

# THE WORKMAN



## Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Steven R. Goad, GHP

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### Grand High Priest's Message

Dear Companions: Again this month I want to continue the discussion of the symbolism behind the GHP pin:



The "Teddy Bear" symbol in the East of the triangle (Wisdom) represents the concept of the Masonic Family which is currently unique to the York Rite and refers to our Masonic forefathers and

their many contributions to our heritage. The Phoenician War Galley in the West of the triangle (Strength) represents the concept of our own industrious contributions to the Fraternity while our strength endures and the Sabbath of eternity sets in! All Royal Arch Masons possess the true word which is King Solomon's Pass to travel as a Mason which all Master Masons were entitled to do from ancient history. The three infamous ruffians of Masonic lore were unable to produce that pass when demanded and therefore were clearly Not Royal Arch Masons and Not entitled to board that Phoenician Galley bound for Ethiopia! The symbol of a Phoenician Galley from ancient times is therefore an unambiguous sign of the Royal Arch since it clearly implies that only possessors of the true word could pass the test of entry and board the boat to travel to foreign countries there to work and receive Master Mason's wages! One final installation next month and I will move on to topics of more exalted importance!

This month, as I pass the halfway mark in this Grand Capitular year, I want to thank all of the Royal Arch Masons who attended gatherings with us in November at the Grand Lodge of California in San Francisco on the 19 – 21<sup>st</sup> where we observed the 14<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Regular Craft Grand Lodges. The presentations were very stimulating, especially the one concerning the role of concordant and appendant bodies on Saturday! The week prior to this conference on the 12<sup>th</sup>, I was honored to present Sebastopol Chapter No. 117 with its Centennial Award for 100 years of great service to the fraternity in conjunction with a wonderful reception of all the Chapters in District 5 in their beautiful Lodge in Northern California! On the 15<sup>th</sup>, I attended another outstanding reception in Santa Monica (always a great place to be!). Finally, I attended a special Official Visit to Orange County Chapter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> which was truly memorable thanks to the bagpipes and the Chapter's (especially EC Jim Sunseri's) hospitality!

December will be a special month for the Royal Arch Masons of California! We will be starting the season of renewal with the installation of new Officers in our Chapters! I am happy to welcome our new High Priests and dais officers to leadership positions in the most important appendant Masonic Fraternity in the World (yes, I AM biased)!

I want to add a word of caution during this wonderful Holiday Season, with the events of San Bernardino being freshly unfolded before us in great detail; I believe it would be foolhardy of us Not to realize how potentially vulnerable we are at our meetings within our Lodges! A discussion must take place in each Chapter NOW on how we can prevent and escape from a senseless attack by those driven by curiosity and disobedience to invade the sanctity of our gentle craft meetings! No two situations are the same, but a pre-emptive plan to secure our outer avenues and to escape from a Lodge invasion is prudent in these turbulent times! Please make this discussion a priority at your next stated or special Convocations! I would be prepared Now to avoid; rather than be a victim of those brainwashed zealots that have NO intention of ever learning about the peaceful civil society we offer! Semper Paratus!

Our Grand Marshal of the North, EC Jerry Miller, is at home now as he continues to recover from his illness. Thanks so much for your thoughts and prayers! His email address is: "[jm42@sonic.net](mailto:jm42@sonic.net)". Keep getting better Jerry!

OBTW, the challenge coins are all basically gone (only a couple remain for sale) so we won't have to touch the Scholarship investment fund at all this year and still fully support our great masonic youth scholars! My sincere thanks to all of you that joined me this year in this truly worthy cause! Remember, like all true challenge coins; don't get caught in a CA Royal Arch Masonic venue without one or the first round is on you! A pre-emptive \$20 contribution to the scholarship fund on your part will prevent any embarrassment! Until next time - Go Brighter Red!

**STEVEN R. GOAD**  
**161<sup>st</sup> Grand High Priest**

## CASEY NORRIS, K.Y.G.C.H., RIP



In November, we recognized two fine York Rite Masons – unfortunately, at their memorial services. First, Dave Shull, who served into his mid-90s. And most recently Sir Knight Casey Norris, KCT, KYGCH, Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Knights Templar of California, a Royal Arch Mason who made good in the Grand Commandery, serving as Grand Commander in 2011. He lost his wife, Jackie, last year, and is now re-united with her. R. E. PGD Chuck Waterman, Commander, and R. E. PGC Elmer Curtis, Prelate, performed the Knight Templar Memorial on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November at Natoma Lodge #64 in Folsom, where Casey had served as Master and had received the Hiram Award. R. E. Chuck then performed the Blue Lodge ceremony, with a eulogy offered by his son, Casey Jr. and a couple who had been friends of Casey and Jackie for 40 years. She pointed out in her remarks that Casey and her husband were never able to resolve their unending debate as to whether the Pope was too liberal or too conservative!

The Past Grand Commanders were assisted in performing the service by R. E. PGC Fred Smith and R. E. PGC Myron Tisdale with

members of Vacaville Commandery No. 38 serving as the Honor Guard. Many Sir Knights from Southern California made the long journey north to honor Casey, including R. E. PGC Dave Kussman and R. E. PGC Carlos Gonzales. Also present, of course, was R. E. PGC Bruce Pruitt in a full house – Casey got a great send-off. “Soft and safe to thee, my Brother . . . “

## LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Two more seminars are currently available for this York Rite Year – one in Van Nuys on Jan 230<sup>th</sup>, and another in San Jose on February 20<sup>th</sup>. See flyer at the end of this newsletter for more details. RSVP to Bud Ramsey at 408-838-3730 or to [budsusanr@att.net](mailto:budsusanr@att.net), is a must!

## 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](mailto: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. **PLEASE NOTE THAT RED JACKETS WILL NOT AGAIN BE AVAILABLE UNTIL JANUARY.** 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](http://www.mpenterprises.weebly.com); or directly to his email at [maxluy@hotmail.com](mailto:maxluy@hotmail.com).

### ENCOMPASSER

The **October 2015** 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. **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**  
**NOV 2015 – MAY 2016**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Dec 12	LA9 Masonic Symposium	Pasadena
Dec 19 – 30	Christmas Holiday	New Mexico
Dec 31 – Jan 3	New Year's Holiday	California
Jan 9	Installations	Ventura & SLO
Jan 11	Installation	Orange County
Jan 16	Installations	Signet & Kern River
Jan 18	Installation	Santa Monica
Jan 19	Installation	Hanford
Jan 21	Official Visit	Tyre Chapter
Jan 23	GGYRC Reception	Rosemead
Jan 26	Installation	Visalia Council
Jan 29	PM Degree	Bakersfield
Jan 30	York Rite Leadership Conference	Van Nuys
Feb 6	Potentate's Ball Al Malukah	LAX Hilton
Feb 6	O'Brien KM UD Meeting	Santa Barbara
Feb 12-16	Travel	New Mexico
Feb 20 - 22	3-Way Reception	Long Beach
Feb 27	PM Association Dinner	Pasadena SR
Feb 28	SRICF Meeting	Los Altos
Mar 5	S-P KYCH Meeting	Bakersfield
Mar 12 – 13	Officers' Conference	Bakersfield
Mar 19	RAM Festival	Van Nuys
Mar 26	3-Way Reception	Stockton
Mar 27	Easter Sunday	Tempe AZ
Mar 28	Council Degrees	Van Nuys
Apr 2	Commandery Orders	Van Nuys
Apr 3	Pacifica RCC	Solvang
Apr 14-17	Grand Sessions	New Mexico
Apr 24	St Albans YRC	Ventura
May 1	Glenwood YRC	Van Nuys
May 7	S-P KYCH Meeting	Bakersfield
May 20-25	Grand Sessions	Bakersfield

**GRAND CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH**

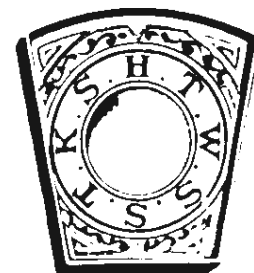
**Website:**

[WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG](http://WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG)

**GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES**

**Website:**

[WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG](http://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!! --**



California Grand York Rite

## *Leadership Seminar*

This seminar is designed specifically for the York Rite Officers and Members to help prepare them to be good leaders, or more knowledgeable members, in their respective Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies and all York Rite Masons are encouraged to attend.

The following is an overview of what will be covered:

- Grand Chapter, Council, & Commandery vs General Grand Chapter/Council & Grand Encampment – How Grand Bodies work
- Administration of Constituent Bodies
- Communications
- Protocol and Special Events
- Ritual, Tactics, & Uniforms
- Mentoring vs Coaching
- Leadership

*Note: This is not a ritual seminar/school of instruction*

Three seminars have been scheduled as outlined below. If you cannot attend the one nearest you, please attend one of the others. Please RSVP so we can plan lunch and materials accordingly.

*All seminars are scheduled on a Saturday from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM and lunch will be provided. There is no charge to the attendees. Dress is casual.*

<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
October 24, 2015	Chico Masonic Center 1110 W. East Ave, Chico, CA 95926-3072
January 30, 2016	Van Nuys Masonic Center 1450 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405-2214
February 20, 2016	San Jose Masonic Center 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125-2019

RSVP to Bud Ramsey, 5160 Poston Drive, San Jose, CA 95136-3320

Phone: 408-838-3730

Email: budsusanr@att.net

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