monetary contributions for gifting to the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen. To conclude the program, Grand Regent Lynn thanked everyone for their generosity and wished all a safe journey home.

Submitted by: Judy Kolek and Jackie Wudkiewicz



Rhode Island members participate in Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo's Cereal Box Project.

COVERS OF KINDNESS



Members of the New Jersey jurisdiction kept busy at the start of the autumn season by crocheting and knitting afghans and lap blankets that would be gifted to Our Lady of Lourdes Infirmary, Lodi, New Jersey as part of the Grand Council's holiday gifting program. Members

and friends shared their creativity in handcrafting the covers; these will be added to "Wish List" items on the North Pole roster and delivered in time for Christmas.



Grand Regent Richard Macon and Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon display one of the blankets crafted for the holiday gifting project.

THE THANKSGIVING MEAL

A typical Thanksgiving meal in the United States is a festive and hearty feast enjoyed by families and friends on the fourth Thursday of November. While the specific dishes may vary from one household to another, some traditional elements of a Thanksgiving meal include:



Roast Turkey: The centerpiece of the meal is typically a whole roast turkey. It's often seasoned and cooked until golden brown and tender.

Stuffing (Dressing): A mixture of bread, vegetables, herbs, and sometimes sausage or other ingredients, stuffed into the turkey or baked separately.

Mashed Potatoes: Potatoes are boiled, mashed, and often enriched with butter, cream, or milk.

Gravy: Made from the drippings of the roasted turkey, flour or cornstarch, and broth. It's served over the turkey and other dishes.

Cranberry Sauce: A sweet and tart sauce made from cranberries, often served in both whole berry and jelly form.

Green Beans: Typically, green beans are cooked or sautéed and served as a side dish.

Sweet Potatoes or Yams:

These are often prepared with marshmallows or a sweet glaze, creating a sweet side dish.

Dinner Rolls: Soft and warm rolls are commonly served to accompany the meal.

Pumpkin Pie: A classic dessert made from a spiced pumpkin filling in a pie crust, often topped with whipped cream.

Pecan Pie: Another popular dessert, made from a filling of pecans, sugar, butter, and eggs, baked in a pie crust.

It's important to note that Thanksgiving meals can vary widely based on regional and family traditions. Some people incorporate dishes from their cultural backgrounds, such as tamales, enchiladas, or other non-traditional items. Vegetarians and vegans may have their versions of these dishes without meat. Overall, Thanksgiving is a time for giving thanks and enjoying a delicious and bountiful meal with loved ones.

FLORIDA HELPS THE SOUP KITCHEN

When soup kitchens first opened in the United States, volunteers served mostly soup and bread to those in need. Soup was economical because water could be added to feed more people. From their basic beginnings, soup kitchens expanded to include other services for providing a “hands up” to those who are struggling.

The Soup Kitchen in Boynton Beach, Florida marks its 40th year of service this year. The organization exists because of highly committed and compassionate people who deliver hope and goodwill to people working through difficult times. Services are made possible through volunteer-powered programs and are funded through donations.

The Soup Kitchen volunteers initially prepared soup and sandwiches; their goal to feed more of the hungry was soon realized. Services were initiated to include offering hot meals at lunchtime and providing guests with some basic food items to assist them



Dimitry Viarenich, Operations Manager and Marlene Mejia, CEO thank Grand Regent Louise Reynolds for the Royal Arcanum’s contributions to The Soup Kitchen.

with the preparation of other meals. Turkeys and trimmings are packed for Thanksgiving dinners, donations of clothing are available, a visit from Santa with gifts for children is anticipated at Christmastime, the Taking Care of our Babies program supports newborns, and the Meals on Wheels program makes deliveries to homebound seniors.

Florida Grand Regent Louise Reynolds was happy to volunteer at The Soup Kitchen and present a donation on behalf of the Grand Council to support the organization’s charitable mission and its commendable work in the community. A \$1,000 contribution was made through the Royal Arcanum’s International Fraternal Service program and also represented the Sunshine State’s participation in the

Supreme Regent’s Cereal Box campaign. The Florida members look forward to continuing their association with The Soup Kitchen and helping their neighbors “*Into the Future.*”

ADOPT A NATIVE ELDER



COO Nick Benoit attended a Life Insurance Council “LIC” meeting in Park City, Utah.

At this meeting CEOs were able to partner with Adopt A Native Elder (www.anelder.org) to help traditional elders living

in extreme poverty on the nearby Navajo Reservation.

Almost \$5,000 in Navajo rug and jewelry purchases were made, with funds and gift baskets going to the elders. Shown here is Nick Benoit contributing a food and gift card basket that would be provided to the elders for them to purchase essentials on the reservation.



BAKER'S BOX: STRUFFOLI

Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto shares this special holiday recipe for all to enjoy! Struffoli or honey balls is a classic Italian dessert made during Christmastime. Tiny balls of dough are fried until golden-brown, tossed in a sweet honey syrup and then decorated with rainbow sprinkles.

DOUGH:

2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting
3 Tbsp. granulated sugar
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. baking powder
3 large eggs
2 Tbsp. soft butter
1 grated lemon
1 grated orange
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2-3 cups vegetable oil for deep-frying

FOR ASSEMBLY:

¾ to 1 cup honey
Sugar sprinkles

MAKE THE DOUGH:

Mix all the ingredients together (by hand or food processor fitted with the blade attachment); form into a ball, then wrap in a plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Dust a work surface with flour. Cut the dough in pieces. Roll each piece in a rope that's 10-12 inches long. Cut the rope into small pieces. Repeat with the remaining dough.

Heat 2-3 cups of vegetable oil in a medium-heavy saucepan to 350 F. When the oil is ready, fry dough pieces in 4-5 batches, stirring a few times, until golden brown all over. Remove the dough balls and transfer to paper towels.

MAKE THE HONEY SYRUP AND ASSEMBLE:

Place the honey in a large skillet over medium heat and stir until the honey starts to bubble. Toss in the fried dough balls; mix to coat and remove from heat.

Using a big spoon, stack the struffoli on a plate or cake stand and decorate with sprinkles. Let sit for 15-20 minutes and serve. Enjoy!

Serves 6 - 8



VETERAN'S REFLECTIONS

If I had not been in The United States Air Force from 1965-1971, I probably would never have known about the Royal Arcanum. I earned an electronics air navigation degree at Kessler AFB in Mississippi. I worked on inertial guidance systems for F4C fighter aircraft and Doppler radar systems on C5A and C130 aircraft. I was stationed in Egland AFB, Florida and Clark Field in the Philippines (18 months) before returning to the states at Otis AFB on Cape Cod.



A photograph of Joseph Tedesco in The US Air Force taken in 1965

In 1966-1967 while at Egland AFB, I met wonderful people who became lasting friends, among whom was Richard Wehbe. Since we were both from Philadelphia, we saw each other often after our discharge. That is when his father, Abe Wehbe, a very active member of the Royal Arcanum, told me about the fraternal benefit society. After getting married in 1975, I joined the Society with my new family. Eventually Richard moved West but over

the years we continued to visit each other. Coincidentally, my wife had gone to school with Richard's wife. All of us became life-long friends and today, my entire family, including our grandchildren, are active members of this wonderful fraternal organization.

After my service in the Air Force concluded, I began my career as an English Arts & Literature Teacher for the school district of Philadelphia. I have served as Regent of Royal Arcanum's Integrity Council #586, Grand Regent of Pennsylvania, and Supreme Council Representative.

Submitted by: Joseph Tedesco

The Royal Arcanum is thankful to Brother "Joe" for his service in the Air Force and for his continued dedication as an officer and fraternalist of our Society.

FAMILY FUN

Juniors GianLuca and Valentina DiBartolo complete the Junior coloring page in the Royal Arcanum Bulletin as Nonna Maria (our Supreme Regent) joins in the activity.



SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

Fraternal Director Cindy Macon had the opportunity to travel to Poland in September and spend some time with the Felician Sisters who have been welcoming Ukrainian “guests” in Warsaw and Krakow. It was a heartwarming experience to witness all the good that the sisters have been doing, especially for mothers and their children while the Russian war in Ukraine continues, and to see firsthand how the monetary donations and bounty of useful new gifts that the Royal Arcanum family has been contributing directly help those in need. The sisters have again expressed their most sincere appreciation to the Royal Arcanum for the outpouring of support they have received from the Ukraine charitable projects for which they have been the beneficiaries.



Sr. Eryka enjoying the outdoors with one of the youngest guests.

faces are true indicators that they feel safe and secure.

The efforts of the sisters, as well as those of host families, have been constant. When Ukraine was first invaded, people fled with barely a small bag of belongings, leaving behind loved ones and plagued with the uncertainty if they would ever have a future in their homeland. During her stay, the Fraternal Director learned of the toll that the war had also taken on the sick. Patients arrived in Poland with no medical records and with little



Fraternal Director Cindy with Felician Sisters Eryka, Zofia, Christella, and Marta in Warsaw.

Although their languages differ, the Ukrainian guests seeking a safe haven are being responsible and thankful that Poland has welcomed them. Mothers are becoming employed, children are attending school, and a genuine sense of appreciation and giving back prevails. Although some children are easily shaken at the sound of a siren or loud noise, they are resilient as they go about their studies or playtime. Their smiling



Kindergarten class with Sr. Maryja

medication. Overcoming the language barrier with the voluntary assistance of students, interpreters, physicians, and other medical personnel, the sisters endeavored to begin a hospice so that those in need of chemotherapy or other treatments could be evaluated and have a medical plan initiated for them. These labors have been beneficial for the patients who range in age from children through senior years. Their work will continue in the months ahead.

Thank you to the many councils, members, families, and friends for supporting the Royal Arcanum’s fraternal-charitable program for Ukraine. It is a fervent hope that international and lasting peace will soon be a reality for all.



NEW YORK IN COMMUNITY

Members of the New York Grand Council and Claremont Council #1655 supported St. Theresa's food pantry in the Bronx by donating a large assortment of groceries and food staples that will be distributed to the poor and hungry in the community. As the cooler weather begins to settle in, many more individuals and families seek assistance at the pantry that operates solely on donations.

The New York fraternalists avail themselves as caring neighbors and are always

willing to assist charitable programs that create a positive impact and provide assistance to the most vulnerable. This project sponsored by the councils is the warm-up to their annual Thanksgiving food drive; a fraternal project that continues to grow each year.

Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto thanked the members and families for their generosity and anticipates the members continuing their dedicated efforts throughout the holiday season.



Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo, Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto, and Grand Orator Joe Conforto deliver groceries for the 'Feeding the Hungry' program at St. Theresa's Church. They were gratefully accepted by Margie Premiani, coordinator of the parish food pantry.

GRAND COUNCILS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND OHIO

Greetings to our buddies of the Grand Councils of Massachusetts and Ohio. As a part of the "Buddy Project" we have already started an ongoing project of doing vision screening for Head Start school children. The first screening was conducted in the Okeechobee and Indian River Counties of Florida. These were done at several locations and in partnership with Saint Lucie West Lions Club.



A special camera known as a spot camera is used to identify eye problems in small children. Actually the camera is capable of

screening children as young as 6 months through adulthood. It's a great tool to identify problems with special needs children, too.

Those participating in the screening include Lions Geoff and Nancy Wade, Jane Colona and Lion Diane Calain.

Supreme Life Member and Grand Regent of Florida, Diane Calain, also serves on this project as a representative of the Royal Arcanum.

Please stay tuned; we will continue to grow this project as a project for children's wellness.

Submitted by: Diane Calain

SUPREME REGENT VISITS HOME JURISDICTION

The Grand Council of Massachusetts welcomed Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo on Sunday, September 24, 2023. The breakfast meeting was a pleasant and long-awaited gathering that was enjoyed by all. The last time Massachusetts met was prior to the start of COVID and it was awesome to see friends, new and old. During the presentation one of the Junior members asked the Supreme Regent what was her favorite color. Her reply was “All

colors because each color has a different meaning.” He gladly informed the Supreme Regent his favorite color was “Gold”.

*Submitted by:
Antal Basa, Jr.
Grand Secretary
Grand Council of Massachusetts*



Harrison Benoit was waiting for the moment he could topple the cereal pyramid.



Future Supreme Regent Harrison Benoit introducing Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo for her presentation to the Grand Council of Massachusetts.



The Grand Council collected cereal for Our Daily Bread Food Pantry in Mansfield, MA.



Grand Council of Massachusetts welcomed Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo for her presentation “Into The Future”.

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Although some of us may hesitate to admit it, we usually envision a favorite candy when our “sweet tooth” starts craving a gooey, chewy, and yummy treat! With so many choices available at the supermarket, corner candy shoppe, or convenience store, we’re sure to find one to enjoy! Good & Plenty was first produced by the Quaker City Chocolate & Confectionery Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1893. The treat of licorice bits coated in a pink or white capsule-shaped hard candy shell is believed to be one of the oldest branded candies in the United States.

In 1950, “Choo-Choo Charlie”, a cartoon character who pretended to be a railroad engineer, would often be featured in Good & Plenty television commercials. He’d shake a box of the candy in his hand in a circular motion, imitating a train’s pushrods and making a sound like a train while a toe-tapping jingle played.

Since 1996, Hershey Foods has manufactured Good & Plenty and to this day, the candy remains a tasty and popular pick for consumers year ’round. Upon seeing a family sharing a box of Good & Plenty at a checkout counter recently, Royal Arcanum quickly came to my mind. That’s because as a family fraternal organization we have dedicated members in our councils doing plenty of good things in communities across the country. Their volunteer service makes our train run!



I acknowledge the subordinate and grand councils for conducting charitable service projects and social events to keep our members engaged as fraternalists-in-action. This year, the Supreme Council has partnered with councils for the International Fraternal Service Program by making contributions to a wide range of charitable causes, near and far. Being focused on the objective of service to members and to community, Royal Arcanians consistently demonstrate the fraternal principles of ‘Virtue, Mercy, and Charity’ in the plentiful good works which are organized in our jurisdictions. The Lorraine J. D’Emilio Legacy of Hope, Donald E. Ferry, Jr. Spirit of Service, Lend a Hand – Lift a Heart, and Sharing & Caring Programs welcome council participation and the chance to earn awards to further their good works.

As the calendar pages take us ‘**Into the Future**’ for council activities, invite family and friends to learn more

about the Royal Arcanum and to consider enrolling as members. With a good, solid portfolio of permanent life insurance products, there are plenty of opportunities and fraternal benefits that membership provides, including being part of an extended family of fraternalists that represent councils from coast to coast.



Our associates in the Boston Home Office are available to help members and potential applicants. This professional, competent, and courteous team keeps our Society’s operations running smoothly. We are thankful for their good work and efficiency in managing plentiful tasks every day.

Soon we’ll be busy coordinating festive holiday gatherings. Maintaining such traditions is a wonderful way to reconnect with loved ones and partake in plenty of delicious food. Kindly consider sharing your blessings with a donation to a soup kitchen or homeless shelter so that those in need can be received for a nourishing meal and experience warm company in a

safe haven. Perhaps deliver cereal to a ‘Feeding the Hungry’ program and then place a “gift tag” in a family member’s Christmas stocking, noting that the box was offered in their name. Small gestures of kindness can have meaningful results.

I wish you and yours a blessed, healthy, and happy holiday season. Hopefully we’ll continue to do plenty of good things in support of the Supreme Regent’s campaign in the new year and ‘**Into the Future**’. Everyone’s support is always appreciated!

In friendship,

Cynthia A. Macon

Fraternal-Communications Director

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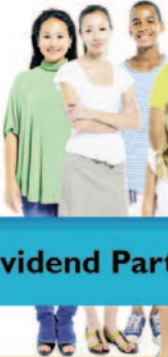
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...IED WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE

to make sure you're covered * Age 20 to 85

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Age 40 to 85 (varies by state) * Only 2 medical questions

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DETROIT DOINGS

In August, we lost our long-time member Phil Kelly, and member Barb Kimmel lost her dad Robert G. Fisher. All of us from Detroit express our deepest sympathies to both families.

On a happier note, we send congratulations to Jennifer Hefner on her marriage to Emrae Mooney on August 26th at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church. A lovely reception followed at the church hall. Her proud parents are members Mark & Cathy Hefner.

On September 9, 2023 sixty-eight golfers gathered at Carrington Golf Club in Monroe, MI for the 39th Annual RA Lithuanian Duffers Scramble. The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed the team competition and beverages! Following golf, the team spirit continued to abound with dinner, a 50/50 raffle, and an abundance of door prizes. It was wonderful to have a large contingent of RA members who traveled from Chicago to participate

and make our golf outing a true fraternal event. We thank Eric and Barb Kimmel for all their hard work and for hosting a great day!

On October 8, 2023 our Supreme Regent Maria-Bettina DiBartolo and her husband, Freddy visited us in Southgate, MI. We enjoyed lunch at Hungarian Rhapsody. This was Maria & Freddy's first trip to the Detroit area. Maria presented her ***Into the Future*** program and had an opportunity to meet our Detroit members. Our charitable project that day was conducted for the Penrickton Center for Blind Children and included a monetary and supplies donation. A nice afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted by: Jan Brazas, Detroit Reporter



The Hefner Family



1st Place Team 2023



Supreme Regent Maria-Bettina DiBartolo and Freddy DiBartolo meeting with Detroit members.

Right: Patty Obrzut, Director of Penrickton Center for Blind Children accepts supplies for the school from Jan Brazas, Supreme Regent Maria-Bettina DiBartolo, Paula Allen, and Keith Armbruster.



Left: MI Grand Regent Keith Armbruster, Secretary Maureen McCracken, Patty Obrzut, Director of Penrickton Center for Blind Children, DSR Paula Allen, and Executive Committee Member Jan Brazas with two checks as donations.



Chicago Group 2023



Last Place Team 2023



All LDS 2023

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER CORNER

Fall is a wonderful time for change and a reason to continue moving forward, progressing from a personal side to a fraternal side. Our Society has made many positive changes in 2023. As part of our strategic management plan, we have a focus towards digital transformation that will enable our operations to use technology to better serve our members. We have some exciting initiatives that have been implemented, including the launch of our e-application which streamlines the application process. The e-application reduces the application time and also has ability to provide a point-of-sale underwriting decision for some applications. Implementing such technology allows the Home Office associates to serve current and proposed members in a more efficient manner.

We have continued to increase our life insurance production. At the end of the 3rd Quarter, our operation issued more life insurance policies when compared to 2022. The staff has also maintained defined operational cycle times, from processing new business applications, to policy changes, to addressing claim payments. This is a strong testament to the Home Office associates who work tirelessly to provide the best possible support to our membership. I see the dedication of our associates each and every day.

It's hard to believe how fast the year has gone! With Thanksgiving approaching, I encourage you to make a positive impact on those around you and to be thankful for what you have. I hope every member has the opportunity to spend some time with loved ones during

the holiday season and I challenge you to make a true impact to those in your community. Start an event within your council or team up with another local organization to help those in your community. As a reminder, the Royal Arcanum's International Fraternal Service "IFS" Program is available. Grand and subordinate councils can benefit with Supreme Council matching funds that you donate to a community project or organization, up to \$1,000 annually.

Our Executive Committee and Senior Management met in September to evaluate business and fraternal initiatives that focus on the current and future of Royal Arcanum.

I thank you for being part of the Royal Arcanum family and for supporting the Society as a policyholder.

Sincerely,



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



HARRISBURG COUNCIL FAMILY PICNIC

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon, when several of the Royal Arcanum families gathered together on August 13, 2023 for a true family picnic along the Susquehanna River. Mark Thomas and Jim Karl stepped up to the grill and outdid themselves to serve burgers and hotdogs cooked just right!



The best part was watching the four new Juniors, sisters Charolette and Natalie Karl, whose father Adam Karl was a Junior many years ago, and sisters Ruby and Josephine Blahusch, whose mother Lauren Thomas Blahusch was also a Junior several years ago. At the end of the picnic the Juniors got to display their batting talents by hitting a piñata. It was very entertaining and the children got what they wanted... the candy!

The Junior Committee of Philip Thomas and Colleen Hiltl supervised the Arts 'n Craft area and did such a good job that several adults joined in.

A cornhole game almost lasted all afternoon when the men decided they wanted to keep playing to outscore the other team. Luckily it ended in a friendly handshake.

Due to other commitments and vacations, a few members could not join us this year. We are hoping to have a better turnout next year. Until then, we wish all those going back to school, a healthy and safe school year!

Submitted by: Paulina Thomas



FRIENDS HELPING NEIGHBORS



Boxes of donations packed for Philadelphia

Royal Arcanum members have always been proud to be part of an extended family and welcome the opportunity to get together and do good things together. Teamwork efforts to benefit charitable causes is an underpinning of the fraternal mission of service. As more activities resume this year, the Supreme Regent encourages councils to promote fraternalism by making a positive difference **“Into the Future.”** The members of New Jersey rallied for Maria’s message and were happy to share

their blessings by supporting two charitable causes in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

On July 22, 2023 the Sisters of Life at St. Malachy’s Convent welcomed the fraternalists; the sisters gratefully accepted an array of useful infant items from the New Jersey councils’ summertime “Friendship Shower” and an assortment of blankets and carriage covers crafted by members in Pennsylvania. The Sisters of Life, a Catholic religious community who are stationed in convents in several

US communities, vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of life. Part of their mission is to assist women who are pregnant and give them support and resources to be able to choose life for themselves and their babies.

A visit was also made to Arch Street United Methodist Church in Center City to deliver new and gently used clothing articles and socks to help staff and volunteers with their programs that serve the community’s most vulnerable residents, especially those experiencing homelessness and struggling with food insecurity. Members of Integrity Council #586 have been actively involved by volunteering at the church’s Grace Café, The Center and many other activities. When the New Jersey members learned of all the good work being done, they wanted to give their support, particularly since there is a growing number of people in need.

Past Supreme Regent Herb Snyder (Pennsylvania), Past Grand Regent Jay Newlin (Pennsylvania), Grand Vice Regent Evelyn Magarban (New Jersey), and Fraternal Director Cindy Macon were happy to meet and greet each other in the City of Brotherly Love, deliver the gift parcels, visit some Philly sites, and “catch up” over a delightful lunch. Members are enthusiastic about the next charitable project by the sister-city councils and look forward to volunteering together **“Into the Future.”**



Cindy Macon and Evelyn Magarban visit the Sisters of Life in Philadelphia.



Herb Snyder, Britany Cordell - staff member for Arch Street United Methodist Church’s community ministries, Jay Newlin, and Evelyn Magarban enjoy the summer sunshine after delivering donations.

PAWTUCKET PARTICIPATES

On October 1, 2023 Lisa and Judy Lynn Kolek of Pawtucket Council #537, Rhode Island joined Erin Mueller and friends in a 5K walk/run for the benefit of the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation. Recently Erin lost her mother, Janie to breast cancer. The foundation offers free support, education and wellness services to anyone impacted by cancer, works to enhance the quality of life for cancer patients and their families, and provides education and community outreach to the public. Pawtucket Council members donated to this worthy cause.

Submitted by: Jackie Wudkiewicz



Lisa Kolek, Judy Lynn Kolek, Erin Mueller and friends are ready for the walk.



Participants met at the RI State House in Providence.

MEDORA COUNCIL DONATES

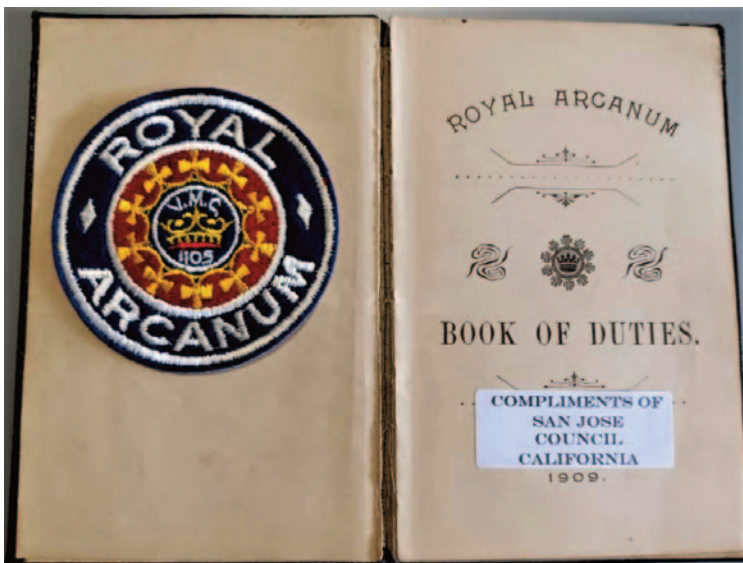
At the regular meeting of Medora Council #1648, members concentrated their donation efforts on supporting the Supreme Regent's Cereal Box Collection program. Our members brought in a variety of breakfast cereals to appeal to children, adults, and the health-conscious. A table full of morning meal delights was collected. The cereal was donated to the St. Edna Food Pantry in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Their food pantry was recently

completely depleted of their entire food stock because of the need in the area. While the shelves there have been restocked due to generous donors, it's a reminder of how quickly the cupboard can become empty and cause those in financial distress to go hungry. Medora plans to continue its tradition of holding collections for the needy at future council meetings.



Medora Council members supporting the Supreme Regent's Cereal Box Program

TREASURE FROM OUR PAST



Pictured is a 1909 edition of the Royal Arcanum's Council Book of Duties. Such manuals were used by subordinate councils when conducting business meetings. Additionally, they provided historical information, council procedures, officer responsibilities, and examples for furthering the Society's fraternal objectives of 'Virtue, Mercy, and Charity' through member volunteerism.

This book was a gift to the RA memorabilia collection from San Jose Council #2384 and was presented by Past Supreme Regent James O'Neill.

IN MEMORIAM: LOUISE G. REYNOLDS



Louise G. Reynolds
1935-2023

The Supreme Council sadly announces the passing of Sister Louise Reynolds on August 30, 2023.

Originally enrolled as a member of American Beauty Council #2487 in New York, Louise advanced in office to become Regent. Her dedication and talents were soon recognized by the jurisdiction with her being honored with

unanimous election as the first woman Grand Regent for the State of New York. Her inspiring program – **'Fraternalism Encourages Members'** was the catalyst to a host of the jurisdiction's charitable and fraternal projects. Later when Louise moved to Florida, she transferred into Treasure Coast Council #2177 and her abilities and communication skills were tapped into again with her election as Grand Regent of the Sunshine State.

Sister Reynolds enjoyed attending the Royal Arcanum sessions and mini vacations, trekking across the United States to participate with officers and members of the Supreme Council. She was elected a Supreme Representative and later Supreme Sentry. For having been a member of the Supreme Council for thirty uninterrupted years, Sister Reynolds was awarded Life Membership in the Supreme Council in 2018. She was a

valued member of the Degree and Necrology Teams on all council levels.

Her commitment to the Society was unwavering, as she notably upheld the pledge to devote a part of each day to the Royal Arcanum. Her efforts as a volunteer recommender were exceptional. She attained the Distinguished Service Award and Legion of Honor Award – Recipient # 61. At the Supreme Council Session in 2022 she was presented with the '1105' Royal Purple Achievement Award, becoming the Society's 36th Trailblazer.

Louise fervently promoted the annual national gifting project to councils, members, family, and friends and was a core team volunteer for the Fraternal Events Committee to plan and conduct a variety of charitable projects.

She made many lasting friendships with members of the Royal Arcanum from coast to coast and she was blessed with the gift to make new acquaintances feel "at home from the start." A pillar of our Society, Louise will be greatly missed but her shining light and infectious joy will surely remain to guide our fraternal efforts into the future.

The Royal Arcanum is grateful for Sister Reynolds' untiring service and enthusiasm to advance fraternalism.

May she rest in eternal peace.

IN MEMORIAM: EUGENE BONNESS



Eugene Bonness
1936-2023

Lakewood Council #5, Ohio sadly reports the passing of Brother Eugene Bonness on July 13, 2023. Brother Bonness worked for the Ohio Bell Company and retired after 39 years of service. He was an avid fisherman and golfer and enjoyed being out on the water boating. He was predeceased by his wife, Clare in 2020.

Brother Bonness served Lakewood Council for many years as secretary-treasurer. A loving father, the family actively participated in council activities and meetings. He later "passed the

torch" to his son, Michael who now serves as treasurer, and to his daughter, Eileen who serves as secretary.

Memorial services were conducted at Sunset Cemetery in North Olmsted, Ohio.

The Royal Arcanum is thankful for his service to the Society.

May he rest in peace.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS AND VIEWS

As we enjoyed the Indian Summer with the spectacular colors and good weather, we are already planning for our Juniors to apply for next year's scholarships. We recently received the Bulletin with the photos of the scholarship winners for 2023; application forms for 2024 are ready to be downloaded from our website at www.royalarcanum.com. Postal cards were mailed out in the beginning of September to eligible Junior members to remind them to apply for scholarships and grants. Make sure that all the required documentation is in order prior to the deadline date of DECEMBER 31, 2023.

The Royal Arcanum offers reimbursement up to \$50 to high school student RA members who are taking courses or purchasing study aids to help improve their scores for the SAT,

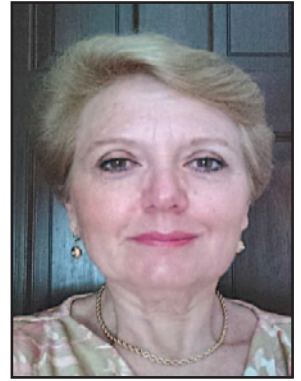
ACT, PSAT or LSAT exam. They should submit their receipt to the Boston Home Office. Valuable information about admission requirements for high school and college related scholarships such as financial aid programs, tuition, and much more to assist our students is available on our website with programs such as Choices Explorer and Choices Planner.

If you need additional information regarding any of these benefits, contact our Boston Home Office at 1-800-272-2686.

Every year we ask our college students to send us their names and their addresses at college or home in order to send them a gift at the beginning of the school year to wish them a good semester and a successful year. If you wish to receive one, please let us know.

All of the programs for our Juniors are being advertised in the Bulletin, on our website, Facebook, monthly letters, and more.

If any Royal Arcanum member wishes to nominate a Junior member in good standing who distinguishes themselves for volunteerism and leadership in their communities and councils, they have the opportunity to be awarded \$300. The application form for our "YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD PROGRAM" with rules and regulations can be found on our website. Submissions must be postmarked no later than November 30th, 2023.



**Junior Department
Director
Errica Conforto**



Our Junior writing contest is still available to all of our Juniors who love to write poems or stories to be published in our Bulletin.

If your council is planning to hold a Junior Christmas party event, gift request forms are available on our website or by calling the Home Office. Don't miss any of these very special opportunities.

I wish everyone a very blessed

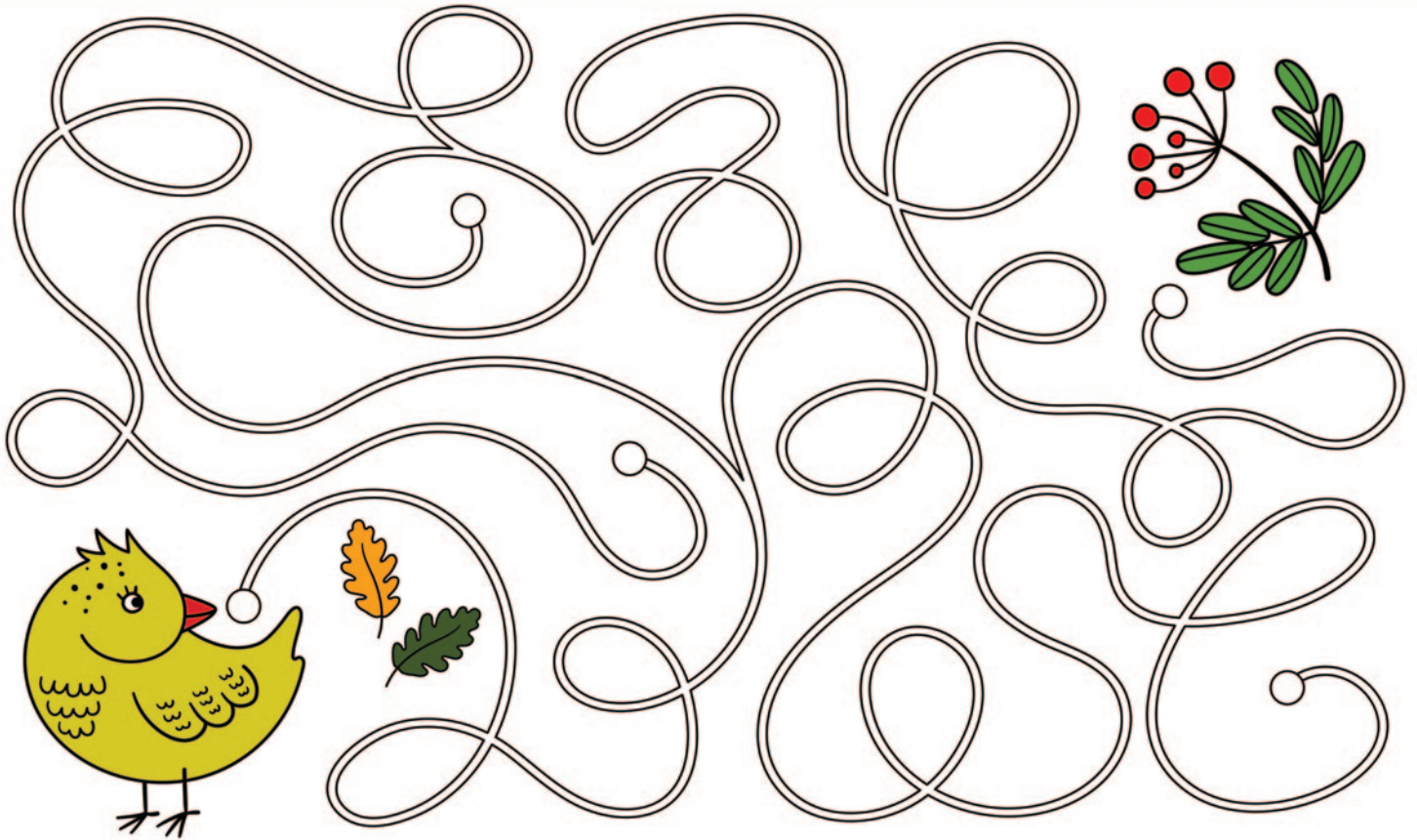
Thanksgiving with families and friends and a wonderful holiday season.

Fraternaly yours in VMC,

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

Errica Conforto

HELP THE BIRD GET TO THE BERRIES



JUNIOR CONTEST RULES

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

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



Junior Must Submit:

Name

Age

Council

Email Address

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

AUTUMN ANIMALS

FIND THE ANIMAL WORDS AND COLOR OUR FURRY FRIENDS



RACCOON

FOX

BEAR

HARE

SQUIRREL

DEER

~~HEDGEHOG~~

BIRD

SNAKE

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



JUNIOR BRAIN BENDER



CRACK THE CODE TO REVEAL MORE WORDS



This is a little tricky. It's okay to work with your parents on this code.

1	2	3	4	2	5	6	2	7



8	9	7	10	2	1	4

11	9	12	12



12	2	9	10	2	1
L	E	A	V	E	S



9	13	14	7	15

13	8	16	12	12	17

18	9	5	3

7	9	16	15	17

14	13	4	14	6	2	7



8	9	12	12	14	19	2	2	15

3	20	18	18	12	2



13	14	7	15	20	13	14	3	16	9

13	8	2	1	4	15	20	4

21	20	5	6	14	14	4	1
G	U	M	B	O	O	T	S

1	19	2	9	4	2	7



13	14	7	15	5	9	22	2

20	5	6	7	2	12	12	9

15	14	10	2	5	6	2	7

13	12	14	20	18	1



19	16	15	18

21	12	14	14	5

5	16	1	4

4	8	9	15	23	1	21	16	10	16	15	21

JUNIOR FALL COUNT AND COLOR

Color in the produce below and then count how many there are of each type. Enter the number of each produce in the appropriate boxes.



COOK'S NOOK: STUFFED MUSHROOMS

This is a family favorite side dish recipe shared by Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto. It may be a welcome addition to your holiday table and enjoyed by family and friends.



- 12 large mushrooms
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 3 Tbsp. chopped parsley
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 2 slices bread, soaked in water & squeezed dry
- 1 egg
- ½ cup grated Romano cheese
- 2-3 tsp. bread crumbs

Cut off stems from mushrooms and wash very well. Chop the stems and cook in olive oil with onion and garlic for 5-7 minutes. Add parsley, salt, and pepper; cook for 5 minutes longer over a brisk flame.



Remove from stove. Add bread, egg, and cheese; mix together until smooth.

Fill each mushroom cap with stuffing, rounding stuffing up on top.

Sprinkle each with bread crumbs and a few drops of olive oil.

Arrange on a greased baking dish and bake in oven at 400 degrees for 20 - 30 minutes.



A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As the weather starts to cool down and the leaves change to their wonderful colors, it's time to open our closets to find our warm and comfy sweaters. We also think about the holidays that are fast approaching. If you're a Junior member the first holiday is "Halloween" - time for costumes, parties, and candy! I remember going door to door when I was small and saying, "Trick or Treat", and at the end of the night having a large bag filled with all kinds of candy. The hard part was sitting still while my mother checked to make sure the pieces were safe to eat.

Thanksgiving follows; a time when families gather to give thanks for the wonderful things in life. One year we had over 21 family members at our dining room table. My wife spent hours cooking a very big turkey (about 25 pounds), a spiral ham, and all the fixings. Let's not forget the desserts! I don't like to brag, but Deb can bake one mean apple pie. All this delicious food took hours to prepare and within 30 minutes we were done eating! One of our favorite things to do is go around the table and share why we are thankful. It's amazing to hear all of the different things our family says. Then my job starts.... CLEAN UP!

The day after our turkey feast starts the busiest time in our house. Deb loves Christmas and after our Thanksgiving coma wears off, it's up to the attic for the boxes and boxes of decorations that are used to cover the house. The coffee is going, and Deb is standing tall to insure everything is in place and the tree is at the right angle. We talk about our collection of ornaments and recall who gave each of them to us. When our three children say, "I remember this one", and they rattle off where, when and who gave it to us, the ornament makes us all smile as we say, "You're right!" The day would not be complete without the turkey, stuffing, mayo, and pepper sandwiches. Our boys crave stuffing and so do I!



On Christmas Day, we may have fewer family members at our house, BUT the menu stays the same as Thanksgiving, just in case we welcome some unexpected drop-ins (it has happened a few times). When we're asked why there is so much food, our answer is "You never know who will show up and it's better to have more than less". Then all the confusion starts with the gift exchange.... I won't go into details. When things start winding down and everyone is relaxing, you'll soon hear one of the young adults call out, "What are we doing for New Years Eve?"

So, we plan for a drop-in type of gathering for family and friends on New Years Eve. Everyone brings a different dish to share and the evening turns into a wonderful event. As the time gets close to midnight, we all start looking **Into the Future** and our plans for the year to come.



I know that there are many different holidays and beliefs in the world, but if you think about it...our traditions are about being with family and friends. As Royal Arcanians, we should reach out to everyone around us to show the kindness that we have for our Brothers and Sisters. It

only takes one act of kindness to brighten someone's day and life. I would like to ask everyone in the Royal Arcanum to make someone's day with an Act of Kindness going **Into the Future**.

I wish you and your families a wonderful and safe holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antal Basa, Jr." in a cursive style.

Antal Basa, Jr.

Supreme Secretary

ANNUITIES



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Guaranteed 3% rate of return for the first 6 years.***

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Deposit**

**Tax-Deferred
Until Withdrawal**

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