

# **DEGREE OF ROYAL ARCH**



## **OFFICERS**

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. High Priest         | 8. Principal Sojourner                 |
| 2. King                | 9. Royal Arch Captain                  |
| 3. Scribe              | 10. Master of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Veil |
| 4. Treasurer           | 11. Master of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Veil |
| 5. Secretary           | 12. Master of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Veil |
| 6. Chaplain            | 13. Sentinel                           |
| 7. Captain of the Host |  |

## **PARAPHERNALIA**

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Great Lights             | 6. Gavel (3)            |
| 2. Altar                    | 7. Chapter Charter      |
| 3. American Flag            | 8. Veil Banners         |
| 4. Officers' Jewels, Aprons | 9. Tiler's Implement    |
| 5. High Priest's Hat        | 10. Royal Arch Standard |

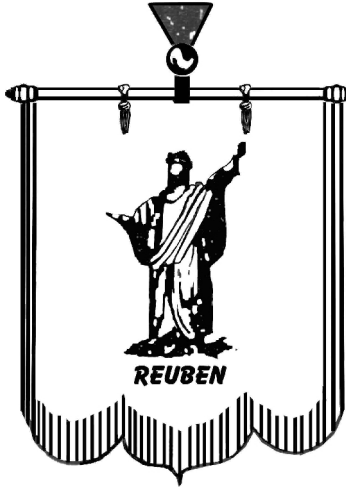
**NOTE:** For Stated Convocations or any Chapter meeting other than a Degree, the Chapter is to be set up as shown in RAM DIAGRAM A on page RAM-4.

## ROYAL ARCH BANNERS



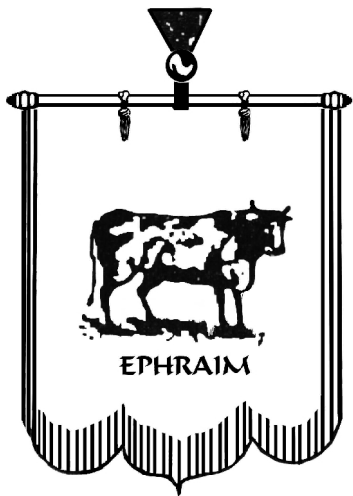
Blue-Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil

**Friendship**



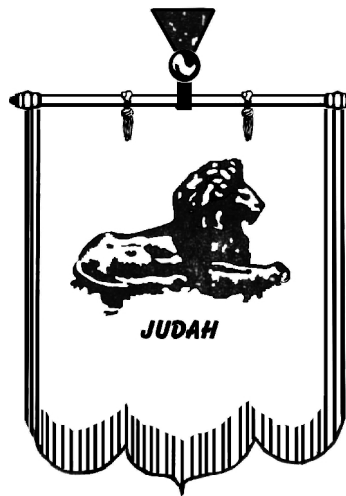
Purple-Master of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil

**Union**



Scarlet-Master of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil

**Zeal**



White-Royal Arch Captain

**Purity**

The Banners are placed at the Northwest corner of the Officers' chairs as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Veil - Dan . . . . .	2 <sup>nd</sup> Veil - Ruben
3 <sup>rd</sup> Veil - Ephraim . . . . .	RAC - Judah

## ROYAL ARCH OFFICER JEWELS



High Priest



King



Scribe



Treasurer



Secretary



Chaplain



Captain of  
the Host



Principal  
Sojourner



Royal Arch  
Captain

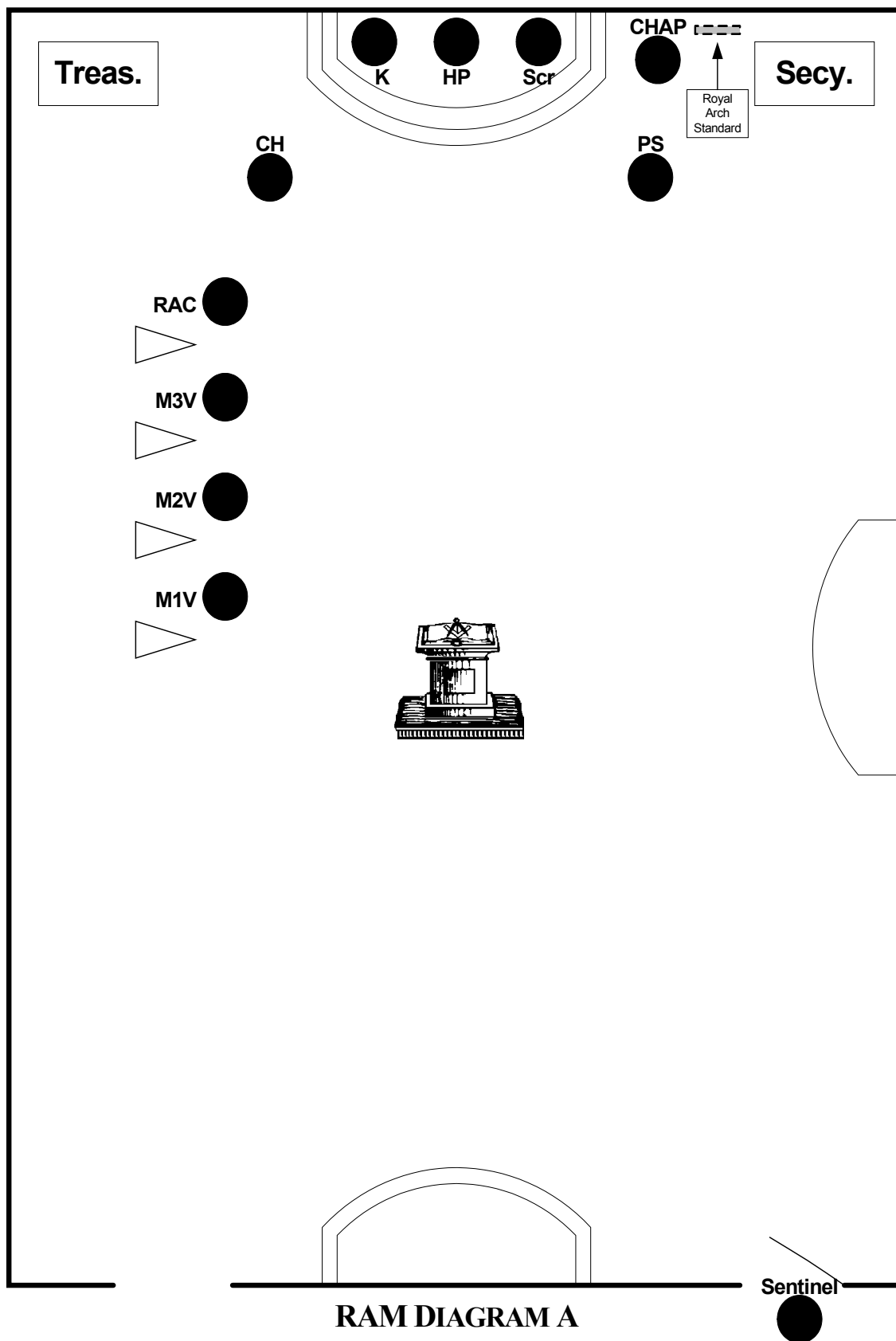


1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Veils



Sentinel

Images of officer jewels used with permission of Los Angeles Fraternal Supply Co., Inc.



1 **ROYAL ARCH OPENING FOR BUSINESS ONLY**

2 *Room setup is the same as for the full form opening*

3  
4 **HP - \*** *(Officers assume their proper stations: HP, K, Sc,*  
5 *CH, PS, RAC, Chap, Sent. Companions being*  
6 *properly clothed, take their seats.)*

7 **RAC -** *(Invites Comps in and closes door before*  
8 *repairing to his station.)*

9 **HP - \* Companion Captain of the Host,** *(Rises, faces*  
10 *south, no sign given)* **are all present Royal Arch**  
11 **Masons?**

12 **CH -** *(if satisfied, to go line 19; if not then:)* **I will**  
13 **ascertain and report. Companion Royal Arch**  
14 **Captain,** *(rises)* **you will ascertain if all present are**  
15 **Royal Arch Masons.**

16 **RAC -** *(Makes necessary examination. CH may assist in*  
17 *the investigation. RAC gives no sign.)* **Companion**  
18 **Captain of the Host, all present are Royal Arch**  
19 **Masons.**

20 **CH -** *(If satisfied, gives sign.)* **Excellent High Priest, all**  
21 **present are Royal Arch Masons.**

22 **HP - Is there a constitutional number present to open**  
23 **a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for business only?**

24 **CH - There is a constitutional number of two times**  
25 **three.**

26 **HP - You will then take the steps preliminary to**  
27 **opening a Chapter for business only.**

28 **CH -** *(Faces west.)* **Companion Royal Arch Captain,**  
29 *(rises, faces east, gives sign)* **you will see that the**  
30 **Sentinel is at his post and inform him that we are**  
31 **about to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for**  
32 **business only, and direct him to guard accordingly.**

33 **RAC -** *(Goes north of veils to door, opens it, steps back*  
34 *1 pace.)* **Companion Sentinel, we are about to open**

1    **a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for business only,**  
2    **and it is the order of the Captain of the Host that**  
3    **you guard accordingly.** (*Closes door, gives \*\* \*\* \**,  
4    *answered by Sent outside in the same manner, returns*  
5    *to his station, faces CH, gives sign.)* **Companion**  
6    **Captain of the Host, the sentinel is at his post and**  
7    **the tabernacle is securely guarded.**  
8    **CH -** (*Faces south, turns head east, gives sign.*)  
9    **Excellent High Priest, your order has been duly**  
10   **executed.**  
11   **HP - Companion Captain of the Host, are you a**  
12   **Royal Arch Mason?**  
13   **CH - I a t I a.**  
14   **HP - How shall I know you to be a Royal Arch**  
15   **Mason?**  
16   **CH - By three times three, under a living arch and**  
17   **over a triangle.**  
18   **HP - Why in that manner?**  
19   **CH - Because in that manner only can the principle**  
20   **secrets of this Degree be communicated.**  
21   **HP - Where were you made a Royal Arch Mason?**  
22   **CH - In a legally constituted Chapter of Royal Arch**  
23   **Masons, assembled in a place representing the**  
24   **tabernacle erected by our ancient brethren near the**  
25   **ruins of King Solomon's Temple.**  
26   **HP - How many compose a Chapter of Royal Arch**  
27   **Masons for business only?**  
28   **CH - Six or more.**  
29   **HP - When composed of only six, who are they?**  
30   **CH - The Excellent High Priest, and Companions**  
31   **King, Scribe, Captain of the Host, Principal**  
32   **Sojourner, and Royal Arch Captain.**  
33   **HP - Whom do the first three represent?**

1 **CH - Jeshua (*JESH-u-a*), Zerubbabel (*Ze-RU-ba-bel*)**  
2 **and Haggai (*HAG-a-eye*), who composed the first**  
3 **council assembled at Jerusalem after the**  
4 **destruction of King Solomon's Temple, and who**  
5 **held their meetings in the tabernacle.**  
6 **HP - Whom do the three Veils represent?**  
7 **CH - Those three of our ancient brethren who were**  
8 **instrumental in bringing to light the principal**  
9 **secrets of this degree, after they had lain buried in**  
10 **darkness from the death of our Grand Master HA,**  
11 **until the building of the second temple, a period of**  
12 **four hundred and seventy years and who, for their**  
13 **valuable labors, were appointed Masters of the**  
14 **Veils.**  
15 **HP - How many veils were there?**  
16 **CH - Four.**  
17 **HP - Where were they placed?**  
18 **CH - At the outer courts of the tabernacle.**  
19 **HP - For what purpose?**  
20 **CH - To serve as coverings for the tabernacle and**  
21 **stations for the guards.**  
22 **HP - Why were guards placed there?**  
23 **CH - To see that none passed but such as were duly**  
24 **qualified and had permission; none being admitted**  
25 **to the presence of the Excellent High Priest, King**  
26 **and Scribe, sitting in council, except the true**  
27 **descendants of the twelve tribes of Israel.**  
28 **HP - To what do the veils allude?**  
29 **CH - To the four principle tribes of Israel, who bore**  
30 **their banners in the wilderness: Judah, Ephraim,**  
31 **Reuben and Dan, whose emblems were the lion, the**  
32 **ox, the man and the eagle.**  
33 **HP - What do those banners emblematically teach?**  
34 **CH - That when engaged in the pursuit of truth, the**



1 great object of Masonic study, we should have the  
2 courage of the lion, the patience of the ox, the  
3 intelligence of the man, and the swiftness of the  
4 eagle.

5 **HP - The station of the Royal Arch Captain?**

6 **CH - Within the fourth veil, or entrance to the**  
7 **Sanctuary. (*Faces south at \*.*)**

8 **HP - \* (*RAC rises, takes ½ step forward, faces east and***  
9 ***gives sign.*) Your duty, companion?**

10 **RAC - To guard the fourth veil, and admit none but**  
11 **such as are duly qualified and have the words and**  
12 **sign of the Master of the Third Veil, and the signet**  
13 **of truth.**

14 **HP - What are those words?**

15 **RAC - Jeshua (*JESH-u-a*), Zerubbabel (*ze-RU-ba-bel*)**  
16 **and Haggai (*HAG-a-eye*).**

17 **HP - What is the color of your veil?**

18 **RAC - White, emblematic of that purity of life and**  
19 **rectitude of conduct by which alone we can expect**  
20 **to gain admission into the Holy of Holies above.**

21 **HP - The station of the Principal Sojourner?**

22 **RAC - At the left of the council. (*Faces south at \*.*)**

23 **HP - \*. (*PS rises, faces north, turns head east, gives***  
24 ***sign.*) Your duty, companion?**

25 **PS - To bring the blind by a way that they knew not;**  
26 **to lead them in paths that they have not known; to**  
27 **make darkness light before them, and crooked**  
28 **things straight; these things to do unto them, and**  
29 **not forsake them.**

30 **HP - The station of the Captain of the Host?**

31 **PS - At the right of the council. (*Faces west at \*.*)**

32 **HP - \* (*CH rises, faces south, turns head east, gives***  
33 ***sign.*) Your duty, companion?**

34 **CH - To observe the orders of the Excellent High**



1    **Priest, and see them duly executed; to take charge**  
2    **of the chapter during the hours of labor, and**  
3    **superintend the introduction of strangers among**  
4    **the workmen.**

5    **HP - The station of the Scribe?**

6    **CH - On the left in council.**

7    **HP - His duty? (*Scribe rises.*)**

8    **CH - To assist the Excellent High Priest in the**  
9    **discharge of his duties, and in his absence and that**  
10    **of the King to preside over the chapter.**

11    **HP - The station of the King?**

12    **CH - On the right in council.**

13    **HP - His duty? (*King rises.*)**

14    **CH - To assist the Excellent High Priest in the**  
15    **discharge of his duties, and in his absence to preside**  
16    **over the chapter.**

17    **HP - The station of the Excellent High Priest?**

18    **CH - In the east, in the center of the council.**

19    **HP - His duty? (*HP rises.*)**

20    **CH - To preside over and govern the chapter with**  
21    **fidelity; read and expound the law; officiate in the**  
22    **temple; and offer up the incense of a pure and**  
23    **contrite heart to the Great I Am.**

24    **HP - Companion Captain of the Host, you will bring**  
25    **the companions to order as Royal Arch Masons,**  
26    **and assemble them around the altar for our**  
27    **devotions.**

28    **CH - (*Faces west - \*\*\* - with foot. Cmps rise.*)**  
29    **Companions, you will come to order as Royal Arch**  
30    **Masons. (*All except council give due guard, not sign,***  
31    ***dropping hands with the CH.*) You will assemble**  
32    **around the altar in a circle, leaving a space at the**  
33    **east. (*Done. Chap descends and takes position as part***  
34    ***of the cirle west of altar.*) Form chain with right**

1 **hand over left arm. (Done.)**  
2 **CH -** *(Faces south, turns head east and gives sign.)*  
3 **Excellent High Priest, your order has been duly**  
4 **executed.** *(Council descends. HP may remove his hat*  
5 *and leave on his chair, open brim facing up and with*  
6 *CH fill space in circle.)*  
7 **HP - Kneel on right knee.** *(Can be simulated. HP*  
8 *breaks chain to remove hat, if worn, before prayer and*  
9 *again to replace it after “Amen” and before balancing.*  
10 *When in robes, mitre is not removed.)*

## 11 12 PRAYER

13  
14 **HP or Chap -** *(Chap kneeling at west side of altar.)*  
15 **Supreme High Priest of heaven and earth, we**  
16 **humbly beseech Thy blessing upon the purposes of**  
17 **our present assembly. Grant us the wisdom to**  
18 **contrive, strength to support and the beauty of**  
19 **harmony to so administer the affairs of this chapter**  
20 **that all our doings may be acceptable in Thy sight.**  
21 **Amen.**

22 *(Response.)* **So mote it be.**

23 **HP - Balance by three times three.** *(Take time from*  
24 *east.)*

25 **HP- Arise!** *(Chap backs into circle with companions.)*

26 **HP - Companion Captain of the Host,** *(faces HP and*  
27 *gives sign)* **you will form the companion in groups of**  
28 **three, commencing on my right.**

29 **CH - Companions,** *(faces same direction as HP)* **form**  
30 **in groups of three, commencing on my right.**  
31 *(Done.)* **You will each advance your right foot and**  
32 **place the toe at the heel of the companion on your**  
33 **right, the feet forming a triangle; raise your right**  
34 **hand to the level of your chin; strike out and grasp**

1    **the right wrist of the companion on your left; raise**  
2    **your left hand to the level of your breast; strike out**  
3    **and grasp the left wrist of the companion on your**  
4    **right, hands touching.** *(If necessary, CH goes inside*  
5    *of circle west of altar, to help form grips and may help*  
6    *form last group, HP, K & S form one group.)*  
7    **CH -** *(Faces HP and gives sign.)* **Excellent High Priest,**  
8    **the groups are formed.** *(No sign if in group.)*  
9    **HP -** **As we three did agree in peace, love and unity**  
10   **the sacred word to search; as we three did agree in**  
11   **peace, love and unity, the sacred word to keep; so**  
12   **we three do now agree in peace, love and unity to**  
13   **raise a Royal Arch.**  
14   **ALL -** *(Make battery of 3 on the words “peace, love and*  
15   *unity.” The right hands are then raised, still clasped*  
16   *and the G.R.A.W. is communicated from left to right by*  
17   *syllable, each companion in succession commencing,*  
18   *so that the word is given 3 times. Cmps on the apex of*  
19   *the triangle towards east gives first syllable. After this,*  
20   *hands still clasped are lowered and battery of 3 times*  
21   *3 is given. Groups are separated. Council and CH*  
22   *return to their stations and turn west together.)*  
23   **HP -** *(Recovers hat from chair)* **Companion Captain of**  
24   **the Host,** *(faces south, turns head east, gives sign)* **it**  
25   **is my order that a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons**  
26   **be now opened for the dispatch of business only,**  
27   **under the usual Masonic restrictions. This you will**  
28   **communicate to the companions for their**  
29   **government.**  
30   **CH -** **Companions, it is the order of the Excellent**  
31   **High Priest that a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons**  
32   **be now opened for the dispatch of business only,**  
33   **under the usual Masonic restrictions. Of this take**  
34   **due notice, and govern yourselves accordingly.**

1 **Look to the east.** *(All signs from Entered Apprentice*  
2 *to the Royal Arch, followed by battery as follows:)*

3 **HP - \*\*\* K - \*\*\* S - \*\*\***

4 **HP - \*\*\* K - \*\*\* S - \*\*\***

5 **HP - \* K - \* S - \***

6 **CH - Companion Principal Sojourner,** *(faces CH,*  
7 *gives sign)* **attend the altar and display the Great**  
8 **Lights.** *(PS arranges altar, takes 2 steps back and*  
9 *gives sign.)*

10 **HP - I now declare** *(chapter name)* **Royal Arch**  
11 **Chapter Number** *(chapter number)*, **erected to God**  
12 **and dedicated to the memory of Zerubbabel** *(ze-RU-*  
13 *ba-bel), opened in due form for business only.*  
14 *(Pledge of Allegiance led by HP.)*

15 **CH - Companion Royal Arch Captain,** *(faces east,*  
16 *gives sign), inform the Sentinel that the chapter is*  
17 **now open for business only and direct him to guard**  
18 **accordingly.**

19 **HP - \*** *(All take seats except CH and RAC.)*

20 **RAC -** *(Goes to door; \*\* \*\* \* answered by Sentinel*  
21 *in the same manner; RAC opens door, takes 1 step*  
22 *back.)* **Companion Sentinel, a Chapter of Royal**  
23 **Arch Masons is now open for business only and it is**  
24 **the order of the Captain of the Host that you guard**  
25 **accordingly.** *(Closes door; goes to his station, faces*  
26 *CH, gives sign.)* **Companion Captain of the Host,**  
27 **your order is obeyed.**

28 **CH -** *(Standing, receives report and both take seats.)*

29

30 

*Note: Closing for business only is the same ritual as*  
31 *full form.*