



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

Stockton York Rite 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 Wilcoxen, PHP
Steven Fowler, PHP
Richard Thornton, PHP
John Patronas
Sky Martin
Don Murchison
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Alex Mendoza
Ken Edwards, PHP

Inspector
Officer's Coach

Leland Rountt, KYCH
Donald Wilcoxen, 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 Wilcoxen, IPM
Steven Fowler, IPM
Dax Martin
John Patronas
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Ken Edwards, IPM
Carl Meiske

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 Wilcoxen, PC
Steven Fowler, PC
Sky Martin
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Richard Slater
Ken Edwards, PC

Inspector
Officer's Coach

Ken Edwards, KYCH
Steven Fowler, KYCH

Delta Council 216

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

Editorial Commentary

An open letter to **York Rite** members, Stockton, California:
Stockton Chapter No. 28,
Stockton Council No. 10,
Stockton Commandery No. 8, and
Allied Masonic Degrees Delta Council No. 216

All York Rite Bodies: Chapter, Council, and Commandery will meet December 27th for annual elections. Additionally, this is the time for Stockton Commandery No. 8 Stated Conclave and Annual Christmas Observance. We will start with a mighty fine breakfast and end our activities with a mighty fine lunch.

Chapter and Council for the month of September and November; Commandery for the month of October could not open because lack of attendance. Truly, writing those words hurt; York Rite meets on the 4th Saturday for approximately 4 hours, including breakfast.

We have talked a lot about a core group of members, members that are around ensuring setup, filling in at officer positions, cooking breakfast, seeing correct aprons are laid out, being Secretary, Treasurer, guiding us when we are going through the chairs, helping us with our ritual, our floor work, and etc.

I believe this email from one of the core group: hits the nail on the head, including balancing our time: here is an email I received: *Please my Brethren, Companions and Sir Knights try to attend our meetings. I understand that all of you have other personal obligations and need to balance this in amongst them. Remember masonry is a progressive science and in participation together we all learn. By your attendance and our interaction with each other we all become better men.*

York Rite needs help and only you can help. We know we have people who join York Rite and pay their membership dues annually. These members York Rite cannot live without, nor do we want too. Then we have members attending once or twice and please understand York Rite cannot live without these members, nor again, do we want too. But we need active members, those members who want to participate in a desired role, whether to attend the stated functions or participate in the Order of Temple, York Rite needs you, to put it bluntly.

Over the past year, we have lost officers, Ian Martin to school, Don Murchison to work, Richard Slater to work, and Chris Ross to work. By the time you get this newsletter, elections will be a week away. Please make your decision and I plead that your decision is too participate, the fourth Saturday, for four hours, including

breakfast is not a lot of time from your schedule but it does a lot for us as a group.

Please, do not fill a position, any position and not attend. I know there is prestige behind the fact that you can say, I am Commander or Past Commander, High Priest or Past High Priest, and/or Illustrious Master or Illustrious Past Master. But; and to put it bluntly, what are you receiving from it, what is York Rite receiving from it.

And, if you jump up and down, wave your hands, French kiss, please attend and, boy this next line will just kill you

please learn your position



Delta Council No. 216 AMD

Saturday, December 27th, following Chapter and Council

Delta Council No. 216 meets every third month, i.e. March, June, September, and December. Elections are held in December and installation ceremony held in March.

Please, we need your participation in Delta Council No. 216, Allied Masonic Degrees.

The Stockton York Rite Newsletter has published some very good articles about the Allied Masonic Degrees in the effort to promote attendance.

Positions:

Sovereign Master:	Leland Routt
Senior Warden:	Richard Thornton
Junior Warden:	Neglected
Secretary/Treasurer:	William McVicker
Chaplin:	Neglected
Senior Deacon:	Neglected
Junior Deacon:	Neglected
Marshal:	Neglected
Chief Steward:	Neglected
Tiler:	Neglected

As we can easily observe, Brother Neglected filled a lot of positions for Delta Council No. 216 but this is a beginning, previously we had not met for 2 years.



Stockton Chapter No. 28

Saturday, December 27th at 9:00a.m

Stockton Chapter No. 28 meets every odd month, i.e. January, March, May, July, September, and November. All York Rite Bodies meet in December for elections; with Stockton Chapter No. 28 installation ceremony held in January.

November 22nd is the 4th Saturday and it is time for Chapter to meet. We began by a wonderful breakfast prepared by our own chef, Dennis Meritt. Remember, business attire and review your books (at least open them); but not to worry, we could not open.

We must restore pride in Stockton Chapter No. 28. This is a challenge to all **Dias Officers**, do your work without the book. The ritual book, in all Masonic bodies, is a tool, a tool from which to learn your ritual and lines, not to bring with you and read from. How would you feel, while attending your blue lodge, the officers pulled out the ritual manual and began to read their lines, to open, perform degrees, close? Overheard from an officer, we have enough people to open but if we did open, we would just read anyway. Truly, my brothers, a person should never have been put in that situation, but it was a dreadfully thing to overhear.

The emails received have been excellent, some with good suggestions, some wondering why the pulling of charters was mentioned, some suggested that the dais officers wear the appropriate robes when opening and all of these were excellent. Please keep the emails coming, communication is the best tool ever developed and design by the human race. The basic underlining theme gathered from all the emails was restoration of pride and attendance.

But I am going to issue some challenges, not to brow beat you, not to holler, but a challenge;

- ☒ If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, attend,
- ☒ If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, learn the position, and
- ☒ If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, do your work without the ritual manual!!!!!!



Stockton Council No. 10

Saturday, December 27th after Chapter

Stockton Council No. 10 meets every odd month, i.e. January, March, May, July, September, and November. All York Rite Bodies meet in December for elections and Stockton Council No. 10 installation ceremony is held in January.

November 22nd is the 4th Saturday and it is time for Council to meet. We begin by a wonderful breakfast prepared by our own chef, Dennis Meritt. Remember, business attire and review your books (at least open them), oh well, we could not open anyway.

We must restore pride in Stockton Council No. 10. This is a challenge to all **Dias Officers**, do your work without the book. The ritual book, in all Masonic bodies, is a tool, a tool from which to learn your ritual and lines, not to bring with you and read from. How would you feel, while attending your blue lodge, the officers pulled out the ritual manual and began to read their lines, to open, perform degrees, close?

- If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, attend,
- If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, learn the position, and
- If you are elected and/or appointed to a position, do your work without the ritual manual!!!!!!



Stockton Commandery No 8

Stated Conclave is Saturday, December 27th, after elections for Chapter, Council, and AMD and remember; we also have elections and Christmas observance.

Stated Conclave for Stockton Commandery No. 8 occurs every even month, i.e., February, April, June, August, October, and December. All York Rite Bodies meet in December for elections and Stockton Commandery No. 8 installation ceremony held in February.

A Knight Templar is a man, a Sir Knight, right with God, Country, Family, and neighbor; honest with himself and others, ever ready to lay down his life, if need be, in the service of truth, justice, righteousness, and the American way of life. A Knight Templar has 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.

On Saturday, December 27th, we will be holding our Christmas Observance, the birthday of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, you and your loved ones are invited, attend this ceremony, all decked out in your uniform. Also, in attendance will be:

Robert C. Coe, KCT, KYGCH
Right Eminent Department Commander
Southwestern Department
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America

Remember; we do not meet until the 4th Saturday in December as a Commandery, please review your book, find your lines, review your lines, and get ready. Attire for all Commandery Conclaves is the Knight Templar Uniform.

Order of the Temple is on the horizon and we will need your participation. We have lost several major positions, positions which every Sir Knight remembers. We need a Junior Warden for the Chamber of Reflection; when I was made a Sir Knight many years ago, I still remember the Junior Warden who is currently the Grand High Priest. **THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE IS DONE WITHOUT THE MANUAL.**

The challenge was made last December when Commandery issued a challenge to all officers to learn their lines. The principal Dias officers of the Commandery were certified by Ken Edwards Inspector and Dias Officers at every Commandery opening this year, the manual has not been utilized!