



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. 21

JUNE 2006

No. 1

Education, the key to our survival

By Excellent Companion Julian H. Cambridge, K.Y.C.H.

Presented on Wednesday, April 26th 2006 at Bakersfield, CA.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter Officers, Past Grand Chapter Officers, Visiting Distinguished Guests, Excellent Companions and Ladies:

You, Most Excellent Sir have offered me the opportunity to serve as the Grand Orator of this Grand Chapter for the second consecutive year, and for this, I am indeed very grateful to you. Please accept my sincerest appreciation. Most Excellent Wine, let me not forget to tell you about the treasures, which I found along the way, those excellent companions and their ladies, who shared with me authentic brotherly affection, those gems I will hold dearly in my heart.

The title of this year's Grand Oration is "Education, the Key to Our Survival." Please be assured, it is not an easy topic. However, it seems to me the aims of education and particularly Masonic education, are to forward knowledge and right conduct. The educated are men and women, who have learned how to apprehend ethical norms by intellectual means, that Masons have come to know; in a word, what is right conduct, and the way one should conduct oneself rightly, they have come to this knowledge by a comprehension of the rational basis for such conduct. We do not know with absolute certainty what are the aims of education. Even Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine and St. Thomas were unable to reach a specific conclusion relative to the aims of education; they doubted whether there are specific aims at all, aside from purely utilitarian ones, to education. Howev-

er, they termed education, a token page of divine dispensation, which must be made available to all who seek it. It was not the function of the Masonic educators or for that matter any educator, philosopher or artist to add to knowledge, only to reveal it.

During the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, Erasmus, Saint Thomas More, John Colet and that fraternity of powerful intellectual giants, who thought, wrote and demonstrated that the proper education of our citizens is of paramount importance for the peaceful and harmonious attitudes of successful communities. Those intellectual stalwarts took serious and critical examinations, trying to fathom the cause for the blatant and rampant decadence which was so apparent at that time. Erasmus and his friends did not find any new solution to those existing problems. They merely returned to the writings of the masters Quintilian, Aristotle, Plato, Thomas Aquinas, Seneca, Plutarch, Cicero and Juan de Quintana, this is merely to mention a few. From this reservoir of wisdom writings, they culled that which were viable and still useful; hence we read about the emergence of the renaissance, which was upon us. That group did not discover anything new, they were possessed with the prescience to recognize what worked. They had that tenacity to work with what they culled and reintroduced those golden nuggets.

We are aware that education is a process or act, disci-

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Education, The Key to Our Survival

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pline of mind or building of character through repetitive study or instructions. These instructions, when applied, enable us to become assets and credits to our societies. We are assured that Freemasonic education has no other purpose but to encourage its members to become the best they are capable of becoming.

There is a purpose in life, and the Masons are cognizant of what that purpose is, in part because it has been divulged, in part because man possesses a rational mechanism by which he can apprehend it. Masonic educators are therefore encouraged to pass on the truths, which have been discovered, and endow the new Masons with the knowledge of the processes by which these truths are recognized as such. A proper Masonic education can furnish the brother with good tools to form clean and decent character; with the power of ethical and rational discrimination, the educated masons are able to develop a foreknowledge, which will enable them to discern and give their allegiance to the purposes of our noble order. This will assure us of a new breed of Masons, who will discharge truly the responsibilities which face them, as the result of changing conditions. This attitude and taking action about masonic education will certainly assure our longevity. Moreover, should our fraternity be searching for a new solution, we will not find one, because there is no new solution to our problem. During the many decades of our successful existence, Freemasonry has acquired and stored in its archives those positive and successful notions, which aided in our order's longevity. Let me assure you that our fraternity is like a living organism, and like all living organisms, they mutate. However, it is phoenix sensed and is always aware of its change. It has within its nature the solution to this inevitable change, which is change itself. Like the phoenix, which always knows within itself of the necessary spices and herbs, which will aid in its resuscitation, I guess that the Masonic organization has the solution to its problem within its archives. Therefore, it behooves us to form very serious working research groups, which will cull, examine and study the hugh reservoir of those positive ideas, which worked then. Perhaps, with minor modifications, those successful programs can be the solution for moving us up and forward from the situation in which our fraternity has found itself.

Furthermore, Companions and Ladies, let me remind you that the renaissance was not the formulation of new ideas. The founders of the renaissance movement, which commenced the year 1469 and continued to about the year 1536, became disgusted with the decadence which abounded in all areas of human endeavors, that surrounded them. Erasmus, Sir Thomas More, John Colet and that fraternity

of intellectual stalwarts decided to take a stand because new ideas and solutions were merely band-aids and quick fixes to them; they were futile since they did not work. The Masons' attention and serious commitment to Masonic education, will allow them to recognize honor rather than illustriousness, and practice a life of virtues of loyalty and duty. This is not some token or patronizing language, but an authentic definition of what the educated Masons ought to believe to be their proper role and destiny. Virtue, in other words, cannot be inherited but must be acquired from serious commitment to duty and hard work. The educated Masons after having applied the lessons learned from the teachings of Freemasonry will become virtuous and thus truly happy by the practice of virtue. Aristotle taught us that we acquire virtue just as we acquire crafts. From their Masonic education, the Masons will learn how to build by building and how to become a harpist by playing a harp; so also, then, we become just by practicing just actions. We might be inclined to dismiss Aristotle's encouragement to practice as being too simple, after all, what did he know? In fact, Aristotle was keenly aware that we are powerfully tempted to do that which is not in our long term interest and that we give way to those temptations even knowing their likely negative consequences. It is practice and continual drill of the Masonic instructions which will assist the Masons in building decent characters; for it is the desiring of all Masons to live with their families in communities of reasonable order and general decency.

Finally, my fellow companions, from a full and proper absorption of the Masonic education, the Masons realize that a moral sense is not a strong beacon light radiating to illuminate in sharp outline all that it touches. It is, rather, a small candle flame casting vague and multiple shadows, flickering and sputtering in the strong winds of power and passion, greed and ideology. But brought close to the heart and cupped in one's hands, it dispels the darkness and warms the soul.

A good Masonic education allows a Mason to acquire three prime qualities, the highest power, the greatest wisdom and the greatest goodness. All Masons should strive to embrace this trinity of principles, thus ensuring the unsullied character, the supreme for which we all must constantly strive. I strongly suggest and encourage that we form a group of serious Masons and pattern it after Erasmus and his group. Our solutions are in our hands and within ourselves.

Thank you all for your attention.

RUSSELL "RUSS" ROBERTS Grand High Priest 2006-07

Russell Roberts was born February 5, 1957 in Hanford, California and in 1961 Russ' family moved to a farm just east of Laton, California. He attended Kingsburg Schools and graduated from Kingsburg High School in 1975. He attended Reedley College and Fresno State University, graduating with a degree in Agriculture.



After working several years in the Produce Industry as a Buyer, Russ applied for a position with the California Department of Agriculture, Division of Inspection Services. Russ worked for the department over 25 years before retiring this past year.

Russell has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity since September 23, 1981, when he was raised to the degree of Master Mason in Reedley Lodge No. 304 F. & A. M. Russ has been very active. He has served as Master of his Lodge (3) three times, Treasurer (3) three years, He joined the Scottish Rite Valley of Fresno in 1983 and was elected Vice President of his Class. He has served the Valley as Venerable Master 2001, Commander 2004, Master of Kadosh 1994, and Chairman of the Childhood Language Disorders Center 2002. Russell received the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honor - 1999. He is a member in several Masonic Groups: Hi- Twelve, Eastern Star - Past Worthy Patron 1995, Allied Masonic Degrees, Royal Order of Jesters, Fresno Priory No. 71, Knights York Cross of Honor, Saint Alban York Rite College No. 130, Red Cross of Constantine Pacifica Conclave

ROBERT GRAUER

Most Illustrious Grand Master 2006-07



Born: May 9, 1938 Modesto, California. Education: Graduated: Oakdale Joint Union High School, Oakdale, California, 1956, Attended: Modesto Junior College, Modesto, California, 1957-1958. College of the Sequoias, Visalia, California, 1958. Graduated:

Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport Iowa, 1972-

and Associate Bethel Guardian for Selma Bethel No. 151, International Order of Job's Daughters.

In 1988, Russell met Miss Janeen L. Rider of Tulare. The couple was married August 12th 1989. Janeen is the Daughter of Sid Rider and her Late Husband Miles Rider of Delano, California. Janeen has been active in the Daughters of the Nile since 1979 serving in several stations. Janeen is a Past Honored Queen of Bethel No. 67 Delano, a Past Bethel Guardian of Selma Bethel No. 151 Selma and currently serving as Guardian Treasurer of Selma Bethel. She is also a Past Worthy Matron of the Order of Eastern Star Heliotrope No. 93, Selma, California.

Russ and his Family live in Tulare, California. Russ and Janeen have two children, Pamela Janeen (13) thirteen years old and Graduating from 8th grade this June, and Jonathan Samuel (12) Twelve years old. Both kids are very active also: Pamela is currently serving as Marshall in Job's Daughters and Jonathan is active in the Boy Scouts and has just asked to join State Center Chapter of DeMolay.

Russ enjoys hunting and fishing when he can find time. He also enjoys participating in weekend Bike rides. He owns a 2001 Harley Classic "Purple Stallion"

Russ may have a few titles but the one he likes the most is P.O.R. (Plan Ole Russ). When you see him around the State this year, make sure to give him a hand shake and a smile.

"I CAN NEVER ACHIEVE, WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER"

1974. Employment: 1959-1962 Bank of America, J & 14th Branch, Modesto, California. Teller / General Ledger Bookkeeper / Vault Teller. 1962-1971 State Traffic Officer, California Highway Patrol. Assignments: 1962-1965 East Los Angeles. 1965-1971 Modesto. 1975-2001 Private Practice, Doctor of Chiropractic, Cotati, California. Retired 1-1-2002. Military: 1961-1966 National Guard / Army Reserve. Memberships (other than Masonic): Nicasio Parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West. Municipal Motorcycle Officer's Assn. of California

CHARLES R. WATERMAN, JR. Grand Commander 2006-07

Born in Hartford, Connecticut and raised in New Hampshire, he graduated from Exeter High School, in June 1956, at Exeter, NH. He was accepted as a cadet for the U. S. Air Force Academy graduating as a Second Lieutenant in 1960. He served as a pilot and in various staff positions until retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1985. He then worked in the Juvenile Division of the Contra

Costa Probation Department until retiring in 2002. He has an BS in Engineering, MS in logistics, and two Associate of Arts degrees in Criminal Justice. He married Mary Ann Wuchina in 1973. He has two children from a previous marriage and four grand children.

MASONIC HISTORY

Raised in Major John Sullivan Lodge No.2 in Epping New Hampshire in 1963; Dual membership in Vacaville Lodge 134, serving as Master in 1998. Exalted in Solono Chapter 43, serving as High Priest in 1988 and 2005. Greeted in King Solomon's Council 29, serving as Illustrious Master in 1999. Knighted in Vacaville Commandery. Serving as commander in 1991 and 2004 Appointed Grand Warder in 1999.

He is a member of San Francisco Priory KYCH, a member of Oakland Scottish Rite Bodies, Royal Order of Scotland., Robert the Bruce Society, National Sojourners (President 1991), Red Cross of Constantine, Ben Ali Shrine. He has served as Sovereign Master of Triangle Council 186. He is Very Eminent Preceptor of New Covenant Tabernacle No. 68, HRAKTP

The Mark Master Mason Degree

William Wine — PGHP, Royal Arch Education Committee

The information contained herein is part of an on going project by the RA Education Committee to provide the Royal Arch Chapters and their members a means by which to further their education programs. This material may be presented to candidates after conferring the Mark Master Degree and/or presented to the Chapter at a meeting and/or printed in the Chapter bulletin.

This Degree to some extent connects the Second and “Fourth” Degrees in Freemasonry. In the Fellowcraft Degree, we learn a bit about the Temple and the work that was done to construct it. In the Mark Master Mason Degree, we learn still more about the work of the craftsmen and the events surrounding the construction of the Temple as well as selecting our individual mark.

When you first entered the Lodge of Mark Master Masons, it probably looked a lot like your Blue Lodge - except that the officers maybe wearing red jackets. However, there are a few differences. Some are subtle and others are not so subtle.

Let’s talk about the officers’ stations. You see men sitting in the East, West and South as they do in Blue Lodge. The presiding officer in a Mark Lodge is the Right Worshipful Master. The West and South in a Mark Master Lodge are, respectively, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden. Their functions in a Mark Lodge are pretty much identical to those of the corresponding offices Blue Lodge.

Next, you see there is a Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Stewards and a Tyler — just like in Blue Lodge.

Did you notice that there are three other officers, though? They sit in the southeast corner, the northwest corner and the northeast corner. In a Lodge of Mark Master Masons, these officers are called the Overseers. The Junior Overseer sits in the southeast corner, the Senior Overseer sits in the northwest and the Master Overseer sits in the northeast corner of the Lodge. These overseers performed important work in this Degree, as they inspected your work.

There is one especially interesting thing about the Senior Warden in a Mark Lodge. Do you remember the line in Blue Lodge where the Senior Warden’s duties are described as “to pay the Craft their wages if any be due?” Well, in this Degree, we actually saw the Senior Warden paying the Craft their wages.

What are the working tools of a Mark Master Mason? The Mallet and Chisel, which were applied to your breast when you were welcomed into the Lodge.

Why is this Degree called the Mark Master Mason Degree?

Throughout the Degree, reference is made to the Mark. It is sought out on the Work, it is borne on the keystone to a certain arch and it is explained to you in detail when the Mark on the keystone is described. In ancient, operative Masonry each craftsman placed his mark on every stone he hewed. This was a quality control measure to some extent and also allowed the Overseers to know that each stone was wrought by a qualified Mason. In modern times a good example of a craftsman’s mark is a jeweler’s or a potter’s mark, — a simple device that an artist uses to identify his work to others.

In the first section of this Degree, you portrayed an unqualified workman who found a piece of work (which we later learned was the keystone), took it up for inspection, and then proceeded to attempt to receive pay for something that was way beyond your capabilities.

What happened when the Overseers confronted you? Both the Junior and Senior Overseers failed to stop your progress and declare you an imposter, since they were so impressed by the quality of the stone. When you reached the Master Overseer he summoned the other two and asked them how they suffered your work to pass. After some consultation, the Overseers decided to cover up their negligence — and heaved the stone over among the rubbish. They then seated you and allowed you to be taken up to receive your pay.

You were found to be an imposter because you did not have a Mark, to present to the Worshipful Senior Warden. During the building of the Temple, each Mark Master Mason was required to present his Mark on payday. The Mark would be verified in the Lodge book and the wages would be paid out to him. When you had no mark, to present, the Worshipful Senior Warden knew instantly that you were an imposter.

What happened when you were brought before the Right Worshipful Master? While he was interrogating you, the Master Overseer came forward and interrupted him. This is the only time in Masonry that you will see a junior officer deliberately interrupt the East.

Why did the Master Overseer jump to the defense of the candidate? Probably because he wanted to cover up the negligence that he and the other two Overseers had shown in allowing you to pass through the inspections at the various gates. Thus, it may very well have been in self-interest that the Master Overseer seemingly jumped to your defense.

Of course these types of cover-ups always come out in the end.

As you may recall, when the temple was nearly completed the workmen were at a stand for want of a keystone to a certain arch. We come to find out this work had been

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**2006 GRAND SESSIONS REPORT
GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS
GRAND OFFICERS**

Grand High Priest**Russell D. Roberts**
Tulare Chapter No. 71
Grand King**Jerrold A. Wohifarth**
Triangle Chapter No. 155
Grand Scribe**Sean N. Foran**
Signet Chapter No. 57
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**Daniel C. Kaffka Jr.**
Ventura Chapter No. 50
Grand Captain of the Host**Russ Morgan**
Naval Chapter No. 35
Grand Principal Sojourner**Philip A. Hardiman**
Sacramento Chapter No. 3
Grand Royal Arch Captain**Ted G. Hammack**
Kern River Chapter No. 75
Grand Master of the Third Veil**Frederick W. Ervast Jr.**
Ventura Chapter No. 50
Grand Master of the Second Veil**Fenton R. Mereness**
Howard Chapter No. 14
Grand Master of the First Veil**David E. Higdon**
Tulare Chapter No. 71
Grand Orator**C. Miles Scandrett**
Signet Chapter No. 57
Grand Marshal**Max C. Taff Sr.**
Tulare Chapter No. 71
Grand Soloist**E. Floyd Griffin**
Ventura Chapter No. 50
Grand Organist**Venie R. Puntanilla**
Tulare Chapter No. 71
Grand Sentinel**Allan D. Miller**
Tulare Chapter No. 71
Assistant Grand Secretary**Albert M. Lewis**
Triple Tau Chapter No. 33

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL IN BRONZE**

Carlos H. Gonzalez Signet Chapter No. 57

**GRAND HIGH PRIEST
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

Edgar Blake III Naval Chapter No. 35
David E. Sokol Red Bluff Chapter No. 40
William L. Wilson Visalia Chapter No. 44
C. Miles Scandrett Signet Chapter No. 57
Russell S. Kennedy A Ancient Antioch Chapter No. 31

HIGH PRIEST OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE

James W. Allen, Jr Tyre Chapter No. 130

SECRETARY OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE

Frederick G. Kleyn III San Diego Chapter No. 61

Secretary of the Year Dept #2

William A. Peardon Washington Chapter No. 13

Secretary of the Year Dept #4

Frederick W. Ervast, Jr. Ventura Chapter No. 50

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kenneth G. Hope Triple Tau Chapter No. 33

SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARD

Mrs. Sonny Hope

Chapter with the highest percentage increase (11 .9%)

Santa Rosa Chapter No. 45

Chapter with the highest number of new members (24)

Signet Chapter No. 57

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2006-1 to have the Public Relations Committee produce promotional material - Passed

Resolution 2006-2 to add the Grand Chapter Website as a Standing Committee - Passed

Resolution 2006-3 to create a new Royal Arch Masonic Education Committee - Passed

**GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS
2006 GRAND SESSIONS REPORT
GRAND OFFICERS**

Most Illustrious Grand Master**Robert G. Grauer**
Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Deputy Grand Master**W. Joseph Ryland**
Alhambra Council No. 25
Grand Principal Conductor
of the Work**John C. Carpenter, Jr**
Bakersfield Council No. 28
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**Ken G. Nagel**
San Jose Council No. 20
Grand Chaplain (North)**Michael B. Peterson**
Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Grand Chaplain (South)**Rickey O. Ward**
Valley Council No. 27
Grand Captain of the Guard**Frederick J. Potter**
Ventura Council No. 15
Grand Conductor of the Council **Alfred M. Cockrell, Jr**
Roseville Council No. 54
Grand Steward**Mark R. Sandstrom**
Foothill Council No. 42
Grand Sentinel**Martin F. McKeay**
Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Grand Orator**Robert A. L. Whitfield**
Oakland Council No. 12
Grand Marshal (North)**Guy M. Chalmers**
Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Grand Marshal (South)**Dennis L. Ward**
Valley Council No. 27
Grand Musician**K. Mark Harris**
Oakland Council No. 12

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Grand Bible Bearer **Frank Loui**
 California Council No. 2
 Grand Standard Bearer **John T. Giertz**
 Redwood Empire Council No. 46
 Assistant Grand Recorder **Albert M. Lewis**
 Shekinah Council No. 35

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL

CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL

Cryptic Mason of the Year **Fenton R. Mereness**
 Sonora Council No. 5
 Adult Leadership Award **Mrs. Muriel Cockrell**
 Lady of the Council Award **Mrs. Sonny E. Hope**

ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF THE YEAR

Lynn R. Wallingford Ventura Council No. 15

RECORDER OF THE YEAR

Robert L. Fialho Butte Council No. 50

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kenneth G. Hope Shekinah Council No. 35

GRAND MASTER'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Alhambra Council No. 25

Council with the highest percentage increase (10.3%)

Sierra Nevada Council No. 44

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

RITUALIST OF THE YEAR FOR THE STATE

Edward L. Tiu Shekinah Council No. 35

Ritualist for Dept #1

Marlin L. Esh King Solomon's Council No. 29

Ritualist for Dept #2

Richard J. Jolley Sierra Nevada Council No. 44

Ritualist for Dept #3

Steven R. Goad Bakersfield Council No. 28

Ritualist for Dept #6

Joseph S. Romozi Valley Council No. 27

GRAND MASTER of ISH SODI AWARD

Raymond L. Boyes Oakland Council No. 12

Richard J. Jolley Sierra Nevada Council No. 44

Ted G. Hammack Bakersfield Council No. 28

Frederick J. "Tiny" Potter Ventura Council No. 15

Bruce E. Hudson Alhambra Council No. 25

Ira R. Herring Merced Council No. 47

Lynn R. Wallingford Ventura Council No. 15

Vacaville Commandery No. 38
 Grand Prelate **Fr. Charles E. Maier**
 Orange County Commandery No. 36
 Grand Treasurer **O. Reed Bollin, PGC**
 Golden West Commandery No. 43
 Grand Recorder **Kenneth G. Hope, (H)PGC**
 Golden West Commandery No. 43
 Grand Standard Bearer ... **Howard W. "Bud" Ramsey**
 San Jose Commandery No. 10
 Grand Sword Bearer **Myron A. Tisdell**
 Redding Commandery No. 50
 Grand Warder **James A. Lark**
 Vacaville Commandery No. 38
 Grand Sentinel **Richard L. Lowdon**
 Vacaville Commandery No. 38
 Organist **John E. Vanderby**
 Golden Gate Commandery No. 16

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE U.S.A.

KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR

William S. Dann Eureka Commandery No. 35

KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE TEMPLE

W. Bruce Pruitt Palo Alto Commandery No. 47

KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE TEMPLE

William F. Stovall Long Beach Commandery No. 40

Elmer B. Curtis Auburn Commandery No. 52

COMPANION OF THE TEMPLE

Lady Micki Forell **Lady Helen McDaniel**

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF CALIFORNIA COMMANDER OF THE YEAR

Sean N. Foran Los Angeles Commandery No. 9

RECORDER OF THE YEAR

Arthur C. Meigs Long Beach Commandery No. 40

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kenneth G. Hope ... Golden West Commandery No. 43

Commandery with the highest percentage increase (12.3)
St. Bernard No. 23

Commandery with the highest increase in the number of
members (25) Los Angeles No. 9

DRILL TEAM COMPETITION

Class "B" Champion

Los Angeles Commandery No. 9969 points

Class "C"

Golden West Commandery No. 43 979 points

California Commandery No. 1964 points

Class "D"

Orange County Commandery No. 36973 points

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2006-1

To clarify changes in Dispensation for Elections. PASSED

**2006 GRAND SESSIONS REPORT
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
GRAND OFFICERS**

Grand Commander **Charles R. Waterman, Jr**
Vacaville Commandery No. 38

Deputy Grand Commander **Paul E. McElwain**
Los Angeles Commandery No. 9

Grand Generalissimo **Gary D. Miller**
Riverside Commandery No. 28

Grand Captain General **William D. Robertson**
Naval Commandery No. 19

Grand Senior Warden **David J. Kussman**
Orange County Commandery No. 36

Grand Junior Warden **Casey W. Norris**

A RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS OF A YOUNG MASTER MASON

*By Rudy Olano, IPM Visalia Council No.43
(From Grand York Rite forum message, Grand
York Rite Web Site)*

Somebody mentioned that it is far easier to ask for answers than knowing the question. Having said that let me say that searching for truth will depend on one's acceptance of the perceived truth. You have asked me questions that seem to seek for the official view of someone of authority in the study of our Craft. Forgive me for avoiding the issue but in my humble opinion, I am not in a position to speak for the rest of the brethren or the Craft as a whole. But if you will allow me to take a portion of the real seekers within the group, I would speculate that each of us is searching for our version of Truth, be it may the Holy Grail, Fountain of Youth, meaning of life, one's own self and, quite possibly, our own Faith.

In the Blue Lodge, we are coached to seek for the Lost Word, as we were made aware of the substitute during the course of events following the Tragedy in the Temple. If the newly raised Master Mason deciphered one of the Mysteries or Lessons in the Blue Lodge and seeks further light in Masonry, in the Royal Arch Degree, he will find the Real Word safely deposited in the faithful breasts of true friends.

Our Mother Lodge also imparted a valuable lesson of adorning great and important undertakings. In the Council of Cryptic Masonry, deep inside the vault of secrecy, an attentive ear will hear the importance of appreciation to the labor expended during the search of that which was lost — the preservation of the Word. Hence, accepting the fact that we lost something valuable is the first step of the search (Blue Lodge), then if one is successful in finding what was Lost (Royal Arch Degree), it is not the end of the search. It is equally important to preserve or keep the object of the search (Cryptic Degrees). Finally, the Order of Knights Templar is about defending one's belief — the squaring of the circle which might or seems to represent the paradox of our existence.

The Lessons or Mysteries of Freemasonry does not end in the Blue Lodge. There is more knowledge and more opportunities beyond the Symbolic degrees. As to the other lessons of the Temple Tragedy, note that not all Fellow Crafts will receive the Word; it is only reserved for those who will be found worthy. Even repentance of wrongdoings will not save transgressors from earning their penalty — it is simply wise to avoid the unsavory and expedient ideas in the first place. Guilty by association — stay away from the bad crowds. Wearing of white gloves and apron has the same effect of washing hands — it is only for show and does not work therefore, no excuse. It is

the internal not the external that matters. In your conclusion of the allegorical message of the Temple Tragedy, the answer will depend on how we see our search through the prism of our individual perception. Is knowing His Name enough to gain admission to His place? Born Again Christians say all we have to do is to believe in Him — Faith not Work. We Masons are taught to keep our apron spotless — Work not Faith. And mind you, we are not religion but we are religious. Knowing the Master's Word will enable craftsman to expect to earn his just wages; however, he still has to work in order to receive the fruits of his labor. The mere possession of the Master's Word is not a ticket to anyone's salvation. Finding what was lost is not the end of the journey. An equally important question to ponder is what we mortals have to do once we find what we are looking for. I am tempted to say that I hope I answered your query but rather I would wish that I provoked you to ask yourself. I am glad to meet a Brother who finds value in asking further questions

The San Bernardino York Rite Building Association

2888 North Arrowhead Avenue,
San Bernardino, California 92405-3805

Is seeking donations for the repair & upgrading of the only 'York Rite' dedicated building in California. Flat roof replacement, carpeting, etc. have placed a burden on the building association.

Any donations to help maintain this property would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

Dennis Ward
(Sec.-Treas. SBYRBA)

Colorado River Fall Festival

October 15/16/17, 2006

Riverside Hotel / Laughlin, NV

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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

Sunday, October 15, 2006

- 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 KYCH - Harbor Rooms 1/2/3
- 8:30 PM Candidate's Orientation (*Public invited*) - Starview Room - **MANDATORY** for candidates

Monday, October 16, 2006

- 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 "Super Excellent Master Degree" - Starview Room
- * Candidates *must be* in assigned seats 10 minutes prior (times may vary)

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

- 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.

(Note - due to the presentation of the "Super Excellent Master Degree" for the men , there will be no "Royal Arch Widow's Degree" put on for the women in 2006, but it will return next year!)

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 the to the Riverside in Laughlin, NV, October 15/16/17, 2006 to be with us at the colorado river fall festival?)

Colorado River Fall Festival Riverside Hotel & Casino, Laughlin, NV October 15/16/17, 2006

For your Hotel Reservation

All reservations/cancellations must be made through CRFF by mail by September 30, 2006
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	\$85.00 single/double	\$ _____ .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 15, 16, 17, 2006 -- Riverside Hotel, Laughlin NV

REQUEST TO CONFER COURTESY WORK

NOTICE: Request must be postmarked not later than September 30, 2006

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 480-897-9555
 2714 West Nopal Circle stankow@worldnet.att.net
 Mesa, AZ 85202

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 September 30, 2006.**
2. Appropriate seals must be embossed in the appropriate spaces.
3. **CANDIDATES MUST ALSO REGISTER FOR MEALS AND LODGING ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, TO THE MOHAVE VALLEY ADDRESS!**
4. You and your Grand Secretary/Recorder will be notified of courtesy work completed.
5. **Any request postmarked AFTER September 30, 2006 will not be honored -- no exceptions.**

GRAND HIGH PRIEST RUSSEL D. ROBERT'S ITINERARY

- 6/3 Downy Chapter Reception - Kermit Rosenthal 562.864.8858
 6/6 50 years Harry T. Hall -
 6/10 CIYRA Reception, Oxnard - Daniel Kaffka, Jr. 805.482.1589
 6/17 Selma Bethel #151 Installation
 6/19 Marin Chapter Reception - Robert Lowry 415.454.4402
 6/22 Grand Bethel Opening Sacramento
 6/23 - 25 Comanche Outdoor Degrees -
 6/30 Van Nuys / Signnet Reception - Don Spencer 818.885.0289
 7/22 San Luis Chapter Ice Cream / BBQ - William Long
 805.544.4314
 7/3-4 Valencia Parade - Richard Cooper 661.259.4350
 7/8 Fidelity Chapter 100 Years - Bruce Carmitchel 805.937.4834
 7/9-20 Roberts Family Vacation - Grand King In-Charge
 7/22 Mason of the Year, Valley of Fresno Scottish Rite
 7/29 Ventura Scottish Rite BBQ - Ojai, Ca

**MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER
ROBERT G. GRAUER'S ITINERARY**

- 6/10 3 way reception. Oxnard York Rite Bodies
 6/16 Visitation. Shasta Council #6
 6/21 Reception: Redwood Empire #46, Sebastopol
 6:00 Social, 6:30 Dinner, 7:30 Reception
 7/2 San Luis Obispo, Ice cream social
 7/24 Newhall, Parade
 7/8 Knights Masons, Vacaville
 7/15 Red Cross of Constantine, Vacaville
 7/22, 23, 24 Quincy Grand Officer's Conference Weekend
 Reception on the 24th
 8/5 3 way reception, Oakland
 3 way Western BBQ. Salinas Masonic Hall
 8/9 (tentative) Pacific Council #37
 9/9 Arthur N. McBain York Rite College
 9/10 Redwood Council #165 AMD
 9/22 3 way reception, Nevada City

GRAND COMMANDER CHARLES WATERMAN'S ITINERARY

- 6/2 Los Angeles Commandery #9 Reception
 6/3 Red Cross Inland Empire Conclave Meeting
 6/6 Naval Commandery #19 Reception
 6/7 Solano Chapter #43 Meeting
 6/8 Pacific #3 Visit
 6/9 Vacaville Commandery #38 Meeting
 6/10 Channel Islands (3 way) Reception
 6/16 Red Bluff Commandery #17 Reception
 6/17 HRAKTP New Covenant #68 Meeting
 6/22 Grand Bethel Meeting
 6/25 National Sojourners Meeting
 6/26 El Dorado Commandery #4 Visit
 7/2 San Luis Obispo Commandery #27 Visit
 7/4 Los Angeles Commandery #9 Parade
 7/8 Knight Masons Connemara Council #39 Meeting
 7/15 Red Cross St. Phillips Conclave Meeting
 8/1 Blue Lodge Vacaville #134 Meeting
 8/5 Alameda (3 way) Reception
 8/6 Palo Alto Bodies 3 Way Picnic
 8/11-16 Grand Encampment Meeting
 8/19 KYCH S.F. PRIORITY Meeting
 8/20 Watsonville #22 (3 way) Reception
 8/24-26 Arizona Grand Sessions Meeting

The Mark Master Mason Degree*(Continued from Page 4)*

assigned to Hiram Abif, but he was struck down before he could present it. It appears that the ruffians who killed our ancient Grand Master caused him to drop his work when he died. You later found that stone and, innocently enough, brought it up for inspection, but you should not have proceeded to receive pay for that which was not yours.

What are the letters on the keystone? (See if the candidates know before you tell them) "Hiram The Widow's Son Sent to King Solomon." This was the Mark of our ancient Grand Master, Hiram Abif.

There is a tremendous amount of activity in the Mark Degree. Indeed, it is probably one of the most "energetic" Degrees in Masonry. The next time you see the Degree, try to place what we have said here in context and see how much more you can get out of it.

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In Memoriam*Lady***Josie Cook***Widow of Most Illustrious Past Grand Master***Laurence C. Cook***Called to her reward May 6, 2006*

Mrs. Cook will lie in state from 10:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m. on Friday, May 12, 2006 at the Montecito Memorial Chapel, located at 24145 Barton Road in Loma Linda, California.

*Services will begin at 1:00 p. m.***The Afterglow**

*I'd like the memory of me
 to be a happy one.
 I'd like to leave an afterglow
 of smiles when life is done.
 I'd like to leave an echo
 whispering softly down the ways,
 Of happy times and laughing times
 and bright and sunny days.
 I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
 to dry before the sun
 Of happy memories that I leave
 When life is done.*

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.

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Long Beach, Ca. 90813

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Long Beach, Ca. 90813

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