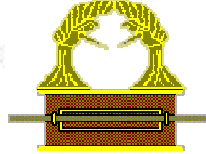


THE WORKMAN



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Jon Humphreys, GHP

December 2014

Vol. VI No. 7

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GRAND HIGH PRIEST MESSAGE

GRATITUDE

Dear Companions:

We are all Speculative Masons, so I know you will permit me a speculation on the nature or Deity-- God appears to be an opportunist. Put another way, He is very good at turning difficulties into blessings.

My recent knee injury -- from which I seem to be making a normal recovery, in spite of my impatience-- is a good example. It couldn't have happened at a much worse time. With 3 receptions, one Official Visit, the 150th anniversary of Triple Tau Chapter, a York Rite leadership seminar, a DeMolay convention, and my own Masonic Golden Anniversary at Lodge, November was looking to be my busiest month yet. And then I tripped. So much for November.

It took 2-3 days to cancel the hotel reservations and find Grand Officers to represent me at various events in November. And then a doctor told me it would be at least 6 weeks before the swelling disappeared-- maybe 12. So now December was in question. Talk about a guy in a purple funk !

And then the Great Opportunist stepped in. You see He saw an opportunity to teach your Grand High Priest some new lessons in gratitude. Through this current difficulty I have come to realize how much love and support was coming my way, from so many folks from so many places.

From Grand Officers willing to travel long distances on short notice to represent me and be where I could not. From chapter officers and district inspectors calling to offer any assistance possible. From Companions all over the jurisdiction sending e-mails and cards expressing concern and wishes for a quick recovery. And, of course, from my dear wife Sylvia, who has ceaselessly done those dozens of things, large and small, that a swollen knee and a sometimes grouchy attitude have made difficult or impossible.

I have always found it hard to feel gratitude when things are going well, and been reminded most of my blessings when there seem to be less of them. Isn't that odd? But for me, it is true. So our Lord has seen the opportunity, and is teaching me again, with many of you as his instruments.

Thank you all for your concerns, assistance and prayers. I'm getting better every day, and will be back among you soon. In the meantime, work hard for your chapters, and **"Be the Change You Want to See."**

JON HUMPHREYS
Grand High Priest

MEET YOUR GRAND OFFICERS

GRAND KING



STEVEN GOAD

Right Excellent Companion Steven R. Goad was born in Norman, Oklahoma, and grew up in Texas and Oklahoma. He spent 23 years in the U.S. Navy and now works for the Navy as a government civilian employee.

Steve holds a B.S. Degree in Engineering Physics and Applied Mathematics from the University of Oklahoma. He is currently employed as a reliability analyst. He has two grown children, Chris and Michelle.

Our Grand King was raised in Indian Wells Valley Lodge No. 684 in 1996. He has served his lodge as Master three times, and is currently Inspector of the 634th Masonic District.

He was Exalted in Norris C. Viles Chapter No. 153 in 1998. He may hold the record for simultaneous membership in multiple Royal Arch Chapters, being a current member of Norris C. Viles Chapter (High Priest three times), Kern Valley Chapter (High Priest three times), Kern River Chapter (now High Priest), Oxnard Chapter (now Captain of the Host), and Signet Chapter (amazingly, holding no current office!), as well as Santa Fe Chapter No. 1 in New Mexico!

Steve is also a member of Cryptic Masons, Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Knight

Masons, Red Cross of Constantine, A.M.D., York Rite College, National Sojourners, Royal Order of Scotland, and the Robert the Bruce Association. He is currently Prior of his Priory of Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

GRAND CHAPLAIN (NORTH)



ROBERT O'DWYER and ESTELLE LOCKWOOD

Excellent Companion Robert E. O'Dwyer was born in Downey, California. He is proud to be a "first American" – his mother is from New Zealand, his father from Canada.

He attended public schools in San Mateo, California, and spent 4 years after high school graduation in the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman. With the aid of the G.I. Bill he earned a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Finance from U.S.C., and has since worked for various finance and insurance companies and on his own as a Portfolio Manager with Syndicated Capital.

Bob is interested in history and literature, particularly World War I and the Crusades, Biblical and Greco-Roman history. He spends his otherwise idle hours with his 1968 Ford Torino GT Fastback (complete with 302-V8 and 4-barrel).

Bob is a Past High Priest of King Solomon's Chapter No. 95, in San Mateo, and is currently serving Burlingame Lodge No. 400 as Senior Deacon. He is also a member of Burlingame Valley, Scottish Rite.

YORK RITE LEADERSHIP SEMINAR **COMING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

SIGN UP TODAY!

The LAST York Rite "Leadership Seminar" for this Capitular Year will be on Saturday, January 31st at the Masonic Center in Vista.

These seminars, jointly sponsored by the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, are providing current and future leaders with tools and information designed to improve leadership skills and strengthen our York Rite management.

All Chapter members who have not already attended one of this year's seminars are encouraged to attend this one in Vista.

Admission is free and a free lunch is provided. See details on the announcement later in this newsletter.

Note that reservation is requested, to Bud Ramsey, so he can plan for adequate materials.





“GOOD JOB”

An Article Submitted by Arthur H. Walton

“Good Job” is a key tool in a leader’s kit bag. As officers in Royal Arch Masonry (herein referred to as “RAM”) we have few awards that can be given for making a contribution to a local Chapter. It is highly likely that at every Chapter meeting someone or someones’ do something that should be recognized. In the business world a manager can give financial awards, raises and promotion. These are not available to a leader in the York Rite.

When a person puts forth effort in a Chapter they are not usually going to do so in hope of receiving some kind of reward. Yet, as a leader it is important, if not essential, to verbally acknowledge a job well done when a Chapter member does something well. It could be an excellent opening of the Chapter by the Captain of the Host or other officer, a presentation by a member during the meeting that furthers our understanding of RAM, or providing a great dinner or a time of fellowship and refreshment after a meeting. The positive reinforcement by the High Priest of a “good job” will not be soon forgotten by the recipient of praise.

This is a lesson I learned while managing a group of highly trained Information Technology experts. I frequently found them helping others when I knew they had important tasks to perform. I noticed that when they finished helping someone out in our organization they usually got a word of thanks and a free cup of coffee. I started acknowledging a job well done in a variety of ways that included a “good job” at the weekly department meeting in front of their peers, a picture on the bulletin board with a caption indicating the contribution the person

had made, and also a letter to their personnel file when they have made an exceptional contribution.

As Companions we have meetings where we can express a few words of thanks. We also have a periodic bulletin that is sent to the membership that can acknowledge a “good job.” For maximum impact, add a picture of the recipient.

RECEPTIONS, FESTIVALS & DEGREES

At the very end of this Newsletter you will find copies of flyers for many of the 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 at the Grand York Rite website.

ROYAL ARCH HISTORY

Of particular interest to all Companions and Sir Knights is the new addition to the History of the Royal Arch – Volume 4 is now available, which takes the history through 1996. This is the supplement to the original 3 Volume set prepared by Everett R. Turnbull and Ray V. Denslow. The 4th Volume can be purchased for \$25. Volumes 1, 2, 3 & 4 of the History of Royal Arch Masonry have been reprinted. These books are hardbound and approximately 500 pages each. The cost is \$ 100.00 for all 4 books plus \$ 15.00 shipping and handling in USA. Foreign shipping could cost more. Payment by check or credit card. Contact the General Grand Secretary to order books.
ramintl@sbcglobal.net

RAM INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

As you know, our Grand Chapter is associated with the General Grand Chapter RAM International. The General Grand Chapter is now publishing a newsletter with international scope. Issue number 37 for November 2014 has been forwarded to local Chapter officers, and can be accessed directly at: <http://eepurl.com/7qJ6X>. The October edition, number 36, is available at: <http://us5.campaign->

archive2.com/?u=3c0aac733b0437cb093526bde&id=cab2a178d6&e=03a77e3401.

Please share as appropriate with your companions. In the new format, scroll down in the message to find the state-specific entries for California. Prior editions from March 2012 can also be found under the Library tab at the Research Chapter website: www.goldenstatechapter.org

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 2014** edition of the Encompasser is in the mail and should be on the website soon. 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.**

Check out the new format available – you can now read the Encompasser online! No need to even print it out. Many thanks to our web-master, Excellent Companion Richard Thornton, for his efforts in applying this technology to our needs!

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

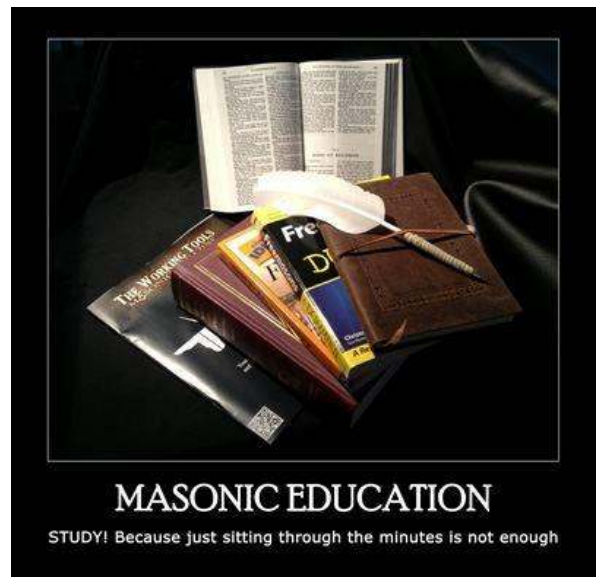
For info about Scholarships, go to the following website:

<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.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER



The website located at www.goldenstatechapter.org now contains a copy of the 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Grand Orations booklets. Also included is a copy of "The Royal Arch Path," by MEC Phil Hardiman, KYGCH.

The next Semi-annual meeting will be held in Bakersfield in May at the next Grand Chapter Convocation.

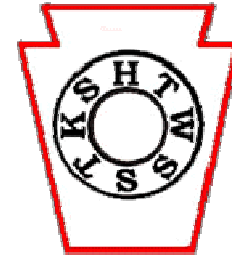
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CONTACT INFORMATION

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Date	Event	Location
Dec. 13	Installation of Elk Grove Lodge No. 173	Elk Grove
Dec. 14	Install Washington Lodge No. 20	Sacramento
Dec. 17	Install Howard Chapter No. 14	San Jose
Dec. 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS !	
Jan. 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR !	
Jan. 8	Install Ancient Chapter No. 31	Pittsburg
Jan. 10	Install San Luis Chapter No. 62	San Luis Obispo
Jan. 16	Install California Chapter No. 1	San Francisco
Jan. 17	Install King Solomon's Chapter No. 95	San Mateo
Jan. 24	St. Francis Conclave Red Cross of Constantine	San Francisco
Jan. 31	Leadership Seminar	Vista

Details available on York Rite website at:
<http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/ghp/calendar.html>

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**GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH
Website**

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG



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

Five 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.

DATE:	LOCATION:
May 31, 2014	Sacramento Masonic Center 1123 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2809 <i>(there's a charge for parking)</i>
June 28, 2014	Bellflower Masonic Center 9813 Beach Street, Bellflower, CA 90706-5917
September 13, 2014	San Jose Masonic Center 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125-2019
November 22, 2014	Vesper Masonic Center 822 Main St, Red Bluff, CA 96080-2759
January 31, 2015	Vista Masonic Center 761 Eucalyptus Ave, Vista, CA 92084-6251

RSVP to Bud Ramsey, 5160 Poston Drive, San Jose, CA 95136-3320
Phone: 408-838-3730 Email: budsusanr@att.net