

THE WORKMAN



Leland G. Routt, GHP Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

JULY 2020

Vol. XI No. 14

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Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

I never expected to be doing a second July article for the Workman, except maybe as a guest. We all have to realize Covid-19 has disrupted our lives in ways that will last a generation. In our small membership (under 5000) we have had very few actual cases of the virus reported. I believe we have had two deaths reported and Excellent Companion Paul Erickson, who was hospitalized with the virus, has recovered back to his regular activities. We are praying that those low numbers remain in our membership.

Although there has been difficulty of continuing our normal routine of business and the succession of Grand Chapter, we have planned for a virtual Annual Convocation to take place on July 15, 2020. Our Companions and Sir Knights will have finished both of their virtual sessions by then and we hope to have learned from their efforts on procedures to be successful at our session.

We are planning on actually presenting the legislation as was planned in the case of a normal Convocation. Voting will take place by two methods. First by "poll vote" which is fast and not weighted beyond one vote per delegate and second by an electronic voting method which is weighted by the number of ballots each delegate is entitled to as in a regular session. Please vote for the good of the order.

As I informed you earlier in the year we (the executive committee) had some hard decisions to make concerning our future. We carefully followed the guidance of our constitution and good

financial practices to make changes in our method of operation. We managed to do it with unanimous agreement to follow this plan through the next five years to keep us in good financial shape. For the first time in several years the full per capita collected in January is available for R. E. Bullard to use in his budget starting on July 1. He will however be constrained, because we have not raised our per capita enough in past years to actually pay as we go, instead of dipping into savings each year and depleting our reserves. When R. E. Broomfield presents his resolution to raise the per capita this year, when passed, it will not be seen until his year. This will allow the GHP for the first time, to make an actual budget that is based on the real funds available, instead of a guess that in the end requires a use of reserves.

We changed the fiscal year from March 1 - February 28 to July 1 - June 30, which means the budgeted funds actually are used in the Capitular year of the new administration. Thank you, for all the advice and support we received from members in this effort. Our Jurisprudence Committee worked overtime confirming our actions and advising on the constitution, including actions that were not addressed directly in the constitution.

I want to thank publicly several people who have made my year memorable and enjoyable. First and foremost my wife of almost 54 years, who has helped me in so many ways. Although she was crowned Grand Royal Matron of California Order of the Amaranth in February 2019, she still made time to support me in every way possible. I tried to reciprocate as much as possible but I am sure she did much more than I. She started way back in 2015 by sewing gifts for M. E. C. Steve Goad and continues right up to today, currently making needed covid-19 masks. She is a jewel beyond compare.

M. E. C. Steve Goad, my "Capitular father," did more than appoint me to the progressive line. Through the years he has advised me on many of the actions I needed to address. He kept me out of the quicksand that can drown you slowly, just because you stepped wrong. M. E. C. Teddy Hammack really started me with appointments and actual work in the Grand Chapter beyond that of Inspector. M. E. C. Phil Hardiman our Grand Secretary advised me even before taking on his current job. We don't always agree, but his advice is always invaluable.

I thank the progressive line, particularly R. E. C. Bullard, Grand King and R. E. C. Broomfield, Grand Scribe. They provided help from the beginning as we all have progressed. All of my major actions were in truth, the action of us three. I truly appreciate the support I received from the Chapters and members across the state, this cannot be overstated. Of all the help, this was most critical to a successful Capitular year for your Grand Chapter. There are so many others that I should name but time and space limit me. Thank you to all and please continue to support the new GHP as he is elected this month.

Be well and continue to grow our membership.

Fraternally,

Leland G. Routt, KYGCH
165th Grand High Priest
Royal Arch Masons of California

GRAND SESSIONS 2020

Companions and Sir Knights

As you know by now, the Grand Officers and Trustees voted to cancel Grand Sessions scheduled for July 14-16 at the Wyndham in Visalia. The Grand Council has already hosted a virtual Grand Assembly on June 20th, using the Zoom platform; Grand Commandery will do the same on July 11th at 10:00 am. Given the Grand Master's recent restrictions (July 1st) on Masonic gatherings "of any kind," the Grand High Priest has decided to cancel the combination Virtual and face-to-face gathering that was to be held in Sacramento on July 15th. The Annual Convocation for Grand Chapter will now be virtual only. If you booked a room at the Sheraton, expecting to come to Sacramento, you need to cancel the reservation now.

Please check the website for the latest registration document and meeting schedules: www.ca-gyrs.org. A hardcopy of the registration document is at the back of this newsletter.

If you would like to attend the Virtual Grand Convocation on July 15th, you must register so we have a head-count for the meeting. If you want to ballot on matters to be presented, you also must register and provide your email address. See the registration document at the back of this form, or go to the website: www.ca-gyrs.org, where you can submit your registration online. You can also get a copy of the AD form there, as there is still time to submit one for your organization. And there is information allowing you to learn about the virtual platform.

You will also find all of the forms needed for the sessions:

- Proxy and Elected Representative
- The Souvenir Program Ad Request

Though there will be no opportunity to make purchases at vendor tables, a number of them have taken out Ads in the souvenir program. You can also still take out an Ad, until July 14th, the new cut-off date. Prices are the same, although the souvenir program will not be published in hard copy. It will be distributed by email after the Grand Convocation, during the week of July 20th, as a PDF. This time, however, color photos are allowed, hence if you have already submitted an Ad and you want to modify it as a color Ad, please let us know. The Grand York Rite Office will coordinate with Caper Card, the publisher.

GRAND LECTURER

Companions All

My comments this month are short and to the point! Sign up, register and attend the Grand Chapter Session on Wednesday, 15 July, 2020! Plan on the meeting being virtual given the recidivism we are seeing these days in California with respect to COVID-19 infections! No worries and this will eventually pass as well! Don't forget that you **MUST** register Before Sunday, 12 July, to be able to vote at this Session. This additional time allows our Grand Secretary to vet your credentials and assign you the voting weights (number of votes you are entitled to cast) before the meeting on the 15th! Also, please use the registration hour at 0800 before the Session starts at 0900 to sign in and

receive your voting ballot! Once you have your ballot in hand (on your computer or mobile phone via SMS); you will be able to vote on the important legislation we are bringing before the Grand Chapter this year! Many groups are passing on legislation and budget revisions; but the Grand Chapter can Not afford to lose an entire Year before the important changes that are proposed are passed into our law! The tiled legislative and election of officers meeting will take place at the morning meeting which will run from 0900 until approximately 1200. We will then take a break and reconvene at 1:30 pm for the presentation of awards and the installation of Officers for the Capitular year 2020-21! The afternoon Session is open to All interested parties, Masons and their ladies! This will be a celebration of our victory over COVID-19 that could Not stop us from getting our work done in the vineyards of Masonry! I hope that you can make plans to attend and enjoy our Grand Chapter ZOOM Session in the full transparency that it is intended! Next month we will start talking about how to survive as Royal Arch Masons in an extended pandemic! Until then, stay Safe and manage your risk appropriate to your personal conditions!!

Best Always - Your Most Humble and Currently Isolated Grand Lecturer!

Steve

COMPTCHE– 2020

The Festival at Comptche, originally set for June 27th, has now been officially canceled. But now is the time to begin planning for next year. Bring a busload of

candidates, family and friends and set up tents in the common area.

See the picture below to see how much space is available for parking, RVs, tents, and so forth.



Be sure to put Comptche on your Calendar for 2021. The 2021 Festival will be on June 26th, 2021.

SECRETARY ESSENTIALS

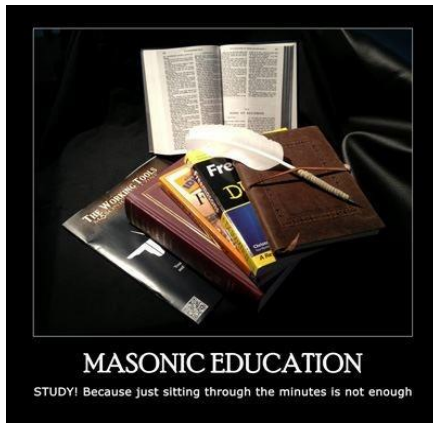
Secretaries new and old: near the end of this newsletter you will find a two-page document that serves as guidelines for Secretaries and Recorders – especially new ones.

Another good source of information for the Secretary can be found in the Grand Chapter Forms and Documents folder, called Chapter Secretary Desktop Procedures, at:

<http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Chapter>

If you are prompted for a username and/or password, call your Inspector, or anyone in the CONTACTS section below.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH **CHAPTER**



Companions,

The installation of Officers elected at the annual meeting in Visalia last May took place Saturday, October 19, 2019 at the semi-annual meeting in San Francisco, during the Grand Lodge Annual Communications. The meeting in the new Lodge Room constructed on the Grand Lodge premises was filled with over 26 members present, and 8 new petitions were presented and balloted upon.

There will not be an Annual Meeting at the July 15th Annual Convocation, nor is it known yet whether there will be a semi-annual meeting during Grand Lodge. Stay tuned!

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert A Morrison, Secretary

GRAND CHAPTER **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The application period for the Royal Arch

Scholarships for 2020 is now closed. Applications for 2021 Scholarships will soon be available at:

<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

The deadline to apply for the 2021 Scholarship Program is March 1, 2021. Submissions can be forwarded to the Office of the Grand Chapter Secretary at

Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons

Attn: Grand Secretary

1123 J Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: (562) 924-6500 x 1123

E-mail: sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org.

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!



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 -- \$115.00 plus shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$125.00 plus shipping for sizes 50 to 59, also in short, regular, and tall; and \$135.00 plus shipping, for sizes 60-69. 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 April 2020 edition is now available on the website. If you must have hard-copy, please call the Grand Secretary's office at the contact numbers listed below. http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/encompasser%20issues/Encompasser_October_2019.pdf

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR

JULY 2020

Date	Event	Location
July 11	Grand Conclave of Knights Templar	Virtual, Online
July 15	Grand Chapter	Sacramento, Virtual and In-Person. If permitted

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, or go to the Grand York Rite website calendar at:

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

TAX REPORTING

Robert Wellington of Orange County Chapter No. 73 "will be assisting Whittier Chapter with its necessary documentation if needed, or any other body that might need some guidance." If you would rather speak to a brother, Companion and Sir Knight, than an IRS or FTB agent, feel free to contact Bob at 714-396-0846, or rozekroy@gmail.com

GRAND CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Grand High Priest (until July 15th):

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Leland@Lroutt.com

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GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH
Website:

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES
Website:

WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG

SECRETARY and/or RECORDER ESSENTIALS

Forms and Documents you will need are located at the Grand York Rite website, which is: www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org.

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, 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: See Section 201 in the Constitution at <http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Chapter/ROYAL%20ARCH%20Constitution%202018%20Rev1.pdf>

Council: See Section 30-10 in the Constitution at <http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Council/Grand%20Council%20Constitution%202018%20Rev1.pdf>

Commandery: See Section 347 in the Constitution at <http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Commandery/GRAND%20COMMANDERY%20Constitution%202018%20Rev1.pdf>

4. **Per Capita** -- The Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date end-of-year number of active members that is crucial for us when we compute 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** -- The 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). Also, please send the candidate class names to the Grand Secretary.
8. **Grand Sessions** – Before the April meeting, remind the 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 the 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. The appropriate forms can be obtained on the Grand York Rite website: Scroll to "Elected Representative and Proxy Credentials."
9. **Order of High Priesthood** – Be sure the current HP and PHPs 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 secure website.



2020 California Grand York Rite Virtual Sessions Registration Form

Every attendee **MUST** pre-register. Registration is due 72 hours prior to each of the meetings by

- Submitting the online form at www.ca-gvrs.org (preferred)
- Filling out and emailing this form to reservations@ca-gvrs.org

There will be an email sent to acknowledge your registration. If you have not received confirmation email within 2 days of submission or have questions on registration, please email to reservations@ca-gvrs.org

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Constituent Current Office	Fill in box if a Past Presiding	RAM / CM / KT Name	Number	Voting Member	Guest
RAM _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PHP	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CM _____	<input type="checkbox"/> IPM	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KT _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PC	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Grand Office (or Past Grand): _____

Other Titles for Grand or International Grand Bodies: _____

Virtually Attending:

- Grand Commandery Annual Conclave and Installation of Officers on July 11th, 2020 at 10:00 AM
- Grand York Rite of California Corporation meeting on July 13th at 4:00 PM (open to all members)
- Grand Chapter Annual Convocation on July 15th, 2020 at 8:00 AM (physical meeting is cancelled)
- Grand Chapter Installation of Officers on July 15th, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Notes:

You will receive separate emails with the separate Zoom Meeting IDs and password.

You may want to familiarize yourself with Zoom by watching this video: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting> and this instruction guide: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360034967471-Quick-start-guide-for-new-users>

Participants will be muted during the sessions. However, it is best that you are in a quiet environment. The virtual sessions will open up fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

Please sign in to the sessions using the name that you registered above for accurate attendance tracking.

If you already received confirmation for Grand Commandery and/or Grand Chapter from a previous submission, there is no need to submit a new form.