

R.E.C. Piers A. Vaughan Candidate for General Grand King



Companion Piers Allfrey Vaughan Biography

Companion Piers Vaughan was born and educated in England, earning an MA in Experimental Psychology from Oxford University and an MBA from Cranfield Business School. He is also a Member of the Association for Project Management (MAPM). His professional career was primarily in international banking, where he held senior project management and internal consultancy roles with Midland Bank, HSBC, and Deutsche Bank. Starting his career in London, UK, these positions took him to Frankfurt, Geneva, and finally New York, where he became a U.S. citizen in 2003. Throughout his career, he specialized in problem-solving, mediation, budgeting, regulations and team leadership across complex international environments.

In parallel with his professional life, Companion Piers has maintained longstanding interests in music, the arts, and community service, as well as acting (he was a film extra in Star Wars and Quadrophenia!). He served for many years as Organist and Director of Music at St. Paul's Church in Brighton where he was an active composer and performer. He was also the youngest member of MENSA at the time, at the age of 11.

Companion Piers joined Freemasonry in England in 1979 and continued his Masonic journey in the United States at St. John's Lodge No. 1 in New York. He served the Lodge twice as Master and also as Secretary, frequently lecturing on and traveling with the George Washington Presidential Inaugural Bible around the US. He served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York (2014–2015), as Grand Treasurer, and later as Deputy General Grand High Priest for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions (2023–2026). He has served in leadership roles across nearly all York Rite bodies and on several national grand lines. He resides in Bayonne, New Jersey.

His primary passion is Masonic education. Companion Piers is a member of the Society of Blue Friars and a Fellow of the Philalethes Society, the American Lodge of Research, and the Thomas Smith Webb Chapter of Research. Following his retirement, he founded Rose Circle Publications, dedicated to works on Masonry and related philosophical and esoteric subjects, and also publishes works by several respected authors in this field. His own published works include the *Capitular Development Course*, the *Royal Arch Mason Educational Resource*, *Renaissance Man & Mason*, and *Enlightenment Man & Mason*. He worked with the Knight Templar Foundation to produce the historic *Templar Monitor*. He has also translated several significant French Masonic and esoteric texts into English. His educational efforts have led him to lecture extensively both throughout the United States and internationally.

Through active participation in Masonry across multiple jurisdictions – including membership in the Grand Lodges of New York, New Jersey, the District of Columbia, Belgium and Quebec – Companion Piers brings a broad international perspective to Masonic leadership. His professional background, combined with his extensive Masonic experience, has given him insight into both the strengths and challenges facing the Craft worldwide. He is a strong advocate for collaboration, thoughtful communication, and attentive service, and believes effective leadership is grounded in listening as much as speaking.

Why I Am Running

I am seeking the office of **General Grand King** because I believe the General Grand Chapter is called to play an increasingly vital role in shaping the future of Capitular Masonry. We stand at a moment of opportunity – one that invites us not merely to preserve what we have inherited, but to strengthen it, clarify its voice, and extend its reach with intention and confidence.

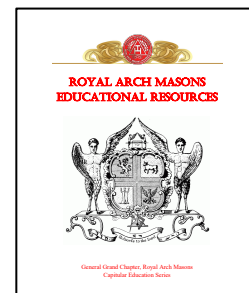
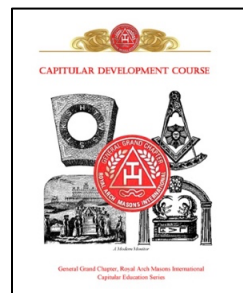
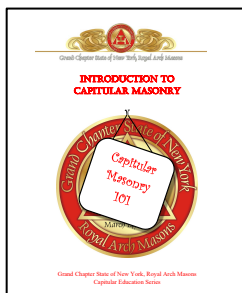
The work before us is both strategic and aspirational. It requires deeper collaboration among the York Rite Sovereign Bodies, a clearer and more compelling presence at the national and international levels, and a renewed commitment to serving Companions wherever Capitular Masonry is practiced. Our structures must support our purpose, and our leadership must consistently reflect our values.

While each York Rite Body is sovereign, our future is shared. When we act with unity of purpose – respecting our distinctions while aligning around common goals – we amplify our collective impact. Thoughtful coordination enables stronger education, more effective leadership development, and a clearer articulation of who we are and why we matter. Similarly, General Grand Chapter is far more effective as a global organization, and Grand Chapters who wish to isolate themselves within their States are perhaps missing the primary purpose of Masonry as a universal force for good.

Internationally, the General Grand Chapter has fostered meaningful growth, but growth alone is not enough. Sustained engagement, cultural understanding, managing local internal politics, and educational depth are essential to ensuring that emerging jurisdictions flourish with confidence and continuity. Education is the foundation upon which all else rests. Expanding access to high-quality Capitular education through translation (particularly into Brazilian Portuguese, LATAM, Romanian and French), multilingual resources, and enhanced communication channels is central to my vision of a truly connected and supported international Capitular community.

My professional career in international leadership, combined with decades of service across nearly every level of Capitular Masonry, has shaped a leadership approach grounded in listening, collaboration, and execution. I believe effective leadership sets direction, builds trust, and enables others to succeed. It is not about prominence, but stewardship.

I offer myself for this office with a clear sense of responsibility and a deep respect for the Companions we serve. I respectfully ask for your consideration and support for election as **General Grand King** at the upcoming Triennium in Washington, D.C., in August 2026.



Masonic Resume of Piers Allfrey Vaughan

PERSONAL DETAILS

- Born 1957 in Brighton, England
- Educated at Brighton College (1970 – 1975) and Exeter College, Oxford University (1976 – 1979) earning an M.A. in Experimental Psychology; followed by an M.B.A. from Cranfield School of Business, England and is a member of the Institute of Project Management (M.A.P.M.). In addition, he holds an A.Mus.T.C.L. from Trinity College of Music, London, and an M.A. in Divinity from Sophia School of Divinity in the Church of Antioch. Her also has a certificate in ToEFL (teaching English as a Foreign Language) earned in Paris and spent many summers while a student teaching English, mainly to European and Latin American students.
- Formerly Vice President of IT & Operations, and Internal Consulting in a number of international banks, including Midland Bank, HSBC and Deutsche Bank, living and working in London, Frankfurt, Geneva and New York. Now retired.
- Active in St. Paul's Church, Brighton (Anglo-Catholic) for many years prior to emigrating, serving as chorister, Director of Music and on the Parochial Church Council. Currently the Primate of the Apostolic Church of the Golden and Rosy Cross, a descendant of the Independent Catholic Church of the Pleroma (founded by Richard, Duc de Palatine) and the Pre-Nicene Church.
- Now an author and publisher (Rose Circle Publications) focusing on books about Masonry, symbolism and esoteric topics. Publications include the *Capitular Development Course, Renaissance Man & Mason, Enlightenment Man & Mason*, and translations of a number of French Masonic and esoteric works available on amazon.com.

BLUE LODGE

- Member of the Grand Lodges of New York, New Jersey, District of Columbia, Belgium and Quebec (Honorary)
- Honorary Past Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of District of Columbia
- Currently Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Mali (Africa) for New York, and Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of New York for the District of Columbia
- Past Grand Director of Ceremonies at Large for Observant Masonry in the State of New York (2014 – 2016)
- Joined Southwick Lodge No 7058 in Sussex, England in February (a Mason for 33 years). Member of Blue Lodge, Royal Arch (Knights of the Road Chapter No. 3673), Rose Croix (Eureka Chapter No. 43), Knights Templar (de Warenne Preceptory No. 28)) and SRIA (William Wynn Westcott College) in England prior to moving to the USA in 1993
- Past Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1, A.Y.M. 1998 – 1999, 2012 – 2013
- Past Secretary of St. Johns' Lodge No. 1 2004 – 2005
- Past Chaplain of St. John's Lodge No. 1 1999 – 2000, 2005 – 2006, 2007 – 2008
- Past/Founding Master of Adhuc Stat Lodge No. 1782, Grand Lodge of District of Columbia
- Member of St. John's Lodge No. 1 Presidential Inaugural Bible Committee 2000 – 2005; Chairman of Education Committee 2005 – 2006

- Honorary Member King Solomon Beethoven Lodge No. 232
- Member of Peninsula Lodge No. 99, New Jersey
- Assistant Grand Lecturer of First Manhattan District, 1999 – 2001; 2001 – 2003
- Grand Master's Certificate of Appreciation, 2008
- Past President, First Manhattan District Association 2001
- Papers given include: *The Purpose of Ritual in Freemasonry*, *Differences in American and English Masonry*, *The Seven Liberal Arts & Sciences*, *A Masonic Bestiary*, *Masonic Symbolism*, *The Meaning of Ritual in Masonry*, *The Symbolism of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross*, *The Blazing Star*, *Spiritual Healing*, *The Masonic Eggregore*, *The Holy Royal Ark*, *Early Royal Arch Ritual*, *The Tetractys*, *The Symbolism of the 15th & 16th Degrees of the Scottish Rite*, *The Tree of Life in Blue Lodge* – lectures given in New York, New Jersey, California, Florida, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, Washington DC, Virginia, Idaho, Quebec, Ontario, Vancouver, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New South Wales, Victoria, United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Romania.

ROYAL ARCH

- Deputy General Grand High Priest, Mid Atlantic District (2024 – 2026)
- Deputy General Grand High Priest, Northeast District (2023 – 2024)
- Past Grand Treasurer, Grand Chapter of the State of New York, Royal Arch Masons
- Grand High Priest (Grand First Principal), Grand Chapter of the State of New York, Royal Arch Masons 2014 – 2015
- Fellow of Thomas Smith Webb Chapter of Research
- Honorary member of the Grand Chapters of Maryland, New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Ohio, Indianapolis, Delaware, Virginia, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania
- Ephraim Kirby Award, General Grand Chapter 2024
- Silver Distinguished Service Medal from General Grand Chapter, 2023
- Harold D. Elliot Medal from Grand Chapter of New Jersey, 2023
- Capitular Master Medal from Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, 2021
- Junius C.H. Schmidt Medal from Grand Chapter of New Jersey, 2015
- General Grand Chapter Ritual Excellence Award 2012
- Past High Priest and Secretary of Thomas Smith Webb Chapter of Research No. 1798
- Past High Priest of Ancient Chapter No. 1
- Member of the Fraternal Order of Anointed High Priests
- Author of continuing series of discussion papers on the Capitular Degrees, including Educational Courses (Introduction to Capitular Masonry; Capitular Development Course) and Rituals
- Presentations given at numerous Chapters in NY, NJ and PA; Keynote Speech given at Northeast York Rite Conference 2012

CRYPTIC RITE

- Grand Representative of Arkansas to the Grand Cryptic Council of the State of New York
- Honorary Member of the Grand Cryptic Council of New Jersey 2023
- Past Illustrious Master of Columbian Council No. 1
- Member of Grand Cryptic Rite Ritual Committee 2004 – 6
- Member of Ritual Committee 2004 – 2007

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

- Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT) 2011
- Full Member of the Grand Master's Club (No. 4251) 2008
- Deputy Zone Commander, Morton Commandery No. 4
- Past Commander of Morton Commandery No. 4
- Member of Trinity Commandery (New Jersey)
- Chairman of the Historical Ritual Committee
- Past Grand Representative of the Philippines to the Grand Commandery of the State of New York (2003 – 2012)
- Past Chairman of Patriotic Committee for New York
- Member of Ritual Committee 2007 – 2009
- Member of the Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor

YORK RITE COLLEGE

- Order of the Purple Cross, 2023
- Past Governor, Manhattan College No. 210

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE

- Past Puissant Sovereign, St. Quentin's Conclave, NY, 2018

YORK RITE COURT OF HONOR

- Past Prior, Knickerbocker Priory No. 3, NY, 2017
- KYGCH, 2014

HOLY ROYAL ARCH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PRIESTS

- Past Preceptor, Star of Bethlehem Tabernacle No. 5, NY, 2016

ORDER OF THE SAINTS JOHN (New Jersey)

- Invited to membership 2005/Guest Lecturer

St. THOMAS OF ACON

- Assistant Grand Marshal 2025, 2026
- Grand Herald 2024
- Past Master of Novum Eboracum Chapel No. 51, NY (2007 – 2008)
- Past Secretary of Novum Eboracum Chapel No. 51 (2005 – 2007, 2010 – 2013)

SCOTTISH RITE

- 33rd Degree (Aug. 2011)
- Haut Grades Academic (HGA) 2020
- Knight of the Double Eagle Full Award (2023)
- Meritorious Service Award (MSA) 2003
- First Lieutenant of Consistory (2014 - 2016)
- Past Most Wise Master of 17th & 18th Degrees 2000
- Past Sovereign Prince of the 15th & 16th Degrees, Council of Princes 2005
- Co-Ritual Director for 17th & 18th Degrees, and Feast of the Paschal Lamb
- Joint Editor, Valley of New York Newsletter (“The Brotherhood”) 2002 - 2005
- Past Chairman, New York Valley Education Committee

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES

- Past Sovereign Master of Half Moon Lodge No. 2 (2005)
- Past Noah of Half Moon Royal Ark Mariner Lodge (2005)
- Commander of the Order of Eri
- Member of the Order of the Scarlet Cord
- Member of the Grand College of Rites
- Member of the Masonic Order of the Bath

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND

- Life Member (joined Nov. 1999)

SOCIETAS ROSICUCIANA IN FÆDERATIS CIVITATIBUS

- Past Junior Deputy Supreme Magus 2022 - 2025
- Knight Grand Cross
- Honorary member of Stella Sola College (TX), Ohio College, Idaho College
- Created Magus IX^o in April, 2006
- Grand Ancient No. 7 of High Council
- Member of New Jersey College

SOCIETAS ROSICRUCIANA IN ANGLIA

- Current Member of Holy Sepulchre College, London
- Past Member of Thomas Linacre (Supreme Magus) College – Magister VIII^o until Feb. 2006 and past member of William Wynn. Westcott College, Brighton
- Past Supreme Magus’ Representative to the MSRICF (2003 – 2006)

SOCIETAS ROSICRUCIANA IN CANADA

- Past Magus IX^o
- Past Chief Adept of Ontario, 1998-2001

ORDER OF KNIGHT MASONS

- Knight Commander of Zerubbabel 2022
- Member of New Jersey Council

SCOTTISH RECTIFIED RITE

- Primus Master of Adhuc Stat Lodge No, 1782, District of Columbia 2024
- Affiliated member of St. John the Baptist Lodge, Belgium 2024
- Deputed Master of St. George's Scottish Masters Lodge 2011
- Knighted CBCS and member of the Great Priory of Belgium 2003
- Member of St. George's Scottish Masters Lodge No. 5, Ostende Belgium 1998

OTHER MEMBERSHIPS

- Society of Blue Friars – inducted 2019
- The Operatives – Grade VII 2024
- The American Lodge of Research – Fellow 2023
- The Philaethes Society – Fellow 2024
- The Order of Holy Wisdom (KTP) 2025
- Masonic Order of Pilgrim Preceptors 2024
- Order of Ishmael – Knight of Alexander and Prince of Ishmael 2024 & First Herald of the Grand Temple
- August Order of Light 2025