



Stockton York Rite Newsletter

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Published Monthly for the benefit of

Stockton Chapter No. 28

Stockton Council No. 10

Stockton Commandery No. 8

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

Stockton Chapter No. 28



High Priest
King
Scribe
Treasurer
Secretary
Chaplin
Captain of the Host
Principal Sojourner
Royal Arch Captain
Master of the 3rd Veil
Master of the 2nd Veil
Master of the 1st Veil
Sentinel

Inspector
Officer's Coach

Ioannis E. Patronas
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Donald Wilcoxen, PHP
Steven Fowler, KYCH
Richard Thornton, PHP
Don Murchison
Sky Martin
Bill Alessio
Alex Mendoza
Jerry Sabaut
Richard Slater
Leland Routt, PHP

Leland Routt, KYCH
Donald Wilcoxen, PHP



Stockton Council No. 10



Illustrious Master
Deputy Master
Principal Conductor
Treasurer
Recorder
Chaplin
Captain of the Guard
Conductor of the Council
Steward
Sentinel

Inspector
Officer's Coach

Dennis Meritt, KYCH
Don Murchison
John Patronas
Donald Wilcoxen, IPM
Steven Fowler, KYCH
Richard Thornton, IPM
Arley Smith
John Lynch
Bill Alessio
Leland Routt, IPM

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, PC
Ioannis (John) Patronas
Don Murchison
Arley Smith, III
John Lynch
Donald Wilcoxon, PC
Steven Fowler, KYCH
Sky Martin
William Alessio
C.W. (Bill) Hasenbuhler
Richard Slater
Leland Routt, KYCH

Inspector
Officer's Coach

Leland Routt, 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 Routt
Richard E. Thornton

William McVicker



Commentary

Need **volunteers** to help organize, plan, cook, and so forth. Do not worry about the Hamburgers and Hotdogs, your picnic will have plenty!

Grand York Rite Sessions:

- Sunday, April 26, 2009
 - Grand York Rite Banquet
- Monday, April 27, 2009
 - Grand Council (Cryptic Masons of California)
- Tuesday, April 28, 2009
 - Grand Commandery (Knights Templar of California)
- Wednesday, April 29, 2009
 - Grand Chapter (Royal Arch Masons of California)

It would be a proud day for Stockton York Rite, for at least one of the Dias officers to be in attendance during their specific session; i.e., the Chapter Dias Officers to be in attendance on Wednesday, Commandery Officers to be in attendance on Tuesday, and Council Officers to be in attendance on Monday.

Stockton York Rite Family Picnic: August or September: Let's have a York Rite Family BBQ.



Delta Council No. 216 AMD

Saturday, June 27th, 2009

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Delta Council No. 216 meets every third month; March 21, 2009, June 27, 2009, September 26, 2009, and December 26, 2009 are the dates of Stated Meetings. Elections are held in December and installation ceremony held in March. .

Need your **help** Brethren

Our Council meets four times a year; fourth Saturday in March, June, September, and December; **we have not met since March 2008.**

When we gather as a “society of friends and brothers” we learn from each other and we earn each other’s friendship and brotherly love. What we do and the way we act can be shown to us from many different ways; during discussion of Masonry with a group, who we were and so forth. With the exception of one, the rest knew nothing of Masonry but the one stood up and said she was admitted to Shriners Hospital with 70 percent burns. This is why we are Masons.

How do we keep AMD alive and well within our Masonic Family?

Could we move the meeting to a different day, different time, different setting? If we want Delta Council No. 216 AMD to meet at a restaurant, let’s do it, let’s not let Delta Council No. 216 die.

Do not know what else to say, cannot think of anything to say brilliant nor full of wisdom but very simple, **HELP.**



Stockton Chapter No. 28

Saturday, May 23, 2009: Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Convocation at 9:00 a.m.

Stockton Chapter No. 28 meets every odd month, January 24, 2009 (Installation), March 21, 2009 (Stated Meeting), May 23, 2009 (Stated Meeting), July 25, 2009 (Stated Meeting), September 26, 2009 (Stated Meeting), November 28, 2009 (Stated Meeting), and December 26, 2009 (Elections).

Arley Smith, King opened Chapter and conducted business. This was the first meeting of our elected and appointed officers. Our High Priest, Ioannis (John) E. Patronas was in Greece attending the funeral of his mother.

We are getting more and more attendees at our Convocations and each of you should be proud. In the past and not too distant past, the charter for Stockton Chapter No. 28 was almost pulled. Be proud of the commitment each of you made to Chapter No. 28, your officers thank you.

How do we lessen our dependency on the “book”?
We do not open the ritual book except when we are attending chapter meetings and then when we do open the book, we ask “what page”?

Leland Routt, Inspector did not comment because he and Steve were dressed in Tuxedo's and heading up North for a yearly ritual. But he has commented before and strongly desires we give up our dependency on the book.

Let's create a standing offer, an offer **without hesitation, without “strings”**. If two or more companions desire to practice, a place of your choosing, to strengthen our knowledge of the ritual, let's do it, send an email or call and for an hour or so we can have fun. Your decision



Stockton Council No. 10

Saturday, May 23, 2009: Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Assembly at 10:00 a.m.

Stockton Council No. 10 meets every odd month, January 24, 2009 (Installation), March 21, 2009 (Stated Meeting), May 23, 2009 (Stated Meeting), July 25, 2009 (Stated Meeting), September 26, 2009 (Stated Meeting) November 28, 2009 (Stated Meeting), and December 26, 2009 (Elections). All York Rite Bodies meet in December for elections.

Council was opened first due to a business requirement of Illustrious Master Dennis Meritt. Council conducted business, for the first time, of your newly elected, appointed, and installed officers.

We are getting more and more attendees at our Assemble and each of you should be proud. In the past and not too distant past, the charter for Stockton Council was almost pulled. Be proud of the commitment each of you made to Council No. 10, your officers thank you.

How do we lessen our dependency on the “book”?
We do not open the book other than when attending Council and then when we do open the ritual book, we ask “what page”?

Steven M. Fowler, Inspector also asked and pleaded for all to read the book and actually stated the entire book was written in our native language, “English”.

Let’s create a standing offer, an offer **without hesitation, without “strings”**. If two or more companions desire to practice to strengthen our knowledge of the ritual, let’s do it, send an email or call and for an hour or so we can have fun. Your decision



Stockton Commandery No 8

Stated Conclave is Saturday, April 25, 2009: Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Conclave at 9:00 a.m.

Stated Conclave for Stockton Commandery No. 8 occurs every even month, February 28, 2009 (Installation), April 25, 2009 (Stated Conclave and Inspection), June 27, 2009 (Stated Conclave), August 22, 2009 (Stated Conclave), October 27, 2009 (Stated Conclave), and December 26, 2009 (Stated Conclave and Elections). All York Rite Bodies meet in December for elections.

A Knight Templar is 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 his condition in life or station in society.

Commandery portion might be a little long, a little wordy but a lot has to be written for many great things have happened and to all of them each of you, Knights of Stockton Commandery No. 8 can be proud.

First: let's talk about commitment, the commitment each of you have made to Stockton Commandery No. 8, no matter whether that commitment was

perceived in your eyes as small or huge; the commitment you made was huge for Stockton Commandery No. 8.

- **Bill Hasenbuhler** commitment to Masonry lies in his heart. He is committed to his lodge, to Sciots, and to Stockton Commandery No. 8. He showed up for the Order of the Temple at the Bill Tool Springtime Festival in Vallejo. He came to do the parts he volunteered to do at the festival and as most of you know he is sick, his weight has dropped from around 250 to around 180. Anyway, he had to go home because of his illness and had to be replaced by Alex, which is another story of commitment.
- **Alex Mendoza** arrived at the festival without a part but is a Knight of Stockton Commandery No. 8. He immediately stepped in for Bill, doing a wonderful job. Thank you Alex.
- **Wes Martin** is a Knight of Stockton Commandery No. 8 and the commitment he made is to do the Commander portion of the Order of the Temple. Wow, what a commitment and the job he did at the festival was outstanding – thank you Wes and what was her answer?
- **Doug Martin** attends all Conclaves and all festivals and is a Past Commander of Stockton Commandery No. 8 and during the Order of the Temple is does the Flag Tribute and every time he does the tribute, tears form in my eyes – thank you Doug.

- The commitment of **Richard Slater** and **Bill Alessio** is huge for Stockton Commandery No. 8 and the Order of the Temple. This was their first time doing the Junior Warden and Warden parts respectively and the only words that come to mind is – thank you.
- For emotion you really have to listen to **Steven do the Prelate’s part of the Order of the Temple**. When he was doing his part, all eyes in the room were riveted to him because of the **emotion he put into the part**. Let’s not discuss his commitment to Stockton Commandery No. 8 – he is the one that put the brakes on Charter’s being pulled.
- **Dennis Meritt** also came to the festival due to his commitment to Stockton Commandery No. 8. He came in complaining, stating he almost turned around and went back home because this was the first Saturday he had off in months and wanted to spend time with Cindy (his wife). But he was at the festival and the only words we can offer is thank you.
- The next to last to discuss is the Hermits, fantastic hermits, wonderful hermits, by **Doug Martin, Charlie Lewis, and Don Wilcoxon**. With the candidates, the initial contact is the Chamber of Reflection. The next major contact is the Hermits – fantastic and each of you desires a well founded thank you.
- The last is to all members of **Stockton Commandery No. 8** and the Cast of the Order of the Temple. Thank you for your

commitment you are making, Stockton Commandery No. 8 is known State wide for their performance of their ritual. For those having not attended a Chapter, Council, or Commandery meeting, please come and see what the activity is all about; this is your York Rite, your Chapter, your Council, and your Commandery

This tibit of Stockton York Rite History came from Steven: *Not too many years ago every York Rite Body in California was able to confer their own degrees and orders. In the mid to late 1990's this changed quite a bit. In 1997, Stockton York Rite Bodies were about to lose all 3 of our Charters. Don Wilcoxon is the only active member that stayed true to our Orders. He is the only one that is still in the area and still active. Some of the others have either moved to another dimension of life, another State in the Union or, for my mentor, Greg Louis, got switched to night shift.*

In 1997, we had 5 new members enter Stockton York Rite. 4 of these 5 are still dues paying. Doug Martin joined the next year and his sons joined within the next couple of years. Sir Knight Wes was Knighted in October of the following year and in the following March, he did the Hermit's work in Vallejo.

Prior to 1997, Naval Commandery needed to call on California No 1 to fill vacancies in the line. After 1997, Naval Commandery was able to use our Commandery to fill all of the vacancies. Ed Blake had

always been the "Commander" in the Order of the Temple. He is now a member of our Commandery. Hence, you will understand his participation in Stockton's conferral of the Order of the Temple. Ed may be crippled, deaf, and totally on another planet most of the time, but when it comes to Order of the Temple, he is totally focused on this degree and Stockton's looking good.

When you see his name as "Prompter" for the "Order of the Temple", you will understand our affinity to Ed (and his Lady Barbara). Ed will forever be a part of our degree teams and Stockton Commandery. The same holds true for Bob Bussmer. Bob is a Past Grand Commander from Stockton Commandery.

Drill Team: Three years ago, Sir Knight Chris, Leland, and other Sir Knights discussed forming a drill team for Stockton Commandery No. 8. We wanted to re-enter the mainstream of Knights Templar of California, in front of and center with Los Angeles Commandery No. 8, California Commandery No. 1, and several others. The discussion was a little early but excellent as that was the beginning of the foundation. Now participation is excellent, we are having sideliners at all of our conclaves; our extracurricular activities are well attended and now is the time to bring the formation of a drill team to the front burner. A suggestion came from our recorder, when we have a drill team that can at least put on a D team, we will re-enter the realm of a viable Commandery. **Let's do this.**

Our next Stated Conclave is Saturday, April 25, 2009, which is the time for our **annual inspection.**

Our future "**annual inspections**" will be held in October as we do not need to group everything into the two conclaves of February and April.

Let's create a standing offer, an offer **without hesitation, without "strings"**. If two or more Sir Knights desire to practice to strengthen our knowledge of the ritual, let's do it, send an email and for an hour or so we can have fun. You decide.

The above offer was made for Chapter, Council, and Knights Templar because as we improve our ritual, the more confidence and fun we have during our meetings and conclaves. Your Commandery does the Order of the Temple and does it very well and we do many things very well, just look at the list that was compiled for your reading enjoyment of the last newsletter.

This is why commitment was discussed many times during the past. Commit yourself to that portion of the York Rite that you enjoy and the whole of Stockton York Rite will be that much richer, better.

And talking of Inspection, please remember we will do the **Opening, Rehearsal of Duties, and closing, using our memories; as books will not be allowed.** We can do this, we have done this in the past and we will do this in the future.