



THE WORKMAN



Teddy Hammack, Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

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CONTENTS

GHP MESSAGE	1
MARK MASTER PROGRAM	1
OUTDOOR DEGREES (COMPTCHE)	2
COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL	2
THE BRETHREN	2
GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS	3
ARTICLES FOR THE WORKMAN	3
THE CLOTHES LINE	3
ENCOMPASSER	3
GHP ITINERARY	3
PETITIONS	3
GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER	4
CONTACT INFORMATION	4

GHP MESSAGE

Companions, April 26, 2010, completed a five year journey thru the progressive line chairs. This journey was a wonderful learning experience preparing me for the ultimate office of Grand High Priest of The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California. Hopefully, I will remember the advice and guidance given to me by my predecessors.

This past year I have really become aware of what is expected of the person serving in this awesome office. Decisions must be made, popular or otherwise, appointments made as necessary to fill positions, and see that everything done is within the frame work of the Constitution. With your help and support I know we can make this a successful year.

Marianne and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible as we travel around the State this

year. God bless The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California.



Paul E. McCleary receives the Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze from the General Grand Scribe, MEC Louis Bartrand.



The three York Rite presiding officers present a Golden Veteran's award to Don Cochran in Yuba

City. Behind and to the right is Bill Peardon, who had just received the Meritorious Service Award from Washington Chapter 13.

MARK MASTER PROGRAM

There have been numerous questions about the legislation that was adopted in 2009, concerning the no-fee Mark Master Degree. Yes, it is still in effect, as a permanent part of our Constitution.

This means that all Chapters can continue to accept petitions in two ways: for either the Mark Master Degree only (with no fee paid), or for all the Chapter Degrees (with the full fee paid). The new petition, available on the Grand Chapter website, provides these two options for a petitioner. In addition, under that legislation, a petitioner for the Mark Master Degree only (paying no fee), is balloted upon for all the degrees of the Chapter. If he subsequently wishes the remaining degrees, he need only pay the fee for degrees to qualify for them. He has already been elected to receive all four Chapter degrees.

Local Chapters, working in concert with other Chapters in their District, should begin now to schedule Keystone Classes – those classes for which only the Mark Master will be conferred. Set a date for the conferral and everything else will fall in place. Set it far enough into the future that you have enough time to visit Blue Lodges in your area at least once. Take a couple dozen petitions to each Stated Meeting you can attend and, with the Master's permission, announce the Mark Master opportunity they now have! *Assume their consent*, and wait for them to complete the petitions on site!

You know the preparedness of your local Team, but schedule enough practices to guarantee a quality conferral – one you will be proud of. Be prepared, also, to announce at the end of the conferral when they can return for the remaining degrees. This is crucial follow-thru! Don't let cast problems deter you – we have numerous excellent ritualists around the State who are willing to travel. Our Jr. Past Grand High Priest will be happy to assist whenever possible, doing the Lecture in the Mark Master Degree, Right Worshipful Master in the Past Master Degree, or High Priest and Lecture in the Royal Arch.

OUTDOOR DEGREES

The **38th Annual Comptche** Outdoor Royal Arch Degrees are scheduled this year for June 26th at Tunzi Ranch. All four Degrees will be conferred on Saturday, with the Prologue beginning at 8:30 a.m. The reservation deadline is June 18th. You could make a vacation around this event. Self-contained RVs and tent campers are welcome to setup from June 23rd through the 28th. There are no 120V hookups but there are chemical toilets in the meadow. There is a hot water shower in the restroom shack, as well as men's and women's bathrooms.

Fish Fry Friday night -- \$15.50
Breakfast Saturday morning -- \$10
Dues Registration -- \$12
Companions Lunch -- \$12.50
Tri-tip Barbeque Saturday Night -- \$20
Breakfast Sunday morning -- \$10

Children half-price; only companions pay the registration. Make checks payable to COMPTCHE OUTDOOR DEGREES, and send to Guy Chalmers, 50 Lohrman Lane, Petaluma, CA 94952-3609.

COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL (CRFF)

The multi-State York Rite Festival will be celebrated this year on October 17, 18 and 19. This is a great opportunity for your Mark Masters to get the remaining degrees. Hotel reservations at the Riverside must be made through the CRFF by October 1st – it is not too soon to act now, especially if you intend to bring candidates. Cost for the room for 3 nights is \$115, total. Requests for Courtesy Work must also be received by October 1st. All information, including registration fees, Ladies Tea Party, and Royal Arch Widows Degree are now posted at www.crff.org.

THE BRETHREN

Rt. Worshipful John Cooper III, in his Grand Oration for the Grand Council session last week, introduced us to the poetry of Edgar Guest. Following is the first of a series of his poems I would like to run for your reading pleasure and spiritual enhancement.

The world is needing you and me,
In places where we ought to be;

Somewhere today it's needing you
To stand for what you know is true.
And needing me somewhere today.
To keep the faith, let come what may.

The world needs honest men today
To lead its youth along the way,
Men who will write in all their deeds
The beauty of their spoken creeds,
And spurn advantage here and gain,
On which deceit must leave its stain.

The world needs men who will not brag,
Men who will honor Freedom's Flag,
Men, who although the way is hard,
Against the lure of shame will guard,
The world needs gentle men and true
And calls aloud to me and you.

The world needs men of lofty aim,
Not merely men of skill and fame,
Not merely leaders wise and grave,
Or learned men or soldiers brave,
But men whose lives are fair to see,
Such men as you and I can be.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

Our deBarrows portfolio earned very little last year – not quite enough to fund one scholarship. We are able to supplement this with \$700 contributed from the York Rite Cruise. But we need much more, as we have 29 applicants this year. If you have the resources, please consider making a significant donation on behalf of our Masonic Youth. Send any excess cash (!) to the Grand Chapter Scholarship Program at 801 Elm Ave, Long Beach, CA, 90813.

Remember that all donations to the Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible, so keep this in mind as you plan your annual giving and when you pay your dues.

ARTICLES FOR THE WORKMAN

Junior Past Grand High Priest Phil Hardiman will continue to edit this newsletter. If you have items of interest, especially pictures of Scholarship presentations, please send them to him at philipandnancy@aol.com.

THE CLOTHES LINE

We now have access to a new line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies. The price for red and blue is great - \$75.00 plus tax and shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$87.00 plus tax and shipping for sizes 50 to 60, also in short, regular, and tall. Purple Jackets are little more expensive at \$95.00 for the smaller and \$107.00 for the larger. Also available are Men's and ladies' vests, tuxedos and shirts, pins, patches, and flags, and OES T-Shirts. Contact Patsy Baker Luy at her office: 1(510) 527-5728, or cell: 1(510) 502-3224; or email at maxluy@hotmail.com.

ENCOMPASSER

The January 2010 edition of the Encompasser is now available on the website as follows: <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left hand toolbar.

PETITIONS

New petitions and brochures about the Chapter are available on the website at:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/royalarch.htm>

Simply scroll down to the lower half of the page.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER

New officers were elected and installed at a brief meeting on the afternoon of the Grand Chapter session last week, April 26th. The website is presently down, but should be operative again next month. Look forward to several meetings this year. Further plans will be announced in future newsletters.

<http://www.goldenstatechapter.org/>

For information about membership, contact M·E· Comp· Philip A. Hardiman, High Priest
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GRAND HIGH PRIEST ITINERARY

10-May	Chico	3-Way Reception, 530-342-6711
16-May		York Rite College New Bethel Charter, 209-640-0290
25-May	Tracy	Scottish Rite Unity Night
7-Jun	Sana Ana	3-Way Reception, 562-436-8271
10-Jun	Bellflower	3-Way Reception, 805-389-0787
12-Jun	Ventura	2-Way Reception, 707-446-3123
19-Jun	Fairfield	4-Way Reception, 408-686-2459
30-Jun	San Jose	Ice Cream Social, 805-937-4282
3-Jul	San Luis Obispo	Parade
4-Jul	Newhall	3-Way Reception, 925-963-0933
31-Jul	Alameda	York Rite Picnic, 415-337-1979
1-Aug	South San Francisco	Scottish Rite Unity Night
11-Aug	San Diego	
Aug 19- 21	Scottsdale, AZ	Az Grand Sessions
1-Sep	Tehachapi	High Twelve Signet Reception, 818-885-0289
3-Sep	Van Nuys	Scottish Rite Visit
14-Sep	Bakersfield	Chapter Visit
15-Sep	Tulare	BBQ 3-Way Reception, 831-384- 5365
19-Sep	Salinas	
Sep 24- 26	San Francisco	Grand Lodge Colorado River Fall Festival
17-Oct	Laughlin, NV	SW Regional
29-Oct	Phoenix, AZ	Conference
13-Jan	Imperial Valley	Reception, 760-352- 8487

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