PROCLAMATION

THE ORIGINAL GENERAL GRAND MASONIC CONGRESS OF GRAND MASTERS

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.:



JOHN V. THORNTON MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

BRIDGING THE GAP PART XIII

MARCH 20, 2024, THRU MARCH 23, 2024

Double Tree Hotel by Hilton

Chicago-Oak Brook 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523

Phone: 630-472-6000

RE: John Vernon Thornton Mid-Winter Conference

HON. JOHN H. FITTS, 33°

1893

The Secretary General P.O. Box 6324 Concord, NC 28027 (704) 980-255-8070 Cell (305) 606-3621 Email <u>fittsjohn863@mail.com</u>

HON. TOMMY FURLOW, 33°

The Treasurer General 10104 S. King Dr Chicago, II 60619 (773) 505-7805 Email <u>manfurlow@yahoo.com</u>

HON. CHARLES J. CLARKE, 33°

"THE PRESIDENT GENERAL" 7250 S. Yates Blvd, U2E CHICAGO, IL 60649 (773) 324-7733 HOME CELL (773) 620-7031 Email: <u>clarkecharlie@gmail.com</u>

2024

PROCLAMATION

9 God *is* faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **10** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them *which are of the house* of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.

12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.

13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? Corinthians 1: 9-13

TO: All M.W. Grand Lodges, M.W. Grand Masters, R.W. Dep. Grand Masters, R.W. Grand Senior, and Junior Wardens, Past and Present. Officers of the Original General Grand Masonic Congress of Grand Masters of the United States of America and Canada, Inc.:

GREETINGS:

In accordance with Article 8, of the Constitution and By-Laws of The Original General Grand Masonic -Congress of Grand Masters, and by the Power and Authority vested in me I, Honorable Charles J. Clarke 33°, "The President General" do hereby call the above named Masonic Congress from refreshment to labor in its JOHN VERNON THORNTON MID-WINTER CONFERENCE, to convene in Oak Brooks, IL March 20, thru 24, 2024.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Double Tree Hotel

By Hilton, Chicago-Oak Brooks 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523 Phone: (630) 472-6000

RE: JOHN VERNON THORNTON MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

HOST GRAND LODGE MOST WORSHIPFUL UNITED GRAND LODGE, A.F. & A.M. Jurisdiction of Illinois

HONORABLE TOMMY FURLOW, 33^o

Most Worshipful Grand Master 600 West 138th Street Riverdale, Ill 60627 Phone Number: (773) 505-7805 Email: manfurlow@yahoo.com

RESERVATIONS Double Tree Hotel by Hilton 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523 Phone No. 630-472-6000 Please make your reservation directly to the hotel:

<u>ROOM RATES</u>: Single, Double, - \$125.00 triple & Quads \$135 + tax. Breakfast included. A one (1) night advance deposit is required to hold your reservation. (s). **Please call (630) 472-6000: RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 6:00 PM EST, FEBUNARY 14, 2024.**

Registration Fee is **\$125.00** per person, this includes a Journal, Badge, Friday Night Social, and Saturday Evening Banquet, <u>however; non-registered guests and attendees will be charged a fee of **\$25.00** for the **Friday Night Social and \$65.00** for the Saturday Night Banquet. Please make checks or money orders payable to: Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge, and forward to: Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of IL.</u>

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Ground Transportation from O'Hare \$40.00 round trip. Midway \$50.00 round trip

Dialysis Centers:

US Renal Care Oak Brook	1201 Butterfield Road suite B, Downers	800-550-9664
	Groves, IL 60515	
Nxstage Kidney Care Oak Brook	1600 W. 16th St. Oak Brook, Il 60523	630-475-4340 ref# 302534
FMC Downers Groves	3825 Highland Ave, Downers Groves, IL	630-964-9414 ref#100333

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AGENDA

THURSDAY: MARCH 21, 2024:

Grand Master's Council Meeting Grand Matrons Meeting Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons Workshop: Supreme Grand Court, Heroine of Jericho Workshop:

FRIDAY: MARCH 22, 2024:

Joint Meeting M. Congress & S. G. Chapter: S. Grand Patrons, O. E. S. Workshop: Masonic Congress Special Session: Lunch: State Night

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024:

Joint Meeting M. Congress & S. G. Chapter: Masonic Congress reconvenes Lunch Congress workshop, President General L.H. Bostick Banquet (after 6:00 Attire):

Registration 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

8:30 A. M. to Noon 9.00 A. M. to Noon 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P. M. 2:00 P.M. to 4.00 P.M.

Registration 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon 11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M to 1:30 P.M. 7:00 PM until 11:30 PM

Registration 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

8:30 A.M. 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. 12 Noon to 1:30 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Until...

MASONIC CONGRESS MEETINGS AGENDA

01. Opening ceremonies

- 02. Roll call of Grand Lodges and M. Congress Officers
- 03. Reading of the Masonic Congress Proclamation
- 04. Reading of minutes of previous communication
- 05. Reading of appointed Masonic Congress Committees
- 06. Masonic Congress Workshop
- 07. Remarks: Grand Masonic Congress Officers and Members
- 08. Remarks: Affiliated Supreme Department Officers

09. Closing Ceremonies

This Masonic Congress may be called into special session at any time during this Mid-Winter Conference to consider any and all matters that may affect its welfare.

ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND THE MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and present and past Grand Secretaries and Treasurers, Supreme Departments Heads past and present and all Master Masons:

All members of this Masonic Congress are expected to make every effort to attend this Mid-Winter Conference in full Masonic regalia of the Order.

COVID: (1) For the General Meetings, COVID guidelines will be strictly followed: (2) Those who have medical conditions that prevent them from being vaccinated; the six feet rule will apply: (3) I highly encourage all Grand Masters and Grand Matrons to get vaccinated. (4) Only vaccinated offices will be able to attend the Masonic Congress and Supreme Grand Chapter Staff meeting. It is time as leaders that we must step up and help our community to get vaccinated. I highly encourage you to help.

In witness whereof, I have set my hand and caused the great seal of the Original General Grand Masonic Congress of Grand Masters, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the United States of America and Canada, Inc., to be affixed this 29th day of October 2023 A. D. - A. L. 6023 in the City of Chicago, County of **Cook**, and the State of Illinois

HON. JOHN H. FITTS, 33° "THE SECRETARY GENERAL"

FRATERNALLY,



Charles Q. Elas be

HON. CHARLES J. CLARKE, 33° "THE PRESIDENT GENERAL"