



**Stockton York Rite
340 East Market Street
Stockton, CA 95202**

The York Rite Bodies Newsletter

Officers for 2008

Stockton Chapter No. 28

High Priest

King
Scribe
Treasurer
Secretary
Chaplin
Captain of the Host
Principal Sojourner
Royal Arch Captain
Master 3 Veil
Master 2 Veil
Master 1 Veil
Sentinel

Ian Martin

Richard Slater
Chris Ross
Donald Wilcoxon, PHP
Steven Fowler, PHP
Richard Thornton, PHP
John Patronas
Sky Martin
Don Murchison
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Alex Mendoza
Ken Edwards, PHP

Stockton Council No. 10

Illustrious Master

Deputy Master
Principal Conductor
Treasurer
Recorder
Chaplin
Captain Guard
Conductor Council
Steward
Sentinel
Organist

Leland Rountt, IPM

Ian Martin
Richard Slater
Donald Wilcoxon, IPM
Steven Fowler, IPM
Dax Martin
John Patronas
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Ken Edwards, IPM
Carl Meiske

Inspector

Officer's Coach

Leland Rountt, KYCH

Donald Wilcoxon, PHP

Inspector

Officer's Coach

Steven Fowler, KYCH

Dennis Meritt, KYCH

Stockton Commandery No. 8

Commander

Generalissimo
Captain General
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Treasurer
Recorder
Prelate
Standard Bearer
Sword Bearer
Warder
Sentinel

Richard Thornton

Chris Ross
John Patronas
Don Murchison
Dax Martin
Donald Wilcoxon, PC
Steven Fowler, PC
Sky Martin
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Richard Slater
Ken Edwards, PC

Delta Council 266

Sovereign Master

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Secretary/Treasurer
Chaplin
Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon
Marshal
Chief Steward
Tiler

Leland Rountt

Richard E. Thornton
William McVicker

Inspector

Officer's Coach

Ken Edwards, KYCH

Steven Fowler, KYCH

Inspector

Officer's Coach

Delta Council No. 216 AMD: Saturday, September 27th, following Chapter and Council.

(From the internet – more history)

At the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, March 21, 1932, Charters were granted. When the Charters arrived, Councils were consecrated, and a call issued to form the Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the USA, in Salisbury, NC, April 16, 1932. Grand Council was formed with R. E. Comp. J. Raymond Shute, II as the first Sovereign Grand Master.

The first Annual Communication of the Grand Council was held in Charlotte, May 8, 1933, at which three more charters were issued. At this Communication, the establishment of the bulletin Miscellanea was authorized for the publication of research papers of lasting interest. This Communication also established the honorary rank, Knight Grand Cross, upon the twenty-one founders, together with such brethren as the Board of General Purposes might nominate and the Grand Council approve.

The Second Annual Communication of Grand Council, held at Alexandria, VA, February 20, 1934, ratified the Articles of Union with Grand College, Allied and Christian Degrees presented in Raleigh, which gave Grand Council clear title to each of the Degrees controlled by Grand College. In addition to those Degrees which were in doubt, Grand Council acquired a number of Degrees controlled by Grand College pertaining to Christian philosophy which it had not previously possessed.

Such is a brief outline of the beginning of Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the USA, and a resume of some of the highlights of the first two years of its existence. The account is incomplete and sketchy, but does cover salient points.

The purposes of the Allied Masonic Degrees are beneficial to all aspects of Masonry, whether they be Symbolic, York, or Scottish Rite. Though we control a number of Degrees by incontestable authority, we are not primarily a degree-working organization. Our chief interest is a return to the conviviality and good fellowship, an indispensable part of Masonic gatherings in former times, lost in the pressure of degree work now found highly prevalent. This good fellowship is to be followed by research papers or talks on various Masonic subjects. With this aim-an effort to throw more light from the Sanctuary upon us all-we can but foresee even greater growth ahead for Grand Council as these principles become more widely known.

York Rite in the United States of America

The York Rite in the United States is actually a grouping of separate Rites joined in order, namely the Capitular Rite, or Royal Arch Masons, the Cryptic Rite, or Cryptic Masons, and the Chivalric Orders, or Knights Templar.

Stockton Chapter No. 28: Saturday, September 27th, is the next meeting.

Mark Master degree is in some respects an extension of the Fellow Crafts' second degree. The degree is a most important one; so much that England and some countries confine it to the jurisdiction of a separate Grand Body. In this degree the setting reverts to the quarries where skilled Fellowcrafts present their work for approval.

Past Master (Virtual) degree is conferred because of the traditional requirement that only Past Masters of a Blue Lodge may be admitted to Holy Royal Arch. It was formerly conferred only on Masters of Lodges, to instruct them in the duties they owed the Lodges over which they were called to preside.

Most Excellent Master degree the building of King Solomon's Temple, which figures so prominently in Blue Lodge, has been completed. The former degrees you have received have dealt with the structural features of the temple. This degree is founded on the interior and completion of the building.

Royal Arch Mason degree is said by many to be the most beautiful degree in all of Freemasonry or the crowning degree of Masonry. This degree is founded on the building of the second temple. History records that the temple of Solomon stood for 420 years when it was destroyed. The second temple stood nearly 500 years when it also was destroyed. The temple of Herod, 100 years, was destroyed by the Romans. The mosque of Omar, now occupying the same site, has stood about 1,200 years.

Stockton Council No. 10: Saturday, September 27th, is the next meeting.

Something unusual happened during the opening ceremonies for Chapter and Council; Council opened first and then Chapter opened during the July 26 opening. We had a very special visitor who was given the customary honors due a Grand Lodge Officer. The Illustrious Master, Leland Routt did excellent in the opening ceremonies, as did all the officers

History: The existence of crypts or secret vaults under the Temple of Solomon is revealed, not only by certain legends of Freemasonry, but by the earliest and the most recent topographers of Jerusalem.

Royal Master - conferred in a place known as the council chamber, which represents the private apartment of King Solomon's Temple, where he and his two associates met for consultation and deliberation during the construction of the Temple, and the drama portrayed in it sheds additional light on both the Master Mason and Royal Arch degrees.

Select Master - In the Select Master's degree which is the second of the Council, the place of meeting represents a "Secret Vault" or crypt beneath the Temple. The historical object of the degree is to commemorate the deposits of an important secret or treasure which, after the preliminary preparations, is said to have been made by our three Grand Masters.

Super Excellent Master - This degree was not originally a part of the Cryptic system, and is not in all jurisdictions as yet. It has one of the best written rituals in Masonry. It deals with the incidents in the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar when Zedekiah, the last King of Judah, was conquered and carried captive to Babylon. It enlarges upon the section of the Royal Arch having to do with the capture of Jerusalem by the Babylonian King, and teaches in most dramatic fashion the lesson of fidelity.

Stockton Commandery No 8: To be a Knight Templar a man must be right with God and country, honest with himself and others, ever ready to lay down his life, if need be, in the service of truth, righteousness, and justice. A Knight Templar is pledged to follow the banner of his Order and the American Flag wherever they lead in human service, no matter what may be his condition in life or station in society.

With that said, it is requested that Knights Templar of Stockton Commandery No. 8 gather for breakfast on Saturday, August 23rd and then at 9:00 a.m. assemble for their conclave for the month of August.

The order of business is as follows:

- Opening Ceremonies
- Reading minutes of preceding conclave
- Reception of petitions for Orders or affiliation
- Balloting
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Introductions