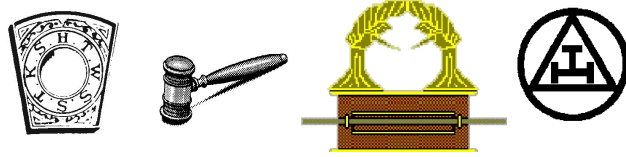


THE WORKMAN



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Steven R. Goad, GHP

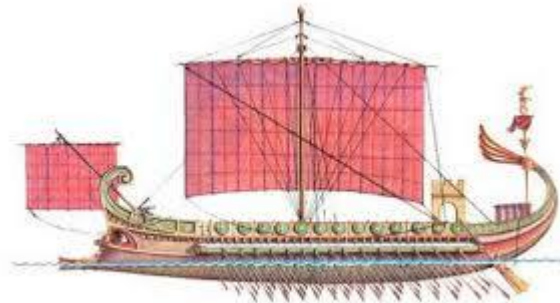
March 2016

Vol. VII No. 10

GHP MESSAGE:	1	CONTACT INFORMATION	5
RITUAL RESOLUTIONS	3	MAKE YOUR MARK!	6
GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS	3	GRAND SESSIONS REG DOC	7
OPERATIONS & TRAINING MANUAL	3	BROCHURE AD FORM	8
RECEPTIONS, FESTIVALS & DEGREES	4	ELECTED REP & PROXY FORMS	9
THE CLOTHES LINE	4	STAR AND COMPASS TRAVEL	10
THE ENCOMPASSER	4	MARK MASTER RESOLUTION	11 – 13
GRAND HIGH PRIEST’S CALENDAR	4	PAST MASTER RESOLUTION	14 - 17
		MEM RESOLUTION	18 – 20
		RAM RESOLUTION	21 – 23

Grand High Priest’s Message

Companions All: Happy Vernal Equinox and therefore let Spring be upon us!



This Phoenician Warship represents the safest and most efficient mode of transportation in the time of our ancient Grand Masters. We have already discussed the relevance of these “Sea Peoples” that dominated the eastern Mediterranean and its coastline (including Joppa) during this time and were no doubt the favored mode of transportation for Master Masons desirous of working and receiving wages in foreign countries in ancient times. The terms of gaining a passage unto Ethiopia

are speculative; but I can guess that King Solomon must have had some influence or agreement with the Phoenicians on who could leave his kingdom and under what price?

I will leave this symbology and turn again to a discussion of the relevance of our Fraternity in modern times. Our Masonic Lodges provide us with a set of rules to conduct discourse and a place in which to do so according to our obligations and the expectations of a civil society of friends and brothers. But what of those brothers who have served their Lodges faithfully through many years of service and have been rewarded at last with the honor of being named “Past Masters”? It is well known by today’s Grand Lodge of CA standards that most of these distinguished brothers can confer the degrees of Masonry from memory and in many cases with great skill and passion to further pass on the light of Freemasonry to our less knowledgeable brethren. As the passage of time demands that we qualify new and younger Masters of Lodges in order to ensure the future of our great fraternity; so we must consider what those Past Masters can offer us to keep them engaged and contributing to our honored fraternity while they are still physically and mentally able to do so? I firmly believe that this is one of the compelling reasons for the existence of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons! More light in Masonry kept and conferred by our most qualified and experienced Master Masons, the Past Masters! This is the most compelling reason I know of why we have kept our ancient tradition of conferring the Royal Arch Degree ONLY on Past Masters!

The idea of a “virtual” Past Master has been adopted to provide the time to keep our Chapters functioning while we are producing and convincing our Actual Past Masters to continue to serve the fraternity by learning more light in Masonry and passing it on as well to our younger officers in the Lodge. This idea leads us to two startling and possibly controversial conclusions; one, that a Chapter exists primarily to provide further light in Masonry to those Blue Lodge Officers that are located in their geographical area; and two, that if our local Chapters are *not* conferring our Royal Arch degrees on Officers of Blue Lodges intent on becoming actual Past Masters, then they have no compelling reason for existence! Note that if there are 10 officers of a Royal Arch Chapter present (including the Secretary), that Chapter could confer ALL of the degrees of Freemasonry from EA to RA inclusively! What a great comfort it would be to a local Blue Lodge challenged to find qualified officers to confer the three degrees of Masonry on a progressing candidate to know that a local Chapter of Royal Arch Masons comprised of officers that either already have or are dedicated to becoming capable of conferring all the degrees of Freemasonry is located in their back yard, ready, willing and able to help them! Let us seek to remove the scales of doubt and darkness from our own eyes and let the light of our knowledge and skills cultivated over many years of learning and practice shine on those less informed around us for their benefit and our demonstrated usefulness to the generations coming after us! It is our primary reason for existence as Royal Arch Masons and rewards us with the pride and joy of being a contributing part of our Great Fraternity! May our light shine ever more brightly on who we Really are!

This month, as we continue into this Capitular year, I want to thank all of the Royal Arch Masons who attended gatherings with us in February at the Al Malukah Potentate’s Ball, the 3-Way reception in Long Beach, and the Southern California Past Master’s Association meeting in Pasadena. Many thanks to all the Companions present who, as expected, made these events truly special!

March marks the serious beginning of preparing for the next Grand Capitular year for the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California! Right Excellent Companion Rick Baskin is working hard to prepare for next year! Please say, Yes! When he or his officers approach you to serve us next year! Our annual Grand Chapter Officer’s meeting is coming up on 12 March in Bakersfield and we will be deciding on the awards to be presented at Grand Chapter Sessions in May. We will also be at Royal Arch Degree Conferrals in Van Nuys on the 19th and in Orange County

on the 22nd and in Kernville on the 29th. I am also looking forward to the Masonic Service Bureau breakfast on the 6th of March, an Official Visit to San Gabriel Chapter on 9 March and a 3-Way reception in Stockton on the 26th.

Finally, please take a moment Now to download the registration form from our website and sign up for our Grand York Rite Sessions starting on May 23rd at the Bakersfield DoubleTree Hotel! Or, use the copy of the Reg form at the end of this newsletter – and while you're at it, have your chapter take out an Ad in the Souvenir Brochure, to help finance the activities at the Grand Sessions. The room block is open now and it should be a fun session because Royal Arch is first up! Until next time - Glow Ultimately the Brightest Red!

STEVEN R. GOAD
161st Grand High Priest

RITUAL RESOLUTIONS

At least four resolutions will be presented this year for consideration by members of Grand Chapter, effecting and attempting to improve our four degrees. At the back of this newsletter you will find copies of all four. Please consider them carefully in the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry. They will be discussed by the Executive Committee at the meeting on March 12th, so please send any comments that you may have, positive or negative, to our Grand Lecturer at philipandnancy@aol.com by March 10th. We have already received some input, and yours is important as the Committee deliberates on the advisability of each change. The introduction to each Resolution explains the reasons for the proposals.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

For info about Scholarships, go to the following website:

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

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 11428 E. Artesia Blvd, #13, Artesia, CA 90701-3872

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.

OPERATIONS & TRAINING MANUAL

For decades, we have all clamored for a single document that gives us what we need to effectively run our organizations. General Grand Chapter has now produced the Manual which meets this need for Chapters – and each Chapter should acquire at least one copy for use by its Dais Officers. Councils and Commanderies can benefit from this production as well. Although it is oriented to the Chapter needs, and contains some info specific to the capitular ritual, it does contain the following chapters, which will be found to be useful by all bodies:

- A. The Art and Science of Leadership
- B. Officer Selection & Development
- C. Protocols and Governance
- D. Membership Management
- E. Presentation and Education
- F. Dues, Fees and Budgets
- G. Communications and Public Relations
- H. Strategic Planning and Development

This new Manual is well worth the cost of \$25.00. It can be ordered from the General Grand Chapter as follows:

By writing to General Grand Chapter RAM, PO Box 128, Greenfield, IN 46140; or via email at: ramintl@sbcglobal.net

INFORMATION ON RECEPTIONS, FESTIVALS & DEGREES

At the very end of this Newsletter you will find copies of flyers for some of the remaining activities throughout the year – some, but not all, Receptions as well as Degree conferrals, whether individual or part of a Festival. For other events not included here, refer to the Grand High Priest Calendar summarized below, or with full details, at the Grand York Rite website.



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 **January 2016** edition of the Encompasser has been mailed and is now on the website. Go to <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left hand toolbar. The April 2016 edition will be out soon. **You can help us control cost by letting us know you are willing to take the Encompasser by email only.**

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR
MAR 2016 – MAY 2016

Date	Event	Location
Mar 4	Bakersfield Commandery No. 39 Installation	Bakersfield
Mar 5	Sierra-Pacific KYCH No. 71 Priory Meeting	Bakersfield
Mar 6	MSB Breakfast	LAX Hilton
Mar 9	OV – San Gabriel Chapter No. 100	Rosemead

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!! --



2016 GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS Souvenir Ad Program Order Form

Company Name or Organization _____

Contact Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address City, State Zip _____

What do You Want Your Ad to Say?

Camera ready ad material is preferred (Black and White or Gray scale only). We can assist you in creating your ad. Provide on a separate page, the exact wording of your ad. Submit logos, pictures (original B&W or Gray scale only—no color or “scanned pics”) or business cards that are to be used in the ad on an accompanying sheet.

Payment must accompany Ad request, **payable to “Grand York Rite of CA”** or we will invoice you via PayPal to use your credit card.

DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING AD REQUESTS: 4/10/16

Send Ad and Payment to
CA-GYRS PO Box 402 Penryn, CA 95663-0402

Questions – contact: Casey Latham, Ad Chairman
Email: ads@ca-gyrs.org

Please enter quantity:

___ Full Page @ \$160.00 each

___ Half Page @ \$85.00 each

___ Quarter Page @ \$45.00 each

___ Eighth Page @ \$25.00 each

___ Business Card @ \$25.00 each

___ Name on Name Page (list below)
@ \$5.00 each

Total Amount _____

Check # _____ or Invoice me via
PayPal

Names for the Name Page (at \$5 each)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE CREDENTIAL

_____ Chapter No. __

This is to certify that at the Stated Special (check one) Convocation of the above named Chapter, held on the ___ day of _____ A.D. ____, Companion _____ was elected a representative to the Grand Chapter Convocation in the city of _____, California. He is a member in good standing of said Chapter.

The representative has been informed that this Credential must be presented to the Grand Chapter Committee on Credentials at the time of registration.

High Priest _____ / /
(Signature) (Date)
Attest:
Secretary: _____ / /
(Signature) (Date)

R.A. Form No. SM-6.1 (1999)

PROXY TO GRAND CHAPTER

_____ Chapter No. __

I, _____, duly elected and installed as High Priest, King or Scribe of above named Chapter, do hereby appoint Companion _____ as Proxy for my office at the Grand Convocation in the city of _____, California. He is a member in good standing of said Chapter.

Said member has been informed that this Credential must be presented to the Grand Chapter Committee on Credentials at the time of registration.

(Chapter Seal) Dais Officer _____
(Signature)
Attest:
Secretary: _____ / /
(Signature) (Date)

Would you like to arrange a trip for your
Chapter, Council, or
Commandery?

Talk to **STAR & COMPASS TRAVEL**
We can do it all for you.

Here's what we do:

- Help with trip selection
- Consult and advise on possible itineraries
- Do all necessary research on desired destinations
- Make all travel arrangements
- Market the trip
- Handle all bookings
- Answer all questions
- Take care of billings and payments
- Deliver travel documents
- Escort you on your trip
- Deal with tour/cruise/hotel personnel
- Handle all issues that may arise

We at Star & Compass are a Masonic family, and work almost exclusively with the Family of Freemasonry.



**STAR & COMPASS
TRAVEL**

cst #2081830-40

Randy Downey
Co-Owner / Travel Consultant
1084 Windsor St.
San Jose, CA 95129
(408) 674-8341
randy@starandcompass.com

Visit our website: www.starandcompass.com

Star & Compass Travel is the name you can trust

See us for all your individual travel needs as well

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RITUAL
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A proposal to amend the Mark Master degree, pages 14, 20, 33, 45 and 48

For consistency in the giving of direction by Marshall to the Craftsmen to repair to the apartment of the SW for wages (on pages 14 and 47), the following change will eliminate the movement of craftsmen prior to the giving of the direction:

27 ~~JW- *** Craftsmen, you will assemble and repair to~~
28 ~~the apartment of the Senior Warden to receive your~~
29 ~~wages.~~ **Brother Marshal (gives due guard) you will assemble**
the craftsmen for the purpose of repairing to the apartment of
the Senior Warden to receive their wages.

30 **MAR - (Whose station is in the north, takes two steps in**
31 **front of station.) Craftsmen, you will form in procession on**
32 **the north side of the lodge, single file, facing the**
33 **east.**

WHEREAS the candidate is caused to present work for inspection a second time in order to demonstrate that he has learned what constitutes “good work;” and

WHEREAS it is unclear that only the exemplar returns again to the overseers; and

WHEREAS the SD is instructed to advance toward the CND as soon as the CND stomps for inspection, when he should advance after the interrogation by the MO;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 20 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows for clarification:

20 **JW - *** Craftsmen, you will return to the quarries**
21 **and resume your labors. (Seats the lodge as CND**
22 **pass between the pillars. * If more than one CND, all**
23 **must now retire. JD meets SD just east of pillars. SD**
24 **hands stone to JD and returns to his station. JD retires**
25 **with CNDs and explains to them what to do—namely, that**
CNDs go to seats, except the exemplar, who presents himself
alone to the JO, SO and MO. All CNDs
26 **then return together without alarm, only the ~~first one exemplar~~**
presents himself, alone,
27 **with “good work,” to be presented to the Overseers as**

28 ~~before directed~~ and which pass~~es~~ inspection in due form.)
29 SD - (*Advances toward CND as soon as he stomps after the*
interrogation at
30 *MO's station, then takes charge of CND and*
31 *approaches east. Steps back 1 step, gives due guard.*)

Whereas the presentation of the "Penny" to the candidate would be more impressive if done at the altar as part of the obligation process, this change moves that ritual from later in the Degree, when the RWM recapsitulates the signs, to page 33 at line 1, just prior to the elevation of the candidate from a square to a perpendicular:

1 **necessaries of life. My brother, you will recall that when you thrust your right hand through the lattice window at the apartment of the Senior Warden, when applying for wages, you were accused of being an imposter. This was because you failed to exhibit your mark at that time, which is a necessary procedure and requirement when craftsmen apply for wages. (RWM descends to floor.) In order for you to avoid this embarrassment in the future, I now present to you this token bearing the mark of the Grand Master HA which you may use until such time as you have selected and recorded your own mark.**

Correspondingly, the same ritual will be deleted from page 45, line 21-32:

~~21 My brother, you will recall that when you thrust~~
~~22 your right hand through the lattice window at the~~
~~23 apartment of the Senior Warden, when applying for~~
~~24 wages, you were accused of being an imposter. This~~
~~25 was because you failed to exhibit your mark at that~~
~~26 time, which is a necessary procedure and~~
~~27 requirement when craftsmen apply for wages.~~
~~28 (RWM descends to floor.) In order for you to avoid~~
~~29 this embarrassment in the future, I now present to~~
~~30 you this token bearing the mark of the Grand~~
~~31 Master HA which you may use until such time as~~
~~32 you have selected and recorded your own mark.~~

WHEREAS the Marshall's recitation on page 48 is frequently omitted, and

WHEREAS making it optional to be read from a scroll by the Chaplain or a competent sideliner might cause it to be delivered more frequently,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 48 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows:

³ *(The following verses may be omitted or recited by*
⁴ *MAR, or read from a scroll by the Chaplain or a competent*
sideliner during procession.):

SUBMITTED BY RITUAL STAFF

Date: _____

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RITUAL
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A proposal to amend the Past Master degree, pages 59-60, and 66

WHEREAS this degree is not consistent with the Mark Master and Most Excellent Master Degrees, which require the candidate or exemplar to advance to the Altar by an appropriate number of steps; and

WHEREAS this degree is not entirely effective in teaching the candidate(s) the importance of learning to govern themselves before attempting to govern others; and

WHEREAS this degree would be more impressive if suitable content were added; and

WHEREAS the importance of the Wardens to the conduct and governance of a Blue Lodge would be emphasized by giving them a role in presenting important content in this Degree;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 59-60 and page 66 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows:

SD - *(Goes to altar, gives 1 sign, and retires to anteroom.*

2 The CND is clothed as a Mark Master without

3 hoodwink or cable tow. Takes CND by the right arm

4 and enters without alarm from anteroom. Conducts

*5 CND to **a position 5 steps West of** the altar and takes 1 step to rear, gives sign.)*

6 Right Worshipful Master, I have the pleasure of

7 presenting to you, Brother A B who has taken all

8 the degrees of Masonry from Entered Apprentice to

9 Mark Master inclusive, and now prays to be

10 inducted into the Oriental Chair of King Solomon,

11 having been duly elected to that distinguished

12 honor.

13 RWM – Brother SD, you will teach the CND to approach the altar in a proper manner.

SD -- Brother A B, you will approach the east with five steps; first, as an Entered Apprentice Mason (done) second, as a Fellowcraft, (done) third as a Master Mason, (done) fourth as a Mark Master Mason, (done). Advance your right foot,

bringing the heel of the right to the heel of the left, toes turned out equally, the feet forming a right angle. (After the SD instructs the CND, the RWM continues:)

RWM -- My brother, permit me to congratulate you upon being elected to this honorable position; but before you can be installed, it is necessary that you take a solemn obligation appertaining to this degree, which contains nothing that will conflict with the duty you owe to God, your country, your family or yourself. With this assurance, do you wish to proceed?

CND - I do.

RWM - You will kneel at the altar on both knees; place both hands upon the Holy Bible, square and compasses. (Done. * RWM goes to front of altar, same as in Mark Master.) You will say "I", (brethren fold arms) pronounce your name in full, and repeat after me:**

I, A B, of my own free will and accord, in the presence of Almighty God and this Worshipful Past Masters Lodge, erected to God and dedicated to the memory of the Holy Saints John, do hereby and hereon sincerely promise and solemnly swear that I will not reveal the secrets of this degree to a

-59-

brother of a preceding degree nor to any person in the world except it be within a legally constituted and duly opened Past Masters Lodge or to a brother of this degree whom I shall have found to be such by due trial, strict examination, or legal information.

Furthermore, that I will not open or close this or any other Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, over which I may be called to preside, without giving a lecture, or part of a lecture, or causing the

11 **same to be done.**

12 **Furthermore, that I will not rule this or any**
13 **other Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, over**
14 **which I may be called to preside, in an arbitrary or**
15 **unconstitutional manner, but will govern the same**
16 **according to the ancient customs, usages and**
17 **landmarks of the craft.**

18 **All this I sincerely promise and swear, without**
19 **the least hesitation, equivocation, or mental**
20 **reservation, binding myself under no less a penalty**
21 **than that % hvg m tn sl fm tp t- rt, tgthr wth t**
22 **inflcn % pntls % predg dgs, should I violate this,**
23 **my solemn obligation as a PastMaster. So help me**
24 **God and keep me steadfast!**

25 **RWM - In token of your sincerity, you will kiss**
26 **(brethren unfold arms) the Holy Bible now open**
27 **before you. (RWM takes several steps back.)**

28 **RWM - You now behold me approaching you from**
29 **the east with the step (takes step with left foot) due**
30 **guard (given) and penal sign (gives sign) of a Past**
31 **Master. The d-g I gvn wth t rt hd. Cls t fngs & plc**
32 **t pnt%t thmb, xtnd vrtcly, at the cntr%t lps; thn**
33 **drw it dwrld & bkwd t- t tht. (Done.) It alludes to**

-60-

INSERT THE FOLLOWING IN FRONT OF THE CLOSING CEREMONY (PAGE 66):

SW – (Approaches Altar and recites or reads from a scroll:) Freemasonry would take all men by the hand and, leading them to its Altar, would point to the open Bible and urge each to faithfully direct his steps through life by the Light he shall find therein. If from our sacred Altar the atheist or irreligious man should ever wrest this Book and thus remove, or even obscure, the great Light of Freemasonry, that Light which has been for centuries the rule and guide of all Masons, then could

we no longer claim the proud title and rank of Master Mason; but as long as that sacred Light shines upon our Altar, as long as it illumines and brightens the pathway of the Craftsman by the golden rays of Truth, so long will Freemasonry live and shed its beneficent influence among men. Guard, then, my brother, this sacred Book as you guard your life. Defend it as you would defend the flag of your country. Live according to its sublime precepts, govern yourself that you may be able to govern others; learn first that you may be able to teach, for justice, moderation and decorum should mark the acts of the upright man.

CHARGE

JW – (Approaches CNDs and recites or reads from a scroll:) Brethren, you have been invested with the secrets of the degree of Past Master and been inducted into a representation of the Oriental Chair wherein the wisest of Kings once ruled. While brief may have been the ceremonies of the degree, the lessons conveyed are of great importance and, according to ancient regulations, essentially necessary before you could be exalted to the most sublime degree of the Royal Arch. For he who would attain to this honorable station must be a Ruler of the Craft. He who would rule must first learn the great lesson of obedience, and the observance of every obligation heretofore taken, squaring his actions by the square of virtue, and keeping his passions and prejudices within due bounds. He only can teach who has passed through the severe school of discipline; and he rules best who has learned the important lesson of self-control. Self, a subject, although a King—self, a servant, but still a Master—self, a craftsman, yet a Ruler of the Craft—a Ruler whose scepter is justice, whose kingdom is in the heart of humanity, and whose throne is builded in love.

SUBMITTED BY RITUAL STAFF

Date: _____

A proposal to amend the Most Excellent Master degree, pages 79-80, and 97

WHEREAS this degree as presently conferred is not consistent with sensible fire code standards;
and

WHEREAS some of the practices for representing the “fire coming down from Heaven” are either ineffective or comedic; and

WHEREAS the circumambulation of this degree uses Psalm 24, when Psalm 122 would be more appropriate because of its references to 1) “the house of the Lord;” 2) the “name of the Lord;” and 3) the term “Companion,”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 79-80 and page 97 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows, in order to replace Psalm 24 with Psalm 122, and eliminate the practice of actually using fire in an attempt to represent “fire descending upon the sacrifice.” Non-flammable methods of portrayal may still be optionally employed, consistent with safety and professionalism.

~~27 **The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof;**~~
~~28 **the world, and they that dwell therein, for He hath**~~
~~29 **founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the**~~
~~30 **floods.**~~

~~31 ******~~

~~32 **Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or**~~
~~33 **who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath**~~

-79-

~~1 **clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted**~~
~~2 **up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.**~~

~~3 **** ***~~

~~4 **He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and**~~
~~5 **righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is**~~
~~6 **the generation of them that seek Him, that seek thy**~~
~~7 **face, O Jacob.**~~

~~8 **** ****~~

~~9 **Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted**~~
~~10 **up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory**~~
~~11 **shall come in.**~~

~~12 **** ** ***~~

~~13 **Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and**~~
~~14 **mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your**~~

~~15 heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting
16 doors; and the King of Glory shall come in.~~

~~17 ** ** *~~

~~18 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He
19 is the King of Glory.~~

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the **house of the Lord.**

**

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

** *

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:
Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the
testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the **name of the Lord**

** **

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the
house of David.

** ** *

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love
thee. Peace be within they walls, and prosperity within thy
palaces.

** ** **

For my brethren and **companions'** sakes, I will now say, Peace
be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God I
will seek thy good.

At page 97

31 **of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. And when**
32 **all the children of Israel saw how the fire came**
33 **down,** (~~fire descends, brethren in divisions kneel on~~)

~~1 hands and knees, except RWM, CNDs, SD and MAR,~~
~~2 who remain standing~~ any usage of actual flammable material is
strictly prohibited) and the glory of the Lord upon
3 the house, they bowed (~~brethren kneeling all bow~~
~~4 down~~) themselves (**brethren in divisions kneel on**
1 **hands and knees, except RWM, CNDs, SD and MAR,**
2 **who remain standing**) with their faces to the ground
5 upon the pavement, and worshiped and praised the
6 Lord, saying: (*All brethren join:*)
7 For He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.

SUBMITTED BY RITUAL STAFF

Date: _____

A proposal to amend the Royal Arch degree, pages 117, 118, 150 , 164 and 170-171

WHEREAS the HP has been required to remove his Hat at the Altar prior to prayer in the Opening, creating a certain clumsiness as to where to put it, since it should really not be on the Altar with the Holy Writings, nor should it be on the floor, requiring the HP to bend over when he may have back or knee problems,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 117 and 118 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows, to allow the HP to leave his Hat in the East before descending to the Altar, as follows:

At page 117

¹¹ **CH** - (*Faces south, turns head east and gives sign.*)
¹² **Excellent High Priest, your order has been duly**
¹³ **executed.** (*HP removes Hat and leaves on chair, and Council*
descends, and with CH fill space in
¹⁴ *circle.*)

At page 118

³² **HP** – (*Recovers Hat from chair and says:*) **Companion**
Captain of the Host, (*faces south,*
³³ *turns head east, gives sign*) **it is my order that a**
¹ **Chapter of Royal Arch Masons be now opened for**
² **the dispatch of business, under the usual Masonic**
³ **restrictions. This you will communicate to the**
⁴ **companions for their government.**

Furthermore, WHEREAS this degree does not explain the first three working tools of a Royal Arch Mason; and

WHEREAS the ritual at other times and in other States has included short text describing these Working Tools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pages 150 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows, to add text describing the Working Tools, to be delivered by the Captain of the Host after placing tools on candidates, as follows

At page 150

¹ **CH** - (*Returns sword, places crow, pickaxe and spade,*
² *one at a time, on CND's right shoulder commencing on*
³ *his right; naming the tool as it is placed* (**The Crow is used by
Operative Masons to raise things of great weight and bulk;
the Pick-Ax to loosen the soil, and prepare it for digging; and
the Spade to remove rubbish**)

At page 164, the “noble purposes” of the crow, pick-ax and spade are added to the Lecture, after line 23.

¹⁹ **THE WORKING TOOLS OF A ROYAL ARCHMASON**
²⁰ **are the crow, pickaxe and spade, and the square**
²¹ **and compasses, which have been presented to your**
²² **view in every degree of Masonry through which you**
²³ **have passed.**

The Crow is used by Operative Masons to raise things of great weight and bulk; the Pick-Ax to loosen the soil, and prepare it for digging; and the Spade to remove rubbish. But the Royal Arch Mason is emblematically taught to use them for more noble purposes. By them he is reminded that it is his sacred duty lifting from his mind the heavy weight of passions and prejudices, which encumber his progress towards virtue, loosening the hold which long habits of sin and folly have had upon his disposition, and removing the rubbish of vice and ignorance which prevents him from beholding that eternal foundation of truth and wisdom upon which he is to erect the spiritual and moral temple of his second life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that page 170 and 171 of the Ritual Book, 2008 edition, be revised as follows, to allow the HP to leave his Hat in the East before descending to the Altar, as follows:

At page 170

¹⁶ *sign.*) **Excellent High Priest, your order has been**

¹⁷ **duly executed.** (*HP removes Hat and leaves on chair, and
Council descends and with CH, fills in
¹⁸space.*)

At page 171

¹⁷ **HP –** (*Recovers Hat from chair and says:*) **Companion
Captain of the Host,** (*faces south,*

SUBMITTED BY RITUAL STAFF

Date: _____