

Royal Arch "Setting the Scene" document goes Global.

The email below was received by E.Comp. Peter Mason, Deputy Grand Superintendent this week and refers to E.Comp. Mason's paper "Setting the Scene", which describes in great detail the historical significance and circumstances of the Royal Arch ritual as it takes place within Chapters and is read by a narrator to the companions as the story in the Exaltation ceremony unfolds. The use of the document is now becoming common practice in many Royal Arch Chapters in this and several other Provinces and is being welcomed by candidates and companions alike as it gives new insight into the degree leading to a far greater understanding of the ritual taking place as it unfolds before them.

Dear E. Comp. Peter (Deputy Grand Superintendent).

I refer to your communication of the 5th May 2014 to the Scribe E in your District and read with extreme interest "The Exaltation Ceremony – Setting the Scene" which I hasten to add I found extremely interesting, useful and enlightening in the promotion of the Royal Arch.

Believe it or not your paper has found its way to South Africa.

I totally agree with your comments and have said it time and time again I do not believe we in the Royal Arch have a recruitment problem it is a retention problem which basically comes from a lack of understanding of the story of the exaltation ceremony as it unfolds.

You will be pleased to read that some of the Chapters in my District have already started to use your "Setting the Scene" document in their ceremonies. The plan is to roll it slowly out to a few Chapters and monitor the feedback which has been all positive at this point in time.

What I like about your particular document is that it is extremely well written and easy to understand as the story unfolds and as the location changes there is no confusion, it is clear and concise.

I for one seek more advice and insight into your knowledge and understanding in the way forward as far as the Royal Arch is concerned and especially in the retention and growing of the Order. To this end if you have any further information that you would like to share and to impart, I can assure you it will be thankfully received and faithfully applied for the benefit of the Order.

Such positive ideas and creative thought can only benefit all concerned.

I am always keen to learn from others experience and knowledge.

If you have any further easy to read material that aids understanding and is pitched at the grass roots level so people can see "the wood from the trees" it would be greatly appreciated if you would be prepared to share this with me.

Regards,

Tim Smith.

District Deputy Grand Superintendent.
District of South Africa North