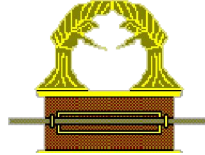


THE WORKMAN



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Richard D. Baskin, GHP

December 2016

Vol. VIII No. 7

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Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

It is hard to believe that the year is coming to an end and I am half way through my year as your Grand High Priest. This year is certainly going faster than I thought it would. Barb and I have been blessed to have the opportunity to serve our Grand Chapter these past six months and meet some truly dedicated Companions and their wives. It may seem strange to say Barb and I have served, but that is in fact the case. In the receptions and festivals I have attended, one of the reoccurring themes in my speeches is the fact that our ladies are a part of what we do. For me, in most of my endeavors, it ends up with Barb and I being a package deal. In other words, you get two for the price of one. Many of us are blessed with a spouse that supports our Masonic activities and understands that when we aren't home on time or out of the house maybe one too many nights in a row we are doing something that helps us to be better husbands and fathers.

In last month's article I told you about an upcoming School of Instruction that would take place in Bellflower. The Companions in Bellflower were very generous in letting us use their facilities and provided great refreshments. Our Grand Lecturer enlisted the support of Excellent Companion David Rathgeber to help with the school and the two of them did an outstanding job. The main focus of the day was ritual, getting back to basics and doing it

right. In addition, as they worked us through the ritual they explained reasons behind what we do, who the individuals are in our ritual and how they related to one another. It was enlightening to say the least.

I was only able to stay for half of the school because we had a six-way Gathering in Victorville that afternoon, but I was very much encouraged by what I saw. To confirm my take on the School of Instruction several Companions that attend the school were able to make it to Victorville and before we left for the evening they told me how much they enjoyed the information presented by EC David and MEC Steve. Companions, knowing the ritual is necessary for us as Royal Arch Masons, but understanding it makes it come alive.

We have two more schools scheduled for March 25th in Hanford and April 1st in Woodland. I highly encourage you to come.

Our Royal Arch Captain, Ray Broomfield has an article in this issue of the Workman on the Gathering I mentioned earlier, including pictures of the event. In addition to the Prince Hall attendees mentioned in Ray's article, the Grand York Rite Bodies of California were represented by Rick Baskin for Grand Royal Arch, Bill Price for Grand Cryptic Masons, and Steve Alderete for Grand Commandery. This was a historic event with all six Grand York Rite Leaders from California in attendance. From the comments I received, the Companions, Sir Knights, and their Ladies had a great time. Hopefully, we can do this again.

Companions, as Masons we are notoriously late on doing things, such as reservations, but this month I recommend moving shopping to the top of your list. By the time you get this, you will have approximately 20 shopping days until Christmas. Use your time wisely.

Barb and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

**Richard D. Baskin, KYGCH
162nd Grand High Priest**

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

The next Triennium will be held in Portland on August 23 through August 30th next year. General Grand Chapter will be held on Tuesday August 29th, with General Grand Council meeting on Monday the 28th. You should put these dates on your calendar now, and plan to register before July 26th, 2017 to get the best rates. Hotel RSVPs are due July 31st, 2017.

This meeting is open to all Companions. This may be the closest the Triennial will be to California in at least 9 years, so give

attendance next year your serious consideration. In addition to the meetings, there are numerous other activities planned, and services available, that you may want to avail yourself of. See the 2-page flyer at the end of this newsletter.

FROM THE GRAND LECTURER

Companions All,

We had a very productive School of Instruction (SOI) at the Bellflower Masonic Temple on Saturday, 19 November, many

thanks to Companion Honesto Castaneda, King, EC David Williams, Scribe, and MEC Ken Hope, Secretary, for being there to make certain that the day went well and most certainly to EC/MIC Brett MacDonald, High Priest, for allowing us to use the Bellflower Temple under their Chapter name (Triple Tau #33) for this event. I want to publicly thank EC David Rathgeber, Southern Region DGL, for his most valuable knowledge and assistance and our Grand High Priest, Rick Baskin, for making it a priority in his busy schedule to be there for this event! We had over 34 Companions despite numerous Masonic conflicts including almost all of the Southern Region Inspectors, the Grand Royal Arch Captain, Ray Broomfield, and several Grand Chapter Officers in attendance as well! With all of this brass in the audience, one would probably naturally conclude that nothing much of importance happened at this SOI! Such, however, was Not the case! The Companions in attendance, who were for the most part Not dais officers, jumped in and took on roles that they were not accustomed to doing for the sake of more light in Capitular Masonry! As a result, the day went quickly with many discussions of "why" we do the things that we do in our ritual and "why" some things that we do could use a critical review in light of connecting our esoteric work to a philosophical viewpoint that can be explained to All Capitular Masons (both new and 'seasoned') in California! To understand what I am referring to, please attend one of our two remaining SOI's in the Central Region on Saturday, 25 March at Hanford Temple or in the Northern Region on Saturday, 1 April at Woodland Lodge and learn for yourself! All of these SOI's will start at 9 am (8 am for coffee and pastries) and end promptly at 3 pm! Oh, and bring your ritual book because these SOI's are Not a test of your ritual knowledge; but rather a vehicle for us to review and better

understand the ceremonies of Capitular Masonry without the stress of "performance" together! The Grand High Priest will even buy your lunch for attending! How can you beat a deal like that? A Free lunch and More Masonic light in one package deal? I look forward to seeing all of you at one or the other SOI! Until then, Happy Holidays and Best Regards to All. "Holiness to the Lord"!

Steve Goad, Your most humble Grand Lecturer

NABUCCO

An Opera by Verdi about Nebuchadnezzar is being offered **Live in HD** by the Metropolitan Opera on January 7, 2017, at 9:55 am PST. Nebuchadnezzar is played by Placido Domingo. To view this performance, you need only go to your local theater. It is played in over a thousand theaters nationwide simultaneously. You will of course notice the connection to our Royal Arch Degree, and will enjoy the music immensely – especially the Chorus of Hebrew Slaves “Va Pensiero.” In fact, creative Chapters ought to consider playing this Chorus mid-way through the Royal Arch conferral! To listen to ‘Va Pensiero,’ go to the following YouTube site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2F4G5H_TTvU.

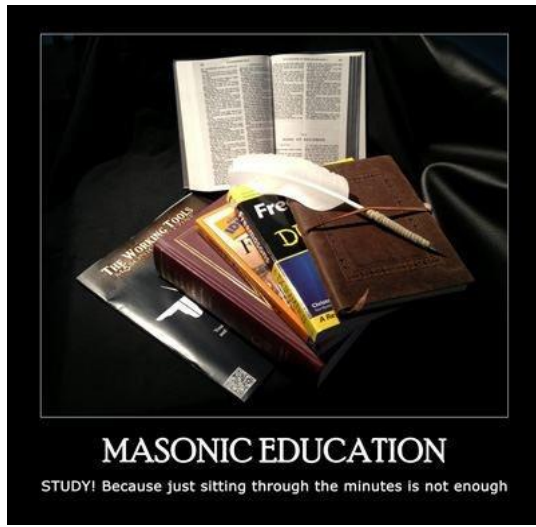
For a synopsis of the performance on January 7th, go to the following Met site: <http://www.metopera.org/Season/In-Cinemas/SynopsisCast/Nabucco/>

THE MAGIC FLUTE

Speaking of Opera, the Magic Flute, Mozart’s most famous “Masonic” Opera, will be shown Live in HD, in your local theater,

on Saturday, December 3rd, at 9:55am. That's in just a few days, so take a few hours away from Christmas shopping and take in some marvelous music.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER



On Saturday, October 29, 2016, The Golden State Chapter of Research of the Holy Royal Arch convened for the biannual meeting held during Grand Lodge in San Francisco. The meeting was called to order by EC Joseph Dongo, acting as High Priest and opened in ample form by REC Steve Goad, Grand Lecturer.

One new member was voted in to membership in the Research Chapter, and another submitted his petition after the meeting was closed. A variety of topics were discussed at this meeting. In particular, a Mission Statement as follows was unanimously agreed upon: *The mission of the Golden State Research Chapter is to stimulate interest among Royal Arch Masons by expanding their knowledge of Royal Arch Masonry through research leading to the publication of educational materials that expand the understanding of Royal Arch*

Masons in their history, traditions, and symbolism

In addition, MEC Phil Hardiman raised a discussion topic in the hope that Research Chapter members might engage in a digital dialogue over the course of the next 6 months, dealing with the proposition that: In the context of modern Masonry, Speculative Masonry arose independently of Operative Lodges and/or medieval Guilds. His interest in this topic was kindled by a book called *The Genesis of Freemasonry*, by David Harrison, purchased the day before at the Southern California Research Lodge booth. Any Companion interested in commenting on this topic should do so by sending those comments to the editor at philipandnancy@aol.com.

Information describing why this Chapter was formed is available at WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG.

The next meeting for our Research Chapter will be held in Bakersfield during the York Rite Grand Sessions in May. All Companions are invited and encouraged to attend.

I encourage all Royal Arch Companions to join the Golden State Chapter of Research in order to receive further light in our beautiful Capitular Degrees. Our website address is www.goldenstatechapter.org, where we post many papers and newsletters. This is also where you will find an application of affiliation to the Chapter. To become a member of the Research Chapter candidates must submit an application form and a \$10.00 fee. There are no annual dues in the Research Chapter. Our flagship publication is publishing the Grand Orations of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and the Vespers Service of the Grand Commandery.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

For info about Scholarships, go to the following website:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/rara.html>

The Masonic Family has a large number of scholarships available to our youth, but how many of those in need of assistance really "KNOW" they are available?

California Royal Arch \$1,000 Scholarship requirements:

A member of the Masonic Family (ie: Rainbow, Jobs Daughter or Demolay)

A US Citizen

A California Resident

A 3.0 Grade Point Average

Enrolled or Accepted at an Educational Institution

Deadline to apply for the 2017 Scholarship Program will be published in Jan 2017. Scholarship requirements will remain the same. Early submissions can be forwarded to the Office of the Grand Chapter Secretary at

Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons
Attn: Grand Secretary
11428 East Artesia Blvd. – Suite 13
Artesia, CA 90701-3872
Telephone: (562) 924-6500
E-mail: FDB.Scholarship@gmail.com

Once chosen, the award of \$1,000 is renewable for a total of 4 years, as long as the requirements are maintained.

Do you know a Rainbow Girl, Job's Daughter or DeMolay that could benefit by knowing this information? What are you waiting for - make that call!

Recipients have been chosen and five scholarships will be issued by the end of 2016!



THE CLOTHES LINE

A line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies continues to be available at MP. ENTERPRISES. 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 Max Luy at **(510) 502-3224**; or at his website: www.mpenterprises.weebly.com; or directly to his email at maxluy@hotmail.com.

ENCOMPASSER

The **October 2016** edition of the Encompasser has now been published. It can be found at http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/encompasser_issues.html OR. Go to <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and

click on The Encompasser on the left of the top toolbar.

THE RIFLE RAFFLE

The Henry Repeating Arms Company has donated one of their Golden Boy Freemason Tribute Edition rifles to each Grand Commandery in the United States. See the flyer on page 11 below. Here in California, the Grand Commandery is holding a raffle with 100% of the proceeds to go to the Educational Foundation, which could generate as much as \$50,000 for scholarship purposes. Please note that such a raffle is permitted under terms of Section 1200.050 of the California Masonic code. See Grand Commandery line officers or Inspectors to find out how to purchase tickets for this worthy educational cause.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR **DEC 2016 – MAY 2017**

Date	Event	Location
Dec 1	Red Cross	San Diego
Dec 4	AMD Ikopah	San Diego
Dec 6	Stated Mtg # 626	Chula Vista
Dec 7	Scottish Rite	San Diego
Dec 8	Triangle Chapter Installation	Escondido
Dec 13	Commandery Installation	San Diego
Dec 25	CHRISTMAS	Everywhere
Dec 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE	U. S. A.
Jan 1	NEW YEAR's Day	U. S. A.
Jan 3	Chula Vista #626	Chula Vista
Jan 4	Scottish Rite	San Diego
Jan 5	Red Cross	San Diego
Jan 8	YR College Degree	San Diego
Jan 9	Lux Lodge Installation	San Diego
Jan 11	Scottish Rite Installation	San Diego
Jan 12	Signet Chapter Installatiion	Van Nuys

Jan 16	MLK Birthday	U.S.A.
Jan 26	San Diego #61 Chapter Meeting	San Diego
Jan 28	SRICF Meeting	San Diego
Feb 1	Scottish Rite	San Diego
Feb 2	Red Cross	San Diego
Feb 7	Chula Vista #626	Chula Vista
Feb 11	3-Way Reception	San Diego
Feb 14	Commandery Meeting	San Diego
Feb 20	Presidents' Day	U.S.A.
Feb 25	Chapter #61	San Diego
Mar 1	Scottish Rite	San Diego
Mar 2	Red Cross	San Diego
Mar 4	KYCH	San Diego
Mar 7	Lodge #626	Chula Vista
Mar 10-12	Grand York Rite Officers Conference	Bakersfield
Mar 14	Commandeery	San Diego
Mar 23	Chapter #61	San Diego
Mar 25	Grand Lecturer OSI	Hanford
Apr 1	Grand Lecturer OSI	Woodland
Apr 1	Lodge #626	Chula Vista
Apr 5	Scottish Rite	San Diego
Apr 6	Red Cross	San Diego
Apr 6-9	New Mexico Grand York Rite	New Mexico
Apr 11	Commandery Meeting	San Diego
Apr 16	EASTER: Relighting the Lights Ceremony	San Diego
Apr 26	Masonic Information Night, Scottish Rite	San Diego
Apr 27	Chapter #61	San Diego
Apr 29	SRICF	San Diego
May 2	Lodge #626	Chula Vista
May 3	Scottish Rite	San Diego
May 4	Red Cross	San Diego
May 9	Commandery	San Diego
May 19-24	Grand York Rite Sessions	Bakersfield
May 19-20	Scottish Rite Spring Re-union	San Diego
May 25	Chapter #61	San Diego

If you would like to attend any of these events and need to know particulars about where and when and cost, please call any of the contact numbers below

GRAND CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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WWW.YORKRITEOFCALIFORNIA.ORG

GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH

Website:

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES

Website:

WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG

Attention Royal Arch Masons in California!

HELP YOUR BROTHER “MAKE HIS MARK”!!!



To introduce Master Masons to the Degrees of the Chapter, our Grand Chapter has authorized the conferral of the Mark Master Degree to interested Brethren without fee.

A petition to the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is still required, to take advantage of this opportunity.

“Keystone Classes” are being planned for this program now, for group conferrals of the Mark Master Degree throughout the state in the Fall of 2015.

This is where **YOU** come in. Please talk with that Brother you would like to recommend to your Chapter, and tell him of this opportunity to “sample” the further degrees of the York Rite. To help you explain this opportunity to your Lodge Brethren, the following new materials are available to you:

- A new Petition for this introductory Mark Master Degree.
- A brochure inviting a Brother to explore the Chapter Degrees.

You can print these new materials from the Grand Chapter website, at <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/royalarch.htm> Or you can ask any Chapter Secretary, District Inspector, or Grand Chapter Officer for copies of these new materials.

Be sure to explain the advantages of this opportunity to your Lodge Brothers:

- The Mark Master Degree expands and extends the Craft Degrees, shedding further Light on what it means to be a Mason.
- Further Degrees in the Chapter are entirely optional.
- This is an opportunity to share Masonic fellowship with members of other Lodges in the local community.
- No proof of proficiency is required to advance in Degrees.

-- Companions, please talk with your Blue Lodge Brethren today!! --

HENRY GOLDEN BOY FREEMASON TRIBUTE EDITION

Unique To America's Most Enduring Fraternal Order



Wall display case included

**Grand Commandery Knights Templar
Educational Foundation**

Grand Prize: Rifle or \$1,000

Winner need not be present. Transfer will be through licensed firearm dealer of winners choice. All transfer fees to be paid by winner.

Tickets \$10 each 5 for \$40 - Drawing 5-21-17

Checks payable to CA Grand Commandery - memo: EDU FUND
Additional tickets available from: CAKTRIFLE@gmail.com
11428 E Artesia Blvd #13, Artesia, CA 90701

**General Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
International
70th Triennial
Convocation**



**General Grand Council
Cryptic Masons
International
46th Triennial
Assembly**

REGISTRATION FORM

**Triennial Sessions will be held in Portland, Oregon
Wednesday, August 23, through Wednesday, August 30, 2017**

Registration received prior to July 26, 2017: \$175

Registration received after July 26, 2017: \$250

Registration fees are for members only (no fees for our Ladies)

Hotel reservations must be made by July 31, 2017 to receive the discounted rate

Name: _____ **Lady's Name (if attending):** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip:** _____ **Email:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Current Masonic Title: _____

General Grand Chapter Office: _____

Grand Chapter Office: _____ **State:** _____

General Grand Council Office: _____

Grand Council Office: _____ **State:** _____

Arrival Date: _____ **Time:** _____ **Departure Date:** _____ **Time:** _____

Travel by: Air (airline/flight number/arrival time): _____

Auto:

Other mode of transportation: _____

**Red Lion on the River
909 North Hayden Island Drive
Portland, OR 97271
503-978-4513**

ROOM RATES/AVAILABILITY NOT GUARANTEED AFTER JULY 31, 2017
Room reservations must be made by July 31, 2017 to receive the
discounted rate of U.S. \$122 + tax for single or double occupancy
Ask for the special "York Rite Triennial"
rate when making reservations

Date/Registration	Event	Number	Rate (USD)	Line Total
Registration Fee	Companions only (there is no registration fee for Ladies)			
	Companions PRIOR to July 26, 2017		\$ 175	
	Companions AFTER to July 26, 2017		\$ 250	
TOUR REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JULY 26, 2017, FOR ALL TOURS				
Thursday, August 24	Portland Microbrewery Tour (6-10 p.m.)		\$ 75	\$ 0.00
Friday, August 25	Northern Oregon Coast Tour		\$ 100	\$ 0.00
Saturday, August 26	Columbia River Gorge Tour		\$ 65	\$ 0.00
Saturday, August 26	Dinner - Table Lodge with the Ladies (Herb Roasted Chicken Pecata)		\$ 45	\$ 0.00
Sunday, August 27	Dinner - Western Barbeque		\$ 40	\$ 0.00
Monday, August 28	Council Ladies Luncheon - Roasted Chicken Parmesan		\$ 30	\$ 0.00
Monday, August 28	Council Men's Luncheon - Roasted Chicken Parmesan		\$ 30	\$ 0.00
Monday, August 28	Triennial Banquet - Mesquite Honey Glazed Salmon		\$ 50	\$ 0.00
Monday, August 28	Triennial Banquet - Ribeye		\$ 50	\$ 0.00
Tuesday, August 29	Chapter Ladies Luncheon - Roasted Pork Loin		\$ 30	\$ 0.00
Tuesday, August 29	Chapter Men's Luncheon - Roasted Pork Loin		\$ 30	\$ 0.00
PLEASE LIST DIETARY RESTRICTIONS HERE:				
TOTAL DUE (U.S.D.)	Make checks payable to "70th Triennial Convocation"			\$ 0.00

Please ensure that your payment is in U.S. Dollars
 Complete and print two copies of this form.
 Keep one form for your records and mail the other to:
 Jerry E Whitney, Registrar
 231 S Normandy Blvd
 Burien WA 98148-1709
 Phone: 206-241-7510; Email: j.whitney@comcast.net
Make checks payable to "70th Triennial Convocation"