



THE CALIFORNIA ENCOMPASSER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND YORK RITE BODIES OF CALIFORNIA AND IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP. THE ENCOMPASSER IS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERSHIP AT ALL CONVOCATIONS, ASSEMBLIES AND CONCLAVES OF THE YORK RITE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Vol. 22

JUNE 2007

No.1

"There is Good News Tonight

*By Most Worshipful Melvyn B. Stein
2007 Grand Master of Masons
of the State of California*

The following Address was given at the Opening Banquet of the 2007 Grand York Rite Sessions in Bakersfield, California

Good evening Brethren, Companions, Knights, Ladies and Guests:

It is my pleasure to join with you for this Grand York Rite Session.

This year the Grand Master's Emblem has substantial significance to our craft.

Freemasonry recognizes as its first priority that each man has a responsibility of devotion to his family, flag and fraternity; and in that sequence of importance. The emphasis of these three words is displayed in the emblem by the silhouette of the family with a background of red, white and blue denoting patriotism to the flag of our county with the symbol of Masonry in its traditional blue background.

The term "family" is used not only to refer to wives, widows and children of freemasons, it also denotes the "Family of Freemasonry" through its appendant and concordant organizations and youth orders, which should cooperate, enhance and extend the hand of fraternalism to each other.

I am cognizant of the old adage that those who speak least, are the most appreciated. I will abide by those words this evening.

A continuing theme this year is one used by a 1940's radio commentator, Gabriel Heater, who would begin his newscasts with the words: "There's Good News. Tonight!"

Continued on Page 2

If Masonry is Good, Let's Talk About It!

*By Most Excellent Jerrold A. Wolfarth
153rd Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons
of the State of California*

Most Worshipful GM Melvyn Stein, Most Excellent General Grand High Priest Larry Gray; Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge and Grand York Rite Bodies, Brothers, Sisters, and guests. Good Evening.

First, I want to thank all of you for being here, (I see so many from San Diego County) and sharing this evening with me and my Grand Family, as we embark upon another Year of Royal Arch Masonry in California.

As I begin my journey as the 153rd Grand High Priest, I think of the others who preceded me, and what thoughts they had as they ascended to the position of occupying this time-honored Oriental Chair. I think of our Masonic Fraternity, and where we are today. I think of Royal Arch Masonry, and where we are going. In doing this, I realize that we must face the new, but very pleasant challenges of the future - the renewed interest in Freemasonry.

We are seeing this renewed interest, not only in our Blue Lodges, but also in the Scottish Rite and the York Rite. Now, many of our Lodges are having an unprecedented number of applications and degrees. We in the Royal Arch are also having larger numbers of applicants at many of our festivals, and we are seeing a lot more younger men joining our Fraternity.

Nearly half a century ago, Grand Orator Ted Meriam, (GM in 64), addressed the Grand Lodge of California, and stated: "If Masonry is good, let's talk about it."

In 1995, Most Worshipful Charlie Alexander, Grand Master of Masons in California chose for his theme: The Heritage of the Past - the Challenge of the Future. He stated that, We have a right as Masons to be proud of our past,

Continued on Page 2

If Masonry is Good, Let's Talk About It!

(Continued from Page 1)

but it should not be an escape from facing the challenges of the future. The Theme chosen in 1997 by MW Tony Wordlow was Masonry United - an Indelible Impression. In 2000, MW David Decker chose - Freemasonry, the Cornerstone of the new Millennium. This year MW Grand Master Mel Stein has for his Theme: Family, Flag & Freemasonry. Other Grand Masters, and other Grand High Priests have also embraced togetherness, unity, and have worked for the betterment of our Fraternity.

While both Ted Meriam and Charlie Alexander were looking at Freemasonry with eyes that were seeing a decrease in membership, both seemed to see that we still needed to retain quality. Today, their view is as relevant as ever. "If Masonry is good, let's talk about it."

"If Royal Arch Masonry is good, let's talk about it."

Let's look at what we are doing good in Royal Arch Masonry. Let's look at our only market - The Blue Lodge. Let's face the new, but very pleasant challenges of the future - the renewed interest in Freemasonry. Let's promote Royal Arch Masonry.

With this renewed interest comes the challenge of retaining those Royal Arch Masons in our Chapters. We need to give all our members something for their time and money. We need to do something that interests them. We need to provide them with Royal Arch Masonic Education. We need to look at what we are doing well in Royal Arch Masonry and continue it, while looking at things that haven't worked and discontinue them. Some Chapters and Lodges have pot luck dinners and family nights which go over very well. One Companion in particular, EC and Past Master Bob Harrell of Escondido has been doing short Masonic Education talks for years. Bob, I know you are in the audience, and I thank you for your service to the Fraternity and our friendship for over 25 years.

My Emphasis will be our relationship to the Blue Lodge. That is where our membership market lies. This is where our legacy, or our heritage begins. That is where our Landmarks were first developed.

When I look at my Masonic heritage, and landmarks, I see this gavel which I used as Master of Vista Lodge in 1986 & 1997. I see this Top Hat from my mother Chapter, Tyre Chapter No. 130 in Escondido. And, I see the Bible on the altar which comes from Triangle Chapter No. 155 in Vista where I served as High Priest. One other bit of my heritage was my Marine Corps Mamaluke Sword, used by the Grand Sentinel when he was installed.

The Lapel pin for this year is the Triple-Tau of Royal Arch and the Square and compass of Freemasonry. (The pin was designed by Companion Roger Poynts, a member of Oakland and Doric Chapters.) From that Lapel Pin, you can readily see that I feel a close relationship between the Blue Lodge and the Royal Arch. As you look at each of the Grand Chapter Officers who were installed this evening you can be assured that nearly everyone of them is a Past Master of his Lodge, and most are Hiram Award Recipients. There are even three beloved Blue Lodge Inspectors.

Melvn B. Stein, Most Worshipful Grand Master

(Continued from Page 1)

My brethren, there is, good news today!, about Masonry in California.

First: the average age of newly made Master Masons in California is only 39.5 years!

Younger men are joining, and it's up to you to provide them with further "Light in Masonry."

Secondly: in 2006 California received more applicants and performed more degrees than in any year in the last 16 years.

Third: the millennium generation is also knocking on our doors. They represent those born since 1981. They seek the "Masonic Philosophy of Life" and desire to learn how they can apply it to their daily activities.

Listen to them!

Nurture them!

Respect them!

Make them feel a sense of belonging!;

Most importantly of all, impart to them as soon as possible, the meaning of the degrees and symbols and the truths within our hidden allegories, so that they can apply them to their daily lives. We will thus fulfill our promise to all men who enter our gates: "to make good men better."

Masonry is on the move in California, and you are part of it; and yes, **there is good news, tonight!**

Just as the Cornerstone is a significant sign in Craft Freemasonry, the Keystone is a significant sign of Royal Arch Masonry. I hope to build upon some of the things that Junior PGHP Russ Roberts has promoted regarding the Keystone which was his lapel pin.

The Grand Chapter has various awards that can be presented to Companions for their service to Royal Arch Masonry. However, I could find no Award that could be presented to a non-Royal Arch Mason. I felt that there needed to be some way to recognize those who have given of their time and talents to Freemasonry (regardless of their association with Royal Arch) such as: wives, Youth leaders, Blue Lodge Brethren. Anyone, including Companions, deserving of recognition for their outstanding efforts supporting Freemasonry. We decided to name it, The Keystone Award, and your Grand Chapter has adopted it. I will begin presenting Keystone Awards at Receptions and Official Visits this year.

Finally, I am reminded of a passage of ritual in the Blue Lodge which is recited by the Senior Warden at the opening and closing of Lodge -

"Harmony being the strength and support of all societies, especially of ours". Please, Let harmony prevail. Thank you.

"I CAN NEVER ACHIEVE WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER"

By C. Miles Scandrett, Grand Orator 2006-07, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Companions, ladies and friends, the subject of this year's grand oration is our Grand High Priest's theme for his year in the East - "I can never achieve what we can achieve together."

When Most Excellent Companion Russ Roberts asked me to put together an oration based upon his theme, I naturally went to my Masonic library for ideas and guidance. In one book, entitled *Freemasonry: A Journey through Ritual and Symbol* by Kirk MacNulty, was a section entitled "Approaches to Masonic Labor." In it, the author describes three doorways to inner knowledge: 1) action; 2) devotion, and; 3) contemplation. Since the task before me was Masonic in nature, I thought it might be interesting to offer my thoughts from these three different perspectives.

Action is a common-sense approach, which immediately springs to mind. There are so many ways that we can work together to build Freemasonry into a stronger edifice. The four that I will deal with here are mentoring, organization, ritual, and addressing challenges.

Mentoring is a task that is essential to provide newly exalted Royal Arch Masons with a sense of the traditions, customs and standards of the Chapter they have joined. Past High Priests, in particular, should offer suggestions to new officers and members on leadership skills, administration, and ritual. Some older Companions may feel that it's not their place to speak up, but I can assure you that most new Royal Arch Companions will not only appreciate and benefit from the advice, but will be more inclined to feel that what they're doing really matters, and is important to the members of their chapter.

Organization takes many forms in a Royal Arch Chapter. Of course, there is the hierarchy of officers, but many other elements must be in place if things are to operate efficiently and smoothly. Good communication is absolutely essential. Dates for degree conferrals should be included not only in the monthly bulletin, but in flyers distributed at stated convocations, posted to the Grand York Rite web site, and communicated to other York Rite organizations. If you're not already doing so, why not send notices of your conferral dates to the secretaries of your local blue lodges? Dais officers should undertake the scheduling of activities and conferrals for the succeeding caputular year in the fall, coordinate with the officers of the other York Rite and Masonic organizations, and thereby avoid scheduling conflicts. Planning the calendar for the coming year well in advance, and communicating important dates to all of the Companions, will increase attendance and participation.

Scheduling joint activities with other York Rite bodies is one way that a High Priest can economize, when his budget is a limiting factor.

The role of ritual in establishing a strong bond with new members, and contributing to membership growth is sometimes underestimated. Typically, the first real experience that a candidate has with a Royal Arch Chapter is his reception of the caputular degrees. The quality of the ritual work done at his conferral will form his first impression of his Chapter. If the ritual is well done, he will feel that the members of his Chapter have pride in their organization, and that they care enough about their new members and the message contained in the ritual to do their best. He will then feel pride in being a member, and be more likely to encourage his brother Masons to join. If, on the other hand, the ritual is poorly done, he'll probably feel that he made a mistake in joining, will discourage his brother Masons from petitioning, and be less likely to attend meetings and get involved.

The challenges our Chapters face are many - the ones I hear most often relate to declining membership and declining participation. The irony is that while these are two of our biggest challenges, they are also the ones that every single Royal Arch Mason can assist in correcting. It's easy - all our Companions need to do is get involved. They can participate in the activities of their Chapter and its ritual, or encourage a member of their blue lodge to petition to take the caputular degrees. And every Companion can help to make new members feel welcome, by introducing themselves and extending the hand of friendship.

Another challenge is the frustration and burnout that some Companions experience as they take on more and greater responsibility in their Chapters - often more than they can reasonably handle. Unfortunately, this can sometimes lead to impatience with other Companions whose contribution may superficially appear to be lacking. This is only natural, but we must resist the temptation to judge our fellow Royal Arch Companions too harshly. Such thoughts and words destroy the harmony of our organization. It must be remembered that many of our members wear many hats, and contribute to the health and success of our fraternity in ways that may not be obvious to many of our members. In addition, we all have non-Masonic obligations of family and work. Admonition and reproof should be offered when appropriate, but encouragement, praise and

(Continued on Page 4)

Grand Oration

(Continued from Page 3)

thanks should never be in short supply for those who are doing their part to keep their Chapters strong.

Devotion is another way of approaching our theme - and not only in the form of prayer. Acts of charity, and service to the less fortunate not only serve as outward manifestations of the principles we espouse as Royal Arch Masons, but they help to unite us in a common cause - the betterment of all mankind. Such actions can only help to broaden the appeal of Freemasonry.

Contemplation might seem like a very personal and private pursuit, and therefore unrelated to our theme. However, contemplation leads us to reflect upon the hidden meaning of our symbols, which leads in turn to an awakening to who we are, and ultimately, enlightenment. This spiritual progression inevitably deepens the mystic tie that binds us together as Freemasons. Consider, for example, the keystone - sometimes referred to as the capestone or copestone. One definition of the word keystone from the Oxford English Dictionary is "the central principle of a system...upon which all the rest depends." A copestone is defined as "The top or head stone of a building; almost always figuratively the crown, completion, finishing touch." From our ritual, we learn that the builders initially rejected the keystone, because they did not appreciate its value or understand its use. The keystone symbolically represents the unique but unappreciated contribution of the architect - his life's work - and is absolutely essential for the completion of the temple. In the same way, our unique contribution is essential, not only in completing the mystic temple of our own lives, but also in the spiritual house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Knowing this, we should guard against being too quick to reject the work of another Mason. Without the participation and involvement of every Companion, the work will remain unfinished, and the mystic temple will never be completed.

John Donne wrote that "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were. Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." We must reject the illusion that we are separate individuals, and be reborn to the enlightened view that mankind is of one essence. As Royal Arch Masons, we must understand and live by this principle if we are ever to realize the dream of a true brotherhood of all mankind.

Chaplain's Corner

The Rev. Charles E. Maier Ph.D.,
Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery of California
*(This article was first published in the
Long Beach Scottish Rite Reporter)*

Early in 1955 I began the long class of education and instruction and received the 32nd Degree in May of that year. Long Beach Scottish Rite is the only Masonic Body which still meets in the same place and same time as when I began my travels. I have supported Long Beach Scottish Rite with love and appreciation, joined by my wife, Grace, over thirty years ago, but receiving this appointment, after so long a wait, is a joyful and humbling experience.

In 1982 I was appointed Chaplain for another Valley. It was only four years old so we could make history rather than conform to an established tradition. Our idea was to create a Chaplaincy which would serve all the Brethren and Families, helping them with their own belief system and Faith tradition. In this setting, the Chaplain, and his team, would address spiritual matters for the membership when there were no leaders available from their own Faith group. We addressed the challenges and demands of sickness, death, alcoholism, and short term family counseling. Most of us in the Valley have our own resources for these issues, and a Spiritual Home, but some do not, so a "Chaplaincy" concept may be helpful.

In Masonry the Chaplain often recites ritual prayers and gives written or free prayers before meals. In many lodges the Chaplain is given a place on the Sickness and Visitation Committee, but that is the end of it. I believe that Masonry, especially Scottish Masonry, should help every member to be better informed, more deeply involved within his Religious Faith. The "dumbing down" of Faith in to the lowest common denominator should not be our way of life. Hopefully, the Chaplaincy Program will encourage and support every member of the Valley as they seek to follow the God of their understanding.

The Plumb

Build up your life like the temple of old,
With stones that are polished and true;
Cement it with love and adorn it with gold,
As all Master Builders should do-
Upon a foundation, well chosen and strong,
Build now for the ages to come:
Make use of the good, while rejecting the wrong And
test all your work with the plumb.

— Neal A. McCauley

**GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS
2007 GRAND CONVOCATION REPORT
GRAND OFFICERS**

Grand High Priest **Jerrold A. Wohlfarth**, Triangle Chapter No. 155
Grand King **Sean N. Foran**, Signet Chapter No. 57
Grand Scribe **Russ Morgan**, Naval Chapter No. 35
Grand Treasurer **George Feick, Jr., PGHP**, Signet Chapter No. 57
Grand Secretary . . . **Kenneth G. Hope (H)PGHP**, Triple Tau Chapter No. 33
Grand Lecturer **Don E. Lamoureux**, Delta Chapter No. 27
Grand Chaplain **Neal N. Leonard**, San Diego Chapter No. 61
Grand Captain of the Host . . **Philip A. Hardiman**, Sacramento Chapter No. 3
Grand Principal Sojourne **Ted G. Hammack**, Kern River Chapter No. 75
Grand Royal Arch Captain **James W. "Bill" Allen, Jr.**, Tyre Chapter No. 130
Grand Master of the Third Veil

Robert R. "Rob" McLintock, Triangle Chapter No. 155

Grand Master of the Second Veil

Joe D. Petree, Imperial Valley Chapter No. 109

Grand Master of the First Veil

Franklin R. Lee II, Riverside Chapter No. 67

Grand Orator **Frederick G. Kleyn III**, San Diego Chapter No. 61

Grand Marshal **Gerald R. Lynn**, San Diego Chapter No. 61

Grand Soloist **Thomas E. Colgan**, Triangle Chapter No. 155

Grand Musician **Edwin N. Yeaton**, Tyre Chapter No. 130

Grand Sentinel

Raphael D. "Ray" Spadavecchia, High Desert Chapter No. 127

Assistant Grand Secretary . **Albert M. Lewis**, Triple Tau Chapter No. 33

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL IN BRONZE
Don E. Lamoureux Delta Chapter No. 27**

**GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CALIFORNIA
GRAND HIGH PRIEST DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

Rene M. Quiambao Naval Chapter No. 35

William B. Jefferies Chico Chapter No. 42

Max C. Taff, SrTulare Chapter No. 71

A. Sherman Ostrom Santa Monica Bay Chapter No. 97

Paul E. McCleary Tyre Chapter No. 130

HIGH PRIEST OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE

James G. Baum High Desert Chapter No. 127

High Priest of the Year Department #1

Robert K. Elefante, Solano Chapter No. 43

High Priest of the Year Department #2

Robert A. Morrison, Red Bluff Chapter No. 40

High Priest of the Year Department #3

Frederick D. Lorenz, Kern River Chapter No. 162

High Priest of the Year Department #4

David E. Rush, Van Nuys Chapter No. 135

SECRETARY OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE

Dennis L. Ward Keystone Chapter No. 56

Secretary of the Year Department #2

William S. Carpenter, Nevada Chapter No. 6

Secretary of the Year Department #3

Robert J. "Mike" Atherstone Modesto Chapter No. 49

Secretary of the Year Department #4

Robert C. Coe, San Gabriel Valley No. 100

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Cirilo P. Marquez Signet Chapter No. 57

Rafael Hernandez Signet Chapter No. 57

James M. Sunseri Orange County Chapter No. 73

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kenneth G. Hope Triple Tau Chapter No. 33

Robert K. Elefante Solano Chapter No. 43

Darrell J. Bunker High Desert Chapter No. 127

Chapter with the highest percentage increase in membership (22.9%)

Stockton Chapter No. 28

Chapter with the highest number of new members (37)

Signet Chapter No. 57

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2007-1 To approve the updating of the Royal ArchRitual
Passed

Resolution 2007-2 To eliminate the restriction of only 6 degrees in one
day Passed

Emergent Resolution 2007-1 Endorses **M.E.C. William Wine**, PGHP for
General Grand Chapter Passed

**GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS
2007 GRAND ASSEMBLY REPORT
GRAND OFFICERS**

Most Illustrious Grand Master

W. Joseph Ryland, Alhambra Council No. 25

Deputy Grand Master . . . **Frederick J. Potter**, Ventura Council No. 15

Grand Principal Conductor the Work

Alfred M. Cockrell, Jr, Roseville Council No. 54

Grand Treasurer

James G. Baum, MIPGM, Redwood Empire Council No. 46

Grand Recorder **Kenneth G. Hope, (H)MIPGM**, Shekinah Council No. 35

Grand Director of Ritual

Robert G. Grauer, MIPGM, Redwood Empire Council No. 46

Grand Chaplain (North) **John T. Giertz**, Redwood Empire Council No. 46

Grand Chaplain (South) . . . **John G. Stonebraker**, Helix Council No. 58

Grand Captain of the Guard **Mark R. Sandstrom**, Foothill Council No. 42

Grand Conductor of the Council

Martin F. McKeay, Redwood Empire Council No. 46

Grand Steward **Robert A. L. Whitfield**, Oakland Council No. 12

Grand Sentinel . . **Raymond D. Godeke**, Orange County Council No. 14

Grand Orator **Roger S. Ross**, Orange County Council No. 14

Grand Marshal (North)

Richard W. Williamson, King Solomon's Council No. 29

Grand Marshal (South) . . **Daniel C. Kaffka, Jr**, Ventura Council No. 15

Grand Musician **Carlos Castaneda**, Pomona Council No. 21

Grand Bible Bearer **Harlin C. May**, San Diego Council No. 23

Grand Standard Bearer . . . **Stephen E. Alderete**, Valley Council No. 27

Assistant Grand Recorder . . **Albert M. Lewis**, Shekinah Council No. 35

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL

Cryptic Mason of the Year **Thomas A. Krummell** Roseville Council No. 64

Adult Leadership Award . **Donald A. Journey** Alhambra Council No. 25

Mordhurst Award **Kenneth G. Hope** Shekinah Council No. 35

GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS OF CALIFORNIA

ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF THE YEAR
David L. Chesebro San Luis Obispo Council No. 38

RECORDER OF THE YEAR
William S. Carpenter Nevada Council No. 62

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD
Cirilo P. Marquez Omega Council No. 11
Rafael Hernandez Omega Council No. 11
James M. Sunseri Orange County Council No. 14

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD
Kenneth G. Hope Shekinah Council No. 35
David C. Hollowell San Diego Council No. 23
Chad T. Snyder San Diego Council No. 23
Darrell J. Bunker Oasis Council No. 64
Robert K. Etefante King Solomon's No. 29

Council with the highest percentage increase in membership
(19.6%) Stockton Council No. 10

Council with the highest increase in number of members (36)
Omega Council No. 11

GRAND MASTER of ISH SODI AWARD
Richard V. "Red" Hunt Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Leland M. Jarvis Sierra Nevada Council No. 44
David E. Higdon Visalia Council No. 43
Philip J. Maniaci San Luis Obispo Council No. 38
Ernesto C. Balba, Jr Alhambra Council No. 25
Harold D. Kennedy Foothill Council No. 42

RITUALIST OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE
Stephen E. Alderete Valley Council No. 27

Ritualist for Department #1 . Scott R. Colcord, Oakland Council No. 12
Ritualist for Department #2
Leland M. Jarvis.Sierra Nevada Council No. 44
Ritualist for Department #3
Germino A. "Jimmy" Barrera Visalia Council No. 43
Ritualist for Department #4 David C. Del Dosso Ventura Council No. 15
Ritualist for Department #5 . Harold D. Kennedy Foothill Council No. 42

NOTE: There were no Resolutions submitted this year.

DRILL TEAM COMPETITION
Class "C" 1st Place ChampionGolden West Commandery No. 43
.979 points
Class "C" 2nd PlaceLos Angeles Commandery No. 9
.973 points
Class "C" 2nd PlaceOrange County Commandery No. 36
.973 points
Class "C" 4th PlaceCalifornia Commandery No. 1
.938 points

CROSS & CROWN AWARD
Department No. 1 Orange County Commandery No. 36
Department No. 2 Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Department No. 3 San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27
Department No. 6 El Dorado Commandery No. 4

Department No. 8 Red Bluff Commandery No. 17

COMMANDERY OF THE YEAR Los Angeles Commandery No. 9

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
2007 GRAND CONCLAVE REPORT
GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Commander Paul E. McElwain, Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Deputy Grand Commander
Gary D. Miller, Riverside Commandery No. 28
Grand Generalissimo .William D. Robertson, Naval Commandery No. 19
Grand Captain General
David J. Kussman, Orange County Commandery No. 36
Grand Senior Warden Casey W. Norris, Vacaville Commandery No. 38
Grand Junior Warden
Howard W. "Bud" Ramsey, San Jose Commandery No. 10
Grand Prelate . .Fr. Charles E. Maier Orange County Commandery No. 36
Grand Treasurer .O. Reed Bailin, PGC Golden West Commandery No. 43
Grand Recorder
Kenneth G. Hope, (H)PGC, Golden West Commandery No. 43
Grand Standard Bearer Myron A. Tisdell, Redding Commandery No.50
Grand Sword Bearer . . .James A. Lark, Vacaville Commandery No. 38
Grand Warder . . Carlos H. Gonzalez, Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Grand Sentinel . . Donald J. Spencer, Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
OrganistJohn E. Vanderby, Golden Gate Commandery No. 16

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE U.S.A.
KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR
Rickey L. Ward St. Bernard Commandery No. 23

KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE TEMPLE
Dan R. McDaniel Palo Alto Commandery No. 47

COMPANION OF THE TEMPLE
Lady Nevon Parker

MERITORIOUS MEMBERSHIP MEDAL
Cirilo P. Marquez Los Angeles Commandery No. 9

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF CALIFORNIA

COMMANDER OF THE YEAR
Walter David Hanisch Auburn Commandery No. 52

RECORDER OF THE YEAR
Robert J. "Mike" Atherstone Modesto Commandery No. 57

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD
Cirilo P. Marquez Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Rafael Hernandez Los Angeles Commandery No. 9

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD
Kenneth G. Hope Golden West Commandery No. 43
Robert K. Elefante Vacaville Commandery No. 38
James M. Sunseri Orange County Commandery No. 36
Ronald C. Perry Orange County Commandery No. 36

Commandery with the highest percentage increase (20.8%)
Stockton No. 8

Commandery with the highest increase in the number of members
(43) Los Angeles No. 9

(Continued on Page 7)

HOW DOES FREEMASONRY ADD VALUE TO OUR LIVES?

by W.:Tim Bryce, PM, MPS Palm Harbor, Florida, USA

"A Foot Soldier for Freemasonry"

timb0.01@phmainstreet.com

Undoubtedly, the most visible benefit associated with Freemasonry is the friendship, morality, and Brotherly Love we learn simply by attending Lodge and interacting with the members. It is not unusual for Freemasons to develop lifelong friendships and bonds with other Masons. This should not be surprising as the fraternity represents a society consisting of men with common interests, and such commonality is comforting to us all.

Aside from this, how does Freemasonry add value to our lives? Frankly, there are several subliminal ways we are affected personally and professionally by our participation in the fraternity; some examples:

Socialization Skills - through the structured decorum of our formal meetings and the informality of others, we learn to respect, cooperate, participate and network with people. In other words, it influences our behavior in terms of how we interact with our neighbors, friends, coworkers, customers and vendors. This tends to make us more socially adjusted and proactive in our communities and companies.

Speaking and Memorization Skills - our catechisms and degree work, although trying at times, help sharpen our brains as well as our tongues. Although our terminology may seem somewhat archaic, it is useful for improving one's vocabulary. Further, returning catechisms, and delivering degrees and lectures helps overcome the human fear of audiences and materially assists in making us better public speakers, something that is particularly needed in our professional lives regardless of our occupation.

Dress - Again, because of the decorum of our meetings, we learn the value of dressing appropriately to cultivate a positive image. I have met several Brothers who have cleaned up their act simply by their association with the fraternity, thereby turning a slovenly image into one that is more positive and professional.

Organization & Leadership - For those members who become Lodge officers, it is not uncommon to learn basic organization and leadership skills, such as: planning and scheduling, managing records and finances, building maintenance, communications and persuasion, etc. All of this is useful to us in both our personal and professional lives.

History - as the world's oldest fraternal organization, we impress the need for customs and traditions on all of our members. But beyond this, many Masons become fascinated with our history and learn to research and write on

a variety of subjects related to the fraternity. Masons, therefore, appreciate the lessons of history and develop effective writing skills which also help us in the outside world.

Volunteerism - our philanthropy is legendary and it is impressed on every Mason to help others as generously as their ability permits. Aside from the moneys we donate, Masons learn to volunteer their time to assist others, knowing if they help another, they may expect assistance from others in return. This concept alone is in sharp contrast to today's "dog-eat-dog" corporate culture. Basically, Masons learn a little kindness can go a long way.

Negotiation Skills - in order to persuade people to move in a specific direction, Lodge officers must learn how to negotiate with others. Such skills are vital not only in our professional lives but also in our personal lives as well.

Sociologists who have studied Freemasonry have admitted that Freemasonry "takes a good man and makes him better." No, the fraternity is not intended to teach us business skills, but surprisingly it does nevertheless. Nor do I believe anyone joins the fraternity for this purpose. Regardless, these are some of the subliminal perks associated with the fraternity which does, in fact, add value to our lives as well as others we come in contact with.

Keep the Faith.

Results (Continued from Page 7)

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2007-1 To raise the Per Capita Tax - Passed

Resolution 2007-2 To change the summer uniform to short sleeves - Failed

Resolution 2007-3 To remove the restriction on eligibility of the KT Meritorious Service Medal - Passed

Resolution 2007-4 To change the title of "Ritual Committee" to "Tactics and Inspection Committee" - Withdrawn

Resolution 2007-5 To change the title of the "Director of Ritual" to "Inspector General" - Withdrawn

Resolution 2007-6 To add Standing Resolution #VI pertaining to "Outpost Status" - Passed

Resolution 2007-7 To permit the wearing of a Veterans Service Ribbon on the uniform. - Passed

GRAND COMMANDERY HIGHLIGHT

On May 2, 2007, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of California voted to grant a charter to HIGH DESERT COMMANDERY No. 79. The institution of which will take place in Victorville on July 7, 2007 (07-07-07). Grand Commandery will reconvene and install the new officers of the Commandery in due and ancient form. The charter Eminent Commander will be Sir Knight James G. Baum, KYGCH.

Colorado River Fall Festival

October 21/22/23, 2007

Riverside Hotel / Laughlin, NV

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(NOTE - ALL TIMES PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME - SAME IN CA, NV AND AZ)

Sunday, October 21, 2007

- 1:00 PM Registration for candidates and attendees (until 5:00 PM) - Harbor Room 1
- 5:30 PM Team Leaders Orientation - Starview Room - **MANDATORY** for team leaders
- 7:00 PM **NO KYCH** meeting this year
- 8:30 PM Candidate's Orientation (*Public invited*) - Starview Room - **MANDATORY** for candidates

Monday, October 22, 2007

- 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM and 2 PM - 6 PM - Registration - Harbor Room 1
- 8:00 AM Open Chapter, confer Capitular Degrees * - Starview Room
- 3:30 PM Open Council, confer Cryptic Degrees * - Starview Room - Degree work by the Southern Nevada York Rite Bodies
- 7:00 PM Confer "Royal Arch Widow's Degree" - Starview Room
- * Candidates *must be* in assigned seats 10 minutes prior (times may vary)

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

- 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Registration - Harbor Room 1
- 8:00 AM Open Commandery, confer Templar Orders * - Starview Room
- * Candidates *must be* in assigned seats 10 minutes prior (times may vary)
- 7:00 PM - Grand Banquet, Starview Room

Attention Participants:

We have not scheduled lunches for any day. Please budget your time on lunch breaks - lines, particularly for the buffets, can be long, and there are no clocks in the facilities. *Dress is dark suit or uniform (Lodge dress).*

Ladies Activities:

Riverside Hotel has 6 movie theaters, Bingo, Bowling Alley on premises. Horizon Mall (outlet stores, shopping, food court, 9 movie theaters) is one block away.
Ladies Tea Party - details to follow

(Note - due to the presentation of the "Royal Arch Widow's Degree" the women, there will be no "Super Excellent Master Degree" for the men in 2007, but it *will* return soon!)

Special Rooms

Hospitality Room
Los Angeles Fraternal Supply
Maury Marshall
Sid's Pins

Note: This schedule is subject to change without notice or obligation please make sure you have the latest schedule.

Where would YOU like to go from here?

(Other than to the Riverside in Laughlin, NV, October 21/22/23, 2007, to be with us at the COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL!)

Colorado River Fall Festival Riverside Hotel & Casino, Laughlin, NV October 21/22/23, 2007

For your Hotel Reservation

All reservations/cancellations must be made through CRFF by mail by October 1, 2007
Hotel check in 2:00PM ...check out 12:00 noon. All times Pacific Daylight time.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY: STATE:

ZIP CODE:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

Room Request (circle appropriate):

Handicap King Double Smoking Non-Smoking (No Room)

For our information and your Name Badge, check as applies:

Candidate Non-Participant or Hotel Room only (No Name Tag)

(If Candidate, your Sec./Rec. must send "Request for Courtesy Work" to the Candidate Registrar by 9/30/2005)

For your badge: (All attendees must register for Name Badge to attend sessions or participate.)

FIRST NAME:

LAST NAME:

TITLE (IF DESIRED):

FIRST NAME FOR YOUR LADY'S BADGE
(IF DESIRED):

THE CHARGES

Festival Registration (Masons, Cand's only)	\$15.00	\$ _____ .00
Hotel Room Sun/Mon/Tues	\$92.00 for all three nights, single or double (two queen beds) \$141.00 for three nights, one king bed	\$ _____ .00
Lady's Tea Party	\$10.00	\$ _____ .00
Royal Arch Widow Candidate	\$15.00	\$ _____ .00
Banquet	\$32.50	\$ _____ .00
	TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____ .00

**Make all checks payable to, and mail to:
Colorado River Fall Festival**

7938 Center Street
Mohave Valley AZ 86440-9206

Need Confirmation? Include a self addressed, stamped envelope or email address.

PLEASE DO NOT SHRINK OR CHANGE SIZE OF THIS FORM

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S SCHEDULE FOR 2007

June 5 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting
 June 6 Vista High -12
 June 6 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting San Diego
 June 7 Red Cross of Constantine San Diego SRCenter
 June 8 3-way Reception by Scottish Rite Los Angeles
 June 9 3-way Reception Channel Islands Oxnard
 June 10 Kit Carson Council - AMD Escondido
 June 10 Flag Day B'fast SD/IV PM Assoc. San Diego SRCenter
 June 12 Grand Commander Reception San Diego SRCenter
 June 11 GHP Reception Orange County Chapter Anaheim
 June 16 Grand Master Reception (Shrine/SD#35/SR) San Diego SRCenter
 June 16 Grand Commander Reception San Bernardino
 June 20-21 Jobs Daughters' Grand Bethel (PGHP Russ Roberts to represent GHP) Fresno
 June 20-24 Comptche outdoor degree (Leave on Thursday) Mendocino
 June 22-24 Scottish Rite Finance Meeting San Diego
 July 3-4 3-way Reception - Ice Cream Social, San Luis Obispo
 July 3-4 3-way Independence Day Parade Newhall
 July 5 Red Cross of Constantine - San Diego SRCenter
 July 5 Tyre Chapter GHP Reception Escondido
 July 6 3-Way Reception by Scottish Rite Pasadena
 July 7 3-way Reception Victorville
 July 10 San Diego Commandery - Stated San Diego SRCenter
 July 11 Vista High -12
 July 11 3-Way Reception by Scottish Rite San Diego
 July 13-15 SW Regional Conference - RCC Denver
 July 13-15 Law Enforcement Awards, Scottish Rite San Diego
 July 19 Helix Council Escondido
 July 25/27 Grand Lodge Family Reunion '95-'96 Sacramento
 Aug. 1 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting (Al Bahr) San Diego
 Aug. 2 Red Cross of Constantine San Diego SRCenter
 Aug. 4 3-way Reception East Bay (RON) Alameda
 Aug. 5 Chapter Picnic (Ca #1, San Mateo #95 and Palo Alto #93) Palo Alto
 Aug. 7 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting
 Aug. 11 All Masonic Picnic - Admiral Baker Field San Diego
 Aug. 16-18 Aug Arizona Grand YR Sessions Scottsdale
 Aug. 19 San Diego York Rite College 3 pm San Diego Scottish Rite Center
 Aug. 21 3-Way Reception by Scottish Rite San Bernardino
 Aug. 22 SGIG/Finance Meeting Scottish Rite San Diego SRCenter
 Aug. 25 3-way BBQ Salinas
 Aug. 26 Knight Masons Long Beach
 Aug. 31 Grand Master Reception & MOY San Diego SRCenter

**MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
 GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY CRYPTIC YEAR 2007-08**

June 1 Official Visit (Pasadena Scottish Rite) Pasadena
 June 2 Red Cross of Constantine, Riverside
 June 3 Allied Masonic Degrees, Rosemead
 June 8 3 - way reception (LA Scottish Rite) Santa Monica
 June 9 3 - way reception (Ventura 15) Oxnard

June 20 Reception (Redwood Empire #46) Sebastopol
 June 21 Jobs Daughters Grand Bethel, Bakersfield
 July 1 Ice cream social (San Luis Obispo 38) San Luis Obispo
 July 3 -04 4th of July parade, Newhall
 July 6 3- way reception (Pasadena Scottish Rite) Pasadena
 July 7 3- way reception (Oasis Council 64) Victorville
 July 11-12 3 - way reception (San Diego Scottish Rite) San Diego
 July 21-24 Grand Council Officers' Conference, Quincy (Sierra Nevada 44)
 July 28 Reception (Alhambra 25) Rosemead
 Aug 3 Reception (Omega 11) Van Nuys
 Aug. 4 3 - Way reception (Oakland 12) Alameda
 Aug. 11 Official Visit (King Solomon 29) Vallejo
 Aug. 15-19 Arizona Grand York Rite Sessions, Scottsdale, AZ
 Aug. 19 York Rite College Rosemead
 Aug. 21 3 - way reception (SB Scottish Rite) San Bernardino
 Aug. 25 3 - way western barbecue (Santa Cruz 17) Salinas
 Aug. 26 Knight Masons, Long Beach
 Sept. 2 DeMolay, south ??
 Sept. 2 Allied Masonic Degrees, Rosemead
 Sept. 5-09 KYCH Convent General Nashville, TN
 Sept. 21 3- way reception (Five Councils) Roseville
 Sept. 23- 28 Beauceant Supreme Sessions Topeka, KS
 Sept. 28-30 California Grand Lodge, San Francisco

GRAND COMMANDER'S ITINERARY 2007

June 1 Santa Rosa No. 14 (Sebastopol) Reception
 June 8 Los Angeles Scottish Rite (Unity Night) 3-Way Reception
 June 9 (Chan. Islands), Ventura No. 18, and St. Omer No. 30, 3-Way Reception
 June 12 San Diego No. 25 Reception
 June 16 Red Bluff No. 17, Mt. Shasta No. 32, and Eureka No. 35 (Red Bluff) Reception
 June 20 St. Bernard No. 23, and Riverside No. 28 Reception
 June 23 Stockton No. 5 Visitation
 June 25 Modesto No. 57 Visitation
 July 1 San Luis Obispo No. 27 (Ice Cream Social) 3-Way Reception
 July 4 Newhall Parade 3-Way
 July 6 Pasadena Scottish Rite (Unity Night) 3-Way Reception
 July 7 High Desert No. (U.D.) 3-Way Reception
 July 11 San Diego Scottish Rite (Unity Night) 3-Way Reception
 August 4 (E.B.Y.R.A.) Oakland No. 11, and Contra Costa No. 59 (Alameda Masonic Hall) -Way Reception
 August 11 Whittier-St. Johns No. 51 (Not Confirmed) Reception
 August 16-18 Arizona Grand Session
 August 21 San Bernardino Scottish Rite (Unity Night) 3-Way Reception
 August 25 (Salinas Monterey Bay Y.R.) Watsonville No. 22 (B.B.Q.) 3-Way Reception
 Sept. 16 Calif. No. 1, San Jose No. 10, Golden Gate No. 16, Palo Alto No. 47 (San Jose) Dept. 4 Reception
 Sept. 21 Rosewood No. 21, Sacramento No. 2, El Dorado No. 4, Butte No. 5, Nevada No. 6 and Auburn No. 52, (Roseville) 3- Way Reception
 Sept. 24 Quincy-Lassen No. 13 Visitation
 Sept. 28-30 Grand Lodge
 Oct. 17 Southern California #37 (Pomona) Visitation
 Oct. 19 San Fernando Valley Scottish Rite (Unity Night) 3-Way Reception
 Oct. 21-13 Colorado River Fall Festival
 Nov. 2-3 Southwest Conference
 Jan. 4, 2008 Imperial Valley # 54 Installation & Visitation

Contributions are solicited for this Calendar Page and for the entire publication. Please forward all contributions to the Grand Secretary or Donald J. Spencer, 8350 Rathburn Ave., Northridge 91325. Phone 818-885-0289. Fax 818-885-5913. E-mail Dspen39087@aol.com. Copy deadlines are February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. Publication schedule: March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

The California Encompasser Subscription Form

YES! I would appreciate receiving the *California Encompasser*. You will find my check for \$10.00 enclosed for a two-year subscription or \$30.00 for a lifetime subscription.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/ZIP _____

Please Mail to: The California Encompasser
801 Elm Avenue
Long Beach, Ca. 90813

GRAND YORK
RITE OFFICE
562-436-8271

FAX NUMBER
562-437-5411

E-MAIL
ca.yorkrite@verizon.net



Grand York Rite of California
Web Site
<http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org>

**GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF CALIFORNIA**
The California Encompasser
801 Elm Avenue
Long Beach, Ca. 90813

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WE NEED SUBSCRIBERS

The *California Encompasser* is requesting subscribers. Eight issues (two years) is only \$10.00 or you can purchase a lifetime subscription for only \$30.00. This amount will assist with the ever increasing costs of paper, printing and postage.

We hope you enjoy the *Encompasser*. We are continually making improvements and will continue to do so. We are also in constant need of new items, fillers, pictures, jokes, educational papers (short) and anything else you might be able to think of.

Please help us keep you informed!

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LONG BEACH, CA. 90813
PERMIT NO. 799

*California Freemasons
The Family of Freemasonry
"Masonry on the Rise"*