



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

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Sound of Silence

Fr. Chuck Maier, Ph.D., Grand Prelate

In 1967 Simon and Garfunkel wrote a perfect song score for the film, *The Graduate*. One of the major themes of the film was an almost tragic failure to communicate between young Benjamin and Mrs. Robinson. Their scenes were underscored with the lovely, "Sound of Silence."

I have been blessed, even in my senior years, with excellent hearing. In a past life, as a sound engineer, this gift allowed me to mix sound, voice and music, in a manner which was vocationally rewarding. These days, especially at Masonic gatherings, this ability is used to relay spoken information to my wife, Grace, who has a hearing deficit. By the way, she has the latest Widex hearing instrument, considered the very best by today's standards.

Two months ago we were returning from a Masonic gathering and I asked how her meeting went. "I don't know," she answered, "I couldn't hear a thing." There was no self pity in her voice, just a deep pathos which brought tears to my eyes. This is a wide range problem which has worsened over the years. Ask an older Brother who seems to "tune out,"

Because I have been a Chaplain, and in recent years, a Prelate, all of my fifty-five years in Masonry, I am mostly ignorant of the form and content of the leadership training sponsored by our California Grand Lodge. I have heard fine things about the retreats. I have been a student in the Scottish Rite leadership sessions, but remember nothing relating to public speaking or sound equipment usage. In seminary we had

courses in Practical Theology, which helped us make the transition from all of the theology, history, philosophy, and Bible of our academic lives, to the market place of life where we would practice our vocation. I think that we need to establish the discipline of Practical Masonry, with an emphasis on Public Speaking and Set-up and Use of Sound Equipment.

Often men who have been presiding officers in numerous Masonic bodies will all but whisper their parts at public gatherings. I cringe when an august Brother in the East says, "I won't bother with the mike, I know you all can hear me!" Routinely Honored Queens of Job's Daughters do a better job of introducing their Staff and members than the elder Masons on the stage with them. Early in life I was taught to project my voice to the last pew in the Church, or hall, and to read over the materials ahead of time. This concept should be promoted in all Masonic circles.

Lastly, most, if not all, of our Masonic meeting places are wired for sound. A while back I was at a local venue and the members were thrilled about a new and expensive speaker system. The bad news was that all of the dignitaries in the East ignored the mike, which was set at a very low level.

Establish a sound crew responsible for the set-up and mixing at every meeting. Be responsible to your audience.

SPEAK UP! USE THE SYSTEM! BREAK THE SOUND BARRIER!

The Golden Fleece and the Hiramic Legend

by Brother C. Bruce Hunter

What do the Golden Fleece and the Hiramic legend have in common? Nothing, really. But putting them together helps make a point.

Most people think the story of the Golden Fleece is a myth, but it isn't. It's a legend. The difference, of course, is that one doesn't have an historic basis, while the other does.

In this case the historic basis is the fact that, according to many historians, the ancient people of the Caucasus (to the east of the Black Sea) had a secret process for extracting gold from their rivers. They placed a sheep-skin in the river and weighted it down to keep it from floating away. Since river sand didn't stick to the fleece but gold did, the sheepskin eventually became laden with gold dust. It literally became a golden fleece, from which a significant amount of the valuable metal could be extracted.

The legend named for this technology recalls efforts by the ancient Greeks to learn the secret process for their own benefit. And since the Hiramic story is generally regarded as a legend, it may well have a similar historic basis.

Indeed, apparently it does. It is set at the time of the building of King Solomon's Temple and tells of a Tyrian architect who came to Israel to build the temple and who brought with him a secret, which some of the local workmen tried to extract from him.

The point to remember is that the architect was from Tyre, while his workers were presumably Israelites. This may seem a trivial distinction, but it actually directs our attention to the history behind the legend.

The legend's history

It goes without saying that Masonic legends operate on more than one level, and one of the levels on which this legend operates is purely historical.

By King Solomon's time, Tyre had become a world trading power. It had been in business for about two centuries and had acquired considerable wealth. And along with its wealth, it had developed considerable skill in a variety of arts and crafts, not the least of which was architecture.

Meanwhile, Israel was still a largely agricultural society. Its tribes had only recently united under a single king, and they were just beginning to turn their attention to acquiring the necessities and benefits that go along with being a nation.

At the time, Israel lacked many of the things a people need if they want to call themselves a nation. For example, it didn't have a national temple, and this is one thing its third king, Solomon, meant to rectify.

The problem was that another thing Israel didn't have was anyone who knew how to build a temple large enough and grand enough to serve all the people. Fortunately, Tyre did. This is why Solomon imported an architect from Tyre, and it may well be the "historic" reason some of the workers tried to extract his secret.

Hiram's historic secret

Undoubtedly a Tyrian architect would know a number of trade secrets stemming from his country's architectural heritage, which at the time was far ahead of Israel's. And it is quite reasonable to assume that some in Israel would pay a great deal to have those secrets—or more precisely, they believed they would be paid a great deal if they had them. Trade secrets are, after all, a valuable commodity, and Israel was on the move. It was developing rapidly, and its people must have been envious of—and eager to acquire—a share of their northern neighbor's relatively advanced culture.

We should have no trouble believing that the Israelites, like the Greeks with the golden fleece, were keen to ferret out a few of their neighbor's "tricks of the trade" for their own benefit. If so, the early Masonic ritualists probably knew the scenario they were creating was plausible on historic as well as symbolic grounds. In fact, it may well have been the "historic" grounds that suggested the legend to them in the first place.

Consequently, it seems the central Masonic legend, which operates on other levels as well, also contains more of an historic foundation than we might have thought.

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"The Mason within us"

2007 Grand Oration

By: Robert A.L. Whitfield,

Grand Steward of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons"

This topic is about the Mason within us and to encourage each of you to remember that there is an impression you create upon those around you each day. We should never lose sight of the value that being a Mason might mean to others.

We wear rings, aprons, badges, and lapel buttons. We speak and bring up the topic of Masonry in everyday conversation without thought of those around us that are not part of our conversation. Those listening around us silently take their mental notes of who we are and what we are about. They assess Masonry based upon what they see and what they hear directly from us. Our character and conversation at that moment may have a lasting influence on a son, husband, friend, or a co-worker as to whether or not Masonry could hold some value in their future.

It seems as though it was yesterday when I took my obligation that started my path in Masonry. It was the beginning of a long road of progressive lessons that always held something new for the inquisitive mind. I took an obligation that was mostly bound by a personal honor code to act in an upright and honorable manner. Whether it was ritual lessons within a lodge room, the basics of protocol learned from district inspectors, or a simple life lesson from an older mason, it was all an experience that never seemed to end.

I would like to say that my Masonic roots led me to the door of masonry. This was true, but in a very circuitous manner of speaking. My father was a Mason. He mentioned Masonry every now and then but conversation was usually limited to a passing few sentences. I think he waited patiently for me to ask "the question." I was always somewhat aware of it, but as a young man, our relationship was always moving with different purpose. He held our craft in the highest of regard. That was never in question; it was just never brought up in conversation of any length. Working further against the grain, I was always interested in the more immediate things that consumed a young man's social time. I am sure many Masons can look to their own family dynamics and relate to this. Back then, becoming a Mason was not at the top of my priorities in life. There was no dialogue that I related to. It did

not occur to me to be of any significant loss and no one else mentioned Masonry to me and so it just fell through one of life's proverbial cracks into dormancy. Many years rolled by until one day, after exploring several other social groups in Southern California I decided it was time . . . just like that. I made up my mind to join an organization that would lead to lasting friendships and Masonry was suddenly at the top of the priority list. The seed had always been there, I just needed to want it for reasons of my own. By then I was a father myself, with a young son, and I wanted a stronger part in my community.

It is very true that you can walk by a Lodge building for years, see the square and compass on billboards and city limit signs each day as you drive to and from your home and yet you never truly "see" them. We, as Masons, need to do a better job of communicating to those around us. We have so much to offer but it often seems that the only people that know about our purpose are ourselves.

To be a Mason, I knew I first needed to ask one. I no longer lived at home and the internet was barely in play back then. The Mason I found was one that I had sat next to at work for 4 years. He had served as Master of his Lodge but I had never noticed a ring or heard him raise the topic of being a Mason. Once I found out though, I asked him for help in presenting a petition. He, being a good friend, quickly put me in touch with my local Lodge Master.

Life has moved on since those anxious days leading to my Entered Apprentice or First Degree evening. I found the friends I had hoped for in numbers that exceeded my expectations. I have since served my blue lodge and several other constituent bodies as an officer, including this Grand Council of Cryptic Masons. It is said, "Knock, and the door of Freemasonry is opened unto you."

This is not about my personal story but rather an analogy. Reflect on the pathway that I just related for a moment and, once again, I would repeat we need to do a better job of communicating to those around us. We have so much to offer but the only people that know about our purpose are ourselves.

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"Tis the season for a tale . . . and a lesson."

Past Master Vicar trudged through the snow on his way to Lodge. It was December now and Christmas was just around the corner. The first snow flurries had come early in 1950; trick or treaters were the first to taste snowflakes. November saw a few subsequent snow flurries, but it wasn't until the day after Thanksgiving that the first heavy snow fell. This was followed by two more weeks of snow which clogged the streets and made driving difficult. So much so, Vicar decided to walk to Lodge instead of risking a drive through the icy streets and snow. He lived but a mile from the Lodge and the cold night air invigorated him. As Secretary of the Lodge for the last 17 years, he always arrived early to review paperwork prior to the meeting. But because of the snow, he came a little earlier to make sure the furnace was heating the Lodge properly. After he arrived, he hung his hat and coat in the cloak room and removed his rubber boots. He turned on the lights in the recreation hall and went down to the basement and shoveled some coal into the furnace. Vicar then went up to the kitchen where he started to brew a pot of coffee.

Even though the Harmony Lodge building was now one of the oldest structures in this modest Midwest community, the Craft made several enhancements over the years to help keep it current with the times. But the trademark of the Lodge was an old cast iron potbellied stove in the corner of the recreational hall which originated from the Lodge's first building back in the 1880's. Although it looked like a historical piece, the Lodge had dutifully maintained it and the stove worked remarkably well, particularly on cold winter nights, such as tonight. Vicar opened the grate on the stove and put in some ash and cherry which produced a comforting aroma in the room.

The Secretary's office was quite small. Actually, it was nothing more than a renovated closet which housed a small desk and file cabinets. Vicar rarely sat in the office as he found it confining. Instead, he would spread out his folders and do his paperwork on a table in the adjoining Rec Hall. He didn't mind the cramped quarters as this was still a small Lodge which could accommodate a maximum of 75 Brothers in the Rec Hall and the Lodge Room.

Actually, the Lodge seemed cozy to Vicar as he poured himself a cup of coffee and waded through his

paperwork.

He began by looking over the agenda for the Stated Communications to be held that evening. Scheduled was a 50 year service award for an old adversary, Forrest Stempl, a cranky old Brother who Vicar frequently butted heads with over the years. Vicar thought back to his younger days when he first became a Mason in 1924. At the time, Stempl had already been a Master and was generally considered a pillar of the Lodge. Vicar joined the Masons as he saw it had a positive influence on his father and grandfather. As a young Mason, he enjoyed Lodge life and reveled in the camaraderie. His enthusiasm was contagious and he signed many petitions for new members to join the Lodge. This did not go unnoticed by the Lodge officers of the day who saw Vicar as ambitious and influential. Consequently, he was appointed Senior Steward, thus beginning his rotation through the chairs. By 1929, Vicar sat in the East as Master, which was a bit premature due to the Lodge's Senior Warden who befell an accident and died, thereby catapulting Vicar through the chairs. Nonetheless, Vicar was prepared for the office and fulfilled his duties admirably.

Vicar was the office manager in the local hardware store/lumber yard and had a good sense of organization and the technology of the day. He was also an educated man who was lucky to have earned a scholarship and graduate with a business degree from the state university. He and his family lived well, but not opulently. Many of the officers he preceded, including Stempl, were not educated and worked as factory workers. This had no ill-effect on Vicar, other than a few Brothers, such as Stempl, were somewhat intimidated by Vicar for his education and station in life.

The hallmark of Vicar's year in the East was his ability to put the younger members of the Lodge to work, who helped clean up and modernize the Lodge.

In October of 1929, the stock market crashed, forcing a lot of people out of work, including several Brothers. This also greatly affected Vicar's business, but he somehow found the wherewithal to establish a fund to help distressed Brothers as well as other members of the community. This fund slowly grew and eventually helped dozens of people over the next sev-

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eral years. But while Vicar's programs endeared him to the Craft and the community, his success was viewed jealously by Stempl as he saw his own authority in the Lodge challenged. Because of this, he tried to undermine Vicar in every new change he tried to introduce. The two were at loggerheads on more than one occasion. If Vicar said "White," Stempl would say "Black." He went out of his way to complicate Vicar's life just out of spite. Nonetheless, Vicar persevered and eventually Stempl was discredited and his role in the Lodge diminished. Eventually, he began to visit other nearby Lodges and infrequently attended his mother Lodge.

By the time the United States entered World War II, Vicar was already established as Lodge Secretary. However, he was too old for military service as were a lot of the members of the Craft. The younger members though readily enlisted thereby causing attendance at Lodge meetings to plummet. Nonetheless, the Masons kept the Lodge lights burning. Even though he couldn't serve in the military, Vicar helped organize Lodge programs to sell War Bonds, collect rubber, provide special meals for troops passing through his community, and offered assistance to families who lost sons during the war. To this end, Vicar carefully kept track of the finances for these charity programs in a separate cash book. Although Stempl didn't actively participate in such programs, he didn't object to them either. However, he kept a watchful eye on Vicar who was coordinating the programs.

When Stempl learned Vicar was maintaining the charity project finances in a cash book separate from the Lodge's own cash book, he seized on the opportunity and accused Vicar of unMasonic conduct by misappropriating funds for his own personal use. This led to Masonic charges being brought against Vicar in Lodge in an attempt to besmirch Vicar's character. Even though Stempl had no actual proof of any wrongdoing, he suspected Vicar of taking money for his own personal gain. This became very controversial among the members of the Lodge. On the one hand, Vicar was well liked and respected, and on the other, Stempl was still respected as a Past Master. The Lodge was confused as to which side to believe. As for Vicar, he was angered by Stempl's accusations and visibly shaken by the charges. Word spread around the district

and state of the infraction and Vicar's Masonic record became tarnished.

Subsequently, Lodge members were summoned to listen to the charges. It was the most attended meeting of the year which included Lodge members, visitors, and the District Deputy Grand Master who witnessed the proceedings. One by one, the charges were read of Vicar's alleged improprieties. Vicar sat quietly but seethed as he suffered through this embarrassment. Finally, Vicar was allowed to speak and refute the charges. He produced the cash book and carefully explained how money was taken in and disbursed. He had even gone so far as to produce bank statements, receipts, and because this was being managed separate from Lodge finances, produced an audit report from an independent CPA who found the finances in good form and order.

Following Vicar's refutation of the charges, the floor was open for discussion. After hearing both the charges and Vicar refute them, one Brother asked why the Lodge had not done an independent investigation prior to the charges being made. The Master pointed out that charges can be leveled by another Mason at any time. This did not sit well with the Craft who overwhelmingly exonerated Vicar of any wrongdoing. After the meeting closed, Stempl exited the Lodge quickly. He may have lost in terms of having Vicar found guilty, but he knew he had forever left a blemish on Vicar's Masonic record. Consequently, Vicar was never again asked to serve on any district or state Masonic committees. Stempl took great joy in knowing this would be the outcome.

Vicar sat back at the table in the Rec Hall, lit his pipe, and put the agenda away. He didn't relish the thought of seeing Stempl again that evening after all of these years. After awhile, the Junior Warden and the Stewards arrived at the Lodge to prepare the meal for the evening. Vicar helped set the tables and then prepared the Lodge room for the meeting. Other Lodge Brothers slowly entered, put their hats and coats away, and sat down for the Lodge supper. Vicar enjoyed their company but kept an eye on the door anticipating Stempl's arrival. He hadn't seen Stempl for the last several years. Vicar had heard his health was declining and didn't attend Masonic functions anymore.

Dinner came and went and slowly the Craft filed into the Lodge room for the meeting. Just minutes before starting, the front door swung open and in came

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Stempl in a wheelchair pushed by his nephew who was also a Mason. The nephew dutifully wheeled his uncle into the Lodge room and set Stempl on the sidelines.

The Master and the officers marched in procession into the room and opened the Lodge. Following the normal reading of the minutes and treasurer's report, the Master ordered the Senior Deacon to present W:.Forrest Stempl east of the altar for the presentation of his 50 year pin and certificate.

The Senior Deacon did as he was instructed and wheeled Stempl to the east. This was the first time Vicar could get a good look at Stempl, who was now a shadow of his old self. His clothes hung on his shrinking body and he appeared sullen.

Although the Worshipful Master was a young man, he was well aware of the friction between Vicar and Stempl from years ago and hoped there would be no disruption in the harmony of the meeting. He then went about making his presentation of the Masonic 50 year award, complete with Grand Honors. As the Master affixed the gold pin on Stempl's lapel, he noticed a tear forming in Stempl's eye. As is customary, he then asked Stempl if he had anything he wanted to say to the Craft to commemorate the moment.

"Yes, there is," Stempl said, "but first could you have Bro. Vicar join us here?"

Surprised, the Worshipful Master looked over at Vicar who was also startled by the request. He didn't know what Stempl was up to this time and was reluctant to come forward. But Stempl looked over at Vicar and said, "Please." The Master then directed the Senior Deacon to present Vicar to the east. Vicar was still unsure where this was going.

Once joined in the east, Stempl began by saying to the Craft, "I'm a very proud and private man. I have always relished my years in the fraternity and have always considered myself a proponent of it. Many of you may have noticed that I have been away from Lodge for a long time, so much so, that none of you younger Masons will probably remember me, but at one time I was very active in this Lodge. Although my health has been in decline for the last few years, this was not the reason. I worked a long time and recently retired, but it was not my job that kept me away either. Nor was it my wife or family. I haven't forgotten the

words either, they are as fresh in my mind now as they were 50 years ago. No, the problem was simply me; I was ashamed to show my face in Lodge again."

Vicar and the Master glanced at each other surprised.

"There is an old saying my Brothers that 'we get too soon old and too late smart,'" Stempl continued, "As for me, it took me a little longer than other people. Years ago I committed a huge injustice against the Secretary here," as he pointed to Vicar. "I thought if I could discredit him I would be able to get the Lodge to listen to me instead of him. But even after I pressed Masonic charges against him, I found the Lodge Brothers respected and supported Bro. Vicar more than me. I had a hard time understanding this at first, as I was a much more senior member of the fraternity than he was. It was then that I realized it was I who was guilty of unMasonic conduct by allowing myself to fall prey to simple jealousy. My envy of Bro. Vicar was so great that I concocted a plot to assassinate his character. But as you can see, he is still here and I was not. I finally realized I had hurt a Brother, hurt my Lodge, and hurt the fraternity I love so much. Brothers, it was shame that kept me away. But then I received a letter from the Secretary here, and let me read it to you."

Stempl pulled a letter from inside his coat pocket and read it aloud, "Dear Bro. Stempl, On behalf of the officers and Brothers of Harmony Lodge I extend you fraternal greetings and am pleased to inform you that we have received your 50 year pin and certificate from the Grand Lodge and we would like to present it to you at our next Stated Communications. On a personal note, I know we have had our differences over the years but I would be pleased if you would attend Lodge to receive your award. Brother, I wish you well and hope to see you soon. Sincerely and Fraternally, W:..Samuel Vicar, PM, Secretary."

"This last line from Bro. Vicar was more than I could handle. After everything I had done to him, he still called me Brother."

Stempl then wheeled himself closer to Vicar, took his hand, and looked up at him, "My Brother, can you ever find it in your heart to forgive an old fool? I am truly sorry for all of the problems I caused you over the years, how can I have been so foolish?" and he buried his face in Vicar's hand and wept.

None was more surprised by the outburst of emo-

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tion than Vicar as he cradled Stempl's head. Vicar looked down and him and quietly said, "My Brother, I do not know why we were so different, but we were. Maybe its because we come from different backgrounds or perhaps we simply had two different interpretations of what Freemasonry is all about. Understand this, I never bore you any ill-will, not years ago, not now. Of course I forgive you, you are my Brother."

Stempl regained his composure but didn't release his grip on Vicar's hand. Using his other hand, he reached over and took the 50 year pin from his lapel and put it in Vicar's hand. He then said, "My Brother, please do me the honor of accepting this pin as a sign of our new bond of friendship. And please wear it as a symbol that there should never be any contention in our Lodge, that we must always find ways to work together and that a rift such as ours should never again exist."

Although Vicar was at first reluctant to accept the pin, he saw the wisdom in Stempl's words and allowed Stempl to pin it on him. The Craft gave the two a standing ovation and there wasn't a dry eye in the room.

Stempl passed away two years later and Vicar was permitted to lead the Masonic service at his funeral. He proudly wore Stempl's 50 year pin to Lodge meetings for many years which reminded the Craft to respect each other. In 1974, Vicar finally received his own 50 year pin. He then had Stempl's pin framed and added a small bronze plaque underneath it which read, "From W.:Forrest Stempl, PM to W.:Samuel Vicar, PM - Brothers, let us never forget how to best work and best agree. Let us always seek Harmony."

Although Bro. Vicar past away in 1985, the plaque still hangs in the Lodge room as an important reminder to the Brethren. Since then, the story of the rift and reconciliation between the two Past Masters is retold each year at the Lodge's annual Christmas meeting so that every member be mindful of the cost of contention, as should we all.

Keep the Faith.

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Grand Oration

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Education and public perception are the foundation of our growth. Masonry gives us many avenues to display our worth to others but everything starts with simple conversation. From father to son, neighbor to neighbor, or friend to friend, our success as a fraternity is about you. It is the way that you speak. It is very much about what you say, or maybe don't say. It is the topic that you choose and it is the criticism that you lend. It is in the way you dress and conduct yourself. It is the way you live your life and the values that you keep. It is the way you adapt to change, react to problems and, most importantly, it is about how you sincerely care about others when no one else is looking. These are all part of the value system that others notice in your character. It is the Mason within you. It is what others see when you don't even notice it yourself. Becoming a better man in character doesn't just happen. You have to work at it every day recognizing poorer habits and being open to change. When you combine this with the ring you wear, or the expression "I am a Mason" in casual conversation, it does impact perception. This is a tightly scheduled world for many, but even in a busy world, we all crave for more purpose in our lives. Cryptic Masonry supports Cardiovascular Disease research. We often refer to our Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation as "CMMRF". How much do you really know about it? Have you read the small brochure about just how truly great this philanthropy is and the social impact that it can make? This is a single topic for conversation that highlights the long list of philanthropies that all Masons take part in. From an eye foundation to language disorders to a children's hospital network, and yes, to the Vascular Disease Research Chair that we Cryptic Masons fund, there are so many things that explain who we are and what we do to all non-masons around us. Are you prepared today for the young man, or the neighbor's wife that politely asks you "What is a Mason?" How will you react? What if that young man is your son or your neighbor's husband is a man that you truly respect? Ours is a beautiful fraternity that provides far greater value than most non-masons are aware of. It is the Mason within us that we can either keep to ourselves, or carefully share to help our fraternity to grow with the men we choose and value the most.

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

COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL

October 21, 22, 23 2007 – Riverside Hotel, Laughlin NV

REQUEST TO CONFER COURTESY WORK

NOTICE: Request must be postmarked not later than October 1, 2007

Please type or print everything except signatures!

Use one form for each Candidate

_____ Chapter No. _____, RAM
 _____ Council No. _____, CM or R&SM
 _____ Commandery No. _____, KT

To: David G. Stankow, Candidate Registrar
 2714 West Nopal Circle
 Mesa, AZ 85202

480-897-9555
 stankow@att.net

Dear Companions and Sir Knights:

Please confer the Degrees and Orders of the York Rite indicated below on the following candidate, who has been) (will be) elected to receive them.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE (with A/C) _____

Please check Degrees and Orders to be conferred:

RAM: MM _____ PM _____ MEM _____ RA _____
 CM: RM _____ SM _____ SEM _____ (SEM even-numbered years only)
 KT: RC _____ OM _____ OT _____

I certify that the above-named Candidate (has been) (will be) elected to receive the Degrees and Orders indicated, and that he is in all ways duly qualified. (If he has not yet been elected, I will notify the Candidate Registrar if he fails to be elected before the Festival.)

SIGNATURE: _____

SECY-REC NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE (with A/C): _____

..... (Please emboss seals below this line).....

CHAPTER
SEAL

COUNCIL
SEAL

COMMANDERY
SEAL

NOTICE

1. Requests for courtesy work must be mailed to Mesa, postmarked not later than October 1, 2007.
2. Appropriate seals must be embossed in the appropriate spaces.
3. CANDIDATES MUST ALSO REGISTER FOR MEALS AND LODGING ON OR BEFORE October 1, 2007, TO THE MOHAVE VALLEY ADDRESS!
4. You and your Grand Secretary/Recorder will be notified of courtesy work completed.
5. Any request postmarked AFTER October 1, 2007 will not be honored -- no exceptions.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S SCHEDULE FOR 2007

September 2007

Sun 2 Southern California DeMolay, Riverside (Sean to Rep)
 Tue 4 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting
 Wed 5 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting, San Diego
 Thu 6 Red Cross of Constantine, Luncheon, San Diego SRC
 Thu 6 Tyre Chapter, Escondido
 Fri 7-9 Grand RAM Ritual Conference, Bakersfield
 Sun 9 Kit Carson Council AMD, Escondido
 Tue 11 San Diego Commandery - Stated
 Wed 12 San Diego SRC, San Diego SRC, San Diego, Masonic Information Nite
 Fri 14 Sun 16 Heroes of '76 (SOCIAL) Camp Pendleton
 Sat 15 RAM Festival, San Diego County Escondido
 Wed 19 Cryptic Festival, Masonic Center San Diego County SD Scottish Rite Center
 Sep 20 - Northern California,
 Fri 21 3-Way Reception, Roseville Masonic Al Cockrell, Center
 Sat 22 Order of High Priesthood, Red Bluff, Phil Hardiman (day-time)
 Tues 25 GHP Reception, Dist. #9Vallejo, Russ Morgan, tehama@pacbell.net
 Thu 28 to Sat 30 Grand Lodge of California, San Francisco

October 2007

Mon 1 GHP Reception - Signet Chapter, Van Nuys Don Spencer
 Tue 2 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting
 Wed 3 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting, San Diego
 Thu 4 Red Cross of Constantine, Luncheon, San Diego SRC
 Tue 9 San Diego Commandery Stated, San Diego
 Thu 11 GHP Reception (Triple-Tau Chapter), Bellflower, Ken Hope
 Fri 12 3-Way Reception, Fresno Scottish, Rite Center, Russ Roberts
 Sat 13 Royal Order of Scotland, Fresno
 Fri 19 3-Way Reception by Scottish Rite, San Fernando
 Sun 21- CRFF - Colorado River Fall Festival 23, Laughlin, NV
 Fri 27 OES Grand Chapter, Fresno, Denise Armstrong
 Mon 29th 3-way at Santa Monica Chapter, November 2007, Sunset Masonic Kim Andres Ctr

November 2007

Thu 1 Red Cross of Constantine, luncheon, San Diego SRC
 Thu 1 Tyre Chapter, Escondido
 Fri 2/3 SW York Rite Conference, Las Vegas
 Sat 3 Scottish Rite Honors Ceremony & Banquet, San Diego
 Tue 6 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting,
 Wed 7 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting (Teacher of Yr), San Diego
 Sat 10 Jobs Daughters, Grand Council, Modesto (Russ Roberts to Represent)
 Tue 13 San Diego Commandery Stated, San Diego SRC
 Thu 15 Helix Council Installation, Escondido
 Fri 16-17 Scottish Rite - Fall Class, San Diego
 Thu 22 THANKSGIVING
 Fri 23 DeMolay - North??
 Wed 28 Triangle Chapter - Vista

December 2007

Tue 4 Vista Lodge Stated Meeting

Wed 5 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting
 Thu 6 Red Cross of Constantine, luncheon
 Sun 9 Kit Carson Council AMD
 Tue 11 San Diego Commandery Stated

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

September 2007

02 DeMolay, south I'll be represented by Ray Godeke, Riverside
 02 Melrose St. John Council Allied Masonic Degrees, Rosemead
 05- 09 KYCH Convent General, Nashville. TN
 12 Council Degrees at York Rite Festival, San Bernardino
 15 Living Constitution (Pasadena Scottish Rite), Pasadena
 17 Reception (Orange County #14), Anaheim
 21 3 way reception (Five Councils), Roseville
 23-28 Beauceant Supreme Sessions, Topeka, KS
 28- 30 California Grand Lodge, San Francisco

October 2007

04 Reception (Shekinah #35) Bellflower
 19 3 way reception (San Fernando Scottish Rite), Van Nuys
 20 Los Angeles Priory #27, KYCH, Rosemead
 21-24 Colorado River Festival, Laughlin, NV
 27- 28 Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Fresno
 29 3- way reception (Alpha #39), Santa Monica

November 2007

01-04 Southwest Area Conference, Las Vegas, NV
 08 Informal visit to Sonora Council (Sonora #5), Sonora
 10 Jobs Daughter Grand Council, Modesto
 16 Pasadena Scottish Rite degrees, Pasadena
 23 DeMolay, north (represented by Al Cockrell)

December 2007

01 Inland Empire Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Riverside
 02 Allied Masonic Degrees, Rosemead
 16-27 Christmas cruise around Hawaii, Hawaii

GRAND COMMANDER'S ITINERARY 2007

Sept. 10 Signet Chapter No. 57 (RAM) Meeting
 Sept. 16 Calif. No. 1, San Jose No. 10, Golden Gate No. 16, and 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, (at Roseville) 3- Way Reception
 Sept. 24 Quincy-Lassen No. 13 Visitation
 Sept. 28-30 Grand Lodge
 Oct. 10 Southern California Outpost #37, (Pomona), Visitation
 Oct. 12 Fresno Scottish Rite, and Commanderies: Visalia No. 26, Bakersfield No. 39, Hanford No. 46 and Tulare No. 66 (Unity Night) at Fresno Scottish Rite, 5:00 PM 3-Way Reception
 Oct. 13 Royal Order of Scotland, 2.00 PM Meeting, Fresno
 Oct. 15 Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, Stated Conclave
 Oct. 19 San Fernando Valley Scottish Rite, (Unity Night), 6:30PM 3-Way Reception
 Oct. 21-23 Colorado River Fall Festival, Laughlin, Nevada
 Oct. 27 Grand Chapter (OES), Bakersfield
 Oct. 29 Santa Monica Bay Commandery No. 61, 7:00 PM, 3-Way Reception
 Nov. 2-3 Southwest Conference
 Nov. 5 Signet Chapter No. 57 (RAM), Stated Convocation
 Nov. 10 Grand Guardian Council, (Modesto), Installation
 Nov. 16 San Fernando Valley Scottish Rite, Meeting
 Nov 19 Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, Stated Conclave

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