



Stockton York Rite
340 East Market Street
Stockton, CA 95202

The 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 Wilcoxon, 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 Wilcoxon, 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

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

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 **Stockton York Rite** members: (Stockton Chapter No. 28, Stockton Council No. 10, Stockton Commandery No. 8, and Allied Masonic Degrees Delta Council No. 216). The resurgence of Stockton York Rite is largely due to the efforts of a core group of dedicated Masons; Steven Fowler, Ken Edwards, Leland Routt, Dennis Merit, Don Wilcoxon, William McVicker, and others.

Let's latch onto their coattails and keep Stockton York Rite active by two methods; 1) new membership and 2) attendance. As all of you, the love of Masonry, its foundation, its beliefs and ideals combined with brotherly love are the reasons we became Masons and Sir Knights.

The people listed are not only dedicated to Masonry but contemplate upon their names and we come up with a combination of many things; their attendance is exemplary, and all are Inspectors, Coaches, or Secretaries. One of them, according to a song by Johnnie Cash, no matter how high the water is, cooks breakfast for our enjoyment, every 4th Saturday. Where would we be without such men, such Masons, such companions, such Knights?

Every session of Stockton York Rite occurs on the 4th Saturday; beginning at 8:00 a.m. with a breakfast; cooked by Dennis Merit and assisted by Ken Edwards. The fare is simple: sausage, eggs, biscuits, hash browns, jelly, butter, gravy, milk, orange juice, and coffee. Simple fare, I do not believe so, but on the 4th Saturday, this is our breakfast. Then at 9:00 a.m. our meetings begin, and usually we are out of the Stockton Masonic Temple by 11:30. This activity on a Saturday morning encompasses only 3 and one-half hours and you get fed.

During the past year(s), on many occasions, we had to use sideliners to fill officer chairs, in order for us to have a meeting. Sometimes, even with the people that arrive, we barely have enough to fill the chairs and sometimes we do not. If you volunteer for an appointed position or elected position, put your name in a hat; raise your hand, jump up and down, stating you want to become an officer, fulfill that inspiration and show up at the meetings, learn the lines, learn the ritual. Our ancient brethren loved the ritual and passed onto us a great heritage, one of which we should be proud, very proud.

Yet, there are officers who have attended only once, maybe twice; we are coming up on officer elections and appointments and yet, officer installations are still required for those elected last December.

For those Companions and Sir Knights who on occasion due to business, family, illness or school reasons cannot attend, this is normal as we are a volunteer organization.



Delta Council No. 216 AMD

Saturday, September 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.

Companions, my writings about Allied Masonic Degrees in these newsletters have been about the history of the degree and have, for the most part, derived from the Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America; from whom we were issued our charter. My writings have also been primarily to generate interest and to see Delta Council No. 216 does not bend and sail away in the wind. Our ancient Brethren have much to be proud of in their dedication to the ritual and being able to pass the ritual on to their companions.

Delta Council has several degrees which it has been authorized to perform, with the recommendation we rotate the degrees on a yearly basis. If Delta Council performs a degree, this will make us unique, none of us, members of Delta Council No. 216, have been conferred any of the degrees we are authorized to confer and none of us have conferred any of the degrees we are authorized to confer.

Authorized degrees for Delta Council are: Royal Ark Mariners; Ark and Dove; Secret Monitor (American Edition); Order of the Secret Monitor (English) 1; Order of the Secret Monitor (English) 2; Saint Lawrence the Martyr; Knight of Constantinople; Grand Tiler of Solomon; Excellent Master (Scottish); Masters of Tyre; Architect; Grand Architect; and Superintendent.

Delta Council historical tradition is to have elections in December, installation in March, and presentation of research papers in June. If research papers are not presented in June we should begin the process of degree conferral. Many of the degrees are short and our meetings in June and September can be utilized for conferral.

We should endeavor to invite additional members of Stockton Chapter No. 28, those of who are not members, and confer the first degree listed in Delta Council Manual, "Royal Ark Mariners". We do have to remember, all AMD Councils are limited to membership of 27.



Stockton Chapter No. 28

Saturday, September 27th, at 9:00 a.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 and Stockton Chapter No. 28 installation ceremony held in January.

Companions, my writings about York Rite in these newsletters have been about the history and have, for the most part, derived from the internet from several Grand York Rite Sites. My writings have also been primarily to generate interest in the York Rite Bodies. Our ancient Brethren have much to be proud of in their dedication to the ritual and being able to pass the ritual on to their companions.

Sad and Joyous News, if there can be such a thing, but there is, sad for the York Rite and Stockton Chapter No. 28, but joyous for our High Priest, Ian Martin, in particular, he is back in college, back east. Long live the King, King Richard Slater. Oh, the power, the glory, long live the King.



Stockton Council No. 10

Saturday, September 27th at 10:00 a.m

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.

I get to write Sad and Joyous News twice, if there can be such a thing, but there is, sad for the York Rite and Stockton Council No. 10 in particular, but joyous for our Deputy Master Ian Martin, he is back in college, back east.

Question and this is only a question, does this mean our Illustrious Master, Leland Routt gets to serve thrice, then he would be truly a Thrice Illustrious Master. Play on words and besides the fact, the next time Leslie sees me, I will probably be beside myself.



Stockton Commandery No 8

Stated Conclave is Saturday, October 25th, 9:00 a.m

A Knight Templar is a man right with God, Country, and Family; 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.

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.

Sir Knights, my writings about Knights Templar in these newsletters have been about the history and have, for the most part, derived from the internet from several Grand York Rite Sites. My writings have also been primarily to generate interest in Commandery. I wrote about the origins of the symbols on the award presented to Sir Knight Leland Routt and that was very interesting research. As a side note, the Knights Templar of old can match the Raiders and 49'ers of the National Football League with a similar win/loss record. Knights Templar has a win/loss record of 5 wins, 11 loses, and 1 surrender.

Some of the items we must think about, which will be discussed in the October stated conclave.

- ‡ Stockton Commandery No. 8 Christmas Observance is scheduled for 11:30 Sunday, December 14th, and in conclusion of this ceremony, we will have lunch. This format occurred last year and as your Commander, would love to see this continue. Robert C. Coe, KCT, Right Eminent Department Commander will be attending. We will need Sir Knights to read; usually 4, as an example, one year we read "A toast to our most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Master's Response, Gift in Small Packages, and Grand Commander's response and message. Also, needed are a Sir Knight and lady or Sir Knights and Ladies to help plan the lunch.
- ‡ December 25th is Christmas Day, the birthday of our Lord and Saviour,
- ‡ December 26th is the 44th Anniversary of Richard and Cara Thornton, and

- ‡ December 27th is the date all of the York Rite bodies will be meeting for election of officers. Please endeavor to attend.
- ‡ October 25th: Since I overflowed to another page, I will attempt to fill the vacuum. Steven Fowler, during the Order of the Temple, ritualistic is one of the best prelates I have had the pleasure of hearing. He wrote an email a while back and I wish to expand on it here: “You all took the same oath to walk 40 miles over frozen ground to help a fellow Sir Knight in need. If you need to hear a refresher course on your obligation, I will be doing the Prelate’s part at the Festival in Alameda on October 25th. We will have 3 new members in that class, and I am expecting a big turnout from Stockton after your Commandery meeting that morning. You will have time to get to Alameda before 1:00 PM. I really expect all of the Tracy members, even the affiliate ones (except Ioannis Patronas who runs a restaurant) to be in Alameda on October 25th.

Comment: Please re-read the Editorial Commentary. After our conclave on October 25th we all should make the effort to go to Alameda and watch 3 new Sir Knights, these Sir Knights have chosen Stockton Commandery No. 8 to be their Commandery home after being knighted into our valiant and magnanimous order. Remember, we are Knights Templar of Stockton Commandery No. 8.