

Robert Morrison, KYGCH



Most Illustrious Companion

160th Grand Master Cryptic Masons California

Sword & Trowel

August 2020

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Vision Statement

Cryptic Masonry is an organization where men of good character come together to improve themselves, their families, and their communities.

It is where the highest Masonic values are learned by it's members and applied in all their doings.

As Cryptic Masons, we learn a way of life from our ancient teachings, develop meaningful and fulfilling lifelong relationships, and grow as enlightened men. We never hesitate to go out of our way to assist a widow, or a fallen brother.

Furthermore, membership in our Cryptic Councils provides us with a place where we, and our families, can find spirituality and likeminded positive thinkers, and where members of our community can depend on us for stability, leadership, and enlightenment.



Our World Changed Forever

As we come to the end of Summer it has become obvious that our way of socializing and keeping in touch with each other has forever been changed. Getting together for a dinner or even being allowed to hold a degree festival is not something that will happen anytime soon. The risk factor for the health of our members is the number one driving force keeping our members at home and avoiding personal contact between us. This does not mean that our York Rite Bodies must shut down and avoid any interaction between our Companions and Sir Knights. That is evident by both the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery having held their Grand Sessions and Installation of Officers this last month in a virtual format just as the Grand Council did in June. Congratulations to Most Excellent Companion Richard Bullard and Right Eminent Grand Commander Cirilo Marquez on their being installed as the Grand High Priest and Grand Commander, respectively. I did attend both Grand Sessions in their online format and congratulate both bodies on a very successful way both were presented.

The 2020-21 Grand York Rite year is now officially underway and I can assure you that MEC Dick, REGC Cirilo, and I are exploring all options to keep in touch with the members that we have sworn to represent. At this time, a few of our bodies have decided to hold virtual receptions to meet and get acquainted with the current grand officers. I look forward to visiting all the members of the various Councils throughout California. As we move forward, I am sure that modern technology will evolve and give us the means to communicate and even socialize amongst ourselves.

The General Grand Council has embraced technology and converted the Triennial, scheduled for September, from an actual face to face meeting to a virtual gathering. All our members are greatly disappointed that they will not be able to gather and meet as usual for this event but there is a positive to this change. Since no travel will be involved to attend the Triennial, many Companions will be afforded the opportunity to view the proceedings that would otherwise have been missed.

We have a very special event coming up August 1, 2020. A constituting ceremony and installation of officers will take place for the newly chartered Council, Adoniram-Whittier Council #53. Information about these ceremonies and access information has been sent to Records and Illustrious Masters of all our Councils by the Grand York Rite office. It is my hope that each of you will take time to view the proceedings and witness this special occasion.

In closing, please remember the primary philanthropy of the Grand Council and all Constituent Councils, the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. As the Cryptic year progresses, I will explain what the foundation does and who it benefits. For now, I can say that there are very few of us or someone you know, that are not affected by the work of CMMRF. The state chairman for the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation is Most Illustrious Companion Brett MacDonald, Past Grand Master Cryptic Masons who, just this year took over that job from MI Fred (Tiny) Potter MIPGM. Thank you to both these fine Cryptic Masons for their tireless efforts. I would ask that you help me show the world what generous masons can do and support the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation with a donation.

For now, please live smart and stay safe and we will survive these troubled times.

As Always, Remember the Rites

Most Illustrious Companion Robert A. Morrison, KYGCH

160th Grand Master Cryptic Masons of California

I will do my best to serve you all

Thank you Thank you Thank you

General Grand Council Announcement

The following letter was sent to inform all the Grand Councils and members that the Triennial for the General Grand Council in September is going to be a virtual event due to the Covid-19 Virus

Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Council

Submitted by the Board of Trustees, General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International Greetings Companions,

After deliberation and due consideration to the many contributing factors affecting the Triennial Assembly, the Trustees of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International hereby announce that:

- 1. The Triennial Assembly will only be a virtual meeting utilizing Zoom.*
- 2. The date of the meeting is hereby set to Saturday, September 26, 2020.*
- 3. Details for registration and participation will be distributed by July 15, 2020.*

We feel this is the best and most prudent way to protect the safety, health and wellbeing of our members and their loved ones. This was a decision made after much discussion and deliberation on our part and it is just the right thing to do, in our opinion.

We would like to thank the members of the Triennial Committee for the hard work in putting forward your best efforts to plan this Event. We are disappointed that the current health crisis has led us to the point of having to make this difficult decision but our members and their families will always come first.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*David A. Grindle
General Grand Master*

*Monty J. Glover
Deputy General Grand Master*

*William G. Snyder
General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work
Attest*

*Stepehn A. Balke
General Grand Recorder*

Forms and Documents, are located at the Grand York Rite website: [Grand York Rite of California](#).

Scroll down and click on "**York Rite Forms and Documents**." Then click on the appropriate logo. A window opens where you enter the userid, which is "cagyr" and the password, which is "brio"

Scroll down to Officers Manual, which has information for the Secretary, and print that out. Many concepts in the Grand Chapter manual are relevant to the Councils and Commanderies. Priorities are as follows:

1. **Dues Collection:** You should send out dues' notices no later than October, with payments from members due by December 31st.

2. **Membership control:** Especially important is the very last item, "Royal Arch Monthly Report." This is relevant to you as a Secretary/Recorder if you do not yet have a userid for access to MMS – Masonic Membership Solutions. If you fill the paper report out each month, whenever you encounter changes to the membership, you will find it much easier at the end of the year to produce the year-end report, which is used to compute the amount of per capita the Chapter needs to pay. That payment is due by Jan 15th each year. Important changes to your membership include new members, demits, remits and deaths. Maintain e-mail addresses for members and you can easily then forward the monthly newsletter, **The WORKMAN & Sword and Trowel, to them.**

3. Do not cavalierly **suspend members** for non-payment of dues. There is a Constitutional process that should be followed rigorously in order that members, who may have moved and not received your dues notice, are treated fairly. See the following sections of the relevant Constitution in order to learn about this process:

Chapter: Section 201 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version of Royal Arch Constitution

Council: See Section 30-10 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version Grand Council Constitution

Commandery: See Section 347 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version Grand Commandery Constitution

4. **Per Capita:** Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date membership data in order to compute the end-of-year number of active members that is crucial to computing your per capita payment. Without good data you will most likely overpay your per capita requirement. It is sensible to begin your process near the end of the CY, as soon as possible. It is also sensible, if you have access to the Grand Lodge database, to check each member to see if they are still alive. But most important is getting a userid to utilize MMS.

5. **Insurance:** Insurance payment, due each July 15th, does not require action by the Chapter, Council or Commandery to be paid. You will be billed for the payment by the Grand Secretary-Recorder.

6. Lodge **Book of Marks:** Maintain this up-to-date, or perhaps arrange for a PHP to take on the responsibility of maintaining.

7. **Minutes:** Take good minutes, but don't over-do it by trying to capture everything that is said. Focus on having a clear representation of motions made and the vote count by which they passed or failed. In addition to keeping petitions in a separate file, it is good practice to replicate the basic petitioner information in the minutes. It is also a good practice to keep the names of attendees at each meeting in the minutes. If conferring a degree, keep a copy of the cast members and the candidate(s).

8. **Grand Sessions:** Before April meeting, remind Dais officers they are responsible to attend, and arrange a stipend if your Chapter, Council or Commandery can afford it. Remind members who expect to attend to be sure to take their dues cards. If Dais Officers of Chapter and Council cannot attend, they may issue a proxy, or they may elect a representative. This is true also for Commanderies, whose members cannot issue proxies. Appropriate forms can be obtained on Grand York Rite website: Scroll to "Elected Representative and Proxy Credentials."

9. **Order of High Priesthood:** Be sure the current High Priest and Past High Priests' know they are eligible to receive this Order. In fact, it is a Constitutional requirement! Share the petition with them and send to the Grand Secretary. This requirement does not appear to be true for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree or the Past Commander's Association. Petitions for all three bodies are available at the website.

ScholarShips

Companions, your children, grandchildren, & for some, great-grandchildren may receive financial help for attending school. After opening up Scholarship Center website, have them go to bottom of page & find the Scholarship Manual in (PDF format – 450KB) to download.

There they will find instructions for filling out the forms.

This is the [link](#) which will take you to the public Grand Lodge web page on scholarships. All the information you need should be right there. This is a complete manual that you can download that talk about all of the scholarships available from the California Masonic Foundation as well as the [Scottish Rite](#), [York Rite](#), [Eastern Star](#), [High Twelve](#), [DeMolay](#), [Job's Daughters](#), & [Rainbow for Girls](#).

Contacts

Illustrious Grand Master Cryptic Masons:

Most Illustrious Companion,
[Robert Morrison](#), KYGCH and Lady Pauline
Grand Master Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California
Butte Council No. 50

Grand Secretary/Recorder:

[Philip Hardiman](#), OSV, KYGCH, PGHP
Grand Secretary Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons California,
Grand Recorder, Grand Council Cryptic Masons California, &
Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery Knights Templar California
1123 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assistant Secretary/Recorder & Grand Treasurer:

[Thomas Krummell](#), KYCH
1123 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Website:

Editor:

[Richard E. Thornton](#), KYCH

Grand York Rite of California

Note: Hyperlinks or links to other pages or web sites are prevalent throughout the document.



Officers: Grand Council Cryptic Masons California

We, the officers of Grand Council of Cryptic Masons will visit you and ask "May We Help"?

Most Illustrious Companion

Robert A. Morrison, KYGCH & Lady Pauline
Grand Master, Cryptic Masons of California
Butte Council No. 50

Right Illustrious Companion <u>Peter G. Champion</u> , KYCH & Lady Janice Deputy Grand Master Grand Council Cryptic Masons San Luis Obispo Council No. 38	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Guy M. Chalmers</u> , KYCH & Lady Jeanne Grand Principle Conductor of the Work Grand Council Cryptic Masons Redwood Empire Council No. 46
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Right Illustrious Companion <u>Thomas A. Krummell</u> , KYCH & Lady Marcia Grand Treasurer, Grand Council Cryptic Masons Sierra Nevada Council No. 13	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Philip Hardiman</u> , KYGCH, PGHP, & Lady Nancy Grand Recorder, Grand Council Cryptic Masons Sacramento Council No. 1
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Right Illustrious Companion

K. Mark Harris, KYCH
Grand Director of Ritual, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Oakland Council No. 12

Right Illustrious Companion <u>Michael T. Sherman</u> , KYCH Grand Captain of the Guard Grand Council Cryptic Masons Helix Council No. 58	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Jeffrey A. White</u> , KYCH & Lady Lisa Grand Conductor of the Council Grand Council Cryptic Masons Pacific Council No. 37
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Right Illustrious Companion <u>Andrew B. Pippin</u> , KYCH, & Lady Juli Grand Steward, Grand Council Cryptic Masons Ventura Council No. 15	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Richard E. Thornton</u> , KYCH, Lady Cara Grand Sentinel, Grand Council Cryptic Masons Stockton Council No. 5
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Right Illustrious Companion <u>Arthur H. Walton</u> , KYCH & Lady Patricia Grand Chaplin-North, Grand Council Cryptic Masons California Council No. 2	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Christian G. Marano</u> , KYCH & Lady Mara Grand Chaplin-South, Grand Council Cryptic Masons San Luis Obispo Council No. 38
---	--

Right Illustrious Companion <u>John L Copper III</u> , KYGCH, & Lady Heather Grand Orator Grand Council Cryptic Masons Sierra Nevada Council No. 13	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Thomas A. Krummell</u> , KYCH, & Lady Marcia Assistant Grand Secretary Grand Council Cryptic Masons Sierra Nevada Council No. 13
--	--

Right Illustrious Companion <u>Jarrold D. Washington</u> , KYCH & Lady Melissa Grand Marshal-North Grand Council Cryptic Masons Sierra Nevada Council No. 13	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Robert K. Geiger</u> & Lady Luisa Grand Marshal-South Grand Council Cryptic Masons Adoniram-Whittier Council No. 53
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Right Illustrious Companion <u>Matt Hyde</u> & Lady Nicole Grand Bible Bearer Grand Council Cryptic Masons Omega Council No. 11	Right Illustrious Companion <u>Mike Edwards</u> & Lady Cindi Grand Standard Bearer Grand Council Cryptic Masons Marysville Council No. 3
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Right Illustrious Companion

Merrick R. Hamer
Grand Organist, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Alpha Council No. 39



Adoniram-Whittier Council No. 53

Officers to be installed are as follows:

Robert K. Geiger	Illustrious Master
Gary A. Henderson	Deputy Master
Thomas N. Thomas	Principal Conductor of the Work
Andrew M. Prutsman	Treasurer
Gary M. Iverson	Recorder
Donald G. McLaurin	Chaplain
Mark F. Patton	Captain of the Guard
Joseph E. Patronas	Conductor of the Council
Socrates E. Patronas	Steward
Eric L. Lopez	Sentinel

Installing Team will be as follows:

Robert A. Morrison	Most Illustrious Grand Master
Jarrold D. Washington	Grand Marshal of the North
Christian G. Marano	Grand Chaplain of the South
Merrick Hamer	Grand Organist
K. Mark Harris	Grand Soloist Emeritus

The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

July 1, 2020 Vol 4, Issue 24

General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter Triennial

September 24-29, 2020: Louisville, Kentucky

Tentative Schedule and Hotel Reservations Online: <https://yrtriennial2020.com/>



IT'S VIRTUALLY A GO FOR THE 2020 TRIENNIAL AT LOUISVILLE!

[Read More...](#)



Southwest Region Happenings

[Read More...](#)



Southeast Region Happenings

[Read More...](#)



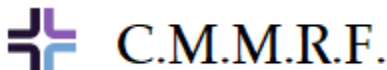
The Degree of Super Excellent Master [Read More...](#)

Appendant Bodies

DYCRSRUDSXXRJTXSJQJS
CNVOCNEPIRAPOPOAHROA
OSATLMOOEIIINCJKCRABR
NRJLLOLRSNRKCOAIOETSO
SRVLTCEBANFUFIRSTDSDG
ISAAEOOGAMREEFWTCNAA
SYESFWCIENTJWCWJORRUH
TKORGYDSEOFHATGROEGT
OROIHRLRFDFDGMIGSTHY

Puzzle - Appendant Bodies Word Find [Read More...](#)

Just a LATTE a Month



\$5 per Month Works Miracles!

Our Goal: 1000 Participants

Give up a coffee a month **or more** to help medical research through the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation.

You can make a step to support our Masonic Charity by setting up recurring giving here:

<https://www.crypticmasons.org/cmmrf/donate-now>

CALENDARS

We have remodeled and are updating our calendaring system. Check it out!

[NATIONAL CALENDAR](#)

Rather see a listing by category (and including local events that are reported to us):

[CMMRF EVENTS](#)

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(You must have an account on the website. All events will be reviewed and verified before publishing.)

[SUBMIT EVENTS](#)

The Circle of Perfection [Read More...](#)



The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

July 9, 2020 Vol 4, Issue 25

General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter Triennial

September 24-29, 2020: Louisville, Kentucky

Tentative Schedule and Hotel Reservations Online: <https://yrtriennial2020.com/>



Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Council [Read More...](#)



East Central Region Happenings [Read More...](#)



North Central Region Happenings [Read More...](#)

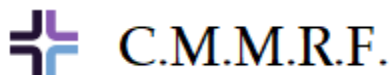


Freemasonry & Revolution - GGC Education Comm [Read More...](#)



Update from Taipei Council No. 1 [Read More...](#)

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Under the Sun [Read More...](#)

The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

July 16, 2020 Vol 4, Issue 26

General Grand Council Triennial

September 26, 2020: Virtual Starting at 12 Noon MDT

Registration Fee: \$10 (\$9 to CMMRF and \$1 to Triennial 2023)



Rituals of the York Rite - GGC
Education Comm

[Read More...](#)



Labor for the Future

[Read More...](#)

Authors & Poets

DDWUKBEPPEEKOLVXMVPUH
BLEIUPRESTONRSMCBKMK
SPURLUEISRNKBOHNLUYNX
SGNONMEJHYTYBVIELROR
CSUDGUSEPYFDEAROATJH
WAHCSFPMHPAYURSCDKGXD
WLPFPFPHSUVYATWAGESVU
GVPASABEHRPEVSSLOSQAY
.....

Puzzle - Authors & Poets Word
Find

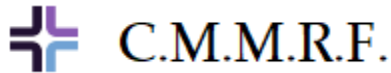
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A Confrontation With Jeremiah

[Read More...](#)

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[SUBMIT EVENTS](#)

The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

July 23, 2020 Vol 4, Issue 27

General Grand Council Triennial

Saturday September 26, 2020: Virtual Starting at 12 Noon MDT
Registration Fee (Updated): \$10.00 – Donated to CMMRF (less PayPal fee)
Registration Information Coming Soon!



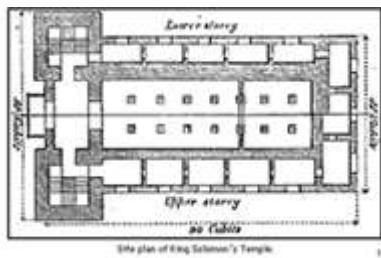
General Grand Council Officer
Nominations Due September 1,
2020 [Read More...](#)



Northwest Region [Read More...](#)



Masonic Calendars - GGC
Education Comm [Read More...](#)



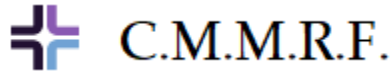
The Master Plan [Read More...](#)

Regalia & Accessories

G O X H S D N I R B S E H M S R N W W M
A L Q N E E V Z M A R C U F F L I N K S
U O Q Q C J B G P A L L H S O D M N M L
N B F K K I K O U Z M L F P D S C F G B
T H T R W H G Q W E O Y O I E U T I D H
L I K V S Q S H P T K Q D C X I K E N C
E F C R B T L A S Y I A O G U T D W L T
T P N J E V R R X N Z E B E T O O G D A
K T H K L A M S J Y G D D J W R U U C W

Puzzle - Regalia & Accessories
Word Find [Read More...](#)

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The Road Less Traveled [Read More...](#)

General Grand Council Triennial

Saturday September 26, 2020: Virtual Starting at 12 Noon MDT
Register Online: <https://triennial.org/registration/register-online>
Registration Fee (Updated): \$10.00 – Donated to CMMRF (less PayPal fee)
Triennial Information Site: <https://triennial.org/>



Triennial Update August 1 [Read More...](#)



Keeping your Passions within Due Bounds - GGC Education Comm [Read More...](#)



MIC Jonathan P. Park, 1955-2020 [Read More...](#)



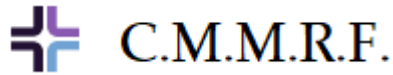
Entertaining Strangers [Read More...](#)

Lodge Offices

V J R U T L R C D R Y N Y Q W W M N A W
Q B H E Y I H I E E E G O V O M A O O L
A M D W R A L N T D A F L R K I S U Z A
P U H R P U O E R U Z E S S R V T Q N H
V H C L A M S A R Y A H N O P E E I Y S
Y O A L L W W A B Z I L T A R R R T E R
G I M A J R E R E P U S I G C H O M A A
N C J G O U P T F R I V U S B Q F I T M
M M J I B C N U S H T A A X T N C N E F

Puzzle - Lodge Officers [Read More...](#)

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The Perfect Ruler [Read More...](#)

